

*Lib Hist*

Founders Day Celebration  
of  
General Society of  
Mechanics and Tradesmen  
of the City of New York

1785



1965

celebrating the  
One Hundred and Eightieth Anniversary

•

Saturday, November Twentieth  
Nineteen Hundred and sixty-five

at

Astor Hotel, New York





## A BRIEF STORY OF THE LIFE OF THE SOCIETY

THE OLD SOCIETY FLAG  
IN OUR MUSEUM

ON the evening of November 17, 1785, one hundred and eighty years ago, there met in Walter Hyers Tavern on Pine Street (then King Street) near Broadway, twenty-two Mechanics and Tradesmen, representing the various trades. They organized and called themselves "The General Committee of Mechanics". The object of the organization was to promote and encourage by mutual aid the mechanics and tradesmen of the City, to assist in sickness and to care for the families of those who died without property.

The title of the General Society of Mechanics and Tradesmen of the City of New York was used as early as 1786 and was permanently adopted when the Charter was granted in 1790.

The Society has continued to follow the original ideas and plans of its Founders. In 1820 a day school was instituted for the benefit of the children of the members and was later opened to the public. In the same year the Apprentices Library was opened. In 1858 the day school was changed to an evening school for technical training of young men employed during the day. During the years the School, known as Mechanics Institute, has grown, to the extent that before the Second World War there was an enrollment of about 4,000 students.

The work of the Society has continued and has benefitted by donations so generously given by members and friends, who were inspired by the good that was being accomplished.

The courses taught in the School are Architectural Drafting, Mechanical Drafting, Structural Steel Drafting, Industrial Electricity, Plumbing Code and Drafting, Science, Freehand Drawing and Commercial Art.

Diplomas are awarded at the completion of the three-year courses, and prizes are awarded to the most efficient.

The Library is recognized as one of the outstanding reference libraries in the City and contains over 140,000 volumes.

The Society, organized four years before the adoption of the Constitution of the United States, stands among the first of our democratic institutions. While it has not completed and, we hope, never will complete its usefulness, the Society, on this, our 180th anniversary, continues with confidence.



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## OFFICERS 1965

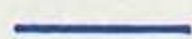
EDWARD J. HURLEY, *President*

ROBERT E. PATTEN, *Vice-President*

FRANCIS J. McCUE, *2nd Vice-President*

EDWARD A. MALTBY, *Treasurer*

ROBERT E. HOFFMAN, *Secretary*



## ANNIVERSARY COMMITTEE

WILLIAM G. EGGAR, *Chairman*

JEREMIAH J. BURNS

ALBERT A. CUNEO

JAMES J. DOWNEY, JR.

DAVID J. ERBE

ANDREW G. HAGSTROM

ROBERT E. HOFFMAN

JOSEPH A. U'SELLIS

ALEXANDER C. WALKER



# *Past Presidents of the Society*

1785-1965

1785	ROBERT BOYD	1829	ANDREW SITCHER
1786	ROBERT BOYD	1830	STEPHEN B. YOUNG
1787	JOHN CAMPBELL	1831	BRIGHAM HOWE
1788	JOHN CAMPBELL	1832	BENJAMIN DEMILT
1789	ANTHONY POST	1833	PHILIP HENRY
1790	JOHN STAGG	1834	EDWIN B. CLAYTON
1791	JONATHAN POST	1835	ADONIRAM CHANDLER
1792	ROBERT BOYD	1836	THOMAS CONSTANTINE
1793	ANTHONY POST	1837	SHEPHERD KNAPP
1794	JOHN STAGG	1838	ANSON BAKER
1795	GABRIEL FIRMAN	1839	CORNELIUS C. JACOBUS
1796	JACOB SHERRED	1840	ELEUTHEROS D. COMSTOCK
1797	SEABURY CHAMPLAIN	1841	SAMUEL ROOME
1798	JAMES TYLEE	1842	LINUS W. STEVENS
1799	PETER H. WENDOVER	1843	JAMES VAN NORDEN
1800	DANIEL HITCHCOCK	1844	SHIVERS PARKER
1801	JACOB SHERRED	1845	JACOB A. WESTERVELT
1802	ABRAHAM LABAGH	1846	THOMAS C. CHARDAVOYNE
1803	JAMES WARNER	1847	JOHN P. MOORE
1804	JOHN SLIDELL, JR.	1848	JAMES PHYFE
1805	FRANCIS COOPER	1849	FRANCIS W. EDMONDS
1806	AUGUSTUS WRIGHT	1850	SYLVANUS S. WARD
1807	WILLIAM G. MILLER	1851	ISAAC FRYER
1808	ALEXANDER CAMPBELL	1852	HENRY T. INGALLS
1809	STEPHEN ALLEN	1853	JOHN T. B. MAXWELL
1810	GEORGE IRELAND	1854	THOMAS JEREMIAH
1811	JOHN J. LABAGH	1855	JAMES MORRIS
1812	JACOB LORILLARD	1856	CHARLES M. LEUPP
1813	PETER SHARP	1857	THOMAS EARLE
1814	JONAS MAPES	1858	IRA HUTCHINSON
1815	ABRAHAM VAN NEST	1859	GEORGE W. FARNHAM
1816	THOMAS C. TAYLOR	1860	JOHN A. BUNTING
1817	JOSEPH SMITH	1861	JOHN WRIGHT
1818	JOHN MCCOMB, JR.	1862	NOAH WORRALL
1819	PETER H. WENDOVER	1863	MATTHIAS BLOODGOOD
1820	GIDEON LEE	1864	GEORGE R. JACKSON
1821	ELAM WILLIAMS	1865	GEORGE F. NESBITT
1822	WILLIAM MANDEVILLE	1866	JOHN T. CONOVER
1823	JOHN W. HINTON	1867	WADE B. WORRALL
1824	JOHN LANG	1868	WILSON SMALL
1825	JOHN SUTPHEN	1869	CORNELIUS H. DELEMATER
1826	THOMAS RICHARDS	1870	ADOLPHUS F. OCKERHAUSEN
1827	THOMAS R. MERCEIN	1871	GEORGE J. BYRD
1828	RICHARD E. MOUNT	1872	JAMES J. BURNET



# *180th Anniversary*

STAR SPANGLED BANNER

ASSEMBLY

INVOCATION

RIGHT REVEREND MONSIGNOR DANIEL P. BYRNE

*Pastor of the Church of the Sacred Heart*

New York, N. Y.

\* \* \* \*

## *. . . Menu . . .*

SUPREME OF FRESH FRUIT ASTOR

—

PETITE MARMITE HENRI IV  
HEARTS OF CRISP CELERY  
RIPE AND GREEN OLIVES

—

ROAST PRIME RIBS OF BEEF  
AU JUS  
STRING BEANS AMANDINE  
SMALL ROASTED POTATOES

—

BOMBE AMBROSIA

—

PETITS FOURS

—

COFFEE



# *180th Anniversary*

*Toastmaster*

**JEREMIAH J. BURNS**

*President of the Building Trades Employers Association*

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*Introductory Address of Welcome*

**EDWARD J. HURLEY**

*President of the General Society of Mechanics and Tradesmen*

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*Address by*

**HON. OWEN P. McGIVERN**

*Justice of the Supreme Court of the State of New York*

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## **ENTERTAINMENT**

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**BILLY KELLY**

*Comedian and Master of Ceremonies*

---

**THE HOLIDAYS**

*Terpischorean Divertissement*

---

**SAUVAIN AND WILLIAMS**

*Vocalists*

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**DANCING**

*Music by the*

**FRANCIS WALTHER ORCHESTRA**



# *Past Presidents of the Society*

1785-1965

1873	HENRY WILSON	1919	FRANK E. WISE
1874	WILLIAM H. GEDNEY	1920	RUDOLPH P. MILLER
1875	WILLIAM OTIS MUNROE	1921	JAMES HOPKINS
1876	HAVILAH M. SMITH	1922	FRANCIS N. HOWLAND
1877	EDWIN DOBBS	1923	RONALD TAYLOR
1878	HENRY L. SLOTE	1924	EDMUND F. RATTEY
1879	JOHN R. VOORHIS	1925	ERNST LAUCKHARDT
1880	ALEXANDER GAW	1926	STEPHEN M. SMITH
1881	JOHN BANTA	1927	ALEXANDER C. WALKER
1882	JOHN J. TUCKER	1928	HENRY D. MOELLER
1883	DANIEL HERBERT	1929	JOSIAH S. LINDSAY
1884	JOHN R. ROGERS	1930	JOHN E. WADE
1885	JOHN H. WAYDELL	1931	JOSEPH L. HERNON
1886	CHARLES T. GALLOWAY	1932	HARVEY A. PATTERSON
1887	GILBERT J. BURNETT	1933	HARRY BAILEY
1888	WILLIAM C. SMITH	1934	ANDREW H. DYKES
1889	ROBERT RUTTER	1935	WILLIAM J. T. GETTY
1890	ALBERT G. BOGERT	1936	OTTO GRIMMER
1891	OLIVER BARRATT	1937	GEORGE B. SOMERVILLE
1892	JOSEPH J. LITTLE	1938	JAMES M. FORBES
1893	GUY GULGIN	1939	SIDNEY H. CARPENTER
1894	JOHN L. HAMILTON	1940	FRANK B. LASETTE
1895	WARREN A. CONOVER	1941	W. W. ROBERTSON
1896	GEORGE E. HOE	1942	GEORGE J. THOMSON
1897	WILLIAM STONBACK	1943	ROBERT M. SYPHER
1898	ROBERT CHRISTIE	1944	WILLIAM A. ALLEN
1899	CHAS. A. COWEN	1945	GEORGE F. BODFISH, JR.
1900	STEPHEN M. WRIGHT	1946	GEORGE S. CARR
1901	FRANK E. CONOVER	1947	JOHN C. WANDELL
1902	WM. H. OLIVER	1948	GEORGE COLES STEPHEN
1903	CHAS. W. HOFFMAN	1949	ROBERT A. FASH
1904	JOHN BEATTIE	1950	WILLIAM E. GOLDING
1905	WILLIAM E. STRAUCH	1951	GEORGE B. FEARN
1906	NILES G. WHITE	1952	ANDREW G. HAGSTROM
1907	HUGH GETTY	1953	JOHN T. O'CONNOR
1908	FREDERICK R. USHER	1954	FRANK C. PANUSKA
1909	WILLIAM J. HOE	1955	ROBERT M. SYPHER, JR.
1910	JOHN H. MCCULLAGH	1956	DAVID J. ERBE
1911	WILLIAM S. MILLER	1957	EDWARD A. MALTBY
1912	ALEXANDER WALKER	1958	ANTHONY E. ZIPPRICH
1913	GEORGE D. HILYARD	1959	FRANCIS J. SYPHER
1914	LEWIS W. HARRINGTON	1960	JOSEPH A. U'SELLIS
1915	CHARLES J. RICHTER	1961	JAMES J. DOWNEY, JR.
1916	ALBERT T. STRAUCH	1962	ALBERT A. CUNEO
1917	JAMES BOYD	1963	JEREMIAH J. BURNS
1918	CHARLES H. FOX	1964	WILLIAM G. EGGAR



# Mechanics Institute Development Program

The General Society of Mechanics and Tradesmen of the City of New York established Mechanics Institute in 1820. It is the oldest technical school of its kind in the United States and has trained over 150,000 men in the various aspects of their chosen trade.

The Mechanics Institute Development Program was started in 1963 to raise funds to renovate and modernize the facilities of the school and to purchase new equipment.

To acknowledge the grateful appreciation of the Society to the supporters of this Fund, listed below are the individuals and firms who have generously contributed to the Mechanics Institute Development Program.

BUILDING TRADES EMPLOYERS ASSOCIATION

ALUMNI ASSOCIATION OF MECHANICS  
INSTITUTE

WOOD, WIRE & METAL LATHERS UNION  
LOCAL 46

NEW YORK BUILDING CONGRESS

METROPOLITAN BRICK MASONRY COUNCIL

CONTRACTING PLASTERERS ASSOCIATION  
OF GREATER NEW YORK

(continued)



WILLIAM H. ANDREWS	ABC KALAMEIN DOOR	M & H PLUMBING
JAMES E. BAILEY	LEONARD ADAMS	C. F. METZINGER & SON
ALBERT BISHOP	ADELHARDT CONSTRUCTION	PAUL MILLER PLUMBING
STANLEY BRUNNER	ALVORD & SWIFT	A. MUNDER & SON
JEREMIAH J. BURNS	ANDREA RADIO CORPORATION	PATTEN-BROWN Co.
ALBERT CUNEO	ARC ELECTRIC Co.	PENN METAL Co.
DELAZZERO BROTHERS	ATLAS TILE & MARBLE	POWELL STEEL
JOHN DORFF	BRENNAN & SLOAN	RIECKER, INC.
JOSEPH DORFF	CARTY HEATING	H. SAND COMPANY
JAMES J. DOWNEY, JR.	CONSOLIDATED ELECTRIC	SICILIAN ASPHALT
GRANT T. GEELAN	COSTELLO CONCRETES	SNYDER ASSOCIATES
ANDREW I. GREEN	C. H. CRONIN	SPECIAL SECTIONS
ANDREW G. HAGSTROM	DIESEL CONSTRUCTION	SYSKA & HENNESSY
HARRY HASSELMANN	DOMESTIC MARBLE	CHARLES ZWEIFEL
RICHARD HELLMANN	JOHN DORIS	J. C. MURPHY, INC.
HUGH M. HUGHES	EUGENE DUKLAUER	ANDREW ALLEN
EDWARD J. HURLEY	EGGERS & HIGGINS	JOSEPH P. BLITZ
FRANCIS V. HURLEY	FIREPROOF PRODUCTS	COURTER & COMPANY
WILLIAM ISHERWOOD	P. FEINER & SON	THOMAS CUMMINS CONSTRUCTION Co.
HENRY K. JABURG, JR.	FIREDOOR CORPORATION	HAROLD C. DUPUY
EDWARD B. KEARNEY	FISHBACH & MOORE	DYKES LUMBER
FRANCIS J. MCCUE	GEORGE A. FULLER	SALVATORE GIARRATANO
CHANCELLOR E. MACKEOWN	HORN ELECTRIC	H. F. HOFFMAN & BARNARD, INC.
EDWARD A. MALTBY	JARCHO BROTHERS	JOHN B. KELLY
JOSEPH MITCHELL	JAMES G. KENNEDY	CHARLES KLIEBER
A. ROBERT MUNRO	J. HENRY KLING	L. E. KREYER
NICHOLSON & GALLOWAY	LASKER-GOLDMAN	JOHN A. LAVERY
DAVID U. RASANEN	JOHN J. MATHESON	OR-DI CONSTRUCTION
EDWARD A. SCANNELL	MCKEOWN PLASTERING	OTIS ELEVATOR COMPANY
FREDERICK L. SUMNER	MACNUTT ELECTRIC	WILLIAM RIEGER
JOSEPH A. U'SELLIS	MARCATO COMPANY	WILLIAM SCULLY
ALEXANDER C. WALKER	MANHATTAN BUILDERS	SMITH, SMITH, HAYNES
WILLIAM WATT, JR.	MARSHALL CONSTRUCTION	THATCHER CONSTRUCTION
HARRY S. WHELLER	JOHN MELEN	WOLF & MUNIER



In affectionate remembrance of those whose munificence  
has made the work of the  
General Society of Mechanics and Tradesmen  
more effective.

BENJAMIN DEMILT

ELIZABETH DEMILT

SARAH DEMILT

JACOB LORILLARD

J. MORGAN SLADE

DANIEL D. WRIGHT

ANDREW CARNEGIE

CHARLES P. HAUGHIAN

JOHN M. MOSSMAN

GEORGE E. HOE

STEPHEN M. WRIGHT

AMOS F. ENO

MARGARET J. ORR

ROBERT CHRISTIE

CHARLES A. COWEN

J. MALCOLM MOSSMAN

GEORGE D. HILYARD

ALEXANDER WALKER

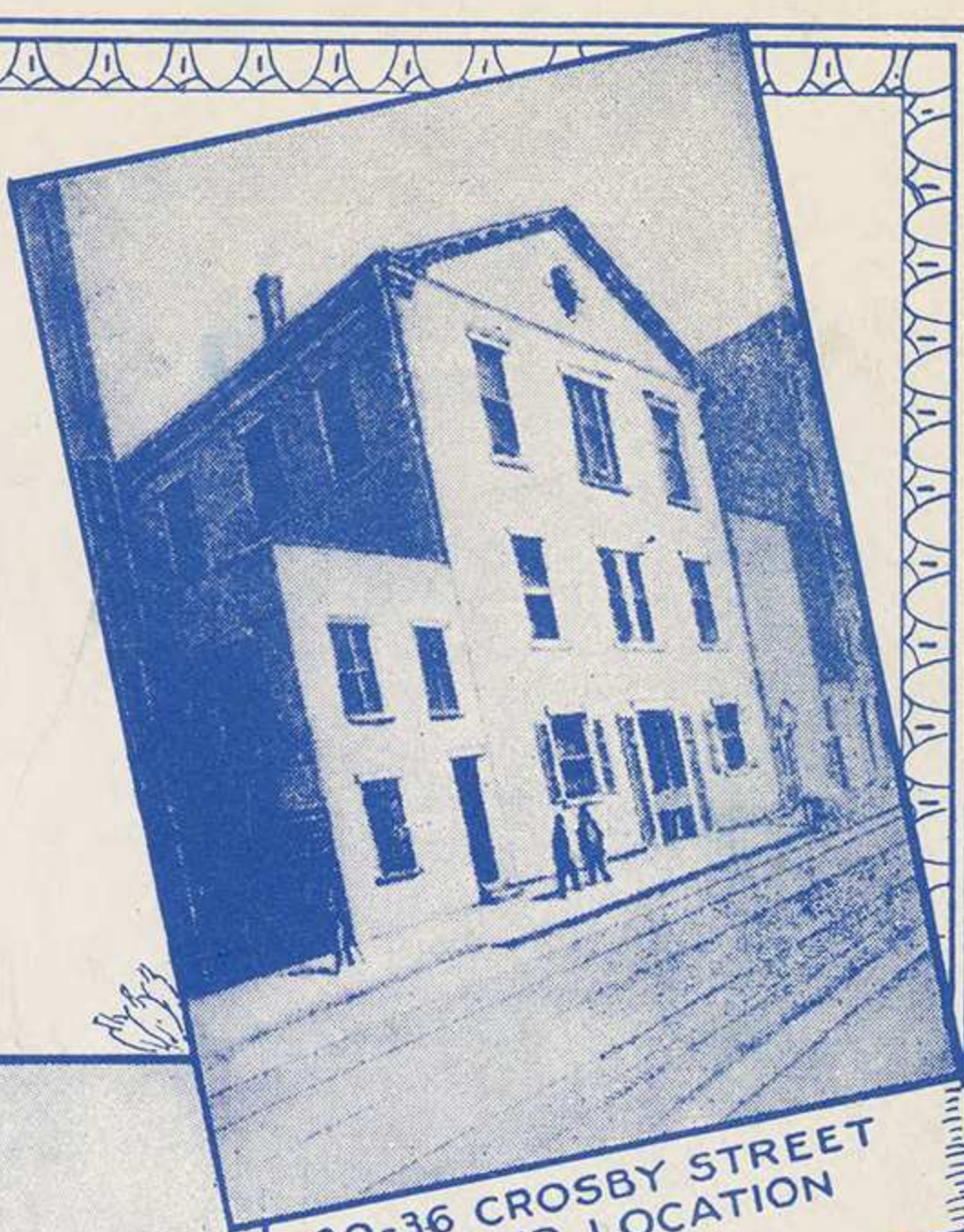
CHARLES J. RICHTER

FRANCIS G. ELGAR

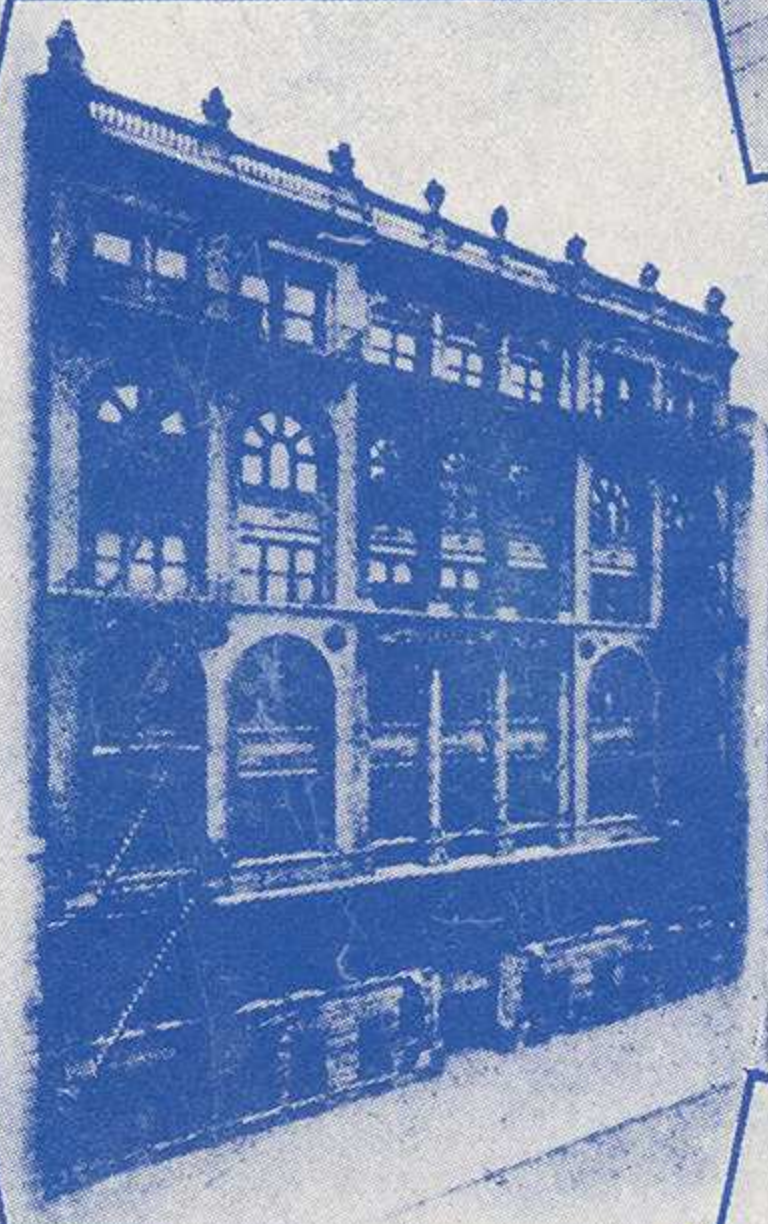




239 BROADWAY  
FIRST LOCATION  
1802



30-36 CROSBY STREET  
SECOND LOCATION  
1831



20 WEST 44<sup>TH</sup> STREET  
PRESENT LOCATION  
1898



472 BROADWAY  
CROSBY STREET ANNEX  
1843



18 EAST 16<sup>TH</sup> STREET  
FOURTH LOCATION  
1877