

TRENTON



HISTORICAL  
SOCIETY

Trenton Historical Society  
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*Damon Tvaryanas, President*  
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*Elizabeth Yull, Treasurer*  
*Sally Lane, Secretary*

25<sup>th</sup> October, 2023

**Dear Friend of Trenton History:**

On Saturday, November 18th, the Trenton Historical Society will sponsor its ***Stop the Wrecking Ball*** fundraiser at City Hall. As before, the event benefits Society activities, particularly the *Restore Trenton!* Historic Property Rehabilitation Grant Program, which helps homeowners rehabilitate exteriors to historic district standards. **We need your sponsorship** to help make this 18th Wrecking Ball a successful celebration of Trenton's heritage!

Since 2003, our ***Stop the Wrecking Ball*** party has highlighted a different Trenton building somewhere on the spectrum from desperately in need of saving to fully preserved. This year, we're celebrating the City of Trenton's commitment to its 1911 home at 319 East State Street, recipient of a New Jersey Historic Trust capital grant.

It took two years to build Trenton's white marble City Hall, not least because 5,987 pieces of marble had to be cut and numbered in Vermont for shipment to Trenton in 119 freight cars. The marble was then hauled to the site across the D&R Canal by horse and wagon. The second-floor Council Chamber is the glory of the building, with Everett Shinn's mural ~ 45 feet wide by 22 feet long ~ mounted behind the dais where City Council sits,.

Stop the Wrecking Ball has never been an event for speeches. Instead, it is a three-hour get-together for lovers of history and architecture, with drinks and ample hors d'oeuvres, and live music that doesn't inhibit conversation. As always, the silent auction will offer up artifacts of Trenton history ~ prints, books, ceramics and much more.

Proceeds from every *Stop the Wrecking Ball* provide funding for the *Restore Trenton!* grant program, through which more than \$210,000 has been awarded to assist owners of residential properties with exterior restoration and maintenance, encouraging historically appropriate home improvements. Funded projects serve as preservation models to the larger community, demonstrating the benefits of homeowner and neighborhood pride, dedication to Trenton's historic character, and the need for further revitalization. We believe this to be the only privately funded grant program in New Jersey dedicated to the preservation of homes.

**The Trenton Historical Society seeks your sponsorship for the 2023 *Stop the Wrecking Ball*.** The categories of support, including benefits, are listed on the attached *Stop the Wrecking Ball* Sponsorship Opportunities form. Donations of goods and services for our Trenton-themed silent

auction are also welcome. Additionally, tickets to the event can be purchased from the Trenton Historical Society (\$100 a person, which includes a one-year membership).

By sponsoring this event, you will be providing significant support to Trenton's heritage. All *Restore Trenton!* bricks and mortar preservation grants are generated exclusively from *Stop the Wrecking Ball* and your support will help us to continue this program and other THS initiatives. If you have any questions about *Stop the Wrecking Ball*, sponsorship opportunities, or tickets, please contact Trenton Historical Society Coordinator Sally Baxter at (609) 396-4478, or [trentonhistoricalsoc@gmail.com](mailto:trentonhistoricalsoc@gmail.com).

Thank you for your consideration of *Stop the Wrecking Ball* sponsorship. We applaud your dedication to the city of Trenton and its history!

Sincerely,

Trenton Historical Society Board of Trustees

*Randy Baum*

*John D.S. Hatch, FAIA, LEED AP*

*Laura Poll*

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*The Trenton Historical Society is a private, non-profit, tax-exempt organization whose mission is the study and interpretation of Trenton's history, the preservation of its historic buildings and artifacts, and the dissemination of information about New Jersey's capital city and its illustrious past.*

*The Society awards Restore Trenton! grants to homeowners for exterior preservation to historic standards; advocates for the retention, preservation and adaptive reuse of historic buildings; supports history-based public programming; publishes a yearly calendar illustrated with historic Trenton photographs; supports the acquisition of historical material for the Trentoniana Collection of the Trenton Free Public Library; maintains a website providing research sources for general use and provides research services for a nominal fee.*

*Information filed with the Attorney General concerning this charitable solicitation and the percentage of contributions received by the charity during the last reporting period that were dedicated to the charitable purpose may be obtained from the Attorney General of the State of New Jersey by calling (973) 504-6215 and is available on the Internet at <http://www.state.nj.us/lps/ca/charfrm.htm>. Registration with the Attorney General does not imply endorsement.*

***Visit the Trenton Historical Society on the web at [www.trentonhistory.org](http://www.trentonhistory.org)***