Ice Skating in the Victorian Era

Winter is upon on yet again and winter sports, including ice skating. Now ice skating has been around for a long time. Well before the 19th century but we can thank the Victorians for it’s popularity.

In 19th century England, Ice skating seemed tied to Christmas and the outdoors.

Even though there are plenty places to skate indoors all year ’round, many people tend to skate outdoors on special rinks that pop up only around Christmas and during the winter. But it is the Victorians who made ice skating a social event and one of our favorite pastimes.

Ice skating became a popular sport among the aristocracy in England early in the 1700’s with the first organized skating club being formed in 1740. By the mid 1800’s ice skating became a favorite pastime. Queen Victoria and Prince Albert themselves used to go on skating trips to get better aquainted. A Year after they were married, Queen Victoria gave Albert a pair of skates as a gift because of his love of the sport.

During the 19th century, skiing was a sport for the upper class but as it’s popularity spread, everyone from every class was able to enjoy the sport, and became a favorite pastime well into the 20th century.
Greetings and Welcome!

First off I would like to personally welcome our newest members! It is with your support that we are able to continue our mission. Thank You!

Last fall Bill Nurse resigned as our Treasurer. Our Governance committee found 2 new candidates to fill not only the treasurer position but to fill another spot on the board. The board voted and approved. So please welcome our new treasurer, Jenniffer Efthymious & Susan M. Macharyas. Bill, will assist Jeniffer in the transition and will remain on the board.

With that being said, WE ARE LOOKING FOR SPONSORS for events and performances. We are looking for financial support as well as baked goods. If you are crafty in the kitchen and would love to donate some delicious treats or sponsor a program please contact us at: info@phelpsmansion.org.

Repairs and restoration...

Our work continues... In October a study was completed on the ballroom room roof. While the issue was not as bad as we had thought, we still need to get the roof replaced. They gave us some recommendations to get us through the winter and we of course obliged. We also made a list of ongoing repairs and are getting estimates on what these costs would be. One of the repairs is going to be replacing the insulation in the ballroom ceiling for example. As well as painting the windows on the Mansion, repairing the shutters (sand and re-finish), fixing cracks in the plaster ceiling and so on. It is a long list and it’s not easy keeping a house like this in shape, this is where you come in. Please consider making a donation to help cover these costs.

A scene from Marie and the Nutcracker
Prince performed by Breadcrumb Productions

SV Sabers String Quartet performing
in the library as part of our holiday programming

I visited the mansion's holiday tour in December 2018 with my daughters and granddaughter. We all enjoyed the tour very much. It's so interesting to see the beautiful architecture and learn of the people who once resided there. I would definitely recommend a trip to the Phelps Mansion!

The artifacts were stunning! This was a well prepared exhibit and the accompanying narrative was very informative! The mansion is beautiful and provided the perfect setting for the topic!
Mondays at the Museum are Back!

February 11th - W. C. Handy
March 11 - Nellie Bly, Woman Investigative Reporter
April 8 - Living Healthy as we Age
May 13 - Music from the late 1800’s

Lunch is $20.00 and starts at 12pm.
Reservations are necessary by calling the museum at 607-722-4873 by 4pm on the Friday before.
If you wish to attend just the program, it's only $5.00 - All programs start at 1pm.
Upcoming Events

February 22-24th - S.T.A.R. "The Devil's Disciple" 7:30pm Sunday at 3pm
February 23rd - Alice in Wonderland Tea Party - 11:30am

March 1st - First Friday- Photo Exhibit - People of the Parlor City 6pm-9pm
March 11th - Monday's at the Museum - Nellie Bly Presentation 12pm -2pm
March 11th - Civil War presentation 5:30 - 7pm
March 17th - Chamber Concert - John Covelli 3pm
March 24th - BU Opera Scenes 7:30pm

April 5th - First Friday- English Country Dancers Rehearsal 6-9pm
April 6th - English Country Dancers Ball 7pm -10pm
April 8th - Monday's at the Museum - Living Healthy as we age Presentation 12pm -2pm
April 14th - Chamber Concert - Tshombe Selby 3pm

May 3rd - First Friday-Pej Reitz Student Piano Recital 6pm-9pm
May 13th - Monday's at the Museum - Music From the late 1800's 12pm -2pm
May 17th - Chamber Concert -3pm - Jacob Efthimiou 3pm

June 7th - First Friday - Mary Lou Muratori's Voice Studio 6pm - 9pm

Mondays at the Museum Lunches Provided by Joe Cline at Clines Catering Service - www.clinescatering.com
Henry David Thoreau (1817 – 1862)

The Moon

The full-orbed moon with unchanged ray
Mounts up the eastern sky,
Not doomed to these short nights for aye,
But shining steadily.

She does not wane, but my fortune,
Which her rays do not bless,
My wayward path declineth soon,
But she shines not the less.

And if she faintly glimmers here,
And paled is her light,
Yet alway in her proper sphere
She's mistress of the night.

---

FUN FACTS

Jan 17 1st 1871, cable car patented, by Andrew Smith Hallidie in the US
(begins service in 1873)

Mar 1 1873, E. Remington and Sons in Ilion, New York begins production of the first
practical typewriter

Mar 22 1873, Slavery is abolished in Puerto Rico, celebrated as Emancipation Day

Feb 3 1876, Albert Spalding with $800 starts sporting goods co, manufacturing 1st
official baseball, tennis ball, basketball, golf ball, & football

Feb 14 1876, Alexander G. Bell & Elisha Gray apply separately for telephone patents
Supreme Court eventually rules Bell rightful inventor
Upcoming Events

Phelps Mansion Museum Chamber Music Series

NOW IN IT’S 12TH SEASON!

MARCH 17TH - JOHN COVELLI: PIANO
APRIL 14TH - TSHOMBE SELBY: TENOR
MAY 19TH - JACOB EFTHIMIOU: CELLO
SEPTEMBER 22ND - TIMOTHY FALLON: TENOR
OCTOBER 20TH - ALEXEI ACETO: PIANO
NOVEMBER 17TH - BRIAN, KATHERINE MANKER & WEI-TANG HAUNH: CELLO, VIOLIN, PIANO

People of the Parlor City

Friday, March 1, 2019 at 6 PM – 9 PM
Follow us on Facebook: facebook.com/PhelpsMansionMuseum
Follow us on Twitter: twitter.com/PhelpsMansion

When was the last time you took a tour?
Stop down Friday, Saturday and Sunday
11am to 5pm
Tours leave every 30 minutes
Last tour at 4:30pm
Are you a member?
Bring a friend and use your free passes!
We’d love to see ya!
Become a Monthly Sustainer

By becoming a monthly sustaining member of the Phelps Mansion Museum, you are helping to preserve and restore the history of the late 19th century. The museum’s mission is to preserve the mansion and its period contents and provide exhibitions, programming and education. To support our mission, we are faced with increasing monthly bills for utilities, insurance, repairs, staff salary and other necessities. Our only income is from tours, programs and memberships. You can help us keep things running smoothly by becoming a sustaining member.

Listed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1973 and established under the NYS Board of Regents as a museum in 2005, the Phelps Mansion Museum is a dedicated historic house museum for the Gilded and Progressive Eras in Central New York.

Our museum provides a unique and exciting opportunity to experience what life was like in Binghamton, NY one hundred and forty-five years ago. With your contribution and support we can continue our programs and together, we can preserve and share our community’s history.

To become a sustaining member please visit: https://phelpsmansion.org/sustaining-membership

We’re pleased to announce that Phelps Mansion Museum has been recognized with a 2018 Certificate of Excellence, based on the consistently great reviews we've earned on TripAdvisor.

Return Service Requested

Phone: (607) 722-4873
Binghamton, NY 13901
191 Court Street
Phelps Mansion Museum