



The Newsletter

Andover Historical Society

Andover's Historical Museum and Research Center

Vol. 36, No. 1 Spring 2011

The Legacy of Dino Valz: Our Newsletter Turns 35

by Tom Adams

In early 1976 genius and vision came together and this quarterly newsletter was born. During that April, 35 years ago, the first issue reached Andover Historical Society members. The genius and vision belonged to Dino Valz, a long-time volunteer who approached then Society President Dorothy Hill with the idea. Together, they brought it to the Board of Directors as an effective way “to communicate to the membership on a broader and more frequent basis,” as Dorothy later related. The Board agreed and appointed Dino editor. It fell to Dino to bring his idea to life.

It wasn't easy, but then good things seldom are. At 72-years young, Dino brought his extensive background in publishing to bear. A Harvard graduate with a gift for communicating ideas through the written word, he also knew the process of publishing inside and out. He began learning his craft at the storied Andover Press where he worked for nearly two decades publishing college yearbooks and writing weekly editorials for the *Andover Townsman*. At that time, Andover Press printed more yearbooks than any other U. S. publisher. Dino later spent 28 years with a Boston ad agency as its media director buying and placing advertising space until his retirement. Widely known and respected in his work, he was named Boston Advertising Man of the Year in 1956. Overlapping his business career, Dino was a part-time instructor at Simmons College lecturing students on the technical aspects of writing, editing, and publishing. His course helped prepare students for the challenges awaiting them in the real world.

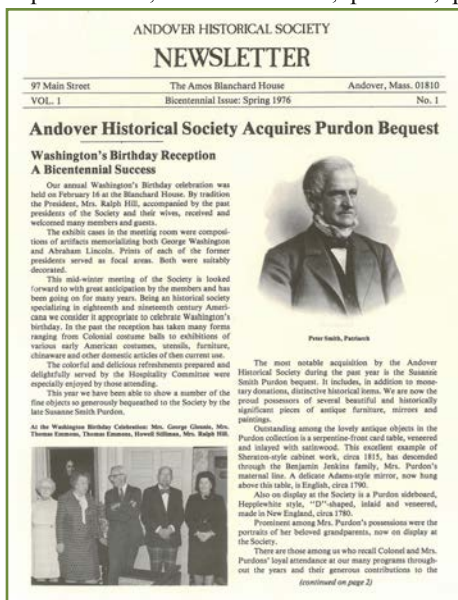
Looking back 35 years, the ‘outside’ world was a far different place than it is today. So, too, was the world ‘inside’ the Society. Though armed with his formidable knowledge and experience, Dino faced some mighty challenges getting the newsletter up and running. “It was rough going back in 1976,” Dino said in a 1990 article in the *Townsman*. The Society didn't have a regular typist and word processing and computers were still better than a decade off in the future. Publishing was very much a manual, low tech, labor intensive process. Even more daunting, there was no corps of volunteers ready to write for this burgeoning enterprise. The Board of Directors and President Dorothy Hill created the ‘mission.’ It was left to Dino to somehow make it work. And, as seems always the case in publishing, there was that

big looming deadline – in this case, ensuring that the Inaugural Issue coincided with the dawn of America's Bicentennial year. Through hard work and perseverance, Dino managed to pull it off. He enlisted a cadre of able volunteers – Dorothy Hill, Betty Poynter, Geneva Killorin, and past and future Society presidents George Glennie and Donald Hayes. Together they wrote, photographed, laid out, edited, proofed, published and finally mailed the newsletter that April. It was the first of 60 issues Dino Valz fathered over the ensuing 15 years.

The newsletter evolved and flourished under Dino's leadership. The articles educated and informed. The newsletter opened doors and windows leading readers through Andover's long, rich history. Readers learned about the society's incredibly diverse collection. The textiles and period clothing. Photographs. Art work. Ceramics and pottery. The vast resources housed in the collection's library and archives. An article even led a fascinating room-by-room tour of the Blanchard House. Readers learned, too, about many of the interesting people and events that shaped Andover over its 300-year history. The strength of these articles drew people,

members and non-members alike, into the society to learn more about their town and how it all came together. Dino kept pushing the envelope finding new and interesting topics. In 1990 he reflected, “As soon as the ink was dry on one issue, we were confronted with the four frightening blank pages of the next.” He would sit with the president and together develop ideas for articles and columns. Dino, in turn, would find, and then often charm, reluctant volunteers into doing the research and writing required.

Dino ‘retired’ from the newsletter in 1990 becoming editor emeritus at age 87. He had the wisdom and foresight to ably manage his transition. Marilyn Burns, past society president (1984-1986), had worked closely with Dino and took over his reins when he stepped aside. In the 21 years and 80 newsletter editions published since, 11 Society Presidents, 4 Executive Directors, and 6 Newsletter Editors have carried the torch passed by Dino Valz. Nearly 20-years after his death, the newsletter continues to reflect his vision and remains true to the mission he was so instrumental in creating. As the old adage says, ‘if it ain't broke, don't fix it.’



The first issue of the Society's Newsletter

Board Member Profiles

As an educational institution, the Historical Society is fortunate to have the expertise of distinguished educators on its Board. President Norma Gammon, Clerk Ellen Marcus, and past President Don Robb have each taught at various points during their careers. In this issue of The Newsletter, we're highlighting three more Board members who broaden the depth of our board with their experience as teachers.



James Redmond
Member-At-Large

A Society member for the past ten years, Jim retired from the Andover Public Schools in 2005 after 34 years of service at West Elementary and West Middle Schools. Jim was the school systems' representative to Andover's 350th Celebration Committee from 1993 to 1996 and is a past president of the Andover Education Association and the Andover Educational Improvement Association. He serves as chair of the Society's Life Long Learning Committee and is a member of the Oral History and the 100th Anniversary Committees. In addition, Jim organizes the Society's participation in the Annual Firefighter's Santa Parade and Breakfast with Santa.



James Batchelder

An Andover native, Jim has been a member and volunteer of the historical society since 1981 and served as President in 1992 – 1994. Jim taught in Andover for over 30 years and is currently head of the high school fine arts department. He is a board member of the Andover Preservation Commission, the Andover Educational Improvement Association, and the West Parish Garden Cemetery. One of Andover's leading historians, Jim lectures and leads walking tours on Andover's history, and serves on the Society's Preservation and Strategic Planning Committees.



James Sellers

Retired after 39 years teaching high school social studies, Mr. Sellers has been a member of the Historical Society for eight years and serves as chair of the Society's Membership Committee. A past president of the Friends of Shawsheen Neighborhood Association, he

Continued on page 5

Helen Keller's Visit to Andover

by Debbie DeSmet

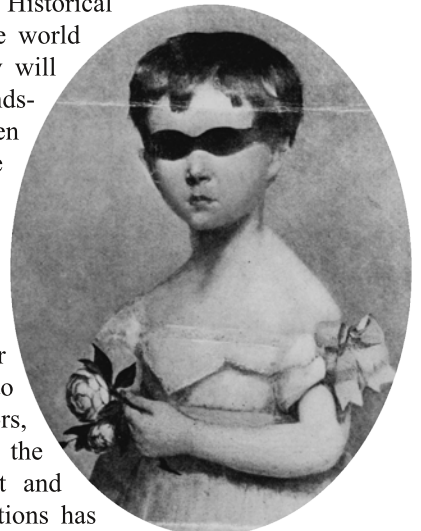
Beginning this spring, the Andover Historical Society is offering a new children's program. **Disability Awareness: Helen Keller's Visit to Andover** is an interactive program that engages each of the five senses.

Helen Keller was born in Tuscumbia, Alabama on June 27, 1880, the daughter of Captain Arthur H. Keller and Kate Adams Keller. In February 1882, at the age of nineteen months, before she learned to speak, Helen fell blind and deaf due to a sudden illness. At the time, doctors did not know what caused Helen's disabilities. Today, it is believed that they were due to either scarlet fever or typhoid. After Helen's illness caused her sight to fade and her hearing to disappear, she became acquainted with her surroundings through the sense of touch. She had a more and more pressing need to communicate with those around her. Her little hands felt every object and observed every movement of those around her and she was quick to imitate these movements.

Over the course of her life, Helen traveled the world learning about the people and places around her without the ability to see or hear. Many may not know that Helen Keller is an important part of local Andover history. In May of 1891, Helen Keller came to visit the Abbot Academy. At the age of 13, Helen Keller visited with her teacher during the first of several overnight visits. During a tour of the Academy, Helen laid her hands upon casts of Nero, Jupiter, and Niobe. She named the individual sculptures by only using her sense of touch and her knowledge of history.

The Andover Historical Society's newest program, based on the life of Helen Keller, includes stories and activities that teach children about living with physical disabilities in the past and present. To prepare for this program, AHS volunteer Holly Heinzer has looked into the Society's collection and has found a fascinating history of individuals from Andover who lived with disabilities. Most intriguing might be the story of the Richard and Abigail Carter. Of their eleven children five were blind: two daughters and three sons. Four of these children were among the first pupils at the Perkins School for the Blind.

When children visit the Historical Society to "experience the world with their fingertips" they will partake in a variety of hands-on activities to heighten their awareness of the five senses: sight, hearing, touch, taste, and smell. By wearing specially made eye-masks participants will have to rely on their individual senses to recognize sounds, flavors, and feelings. Telling the stories of Andover's past and using the Society's collections has never been more *SENSE-sational*.



Sophia Carter, age 6

Sarah Wheeler's Mystery Quilt, Revisited

by Holly Heinzer

In our Winter 2011 issue, we took up Mrs. Wheeler's 1876 Centennial Quilt. At that time, I covered the basics about this patchwork quilt, pieced by a Worcester, Massachusetts housewife just after the Civil War. Most of its patches represent U.S. states, worked with calico obtained from each state. At the article's end, I also promised more to come.

One of this quilt's unique characteristics is its surviving documentation. We have this rich resource because Mrs. Wheeler compiled her quilt via correspondence, a necessity since she gathered materials from every state in the Union. When she lacked a personal link to a given state, she addressed a letter to the postmaster of the state's most important city - a strategy that proved especially useful in dealing with the South. The replies she received are wonderful, ranging from laudatory to baffled to cranky. But one communication stands out: an 1880 exchange between Mrs. Wheeler and O. A. Hadley, the postmaster of Little Rock, Arkansas.

Their correspondence began, as did each of her initial requests, with Mrs. Wheeler expressing the needs of her quilt project. But then matters took a turn. The topic remained the quilt. But they intended to discuss it in person. Hadley suggests a visit, to which Mrs. Wheeler responds, "You might even be permitted to sleep beneath...the 'Centennial Cover' if you choose to remain over night!" A respectable Yankee housewife inviting a strange Southern man to a sleepover? Offering to tuck him in, too. What is going on here?

To unravel the mystery, we require two important pieces of information. The first is the true identity of O. A. Hadley. In 1880, he was Little Rock's postmaster. But before that? In 1865, Ozra Amander Hadley was a New York-born Minnesota politician newly arrived in Arkansas. He served first in the state senate, then as Governor (1871-1873). History provides a name for those Northern Republican transplants who dominated Southern state politics during the Reconstruction period following the Civil War: carpetbaggers. And a carpetbagger Mr. O. A. Hadley certainly was - and a powerful one, high in the Republican Party ranks. Which leads us to the second critical piece of information: Mrs. Wheeler's husband, Henry Martyn Wheeler, who also had political aspirations.

With these blanks filled in, the correspondence between Postmaster Hadley and Mrs. Wheeler takes on an entirely different hue. This is not a discussion of a craft project, but a pas-de-deux, with each party appraising the other's political

value. We see this in Hadley's probing for the Wheelers allegiance and party rank:

"I shall be in Chicago at the National Republican Convention on the 2d of next month. Now it is possible that you or Mr. Wheeler is likewise a delegate to that convention. If so, and you would bring the quilt my curiosity could be satisfied - but stop, another probable obstacle arrives, you may be interested in the Democratic Convention that is to convene at Cincinnati - in which case my hope[sic] are again dashed to earth."

And in Mrs. Wheeler's response:

"I wish Mr. Wheeler...had the honor of being a delegate.

That falls to our neighbor Geo. F. Hoar, who lives...the third house South from us. And with whom we are slightly acquainted. We have also the pleasure of an acquaintance with another delegate from this State Pres. J. H. Seelye of Amherst."

Mr. Hadley had been put on notice: the Wheelers are Republican stalwarts who travel in elite party circles. If you are worth knowing, then so are we.

How did this drama play out? Unfortunately, we don't know. This glimpse is all we get. What we do know is this: in light of its accompanying documents, we should view the quilt with new eyes. It remains what it appears to be, an artifact celebrating the reunited nation. Yet what emerges from the letters, what we can't see without them, is that this quilt was

conceived in and nurtured by the political realities of Reconstruction. Mrs. Wheeler was a Northerner and a Republican. To complete her quilt, to access the South, she tapped, even cultivated, the ruling party's network—also Northern, also Republican. This double image, then, quite accurately reflects America as it was in 1880. On the surface, fragile unity. Underneath, complicated currents and intrigue.



The Arkansas quilt block appears in the upper right corner, accompanied by Postmaster Hadley's letter

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The Andover Historical Society invites you to a
PHOTO SHARING PARTY
to kick-off our Centennial Year

SATURDAY, APRIL 2ND
 1:00 P.M. TO 4:00 P.M.
 97 MAIN STREET, ANDOVER, MA

Your childhood photo will serve as your admission ticket!
 Birthday cake, tea & coffee will be served

Search your photo albums, scrapbooks, attics, and computer files and bring in a favorite snapshot of you or a family member at age ten or younger – even if you weren't living in Andover at the time! Your pictures and their stories will help grow the Society's collection of 20th century images. Your photo will be scanned by AHS trained staff and volunteers, allowing you to keep your original. Enjoy live jazz music and period displays from every decade since 1911 while you attend. Come join the party! Please RSVP to Carrie Midura at 978.475.2236.

Paving the Way to our 2nd Century

The Andover Historical Society celebrates its 100th Anniversary this year and board members have launched plans to sell commemorative bricks to create a centennial walkway as a monument to mark the occasion and, importantly, to raise money to support the society's mission.

At a cost of only \$100.00 per brick, people and business firms can purchase a personalized brick inscribed with three lines of text with up to 16 letters per line. President Norma Gammon said "It's the perfect way for anyone to leave a lasting legacy that will be viewed for many years into the future by the thousands of people who will cross the threshold to the museum."

As well as buying a brick for yourself, bricks may be purchased to honor loved ones, such as grandparents, grandchildren, a spouse, a favorite relative, neighbor or even that special pet. Additional suggestions include highlighting a special date in your life such as a wedding date, birthday, a graduation date or when you met your spouse.

Board member Joe Ponti is spearheading the brick program and he reports that commemorative brick programs like ours have been very successful around the country. His vision encompasses the thousands of people who visit, including those that attend the popular weekly Farmers' Market or the enchanting, history-inspired Christmas tree exhibit. Members and visitors will now be able to stop and read the names of a loved one or a friend on the walkway entrance to the Blanchard House. Thirty years from now children will be able to show their engraved names to their children and conjure up fond memories of Andover.

He hopes that many local businesses will also subscribe to a brick. A larger, 8" x 8" version is available for \$225.00. Ponti



Staff members Elaine Clements and Carrie Midura join Society President Norma Gammon and Brick Campaign Chair Joe Ponti in displaying one the commemorative bricks that will become part of the Society's new Centennial Walkway.

said, "It's a great advertisement for a business. For a one-time fee they get a lifetime of free advertising. Who can beat a deal like that?"

Bricks are being offered in two sizes and will be installed on the grounds of the Amos Blanchard House. A 4" x 8" brick costs \$100 and has space for up to three lines of text. At a cost of \$225, the larger brick, measuring 8" x 8", allows for additional text. Logos may be added to the larger bricks for an additional fee. Funds raised through the brick project will support the Historical Society in carrying out its mission throughout its centennial year and beyond. To order a brick, visit www.andoverhistorical.org/brick or call 978.475.2236.

Andover Is a Popular Name for American Towns, Conclusion

by Don Robb

In our last two issues, we were introduced to other Andovers around the country. The article concludes the series with the addition of four more Andovers.

Andover, Illinois

The young United States rapidly expanded westward. In 1836 the name of Andover arrived in Illinois with town founder Ithamar Pillsbury. He was born in Dracut, MA and later migrated to New Hampshire, in whose militia he served in the War of 1812.

Ordained a minister, he migrated to Illinois and became the first settler in Henry County. It was Pillsbury who gave the town the name of Andover, though why he chose to honor a neighboring town instead of his native Dracut remains a mystery. The town is located in the western part of the state, a few miles south of Moline. Its population is about 600.

Andover, Minnesota

This town has perhaps the most amusing local legend about the origin of its name. It seems that in the mid-19th century, there was a bad train wreck. The engine jumped the tracks, slid down and embankment and rolled "over and over!"

Actually, the name derived from a station built by the Great Northern Railway in the Minnesota wilderness. The railroad worked from an arbitrary list of station names which had been drawn up back at headquarters, and as the tracks progressed westward, each new station received the next name on the list. One of those names was Andover, though no one seems to know why or how that name was selected.

Settlers arrived in 1857, called the area Round Lake, and changed it to Grow Township in 1860 after a visit from Pennsylvania Senator Galusha Grow, a noted abolitionist speaker, who came to promote Republican Abraham Lincoln in the upcoming election.

With a population of around 30,000, this town is just north of the Twin Cities and is a suburban community about the same size as the two Massachusetts' Andovers.

Making changes in local government organization in 1972, the Minnesota legislature renamed the town Andover for the historic railroad station, which evidently has no connection with any other Andover.

Andover, Kansas

Though many Massachusetts abolitionists, including some from Andover, migrated to "Bloody Kansas" in the late 1850s, none of them were responsible for the founding of the Kansas Andover. The first settler there, Vincent Smith, did not arrive until 1869, after the Civil War had ended. There are two local legends about how the town first called Cloud City, got the name Andover.

In one version, it was missionaries from Andover, MA who suggested the name. In the other, a train conductor who regularly passed through reportedly said that the town reminded him of Andover, MA. Local residents are not sure if either story is true, but they both suggest a Massachusetts connection. A suburb of Wichita, Andover today boasts a population of about 10,000.

Andover, South Dakota

The youngest of the Andovers is a small village outside of Aberdeen, with only about 99 inhabitants. Like many towns on the northern plains, it was the creation of a railroad, in this case the Milwaukee Road. Again, a local legend accounts for the name: when road builders finished grading the tracks through the Coteau Hills and finally reach the valley beyond, they decided this was "the EndOver." With a change of the first vowel, the town became Andover.

Again, though, harsh reality belies the legend. Another story suggests that a railroad supervisor in 1881 donated the land for the building of the town, and named it after Andover, MA. Why he did so or what his connection may have been, no one seems to know.

Board Member Profiles

James Sellers, continued

also served on the Merrimack College Alumni Council and the YMCA Board of Managers. Mr. Sellers received the Merrimack College St. Augustine Medal recognizing service to his alma mater. In addition, he is also a volunteer in the Boston Museum of Science's Eye Opener Program for 2nd grade students.

In our next issue, you'll be introduced to several more board members at the Society. If you would like to explore serving as a committee member or on the Board of Directors of the Andover Historical Society, please contact Executive Director Elaine Clements at (978) 475-2236 or eclements@andoverhistorical.org.

With new committee and board members being added throughout the year, perhaps you'll be one of the new faces featured in an upcoming newsletter. We look forward to welcoming you.



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ADEPT: What's Next?

by Mark A. Turdo

2011 looks to be another busy year for the Andover Data Entry Project (ADEPT). Thanks to our 12 volunteers and interns, the data entry continues ahead of schedule. We have nearly finished entering all of the 1980 information. The database is now fully searchable for objects acquired between 1980 and 2010.

We continue to adding data including photographs, reorganizing existing curatorial files (which includes a wealth of collections information), and work to make the database usable for everyone. One of our challenges is finding the location information in the paper collections files. These files are the source of almost all of our information. This paperwork is thirty years old and getting older still as we continue to backtrack in time. The one certainty we have found is that papers have been moved around as time has passed adding somewhat to the task of finding them and entering them into the system.

To help expedite this important and time intensive task, ADEPT is holding a series of collections inventory days when we will be inventorying the collections here at the Blanchard House. To date, more than 30 volunteers have signed on to help out. The first event occurred on Saturday, February 26th. What's next once the house is inventoried? The barn awaits - but it's too cold to work in there right now! Stay tuned...




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Andover's Historical Museum and Research Center

The Historical Society is excited to announce the return of *What's It Worth?* an open format appraisal event. Stuart Slavin from Skinner Auctioneers will give a verbal appraisal of the objects brought by event participants. Learn about your treasure and the items brought by others in this evening event. General admission is \$20 per person or \$15 for Historical Society members. Please no coins, stamps, jewelry or musical instruments. To purchase tickets for the event, call the office at 978.475.2336.

Event Announcements

Join us in April and May for two all-new events at the Andover Historical Society.

On Thursday, April 28th at 6:30 p.m. join clock expert Bob Frischman as he explores the Andover Historical Society's clock collection in our new series, *Treasures from the Attic*. Bob specializes in clock repair and restoration and will present the fascinating history of the clocks found throughout the Amos Blanchard House.

On Sunday, May 15th at 1:00 p.m. the Society will launch a new series of local Walking Tours. The first tour in the series will be led by Don Robb, past Society President and Shawsheen Village resident historian. He'll take participants on a leisurely stroll the Andover's Shawsheen Village and share the history of its founder, William Wood.

Both events are free for members or \$5 for non-members. To register or purchase tickets for Historical Society programs, visit andoverhistorical.org or call 978.475.2236.

Spring Events at AHS

March 12 - April 19

Hand Planes & Wireless Routers 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

This six-week session is designed to meet the needs of woodworkers, from the novice looking for an introduction to traditional hand woodworking skills to the advanced woodworker. \$60 for members.

March 13 - April 20

Private Classes in Wood Turning 12:00 - 4:00 p.m.

Craft your own candlestick, gavel, honey dipper or rolling pin in a private, four class class with instructor Gerry Reynolds using the 19th century foot-driven lathe in the Society's barn. Students are encouraged to call soon for first choice of date. \$50 per 4-hour class.

March 18

Antiques Appraisal Event 7:00 - 9:00 p.m.

What's It Worth? is an open format appraisal event. Stuart Slavin from Skinner Auctioneers will give a verbal appraisal for up to 50 items brought by event participants. Learn about your treasure and the items brought by others in this evening event. \$15 for Historical Society members.

March 24

Addy's American Girl Tea 3:30 - 5:00 p.m.

It's the Civil War Sesquicentennial! It's been 150 years since the Civil War, come and learn about what life was like for Addy and other children of the mid-19th century while hearing the unique stories of Andover and the heroes that lived here. Join in making special crafts, playing games, and sitting down for a delightful tea party. For ages 7-11, \$15 per child, \$10 per accompanying adult.

April 2

Centennial Birthday and Photo Party 1:00 - 4:00 p.m.

Bring a childhood photo and come to the Society's Centennial Birthday party! Your pictures and their stories will help grow the Society's collection of 20th century images. Your photo will be scanned by AHS staff and volunteers, allowing you to keep your original. Birthday cake, live music and a special exhibit will also be featured at the party.

April 14

Helen Keller's Visit to Andover 3:30 - 5:00 p.m.

In May of 1891, Helen Keller visited Andover and spoke publicly for the first time. Learn about the incredible story of Helen Keller during this multisensory program and experience the world with your fingertips. Program suited for girls age 6-8, \$10 per child.

To reserve your place, visit www.andoverhistorical.org or call the office at 978.475.2236.



President's Letter

The Historical Society has a long history of collaborating with community partners – a tradition we are building on as we celebrate the Society's centennial. One of the Society's long-term partners is Andover's Preservation Commission.

The Historical Society's role in the town began to change in the 1970's when the Society hired its first paid resident director. Around this same time, the state began requiring each city and town to create a Preservation Commission. From the beginning the Society and the Commission worked together to steward Andover's historic treasures including town buildings, private homes, industrial complexes, and land.

In the late 1970s, as part of the country's Bicentennial celebrations, a house survey of selected streets was conducted. The Commission took on the survey while the Society supplied all written materials to supplement the project.

The Historical Society stepped out of the wings and onto the historic preservation stage with the controversy over the Abbot Academy campus. When the campus became part of the Phillips Academy complex some buildings were in danger of being demolished. The Society worked with the town to educate the community on the importance of saving historical buildings, and the Abbot Academy buildings were saved.

During the 1980s, three town buildings became endangered: Punchard High School and Junior High School, Memorial Hall Library, and Town Hall. Many citizens felt renovation was too costly and the buildings should be razed. A turning point in the controversy occurred when the false ceiling that had obscured the decorated ceiling of the hall for decades was removed, revealing the beauty and historical significance of the building once again. The old Town Hall was saved.

The Punchard High School building had good strong bones and structure, and in the end, the town voted to reuse the building, renovating it to serve as the town offices and Senior Center. I truly believe these buildings would not have been saved if the Historical Society and Preservation Commission had not stepped in and led the charge to save them.

In 2005, the Historical Society, Town, and Memorial Hall Library collaborated on a grant-funded project to make the original 1978 house survey available on line. Library staff developed the software system and website, while Historical Society volunteers transcribed all the paper records. The results are available on the Memorial Hall Library website.

For decades, the Historical Society has been collaborating with Andover's schools, government, neighborhoods, and families to bring Andover's history alive. Last April, we launched a Centennial collaboration with the *Andover Townsman*. Look for our weekly column or drop in on the column's sister program, *High Tea & History*. As always, we hope to see you at the Historical Society - enjoying a program, researching your family history, or buying produce at our Farmers' Market. You never know what you'll find!

Norma R. Hammon

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The Newsletter

Andover Historical Society

Andover's Historical Museum and Research Center

Vol. 36, No. 2 Summer 2011

Remnant Tells Story of Courageous Andover Soldier

by Joan Patrakis

Among the collections at Andover Historical Society is the tattered remnant of a Civil War flag. Identified as the memento of an historic encounter, the scrap of frayed red silk reveals the story of a courageous Andover soldier.

William Marland enlisted in the 6th Massachusetts Infantry days after war was declared. The 22-year-old was assigned to Company F as Sergeant in the color guard. On April 18th the regiment left Boston by rail, bound to defend the nation's capital. The Sixth was the first Massachusetts regiment to enter the war. It would be the first in the nation to see combat.

Along the route the men were greeted by cheering, the firing of cannon and ringing of bells. In New York and Philadelphia they were welcomed by crowds lining the streets. The regiment reached the city of Baltimore on April 19th, a date of special significance to New England boys whose ancestors had answered the Lexington alarm on that date. In reflection, the regimental historian noted, "...could any other day have been so propitious."

Maryland was a border state and heavily secessionist in its sympathies. Its anti-Union forces had no intention of allowing Federal troops to pass through its soil.

Since Baltimore had no direct connections between railroad lines, the regiment was transferred in horse-drawn cars to a depot across town. Crammed into the slow-moving vehicles, the soldiers of the Sixth were easy targets for the club-wielding mob that blocked the street. Three of the cars were pushed off the tracks. Paving stones, bricks and other missiles were hurled at the men. The rails were so badly damaged some of the companies continued on foot.

The color guard, carrying the Massachusetts state flag, was the target of one attack. A stone, as large as a hat, struck William Marland between the shoulders and fell onto his

knapsack. Despite this blow, Marland continued with a firm step, carrying the item on his back for several yards until one of the officers knocked it off.

The crowds had increased to tens of thousands by the time the men reached Pratt Street.

The soldiers, numbering 220, were fired on from the windows and doorways of buildings. A barrage of missiles was accompanied by yells, oaths and taunts from the mob. The regiment was given the order to fire at will.

When the encounter ended, four soldiers and twelve civilians were dead. Twenty men of the Sixth were wounded and a large number were unaccounted for.

In support of the Massachusetts troops, a group of loyal Baltimore citizens presented the Sixth Regiment with a commemorative national flag. From this flag came the tattered red silk remnant discovered in the Historical Society collection.

The memento was donated by William Marland in 1896 to Memorial Hall Library's collection of Civil War artifacts. The collection was later turned over to Andover Historical Society.

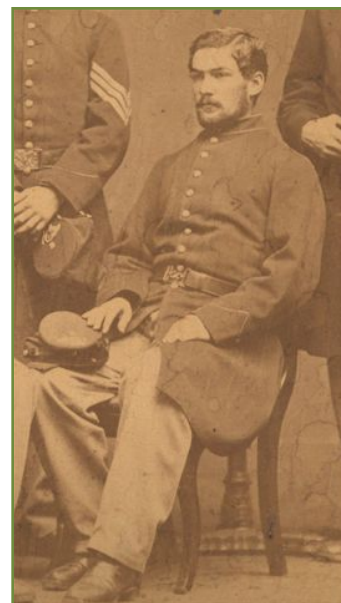
William Marland served 3-months with the Sixth Regiment. He re-enlisted in December 1861 with the 2d Battery Massachusetts Light Artillery where he was promoted to 1st Lieutenant. In early 1865 he was commissioned Captain. Later that year he attained the rank of Brevet Major.

In 1863, while serving with the 2nd Battery at Grand Coteau LA, Lieutenant Marland courageously led his men to safety after being surrounded by the enemy's cavalry. For this action he was awarded the Medal of Honor, the nation's highest recognition for bravery.

Major Marland returned to Andover after the war and married Salome Jane Abbott in 1870. The couple had four children.

From 1870 to 1886 Marland held the position of Andover Postmaster. He was a charter member of Andover's GAR Post #99, named in honor of General William F. Bartlett. For many years he served as marshall of the Memorial Day parade.

In 1905 William Marland died at Griffith, Georgia where he had moved because of health issues. A century later a treasured token recalls his heroic story.



William Marland



Commemorative flag presented to the 6th Regt

Board Member Profiles

Boards of directors need a diversity of talents and interests to support a vibrant organization. In this issue of the Newsletter, we profile four board members who bring a wide range of skills and talents to the Society.

Joanne Dee

Before founding her own Andover-based event planning business in 1998, Joanne spent many years as a corporate event planner for a financial services firm in Boston. She has planned and managed corporate, social and fund raising events in locales ranging from beautiful and historic special event venues in Boston to ultra chic resorts in southern California. Joanne is chair of the Society's Fund Raising Event Committee.

Leo Greene

A former test engineer at Cisco Systems, Inc., Leo left the company in 2006 to pursue a Masters in Preservation Studies at Boston University. Additionally, he serves on the Ballardvale Historic District Commission and is in the process of renovating a 1790s farmhouse on Gould Road. Leo has been a member of the Historical Society for over 10 years and serves as chair of the Preservation Committee.

Joseph T. Ponti

A member since 1970, Joe is also a docent at the Massachusetts State House in Boston and at the Pemaquid Lighthouse in Bristol, Maine. Joe is a retired Lucent executive who started his work life in the Coast Guard and continues to fulfill his passion for all things naval with freelance writing for Naval History magazine. He serves as chair of the Society's Building and Grounds Committee.

Judith T. Reghitto

A member for over 20 years, Judy has been an active volunteer at the Historical Society for over 10 years, captaining house and gardens tours and interpreting for the Society's 3rd grade education program for four years. She also serves on the Fund Raising Event Committee. In addition to her Society work, Judy serves on the boards of Family Service, Inc. in Lawrence, Friends of Memorial Hall Library, volunteers at Bread and Roses, and is an Andover Town Election official.



Joseph Ponti, Judith Reghitto, and Leo Greene

2011 Memorial Lecture Features a Cast of Four

In honor of the society's centennial year, the Memorial Lecture highlighted "The Best of the 104 Stories." Presented by Story Committee members Joan Patrakis, Don Robb, Jim Batchelder and Chair Gail Ralston, a glimpse was given into the tales that have made their way into the weekly printed series.

Joan fascinated us with stories of Andover's own "scamps and scoundrels," including John Beverley, who drew public assistance for nearly 50 years and ended up being labeled "a person of bad character." Hannah Hutchinson was the only person in Massachusetts history who was branded for breaking and entering and committing burglary. We also heard about Pascoe Chubb, who incurred the wrath of local Indians with his "despicable actions" at Fort William Henry, and Mrs. Beard, whose "shocking case rivaled that of Lizzie Borden. As Joan said, "these stories show that human nature has changed little over the centuries."

Don observed that in spite of Andover's national prominence in many areas, it is often our own "local character" stories that capture the Town's true spirit. One whom many remember fondly is Mo Krinsky. A graduate of Punchard High school and once employed by Tyler Rubber Company, Mo came to devote his life to the business his father started – the junkyard on Park Street. Seen out front every day, even after his stroke, until his 1996 death, Mo could reliably find any hard-to-find item one could imagine. His "porcelain recycling station" was much more than a junkyard, it was our heritage.

Jim told of our Main Street evolution from its early 1806 construction as the Essex Turnpike. Three-story brick buildings were interspersed between wooden structures that served as both home and business. Influencing the expansion of the downtown was the railroad, creating the development along Essex Street, and the 1858 construction of the Town House, signaling a southward trend. Trolley car arrival brought additional changes. Revitalization – but a sound rejection of Urban Renewal in 1964 – has stayed true to the classic look of a New England Town.

Gail acknowledged the Committee's devoted work, including that of authors Mike Simo and Tom Adams. Of the 54 stories so far published, the audience heard snippets of five stories, including Andover's Powder Mill and its work force that included British prisoners-of-war. The Town's championship soccer team in 1925 caught the nation's attention; the Shawsheen River has captured peoples' imaginations; the Andover Inn's history was unlocked by a map; and Serio's Grove secrets were revealed by a chance encounter.

Another year of stories awaits, including the business of ice harvesting, Andover's first golf club, the attempt to divert the waters of the Shawsheen and the "true" story of Frank Hardy and his brush factory. It seems our history just keeps getting better!

Return of the Andover Farmers' Market

by Debbie DeSmet

The Andover Farmers' Market is coming back bigger and better than ever! Celebrating its 5th Anniversary, the Andover Farmer Market is open every Saturday, beginning June 25th through October 8th. Located on the property surrounding the historic Amos Blanchard House at 97 Main Street, home of the Andover Historical Society, the market will be open from 12:30 to 3:30.

Connecting the Farmers' Market to the Andover Historical Society is a great way to honor Andover's past. Amos Blanchard, who built his farm here in the center of Andover in 1818, raised pigs, cattle, chickens, and enough fruit and vegetables to provide for his family. Andover was once a thriving agricultural community, but today we only see remnants of its farming roots.

This year, the Farmers' Market and Historical Society visitors will have a chance to learn more about the history of Andover's agricultural past. As part of the Society's Centennial celebration, staff and volunteers have designed a new exhibit, *The Dirt on Argilla Road*. Our exhibit opening will be held Friday June 24th from 6:00-8:00 p.m. Come and enjoy viewing this interesting and educational exhibit while listening to soft tunes and tasting delicious foods. *The Dirt on Argilla Road* will exhibit items from Andover's historic farming collection and tell the history of 20th century farms that dotted the landscape of our community.

Farmers' Market visitors will be pleased to see many returning vendors including Gaouette Farm, Boston Hill Farm, Farmer Dave's, and the Andover High School Sustainable Garden Project along with many more. These local farmers sell a wide variety of healthy, fresh, seasonal produce. The always popular Swiss Bakers and Honey Flour Bakery will also be returning with a smorgasbord of a traditional Swiss delicacies and whole, organic, and locally baked goods. The Bees Knees will be selling specialty looseleaf teas and treats, too!

Along with these popular vendors, the grounds will be filled with new specialty vendors as well. Be sure to check out Soula's Homemade Salsa, Golden Girl Granola, and enjoy organic chocolates from Taza Chocolate out of Somerville, Massachusetts. Fior D'Italia Pasta and Cheese will be selling

a variety of fresh pasta, sauces, and fresh mozzarella, and new this year the Andover Farmers' Market is proud to offer fresh seafood from Globe Seafood Co. based out of Boston. Mmmmm!! There is something for everyone at the Andover Farmers' Market, including our canine friends. Quinn's Canine Café will provide healthy, tasty treats, no matter what special dietary needs your pet may have.

Another exciting addition to the market will be the sale of wine. On August 5th, 2010, Governor Patrick signed a new act that allows for the sale of wine at approved agricultural events, including our Farmers' Market. Wade Holtzman of Still River Winery in Harvard, Massachusetts will offer his award winning Apple Ice Wine throughout the Andover Farmers' Market season. Make sure to visit the Still River Winery tent and learn more about this one-of-a-kind wine.

In addition to our outdoor sales, this year the market has also expanded indoors. Every second and fourth Saturday of the month, we will open up the exhibit hall as an artisan sales area. Enjoy the sweet scents of Kittredge Candles, find a handmade craft by Teena Atwood's Crafty Creations or beautifully recycled jewelry and home décor from Maria LaTorre. Visit the artisan sales area to get lotions, soaps, home decorations, and much more.

Throughout the season various musicians, healthy living demonstrators, and kids craft activities will add to the atmosphere one can only find in Andover. To learn more about the Andover Farmers' Market sign-up for the weekly newsletter The Marketer. This e-newsletter provides tasty recipes, vendor and market information. Email farmersmarket@andoverhistorical.org to start delivery to your email.

The 2011 Farmers' Market promises to be most exciting. Great vendors and musicians and our interesting new farming exhibit demonstrating Andover's historic past will help make our 5th Farmers' Market season something you won't want to miss! Make a special note to join us on opening day, Saturday, June 25th and enjoy classically-trained Flamenco guitarist Evan Cary. A New Hampshire native now based in Madrid, Evan will be performing throughout New England this summer.



This photograph, presumed to be Mr Rasmussen, at his cabbage farm on Blanchard Street, is one of the many images and collection pieces being displayed in the upcoming exhibition, *The Dirt on Argilla Road*. The exhibit opening is on Friday, June 24 from 6:00 - 8:00 p.m. at the Society.

The Stories Behind the Clothes

by Kaitlin Morton-Bentley, Tufts University Intern, Spring 2011

In my research for the 19th century children's textile exhibit that will appear shortly on our web site, I have come across a lot of interesting information about the small dresses and suits hanging so neatly in their closet on the 3rd floor. We do not know who wore most of the clothing, and we have to make educated guesses about when they were made. We are fortunate, however, that some of the pieces were donated with documented information, and from these records we can recreate and enjoy the stories behind the clothes.

In that 3rd floor closet there is a sweet blue dress with white piping along the neckline and puffy sleeves. It belonged to Helen Smith, the first born child of Joseph Warren and Fannie Smith. Helen was born in 1867 and only lived to be only 1 1/2 years old. Her mother, Fannie, saved this dress and other items to always remember "Little Helen." The Smiths went on to have 7 more children, among them Mary Byers Smith. In her "Family Sketches," Mary wrote about how her mother was so heartbroken over the death of her first child that she held onto Little Helen's doll for decades afterward, and always spoke of Little Helen as if she were an angel.

Another gem in the collection is a black velvet dress embellished with gold trim. This dress dates to 1890 and is quite an elegant piece. Today we might assume this dress was worn by a young girl for a special occasion, but it was actually worn proudly by a boy named Thaxter Eaton. Putting boys in dresses was quite common in the 19th century, and for a period between the 1830s and 1860s, with the exception of pantaloons under their skirts, boys would not wear pants or trousers of any kind until they were 7 or 8 years old.

Toward the end of the 19th century velvet came into style for boys, and so Thaxter was quite trendy in his velvet dress and matching cap. It is clear his parents wanted to show how treasured he was by putting him in

such a handsome outfit. Thaxter would grow up to attend Phillips Academy and Harvard University. We may assume, perhaps, that his success was all due at least in part to the stateliness of his velvet dress.

Editor's note: The exhibit of children's textiles is nearing completion as *The Newsletter* goes to press. It will appear on our web site in the near future. So, please come visit us online!



Little Helen's 1868 blue cotton dress with white piping dates was kept by the family as a treasured reminder of a lost child.



Thaxter's black velvet dress looks just as fresh as it appeared in his 1890 portrait at left.



Thaxter Eaton Portrait



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Summer Programs at Andover Historical Society

JUNE

Friday, June 3 6:00 - 9:00 p.m. Centennial Dance

You don't have to love history to love this special opportunity to spend the evening with your favorite person and dance to your heart's desire to Big Band music and socialize. Now, if you are interested in history, the site (305 North Main Street) where the dance is being held was, beginning in the 1920s and for decades, THE local social hotspot for couples to enjoy an evening out together. It's been a while, but it's back for another generation (or two) to enjoy. For one night only - Friday, June 3, 2011 - a contemporary event, with a nod to the past. \$45 per ticket.



Wednesday, June 8 3:30 - 5:00 p.m. 1930s Childrens' Tea



c.1930 radio
Obj. #2002.017.1

Come to a special afternoon tea party with your favorite American

Girl Doll. Learn about Kit and what life was like during the Great Depression. See collections from the 1930's, learn to draw like Kit's friend Stirling, and gather eggs like 1930s girls did to help their families! Program for ages 7-11. \$15 per child, \$10 per adult.

Wednesday, June 15 2:00 - 3:00 p.m. High Tea & History: Abbot Village

Join us at the Society to hear another installment of our collaboration with the Andover Senior Center. In the 19th century, Abbot Village was one of Andover's four mill districts: Ballardvale and Abbot, Marland, and Frye Villages.

Abbot Village was the site of Andover's earliest textile mills. Join Andover historian Jim Batchelder as he tells the story of one of Andover's early mill villages and share your own memories of industrial Andover. This free program takes place at the Andover Historical Society. Pre-registration appreciated to hold your place.

Wednesday, June 15 5:00 - 7:00 p.m. Volunteer Appreciation Ice Cream Social

Calling all Historical Society volunteers... Join us for this year's annual Volunteer Appreciation Event. Enjoy a potluck dinner followed by a scrumdiddily-umptious ice cream sundae bar! Bring your family and spend a fun evening with fellow volunteers, Society board members and staff. Hear the latest info on all the other events to come! To RSVP, please call the Society at 978.475.2236.



Lowe's Pharmacy Ice Cream Bar
Obj. #1994.011.2a

Friday, June 24 6:00 - 8:00 p.m. Farming Exhibit Opening

The Dirt on Argilla Road will display items from Andover's historic farming collection and tell the history of 20th century farms that dotted the landscape of our community. Come enjoy viewing this interesting and educational exhibit while listening to soft tunes and tasting delicious foods. This free event is open to the public.

Saturday, June 25 12:30 - 3:30 p.m. Farmers' Market Opening Day

The Andover Farmers' Market opens for its fifth season, welcoming back favorite vendors and introducing new farmers, specialty foods, and artisans. Organized by the Andover Historical Society and taking place on the lawns and parking

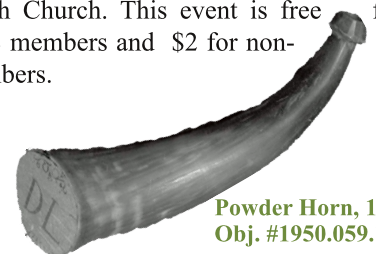
areas surrounding the building - this community gathering place is one you will want to be a part of. The Farmers' Market takes place weekly on Saturdays, 12:30 - 3:30 p.m through October 8.

Sunday, June 26 1:00 - 2:30 p.m. Sunday Strolls: Phillips Academy

Join Gail Ralston of the Andover Historical Society on a Sunday stroll around the beautiful Academy campus. Learn about the beginnings of Phillips in 1778, its long and rich history, and some of the notable alumni including former Presidents George H. W. Bush and George W. Bush, inventor Samuel Morse, Author Oliver Wendell Holmes, Sr. and actors Humphrey Bogart and Jack Lemmon. Observe Phillips' extraordinary architecture - its academic facilities including Samuel Phillips Hall, Graham House, Bulfinch Hall, and the Oliver Wendell Holmes Library. View, too, some of the Academy's student facilities including Cochran Chapel, Paresky Commons, George Washington Hall and it's own museum, The Addison Gallery. Free for AHS members, \$5 for non-members.

Tuesday, June 28 7:00 p.m. Revolutionary Spirit in Andover

In celebration of the 4th of July, please join Kimberly Whitworth, Esq., the current Regent of the Old Concord Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution, as she presents a lecture and slideshow about the Andover families who lived in the area during the Revolutionary War, including parishioners from the North Parish and South Church. This event is free for AHS members and \$2 for non-members.



Powder Horn, 1775
Obj. #1950.059.1

For more info or to reserve your place, visit www.andoverhistorical.org or call the office at 978.475.2236.

Summer Programs at Andover Historical Society

JULY

Sunday, July 17

1:00 p.m.

Sunday Strolls:

Historic Downtown Andover

The face of downtown and Main Street has undergone many changes since the town's incorporation in 1646. Jim Batchelder, a long time Andover Historical Society member and town historian, will guide you through a fascinating tour of our historic downtown. You'll have the opportunity to learn about many of the buildings and how they have served our community over the years. You will learn, too, about how our downtown area has changed and changed again as the needs of town residents have evolved over time. It promises to be a most enlightening Sunday stroll. Free for AHS members, \$5 for non-members.

Wednesday, July 20

1:00 p.m.

High Tea & History:

Fourth of July

Since the signing of the Declaration of Independence, Andover residents have observed the Fourth of July in a variety of ways. Early events were somber affairs held in the churches. In the 1800s neighborhood gatherings and Sunday School picnics were common. A more festive tone was adopted in the 1850s by introducing the Antiques and Horribles parade. Learn about the role these traditions have played in Andover. A collaboration with the Senior Center, July's High Tea will be held at the Historical Society. Please pre-register.



Postcard, 1917
Obj. #1987.598.2083

Thursday, July 21

6:30 p.m.

Treasures in the Attic:

Children's Clothing

Explore another facet of the Andover Historical Society collection as recent Tufts University Intern Kaitlin Morton-Bentley returns to highlight pieces from the children's clothing closets. Explore the different preceptions of childhood in the 18th, 19th and 20th centuries through the clothing and photographs that have been left behind. Learn the stories and reason why little boys wore dresses just like their sisters or why children were dressed as miniature adults for many decades. Free to AHS members, \$5 for non-members.

AUGUST

Wednesday, August 17

1:00 p.m.

High Tea & History:

Golfing in Andover

Andover's first golf course was laid out in 1897 when golfing took the area by storm. The golf course was located on town land in the area between Rabbit Pond and Morton Street on land that is now part of Phillips Academy. Historical Society President (and avid golfer) Doug Mitchell will lead the discussion. Come to High Tea & History at the Historical Society to learn about this little known part of Andover's history. Pre-registration is appreciated to hold your place at this free event.

Thursday, August 18

10:00 a.m.

Teddy Bear Tea

Bring your Teddy Bear to a fun outdoor picnic. This charming interactive program is designed for boys and girls ages 3-7 as a special morning tea with a Teddy Bear story, crafts, and a tea table filled with yummy treats! Tickets: \$7 per child and \$5 per accompanying adult.

ANDOVER



FARMERS
MARKET

Special Events
at the Market

Saturdays, 12:30 - 3:30
June 25 - October 8

Live Music

Local bands and musicians will entertain shoppers and vendors with a variety of live music ranging from traditional flamenco to classic rock. Stop by the Amos Blanchard Barn to hear what's playing...

Artisan Days

All new this year, the Society is welcoming artisan crafters into the Main Gallery on alternate Saturdays, while food and farm vendors appear at the outdoor market. Artisan days will begin on Saturday, June 25th and shoppers will find a wide variety of artisan good including candles, skin care, jewelry, accessories and more!

Childrens Craft Area

Young farmers' market attendees are invited to the Blanchard Porch on the north side of the house for free hands-on craft activities. Drop in and spend time making a fun craft to take home from the market.

For more info or to reserve your place, visit www.andoverhistorical.org or call the office at 978.475.2236.

The 100th Annual Meeting

Tuesday, April 26, 2011, the Historical Society held its 100th Annual Meeting. President Norma Gammon called the meeting to order and introduced Treasurer Don Schroeder who gave the financial report. Clerk Ellen Marcus presented a change to the Society's by-laws, changing the Nominating Committee to the Governance Committee. Governance Committee Chair Jane Cairns presented the slate of officers and directors for fiscal year 2012. President Doug Mitchell; 1st Vice President Jim Batchelder; 2nd Vice President Lolli Sumberg; Treasurer Andrew Santos; Clerk, Ellen Marcus; Recording Secretary, Jim Redmond, and Member-At-Large Don Schroeder. Continuing their service are Jane Cairns, Joanne Dee, Leo Greene, John Hess, Steve Pekock, Joe Ponti, and Judy Reghitto.

The Society welcomed new board members Dianne DeLucia, Karen Wakeling, Mike Morris, Jr., Margaret Salafia, Andrew Santos, and Lolli Sumberg who returns to the board after a year hiatus. Exiting President Norma Gammon will serve Ex-Officio for fiscal year 2012, and Dick Moody will continue as Emeritus. At the close of the Annual Meeting incoming President Doug Mitchell thanked Norma Gammon for her 34 years of service on the Board of Directors.



Incoming Andover Historical Society Board Members, left to right: Andrew Santos, Lolli Sumberg, Karen Wakeling, Margaret Salafia, Mike Morris, Jr, and Dianne DeLucia

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Celebrating our Centennial

Thank you to our Centennial sponsors Enterprise Bank & Trust, Prudential, Howe & Doherty, Realtors, and Tactician Corporation.

Our April 2011 Birthday Party

The Society kicked off its Centennial year on April 2nd and 3rd with our birthday "Photo Sharing Party." Over the two day event, 90 members, residents, and friends came to the Society photographs in hand. Over 250 new photographs were scanned and entered into the collection, documenting childhood in 20th century Andover. Guests enjoyed birthday cakes made by volunteers Viggie and Mary Ellen Johnson and the Greater Lawrence Technical and Vocational High School while they tapped their toes to music by the Matt Redmond Jazz Quartet.

The event was planned and organized by Museum Educator Debbie DeSmet, PR & Development Assistant Carrie Midura, and Board member Jim Redmond. Staff and volunteers helping out throughout the two-day event were Jim Batchelder, Melissa Bourque, Jane Cairns, Rachel Christ, Tommy Doucette, Lorraine DeLucia, Tom Fitzgerald, Holly Heinzer, Katy Kiernan, Pam Mitchell, Julie Pike, Joe and Louise Ponti, Carolyn Redmond, Kathy Russo, Jim and Helen Sellers, Mark Turdo, and Lora Williams.

The Celebration Continues

Friday, June 3rd, the Society will host our Centennial Dance at 305 North Main Street, where Andover's most popular outdoor dance pavilion, the Balmoral Spa, stood for over thirty years. Many thanks go out to our host for the evening, Tactician Corporation, which is providing the location and the food for the dance. Flowers for the event are donated by Flowers by Steve, and photography provided by Portraitefx. Tickets are \$45 each.

Saturday, September 24th, join us at the Ward Hill Reservation to enjoy a hike to a hidden piece of Andover history when we co-host an event with the Andover Trails Committee. Located within the Reservation, Holt Hill is the highest point in Essex County and is where Andoverites gathered to watch the burning of Boston at the start of the Revolution. After a short hike past the Pine Hole Bog, we'll arrive at the top of the hill where guests will learn the history of the Equinox Stones and how they came to be there.

Saturday, October 9th, is time for a Family Picnic on the Shawsheen. Travel back to 1911 with us at a Family Picnic on the banks of the beautiful Shawsheen River in Ballardvale Village at Andover's picturesque Serio's Grove reservation. This special picnic will feature canoe rides, a ducky race, and live banjo music. Bring a picnic basket, blanket, and a healthy appetite for adventure.

For tickets and further information about these and other Centennial events, visit the Society's website at www.andoverhistorical.org or call the office at 978.475.2236.

The Civil War Through Andover's Eyes

by Tommy Doucette, Merrimack College Intern, Spring 2011

The Civil War remains today the bloodiest conflict ever played out on American soil. In human terms, the cost was hundreds of thousands of lives. There are several popular arguments about why the Civil War began. The first was that the war was a clash between the economic interests of the agrarian south and the industrialized north. In the south, the economy relied on cotton, tobacco and other crops. Conversely, the north was far more industrialized. New factories were being built, new inventions were emerging, and people were moving away from the countryside and into cities where jobs were being created. The second argument was that the war was fought to end slavery. At the start of the Civil War, however, the battle cry had little to do with slavery. In fact, President Abraham Lincoln said that he would not outlaw slavery in States where it already existed. Instead, it began as a battle to end secession and to preserve the Union. It was much later that the ongoing pressure from abolitionists played an important role in changing Lincoln's mind.

The foundation on which I based a recent online exhibit were letters written back home by three Andover soldiers - Lewis, Warren and Ballard Holt. They were proud men who believed that slavery was immoral. Each felt that by enlisting they could serve their country and stand up for what they believed. During their service, Warren and Lewis wrote to their sister, Caroline. Ballard Holt wrote letters back home to his mother. The majority of the letters were written by Lewis. Eleanor Flemings Munch, the great granddaughter of Caroline transcribed the letters of Lewis and Warren. The transcripts of these unpublished letters, titled "Letters to Caroline," are treasured items in the Andover Historical Society's collection. The letters provide a fascinating and rare glimpse into what

life was like for Union soldiers. In the "Letters to Caroline" they describe their living arrangements, battles, the weather and everything else in a Civil War soldier's everyday life. The letters began in 1861 and ended years after the Emancipation Proclamation. Lewis wrote faithfully to his sister Caroline; Warren wrote as often as he could.



This archival image from the Society's collection depicts the 14th regiment as they were walking down Pennsylvania Ave, Washington during a storm

The Andover Historical Society has a book in its archives that lists all the volunteers in Company H. Lewis spent time at Fort Warren, Fort Albany, Fort Jackson, Fort Richardson, Fort Whipple, Maryland Heights, and Arlington Heights. At times he was happy while at other times he became homesick, especially around the holidays. What made these letters fascinating was that there was not a lot written about the battles these men fought in. Instead, the letters provide a clear description of a soldier's daily routine. For example,

Lewis was a cook responsible for preparing meals for the soldiers. Warren was a carpenter responsible for building officer housing. Ballard, a distant cousin of Lewis and Warren, re-enlisted numerous times.

Toward the end of his tour of duty Lewis Holt was severely wounded. When the war finally ended he came home and moved to Lawrence where he became an ice dealer.

Warren Eugene Holt married Susan Stevens of Andover. They had two children, Henrietta and George Warren.

Ballard became a well-known person in Andover. He was the first librarian of the Andover Memorial Hall library.

The Civil War, it is said, defined our country. Through their many letters home, Lewis, Warren, and Ballard Holt left behind a clear portal that allows us look back at this pivotal period in American History.



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AESTHETIC, IMPLANT AND NEUROMUSCULAR DENTISTRY

Found It! Inventories, Data Entry, and Dedicated Volunteers

by Mark A. Turdo

Generally, the Andover Data Entry Project (ADEPT) staff trusts what we find in the object files. However, we generally do not trust the location information in the file. Why? For several reasons. The files we are working with now are 30 or more years old. The museum has rearranged spaces for new use, the collections have grown requiring new storage locations and not everything was put back where it belongs. All of which means most things have moved from their original location.

In order to accurately record the current and correct location for each item in the Blanchard House collection (we have not yet gotten to the Blanchard Barn collection) volunteers, interns, and board members began inventorying the collections in the basement and archives. Realizing that we needed to move a little faster, we also hosted a couple of intensive inventory days - one on February 26th and the other on March 26th.

All told we have inventoried over 7,000 objects since the middle of January, 2011, all of which is now entered into the database. It is an impressive amount of work but there remains much to do. We need to complete the house inventory and then turn our attention to the barn. Importantly, though, we are back on track with our data entry, which is our primary goal.

I cannot say enough how impressed I am by the dedication of the Society's staff and its volunteers, interns, and board members. They have worked over 300-hours in inventorying time alone, not to mention the rest of ADEPT's work. Thanks to everyone who helps continue to make ADEPT so successful.



President's Letter

Many friends have asked what significant events stand out during my 34-years with the Historical Society. I am probably the only President who has served two terms in two different decades. It all began when I joined the Andover Historical Society in 1976. I was then chairman of the Andover Bicentennial Celebration. Since that time, I have been on the Historical Society Board for 30-years going from one position to another. I have so enjoyed working with hundreds of volunteers, many presidents, and wonderful staff members. Though my commitment and love for the Society continue as strong as ever, it is time for me to semi-retire. Living an hour away creates many problems, not the least of which is a difficult commute to Andover.

The Society's events over the past 34-years are all memorable. Especially so was the project saving the Olde Town Hall. It was great fun, too, recreating the traditional 'May Breakfast' which was held in Olde Town Hall, as were most significant events on rededication day. The official rededication was followed by an all-town 'Spelling Bee.' Hundreds of Andoverites came through the doors that day to view the special exhibits as well as paintings and drawings by Frances Dalton.

A weekend before the rededication, a champagne reception and preview was held and invited guests toured the newly renovated space and viewed the many exhibits. A formal dinner was catered by the Lanam Club with Victorian-style floral arrangements designed and arranged by the Andover Garden Club. It was a wonderful way to celebrate the saving of our Town Hall.

Another memorable event was collaborating on a book in connection with our 350th Anniversary celebration. "*Andover: A Century of Change*" is an insightful overview of Andover's last 100 years. I so enjoyed doing hours and hours of research, working side by side with the so many volunteers, and with its author, Eleanor Richardson.

Among our many events, House Tours have always been excitedly anticipated. The tours began during the 350th celebration. The first tour featured many of the houses along Central Street that have long intrigued all of Andover and were finally open for all to see. To date, we have hosted eight house tours with another scheduled later this year on December 3rd. The owners of these historic homes continue to be most cooperative and supportive of the Society. And the hundreds of volunteers who help to make these tours come to life are proud that they are contributing to their town.

In closing, I would like to express my appreciation to all those who have supported the Society - and me. As I leave office, I hope you will share the Centennial year with us. We have planned many events between now and April of 2012. It is going to be a great year so please come and enjoy our trip through memories past and memories being made.

Norma R. Hammer

Rachel & Martin Finn
Founders

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The Newsletter

Andover Historical Society

Andover's Historical Museum and Research Center

Vol. 36, No. 3 Fall 2011

Holt Hill – A View from the Top

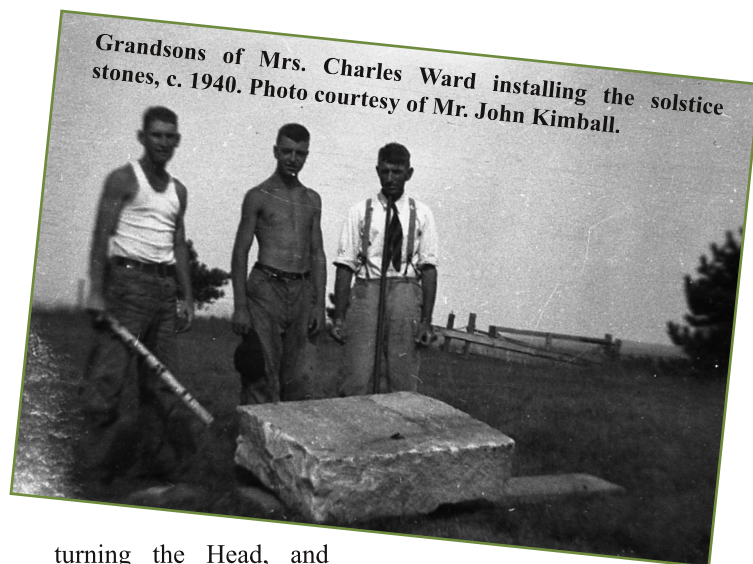
by Jane Cairns

The view from the top of Holt Hill has captured the imagination of Andover's residents and visitors dating back to the town's founding.

While the scene depicted on Andover's Town seal – Cutshamache, standing on the hill with an outstretched arm indicating the broad sweep of land he is selling – is most likely fictional, there can be little doubt that the rocky prominence was well known to the Native Americans and to the early European explorers as well. Nicholas Holt, the settler for whom the hill is named, chose to build his house, not on a lot close to the meeting house, but on the south slope of his farmland at least three miles from town center. It's likely that the beauty of the site was the motivating factor in Holt choosing this location over other safer and more convenient sites on his 536 acres.

On June 17, 1776 anxious townspeople climbed to the summit to catch a glimpse of the smoke and fire rising from the Battle of Bunker Hill. Among the Andover militiamen who had marched to Charlestown were more than 20 Holt family members and two of Holt's oxen which were used building the defensive redoubts on Breed's Hill.

One documented visitor to the summit in August 1809 was Mrs. Susan Boudinot Bradford, a fashionable and well-connected widow and a leader of Philadelphia society. Making a visit to Andover as part of a summer tour of New England, Mrs. Bradford was entertained by the educational and religious notables of Andover Hill. On the last morning of her visit, she was driven to the top of Holt Hill. Upon her return, she gave "a captivating account of this Prospect. The Eye takes in a view of about 300 miles in Circumference, by

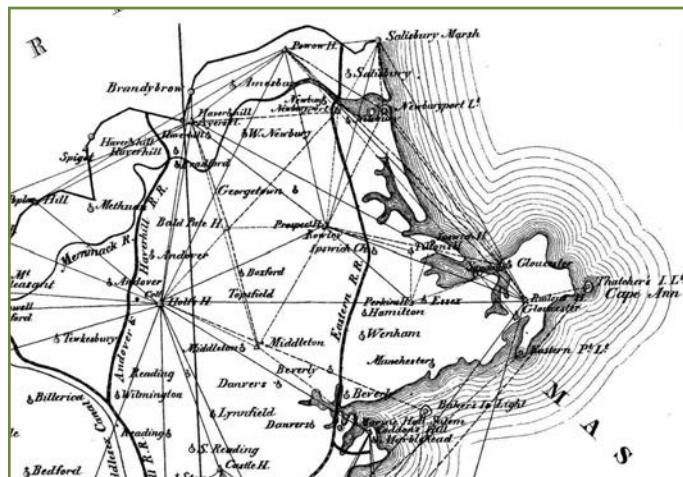


turning the Head, and affords a full View, inexpressively delightful, of a distant range of Hills, with very large intervals of Land covered with Houses & highly cultivated Fields, large Forests & meandering Waters," that, as Mrs. B. observed, "far surpassed anything we had seen. On a bright day, 28 steeples appear in sight. The weather being Hazy, they saw but a few of them."

The clear lines of sight between the summit and the tops of surrounding landmarks were used as part of the Trigonometrical Survey of Massachusetts, mandated by the state legislature in 1830. In the spring of 1833, a small team of surveyors led by Simeon Borden made measurements that were used to calculate not only the exact height of the hill, but also the elevations of other locations in Essex County. One of Borden's original survey markers, a copper bolt driven into a piece of exposed bedrock with a 7" triangle chiseled around it, can still be found today, along with three reference disks placed by the Massachusetts Geodetic Survey in 1933.

In the twentieth century, the Hill's owner Mrs. Mabel Ward turned her attention from the expanse of leafy suburbs to contemplate the workings of the cosmos. Inspired by a 1911 trip to England's Stonehenge, she built on the summit a ring of stones - each one alone an interesting mineralogical specimen - aligned to the cardinal points of the compass and to the sunrise on the solstices and equinoxes.

Now a part of the Ward Reservation and owned by the Trustees of the Reservations, Holt Hill continues to attract a variety of visitors – casual hikers, geocachers, peakbaggers, botanists and new-agers – who have in common an appreciation for the view from the top.



Detail of Simeon Borden's "Plan of the Principal Triangles on the Trigonometrical Survey" from the 1830s showing the sight lines radiating from Holt Hill.

A Baby in a Bottle?

by Elaine Clements

We're all looking forward to our month of "eerie history events" this October, and couldn't resist looking to our collection for something appropriately macabre to complement our programs. ADEPT volunteer Marilyn Helmers came across this odd piece while inventorying doll house furniture. "A baby in a bottle?" we all said, "how creepy!" It's classified as "bric-a-brac" in the database, but none of us could imagine this as a decorative or ornamental piece. As with many objects in the collection, the story of the baby in the bottle is far more interesting than first expected.

As it turns out, what we have is a "Frozen Charlotte." It sounds like a dessert, but it's actually a child's toy. Frozen Charlotte dolls were based on an American poem and made in Germany. The naked unjointed porcelain figures were popular and inexpensive penny dolls from 1850 through the 1920s. While a toy, in true Victorian fashion, the doll was also a cautionary tale.

In 1840 Maine writer Seba Smith came across a New York Observer article about a young woman who froze to death in a carriage on the way to a New Year's Eve ball and wrote a poem about it. In the poem, Charlotte's lover, Charles, picks her up to drive her 15 miles to a New Year's Eve ball. Charlotte's mother implored her to wrap herself in a carriage blanket, but the young woman answered:

"O, nay! O, nay!" young Charlotte cried,
And she laughed like a gypsy queen;
"To ride in blankets muffled up,
I never would be seen."

"My silken cloak is quite enough,
You know 'tis lined throughout;
Besides I have my silken scarf,
To twine my neck about."

But the night was colder than Charlotte expected.

"Such a dreadful night I never saw,
The reins I scarce can hold."
Fair Charlotte shivering faintly said,
"I am exceeding cold."

Poor Charlotte! By the time they arrived at the ball, she had frozen to death.

He took her hand in his - O, God!
'Twas cold and hard as stone;
He tore the mantle from her face,
Cold stars upon it shone.

The poem ends with Charles dying from grief and buried in the same grave as his love.

Given Victorian customs, it's not unusual that a child's toy would be made from such a sad story. The Society's Frozen Charlotte in a bottle is also an example of Victorian mourning symbolism. Wrapped around the top of the bottle is the label, "NIGHT BLOOMING CEREUS." The night blooming cereus



has a stunning white flower that blooms at night, blossoming so quickly that the movement of the petals is visible, and dies by morning having graced the earth for less than 12 hours. It's no surprise that in the Victorian language of flowers, the night blooming cereus means "transient beauty." On closer inspection, we also noticed the upside down label at the bottom of the bottle that features an image of a goldfish bowl. By some accounts in Victorian cemetery symbolism, fish represent faith. The words "Remember Me" complete Frozen Charlotte's cautionary tale. So our baby in a bottle is both a macabre reminder of death and a child's toy.

Today, such dolls are rare and popular among collectors and with artists who create new works from the dolls. In 2006, singer songwriter Natalie Merchant wrote a song called Frozen Charlotte. So Charlotte continues to tell her story long after she met her fate.

Board Member Profiles

We are delighted to welcome six new members to the Board of Directors this year. In this issue two long-time Historical Society members are profiled.

Lolli Sumberg, 2nd Vice President



A former Pike School teacher with a specialty in history, Lolli was on the Board from 1977 to 1988 and again from 1996 to 2009. Lolli helped develop the original school program, which has become a hallmark of our public programs. She has served as Clerk and Membership Committee chair and chaired several ad hoc committees including the Society's Reaccreditation Committee.

A world traveler in her limited free time, Lolli has also served on the board of the League of Women Voters and has chaired the League's Town Government and Town Budget Process Studies. She also serves on the Board of Merrimack Valley Habitat for Humanity.

Karen Wakeling



Readers of the Society's Newsletter might recognize Karen's name. She served as editor of the Newsletter from 2005 to 2008. Karen is a graduate of Western New England College and holds an MBA from the University of Massachusetts at Lowell.

She worked as a bank manager before leaving to focus on her children and volunteer efforts. Karen has also volunteered for the Cub Scouts, Lowell General Hospital, and the Historical Society's third grade education program. Today Karen works at Phillips Academy in college counseling.

Credits for Vol 36, No 3

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Production Editor: Carrie Midura

Photography: Elaine Clements and Andover Historical Society Archives

Andover Historical Society

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Farmers' Market in Action!

Have you stopped by the Andover Historical Society on a Saturday this summer? If you have, you probably noticed all the hustle and bustle of the Andover Farmers' Market. With more vendors than ever before and a greater variety of produce, specialty foods, and crafts to choose from, the Farmers' Market is continuing to grow. The market opened this year on June 25th and will run every Saturday afternoon through October 8th. The market is open 12:30-3:30, come rain or come shine. We have had beautiful weather the entire season and are looking forward to the arrival of fall produce.

This year there have been many new additions to the market. A wide assortment of outdoor vendors have joined the market for the first time including the Still River Winery, Fior D'Italia Pasta and Cheese, Golden Girl Granola and Shady Oaks Organics. The market has also expanded indoors. Every second and fourth Saturday of the month craft vendors and artisans fill the exhibit hall of the Andover Historical Society's Blanchard House bringing candles, soaps, lotions, and unique jewelry and crafts to the market. We are also pleased to announce that the Andover Farmers' Market has a Facebook page. Make sure to "Like" the Andover Farmers' Market on Facebook and see what's coming up every week.

As the Farmers' Market continues to grow, we are always looking for more help on market days and with our weekly newsletter *The Marketer*. This summer much credit goes to our Public Relations Intern, Jacquelynn Palazola, a student at Salem State University. Jacquelynn works to bring new ideas to the festive atmosphere of the market and has been hard at work on the production of the *The Marketer* newsletter. Many thanks go out to all of our volunteers, staff, and vendors who help make the Andover Farmers' Market a success. Enjoy the Market!

***I**t's not too late for your commemorative brick to be added to the Centennial Walkway at the Society! Personalize a brick with your family name or to honor a loved one. You can learn more or place your order at andoverhistorical.org/brick*



Bewitched in Andover

A Series of Eerie Events at the Andover Historical Society

Double, double toil and trouble; fire burn, and cauldron bubble! In 1692, Andover was involved in one of American history's most infamous events, the Salem witch trials. In fact, Andover has the distinction of having the most confessed witches and the highest number of children arrested during the trials. Between July 15th and September 17th in 1692, 48 of the 158 people accused of witchcraft in Essex County were from Andover, a town with a population of only 600.

Marking Andover's involvement in the witch trials, the Andover Historical Society has scheduled a series of bewitching events sure to enchant you throughout October.

Have you ever wondered what ghosts may lurk in Andover? On a hot evening earlier this summer, a group of brave individuals stayed awake until the witching hour looking to uncover the mysteries that lie within the Amos Blanchard House. To share the investigating team's findings, we're hosting **Ghost Hunting 101** at the Blanchard House on Saturday, October 1st at 7:00 p.m. At this spooky event members of G.H.O.S.T.S. (Ghost Hunters of Southern Tri State) will reveal what they found in the Blanchard House and the methods they use to search for ghosts and spirits!

However, if ghosts aren't your cup of tea, you can join us the following week to learn about **The Witches of Andover**. On Tuesday, October 4 at 7:00 p.m. Kimberly Whitworth, local historian and Regent of the Old Concord Chapter of the Daughters of the Revolution, will present her research on this eerie and very local history. Kimberly has traced her own genealogy back to the witch trial era and done extensive research on both North and South Parish since the founding of Andover. Her program focuses on how Andover and its people were involved during the witch trials. Bring questions and tell us about your family. Do you have any witches in your broom closet?

On Friday, October 14, the Bewitched in Andover series is thrilled to host **An Evening with Kathleen Kent**, author of *The Heretic's Daughter* and *The Wolves of Andover*. Kathleen is a tenth-generation descendant of Martha Carrier. Carrier was accused of being a witch and was subsequently executed during the trials. A masterful storyteller, Kathleen paints a haunting portrait of Puritan New England and a family rocked by the events of the witch trials. Her great-grandmother, Martha Carrier, not only professed her innocence, but admonished judges who refused to listen to her. Kent has said of the 19 accused executed during the trials, "these men and women were not witches—Devil

sympathizers, or participants in rituals of dark magic—but rather brave and unfortunate victims of intolerance, superstition and greed." Kathleen Kent's evening visit will include a short reading and discussion of her book, followed by a book signing.

To keep you captivated by Andover's bewitchery, on October 22nd from 1:00 to 4:00 p.m. we will open the house of Carriers' accuser, Benjamin Abbot, for a **Tour of the "Witch's House."** Located at 9 Andover Street, the home of Martha Carrier's accuser was ironically later passed on to descendants of the Carrier family. Martha Carrier was known as an outspoken and bold woman in her time. Following an argument with Carrier over a plot of land granted to him by the town, Abbot claimed to be "tormented by a pain in his side which developed into a sore" bringing him close to death. It was only after Martha Carrier was arrested and taken away to Salem did he begin to mend. Abbot was not the only person suspicious of Martha. Samuel Preston of Andover had also argued with Carrier and testified that shortly afterward his cow became ill and died. The Carrier family was also accused of bringing smallpox to Andover leading to the deaths of thirteen individuals.

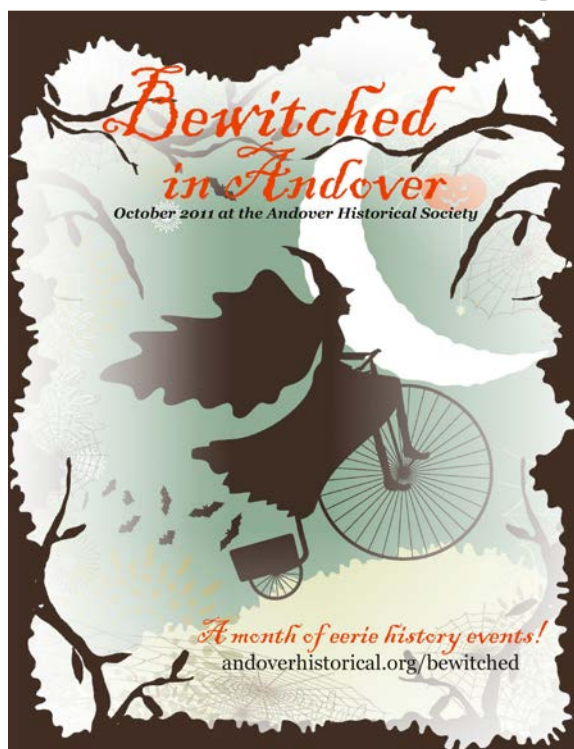
Tours of the house will be available on the hour and half-hour, beginning at 1:00 p.m. The last tour will take place at 3:30 p.m. Advance registration is recommended. For information, please call (978) 475-2236. Don't miss your chance to learn about this fascinating family and the Benjamin Abbot house.

Martha Carrier is not the only individual our Halloween events will focus on. On Tuesday, October 18th,

from 3:30 to 5:00 pm, the Historical Society will be hosting **Tea with Sarah Carrier: A 1692 Andover Girl**. Girls ages 7-11 are invited to join us for the first of our Andover Girl events, based on the life of Sarah Carrier, Martha Carrier's daughter. Sarah was only 7½ when accused of witchcraft and taken to Salem as a prisoner. Girls are invited to bring their favorite doll and enjoy crafts, games, and a Colonial tea party filled with history.

As Halloween approaches, we will bring to you a frightful evening for adults, **Cocktails from the Crypt**. On October 28th from 7 to 9 pm, join local historian, Jim Batchelder, for an evening with a special brew made in the light of the moon as he explores the history of West Parish Garden Cemetery. Admission is \$10 for members, \$15 for non-members.

To be sure you're Bewitched in Andover, mark your calendars today! Visit andoverhistorical.org/bewitched to learn more and reserve your place at these exciting events.



Fall Programs at Andover Historical Society

SEPTEMBER

Thursday, September 8

6:30 - 7:30 p.m.

Treasures in the Attic: Spinning Wheels

Join Florence Feldman-Wood as we display and discuss our historic spinning wheel and textile tool collection. This special one-night only program is free for Andover Historical Society Members and \$5 for non-members.

Wednesday, September 21

2:00 - 3:00 p.m.

High Tea & History: Lucy's Acre

In the 1940s, archaeologists conducted an archaeological dig of Lucy's Acre which sits on the west side of Woburn Street in Ballardvale. The site is named for Lucy Foster, a freed slave. Join us as we talk about Lucy's story and archaeology in Andover. High Tea will be held at the Andover Senior Center, 36 Bartlet Street, Rear. Free program.

Saturday, September 24

10:00 - 5:00 p.m.

Andover Day

Andover's annual street fair returns to Main Street! Enjoy live music, street vendors, entertainment and get to know the downtown community. Visit the Andover Historical Society tent to make a spooky craft and learn all about the upcoming Bewitched in Andover events.

Saturday, September 24

2:00 - 4:00 p.m.

Equinox Hike on Holt Hill

Join us for a hike to the summit of Holt Hill, the highest point in Essex County, via an easy to moderate trail, suitable for walkers of all ages. Along the way, local historians and special guests will recount stories of the Holt family, whose members have lived near this hill for five centuries. Free and open to the public as a Trails & Sails 10th Anniversary event in Essex County.

Revolution, Kimberly Whitworth, for an evening program about Andover's connections to the infamous Salem witch trials. Free for members, \$5 for non-members.

Sunday, October 9

1:00 p.m.

Old Fashion 1911 Family Picnic

Enjoy a true 1911 family event at Serio's Grove in Ballardvale. Recreating nostalgic times, the Shawsheen River Watershed Association will provide canoes for those wanting to enjoy the river. Andover's Bill Burtles will entertain with tunes from the turn of the century. 1911 era games will challenge both children and adults alike. Picnic tables are on the site, or bring a blanket and spread out on the soft pine needles in the Grove.

Friday, October 14

7:00 p.m.

An Evening with Kathleen Kent

Well-known author Kathleen Kent will visit the Andover Historical Society to promote the newest paperback edition of her second book *The Traitor's Wife*. Join us for a short reading and book discussion followed by a public book signing. Free and open to the public but reservations are required for reading & discussion. Book signing begins at 7:30. Books will be available for purchase.

Tuesday, October 18

3:30 - 5:00 p.m.

Tea with Sarah Carrier: A 1692 Andover Girl

Girls ages 7-11 are invited to join us for an afternoon of tales from the witch trials told from an Andover girl's perspective. This Andover Girl Tea will look at the history of Sarah Carrier, Martha Carrier's daughter. Martha Carrier was an Andover villager accused and hanged during the infamous Salem witch trials. Join in crafts, games, and a delightful Halloween Tea as we look at Andover girls of the past. Bring your own favorite doll to the tea, too! \$15 per child and \$10 per accompanying adult.

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OCTOBER

Saturday, October 1

7:00 p.m.

Ghost Hunting 101

At this spooky event members of G.H.O.S.T.S (Ghost Hunters of Southern Tri State) will reveal what, if anything, they found during a midsummer ghost-hunting investigation in the Blanchard House and the methods they use to search for ghosts! Society members free, \$5 for non-members.

Tuesday, October 4

7:00 p.m.

Witches of Andover

Join local historian and current Regent of the Old Concord Chapter of the Daughters of the American

For more info or to reserve your place, visit www.andoverhistorical.org or call the office at 978.475.2236.

Fall Programs at Andover Historical Society

Wednesday, October 19

2:00 - 3:00 p.m.

High Tea & History:

Pole Hill was a Ballardvale summer hot spot in the late 1800s. Upriver from the dam was the "Shawsheen Grove" at Pole Hill. This was a favorite summer picnic location. In 1900, tragedy struck when a man was shot to death during an altercation at a picnic. Join Jane Cairns to talk about the Pole Hill "picnic tragedy." High Tea will be held at the Senior Center.

Saturday, October 22

9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

Hand Planes & Wireless Routers

This six-week hands-on workshop is designed to meet the needs of woodworkers, from the novice looking for an introduction to traditional hand woodworking skills to the advanced woodworker. The fall session runs Saturdays, 9:00 am-12:00 pm, October 22 through November 26, with a make up day December 3. \$60 for members, \$70 for non-members, and \$40 for students.

Saturday, October 22

1:00 - 4:00 p.m.

Tour of the "Witch's House"

Opening to the public for one day, the tour will include a guided visit throughout the house, once the home of a witch trial accuser. Learn about the ten generations of Abbots who lived here, witch trial history, and architectural additions made over the centuries. Tours will take place on the hour and half-hour with the final tour at 3:30 p.m. Free for members and \$5 for non-members.

Friday, October 28

7:00 - 9:00 p.m.

Cocktails from the Crypt

Join local historian Jim Batchelder for an eerie evening as he entertains guests with the history of West Parish Garden Cemetery. Learn about the people who rest in the Garden Cemetery while sipping on ghoulish cocktails... perfect for discussing crypts at the Society. \$10 for members, \$15 for non-members.

NOVEMBER

Saturday, November 5

10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Open House & Auction

This year's silent auction will take place inside the Andover Historical Society and the funds raised will help keep the front door open and welcoming into our second century. Auction items include vacation packages, local goods and services and unique experiences. With donations from across the state, there is sure to be something to entice you. Admission to the open house and auction is free. Light refreshments will be served.

Saturday, November 5

6:30 - 9:30 p.m.

Members' Reception & Auction

The festivities continue into the evening as we reopen the doors especially for our members. Attendees will have the opportunity enjoy hors d'oeuvres and wine while placing their bids until the final moments of the auction. Several one-of-a-kind antiques and personal experiences will be up for grabs during a short live auction at 8:00 p.m. Members only.

Saturday, November 12

1:00 p.m.

Treasures in the Attic: Winter Sports

Join Moor & Mountain owner, Alan French, for a closer look at the winter sports collections at the Society for this special one-time only program. Free for members, \$5 for non-members.

Wednesday, November 16

2:00 p.m.

High Tea & History

Spend an afternoon immersed in history and conversation at the Andover Senior Center. Enjoy a discussion of a recent Andover Stories article and share your related memories. Free program.

Please note: The Historical Society will be closed November 16 - 18 while staff attend a museum conference.

Special Delivery!

*The Historical Society's
Annual Auction
returns to a computer near you
on Friday, October 28!*

We're giving this year's auction a jumpstart by opening it online one week before we invite the public through our front door to see the items in person.

Our online auction will once again be hosted by Bidding for Good. You can find it by visiting the site at:

[www.biddingforgood.com/
andoverhistorical](http://www.biddingforgood.com/andoverhistorical)

Don't want to wait until October to experience the excitement? Here's what you can do today:

PREVIEW

New auction items are being listed every week through October!

DONATE

Add a treasure of your own to the auction and help support the society!

SHARE

Tell a friend, send an email, or post on Facebook. Let everyone know the auction is coming!

VOLUNTEER

Give your time and enthusiasm by helping update the auction plans and prepare for the November 5 event.

For more information, contact
Elaine Clements or Carrie Midura
at 978.475.2236 or
info@andoverhistorical.org.

For more info or to reserve your place, visit www.andoverhistorical.org or call the office at 978.475.2236.

Tinsel, Twinkle Lights, and Toilet Paper

by Carrie Midura

Too soon for Christmas, you say? Not for our volunteers! Each summer for the past three years, creative volunteers have started planning decorations for history-inspired trees to be displayed at the Historical Society during the month of December. 2011 marks our fourth year of themed tree displays and we're planning big in honor of our centennial.

Each December, over 1000 people visit the Historical Society to see the tree display and marvel at the unique decorations that are placed so carefully on trees throughout the museum. In past years, tree decorations have been inspired by single collections items such as ice skates, velvet capes, and baseball bats. This year, we're getting even more creative. With the help of Tufts University Intern, Sarah Duff, we're creating a special exhibit, *Common Indecency*, to serve as the inspiration for this year's decorators. The exhibit will feature an eclectic display of items and images from our collection - all related to what happens in the privacy of the home, from bathing and dressing to grooming and sleeping.

Among the many items on display will be 19th century corsets, wire petticoats, union suits, toothbrushes, non-electric curling irons, cosmetic cases, and yes, even vintage toilet paper, still in its original packaging.

Several volunteers and community groups, including the Andover Fire Department, have already signed on and are

getting ready to display their creative efforts in the months ahead. This year we're looking for even more decorators to help us meet our goal of 25 decorated Christmas trees. The Historical Society provides the trees and the lights - but we need more help on the decorating side. If you, your family, your workplace, or social club would like to show off your festive side, the Historical Society invites you to join us for our upcoming planning meetings. You can learn more about the exhibit and hear from past and current decorators about their ideas and experiences. All are welcome!

Christmas Tree Planning Meetings

Thursday, September 15
3:00 - 4:00 p.m.

Thursday, September 29
3:00 - 4:00 p.m.

Please contact Carrie Midura at 978.475.2236 or cmidura@andoverhistorical.org if you have questions or ideas. Of course, if you aren't interested in decorating, you can still save the date for the exhibit: December 1-31, 2011.

Even Ice Cream Isn't Enough

Volunteers are the very life blood of the Andover Historical Society. It is their passion, commitment and hard work that keeps the Amos Blanchard House vibrant and alive. In June everyone took a well-deserved time out. The Society hosted an old fashioned ice cream social to express to our volunteers a special thank you for all they contribute. The weather was glorious and the ice cream, well, delicious! Everyone agreed it was a great way to spend a summer's evening.

The words 'thank you' hardly begin to convey our appreciation for the weighty contributions each of our volunteers makes every day. It is important they understand how much they mean to the Society's success and know, too, that what they do really matters. So, to each of our volunteers, you have our gratitude and respect. A special thanks to Board member Jim Redmond for his help with our numerous children's programs including Andover at Work which serves nearly 500 local students. Jim also helped install *The Dirt on Argilla Road* exhibit now on display. A special thanks as well to Nancy Gump and Colleen Hevehan for their many years of pitching in whenever and wherever we've needed help - answering phones, giving tours, helping with research and mailings, you name it, they do it! And we also owe a big thank you to our college and high school interns for their remarkable work - Tommy Doucette, Kaitlin Morton-Bentley, Sarah Duff, Jacquelyn Palazola, Rachel Christ, Gina Sawaya, Derek Farquahar, and Kathleen McGinty. Without all of your effort and dedication, our work would be much more difficult and far less enjoyable.

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Celebrating our Centennial

Thank you to our Centennial sponsors Enterprise Bank & Trust, Prudential, Howe & Doherty, Realtors, and Tactician Corporation.

Centennial Dance

On Friday, June 3rd, the Society hosted our Centennial Dance at 305 North Main Street, where Andover's most popular outdoor dance pavilion, the Balmoral Spa, stood for over thirty years. Our host for the evening, Tactician Corporation, provided the location and the delicious food for the dance. Thank you Tony Buxton and Tactician Corporation! Flowers for the event were donated by Flowers by Steve and photography provided by Portraitefx. The Tony D Band kept people on their feet, playing hits from the 1930s, 40s, and 50s. They rocked "Pennsylvania 6-5000!"

The Celebration Continues

Saturday, September 24th, please join us at Holt Hill, a hidden piece of Andover's history, when we co-host an event with the Andover Trails Committee. Holt Hill, part of the Ward Hill Reservation, is the highest point in Andover and is where Andoverites gathered to watch the burning of Boston at the start of the Revolution. After a short hike past the Pine Hole Bog, we'll arrive at the top of the hill where guests will learn the history of the Equinox Stones and how they came to be there.

Sunday, October 9th, is time for a Family Picnic on the Shawsheen. Travel back to 1911 with us at a Old Fashion 1911 Family Picnic on the banks of the beautiful Shawsheen River in Ballardvale Village at Andover's picturesque Serio's Grove reservation. This special picnic will feature canoe rides, and live banjo music. Bring a picnic basket, blanket, and a healthy appetite for adventure

Saturday, December 3rd is the date for our tour of Andover homes. You can start your tour at the Historical Society's history inspired Christmas tree exhibit and enjoy the Blanchard House decorated and decked out for the season. Watch for an announcement in the mail and email for all the details!

For tickets and further information about these and other Centennial events, visit the Society's website as www.andoverhistorical.org or call the office at 978.475.2236.

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AESTHETIC, IMPLANT AND NEUROMUSCULAR DENTISTRY

Save the Date!

Gates & Gables Returns on December 3rd

This year, Gates and Gables, the Andover Historical Society's biannual tour of houses, will treat visitors to an inside look at eight Andover homes displaying a colorful diversity of architectural, collecting, and decorating styles. Among the houses will be the Historical Society's own house, the 1820 Amos Blanchard House. This traditional Federal style home will be decorated for Christmas and will include the Society's annual display of history inspired Christmas trees.

The exciting range of architectural styles and periods add to the charm of this year's tour Saturday, December 3, 2011 from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Tickets will be available for purchase online at www.andoverhistorical.org, or by calling the Andover Historical Society at 978.465.2236.

Gates AND Gables

ADEPT: Inventorying, Barn Organizing, and Data Entry

by Mark Turdo

So what has the Andover Data Entry Project team been up to since you read about us last summer's newsletter? The above title says it all...organize, organize, organize!

We hosted several volunteer days and inventoried all of the collections in the Blanchard House. The location of each object was recorded and then entered into the database. We now know where everything is and can find it all again. It was a huge step forward.

In July, volunteers from South Church reorganized the Blanchard Barn in anticipation of inventorying the collections stored in the barn later this year. Volunteers worked hard moving furniture, tools, wheel barrows, spinning wheels, hay cranes, sporting goods, school desks, bicycles and much more. They were so efficient that we completely reorganized the second floor of the barn in four hours! When the weather cools off in late summer or early fall we will tackle the barn inventory. Our thanks again to each of the South Church volunteers for making the day such a success.

Through it all, the ADEPT team has remained busy with data entry. Over the last several months, we entered the collections data for all objects collected between 1980 and 1967. Our goal, working backwards from 2000, is to reach 1960 before the end of the grant, which is next July. At this rate, we should get there by this fall.

We have less than a year until the IMLS Museums for America grant runs out. We have already begun the process of writing the next grant proposal. Our goal is to continue ADEPT for another three years. If awarded, we plan to finish entering all of the object collections information through 1911 as well as all of the archival and library collection information.

For now though, the barn awaits.



President's Letter

FROM COLLECTING TO CONNECTING

As the Historical Society celebrates its 100th anniversary, it is appropriate to reflect on what the Society has been in the past, what we are doing now, and where we might be heading as we embark on our second century of serving our community.

When this Society was incorporated in 1911, the founding document proudly asserted as its purpose "the cultivating and encouraging an interest in antiquarian and historical research; to collect and treasure significant historical matter and antiquarian relics, and to found and maintain a museum where such collections shall be preserved and exhibited, thus making a valuable, interesting, and educational feature in the life of Andover..."

Over the past 30 years, we furthered this mission with a house museum dedicated to an 1830s story and created a cornerstone educational program highlighting life in this period for all third grade students of the Andover School system. More recently, we instituted a very successful Farmers' Market using the grounds of our Society to attract a new audience. During the renovation of Andover's Main Street, the Society staged an enormously successful and emotionally moving exhibit that featured a partial reconstruction of the Ford's Coffee Shop and drew yet a different audience. Through the efforts of a wonderfully creative staff member, we have found new audiences near and far by utilizing the variety of social media connections.

While we have been finding increasingly interesting ways to bring different audiences into our home, we have also noted the difficulty of using our vast collections in meaningful and entertaining ways. Equally, we have found it difficult to utilize our impressive house museum in ways other than in the third grade school program and other programs specific to the 1830s.

Using our creative programming and approach, we are bringing people together through local history and stories. Boy scouts or girl scouts, grandmothers and their granddaughters, seniors, or third graders, civil war buffs or neighborhood residents find new ways to connect to each other and the town through Society programs.

As we embark on our second century, it seems apparent that our mission is more connecting than collecting, being the catalyst to allow individuals, small groups, and large groups to pursue an interest with some historical connection. In many different ways we assist our community to know its history, value its history and take pride in passing it on to next generations. We will strive to be the agent that encourages many residents and friends to find their story, create their story and relate their story to others.

Rachel & Martin Finn
Founders

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Special Delivery!

*The Andover Historical Society Auction
returns home on November 5.*

*Come inside and help us keep our front
door open for another 100 years!*

*Enjoy an open house party while bidding on items in the silent
auction. All funds raised will support the Society as it begins
its second century.*

Saturday, November 5

Public hours: 10 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Member hours: 6:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m.

Learn more at andoverhistorical.org/auction



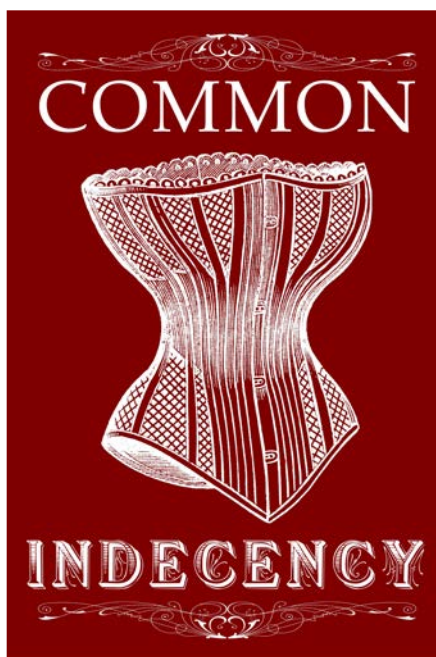
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IMAGES

(Left) Detail of velvet and silk crazy quilt on display in Common Indecency, Object # 1911.0648.1

(Above) Decorated tree from 2010 history-inspired Christmas Tree exhibit.



You've doubtless seen exhibits of historic clothing and period dress. Ever wonder what was hidden under all of those fancy clothes of yesteryear? Prepare yourself now for an exhibit on what lies beneath. *Common Indecency*, open throughout December, is an exhibit of undergarments and personal grooming items from the Andover Historical Society's collections. Visit the Andover Historical Society for its annual Christmas Exhibit and explore! See the differences in sleeping attire then and

now. Enjoy seeing the period rooms of the historic Amos Blanchard House filled with vignettes of men's and women's undergarments 'frozen in time.'

The main gallery of the Amos Blanchard House will envelope all of the exhibit's themes including bathing, sleeping, undergarments, relaxation, and dressing. Investigate the Society's new Hands-On room! Try out some of yesteryear's accouterments like handmade soap or try your hand at lacing bed strings, and seeing firsthand facial hair through the ages. *Common Indecency* is an exploration into the common practices of grooming, hygiene and undergarments through the ages. Visit the Andover Historical Society's new exhibit and find out what the hidden truths exist about *Common Indecency* past.

Common Indecency will be on display through March 2012 and is open to the public Tuesdays through Saturdays from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. During the month of December, the exhibit also serves as the inspiration for the more than 20 decorated trees in the Society's annual history-inspired Christmas tree display. During the Christmas display, admission is free for members and children under 12; \$5 for non-members. We look forward to welcoming you at the front door.

PRESIDENT'S LETTER, WINTER 2012



This is the time of year to mark the end of one season and the beginning of yet another. While groups of friends mark seasons and events, organizations like your Historical Society mark the end of one cycle and the beginning of a new one.

About six years ago, the Board of Directors adopted a Five Year Plan. As we entered 2011, it was clear that our plan had achieved many successes. For the past eight months, this organization has been diligently working on the plan for the next three to five years. Through conversations among the Board of Directors, the active involvement of our dedicated staff, and from advice received from members of the communities we serve, four themes have emerged to guide our thinking about the Society's immediate future.

Only a fraction of the communities served by the Society regularly access stories and collections at the Blanchard House. We need to engage the many communities within our town, and beyond, to identify, research and expand our story telling opportunities,

collaborations, and techniques.

Our mission states that we tell the unique stories of Andover. In this light, our collection philosophy and practices need to be reexamined. We also need to redefine our accession and retention of artifacts so that we are consistent in our ability to relate unique stories. Having an Andover connection may not be a sufficient reason for accession or retention.

While the Blanchard House is the Society's most definable and visible asset, it is also our most underutilized. We need to explore our options on how each room in the house is used to enhance storytelling and make history a fun and engaging learning activity. We need to reduce the real and perceived barriers to community engagement.

The Society staff and leadership will be better able to deliver on its mission when the funding of operations achieves a level of sustainability and predictability. We need to enhance our development efforts and reduce our reliance on fund raising events and sources of funds not consistent with our investment policy.

Throughout this process, we have been discussing tasks, priorities and challenges. As you read this, we will have completed our discussions and begun the new cycle. The value of the planning process is clarifying what we expect to achieve and organizing the resources necessary for success.

We undertake these efforts firm in our conviction that what we are doing is making a difference, that we are serving a worthwhile purpose, and that we are effectively using the increasingly scarce social resources available to us. We are grateful for your continuing encouragement and support.

May you enjoy the wonderful traditions of the holiday season.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'L. H. Miller'.



ANDOVER Historical Society Annual Fund

This issue of the newsletter is filled with information about all the ways the Society is working to meet its mission to collect and share Andover's stories. You'll read historical articles about the Russell family, Christmas in Andover, and Presidents who came our way. You'll be introduced to Tufts University Museum Studies intern Sarah Duff who spent the summer researching the Society's collection to bring about latest exhibit, Common Indecency. You'll read about upcoming programs such as our new Andover Girl Teas, and you'll be updated on the progress our ADEPT team is making. Each program is a different way to share Andover's unique stories with our members and our community.

Your contribution to the Historical Society's Annual Fund makes all this possible. Your financial support plays a pivotal role in enabling the Historical Society to continue connecting our community to its history. It is an important responsibility that needs your help.

During November, we mailed the Society's Annual Fund appeal letter to you. If you have already made a gift to the Fund, we thank you heartily for your ongoing support. If you have not yet contributed, I invite you to support us, to join with us in our mission of celebrating Andover's unique stories, and make an unrestricted gift to the Society's current Annual Fund campaign. It is truly an investment in the future of Andover's unique heritage.

THE RUSSELL HOMESTEAD IN CARTER'S CORNER

by Douglas Cooper, Andover Historical Society Volunteer

I grew up just off South Main Street, in the area formerly known as Carter's Corner. As I grew into an adult, I got the impression that we were a 'forgotten people' living in the space between Phillips Academy and North Reading. I developed an interest in history. One of my favorite periods is seventeenth century New England. Until recently, I felt like my neighborhood had no connection to seventeenth century Andover. This article started when my mother told me that I had seen the house formerly owned by the Bruner family. I have no such memory. So I went digging through the 'Streets and Structures' files here at the historical society and found a couple of pictures. I learned that the house was demolished in 1983, shortly after my first birthday. I also learned that the place used to be called 'Russell Farm.' My curiosity awakened, I decided to research the Russell family.

Unfortunately for this intrepid researcher, the Russell family by and large stayed out of the limelight. They survived the witch hysteria of 1692 unscathed. The men who fought in the Revolution and in the War of 1812 came home alive without any notable exploits in battle. I combed through many resources in the library chasing down Russell's. Sarah Loring Bailey's Historical Sketches of Andover was enormously helpful. Bailey highlights the family's mundane existence writing that "In West Andover are branches of the Russell family, which is, not so numerous as some, a large and respectable element of the citizenship."

I gradually built a picture of the family, one or two facts at a time. The genealogy compiled by Mumford and Martin, along with White's The Russells of New England and their Immigrant Ancestors have been very useful. The genealogies indicate that the Russell's were always farmers. I came across a note in the Streets and Structures file that Thomas Russell (1714-1753) was called 'Dr. Russell.' He gained that title owing to his knowledge of medicinal herbs.

Robert, the first of the Russell family to settle in town, was born in Scotland in 1630. He arrived here around 1659. Robert's birthplace is cited as the reason why my part of Andover is sometimes called the Scotland District. Robert is

said to have named his property 'Scotland Farm.' Although he was not one of the original settlers, Robert was voted one of the original proprietors of Andover. He also served on the first coroner's jury which was held in 1664.

According to Russell family lore, Robert lived a very exciting life before settling here. The story starts with Robert being kidnapped and sent to Virginia by a covetous uncle who wanted to steal his inheritance. I found two versions of Robert's later exploits. One version says that Robert made his way north from there. White, one of the Russell genealogists, remarks that it is highly unusual for a Virginia colonist to have been transplanted to Massachusetts. The second version has Robert returning to Scotland, fighting against Cromwell and being taken prisoner in the Battle of Dunbar. He is then shipped to the colonies to serve out 8-years of indentured servitude.

These exploits have yet to be proven true. Nor can they be discounted. Mumford and Martin report that Robert first appears on record in Billerica. Robert died in 1710 and was the first person buried in the South Parish burying yard.

I was wrong about Carter's Corner. My neighborhood is tied to the infancy of town. When the Bruner house was built? The historic building survey gives a 50-year span. What about the house that Robert built upon his arrival? I did not find any exact information. My research tells me that many Andover residents regarded the house as always having been there. Bailey wrote Historical Sketches of Andover in 1880 that Ammon Russell owns the "ancient homestead." Mumford and Martin include a quote from a Holt genealogy that describes the house saying, "There stands still an old mansion that was the home of the Russell's for eight generations." I have also learned that many seventeenth century dwellings simply disappeared from view through renovations and additions.

I don't have any definitive proof, but the evidence suggests that the original Russell homestead was still standing when I was born.

If only I could remember seeing it.

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CHRISTMAS AT THE BLANCHARD HOUSE

by Tom Adams, Andover Historical Society Newsletter Editor



Amos Blanchard House has stood watch over Andover for 192 years. It has borne witness to the continued evolution of our town. For better than half of Andover's history, it has watched the town's footprint expand, its population grow, and its economy diversify and prosper. Life today, in its many machinations, differs radically from that

led by our Puritan founders. The perception of Christmas, and how we celebrate it today, is a poignant and timely reminder of how dramatically life has changed.

Our grammar school history lessons taught us that our forefathers left England to find religious freedom in the New World. England in the 1600s fell under a cloud of fear and religious reform. Led by Oliver Cromwell, who overthrew the monarchy of King Charles I, the Puritans swept away all manner of decadence, including the celebration of Christmas. The pilgrims who crossed the Atlantic and settled New England, including Andover in 1641, held beliefs even more orthodox than their brethren back home – and far more so than settlers in other New World colonies like Jamestown. So pervasive were these pilgrims that their beliefs shaped life in the Colonies for nearly two hundred years. Throughout New England, they heaped scorn on Christmas. The Puritans found no justification in the Scriptures for celebrating Christmas, equating such revelry with paganism and idolatry. The Plymouth Pilgrims announced their loathing in 1620 by spending their first Christmas Day in the New World erecting their first structure. Responding later to the decadence of rebellious settlers who ignored their edicts by defiantly celebrating Christmas, New England Puritans passed a series of laws making any observance of Christmas illegal. A Massachusetts law passed in 1659 went so far as to punish offenders with a hefty five shilling fine. Although the law was repealed in 1681, the cultural influence wielded by the Puritans continued to tenaciously discourage Christmas celebrations. It wasn't until mid-1800s that Puritan mores relaxed enough for Christmas festivities to take hold in New England. Yet as late as 1870, classes were scheduled in

Boston public schools on Christmas Day with punishments meted out to children who chose to stay home beneath the Christmas tree. Puritans, some said, viewed Santa Claus as the Anti-Christ.

By the end of the Civil War, Christmas had become an important religious and social holiday. In an effort to mend the nation, President Ulysses S. Grant declared Christmas a Federal holiday in 1870. Slavery was not the only issue that divided the States. The North and South differed, too, on their respective views of Christmas. Influenced by the Puritans, many Northerners continued to view Christmas as sinful. In the South, Christmas was an important social event. So important, in fact, that by 1838 three states - Alabama, Arkansas, and Louisiana - had beaten President Grant to the punch by making Christmas a legal holiday.

For the balance of the 1800s, celebrating Christmas became more and more the norm across the nation. Children's books helped to spread Christmas customs, especially the tradition of trimming trees and gifts delivered by Santa Claus. Women's magazines were an important influence, too, suggesting ways to decorate their homes for the holidays. Even Sunday school classes encouraged celebration, albeit on a more spiritual plane. By 1900, America was enthusiastically decorating trees, singing carols, baking cookies, and buying and giving gifts. The last hundred years have witnessed the unabated rise of commercialism. For better or worse, the Christmas season is now marked by endless march of materialism, media and advertising overload, and the ceaseless hum of mass marketing. Retailers now live and die with the cash register ring of Christmas shopping. Christmas today is the bellwether forecasting the state of our nation's economic health. Christmas is marked, too, by a yearning among many for a return to simpler, less stressful, more reflective time.

For nearly two hundred years Amos Blanchard's home has stood resolute here on Main Street Andover. Throughout those two hundred years, change has been the only constant. May the changes that visit you in the year ahead be filled with health and happiness and with tidings of Christmas joy past and present.

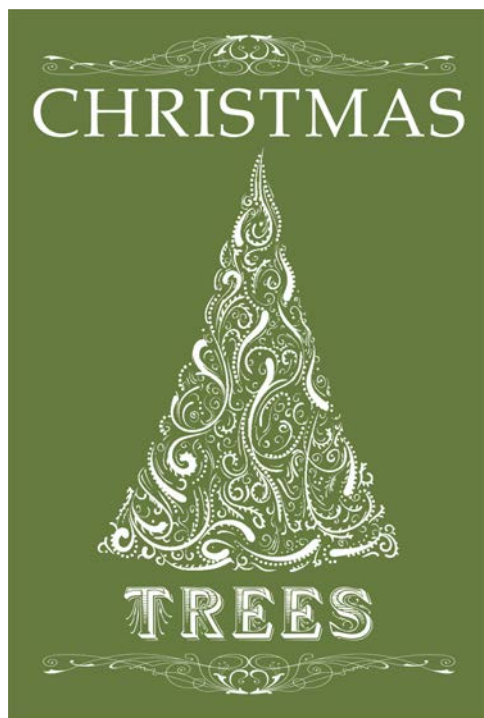
SAVE the DATE!

Sunday, February 12

The Presidents Who Came Our Way

An live dramatic event exploring Andover's recent and past connections to Presidents of the United States. This special one-day only performance is part of the Historical Society's Centennial celebrations.

Winter Programs at Andover Historical Society



Visit the Society's 2011 display of more than 20 history-inspired Christmas trees! Open Tuesdays through Saturdays, 10am to 4pm until December 31. Members and children under 12 free; non-members \$5 admission.

DECEMBER

Saturday, December 3

10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Gates & Gables Holiday House Tour

This year, Gates and Gables, the Andover Historical Society's biannual tour of houses, will treat visitors to an inside look at nine Andover homes displaying a colorful diversity of architectural, collecting, and decorating styles. Among the houses will be the Society's own house, the 1820 Amos Blanchard House, filled with this year's history-inspired Christmas trees. \$30 for members, \$35 for non-members in advance, \$40 day of tour.

Friday, December 9

5:00 - 8:00 p.m.

Holiday Happenings

As part of the Andover Business Center Association's (ABCA) annual Holiday Happenings event the Historical Society will host our annual history-inspired tree exhibit. View over 20 decorated trees inspired by our latest Common Indecency

Exhibit. Free for members and children under 12; \$5 for non-members.

Saturday, December 10

9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

Breakfast with Santa

Join the Historical Society volunteers during the annual ABCA Breakfast with Santa. Come make a special craft with our costumed volunteers. Free event held at Free Christian Church, Elm Street.

Tuesday, December 13

3:30 - 5:00 p.m.

Colonial Children's Tea

Join us for a holiday tea party. Bring your favorite American Girl Doll and learn about the 1774 story of Felicity. Make special crafts and sit down for a delightful tea party in the historic Amos Blanchard house decorated for Christmas. Reservations are required. \$15 per child, \$10 per adult

Thursday, December 15

7:00 - 9:00 p.m.

Williamsburg Wreath Workshop

Join Susan DeLarm Sandman of the Spade & Trowel Garden Club for a delightful evening making Williamsburg-inspired wreaths. Create your own holiday wreath using natural materials such as fruits and herbs that would have been available to colonists. \$20 for members; \$25 non-members. Reservations required.

Saturdays, December 17 & 24

1:00 - 2:00 p.m.

Drop in for Christmas Crafts

Visit the Andover Historical Society to see the beautifully decorated Christmas Tree exhibit. Free hands-on holiday craft activities for children. Christmas Tree Exhibit is free for members and children under 12; \$5 for non-members.

Tuesday, December 20

12:00 - 2:00 p.m.

Volunteer Holiday Potluck

Join the staff as your fellow interns, board members, and volunteers convene for our annual holiday potluck. See the Christmas trees, enjoy holiday treats and capture the spirit of the season during an extended potluck lunch at the Society.

Wednesday, December 21

2:00 - 3:00 p.m.

High Tea & History

Spend an afternoon immersed in history and conversation at the Andover Historical Society. Enjoy a discussion of a recent Andover Stories article and share your related memories while viewing the Society's history-inspired display of Christmas trees. Free program.

Thursday, December 22

5:30 - 7:00 p.m.

Pajama Story Hour with Santa

On this special night Santa will make a special appearance to read everyone's favorite Christmas story 'Twas the Night Before Christmas. Join us in PJs with your favorite stuffed animal, doll, or blanket for a story, light snack, and an easy craft. Tickets \$6 per child. For ages 3-6.

JANUARY

Please note: The Historical Society will be closed weekdays January 2 through January 13.

Wednesday, January 18

2:00 - 3:00 p.m.

High Tea & History:

Andover and the Underground Railroad

19th century citizens of Andover were ardent supporters of the anti-slavery movement in America. William Jenkins, Mark Newman, Moses Park, and the Poor family's wagon shop were all stops on the Underground Railroad. Come to High Tea & History to learn more about this significant part of Andover's history. A collaboration with the Senior Center, High Tea will be held at the Andover Senior Center, 36 Bartlet Street, Rear.

Tuesday, January 31

3:30 - 5:00 p.m.

Bessie Goldsmith: A 1892 Andover Girl

Girls ages 7-10 join us for a delightful tea party at the Andover Historical Society. Learn about Bessie Goldsmith, an Andover girl who grew up and saved the Goldsmith Woodlands. Children \$15 and adults \$10, Reservations Required.

For more info or to reserve your place, visit www.andoverhistorical.org or call the office at 978.475.2236.

A COLONIAL REVIVAL CHRISTMAS: WREATH MAKING AT THE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

by Debra DeSmet, Andover Historical Society Museum Educator

Pineapples, oranges, apples, and boughs of holly? While fruits and natural plant life adorn modern day Colonial Williamsburg wreaths, this was not always the case. The tradition of decorating Colonial Williamsburg homes with wreaths, swags, and roping embellished with fruit, vegetables, flowers, and herbs really began in the 20th century. Although Williamsburg is well-known for its holiday decorations and events, the first year homes were actually decorated in such a splendid fashion was 1936.

Holiday decorating dates back to antiquity. Romans celebrated their winter festival of Saturnalia with displays of lights and greenery formed into wreaths and sprays. English imprints from the eighteenth-century show interior Christmas decorations including large clusters of mistletoe and sprigs of holly. While public buildings and private residences throughout the Williamsburg Historic Area are now decorated during the Christmas season with adornments of fruits, vegetables, and plants, how, or even if, early Virginians decorated during the holiday season is unknown.

During the early 20th century a growing Colonial Revival movement inspired decorative traditions which traced back to the eighteenth century. The revival movement encouraged the Williamsburg traditions we see today. Many historians, however, attribute the inspiration to 15th century Italian sculptor Luca Della Robbia whose name is most notably tied to fruit and foliage swags. Wealthier families, in the early 20th century popularized home holiday decorating as the prosperous postwar middle class grew. The first decorating event at Colonial Williamsburg in 1936 was limited to a few plain wreaths and running cedar. Louise Fisher was placed in charge of flowers and Christmas decorations. Compiling research the Library of Congress, she came across English and American pictorial engravings which helped guide her decorating style. By 1939, Della Robbia inspired wreaths were attracting much attention. Christmas decorations displayed throughout the Historic Williamsburg Area were publicized in decorating magazines throughout the country – and the ‘traditional’ Colonial Williamsburg Christmas was born. Over the ensuing years, many thousands of visitors have strolled through Williamsburg in awe of these impressive decorations. Many thousands, too, adopted the Williamsburg ‘traditions’ to their holiday decorating style.

This Christmas the Andover Historical Society will be celebrating the season with our own event based on the beautiful decorations of Colonial Williamsburg. Join Susan DeLarm Sandman of Andover’s Spade and Trowel Garden Club at the Andover Historical Society for a special wreath

making workshop. A wreath contest, Decorating a Colonial Williamsburg Wreath will take place at the Andover Historical Society inside the new Christmas tree exhibit. All wreaths will be decorated with natural materials that would have been available to the colonists, a standard rule for Williamsburg Wreath contests.

For information on the date and time of Susan DeLarm’s workshop and the Decorating a Colonial Wreath contest, please call us at (978) 475-2236 or visit our website at andoverhistorical.org



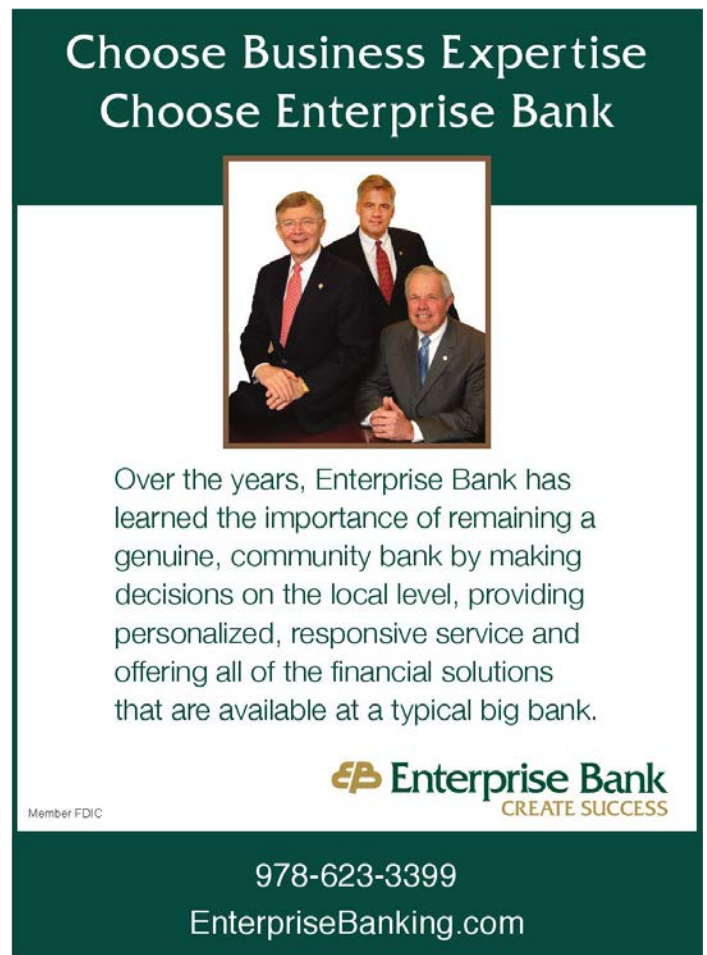
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TEA WITH AN ANDOVER GIRL

by Debra DeSmet, Andover Historical Society Museum Educator

The growing popularity of American Girl stories has spread everywhere. What about our own local child heroes? A new series of children's programs offered at the Andover Historical Society are inspired by the stories of local children. The Andover Girl Teas turns back the pages to the lives of real girls who lived in Andover's past. The series of teas looks at Andover Girls from different generations. It offers a variety of opportunities for children to learn about what it was like to grow up in Andover in years past. Our first scheduled Andover Girl Tea features Sarah Carrier, a 1692 Andover girl. A date and time will be announced shortly.

Sarah Carrier was only 7-years old when she was accused of witchcraft and taken to Salem as a prisoner. Sarah's mother, Martha Carrier, was one of the three convicted witches from Andover during the infamous Salem Witch Trials. Sarah was a brave young girl caught up in the hysteria of the trials. At this Andover Girl Tea, children are able to learn what it was like to grow up during the colonial era. They will take part in crafts and games that will help them understand how a little girl like Sarah dressed, what she ate, and how she spent her days.

Coming up in 2012, we will introduce two more Andover girls. Abby Locke, an 1866 Andover Girl and Bessie Goldsmith, an Andover Girl of 1892. Both Abby and Bessie grew up here in Andover and their personal stories and collections were donated to the Andover Historical Society. Board Member Jane Cairns has transcribed Abby Locke's diary, which has been featured in segments on the Blanchard House Blog. In her diary, Abby described growing up in Andover, riding in carriages, taking trips, and dancing with friends. Abby's story is a revealing look at growing up in a thriving historic Andover during the mid-1800s.

Bessie Goldsmith, a remarkable Andover resident in many ways, donated personal stories to the Andover Historical society through pictures, diaries, and objects. When Bessie was born in 1882, her father William was the principal of Andover's public Punchard Free School. His daughter, named "Bessie Punchard Goldsmith" by the students, eventually attended school in Andover and the School of Domestic Science in Boston. As an adult, Bessie had many jobs, including teaching housewives how to use new gas stoves and working for a local gas mask factory during World War I. Later she became assistant editor for the Andover Townsman and the Andover Press.




Bessie Goldsmith as a young girl

Sarah, Abby, and Bessie are all Andover Girls whose stories teach us about and connect us to the past. During Andover Girl Teas, the children will see collections pieces that exhibit how children and adults once lived. Some of the collections pieces displayed during the teas were owned or made by the Andover Girls. Andover Girl Teas will teach the history of Andover quite literally through the eyes of a child.

Children's programs like the Andover Girl Teas are offered throughout the year at the Andover Historical Society. Through these programs, students, Girl Scout Troops, and Cub Scout Packs are welcomed and encouraged to learn about the local history of Andover. All of the children's programs including the Andover Girl Teas will be listed on the Andover Historical Society Calendar. Tea with Bessie Goldsmith: An 1892 Andover Girl will take place on January 31st, 2012.

Watch for all of our upcoming events online at our website at www.andoverhistorical.org or call us at (978) 475-2236.



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THE PRESIDENTS WHO VISITED ANDOVER

by Don Robb, Ex-Officio, Andover Historical Society

George Washington never slept here, but he did visit Andover, the first of several presidents to do so. Some visited while in office, some before becoming president, and some after they had left office.

George Washington

Wishing to meet influential citizens in all parts of his country, Washington as the newly-elected first president, set out in the autumn of 1789 to visit the New England States (except for Vermont and Rhode Island, neither of which had yet joined the union.) He would conduct a similar tour of the southern states in the spring of 1791.

He reached Andover by carriage on the morning of November 5, 1789, accompanied by his secretary, an aide, and several servants, having spent the night in Haverhill. In Andover, his first stop was the Abbot Tavern (still standing at 70 Elm street), where he breakfasted with Samuel Phillips. Washington and Phillips had known each other from their service in the Revolutionary War, when Phillips had established a powder mill on the banks of the Shawsheen River, about where Powder Mill Square now stands.

Phillips escorted Washington and his party from the Abbot Tavern through town, past South Church, and up to the Phillips home on Academy Hill. Andover citizens gathered on the Training Field opposite the Phillips' Mansion House to greet the president and wish him well on the remainder of his trip.

A group of war veterans from Andover were joined by a contingent from Lynn at the Phillips home. The corps of about fifty men escorted the presidential party out of town on its way through Wilmington and on to Lexington, where Washington viewed the site of the opening battle in the war for independence.

Andrew Jackson, Martin van Buren

President Andrew Jackson came to Massachusetts in the summer of 1833 to receive a degree from Harvard. (His predecessor in office and political enemy, Harvard graduate John Quincy Adams, refused to attend the ceremony.) With him was his vice-president, Martin vanBuren, who later succeeded him as president.

From Cambridge, Jackson and van Buren traveled to

Lowell, where they was impressed by the growing industrialization of the Merrimack Valley, and on to Andover en route to Concord, NH. Not feeling well, Jackson could only get down a simple meal of bread and milk at the Mansion House, where he and van Buren spent the night.

As with Washington, the townspeople of Andover came out to the Training Ground on July 1, a sweltering hot day, to greet the president. Evidently, a few of the crowd made injudicious remarks about the president's physical condition (he was 65 years old and his health was not good), which Jackson, whose hearing was still acute, overheard. Nevertheless, he mounted his horse and addressed the townspeople and students.

Franklin Pierce

The president with the closest ties to Andover was Franklin Pierce, a New Hampshire native whose sister-in-law, Mary Aiken, resided here with her family. The Aiken residence at 48 Central Street, was known as the "Summer White House;" Pierce and his wife Jane vacationed here frequently. When in town, Pierce usually visited his Bowdoin college friend, Calvin Stowe and his wife, Harriet Beecher Stowe.

In January, 1853, tragedy struck the Pierce family on one of their visits to town. Mrs. Pierce and their son Benjamin, age 11, had spent Christmas here. Pierce joined the family after a visit to Boston, and on January 6, the family boarded a train at the Andover station, heading home to Concord, NH to begin making arrangements for their move to Washington for Pierce's inauguration as president.

About two miles up the track, the train broke an axle, derailed, and tumbled down an embankment. Several passengers were injured, but only one, young Benny, was killed. The death of her son caused Jane Pierce to become something of a recluse during her White House years. Still, the Pierces continued to make regular visits to Andover, and Mrs. Pierce died here in 1863.

Theodore Roosevelt and William Howard Taft

The 1913 guest speaker at the Phillips Academy graduation was former president Theodore Roosevelt, whose son, Archie, was a member of the graduating class. Roosevelt had recently lost a bid for reelection as the Bull Moose Party candidate the previous November, and had campaigned in Lawrence during the 1912 campaign.

While on campus, Roosevelt spoke to some 500 guests at dinner that evening.

In October of 1913, Roosevelt's former protégé and successor as president, William Howard Taft, was in Andover as the Academy's Founder's Day speaker. He, too, had



campaigned in Lawrence in 1912, and like Roosevelt, had lost the election to Woodrow Wilson.

Calvin Coolidge

Though famous for saying as little as possible, Calvin Coolidge was invited to be the keynote speaker at the Sesquicentennial Celebration of Phillips Academy. The date was May 19, 1928; by this time Coolidge had already announced that “I do not choose to run for president in 1928.

Accompanying the president was his wife, Grace. Coolidge himself had actually come to Andover once before, when as governor of the commonwealth he spoke here at an August, 1919 Victory Banquet celebrating the end of World War I.

In the audience that day was a group of Boy Scouts who met the president’s train and escorted him to the Academy. One of those Boy Scouts was a young lad named James Doherty, later to serve for many years as Andover’s Town Moderator.

John F. Kennedy

While campaigning for office in 1959, Senator John F. Kennedy spoke at a rally on the steps of Memorial Auditorium.

George H. W. Bush and George W. Bush

Each of the Bush presidents spent several years in Andover as students at Phillips Academy. The elder, George H. W. Bush, returned several times to Andover. He served on the Academy’s Board of Trustees between 1967 and 1980, making occasional visits to the town.

While president, he spoke at a special event at the Academy on November 5, 1989 to commemorate the 200th anniversary of George Washington’s 1789 address there. Two years later, on February 15, 1991, Bush was back in town, this time to speak at the Raytheon plant in West Andover to thank the workers there for their efforts in producing the Patriot missiles which he credited with helping to win the first Gulf War.

Bush’s final visit to Andover came as part of the town’s 350th celebration, where he was the guest speaker at an Anniversary Dinner on May 11, 1996 at Merrimack College.

Image Credit: Colorful silk ribbon commemorating 100th anniversary of Declaration of Independence. Object #1946.095.1, from the collection of the Andover Historical Society.

Meet the Board



Mike Morris, Jr.

Michael W. Morris, Jr. is a graduate of Phillips Academy, The Johns Hopkins University and Boston University Law School. He practices law with Morris, Rossi and Hayes here in Andover. Mike has served as President of the Board of Managers for the Andover/North Andover YMCA. He also has served on the Board of Directors of the Merrimack Valley YMCA, the Andover Chamber of Commerce and The Professional Center for Child Development. He has coached the mock trial team of Central Catholic High School and volunteered for the Lawrence Boys and Girls Club. Mike lives in Andover with his wife, Kristen, and his two children, reading as much history as he can in his spare time.



Dianne DeLucia

Dianne is a graduate of Abbot Academy and the University of New Hampshire, where she majored in Medical Technology. She has a Masters degree in Biology from Tufts University and is currently employed as a Clinical Project Manager in the biotech/pharmaceutical industry. Dianne has volunteered in numerous capacities for the New England Aquarium, the MSPCA, the Massachusetts Audubon Society, Challenge Unlimited at Ironstone Farm and Phillips Academy. Dianne also enjoys photography and participating in local art associations and exhibits.

ANDOVER Historical Society

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*See page 4 to learn more about
Christmas at the Blanchard House!*

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