



## **2013 Newsletter of the Save the Lyon Commission and the Waterman Center for the Arts**

2013 was a year of old and new for the Save the Lyon Commission and Waterman Center for the Arts. In February, we welcomed four new members to our board. Donna Gerych, Betty Gerych, Gwen Quigley and Tony Moretti each brought much needed manpower and ideas to our ongoing efforts to establish the Waterman Center for the Arts in the Primary Annex of the school.

Working with the Arts of the Southern Finger Lakes, the annex was included as a stop on the newly formed Steuben Arts Trail in April. Several artists set up their demonstrations and artwork displays for the public to enjoy throughout the day.

In May, Clinton Brown, our architect from Buffalo, New York, conducted a condition study of the entire school, inside and out. We were very pleased when he reported that the entire building is very sound, and that the annex is in very good condition, requiring minimal work to bring it up to code for public use. The 1923 section is holding up well, despite the lack of heat over the years, and Mr. Brown reported that with a step-by-step effort, a dumpster, and some volunteers, the initial clean-up/clean-out of this section should be trouble-free.

Our Waterman Center for the Arts artists received a generous grant of \$3750 from the ARTS of the Southern Finger Lakes to fund a childrens' Bath TUB (Bath Talent U Bring) puppet show. The children met throughout the summer to write the show, and made the life-sized paper mache puppets, painted scenery, learned dance steps, made new friends with one another, and put on 2 exciting performances of their original theater production on the grounds outside the school.

During the week for the Steuben County Fair, several of our members spent many hours parking cars on the school property, and listening to the sounds of the fair, the biggest annual event held in Bath. Parking revenues support our overhead costs such as insurance, electrical service, and materials for grounds maintenance.

We took a break from our annual yard sale in 2013, however we are preparing for a sale the spring of 2014, bigger and better than ever, with something for everyone. You can help us by donating items to sell, working with our pricing team, or helping with yard sale set-up. Please call Patty Gurecki at 776-0125 for information.

In the fall, we received a very generous donation from a supporter for \$2500. This donation has been set aside toward the matching funds that we must raise for a grant of

\$75,000 from the NYS Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation. We must raise this matching amount by November of 2014. You can help us by contacting your Haverling classmates, supporters of the arts, supporters of historic preservation, or your family members.

We wrapped up the year with a holiday raffle between Thanksgiving and Christmas. The drawing was held at the National Hotel on the evening of the Bath Spirit of Christmas. Proceeds from the raffle have been set aside toward the matching grant funds.

We thank you for your continuing support of The Save the Lyon Commission, Inc. and the Waterman Center for the Arts. As with all volunteer organizations, we welcome any help that you can bring to the effort to make the former school building come to life again.