

Ten Ways You Can Help the ACHA and Ten Broeck Mansion

There are plenty of low-impact, creative ways you can help raise the funds needed to take ACHA activities to a higher level while speeding the repairs, restoration, conservation, and new interpretations needed at the Ten Broeck Mansion.

Gift Membership – Giving friends a gift membership to ACHA, whether it is for a birthday, anniversary, Christmas, retirement, or whatever, is the single best way you can support ACHA. Besides the actual membership fee, it brings potential event attendees, volunteers, and future donors. It also improves the success of grant applications by growing our membership base.

In Honor of . . . – In recent years, several board members have celebrated birthdays, weddings, and anniversaries with “no gifts please” requests by making a donation in the honoree(s)’ name and presenting them with a card or certificate so stating. Some honorees have actually suggested a donation to ACHA in lieu of a gift. By making a gift to ACHA in the honoree’s name, it keeps the spirit of the “no gifts” but lets the honorees know in a tangible way of your regard for them.

Rental – With the updating or restoration of the kitchen, the first floor bathroom, the front and back porches, and the Olcott Dining Room, the Ten Broeck Mansion and its beautiful gardens are more than ever a great place to hold a family or business event. With discounts for members, you would be hard-pressed to find a more unique and affordable venue. See the “Join” and “Rent the Mansion” sections of our website for details.

Yard Sale – How many of us continually complain that we just have to get rid of all the accumulated “junk” overtaking our garages, attics, basements, and closets? Consider a yard sale where you advertise that a portion, or all, of the proceeds will be going to the Albany County Historical Association. You’ll get more browsers and they will pay more for items if they know that all, or at least part, of the proceeds are going to the non-profit ACHA. Don’t have enough “stuff” by yourself? Consider partnering with another ACHA member. You’ll get a clutter-free house, some cash, and help out ACHA.

Gift of Appreciated Stock – Many people have done extremely well in the stock market the past few years. To avoid capital gains taxes, and to maximize the deductible value of your donation, consider making a gift of appreciated stock to ACHA. We now have a mechanism for receiving gifts of stock. Please consult with you tax or estate planning advisor, or give Executive Director Samantha Hall-Saladino a call at (518) 436-9826.

Consider Setting Up a Legacy Gift – From a simple bequest, to a Charitable Gift Annuity, to a Life Insurance Policy, to a Life Income Trust, there are many options to support ACHA through your estate planning. Consult with your attorney or estate planner, or give executive director Samantha Hall-Saladino a call at (518) 436-9826.

Remember the Gala Auction – As the year goes by, keep your eyes open for items and business and service gift certificates that might be good for ACHA’s Gala auction. If you have questions of what is appropriate, please contact Samantha Hall-Saladino at samantha@tenbroeckmansion.org or (518) 436-9826.

Identify and Research a Grant Proposal – ACHA has been successful in the past few years in securing grants that have allowed us to complete several restoration projects and expand ACHA activities. We

have received two grants of \$10,000 each from the National Daughters of the American Revolution, a \$5,000 grant from the Hudson River Valley National Heritage Area, and a \$10,000 grant from the Bender Family Foundation. We have also received two \$5,000 grants from an anonymous individual to fund the intern program at ACHA.

Grant proposals are difficult and time-consuming to write and usually require matching funds, but at the same time, may well be the best way to take the Ten Broeck Mansion to the next level.

Keep your eye out for potential grant possibilities for ACHA. Most require matching funds, and have very narrow focus and eligibility requirements. If you find one that might be good for ACHA, send the information along, including, if you can, deadlines, scope and limitations of the grant, matching funds requirements, etc. to Executive Director Samantha Hall-Saladino at Samantha@TenBroeckMansion.org.

Fund an Archeology Camp Scholarship – Every July, ACHA partners with Hartgen Archaeological Associates and the Underground Railroad Project of the Capital Region to present the Albany Archaeology Field School. Students entering grades 5-10 have the chance to conduct a real archaeological dig on a historic property. They take a field trip to the archaeology department of the NYS Museum and present their discoveries at an open house on the last day of camp. All of their findings are then catalogued and stored at the State Museum. ACHA has offered scholarships to campers in need and we rely on the generosity of our donors to have these available. If you are interested in sponsoring a camper or another aspect of archaeology camp, please contact Samantha Hall-Saladino at Samantha@TenBroeckMansion.org.

Don't let the spring and summer go by without taking advantage of at least one of these ways to help the Albany County Historical Association improve its outreach and services and make the Ten Broeck Mansion the premier historical house in the upper Hudson Valley. And remember, even if you come up dry on creative ways to help ACHA, you are always welcome to get out the old checkbook and make a contribution the old-fashioned way. In particular, consider making a special **donation** to ACHA's Endowment Fund so that eventually time and effort can be redirected from fundraising to more programs, activities and site improvements.