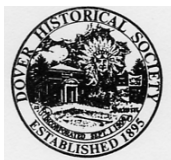


DOVER TIDINGS

Spring 2008



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Editor

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A Letter from the President...

Dear Dover Historical Society Members:

Spring is at last upon us, the gardens at the Caryl House will soon be in their full glory and both the Caryl House and the Sawin Museum will be open once again in a matter of days. It is a season of changes, not the least of which is my recent assumption of the Presidency of the Dover Historical Society. While not a role that I had fully anticipated, it is an exciting prospect and one that I approach with high hopes and the greatest enthusiasm. Without change we would have no history, and the Society would have no reason for being.

I think about the relationship between change and history with increasing frequency as I drive through Dover and watch the pace at which redevelopment is claiming our older homes. Much as I may regret the historical and aesthetic losses that these changes for the most part represent, communities are not static nor are they museums in themselves. I am grateful, however, for the foresight of citizens like George Chickering, who donated the Caryl House to the town and Ben Sawin, whose generous bequest funded the construction of the Sawin Museum. Their foresight is all the more remarkable when viewed in the context of the small farming community in which they lived in a time before "teardowns" and "McMansions". As the custodian of these properties, the Society is more than a mere repository for antiquities. It is, in a sense, the institutional memory of an entire community. I hope that in the year ahead you will support us, that you will visit us, and above all, that you will join us in our efforts to preserve Dover's history.

Elisha Lee
President

Caryl House Garden Party

You are invited to attend the Caryl House Garden Party on Sunday, June 1st from 2 to 4 pm at the Caryl House. Children's activities are planned. Period refreshments will be served.

Caryl House

Following the Holiday Party on December 9, 2007, the Caryl House closed for the winter and will reopen on April 5, 2008. Through June 28 from 1 to 4 each Saturday afternoon, the public is invited to visit the home of Dover's first minister, the Reverend Benjamin Caryl.

Among the Caryl family artifacts in the Dover Historical Society's Collection are two personal items belonging to this, the original Caryl family in Dover. Sarah Messenger Kollock Caryl's pocket and Benjamin Caryl's pocketbook will be on exhibit. While she may have had others, this particular pocket of Sarah's is unadorned and very modest in size. The pocketbook of her husband is handworked, colorful in design, and of a size and shape in keeping with the fashion of the the time.

Each Saturday in April, visitors will be able to view a different film about Dover, its history and its citizens upstairs in the Kitchen Hall of the Caryl House. These slides, films, tapes and DVDs are part of a collection, are on loan to the Caryl House by the Curator of the Sawin Museum, and represent some of the material developed by Pam Kunkemueller, Janet MacKenzie and Dover's historian Dick Vara, among others and will be rerun in May and June.

It is important to acknowledge again with sincere appreciation the many volunteers and their families who give so generously of their time and talent. They have staffed the house, and have signed on again for the upcoming season, supplied and arranged flowers and decorated the rooms for special occasions, provided refreshments -- period and modern, continued work on the collection inventory, designed the Society's stationery and note cards, produced the Tidings newsletter, tended the gardens, improved the grounds, counted bottles and cans...and so much more. Thank you all.

Dorothy Boylan
Curator Caryl House

Mark Your Calendar . . .

The 7th Annual Old Home Day Celebration will take place on Oct. 4th and 5th, 2008. Activities will include the Old Time Baseball Game; Old Home Day Craft Fair; Antique and Specialty Car Show; silhouette artist Carol Lebeaux; open houses at Caryl House, Fisher Barn and the Sawin Museum; old-fashioned children's games; the Grange Supper and more.

Applications to exhibit at the Craft Fair and Car Show are now being accepted. For further information on Old Home Day and Application Forms for the Craft Fair and Car Show, see the website:
www.DoverOldHomeDays.org.

Fisher Barn

It is understandable that a first time visitor to the Fisher Barn would casually apply 21st century sentiments to the historic 1777 structure. Perhaps they would summarily dismiss the building as simply a roof over the animals, wagons or plows of the time, analogous to a modern garage housing the Volvo wagon and John Deere tractor. Upon closer examination of the artifacts and items on display, however, one is able to develop a better understanding of how essential a barn was as a critical aspect of daily life for the early settlers of Dover. A barn served at times, not only to store livestock or tools, but as an integral economic unit of a larger integrated process required for living that is often absent from our modern lives.

In our hectic schedules today, replenishing the household's food supply requires a trip to the grocery store. Life was not quite that simple during the 18th and early 19th centuries. The process and cycle of food cultivation, harvesting, storage and preparation was quite serious business for any family of Dover long before the days of McDonald's and Roche Brothers.

The Fisher Barn itself, and the items on display are designed to inform and educate today's citizens through preservation of a long gone lifestyle, tools and requirements of sustenance, but are key to understanding Dover's rich farming heritage. The operational cider press provides insight to the effort of collecting, sorting and pressing apples to produce fresh apple cider. The large ice saws on display may provide a keener appreciation for the difficulty of food storage. The horse meadow shoes displayed allows one to imagine the difficulty of plowing or transporting crops through the mud filled fens and fields along the Charles River. The Dover Historical Society's focus for the Fisher Barn in the coming months will be to display such items for all to understand the Barn's significance and use in the integrated life process of our ancestors. We hope you come and take a new look at the Fisher Barn in 2008!

Jack Hoehlein
Fisher Barn Curator

Sawin Museum

Amelia Peabody was born to Frank Everett and Gertrude Bayley Peabody on 3 July 1890 in the family home at Marblehead Neck. The family's primary residence was at 120 Commonwealth Ave. Her father was a partner in the investment house of Kidder, Peabody. In January 1925, she purchased the Mill Farm on Dedham Street in Dover.

Amy Peabody, artist, philanthropist and horsewoman, involved her life with that of Dover until her death in 1984. She was active in the Norfolk Hunt. She was a sculptress; we can see examples of her art today in the large pieces displayed in the library. Her beautiful Mill Farm still smiles by the side of the road. Her solar house on Powissett Street still serves as a home. She will be the subject of the new exhibit at Sawin Museum beginning the first weekend of October.

The Society owns a large collection of pictures of Amelia and her works. We need objects. Do you own small sculptures or personal items that you would be willing to loan us to help us to enhance the enjoyment of this upcoming exhibit? If you have anything to contribute, please contact Glenda Mattes DoverGGM@comcast.net or 508-954-2171.

And don't forget to stop by The Sawin Museum on Old Home Day to see what we have created in her honor.

Glenda Mattes
Sawin Museum Curator

Call for Help...

The Sawin Museum needs your help.

Do you have computer abilities? Would you be willing to help catalog the Historical Society's collections while learning about Dover's rich history?

Would you like to help set up exhibits? Unlike the Caryl House and Fisher Barn, the exhibit at Sawin changes annually. Help is needed to conceive, organize, set up and label the new exhibit over the summer prior to its opening on Old Home Day in October.

Please contact Glenda Mattes, Sawin Museum Curator, at 508-954-2171 or DoverGGM@comcast.net.

Dover Historical Society

Officers and Board of Directors

Elected at the Annual Meeting 3/27/08

President	Elisha Lee	(508) 785-1653	eleejr@verizon.net
Vice President	Priscilla Jones	(508) 785-0236	PJones@Smith.Alumnae.net
Secretary	Rich White	(508) 785-3197	Rich.White@fmr.com
Treasurer	Jim Marble	(508) 785-1940	JMarble@sprynet.com
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Fisher Barn Curator	Jack Hoehlein	(508) 479-1937	jack_hoehlein@ml.com Jhoehlein@hotmail.com
Sawin Museum Curator	Glenda Mattes	(508) 954-2171	DoverGGM@comcast.net
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School Programs	Patty Howe	(508) 785-9044	pahowe54@yahoo.com
Public Relations	Sue Knowles	(508) 785-0858	SusanneKnowles@aol.com
Budget	Jim Marble	(508) 785-1940	JMarble@sprynet.com
Fund Raising	Heather Hodgson	(508) 785-1977	UnpackingSolutions@comcast.net
	Alison Campbell	(508) 655-2728	aclandscapedesign@verizon.net

Spring 2008 Docent Schedule

Saturdays 1-4 pm

CARYL HOUSE

April 5 Dorothy Boylan

FISHER BARN

Bob Bond

SAWIN MUSEUM

Shirley McGill

April 12 Alison Campbell

Jack Hoehlein

Betty Brady

April 19 Nancy Ferguson

Bob Kelleher

Shirley McGill

April 26 Louise Crane

Jessica Hall

Nan Leonard

May 3 Nancy Ferguson

Jack Hoehlein

Richard White

May 10 Patty Howe

Bob Bond

Priscilla Jones

May 17 Jane Moore

Kay Guild

Gerry Wise

May 24 Louise Crane

Bob Kelleher

Shirley McGill

May 31 Sara Jo Marble

Jack Hoehlein

Patty Howe

June 7 Louise Crane

Sue Knowles

June 14 Priscilla Jones

Jack Hoehlein

Glenda Mattes

June 21 Betty Brady

Bob Kelleher

Erika Lert

June 28 Dale Cabot

Clare Burke

Sunday, June 1 Caryl House Garden Party --

Teents Adams, Dorothy Boylan, Dale Cabot, Louise Crane, Nancy Ferguson, Jessica Hall, Priscilla Jones, Ellen Little, Jane Moore, Miriam O'Day, Bev Ryburn

If you can fill one of the open dates above, please contact Sue Knowles at 508-785-0858 or susanneknowles@aol.com.