



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

MAY 2012

SPRING SOIRÉE AND HOUSE TOUR SCHEDULED FOR MAY 19 & 20



Join us for an evening of “Cocktails at Connecticut Corner” at the Annual Spring Soirée on May 19th. Members and their guests will enjoy cocktails and hors d’œuvres by *Chiara* of Westwood at the former 1809 Martin Bates House. This historic house was substantially enlarged in 1926 and in recent years our hosts Kate and Read Coughlin have brought an updated elegance to their graciously restored home. “Connecticut Corner” refers to a small 19th century commercial area along High and Dexter Streets named for a group of tin-smiths from Connecticut. Invitations were mailed to DHS members in mid-April. Soirée tickets are \$100 per person, \$125 for patrons, and \$200 for benefactors and include admission to the house tour on the following day.

The semi-annual house tour takes place on Sunday, May 20th from 12 noon– 4 pm. Several of the homes are located around Franklin Square at the intersection of Church, Norfolk, Franklin and School Streets. Enjoy exploring this historic neighborhood as you visit four homes, a historic church, and an early tavern renovated as a rectory by St. Paul’s church. Advance ticket sales are \$20 for DHS members and \$23 for non-members. Tickets sold on the date of the event are \$25 for everyone. The DHS is pleased to have Grogan & Company Fine Art Appraisers and Auctioneers as the sponsor for the 2012 house tour. Please see the enclosed flyers for ticket information for the Soirée and house tour.

SPECIAL LECTURE WITH FURNITURE CRAFTSMAN SILAS KOPF ON WEDNESDAY, MAY 23 at 7:30 pm

Silas Kopf, a graduate of Princeton University and apprentice to Wendell Castle (father of the art furniture movement), has been making studio furniture since 1973. A recipient of a National Endowment of the Arts Craftsman’s Fellowship, he has studied traditional marquetry methods at the École Boulle in Paris and marquetry and inlay in Italy, England, and Sweden. Kopf brings his knowledge of this fascinating craft and examples of his own contemporary interpretation to the Society in a special lecture on Wednesday, May 23 at 7:30 pm. Kopf’s works are found in museums and private collections around the world. DHS members free; non-members \$5.



OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS ELECTED AT APRIL ANNUAL MEETING

The following Officers and Board members were elected at the April 2012 Annual Meeting: Stephen K. Brayton, re-elected as President to 2014; Andrea Gilmore elected as Vice-President to 2014; Alexander K. Leith elected to the Board of Directors to 2015; and John Underhill elected to the Board of Directors to 2015.

New Board member John Underhill is a retired attorney from the law firm of Underhill and Morrissey. John, his wife Elizabeth and daughter, moved to Dedham over thirty years ago and he has been active in the community with the Concerned Citizens of Dedham and the Historic District Commission.

John Herrmann, Jr. is leaving the DHS board after serving for six years. With his professional experience in the Department of Classical Art at the Museum of Fine Arts, John has provided great insight on issues of collections policy and conservation. Herrmann's counsel and support is gratefully appreciated and will be missed.

ROBERT HANSON LECTURE CONCLUDES 2011-2012 LECTURE SERIES

Robert Hanson used his well known humor and knowledge to close out the regular 2011-2012 lecture series by talking about Dedham's High Street. With the special lecture remaining (see story on page one), over 250 guests attended lectures this season. Several presentations were standing room only. The Society thanks all of our speakers for bringing great lectures to our community, Carol Sestito for providing home-made delicious refreshments, and David G. Newsom for sponsoring the series. Over the summer Board President Steve Brayton and Executive Director Vicky Kruckeberg will plan the 2012-2013 series which will start in September. Look for details in upcoming newsletters.

If you missed David's Kruh's lecture on "Great Boston Fires," you might enjoy the Images of America book "The Great Boston Fire of 1872" by Anthony Mitchell Sammarco. Copies are available in the Society Gift Shop for \$19.99 plus tax. DHS members receive a 10% discount on purchases. Stop in and view additional books on local history including "U.S. Army Natick Laboratories: The Science Behind the Soldier," "Building Route 128," "Massachusetts Covered Bridges," and "Needham" - all part of the Images of America series.

HALE ITEMS ADDED TO THE COLLECTION

Over the past few weeks the DHS has acquired items associated with local artists Lilian Wescott Hale and Philip Leslie Hale. Lilian was a successful Impressionist painter and studied under Philip Leslie Hale, whom she later married. Jim Kaufman, chair of the Collections Committee assisted the Society in purchasing items including prop chairs (one of them can be seen in a painting by Lilian at the Boston Museum of Fine Arts), a signed lithograph by Lilian, several unfinished works, and an etching of Philip signed by the artist William Meyerowitz.

Just a few days after adding these items to the collection, long-time DHS member Henry Keene donated an autographed copy of "Book of Sermons" by Edward Everett Hale, the American author, historian, Unitarian clergyman, and father of Leslie Philip Hale. Tucked inside the book was a handwritten note from Lilian Wescott Hale dated 1917.

All of these wonderful treasures are a significant addition to the Society's collection of items related to local artists.

"GROWING UP IN DEDHAM" EXHIBIT SCHEDULED FOR FALL OPENING

We often think of history as events that took place over a hundred years ago. But history is also the events of yesterday, last week, and last year. A perfect example includes the ribbon cutting ceremony at the new Avery School just a few weeks ago.

This fall the DHS will open a new exhibit about "Growing Up In Dedham." The gallery will include 19th and 20th century children's clothing, books, toys, and photographs from the collection. But in order to make this exhibit relevant to families today we need your help.

Do you have a story you would like to share about growing up in Dedham? Perhaps you have a family picture of building a snowman during the winter of 2010-2011. What about a prom date or high school graduation in 1969? Was there a family celebration when you received your Eagle Scout badge or a family reunion? Executive Director Vicky Kruckeberg is asking Society members to share their memories to include in the exhibit or future newsletters. The stories and pictures can be from any decade including recent years.

To submit your stories or photographs, please email them to the DHS at society@dedhamhistorical.org or send a hard copy to: Dedham Historical Society - Memories Project; PO Box 215; Dedham MA 02027. Stories should be typed and limited to 100 words or less. By submitting your story or picture, you are giving the DHS

permission to save it for the archives and use it in the exhibit, newsletter or other Society related purposes. All submissions must include your full name, address, phone number, and email address. Stories may be edited for space or layout.



Easter, 1954

DHS ASSISTS RESEARCHERS FROM AROUND THE COUNTRY

The staff and volunteers in the Society library/archives have been quite busy over the winter months. Researchers have contacted the DHS for information about numerous family ancestors, history of Dedham houses, Mother Brook, Civil War tablets from Memorial Hall, the Afternoon Club, and the Irish railroad workers riot of 1834. In addition to assisting our guests, Sandra Waxman and her volunteers continue to create aids to help locate information in our files. The latest aids are for the Captain Joseph Guild family and the Jonathan Francis Guild papers.

CAPTAIN JOSEPH GUILD FAMILY PAPERS

The Guild Family papers are arranged according to family members. Information includes but is not limited to the following.

- Captain Joseph Guild (May 11, 1735-December 28, 1794), a Minute Man in the Revolutionary War. Papers include a handwritten copy of an original diary that details an expedition from Cambridge passing through Dedham, Medway, New London CT, Albany, Saratoga and Fort Edward, New York.
- Amasa Guild (May 8, 1840-November, 1907), papers from the Civil War containing information about the 18th Regiment of Massachusetts Volunteers. Including a 1905 scrapbook of correspondence concerning the return of the 18th Massachusetts Volunteer Infantry State Flag.
- Miranda Guild (September 10, 1799 – March 20, 1873), booklet of poems.
- 1799 Day Book from the blacksmith shop of an earlier Amasa Guild.

JONATHAN FRANCIS GUILD PAPERS

Jonathan Guild (September 24, 1871-July 6, 1940), graduated from Dedham High School in 1886. He became a successful photographer and is listed in the town directories as having a studio at 575 High Street. His work included portraits, views, groups, as well as framing to order and custom outdoor photography. The collection includes but is not limited to the following.

- Scrapbooks of his photographs; especially images of his family and a bicycle trip to New Hampshire and Vermont with H.A. Towle in 1896.
- 1876 photographs of Dedham, Foxboro, Medfield, Medway, West Dedham, South Framingham, South Natick, Readville, and Wollaston.

- Other photographs include a trip to Nova Scotia in 1897; Europe; and Wellesley College.
- Photographs of the Nichols, Fisher, and Batchelor, Taft, and Cobb families.

RESERVATIONS BEING ACCEPTED FOR SPRING SCHOOL VISITS

If your child is in the 3rd grade, be sure to ask if the teacher has scheduled a field trip to visit the Dedham Historical Society. The Society offers a free one hour program for students to learn about local history. The program includes a hands-on segment where students wear museum standard white gloves to handle historical artifacts, a tour of the museum, and activities in the library/archives using copies of historical documents. The program is offered on Tuesday and Thursday mornings. Class size is limited to 35 students per hour.

DHS DUES

Is there a colorful sticker on your newsletter? If the answer is yes, we haven't received your 2012 dues. Over 95% of our members have paid their annual dues, but we need 100% to make our membership goal. Your membership is important to us. Please send us your dues as soon as possible.

NEED A SPECIAL GIFT?

Have you thought about giving a DHS membership as a gift? Office staff is happy to assemble a packet for you including a membership gift certificate, brochure, newsletter, and other materials for friends and family. Call or email us for details. 781-326-1385 or society@dedhamhistorical.org.

WELCOME OUR NEW MEMBERS

Jane & Ned Brewer
Marian Engstrom
Janet Esdale
Geoffrey Gouvalaris & Megan Whelan
Melanie Guerra
Nicole Prowell Hart
Amelia Ray
Christine G. Tuttle

PLEASE THANK OUR CORPORATE SUPPORTERS

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Total Image Day Spa
Vogt Realty Group-NEW

Are you a Facebook fan? Join our Facebook family by requesting to be one of our "friends." It's a great way to keep up to date on the latest news from the DHS.

The DHS Museum, Gift Shop, and Library are open the following Saturdays from 1pm – 4pm.

- May 12 & 26
- June 2, 16 & 30

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PO Box 215 612 High Street
Dedham MA 02027

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DEDHAM HISTORICAL SOCIETY OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS

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