NEWS—LETTER

DEDHAM HISTORICAL SOCIETY
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Library Hours: Tuesday, Thursday 9 am – 4 pm; Museum Hours: Tuesday – Friday; 12 – 4 pm
Both are open even-dated Saturdays, 1 – 4 pm

JANUARY 2011

NEW ENGLAND’S ARCHITECTURAL HISTORY
WILL BE TOPIC OF JANUARY LECTURE

New England’s architectural history will be the topic of a lecture by local preservation professional Andrea M. Gilmore on Thursday, January 20, 2011 at 7:30 pm at the Dedham Historical Society. Gilmore is Director, Architectural Conservation at Building Conservation Associates in Dedham.

The historic buildings of New England hold a treasure trove of information about the design, finishes, and furnishings of the region’s rich architectural heritage. Gilmore’s lecture will focus on four historic buildings: the Old Ship Meeting House in Hingham MA, the Abyssinian Meeting House in Portland ME, the Dreamland Theatre in Nantucket MA, and the First Church in Dedham MA.

Gilmore, a Dedham resident, is a director of the Dedham Historical Society. In a career that has included working for the National Park Service, Historic New England, as well as Building Conservation Associates, Gilmore has had the opportunity to document many significant features of historic buildings throughout the region.

MARCH 24th LECTURE FEATURES “HOWARD JOHNSON: 28 FLAVORS”

In a lively illustrated slide lecture, Anthony Sammarco, noted historian and author, outlines Howard Johnson’s determination and grit in creating the roadside restaurant that every American remembers with fondness.

Howard Johnson created an empire of orange roofed restaurants across the country. A well respected entrepreneur, his logo “Simple Simon and the Pieman” is fondly remembered and he is credited with being the “Father of the Franchise Industry.” Born in Quincy, Johnson began his empire on Beale Street selling newspapers, cigars and ice cream, which by the 1930’s would include 28 flavors. Eventually, he offered Ipswich clams, roast turkey, grilled frankfurters and other old time favorites that established a loyal clientele.

2011 MEMBERSHIP DUES

2011 Membership dues notices were mailed out on December 31, 2010. You can help the Society keep our mailing costs low by renewing with the first dues notice. Please note the Society has not increased the dues this year: $35 Individual; $50 Family; $75 Contributing. Members who joined in December 2010 will not receive a renewal notice, as their dues payment included their 2011 membership.

Please welcome new members since the last newsletter:
Josephine K. Brayton
Judith MacBride
Kate Savage
Bob Conrad
Jennifer Newell Modzelewski
NOVEMBER WINE TASTING EVENT A SUCCESS

The fall Wine Tasting event drew over 100 guests who enjoyed sampling wines, hors d'oeuvres, plenty of conversation as well as our new exhibition “Take A Walk Though Dedham’s Historic Squares.” The Society is very grateful to Whole Foods for sponsoring the evening and to co-chairs Clara Potash and Laurie Rabe for coordinating the event. Additional thanks to Patty Cochran and Robyn Garth for making the wine arrangements. The hors d'oeuvres for the evening were provided by the Worthington Committee.

LIBRARY ACQUISITIONS

Books: Country Cabinetwork and Simple City Furniture; A Winterthur Guide to American Chippendale Furniture; American Furniture and Its Makers, ed. by Ian Quimby; A Winterthur Guide to American Needlework; American Silver; Early American Silver. Gift of Carl R. Nold
Ross W. Baker’s Photographic Album. Gift of Jonathan W. Baker,
Reflections 1942. Gift of Bill McKibben
The West Point Atlas of the Civil War. DHS Purchase
Book: Strange Bedfellows. Gift of author, John A. Lamb

MUSEUM ACQUISITIONS

2010.09 Dedham High School Football Letter Sweater. Gift of David A. Reid
2010.11 Wall Clock used in Oakdale Spa store. Made specifically for Spa owner, Mrs. Florence Reaves. Gift of Carolann Reaves
2010.16 Two prescription bottles from Gates Pharmacy. Gift of Helen Nehiley
2010.17 Commemorative flag for Dedham’s 350th anniversary. Gift of Joel P. Krensky
2010.18 Ink pen. Green with gold chrome. “Compliments of Mac Ware Furniture Co. Rt. 1 Dedham Mass. 02026”. Gift of Mark Whalen
2010.21 2-piece costume worn for Dedham 350th celebration. Gift of Martha Birchall
2010.22 Police jacket, cap, and polo shirt. Gift of Police Chief Michael D’Entremont

ARCHIVES ACQUISITIONS

Geishecker’s, A history of the Geishecker stores as told by the family. Gift of Geishecker Family
Sacco-Vanzetti Era Photo. Photograph of a contingent of police officers, most likely not from Dedham, standing guard outside of the Registry building. Jury was sequestered in basement of building. Gift of Robert Hanson
St. John’s Methodist Church booklet and article. Gift of Elizabeth Bryant and Sally Galt
Joe Pagliuca’s Collection. Materials including: The Norwood Record, 11/26/2008, related to celebration of 75th anniversary of football game of 1933 against Norwood, includes photos and articles. Gift of Joe Pagliuca
Captain Alfred J. Reid Photo and biography. Gift of Mr. David A. Reid
Dedham 250th Anniversary of Memorial Hall Photo. Gift of Medfield Historical Society
Ursuline Academy Invitation. Anonymous gift
Mounted class photographs of seniors from Dedham High School of 1930, 1931 Gift of Ms. Jean Scafati Daly, and Michael Scafati (daughter and son of Orlando M. Scafati; DHS 1931)
St. John’s Methodist Church Photographs. Anonymous gift
Dedham Community Theatre, by A. L. Massey. Gift of Barbara Parker
St. John’s United Methodist Church booklets. Gift of Sally Galt
Photos of new Boston Envelope building (in Westwood) and Dedham Public Works Department. Gift of Massachusetts Dept. Of Conservation & Recreation
Rustcraft Wrapping Paper. Gift of Helen Nehiley

HOLIDAY TOY EXHIBIT DRAWS VISITORS

Over 50 visitors enjoyed the special exhibit “Toys for the Holidays” during the Dedham Square Holiday Stroll on December 3rd. Toys include “Donder”, a circa 1825 stuffed horse, a 1910 miniature merry-go-round (see below), and dolls and doll furniture on loan from the Fairbanks House and Fairbanks Family in America. The exhibition was sponsored by a local family charitable trust and the Hyde Park Savings Bank. As part of the special exhibition, the DHS participated as a drop-off location for the U.S. Marine Corps “Toys for Tots” program. “Toys for the Holidays” continues thru January 8th.

A TREASURE IN THE ATTIC!

We’ve all heard the story about going up in the attic to fetch the Christmas decorations or some other item, and in the process finding a forgotten treasure from the past.

Well, it happens at the Dedham Historical Society, too. Scouring the Society’s collection for the special Christmas toy exhibit, Executive Director Vicky Kruckeberg came across a big box in the attic that clearly had not been touched in years.

Opening the box, Kruckeberg found a three-tiered Christmas carousel, complete with lights and a wind-up mechanism that once drove the miniature horses and people round and round. A card identified the carousel as a “Miniature Merry-Go-Round” made by Emil C. Klotzer of East Dedham about 1910.

“This wonderful piece of folk art was exactly what we needed for the centerpiece of our toy exhibit,” she said.

Griffin Tigue, student at Oakdale School, and “Donder” at the Holiday Stroll
DHS ANNUAL APPEAL CONTINUES

The 2010 Annual Appeal letter, from Society President Steve Brayton, was sent out in mid-September. Every dollar helps the Society continue its mission of outstanding exhibits, programs, and research. Please send in your donation, and a receipt will be mailed to you for tax purposes. The following is a list of contributors as of December 9, 2010. Contributions made prior to October 14 were listed in the previous edition of the newsletter. It is important to note that many other individuals and organizations have made significant contributions throughout the year to specific projects of the Society. They have been gratefully acknowledged at the time of the gift.

(IMO-In Memory Of; IHO-In Honor Of)

**BENEFACTOR ($2,500-$4,999)**
- Jeffrey P. & Ruth Barker
- Tom & Denise Beaudoin
- Bsnaw Electric Inc.
- The Buckleys
- Mr. & Mrs. Kenneth H. Burt
- Susan C. Carney
- Karen & Jim Durham
- Sandra Lynch Fox
- Carol & Terry Gregory
- Charles C. Hewitt III
- Marie-Louise Kehoe
- Joseph A. Komonchak
- Mary T. Nackley
- May H. Pierce
- Clara & Rob Potash
- Laurie & Bruce Rabe
- Elizabeth Roberts
- Stephen & Joyce Schultz
- Jay & Kathy St. Cyr
- Katharine Ann Ulatt
- Anne & Frank Walley, Jr.
- Peter A. Zahka, II

**DONOR ($100-$249)**
- Anonymous
- Susie & John Durocher
- Mr. & Mrs. William E. Flanagan
- Henry Keene
- Mr. & Mrs. William A. Oates, Jr.
- Margot C. Pyle

**PATRON ($1,000-$2499)**
- Anonymous
- Andrea & David Gilmore
- James D. Kaufman
- Mary Anne Osborne

**SPONSOR ($500-999)**
- Anonymous
- Dr. Barbara Millen & Dr. Mark Boyer

**SUPPORTER ($250-499)**
- Robert & Karen Avery
- Robert Owens
- Chris & Kita Reece
- Jean Springer

**FRIEND ($10-$99)**
- Anonymous
- Elizabeth & Oliver Ames
- Bruce A. Bauman
- Betsy Boehne
- David Bryant
- Eileen Mary Casey
- Jane & Roger Cheever
- Len Fishman
- Stephen W. Gifford
- Joanna B. Gormley
- Patricia B. Hornblower
- Melanie & Burt King
- Kathy & Tom Lynch
- Mr. & Mrs. Hollis R. MacRae, Jr.
- Margaret Matthews
- Dr. Barbara Millen & Dr. Mark Boyer

**IN-KIND DONATIONS**
The Society thanks the following individuals for their in-kind donations.
- Mark Whalen-Digital Camera
- Judy Butler-Legal Size Filing Cabinet

**IN MEMORIUM**
The Dedham Historical Society extends its deepest sympathy to the family of Mabel Maria Herweg. An active member of the Dedham community for many years, she assisted the Society with landscaping and served as a member of the Board of Directors. Mabel Herweg is survived by her husband of 65 years, John Barton Herweg, and her son John W. Herweg. Burial was at Arlington National Cemetery.
PREPARING FOR THE 375TH ANNIVERSARY

In preparation for Dedham’s 375th anniversary in 2011, Executive Director Vicky Kruckenberg and Youth Commissioner Thomas Clinton came up with the idea for a Dedham coloring book with local images sketched by Dedham High School students. In November Kruckenberg met with over 50 students to discuss potential historical images. Student art is due to the Office of the Youth Commission in early January for the final selection and preparation for printing.

During the 375th anniversary, each DHS newsletter will feature a story from Dedham’s past taken from our archives. In the spirit of the season, we begin with “Description of Our Neighborhood” by Isabella Frances Cobb French in November 1915.

“Skating was then the fashion: sometimes extra trains were run to accommodate the visitors. The meadows around Eastern Avenue were overflowed and one could skate over them to Wigwam Pond, a beautiful crystal lake. Horseback rides to Blue Hill and picnics on Job’s Island and Cow Island were much enjoyed, especially as we were the only persons on the river. Many often went to Powder Rock to enjoy a stroll and see the sunset and the moon rise.

It was impossible to find skates for women in those days and I wanted to learn to skate. So my brother Sam strapped a pair of boy’s skates on to his boots. I put them on and we used to skate on a small pond back of the Bullard House. It rose up in the centre and he would help me to the top, give me a push and I had to balance myself as best I could. These skates I used until one of my beaux one day made me a present of a beautiful pair of Dutch skates that curled up and had brass acorns on the sides."

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR HEADS TO CUBA

Executive Director Vicky Kruckenberg will be one of 25 museum professionals traveling to Cuba in March on a cultural mission with the American Association of Museums. Escorted by colleagues from that country, delegates will go behind the scenes at the top cultural institutions in Havana, including Museo Nacional de Bellas Artes, Wifredo Lam Center of Contemporary Art, Colonial Art Museum, Museum of the City of Old Havana, El Morro Castle and Finca La Vigia—Hemingway’s restored home. Plans also include a visit to the School of the City Historian where discussions will be held with teachers and students about the restoration of paintings, murals and other art objects, followed by a visit to an active restoration project in Old Havana. Kruckenberg plans to share her experiences in a special lecture at the Society in 2011.

2010 CORPORATE MEMBERS

Please thank our corporate members for their 2010 support!

- Bay State Federal Saving Charitable Foundation
- Bisnaw Electric Inc.
- Conservation Building Associates
- Dedham Institution for Savings
- F. M. Walley Insurance Agency
- MIT Endicott House
- Needham Bank
- Norfolk & Dedham Group
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- Roscia’s Plumbing & Heating