



# SOUTHSIDE NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION

CORNING SOUTHSIDE NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION

SPRING 2009

PO BOX 481 CORNING, NY 14830

## August Ice Cream Social



Join us August 5, 2009, as Corning's Southside Neighborhood Association once again sponsors an ice cream social at Canfield Park. Members and neighbors are invited to join in the gathering with friends and ice cream. The social will be held from 6:30 to 8:00 pm. Watch for a notice closer to the event.

### CAP AWARDS TO BE PRESENTED

May is Preservation Month and as in the past SNA will bestow the Corning Architectural Preservation (CAP) Award on a few deserving people. We are not always aware of all who might qualify, so please let a board member know soon if you know of someone you feel might be deserving.

As a not-for-profit organization dedicated to the preservation and restoration of our built environment, the Southside Neighborhood Association established the CAP Awards to recognize preservation efforts.

Awards are granted each year during Preservation Month and recognize efforts in three areas: residential, commercial and outbuilding. The award reads: *For excellence in the preservation of historic examples of our built environment which contributes to the vitality and rebirth of our community enabling present and future generations to understand, enjoy and benefit from our past.*

The CAP Awards were first given in 2002, and 28 awards have been presented thus far. In May 2008, SNA presented CAP awards to the following:

- ◆ Becki Baker, for restoration work at 174 Pine Street;
- ◆ John Dennis of Deerhaven Properties, for preservation work at 164 Pine Street;
- ◆ The Post Office on Walnut Street, for the restoration of the exterior steps.

## 2009 SNA Public Programs

SNA has some great programs planned for the public this year:

March 24 – *Corning's New Preservation Laws* – Thomas P. Dimitroff, Chairman Historic Preservation Commission; Steve Dennis, Commission member, Director of Planning and Economic Development, City of Corning.

April 21 – *Views of Corning, Part I, Postcards* – A continuation of the Photo Project and the evening at the Palace Theatre. Audience participation will be encouraged. SNA is also still interested in scanning postcards and photos we don't yet have, so bring yours along.

May 19 – *Views of Corning, Part II, Photos* – Again, a continuation of the Photo Project and the evening at the Palace Theatre. Audience participation will be encouraged and SNA is interested in yet unfound photos and postcards.

October 20 – Leon and Sheri Golder will present a slide show depicting *The Preservation of the S.S. Erwin House*.

November 17 – Annual meeting, Special Presentation – to be announced.

All programs begin at 7:30 pm and are held at the First Presbyterian Church, Pentecost Room, First Street entrance. We look forward to seeing a good turn-out and welcome suggestions for future programs.



### DID YOU KNOW...

The World War Memorial Library on Pine Street was originally the "City Club" for an exclusive organization. It was gutted by a fire in 1926 and the members of the club moved their headquarters to the penthouse suite in the new Baron Steuben Hotel.

The building was renovated and dedicated in 1930 as a library and a perpetual, living tribute to the soldiers of World War I. The Library served the City of Corning until 1975, when the public library moved to a new home in Nasser Civic Center Plaza, made possible through urban renewal efforts after the hurricane Agnes Flood of 1972.

In 2008, Three Rivers Development Corporation painted and made improvements to its weathered exterior, and a proposal by Arbor Development to convert the historic building into eight apartments for low-income seniors is seeking funding.



The World War Memorial Library. (Not dated. Photographer not known.)

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NEIGHBORHOOD  
ASSOCIATION**

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## Honor Your Historic Home

*SNA, with the talent of Dave Dowler, designed a bronze plaque for homes on the southside in 2003. Since then over 40 homes proudly display this plaque which features the circa date the home was built.*



### A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Southside Neighborhood Association has a mission to celebrate the historical significance of Corning with a focus on the Southside and to share it with the community as a whole. Following much discussion, your board members have established these goals for 2009:

- ◆ To support the new Historic Preservation Commission
- ◆ To build an on-line presence through a website
- ◆ To pay tribute to Mr. Robert Rockwell
- ◆ To continue our goal of increasing our membership

While these are our goals for the year, we hope to accomplish even more. We, the board of directors of your SNA, look forward to hearing from anyone who wishes to share ideas, concerns, suggestions or offers of involvement.

### HISTORIAN NEEDED!

Do you like history? Are you an organizer? Southside Neighborhood Association needs a historian to organize the files of our organizations past, present and future. Please contact a board member if you are interested!

#### HISTORIC BUILDING PLAQUE ORDER FORM

These are 7 X 10 inch bronze plaques with a brown patina. The date your structure was erected will be placed on your plaque. If you are purchasing a plaque for a structure other than the one listed below, please give the address of the structure for which you are ordering a plaque.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Phone/Email \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Plaque Address \_\_\_\_\_

Date Built \* \_\_\_\_\_ Not sure/don't know \_\_\_\_\_

*\* If you're not sure, SNA can help to verify building date.*

Price: \$200 including shipping (\$50 is tax deductible)

Please make checks payable to Southside Neighborhood Association, and send to PO Box 481, Corning, NY 14830. Thanks!

#### Restoration Laws Enacted for Landmark Listing

On March 24, Tom Dimitroff, chairman of the Historic Preservation Commission, presented an informational program on the need for preservation and the new laws the City of Corning has passed. With Tom to help field questions was Commission member and city director of planning and economic development Steve Dennis. There are basically 3 parts to this new law – Local Law 2 of 2008. The first, and probably the most important, is the process for obtaining designation of historic landmark status. An application, available from the City of Corning's Director of Planning and Economic Development, Steve Dennis, must be submitted to the Commission. If the property is designated an Historic Landmark, this designation is permanent. What does it mean? Your property has been deemed important to the

historic character of the City of Corning. The outside must be kept as it is when the designation is made. Why do it? It protects your property and helps to insure the preservation of the historic elements of our neighborhoods and city.

The second part of the new law is an application for approval to alter, restore, reconstruct, demolish, or move any part of the historic landmark. And the third part of the law is an application for tax exemption for the increase in value to the historic landmark for any approved change.

SNA may be contacted for information on the history of your property. We will be happy to provide any assistance we can.