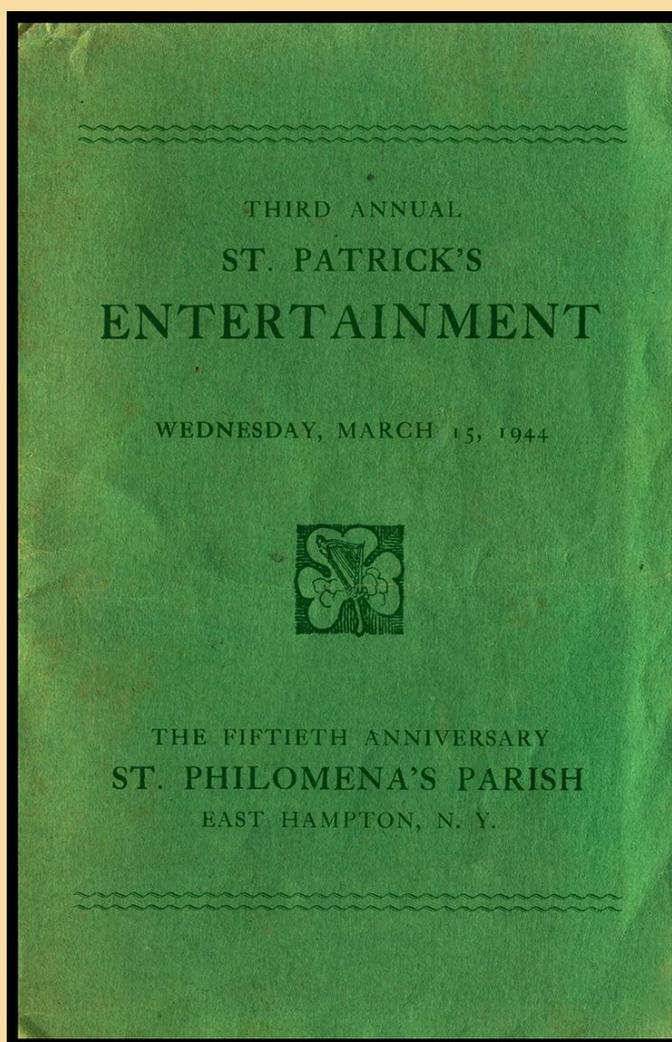




Item of the Week *from the* Long Island Collection

LONG ISLAND COLLECTION | DIGITAL LONG ISLAND | EAST HAMPTON STAR ARCHIVE



Third Annual St. Patrick's Entertainment, St. Philomena's Parish, East Hampton, 1944

One of my favorite things about writing the *Item of the Week* is how it allows our readers to see their connections to local community history. This digitized church program came to us after a conversation regarding one of our previous items, which helped a local resident realize just how much her family's history was part of the narrative we try to preserve here in the East Hampton Library's [Long Island Collection](#).

This particular program advertised the Third Annual St. Patrick's Day Entertainment and St. Philomena's (now Most Holy Trinity Church) Fiftieth Anniversary, which was dated March 15, 1944. The combined celebration was divided into two parts, the first being, "Memories of the First Fifty Years." It featured school children performing songs that were popular during each decade of the parish's existence, with selections like the 1910 song "Come Josephine in My Flying Machine," which was written in the early days of aviation. In recognition of St. Patrick's Day, the first act concluded with an Irish dance routine performed by ten local girls.

The second act was dubbed "The Dinner Club," with Tom Ward serving as the Master of Ceremonies. This part of the evening mostly included a few nods to the ongoing war, with high school senior Evelyn Loris singing "Say a Prayer for the Boys Over There" and the closing "Good Night Soldier." Thanks to the newly built United States Navy Torpedo Testing Range (Star Island) in Montauk, the audience also enjoyed a series of magic tricks performed by a Navy torpedoman named Burger.

[The East Hampton Star reported](#) that the event was quite popular, noting, "once again, every seat was taken in the Edwards Theater." That same enthusiastic community support for the program produced thirty-nine pages of advertisements from sponsors and local businesses, offering a snapshot of the community during World War II.

EXPLORE MORE

[The Digital Long Island Collection](#) is part of New York Heritage Digital Collections. Included are searchable scans of deeds, drawings, etchings, inventories, letters, maps, paintings, pardons, patents, photographs, plans, postcards, prints, sculptures, sketches, textiles, tiles, yearbooks and more to come.

[The East Hampton Star Archive](#) is a fully searchable, online digital archive of our local weekly newspaper, that features each complete issue of the paper from 1918-1968, exactly as it appeared in print. Visit the archive online, for a tour of our Town's history that will fascinate both the amateur and professional historian!

[The Karl Grossman Research Archive](#) is an extensive collection of materials digitized from the personal archive of Karl Grossman, an investigative reporter, columnist, author, and current professor of journalism at SUNY Old Westbury. The archive brings together a decades long career in reporting and journalism with topics ranging from the economy and pollution to fishing and East Hampton Town. Patrons are capable of searching this 9,500+ item collection by collection name, year, title, or keyword search.

[The Local Artist Research Archive](#) is a collection of over 19,000 items digitized from Guild Hall, containing materials including personal letters, photographs, news clippings, and art catalogs concerning artists of the East End. Patrons are capable of searching this archive by collection, title, or keyword search.

Welcome to the Long Island Collection's "Item of the Week."

We are an archive dedicated to the history and people of Long Island, with a special interest in all things East Hampton and East End. Unlike some small local history rooms in other public libraries, we have over 100,000 items including, but not limited to, rare books, maps, photographs, deeds, postcards, letters, newspapers, and whaling logs. We also have a dedicated and hardworking staff ready to help you with any questions you may have.



Unable to make it to the library? No problem! We upload images from the collection to Digital Long Island on a weekly basis, so there's always something new and interesting to behold.

Please visit us at the Library, make use of our extensive online digital resources, or contact us for assistance. Public hours are: Mon. - Tues. and Thurs. - Sat., 1:00-4:30 p.m.

Researched and written by Andrea Meyer, Librarian/Archivist, Long Island Collection.

Andrea Meyer began working in the Long Island Collection in January 2015. Her responsibilities include updating Digital Long Island, scanning, processing new collections, and assisting patrons with research. She earned her M.L.I.S. through Long Island University, and completed her M.A. in Archives and Public History at New York University through the dual-degree program. Andrea started working in archives in 2005. Prior to working for the East Hampton Library, Andrea worked at the New Jersey State Archives, at NYU Libraries, and as a private research consultant. Her clients included the New-York Historical Society. She is also involved with the Sag Harbor Historical Society.

andrea@easthamptonlibrary.org | (631) 324-0222 ext. 4 | www.easthamptonlibrary.org

