

DOVER TIDINGS

Fall 2003



Volume IV No. 2

Priscilla Pitt Jones

Susanne M. Knowles

Editors

A Letter from the President...

Dear DHS Members

We have long been talking about a new newsletter format. Priscilla Jones and Sue Knowles have put together an expanded version of "Dover Tidings" to fill this need. I sincerely hope that you will enjoy the newsletter as well as contribute news and ideas to the Editors.

Members of the Society, headed by vice president Heather Hodgson DePaolo, have been working hard developing the program for the Centennial Old Home Day, October 5. The program is printed on page 3. We hope that many of you might offer your help in carrying out this effort. Last year we had a wonderful time and hope to repeat that this year.

Shirley McGill will be putting together a new Sawin Museum exhibit, Antique Toys, to be opened in October. If any members have antique toys that they feel might be of interest to viewers, please contact Shirley at 785-0090.

Please note that the Fisher Barn is now included in the building September openings. Elisha Lee and Jim Storey certainly hope that you will enjoy the objects now on display. The current display will not be permanent, but will be replaced by other artifacts on a rotating basis. Also remember, most items displayed can be handled.

All in all, the Board looks forward to another wonderful year. I hope that many of you will continue your membership, become active, and encourage your neighbors to join. We would also appreciate financial support as maintaining and displaying historical properties can be a bit expensive. Any help, physical or financial, will be greatly appreciated.

Thanks very much for your support. Best wishes to all.

Paul H. Tedesco

The Dover Historical Society, P.O. Box 534 Dover, Massachusetts 02030

Caryl House

The Parlor Garden and Kitchen Garden have been blooming and producing well this summer. Using existing plans, members of the Dover Garden Club weeded and supplemented plantings under the guidance of Assistant Curator, Alison Campbell. Chicatabot Garden Club donated \$200 toward plantings. These generous contributions are very much appreciated. We hope to implement plans for the Fruiterie this Fall and next Spring.

CONSERVATION OF THE HOUSE

Solar film has been applied to windows to prevent damage from ultraviolet rays and decrease temperature fluctuation.

Structural issues with windows in the parlor chamber and apartment as well as selected clapboards are now being addressed. We are fortunate to be able to call again on the expertise of Richard Muckle who oversaw last year's major structural repairs.

SPECIAL FALL EVENTS

Old Home Day - Sunday, October 5

The Benjamin Caryl House and the Fisher Barn will be open from 1 - 5 pm. Please offer to do a flower, fruit, or vegetable arrangement and/or serve as docent.

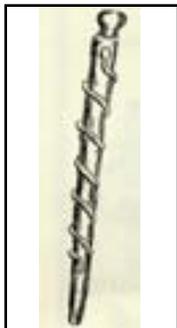
Holiday Open House - Sunday, December 7

Enjoy music with Diane and Michael Jones and period refreshment from 2-4 pm.

MIRIAM BUTTS

Miriam has lectured and led field trips for members of the Dover Historical Society for a number of years. She recently spoke about Anne Bradstreet, America's first published poet. On Wednesday, October 22, Miriam will lead a study tour to North Andover where Anne Bradstreet lived with her family. We will see original books at the Stevens Library and have a private tour of the Parson Barnard House, a reproduction of Bradstreet's home, which burned. Lunch may be purchased at the Village restaurant, Hay Scales. The cost is \$20 per person. Please contact Louise Crane (508 785 0824) or Priscilla Jones (508 785 0236) if you wish to attend. We'll carpool from the Town Garage.

HAVE YOU SEEN THIS?



The next time you visit the Caryl House look for Dr. George Caryl's walking stick, decorated with a snake. In ancient Greece, one snake entwined on a walking staff was one of the accoutrements of the healer-god, Asclepius. Today it is regarded as a symbol of the medical profession. Why a snake? The snake has been a symbol of healing since prehistoric times. It was associated with regeneration, observed shedding its skin and theoretically curing itself.

HOW CAN YOU HELP?

- . Become a Docent.
- . Help with school programs.
- . Weed at the Home Lot.
- . Decorate for Old Home Day and/or The Holiday Open House.
- . Research a topic, which interests you.
- . Help plan the next exhibit, which will focus generally on the Revolutionary War in Dover and specifically on Reverend Caryl's Revolutionary War sermons.
- . Develop an idea of your own.

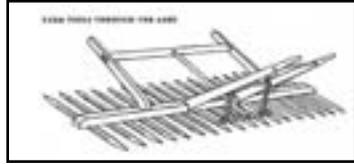
Priscilla Pitt Jones
Caryl House Curator

FISHER BARN

As virtually all of you are aware, the Fisher Barn restoration has been completed, the structure has been presented to the Town of Dover, and the barn is now home to the Society's collection of early farm implements. Restoration consultants associated with the project have dated the barn, originally located on Center Street opposite Claybrook Road, to between 1775 and 1800.

One of the most noteworthy aspects of the Society's collection is the fact that the majority of the implements were donated by Dover residents, and thus represent early equipment that was actually used here in town. Many of the items were donated by members of the Chickering Family, owners of Chickering Farm on Haven Street for six successive generations beginning in the late 17th century. While the dating of handmade wooden tools is "problematic" it is very likely that some were in use at the time the Fisher Barn was constructed.

One of the more intriguing of these objects is a horse drawn wooden hay rake now centrally positioned on the barn floor. After hay was cut (by scythe) and dried, it was gathered by dragging the rake across the field. Once a suitable load had been accumulated, the tines were allowed to catch the ground and rotate - thereby depositing the load and allowing the farmer to repeat the process.



A second object which visitors find amusing is the "three holer" privy bench. This was originally located within a small shed attached to the outside of the barn, and was preserved during the restoration. During the dismantling process a World War II era artillery shell was discovered beneath this structure, which necessitated removal by the State Police Bomb Squad. The Society hopes to restore the privy shed to its original location on the side of the barn at a future date.

Elisha Lee
Fisher Barn Curator

Sawin Museum

We have been very busy this summer taking down our successful Patriotic Exhibit. We wish to thank all who loaned us artifacts. Many of you opted to give them to the Historical Society and we are cataloging them now as they will become part of our permanent collection. We are very grateful to Ken Rendell who gave us access to his world renowned WW2 collection in Natick. We also thank Post 209 Dover Legion for their generous contributions to the exhibit which included a magnificent WW1 painting by George Elwell, a Dover artist. The Patriotic Exhibit also highlighted Americans who showed their patriotism in ways other than war - like the Peace Corps and the Space Program. This exhibit has been a moving experience for all of us at the Sawin and we are sad to see it go. The good news is that we are now collecting and planning for this season's new exhibit -- Antique Toys.

We expect that this Antique Toy Exhibit will be popular with children and adults alike. This new theme captures the wonder and magic of childhood through the toys which we all played with. Our collection includes a beautiful early 20th century rocking horse which will most likely be the gem of the exhibit. We would welcome toys that you would be willing to share with us. Please call me, Shirley McGill at 508 785 0858.

Shirley McGill
Sawin House Curator

Reprint from Dover Tidings, 1917

Many who have cut wood this past year have doubled or even trebled their investment. In many localities prices have approached the coal strike level. But now the production of cordwood has gone beyond the matter of profit; it has become a problem of patriotic endeavor and grim war necessity. There is still the appeal to the purse, but that has become secondary to the need for fuel of all kinds, which can be met in a considerable measure only by substituting the product of the New England woodlot for the coal from the Pennsylvania mines.

DOVER HISTORICAL SOCIETY OFFICERS

President	Paul Tedesco	508 785 1933
Caryl House Curator	Priscilla Jones	508 785 0236
Sawin Museum Curator	Shirley McGill	508 785 0090
Fisher Barn Curator	Elisha Lee	508 785 1653
Public Programs	Louise Crane	508 785 2636
School Programs	Patti Howe	508 785 9044

GUIDE SCHEDULE

Saturdays 1 — 4 pm

DATE	CARYL HOUSE	SAWIN MUSEUM
Sept. 6	Paul Tedesco	Closed
13	Pearl Chamberlain	Closed
20	Dorothy Boylan	Closed
27	Paul Tedesco	Closed
Oct. 4	Jackie Farmer	Closed
5	Old Home Day: Dorothy Boylan, Pearl Chamberlain, Emilie Chamberlain, Nancy Ferguson, Priscilla Jones, Paul Tedesco	
11	Patti Howe	
18	Pearl Chamberlain	Paul Tedesco
25	Jane Moore	
Nov. 1	Gerry Wise	Emilie Chamberlain
8	Nancy Ferguson	Paul Tedesco
15	Sue Knowles	
22	Betty Brady	
29	Patti Howe	Betty Brady
Dec. 7	Caryl Open House: Dorothy Boylan, Dale Cabot, Pearl Chamberlain, Emilie Chamberlain, Priscilla Jones, Miriam O'Day, Paul Tedesco.	

Additional volunteers are needed for the Oct. 5th Old Home Day and the Dec. 7th Open House. Please call Sue Knowles 508 785 0858.

Volunteers are also needed at the Sawin Museum. If you can be a guide for one of the open dates above, call Shirley McGill at 508-785-0090.

OLD HOME DAY - October 5, 2003

(Insert Old Home Day schedule here)

The Dover Old Home Day Centennial Celebration sponsored by the Dover Historical Society will be held on Sunday October fifth. Events and activities will begin at noon and will conclude with a Grange Supper at 5 pm. All are welcome and events are planned for all ages.

ART SHOW

New this year is an Art Show to be held in the Great Hall of the the Town House from noon to 4 pm. There will be sculptures, watercolors, ceramics, painted furniture, photographs and flower arrangements. Most of the artwork of these local artists will be for sale with a portion of the proceeds benefiting the Historical Society.

ANTIQUÉ AUTO SHOW AND PARADE

Last year's Antique Auto Show and Parade was such a success that it will be repeated again this year. Local antique autos (tractors and motorcycles, too) will be lined up on the green from 1 to 3 pm. For further information, contact Heather Hodgson Depaola at

SILHOUETTE ARTIST

On Old Home Day, from 1-5 pm, Carol Lebeaux of Shrewsbury will be at the Caryl House to cut silhouettes. You may make an appointment with Priscilla Jones (508 785 0236) or stop by on the day. Most early silhouettes were of adults, so please consider reviving this tradition. Children and pets also make excellent subjects. Carol will cut from a photograph, providing the photo details the right side of the face. You might consider a silhouette for stationery or a Christmas card. Carol will have mats and frames available for purchase. She charges \$21 for the silhouette and the Historical Society hopes you will add \$4 as a contribution. Cash, check, Visa, and Master Card are accepted. Mats and frames are available.

Paper has been cut for the last 2000 years and silhouette art has been found in lime stone caves, Egyptian tombs, and Greek pottery. The word comes from the name, Monsieur Etienne Silhouette (1708-1767), who did this type of paper cutting. Be certain to view original silhouettes of members of the Caryl Family in the Upper Entry of the Caryl House.

MUSEUM EVENTS

Museum events will include exhibits at the Caryl House and Sawin Museum, cider pressing and at the Fisher Barn, live music and food provided by the Dover Market and the Dover Deli.

CHILDREN'S FIELD DAY

The Children's Field Day will be held at Caryl Park with relay races, potato sack races, egg toss and rope pull. There will be fun and prizes for all.

GRANGE SUPPER

The Grange Supper will be held at the Dover American Legion from 5-7 pm. It will be a ham, bean, relish and slaw meal catered by the Blue Ribbon BarBecue of Newton, owned by Jeff Janowski who grew up in Dover. In conjunction with the supper, there will be an applie pie contest. The price for this meal is \$5 for children, \$8 for seniors and \$10 for adults. Tickets may be purchased from Betty Brady (508 785 0790) starting Sept. 22nd.

The Dover Historical Society plans to provide a fun filled day that pays homage to Dover's vibrant history as a close-knit community. This is an opportunity for Dover residents and friends to come together and experience the best that Dover has to offer while appreciating a bit of history at the same time.

It was just 100 years ago that Dover held its first Old Home Day striving to bring the town together to strengthen ties that bind people to each other and also to this wonderful town. The original invitation pronounced:

" we invite all former residents, her absent sons and daughters and descendants of the same... to visit the town during our "Old Home Day" celebration to revive memories of other days and together visiting the churches on the hill, where we were taught the truth; the old cemetery where our ancestors lie; the school houses where our ideas were enlarged, and the brooks/fields/pastures...and all will interest us, inspiring us with noble thoughts and recalling the days of yore." Press of Natick Bulletin, 1903

In order to make this day a success we are encouraging all residents to sign up in advance for thevarious events. We are also asking residents to help make this day successful by contributing time or items of interest to the Historical Society.