

**THE DOUGLASTON AND LITTLE NECK
HISTORICAL SOCIETY**

PRESENTATION AND ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

Saturday, April 25, 2015

Presentation promptly
starting at

2:00 pm

Douglaston Club

600 West Drive

Guest Speaker:

Howard Kroplick

Author:

Vanderbilt Cup Races of Long Island

Annual Meeting:

The Annual Meeting of the Douglaston and Little Neck Historical Society will be held on Saturday, April 25, 2015 at 2:00 pm at The Douglaston Club, 600 West Drive, Douglaston, NY 11363

All are invited to attend.

Meeting and Presentation: Free

Brunch buffet available from 12 noon to 2:00 pm

\$32.95 payable to The Douglaston Club in advance or at the door.

**Please contact the Club for Brunch reservations: 718-229-3900
Non-Club members may pay with credit card.**

Mr. Kroplick's books will be available for purchase.

**2015 Annual Membership
Meeting
and
Presentation**



**“Treasures of the Vanderbilt Cup Races
and the
Long Island Motor Parkway”**

By Howard Kroplick

Douglaston and Little Neck Historical Society
www.dlnhs.org

Treasures of the Vanderbilt Cup Races and the Long Island Motor Parkway

The presentation “*Treasures of the Vanderbilt Cup Races and the Long Island Motor Parkway*” by historian Howard Kroplick will relive auto racing’s earliest triumphs and tragedies, and the development of the Motor Parkway. The talk will feature treasures from Mr. Kroplick’s collections including: films, pennants, posters, pins, program guides and trophies.

“Chain your dogs and lock up your fowls!” heralded posters throughout Long Island in announcing the first international road race ever to be held in America. From 1904 to 1910, six Vanderbilt Cup Races were held on Long Island roads.



The Vanderbilt Cup Races were the most prestigious and thrilling auto races of their day, drawing hundreds of thousands of spectators to Long Island. The races led to significant improvements in American automobiles and the development of the first road built exclusively for the automobile, the Long Island Motor Parkway.

Mr. Kroplick will explain the Parkway’s 1920’s history including its westward expansion through Little Neck, Douglaston and Bayside, ending in Fresh Meadows. The Races and the Parkway were developed from the imagination of Lake Success resident William K. Vanderbilt II, whose great estate “Deepdale” lay just east of Little Neck Parkway straddling the Queens-Nassau border near where North Shore Towers stands today. He was the great grandson of Cornelius Vanderbilt, owner of steamships, the New York Central railroad, and builder of today’s Grand Central Station in Manhattan.

GUEST SPEAKER:

Howard Kroplick

Native Long Islander Howard Kroplick has lectured extensively on the Vanderbilt Cup Races and the Long Island Motor Parkway. He is the Town Historian of North Hempstead and the co-author with historian Al Velocci of the book ***The Long Island Motor Parkway***, currently in its fourth printing. Mr. Kroplick is also the author of ***Vanderbilt Cup Races of Long Island***, and ***North Hempstead***. He is the president of the Long Island Motor Parkway Preservation Society.

Mr. Kroplick's exhibits on the Vanderbilt Cup Races have been shown at various Long Island Museums including the Suffolk County Vanderbilt Museum, the Cradle of Aviation, and the Nassau County Museum of Art. He has collected 25,000 images of the Vanderbilt Cup Races and has accumulated an extensive collection of racing memorabilia.

Mr. Kroplick is an enthusiastic collector of cars, including the restored 1909 Alco-6 ***Black Beast*** Racer that won the 1909 and 1910 Vanderbilt Cup Races and raced in the first Indy 500 Race in 1911. He recently purchased a 1937 Chrysler Imperial C-15 Town Car, a one-of-a-kind car nicknamed "Chrysler's Chrysler" that was custom built by the coachbuilder Le Baron for the Walter P. Chrysler family.

Following the presentation, Mr. Kroplick's books will be available for sale and he will be signing his books. Please join us for what promises to be a memorable afternoon for fans of both local history and Long Island automotive history!