

# GSMT News

## The Newsletter of The General Society of Mechanics & Tradesmen

Founded in 1785, The General Society of Mechanics & Tradesmen is dedicated to improving the educational and cultural opportunities for people in the City of New York • Fall 2018

### Graduation Night: 71 Mechanics Institute Students Celebrate



This year, seventy one Mechanic Institute (MI) graduates marched into our soaring historic Library space to the traditional tune of



Gerard Drohan

*Pomp and Circumstance*, as our president, **Gerard Drohan, Jr.** rose to the podium. After greeting our guests, families of our graduates, Board of Governors, members, and instructors, he reminded the audience of the many challenges and personal sacrifices each student faced in completing the multi-year evening programs and commended every student for their determination, commitment and hard work. Mr. Drohan then introduced **Victoria Dengel**, GSMT

Executive Director, who acted as M.C. for the evening. Ms. Dengel introduced our School Chair and Vice President and international expert on steam heating and hydronics, **Dan Holohan** who addressed the Graduates. After congratulating the graduates, Mr. Holohan said that he had been thinking a lot about how people learn these days. He noted that when asked a question, most people will reach for their smartphones and search for an answer. "But when I was growing up," he said, "we researched rather than searched. We read books from cover to cover, and by doing so, we gained true knowledge. Research teaches us how to



Victoria Dengel

...continued on page 2

### Mechanics Institute Fall Programs to Begin September 17, 2018

Since 1858, Mechanics Institute has provided tuition-free evening instruction in trades-related education and provided a critical service to improve job opportunities for New Yorkers in the building and construction industry. Without a tuition-free education, many of our students would be unable to get the technical education needed to advance in today's environment. Each fall, over 300 students enroll in the Mechanics Institute's programs, including AutoCAD and BIM, Electrical Technology, HVAC/R Systems, Plumbing Systems and Construction Project Management. For a complete catalog, please visit our website: [www.generalsociety.org](http://www.generalsociety.org).

### General Society Lectures: A Tradition Since 1837

The General Society Lectures series are nearly two hundred years old and continue a tradition of public lectures that started at the Society in 1837. The **Labor, Literature and Landmark** lecture series was developed to stimulate intellectual exploration, foster aesthetic appreciation, and encourage public awareness of architecture, social history and culture unique to the City. The **Artisan Lecture Series**, now in its ninth season, pays tribute to the art of craftsmanship by featuring master artisans who lecture about the intricacies of their specialized crafts; and promotes the work and art of skilled craftsmen to assist in ensuring their unique knowledge is understood and carried forth for future generations. Fall Lectures will include, on Tuesday, December 4th, a talk with **Jan Seidler Ramirez**,

...continued on page 4

**SAVE THE DATE: Thursday November 15, 2018**

**Craftsmanship Awards Gala**

**The General Society of Mechanics & Tradesmen will hold its annual award ceremony benefiting the Mechanics Institute in the historic General Society Library.**

## Graduation Night ... (continued from Page 1)



Dan Holohan

see big pictures. Search just gives us immediate answers. Research is oak. Search is veneer, and knowledge is power. And that's what you've earned here - true knowledge because you have done the research."

## Wisdom From Our Valedictorian



Verendra Bunsee

**Verendra Bunsee**, MI's 2018 valedictorian, stepped up to the podium and spoke to his fellow graduates saying, "No matter what your situation might be, you should never give up on your dreams; instead, you must always put your best foot forward and proceed with confidence, knowing that you have the power within you to overcome all your difficulties and hardships. In my opinion, nothing material can determine your true success and worth as an individual; instead, your level of happiness and contentment, along with your humility when you have attained everything, your gratitude to those that helped you in your time of need and your moral values are truly what makes you into a true success." Mr. Bunsee thanked his fellow graduates for their friendship and helpfulness throughout the MI experience and the Mechanics Institute for offering this opportunity. Mr. Bunsee completed the two-year Construction Project Management program.

## Graduate of Electrical Technology Returns for MI Alumni Address



Alrid Reid

Local 3 Electrician, MTA Employee and 2014 Mechanics Institute Graduate, **Alrid Reid** had inspiring words for our new graduates. He congratulated them and described "how a difficult road always leads to a beautiful destination," and how education is the key to success. "If you are persistent you will get it, if you are consistent you will keep it. Never give up. Never lose faith. Be an inspiration. Happiness is a choice you can make."

## Graduation Vocals

**Ynes Leon**, International Building Code instructor stepped in to lead the audience in patriotic song when our scheduled vocalist became ill. With no rehearsals, she hit the high notes of our national anthem. Ms. Leon had an earlier career in musical theater.

## Academic Awards for Excellence



Venus Shabazz



Gabriel Garcia



Michael Sonnysingh

There were four winners of the **George E. Hoe Award**: for Electrical Technology, Venus Shabazz; for HVAC/R, Gabriel Garcia; for Construction Project Management, Michael Sonnysingh; and for Plumbing Design, George Bassolino (who was not able to be present).



Reuel Brathwaite



Edward Weston

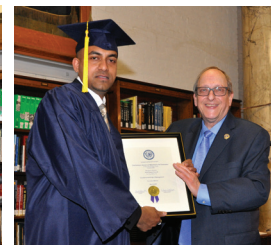


Jonathan Romano

The **Albert A. Cuneo Scholarship Awards** were presented by Keith Olsen, the recipients were: Reuel Brathwaite, Edward Weston, Jonathan Romano, and Abiodun Atolagbe.



The **Thomas S. DeNapoli Award** being presented to Reuel Brathwaite by Mechanics Institute Alumnus Kristine DeNapoli.



The **Alan Senzer Award** for Excellence in Construction Project Management presented by the donor to Verendra Bunsee.



The **Penguin Award** in HVAC/R was presented to Baron Baptiste by Mechanics Institute Alumnus Frank Gibbons, COO, of Penguin, an EMCOR Company.

## Alumni Pinning Ceremony

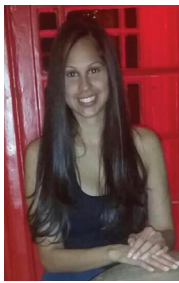


"We wish you, our Graduates, great success in all of your endeavors. You join a long legacy of graduates going back to 1858. As Mechanics Institute alumni we will continue to welcome you here at The General Society and hope that as you progress in your chosen professions, you will join with your fellow alumni in encouraging and supporting others toward this journey of accomplishment."

— **President Gerard Drohan, Jr.**



## MI Student Knew She Was in the Right Place



Marleny Tapia

Here is **Marleny Tapia's** story: "I will graduate from the Construction Project Management program in May 2019. An architect friend recommended the program to me after I had told him my goal was to be in business as an Interior Designer. I love the building at 20 West 44th Street for its architecture and history. I work as an Assistant Project Manager for a company that specializes in high-rise hotels, which is what sparked my interest in interior design. My passion is to be in charge of the final stages and perform the interior work that makes buildings beautiful. I went to public school and the Borough of Manhattan Community College, where I graduated with an Associates Degree in Business Management. At Mechanics Institute, I made friends with other students who love construction. I want to study more than just Construction Project Management. I want to understand all the systems, and I will be at MI for as long as you'll allow me. Each course is priceless. The professors are wonderful and are always willing to work with you. If you're considering Mechanics Institute, be prepared to put in the hours after your day job. It's tough, but I think you'll know you're in the right place as soon as you walk through that front door."

### Take Your Career To The Next Level

#### **BUILD YOURSELF • BUILD NEW YORK**

The Mechanics Institute has focused on workforce development in New York City ever since its founding in 1858. Tuition-free evening instruction in trades-related education has provided many students with the skills needed to improve their job opportunities. Our programs continue to serve those employed in the building and construction trades who are striving to improve their skills and expand their knowledge to increase career opportunities. Each fall, nearly 300 students enroll in the Mechanics Institute's educational programs, including Electrical Technology, HVAC/R Systems, Plumbing Systems, Construction Project Management, AutoCAD and Building Information Modeling (BIM).

#### **MECHANICS INSTITUTE**

Workforce Development Since 1858

*an educational program of*

**The General Society of Mechanics and Tradesmen of the City of New York**

## GSMT Mission Statement

*The General Society of Mechanics and Tradesmen of the City of New York (GSMT) will provide for the education of those in the crafts and building trades, will disseminate literary and scientific knowledge through lectures and other means of intellectual improvement and will maintain a cultural and educational resource center for those in manual, technical, craft and creative occupations, and will provide operating space for similar non-profit organizations whose goals are to preserve and promote the arts, culture, and history.*

## Two New Instructors Join Mechanics Institute Faculty



Juan Londono

We are fortunate to have two new electrical/power instructor recruits from ConEd who joined us this past academic year. **Juan Londono** has a passion for ham radios, soccer, and teaching. He was born in Colombia and graduated from college with his Master's degree in Electrical Engineering. He then worked for Colombia's largest utility, located in Medellin. Mr. Londono moved to New York in 2007, when he married his wife Paula, who is a graphic designer. He arrived with no English and studied hard and became fluent, and then went to work for ConEd. He rose to be a Senior Engineer in their Distribution Department in just three years. It takes most engineers 10 years to accomplish that. He told us the first requirement to be an engineer is to be curious, and then to find the best way to solve problems. "This is what I tell my students," he said: "If you don't use your brain it's going to be useless. If you don't ask questions, you won't learn. You must take advantage of the people who know more than you do. All people have the same possibilities. My goal is to motivate my students to use their skills. It's easy to sit at home and watch TV. It's far better to read widely." We are fortunate to have Mr. Londono as an instructor in our Electrical Technology program.



Lateef LeGrand

**Lateef LeGrand**, is Brooklyn-born and raised. He has always been fascinated by all things electrical. He told us that the family TV broke and his mother was ready to buy a new one, but Lateef asked her to wait. Even though he was just eight years old, he took the TV apart and found the loose wire. Problem solved! He graduated from NYC College of Technology and went to work for ConEd as a Design Engineer, where he focuses on NYC's entire electrical grid. In January he became a Mechanics Institute instructor. "The students are so cooperative," he told us. "I wasn't sure what to expect when I started teaching, but it was a great experience for me and I will be back next semester for more." During our chat, we also learned that Lateef means "kind," and that certainly shows in this gentleman. In his spare time, Mr. LeGrand volunteers at the First Lego Robotics League, which fires the imaginations and hones the skills of young people from kindergarten through high school. We believe those young ones are in good hands, as are the Electrical Technology students at Mechanics Institute.

***"By Hammer and Hand  
All Arts Do Stand"***

## Fall Lecture Series.....(continued from Page 1)

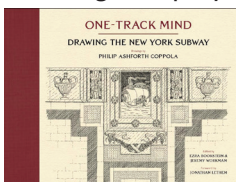
Executive VP of Collections & Chief Curator, National September 11 Memorial & Museum who will discuss how the Museum bears solemn witness to the terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001, and February 26, 1993. The Museum honors the nearly 3,000 victims of these attacks and all those who risked their lives to save others. It further recognizes the thousands who survived and all who demonstrated extraordinary compassion in the aftermath.

## Lecture Series Cover a Multitude of New York Topics

Nearly two dozen public programs took place between January and June 2018 on a number of diverse subjects as part of the **Labor, Literature and Landmark and Artisan Lecture Series**. Topics covered included: restoration and conservation at Green-Wood Cemetery, the evolution of the Garment District, an in-depth look at the creation of a Steinway Piano and the impact of World War II on New York City. Our exceptional speakers generously shared their in-depth knowledge and expertise, and were enthusiastically received by appreciative audiences.

### Artisan Lectures

The 2018 Artisan Lecture Series began on January 16th with *A Talk with Visual Artist Tauba Auerbach* who discussed her methodology and diverse work. On March 27th, **Neela K. Wickremesinghe** of Green-Wood Cemetery spoke on conservation and the artisans' contribution to Green-Wood in *Memories and Monuments: Preservation in Practice*. On April 3, sculptor and designer, **Abigail Tulis** discussed her interdisciplinary figurative and design work. On May 8th, **Artisans from Alpha Workshops** (which provides vocational training for at risk youth and adults with disabilities or other vulnerabilities) in *Creating Beauty. Changing Lives* described the decorative services they deliver. On May 9, in partnership with the Huguenot Society, **Tessa Murdoch**, Deputy Keeper at the Victoria & Albert Museum spoke on *Master and Apprentice: The Transfer of Skills in the London Huguenot Community 1680-1760*. On May 10th, architect **David Gibson** of D.F. Gibson Architects discussed *The Restoration of a Bronx Landmark* (South Bronx Job Corp Center) and the building's display of artisan mastery.



On May 22nd, artist **Philip Coppola** discussed his book *One Track Mind: Drawing the New York Subway* with editors **Ezra Bookstein** and **Jeremy Workman**. The book illustrated the decorative craftsmanship found in many subways. In partnership with the American-Scottish Foundation, on June 7th, architect **John Kinnear** and **Kirstin Bridier** of the National Trust for Scotland Foundation, celebrated the work of revered early 20th Century architect and decorative designer, Charles Renie Mackintosh. On June 12th, third-generation Steinway craftsman **Bill Youse** discussed in detail how skilled

Steinway artisans, craft every piano by hand in *Steinway Pianos*. Concluding the spring season on June 26th, artisan **Dawn Ladd** of Aurora Lampworks discussed *The Integration of LED Technology into Historic Fixtures*, focusing on several significant landmark buildings. The series was curated by artisans **Jean Wiart** and **Rhett Butler**.

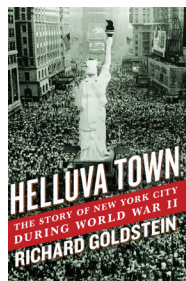
### Labor Lectures

The 'Labor' Lectures focused on a variety of topics that included everything from how things work to the significance of industrialization. On June 5th, in *The Roots of Radiant Heating*, international authority on steam heating and hydronics expert, **Dan Holohan** described the application of a heating system, still in use, that began with the Romans. On June 22nd, **Gregory Singer** discussed the realities of his life in New York in *Behind-the-Scenes with Musician, Composer and Conductor*; and on June 28th, historian **Joshua Freeman** provided an overview of industrialization and its impact on society in *Behemoth: A History of the Factory and the Making of the Modern World*.



### Literature Lectures

The spring 'Literature' lectures explored books related to New York City culture and history. These included: on May 16th, **Rosemary Novellino-Mearns** who described her efforts to protect a landmark, drawn from her book *Saving Radio City Music Hall*. On June 14th, in partnership with Gracie Mansion Book Club and Gracie Mansion Conservancy, **Richard Goldstein** discussed his book *Helluva Town*, which outlined the story of New York City during WWII, with panelist **Professor Farah Jasmine Griffin** and moderator **Dr. Jan Ramirez**. On June 25th, New York publisher, **Erika Goldman** of Bellevue Literary Press gave an *Insider's View on Independent Publishing* with author **Diane DeSanders**.



### Landmark Lectures

The 'Landmark' Lectures explored preservation of New York City historic buildings. Historic preservation architect Lisa Easton curated the four lectures. The lectures were: on March 20th, **Professor Andrew Dolkart** described the *Creation of New York's Garment District*; on April 17th, **Lisa Kersavage** and **Daniel Watts** of the Landmarks Preservation Commission outlined the *LPC's Historic Building Data Project*. On May 15th, preservationists **Carolyn Caste** and **Joan Berkowitz** discussed *35 Years of Façade Inspections*; and on June 19th, senior historic preservationist **Meisha Hunter** described the *119th Street Croton Aqueduct Gatehouse: Repurposing Small Scale, Historic Infrastructure*.

This program is supported in part by public funds from the New York City Department of Cultural Affairs, in partnership with the City Council.





## From Stable Street to Club Row



It's hard to believe, but West 44th Street once had a different name: Stable Street. It earned that name because it was home to the two- and three-story carriage houses that lined the narrow street and housed the horses owned by the wealthy people who were building their mansions on Fifth Avenue. Today, The Society's landmarked building at 20 W. 44th Street, designed by architects Lamb & Rich, still bears some of the remnants of The Berkeley School, which, for a brief time, was a military academy for young men. The trustees of the Berkeley School projected that Stable Street would

someday be grand, and they were correct, but in 1899 they decided to move to Madison Avenue and 49th Street, and the General Society purchased the building and turned it into what we see today. The front door of our building was once one story up from our current door. A two-sided, stone staircase led to the original door. Our current door led to the basement, which is now the floor of our library. In 1903, Andrew Carnegie donated the funds to expand our building to its current size. The design, by architect Ralph Townsend, removed the two-sided staircase and added a street-level revolving door, and the beautiful marble staircase that now graces our entrance. In 1917, we removed the revolving door when New York City decided to widen West 44th Street to its current width. West 44th is now also known as Club Row because of our neighbors: the New York Yacht Club, the Harvard Club, and the Penn Club. It's been a long journey from Stable Street to Club Row, and one filled with a wonderful history.

## Ringing the Closing Bell at NYSE



On Friday, July 6th, President **Gerard Drohan, Jr.** and Executive Director **Victoria A. Dengel** joined approximately 20 representatives from the U.S. Army as two general officers, one from the Army National Guard and Army Reserve, rang the closing bell as the NYSE honored the Army during Independence Week. President Drohan and Executive Director Dengel were extremely honored to join the U.S. Army, on behalf of The General

Society of Mechanics & Tradesmen, and stand with our U.S. Military as they rang the NYSE Closing Bell.

## Graduation Night is Family Night

Our graduates sharing their achievements with their families.



## General Society During World War II

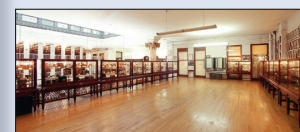
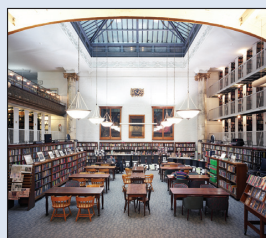
Archival review of the General Membership and Executive Committee minutes from May-September 1942 has found that the Mechanics Institute held two Semesters of a Defense Training Program, approved by New York State and fully funded by the United States Government. During this critical time period during World War II, a total of 891 students attended classes such as Blueprint Reading, Mechanical Drafting and Lettering to be used in factories supporting all aspects of the industrial War Effort. These classes were held throughout the summer.

## Please Help the General Society Support Our Programs

The historic GSMT building has space to rent for programs and special events.

- Our grand, three-story library
- Balcony/Museum
- Conference Rooms for smaller meetings
- Classrooms available for regular daytime use or evening lectures, classes, receptions and more

For more information, call The General Society office, (212) 840-1840 ext. 2, or visit our website at [www.generalsociety.org](http://www.generalsociety.org) and click Rent Space.



Photos by  
Amiaga Photography



## Spectacular Transformation of the Building's 44th Street Level Windows



Neil Mazzella, Chairman of Hudson Scenic Studio.

**Neil A. Mazzella**, Chairman of Hudson Scenic Studio, world leaders in scenery, automation and production, has generously transformed the Society's six street-level display windows which were originally installed in 1966. Thanks to the skilled artisans of Hudson Scenic, the windows now look magnificent — regal and stately, warm and inviting. Shown here are two of his artisans working inside the windows. Hudson Scenic also built a staging area behind the windows, so we are now able to access the rear of each window, enabling ease for mounting displays. Hudson Scenic also installed a special type of glass that can't be broken, making the displays more secure, and greatly enhanced the window lighting, creating a soft glow. Mr. Mazzella and the craftsmen of Hudson Scenic have created a remarkable showcase for The General Society and our educational programs. We are very grateful that countless generations to come will experience and enjoy what Mr. Mazzella and Hudson Scenic Studio have created.



Roger Bardwell, P.E. at Hudson Scenic, transforming one of the windows.



Mackenzie Kovaka, Assistant Project Manager, Hudson Scenic Studio, working inside a window.

## Artistic Curator of the Display Windows - Thomas Donahue

Working closely with Hudson Scenic in the transformation of the windows, were General Society Facilities Chair **Tom Stein** and Window Curator **Thomas Donahue**. Mr. Donahue chose quarter-sawn oak to line the restored windows, echoing the oak of The General Society's Library case-work and furnishings. Thanks to Hudson Scenic, removable upholstered panels can now be installed over the oak interiors, greatly increasing the options for dramatic window scapes. Another addition was the LED proscenium and spotlights providing well-lit displays with a range capacity from brilliant bright to subtle spot illumination. Mr. Donahue's commitment to curate, a lively and changing 44th Street presence, is entering its 4th year.



Thomas Donahue

## Independence Day Celebration

A large crowd gathered in The Society's Library on June 27 to celebrate the birth of America and to hear the Patriotic address from **Colonel Mary Westmoreland** and the Reading of the Declaration of Independence. This marked the 226th consecutive year that The Society had a full reading of the Declaration of Independence. The Banjo Rascals started the festivities with some rousing patriotic music, and singer **Michelle DellaFave** led us in our National Anthem. Executive Director Victoria Dengel introduced President Gerard Drohan Jr., who spoke of the Society's past celebrations, and then she introduced **Colonel Mary Westmoreland, Ret.** Colonel Westmoreland is a decorated combat Veteran with 31 years of service. This includes membership in the U.S. Coast Guard, and later the U.S. Army, both Active and Reserve components.



Colonel Mary Westmoreland

Among her many recognitions are two Legions of Merit, the Bronze Star Medal and five Meritorious Service Medals. Colonel Westmoreland began her speech saying, "On 4th of July we honor those who led the way in fighting for and forming our great nation. They were a marvelous collection of men, women, families, educated gentlemen, farmers, tradesmen, inventors. All committed to an ideal. Their vision was challenged by the immediate need to form and sustain an army, navy, and an economy, and so focused on the funds to feed and equip those forces to fight for the treasured words we share tonight... Today, our National Security is sustained by that same energy, values and commitments demanded almost two and a half centuries ago. Today our Military Branches are 100% Volunteers. Their quality and substance is well beyond any other nation." Following rousing applause, Colonel Westmoreland called her husband, U.S. Air Force Reserve Veteran, **Gene Westmoreland**, to the lectern and together they presented The Society with the prestigious Department of Defense **Seven Seals Award**. (Please see Pg. 7 for more information.)



Tom Szekely

At this point **Thomas Szekely**, Past President, then walked to the podium to give his stirring traditional reading of the Declaration of Independence. The evening concluded with more music from the Banjo Rascals and Michelle DellaFave.

# Hammering On...

## Editorial Meeting of GSMT News



**Penny Speckter** is a long-time General Society Board Member and retired Madison Avenue Advertising Executive. At 98, she continues to amaze and inspire all who know her. Here she is, seated to the left, leading an editorial session for the General Society of Mechanics & Tradesmen newsletter, *GSMT News* which she has been writing and managing for the past 14 years. We are very fortunate to have her as our Managing Editor.

## Seven Seals Award



**Colonel Mary Westmoreland** along with her husband U.S. Air Force Reserve Veteran **Gene Westmoreland** presented The General Society of Mechanics & Tradesmen with the prestigious Seven Seals Award. The Department of Defense presents this award

to individuals or organizations for meritorious leadership and initiative in support of the men and women who serve America in the National Guard and Reserve. It was a moment that will go down in the annals of the Society's 233-years of history as one of our most special.

## Book Club Plans for Fall

Book Club discussions will begin on Thursday September 13th at 1pm. Members have been reading *A Hazard of New Fortunes* by William Dean Howell and will be discussing it at the September meeting. Future books and dates are: Thursday, October 4 at 1pm: Ernest Hemingway, *The Sun Also Rises*; Thursday, November 1 at 1pm: L.M. Montgomery, *The Blue Castle*; and Thursday, December 6 at 1pm: George Bernard Shaw, *Man and Superman*. For more information on how to join the Book Club, please contact [karin.taylor@generalsociety.org](mailto:karin.taylor@generalsociety.org).

## Fall Book Sale

We will have our annual book sale on Thursday, September 20th from 5pm to 8pm. There will be a special program that night at 6.30 p.m. with **Polly Guerin** who will discuss her new book, *The Dynamics of Color* to launch the book sale. The book sale will also be held between 12pm and 2pm on Friday, September 21st and Monday, September 24th. You will discover treasures at amazing prices.

## New Colleague, Genesis Jerez, Joins Staff

A new registrar and program assistant is now working in the executive offices. **Genesis Jerez** is a graduate of The Fashion Institute of Technology where she studied Fine Arts. She is interested in figurative drawing and mixed media. Ms. Jerez has worked with a variety of non-profits throughout the City of New York.

## National Register of Historic Places



The GSMT gained acceptance on The National Register of Historic Places in 2008. The GSMT building is listed on both the NY State and National Register of Historic Places and its facade is a NYC Landmark. The Society's 1890 building is significant in its architectural design of blending Beaux-Arts Classicism and Renaissance Revival and its association of being the home of The General Society of Mechanics & Tradesmen, founded 1785.

## The General Society of Mechanics & Tradesmen of the City of New York

*"By Hammer and Hand  
All Arts Do Stand"*

### Officers

President - Gerard Drohan, Jr.

Vice President - Daniel Holohan

Secretary - Thomas Stein

Treasurer - Gerald Caporicci

### Board of Governors

Gerard A. Dengel

Ellen Fisch

Rella Fogliano

Frank Gibbons

Terrance Holliday

Nili Olay

Brad Robertson

Penny Speckter

Gottfried Weissgerber

Jean Wiart

### Executive Director

Victoria A. Dengel

### The General Society Newsletter Fall, 2018

### Editorial Committee:

Karin Taylor – Editor

Penny Speckter – Managing Editor

### Editorial Consultant:

Dan Holohan

### Archivist:

Angelo A. Vigorito

### Photography:

Dan Luhmann

*News, photos and editorial suggestions from members are welcome and can be sent to [pennyspeckter@gmail.com](mailto:pennyspeckter@gmail.com)*

### The General Society of Mechanics & Tradesmen

20 West 44th Street

New York, NY 10036

212.840.1840

*For GSMT Event Calendar, visit the  
General Society website at  
[www.generalsociety.org](http://www.generalsociety.org)*





The General Society of  
Mechanics & Tradesmen  
20 West 44<sup>th</sup> Street  
New York, NY 10036

Please visit our website for program information and to register your email address: [www.generalsociety.org](http://www.generalsociety.org)

---

### **A Bit of Classical Greece Above Our Front Door**

Walk across the street from our beautiful building and look up to the third-floor windows. Above them, you'll see a long frieze, supported by four columns. This frieze, taken from casts at the Metropolitan Museum of Art in 1890, is a duplicate of part of the Parthenon's frieze. It represents the Panathenaic Games, which began in Athens in 556 B.C. The architects, Lamb and Rich, used a blending of Roman brick, terra cotta, and Indiana limestone to create it. Coincidentally, Lamb and Rich also designed the main building at Pratt Institute (Charles Pratt was a member of The Society), and Theodore Roosevelt's summer White House at Sagamore Hill.

