

# DOVER TIDINGS

Fall 2004



Volume V No. 1

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Susanne M. Knowles  
Editors

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## *A Letter from the President...*

I hope that you all have had an enjoyable and productive summer. We have accomplished much since the June Caryl Garden Party.

We had wonderful school visits to the Caryl by the Chickering students. For the first time, the Fisher Barn was involved in these visits and the results bode well for the future.

I hope that you will participate in our Fall Program Schedule, listed here in The Tidings. I particularly hope that many can do so on November 6 when Electa Tritsch and Elisha Lee present, for the first time, a Walking Tour of Noanett Woods.

October 3 will be Old Home Day this year. The schedule is also in this Tidings. Shirley McGill will open the new Needlecraft Exhibit at Sawin. Both the Caryl and Fisher will have a different look. An Old Time Baseball Game is on the schedule as well as a return of Carol Lebeaux, the Silhouette Lady.

We have had good press on the joint Commission and Historical Society House Marker Project. We have affixed 18 markers on houses and welcome more applications, which can be found on both the town and our new website.

The DOVER HISTORICAL SOCIETY Website is up and running. Check [www.doverhistoricalsociety.org](http://www.doverhistoricalsociety.org) on the Internet. The ROADS TO HISTORY website of the Greater Boston History Project is also up and running. Check our part at [www.roadtohistory.org](http://www.roadtohistory.org) Priscilla Jones and I made a budgetary presentation to the Town Selectmen, July 14, as both the Caryl and Fisher are town owned properties under our management and require fiscal assistance.

We are always looking for new volunteers. Call us if you want to join us on Wednesday mornings at the Sawin, Caryl, or Fisher. Great ideas need additional help to be brought to fruition. Remember that our mission is to collect, preserve, and exhibit such artifacts, information, and documents as will throw light upon our local history and use our resources to provide interesting and educational services to the community and public at large. Welcome all!

*Paul H. Tedesco*

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[www.doverhistoricalsociety.org](http://www.doverhistoricalsociety.org)

## CARYL HOUSE

You will notice some changes on your next visit to the Benjamin Caryl House. In 1993, Pam Kunkemueller prepared a Docent's Guide, which is the basis for interpreting the house to visitors. It has served us well and forms the basis for our revisions. Over the years, research has added rich details, needing to be documented. In addition, more information about all family members living in the house has been included. I have revised this document with the assistance of Alison Campbell, Sue Knowles, Elisha Lee, and Paul Tedesco. We hope you enjoy the results as much as we have enjoyed the process. If you have contemplated volunteering as a Docent, this is a perfect time, as the Guide will make you confident indeed.

Although most of our visitors enjoy guided tours, we have decided to place signs in each room so that some information will be available to the individual. In addition, look for a burgundy colored notebook in each room, containing documentation on each item. These changes should be particularly helpful when we host two groups this Fall – The Dover Garden Club on September 21 and the Walpole Women's Club on October 4.

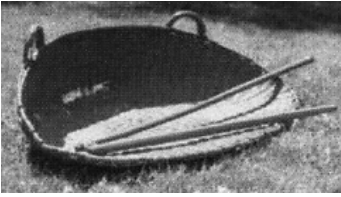
During the last year a group of us, representing a variety of historical organizations, met as the Greater Boston History Project. The purpose was to encourage those attending the Democratic National Convention to learn more about our local history. The Caryl House was part of the Revolutionary War Trail and although no Democrats ventured to Dover, we hope you will enjoy a few special items gathered for this purpose. One of the most interesting is a deed, loaned by Elisha Lee, in which . James Arcules sold one acre of land and a dwelling on Farm Street on March 2, 1785 to Obed Hartshorn for 47 pounds 10 shillings. This is particularly noteworthy as Arcules was a literate, black property owner who was a veteran of the Revolutionary War.

If you wish to reserve time at Old Home Day to have Carol Lebeaux cut your silhouette, please contact me at 508-785- 0236.

*Priscilla Pitt Jones*  
Caryl House Curator

## FISHER BARN

As one stands in the Fisher Barn and examines the various implements displayed along its walls, it is easy to become lost in the mechanical peculiarities and overlook the profound technological changes that are represented. The grain flail and winnowing basket are a case in point –



implements unchanged in design and function since the days of ancient Rome.

Harvested grain was spread on the floor of the barn and hit with the flail, an implement consisting of two wooden sticks joining by a leather thong. The loose straw was then raked away, and the seeds and chaff placed in a winnowing basket. This was then taken outside and the contents tossed in the wind, which carried away the light straw and left the seed. Winnowed grain was either stored for animal feed or taken to the mill to be ground into flour. While the mechanical thresher was invented as early as 1796 it is likely that implants of this sort remained in use on smaller New England farms well into the 19th century.

*Elisha Lee*

Fisher Barn Curator

## SAWIN MUSEUM

It has been a busy summer at the Sawin Museum. The Toy Exhibit has been dismantled and we are preparing the Needlework Exhibit.

Nineteenth and early 20th century samplers, quilts and other pieces of needlework from our DHS Collection will be on display. The Museum will open for the fall season on Old Home Day, October 3rd.

We are pleased to announce that the basement of the Sawin will be open again as most farm tools and implements have been moved to the Fisher Barn. We now have room to display kitchen utensils and other household items which would have been found in early Dover homes. It was exciting to host 125 third graders in June.

Glenda Mattes has been entering old documents, diaries, etc. into the computer. Many pieces such as commissions relating to military service and old family deeds have been received. They will be recorded in the computer and conserved.

*Shirley McGill*

Sawin Museum Curator

## FALL PROGRAM SCHEDULE

- WED SEPT. 15      Tour of Mt. Auburn Cemetery  
9am-Carpools depart from Dover Town Garage
- SUN OCT 3            Old Home Day-see insert in this Newsletter
- WED Oct 20        Visit to John Adams home in Quincy  
9 am-Carpools depart from Dover Town Garage
- SAT NOV 6         Tour of Noanett Woods with Electra Tritsch and Elisha Lee.  
9am- Depart from Dover Tennis Court Parking Lot
- SUN DEC 5         2-4 pm- Caryl Holiday Open House

The Benjamin Caryl House and Fisher Barn will be open Saturdays from 1-4 pm Sept. 11th through Nov. 20th while the Sawin Museum will be open Saturdays from 1-4 pm Oct.9th through Nov. 20th.

## KEY TELEPHONE NUMBERS

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	Joy Bushman	508-785-1686
School Programs	Patty Howe	508-785-9044

## GUIDE SCHEDULE

### Saturdays 1-- 4 pm

DATE	CARYL HOUSE	FISHER BARN	SAWIN MUSEUM
Sept.11	Louise Crane	Paul Tedesco	Closed
18	Gerry Wise	Paul Tedesco	Closed
25	Sara Jo Marble	Paul Tedesco	Closed
Oct. 2	Dale Cabot	Paul Tedesco	Closed
9	Joy Bushman		Glenda Mattes
16			
23	Betty Brady	Emilie Chamberlain	
30	Kay Guild		Dave Stapleton
Nov. 6	Dave Stapleton		
13	JLouise Crane	Dave Stapleton	
20	Priscilla Jones		Betty Brady
Oct 3	Old Home Day: Louise Crane, Sue Knowles, Shirley McGill		
Dec. 5	Open House: Betty Brady, Dale Cabot, Emilie Chamberlain, Pearl Chamberlain, Louise Crane, Priscilla Jones, Paul Tedesco		

Additional volunteers are needed at the Caryl House, Fisher Barn and the Dec. 5 Open House. Please call Sue Knowles 508-785-0858.

Additional 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 or Glenda Mattes at 508-785-2171.

# Old Home Day

## Sunday, October 3, 2004

### DOVER CHURCH

1:00PM Ringing of the Church Bells

### MILITIA FIELD

1:00PM – 3:00PM Antique Auto Show with Parade

### SAWIN MUSEUM

1:00PM – 5:00PM Needlecraft Exhibit Opening

### BENJAMIN CARYL HOUSE AND FISHER BARN

11:00 AM – 5:00PM Silhouettes by Carol Lebeaux

1:00 PM -- 4:00 PM Demonstration by Jay Cadero, the  
Modern Yankee Blacksmith

1:30PM –3:30PM Dover Market Lunch Cart

3:00PM – 4:30PM Children's Field Day

### BASEBALL EXHIBITION GAME -- CHICKERING FIELD

2:00PM – 3:30PM Red Sox vs Yankees –  
Old time baseball uniforms.

### GRANGE SUPPER -- CHICKERING SCHOOL

5:00PM – 7:00PM Blue Ribbon Bar-B-Q  
Apple Pie Contest

The Dover Old Home Day Centennial Celebration sponsored by the Dover Historical Society will be held on Sunday October 3rd. 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.

It was 101 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

#### ANTIQUÉ AUTO SHOW AND PARADE

The Antique Auto Show and Parade has been such a success that it will be repeated again this year. Local antique vehicles will be lined up on the old Militia Field from 1 to 3 pm.

#### SILHOUETTE ARTIST

On Old Home Day, from 11 am to 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 \$25 for the silhouette and \$5 for a duplicate. The Historical Society hopes you will add a contribution to the Society. Cash, check, Visa, and Master Card are accepted.

#### MUSEUM EVENTS AND FOOD

Museum events will include the opening of the Needlecraft Exhibit at the Sawin Museum and open house at the Caryl House and Fisher Barn. At the Fisher, Jay Cadero, the Modern Yarnkee Blacksmith, will be demonstrating techniques appropriate to the 18th-early 19th century. Food will be provided by the Dover Market.

#### BASEBALL EXHIBITION GAME

Oldtime baseball uniforms will be a feature of the Baseball Exhibition Game to be held from 2-3:30 pm on the Chickering Field.

#### CHILDREN'S FIELD DAY

The Children's Field Day will be held at Caryl Park from 3 to 4:30pm with relay races, potato sack races, egg toss and rope pull. Fun and prizes for all.

#### GRANGE SUPPER

The Grange Supper will be held from 5-7 pm at the Chickering School. The meal will be catered by the Blue Ribbon Bar-B-Q of Newton, owned by Geoff Janowski who grew up in Dover. In conjunction with the supper, there will be an apple 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 September 22nd.

#### ENJOY THE DAY!

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.

