

Long Island Traditions

NEWSLETTER

www.longislandtraditions.org

Vol. 11 No. 3 Fall 2004

Colombian Harp Apprenticeship & Music Program: October 10

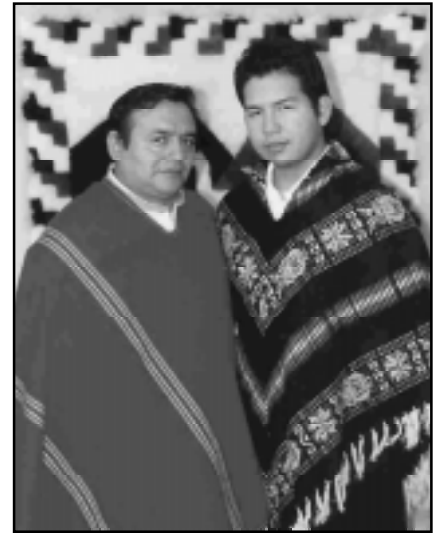
St. Joseph's church in Babylon will present a cultural arts program about Latino Culture, featuring master Colombian harpist Pávelid Castañeda and his son Edmar, along with other musicians at a community celebration. Pavelid recently completed an apprenticeship funded by the New York State Council on the Arts and coordinated by Long Island Traditions.

Pávelid Castañeda was born near the town of Nocaima, an agricultural area in Colombia, and now resides in Babylon. His father and grandfather were both musicians who sung and played tiple, a traditional stringed instrument similar to the Puerto Rican cuatro. As a child, Pávelid played tiple, guitar, and other instruments, but always was most interested in the arpa llanera, a harp used in the Colombian and Venezuelan plains. Pavelid became a music teacher, a job he retained for twenty years. He has taught all four of his children (ages 15-25) to sing and play the various instruments of the llanero ensemble, including harp, Colombian cuatro, and maracas llaneras. They have performed this music together for many years under the name "La Familia Castañeda." Pavelid also teaches Latin American music traditions at Long Island public schools through BOCES.

During the past year, Edmar spent 14 weeks with his father learning to perform two types of llanero songs: the quirpa and carnaval, which are considered two of the most difficult genres both in terms of rhythms and harmonies. Edmar will demonstrate his new skills at this program. The concert will take place at Nolan Hall in St. Joseph's church, located at 39 North Carll Ave in Babylon at 12:30 pm. Admission is free. For more information, call (631) 669-0068 x 131. ■

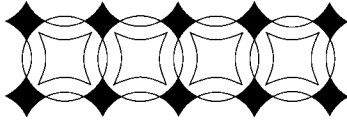
Researching Community Culture Workshops

With enthusiasm, we are teaming up with the Brentwood Library to present two free community culture research workshops to the Brentwood community. These will be led by bilingual folklorist Jean Crandall on October 6 and October 13th from 6:30-9:00pm. The workshops will cover many topics including defining community research, finding a traditions bearer and a topic of interest, setting up an interview, filling out appropriate paperwork, learning about fieldwork equipment and finding out how to present information for an educational project. Our goal is to teach people of all ages the basics of interviewing people about their traditions, so that they will be inspired to continue this in their own communities. The library hopes to add completed interviews to their library archive.



Theo Torres and his son Charlie

To kickoff the workshops, Theo Torres, a Peruvian musician and Long Island Traditions educator living in Brentwood for over 20 years will present a concert/talk about his music and family traditions on Sunday, October 3, 2:00 pm at the Brentwood Public Library. For more information, please contact the Brentwood Public Library at (631) 273-7883. ■



Long Island Traditions Inc.

Dedicated to the documentation and preservation of Long Island's living cultural heritage.

Executive Director: Nancy Solomon

Staff Folklorist: Cristina Muia

Board of Directors: Dorothy Jacobs, Mirna Cortez-Obers, Ken Maltz, Addie Quinn, Linda Scholl, Michael Scully & Wayne Wink

Advisory Board: Paul Bentel, John Eilertsen, Dave Opatow & Jean Ritchie

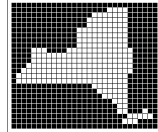
Newsletter Designer: Barbara Koelbel Bange

LI Traditions is a non-profit, tax-exempt organization registered with the NY State Board of Charities.

For more information call: (516) 767-8803, fax: (516) 767-8805, write to us at: 382 Main St., Port Washington, NY 11050, E-mail: litrad@i-2000.com or visit us on the web at: www.longislandtraditions.org

Copyright 2004 by LI Traditions. Permission to reproduce any article or portions thereof must be requested in writing.

State of the Arts



NYSCA

Become a Member Subscribe to the Newsletter!

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

TOWN: _____

ST: _____ ZIP: _____

PHONE: _____

\$20 Individuals

\$30 Organizations

Please make your check payable to:
Long Island Traditions

Mail to:
Long Island Traditions
382 Main Street
Port Washington, NY 11050

Architecture Project Competition

Long Island Traditions has developed an intensive architecture curriculum for 7th grade Social Studies teachers. The curriculum focuses on traditional and vernacular architecture from the pre-contact period to the mid-19th century.

Subject areas examined include:

- Native American architecture
- African American slave and freedmen housing
- English and Dutch farm and barn design
- Home-based and general stores
- Grist mills
- Anglo and African American churches.

Long Island Traditions has developed document based questions, photographic and historical materials, short essays about the different subjects, along with supplementary materials including architectural drawings, historical maps and first person accounts.

The Contest

LI Traditions is offering any 7th grade social studies teacher \$600 to develop one of the subjects listed above into a class project. In addition they will receive full mention in a publication to be released by Long Island Traditions in 2005. The project must use the materials provided in addition to any you choose related to the subject. The project should engage students in an active manner. For example students might research a particular site, its design and architectural features, and write an essay about it, including photographs or other visual materials. In another project students might visit a historic site, take photographs, and write about its distinguishing architectural features and how the site changed through time. In another project students could compare and contrast the design of English and Dutch barns by examining photographs and reading essays prepared by Long Island Traditions. Students could also build small models of a typical English or Dutch house or barn out of toothpicks or a similarly available material. Long Island Traditions' staff will assist you in developing your project ideas and securing appropriate equipment and materials. ■



The Stony Brook Grist Mill is an excellent example of Dutch architecture.

Ink Spots at Long Island Children's Museum

Come hear the renowned Ink Spots, featuring Bill Godwin, perform a family concert at the Long Island Children's Museum in Garden City, New York. Honoring grandparents is the museum's theme for September and since most of the band members are grandfathers, the concert will include memories of their families. Organized in 1932, the Ink Spots sing four part-harmony arrangements of various popular songs. They have sold more records than any other American vocal group to date! Performances will be at 1:00 and 3:00pm on Saturday, September 11th and Sunday, September 12th. Come join us! For more information contact the Long Island Children's Museum at (516) 224-5800. Web address: www.licm.org. ■



The Ink Spots

West Meadow Beach Update

As of mid-August the fate of the cottages at West Meadow Beach is closing upon us. Despite numerous efforts to extend the leases on the state and town level, including passage of State Senate Bill 5663 by Senator Flannagan which calls for the extension of the leases, Assemblyman Steven Englebright refused to co-sponsor this bill. The largest petition in Town of Brookhaven history, signed by approximately 7000 town residents, supporting the preservation of the cottages, was presented to the town board in July. Please call Assemblyman Englebright to express your opinion on his actions. He can be reached at 631-751-3094 or at 518-455-4804. For up to date information visit www.savethecottages.org. Please visit this historic community in Stony Brook and share your support with the cottage owners. Currently the LI Museum in Stony Brook is exhibiting "Beach Bound" which explores the history of many summer resort communities including West Meadow Beach. The museum is located at 1208 Route 25A in Stony Brook. For more information call the museum at 631-751-0066. ■

Reflections

by Nancy Solomon

During the past several years I have come to know many of the cottages at West Meadow Beach, of which you have heard much by now. When I first learned of the cottages and the political controversy surrounding them, I felt that documenting this historic community would only lead to aggravation and heartache, given the political power of those who want to tear the cottages down. Yet I continue to believe, as do many colleagues in the preservation movement, that summer bungalow communities on Long Island are on the verge of extinction. A recent article in the New York Times examined the transition of such communities as Sound Beach and Rocky Point, finding that most of the original bungalows have been altered and winterized, with only a very few surviving as intact reminders of where thousands of area residents spent their summers. That is why we have tried to preserve the cottages of West Meadow Beach. Recently I participated in the Smithsonian Folklife Festival which focused on Mid-Atlantic maritime culture. During those 2 weeks I learned from people who came from New Jersey, the Chesapeake Bay and other coastal communities how they too have lost much of the heritage of summer bungalows. When I shared with them the situation at West Meadow Beach, they sighed and said "how sad", frequently adding that some large-scale development would one day take its' place. Yet West Meadow Beach is not alone in the struggle to preserve a way of life that was once commonplace. Where there used to be hundreds of baymen and fishermen, bay houses and other forms of maritime culture, today we only have a few examples. And so, we call on you to extend your efforts, work with us to preserve what have left, and fight for what is truly endangered. If you live on the south shore consider attending a meeting of the South Shore Estuary Reserve Citizens' Advisory Council. Call 516-470-BAYS for meeting information. Get involved with your town or village and ask them what steps they have taken to preserve local cultural resources and historic sites that reflect maritime traditional uses. If you know of a site important to preserve, such as Bluepoints, call us so that together we can work to save it. There are dozens of knowledgeable residents who have incredible memories of the waterfront. We can help train you on doing interviews, or when time permits, interview the person ourselves. In conclusion, by working together, we hope to preserve this cherished legacy.

EVENTS OF INTEREST

PLEASE NOTE: If you have a Long Island concert or program that focuses on some aspect of traditional culture, drop us a line and we'll put it in our "Events of Interest" column. The deadline is the 1st of October, January and April.

- Sept. 11 & 12** Concert by the Ink Spots. 1 & 3 pm. LI Children's Museum. 11 Davis Avenue. Garden City. Call (516) 224-5800.
- October 3** Concert by Theo Torres. 2 pm. Brentwood Public Library. Second Avenue and Fourth Street. (631) 273-7883.
- October 6 & 13** Researching community culture workshops. 6:30 pm. Brentwood Public Library. Second Avenue and Fourth Street (631) 273-7883.
- October 10** Latino Cultural Celebration featuring Pavelid Castenada. 12:30pm. St. Joseph's church. Nolan Hall. 39 N. Carll Avenue. Babylon. Call 631-669-0068 x 131. (see accompanying article)
- October 13** Rahel Musleah's "Jewish Calcutta through Music & Memory." 1 pm. Bryant Library, Roslyn. Call 516-621-2240.
- November 7** Kapelye concert with Cantors Nathan Lam, Jacob Mendelson and Abbe Sher in an all-star concert of Klezmer and Cantorial music. 7 pm. Temple Or-Elohim, 18 Tobie Lane, Jericho. For information call (516) 681-2820.
- November 9** Rahel Musleah's "The Jews of Iraq: Antiquity, Inheritance and Escape." 2 pm. Hewlett-Woodmere Public Library, 1125 Broadway, Hewlett. Call (516) 374-1967
- November 22** Rahel Musleah's "Jewish Calcutta through Music & Memory." Evening. Temple Judea, 333 Searingtown Rd. Manhasset. Call 516-621-8049.

 Printed on recycled paper.

Long Island Traditions
382 Main Street
Port Washington, NY 11050