

HISTORIC QUEENS BUS TOUR

Saturday, May 14, 2022

After the rave reviews of our first five historic bus tours to each of the five boroughs, our Club members have clamored for more. We are happy to oblige with a return tour of Queens! We're going to visit places few know about. We will visit buildings from the 17th, 18th and 19th centuries. The Queens Village Republican Club's bus tour is an all-day, all-inclusive, chartered bus tour. Reserve early as space is limited. Starting/ending point is at Queens County Farm Museum, (dating from at least 1697) 73-50 Little Neck Parkway, Glen Oaks. We depart at 9 AM and return at 5 PM. The bus has a toilet and kneeling function.

Cost is \$120 inclusive of transportation, admission fees, guided tours, lunch and all gratuities.

The Vander-Ende Onderdonk House: Built in 1709 in Ridgewood by the Vander-Ende family, the Vander-Ende Onderdonk house is the oldest Dutch colonial stone house in New York City. After a serious fire in 1975, local residents rallied to save the structure from demolition, forming the Greater Ridgewood Historical Society. In 1977, the House and property were listed on the National Register of Historic Places, and in 1978, granted the same status on the New York State Register. The House was given New York City landmark status in June of 1995.



Bowne House: Built by at least 1661, Bowne House in Flushing is arguably the most important single-family house in America. The Bowne House Historical Society has been operating this house museum since 1945. Here in this house is where the principle of freedom of religion in America was born along with the promulgation by Flushing residents of a document known as the Flushing Remonstrance in 1657. We visited this house in 2015 but the furnishings were in storage. A few months ago the main rooms were replastered and painted and the important collection of 17th and 18th Century furniture was brought back. The house is a City Landmark and is owned by the NYC Department of Parks and Recreation since 2009.



Lewis Latimer House: This 1889 Queen Anne house in Flushing was the home of African-American inventor Lewis Latimer. It served as his home from 1903 to 1928, and is now operated as a museum dedicated to the inventor's work. Moved from its original site, and having suffered many unsympathetic alterations over the years, the building, now City-owned, was relocated and painstakingly restored to its original Victorian appearance.



Neir's Tavern: We will make a quick stop to what is believed to be the oldest bar in America. Neir's Tavern was opened in 1829 to serve a nearby racetrack in Woodhaven. Hopefully there will be time to indulge in a beer or soda while the staff relates the long history of this bar. The bar almost closed a couple of years ago, but the mayor interceded, and an agreement was reached with the landlord to keep it open.



Rufus King Mansion: This remarkable mansion sits on its original site in downtown Jamaica on 11 acres. Rufus King was both a framer and a signer of the U.S. Constitution; and an ardent opponent of slavery. This landmarked house was built in part in 1733 (rear portion) and the street view dates from about 1810.



Since our first visit in 2015, rooms on the second floor have been furnished and interpreted and are on our tour.



Zum Stammtisch: We will take a three-course lunch at one of the very few German restaurants remaining in Queens. Zum Stammtisch in Glendale opened in 1972.



Our bus trip meals are not grab-'n-go fast food. We visit quality restaurants, often landmarks in their own right!

All participants will receive a small, free Souvenir Pamphlet as a keepsake of this trip. This event is open to all: you do not have to be a Club member. This is not a fund-raising event. We charge to just cover our costs.

For further information, call James Trent at 718-343-8830

Please reserve _____ seats (state number) on the Historic Queens Bus Tour for May 14, 2022. Make checks out to the Queens Village Republican Club and send to James Trent, 242-33 90th Avenue, Bellerose, NY 11426-1115. E-mail: jtrent8830@aol.com.

Name(s) _____

Address _____

Phone _____ e-mail _____ Amount enclosed \$ _____