



NEWS-LETTER

DEDHAM HISTORICAL SOCIETY & MUSEUM

PO BOX 215 612 HIGH STREET DEDHAM MA 02027-0215

Tel: 781-326-1385 – E-Mail: Society@DedhamHistorical.org – Web Site: www.DedhamHistorical.org

Library Hours: by appointment; Museum Hours: Tuesday – Friday 12pm – 4 pm

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

JANUARY 2016



HISTORIC GARDENS EXHIBIT OPENS LATE JANUARY

Photographs, design plans, and artifacts from some of the great estates in Dedham are on display in the museum's new exhibit, "Historic Gardens In Dedham."

Produced with the assistance of the Fairbanks Garden Club, the exhibit highlights the importance of gardens in Dedham, from the food and medicinal herb gardens of the town's founding families to the professionally landscaped gardens of the 19th and 20th centuries.

The exhibit features profiles of distinguished local landscape designers, Dedham residents enjoying their gardens, as well as unique stories such as 1904 plans for a botanical garden at the new Oakdale School. The school grounds were "adorned with one hundred and eighty varieties of trees, shrubs and vines, all of which were numbered on a plan showing the pupils of the school and others ... the position of the different varieties."

The exhibit will be on view until the fall and is funded in part by the Hermann Dexter Lodge.



DHS ANNUAL WINE EVENT

FRIDAY, JANUARY 29, 2016!

Bring your friends and join us for an evening of delightful hors d'oeuvres and wines at our annual wine event. It is a fun event where you can reconnect with old friends and make new ones in a special setting. The evening is also an opportunity to see our new exhibit, "Historic Gardens in Dedham." Invitations were mailed to DHS members in early January. To purchase tickets, please see the enclosed flyer or call the office at 781-326-1385.

ATTENTION *DOWNTON ABBEY* FANS!

"VOICES FROM THE BACK STAIRS" TALK IN JANUARY

The DHS lecture series continues on January 14 with Jennifer Pustz, Historian for Historic New England, with her presentation of "*Voices from the Back Stairs*." Fans of *Downton Abbey* will enjoy this lecture as Pustz explores the relationship between the mistress of the household and the servants - the ever present theme between the Crawley family and their employees.

Please note the change for the March 31 lecture: Alicia Svenson, Senior Architectural Conservator with Building Conservation Associates, Inc. will present "*Building Harvard Stadium: Early Concrete Design and Construction*." Built in 1903, Harvard Stadium was the first collegiate athletic stadium built in the United States, and it pioneered the use of reinforced concrete in the construction of large structures. Because of its influence on the design of later stadiums, it was designated a National Historic Landmark in 1987. Andrew Saxe's presentation on "*Dedham and Dorchester: Architects In Common*," originally scheduled for March, will be part of the 2016-17 lecture series.

The series will close on April 21 with the Annual Meeting and the Ben Fisher Memorial Lecture featuring Arlyen A. Levee, landscape historian and preservation consultant. Levee will discuss "*The Frederick Law Olmsted Firm and the Dedham Connection*."

All lectures begin at 7:30 pm at the Dedham Historical Society & Museum auditorium. Admission: DHS members free; \$5 for non-members. The 2015-16 lecture series is sponsored by David G. Newsom.

DHS EMBROIDERED SAMPLERS LISTED ON COLONIAL DAMES WEBSITE

The National Society of Colonial Dames of America has recently contacted the DHS to update their website pages identifying embroidered samplers. They have listed thousands of samplers documenting the education of girls and young women all over the world in the 17th, 18th, and 19th centuries. The DHS has fifteen samplers listed, including a 1798 sampler by Betsey Fairbanks (age 11); 1802 sampler by Abigail Guild; and 1812 sampler by Hannah Shuttleworth (age 12). Information on the DHS samplers was submitted several years ago and has been updated. The collection can be viewed at <http://ncda.org/historical-activities/samplers/> .

LANDSCAPING IMPROVEMENTS SPONSORED BY NOANETT GARDEN CLUB

In late 2015, the Society received a grant from the Noanett Garden Club to assist with replacing damaged and overgrown bushes surrounding the building. Phase One of the project included new rhododendrons and hollies on a triangular section of land located along Church Street. Our sincere thanks to everyone who assisted us with the preparation of the grant, landscaping design, and planting the new bushes.

(Photo shows Frank Ippolito planting the new bushes)



2016 GENERAL MEMBERSHIP DUES MAILED IN EARLY JANUARY

The 2016 general membership notices were mailed in early January. Please help us avoid mailing additional notices by paying your dues as soon as possible. If you have not received your dues notice or have questions regarding your membership, please contact the office: society@dedhamhistorical.org or 781-326-1385. Business/Corporate membership notices are mailed in February. Thank you so much for being a member!

LOCAL HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF THE MONTH

We continue our listing of local organizations to help you trace your family history. This month we feature Dover which was part of Dedham until 1784.

Dover Historical Society

P. O. Box 534

Dover, MA 02030-0534

508-785-1653

Doverhistoricalsociety.org

Saturdays, 1-4, Spring and Fall, and by appointment.

Seasonal open houses at Caryl House & Fisher Barn and the Sawin Museum.

Numerous historic sites in Dover, major exhibit annually at the Sawin Museum, historic documents.

LIST OF 2015 ANNUAL APPEAL CONTRIBUTORS

Our sincere thanks to all who helped us meet our financial obligations for the year 2015. 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. This listing completes all donations since our last newsletter through **December 1, 2015**. Please be sure to contact us if there are any errors. (IMO = In Memory Of, IHO = In Honor Of)

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Doug & Edith Stevens
Christine Gilchrist Tuttle
Marilyn Wales

LOOKING BACK IN TIME

TOWN REPORTS TAKE A LOOK BACK 100 YEARS TO 1916

It is enlightening and often entertaining to spend time with old town reports and see what has changed in our community. The DHS Library & Archives holds many reports through the years. As we move into a new year, here are some highlights from Dedham's Annual Report for the year ending December 31, 1916.

- The Police Department reported 354 arrests: including 432 males and 12 females. Two hundred twenty-five were residents and 129 were non-residents. The largest number of arrests were for: drunkenness (156); followed by disturbing the peace (35); assault and battery (23); and delinquent children (17). One was made for attempting to rescue a prisoner and three were for violation of the Lord's Day law. Seventy nine accidents were reported: 5 with teams of horses, 7 with electric cars, and 67 with automobiles. Forty-nine canoes and boats were stolen as well as 9 bicycles (5 were recovered).
- The Fire Department responded to 48 box alarms, 12 still alarms, 46 bell alarms, 9 false alarms for a total of 114 alarms.
- The Health Department reported 31 cases of chicken pox; 30 cases of whooping cough; 29 cases of scarlet fever; 22 cases of measles; 31 cases of various forms of tuberculosis; and 18 cases of infantile paralysis.
- New books for the town library included: philosophy, religion, sociology, natural science, useful arts, fine arts and amusements, literature, drama, poetry, biography (collective and individual) travel, history, war, reference books and fiction.
- The School Committee reported an average daily attendance of 2,011 students for an attendance record of 93 percent.
- Expenses for town departments included Police \$9,379 plus an additional \$385 for lock-up expenses; Fire \$19,939; Schools \$88,148; planning, furnishing and grading the new high school \$150,878; and the Public Library \$6,466.

***OPEN SATURDAYS: The DHS Museum, Gift Shop, and Library/Archives are open
on the following Saturdays from 1 pm – 4 pm: March 14 & 28 and April 4 & 18.***

This newsletter is a benefit of DHS membership. For membership information call 781-326-1385

or visit

www.dedhamhistorical.org

WELCOME OUR NEW MEMBERS

Barbara Berry
Gabrielle Costantino
Nancy England
Gavin & Whitney Fitts
Gary Gregory
John & Kim Koger
Darcy A. Lane

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**DEDHAM HISTORICAL SOCIETY
& MUSEUM**
PO Box 215 612 High Street
Dedham MA 02027

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

DEDHAM HISTORICAL SOCIETY & MUSEUM OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS

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



The 2016 Winter Wine Event!

*Gather your friends and join us at the
Dedham Historical Society & Museum
for a fun-filled evening of flavorful wines and tasty hors d'oeuvres.*

*Friday, January 29th
from 7:00pm to 9:00pm*

\$50 per person

R.S.V.P. by January 22nd

Please send checks to:
The Dedham Historical Society & Museum
PO Box 215
Dedham MA 02027
781.326.1385
Society@dedhamhistorical.org

If you are unable to attend, please consider a donation to the Society.

Photograph courtesy of the Dedham Historical Society & Museum
Photograph taken at the Dedham Square Train Station.