



*“350 Years of People and Nature
on
The Hempstead Plains”*

**Hempstead Plains Heritage Symposium
at
Nassau Community College
on
Friday, October 9, 2009**

**Presented By:
Friends of Hempstead Plains at Nassau Community College
Franklin Square Historical Society
Wheatley School Regional Studies Program**

ATTENTION: TEACHERS, STUDENTS, HISTORIANS, SCIENTISTS, SCHOLARS, PUBLIC OFFICIALS

For over 350 years the region known as the Hempstead Plains has played a key role in the history of Long Island and the United States. The cradle of American aviation, the symbol of suburbanization for the postwar United States, the only natural prairie east of the Allegheny Mountains: the Hempstead Plains is a unique ecological, historical and cultural treasure.

At this critical juncture in our history, a Symposium is being planned to highlight and celebrate the importance of the Hempstead Plains in the life of Long Island and New York. Participants will include scientists, historians, scholars, public officials, teachers and students. The Symposium is planned for **Friday, October 9, 2009** at Nassau Community College, Garden City, New York. You are cordially invited to **SAVE THE DATE** and attend along with interested colleagues and students.

The Symposium will be held from approximately 8:30 A.M. to 2:00 P.M. There will be a light breakfast provided and opening remarks to start the day. In the morning there will be a panel of historians who will make brief presentations on the heritage of the Plains followed by a lunch break.

In the afternoon a panel of scientists and ecologists will explore the natural history and ecological uniqueness of the Plains. After each panel there will be ample time for questions. The day will end with an optional walk of the Hempstead Plains Preserve at Nassau Community College. The Symposium will conclude in time for student participants to return to their schools. There will be a nominal registration fee for each participant.

Symposium registration materials will be sent to you in the near future. We hope you will plan on attending October 9th as we explore the past, present and future of this crossroads of Long Island.

Please feel free to contact Symposium Co-Chairs:

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