

# NEWS-LETTER

## DEDHAM HISTORICAL SOCIETY & MUSEUM

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Tel: 781-326-1385 – E-Mail: [Society@DedhamHistorical.org](mailto:Society@DedhamHistorical.org) – Web Site: [www.DedhamHistorical.org](http://www.DedhamHistorical.org)

Library Hours: Tuesday & Thursday 9 am – 4 pm; Museum Hours: Tuesday – Friday 12 – 4 pm

Both are open even-dated Saturdays: 1 – 4 pm

### September 2013

### DHS LECTURE SERIES KICKS OFF SEPTEMBER 26, 2013

The DHS 2013-14 lecture series kicks off on Thursday, September 26<sup>th</sup> with *The Assassin's Accomplice: Mary Surrat and the Plot to Kill Abraham Lincoln* by Kate Clifford Larson. Larson is an author, Harriet Tubman scholar, and Adjunct Faculty member at Simmons College. Her 2008 book, with the same title as the lecture, questions the guilt or innocence of Mary Surrat. Less than three months after her arrest at her boarding house on H Street in Washington City, Surratt would be hanged for her role in John Wilkes Booth's murderous plot. This lecture is presented in conjunction with a Civil War exhibit opening at the Society later in the fall.

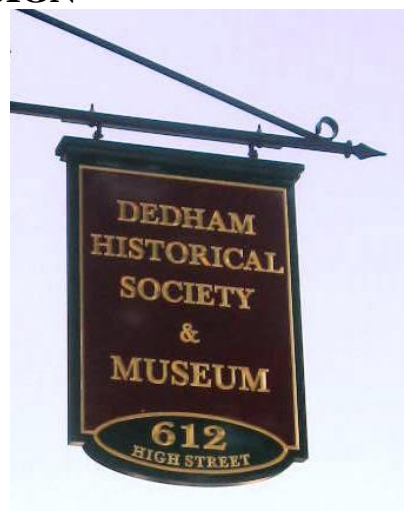
On Thursday, October 17<sup>th</sup>, Jessica Bitely, Preservation Specialist with the New England Document Conservation Center in North Andover will present a program on *Preserving Family Treasures*. Anthony Sammarco returns to the Society on November 21<sup>st</sup> to present a history of *Forest Hills Cemetery*.

2014 lectures include: January 30<sup>th</sup>, *Dedham's Historic Districts* by Andrea Gilmore, Director of Building Conservation Associates Inc. and on March 27<sup>th</sup> Michael Grogan, President and Chief Auctioneer of Grogan and Company will discuss *The World of Oriental Rugs: A Primer*. The series will close on April 24<sup>th</sup> with the Ben Fisher Memorial Lecture and Annual Meeting. Executive Director, Vicky L. Kruckeberg will present a lecture on the *DHS Civil War Collection*.

All lectures take place at 7:30 pm at the Dedham Historical Society & Museum auditorium. Admission: DHS members free; \$5 per person for non-members. Be sure to post the lecture series card inserted in this newsletter in a prominent place so you don't miss any of these outstanding talks!

### NEW NAME, NEW SIGN

As you may have noticed from recent News-Letters, the Society has a new public name: the **Dedham Historical Society & Museum**. The Board of Directors earlier this year approved the new name to reflect the importance of the museum in the Society's overall operation. The aim is to attract more visitors through increased awareness of the museum. While our legal name remains the Dedham Historical Society, our new public name is now used in all communications and signage. In fact, the new name is now on the building: a beautiful new sign was recently installed on the High Street side, thanks to the generous support of Needham Bank.





## SPECIAL LECTURE ON A HISTORIC HOUSE RENOVATION LOVE STORY, TUESDAY, OCTOBER 8<sup>TH</sup> @ 7:30PM

The DHS and Fairbanks House welcome award-winning writer and DIY expert Ron Tanner for a comic monologue about his funny, heart-warming tale of *From Animal House to Our House: A Love Story*. Tanner tells the true story of how he and his wife bought a condemned former fraternity house and restored it to its original Victorian splendor. They knew nothing about fixing up houses when they started. A brief trailer of his presentation is available at: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Rx2nt7SRg58>. This lecture is free.

## SUMMER INTERN ASSISTS WITH ORGANIZING ARCHIVAL FILES

Elizabeth (Beth) Constanti of Dedham has spent part of her summer assisting the DHS with organizing several boxes of records from the Pilling Engineering Company. Beth is a graduate of Curry College and is currently attending Simmons College for a Masters degree in Library and Information Science with an Archives Concentration. Her course work and career plans are a perfect match to help the Society re-house and inventory records in the collection.

Pilling Engineering Company was founded and owned by Earl W. Pilling, who also served as vice-president of the Dedham Co-Operative

Bank, president of the Dedham Historical Society, and a member of the Society in Dedham for Apprehending Horse Thieves.



## NEW ARCHIVES ACQUISITIONS

**Armstrong Family Collection.** Photographs of construction sites in Dedham; ledgers of the Perian Society, and 2 field books detailing surveys prepared for Walling & Smith in 1850 for the map of Dedham. Gift of Kim Jackson.

**Dedham Tercentenary Film Actor Certificate.** Gift of Tom Clinton.

**Manuscript copy from 1968 of Lockridge's *A New England Town: The First Hundred Years Dedham, Massachusetts 1636-1736*.**

**National Register Nomination, Dedham Village Historic District, Final documents 2000 including images.** Gift of Andrea Gilmore.

**Ruel Family Collection.** Graduation photographs from late 1930's & early 1940's. Gift of Steven Ruel.

**Plans for Avery Elementary School on Pottery Lane.** Gift of Hana Heald.

***125 Years of The Afternoon Club Dedham*, by Lura Provost and Edith Forrester.** Gift of Lura Provost.

**1966 Dedham Map by Pilling Engineering.** Gift of Mary Ann Osborne.

**Copy of one episode of television drama filmed in Dedham, "The Practice".** Gift of Ron Frazier.

**Images of restoration of 18 Norfolk Street, Family Services of Norfolk County.** Gift of Andrea Gilmore.

**Dedham Choral Society, 2013 Spring Concert program and ticket.** Anonymous donor.

**Two images of Fairbanks House.** Gift of Alhambra Historical Society, Inc.

**Fairbanks Family memorabilia** includes genealogies, post cards, 2 memberships in Fairbanks Family Association of America, copy of family crest, Homestead Couriers, photograph. Gift of Anthony M. Fairbanks.

**Collection of 30 graduation portraits, tercentenary book, newspaper articles, three Dedham High School tie tacks, 1 coin bank from Dedham Institution for Savings.** Gift of Steven Ruel.

**Stationery and menu from Dedham Inn.** Gift of Allison Staton.  
**Past issues of *Dedham High School Alumni Association News*.** Gift of Tom Clinton.  
**Ledger of Lemuel Dana.** Gift of Pamela Jones Lewis.  
**St. John's Methodist Church Collection.** Gift of Anonymous.  
***Praying Town* DVD.** Details the Native Americans in Natick, MA. DHS Purchase in memory of Peg Bradner.  
**Yearbooks from Riverdale Elementary School, 2012-2013.** Gift of Nancy Clement.  
**Photograph of the Dedham 9A Summer Travel Team, July 22, 2012.** First Dedham Youth Baseball team to win a State Championship. Gift of Lisa Mercuri.  
**Dedham Pottery history and price list, Dedham Pottery articles and auctions, historic pamphlets on Dover, Dedham, Needham and Westwood.** Gift of Peg Wills.

## NEW LIBRARY ACQUISITIONS

***American Institute of Parliamentarians Standard Code of Parliamentary Procedure.*** Gift of one of authors, Michael Malamut.  
***Images of America Forest Hills Cemetery and Garden of Memories A Guide to Historic Forest Hills.*** Richard P. Carey IV, Horticultural Foreman, Forest Hills Cemetery.  
***Issues of Mayflower Descendant.*** Gift of Virginia Mucciaccio.  
**Collection of materials related to Dedham High School graduating classes from various years. Includes CD-Rom, DVD's, and Reflections, 2013.** Gift of Dedham High School Class of 2013, Stephen Dewar, Class Advisor.  
**Dedham High School Year Books 2012, 1975, 1946.** Gift of Tom Clinton.  
***Travels in New England and New York* by Timothy Dwight.** Gift of Mrs. Edwin Carter.

## NEW COLLECTIONS ACQUISITIONS

**Fairbanks Descendant family reunion badge, 1903.** Gift of Vicky L. Kruckeberg.  
**Girl Scout Uniform of Mary Wyman.** Gift of Judy and David Dennen.  
**T-shirt "We Support Dedham's Senior Center at the Endicott Estate"** Anonymous Gift.  
**Metcalf family hatchment (family crest).** DHS purchase.  
**Dedham Transit Lines bus token.** Gift of David Crampton.  
**Katharine Pratt Silver Tea Service.** Gift of David G. Newsom and DHS purchase.

## CHILDREN'S FOLKSINGER ENTERTAINS YOUNGSTERS

Folksinger Jeff Davis entertained visitors with songs of Revolutionary War heroes, Appalachian clogging songs, sailors' work songs, African-American banjo tunes, Irish fiddle tunes, and cowboy ditties. Davis accompanied himself on a myriad of instruments, ranging from the nose flute to a one-of-a-kind fretless banjo. During the program several kids in the audience were asked to play instruments including "spoons." Davis' performance was a joint program with the Fairbanks House and sponsored by the Dedham Cultural Council.



## 2013 ANNUAL APPEAL UNDERWAY

DHS President Steve Brayton has launched the Society's 2013 Annual Appeal. His letter with a contribution form will soon arrive in your mailbox. Please consider a generous contribution as the Society relies on the Annual Appeal to fund a significant portion of its operating budget. Thank you.

## DO YOU RECOGNIZE THIS GARDEN?

The Society has thousands of photographic images in the archives. Fortunately, most of them are identified and are useful to the staff and researchers. But occasionally we find images with no identifying marks or records. Please take a look at this image of a garden and let us know if you can provide any information about it. It is a beautiful landscape and we hope that our

members can help us identify the house, family, or street where it was located. If you have information please contact Sandra Waxman at [library@dedhamhistorical.org](mailto:library@dedhamhistorical.org) or call her on Tuesday or Thursday at 781-326-1385.



**OPEN SATURDAYS: The DHS Museum, Gift Shop, and Library/Archives are open on the following Saturdays: Sept. 14<sup>th</sup> & 28<sup>th</sup>, Oct. 12<sup>th</sup> & 26<sup>th</sup> from 1pm – 4pm.**

***This newsletter is a benefit of DHS membership. For membership information call 781-326-1385 or visit [www.society@dedhamhistorical.org](http://www.society@dedhamhistorical.org)***

### WELCOME OUR NEW MEMBERS

Dorothy Victoria  
Nancy Regan

### PLEASE THANK OUR CORPORATE SUPPORTERS

Bay State Federal Savings  
Charitable Foundation  
Building Conservation Associates  
Dedham Institution for Savings  
F. M. Walley Insurance Agency  
Grants Printing Service, Inc.  
J. M. Carpentry  
MIT Endicott House  
Needham Bank  
Norfolk & Dedham Group  
Roscia's Plumbing & Heating  
Total Image Day Spa  
Vogt Realty Group

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### DEDHAM HISTORICAL SOCIETY & MUSEUM OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS

Stephen K. Brayton, President; Andrea M. Gilmore, Vice President; William E. Flanagan, Treasurer; Mark R. Whalen, Recording Secretary. Directors: Thomas A. Gormley III, James D. Kaufman, Alexander K. Leith, Stanton Lyman, Clara B. Potash, Mary Anne Osborne, Laurie Rabe, John Underhill. Executive Director, Vicky L. Kruckeberg