



GATHERINGS FROM THE GREEN

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www.hamptonhistoricalsociety.org

Time to celebrate! It's our 10th annual Southern Style Pig Roast

Can you believe that it is time for our annual pig roast again? Not only that, but can you believe that this is the 10th anniversary of the Hampton Historical Society's popular end-of-summer fundraiser?

It is! Our 10th annual pig roast will be held on Saturday, September 3 from 12-2:30 p.m. on the grounds of the Tuck Museum, located at 40 Park Avenue in Hampton.

Besides delicious roast pork, there will be a variety of salads, homemade baked beans, applesauce, our famous dessert selection and beverages. The afternoon includes a silent auction, music, activities for kids, and a 50/50 raffle. It's a wonderful way to wind down the summer season with friends and family.

The event is the only large fundraiser that HHS holds. Our funding is derived from the pig roast, memberships and donations, so the success of the event is vital to our financial stability. From this the HHS runs the Tuck Museum, along with our school and community programs.

HHS members may purchase tickets before August 1 for \$18, a discount of \$2 off the regular price of \$20. Student tickets (for those ages 9-16) are \$10 regardless of date of purchase; and children 8 and under are free when accompanied by an adult ticket holder.

Come celebrate 10 great years of pig roast fun with the Hampton Historical Society! Tickets may be purchased by calling the Tuck Museum at (603) 929-0781; Catherine Fletcher at (603) 926-0124; or stop by Marelli's Market, Hampton Rec office and the Museum.

-Liz Premo, Pig Roast Committee

Silent Auction Items

It is that time of year again and we are looking for silent auction items for the Pig Roast. It could be a gift certificate from a local business, some talent or service, an antique - you can get creative!

Call Ben Moore 926-2543 for assistance, pick-up or questions. We would like the items by August 7.

Internet Version of the Newsletter

Postage, printing, and time are all huge considerations when getting the newsletter out to members. There are so many things that we would like to add, but get cut because of space. In the internet version you will often find photos and items that would not fit in the printed version.

It's easy to switch over - just email us at info@hamptonhistoricalsociety.org. You will get an email notification that the newsletter is ready for online viewing. Our website has a section with all the back copies available for reading.

You can also check out our blog, which can be found on the homepage of the website.

MISSION

The mission of the Hampton Historical Society is to increase public knowledge and understanding of the history and cultural heritage of the town of Hampton, New Hampshire, from its earliest inhabitants to the present generation. We will communicate that history through an active museum, educational programs, and a resource library.

Report from the President

It has been a very busy spring and it promises to be a busy summer and fall. Of course the big event will be our 10th annual Pig Roast on September 3. This is our big fund raiser and we trust you will buy your tickets early and enjoy the food and fun of the day. Looking back on the last nine roasts, we have always had a great time, and the benefits to the museum's budget have been fantastic.

This spring we have sponsored 5 events and programs, in addition to school tours for Hampton and North Hampton schools.

Arbor Day on April 29 was celebrated with the planting of three trees on the museum grounds. The weather 'cooperated,' as it rained for most of the month of May, giving the trees a good start. Lilacs from the NH DOT were planted in the garden area next to the barn to complete the look of that space.

Cheryl Lassiter and friends presented a wonderful program on Mary Leavitt-Page at the Museum in May. Cheryl had created a reading based on the letters written by Mary and her family in the Civil War period. The letters are in the museum collection as a gift from the Page family descendants.

Cheryl coordinated a special exhibit in the museum using textiles, manuscripts, dresses and sewing tools to support the program. The exhibit will be on display through the fall.

In June our program was on the history of motels and roadside cottages. The program was presented by Jennifer Carroll-Plante, Executive Director of the Laconia Historical Society. Many of us could remember stays in those early motels, and we have an example of a beach cottage right on the green at the museum.

Karen Raynes and Betty Moore have lead two walking tours this spring, both well attended. The final walking tour for 2011 will be in September.

Work continues on the collection, the grounds, and the buildings. We have a full list of to-do's for the summer season.

We sponsored five days of Charitable gaming in June at Ocean Gaming on Ocean Boulevard. We look at this as a valuable way of raising monies for the museum. We will be sponsoring five

additional days, August 16 to 20. Thirty-five percent of the gambling profit is given to participating non-profits from this activity; if you enjoy gambling please support the museum on those days.

Lastly, Steven Hurley, an Eagle Scout candidate, completed his project this spring. He removed the old concrete sidewalks at the front of the building and installed a beautiful new brick sidewalk with landscaping.



Ben Moore
President

Director's Report

Since the last newsletter we have had a visit from Channel 9, new exhibits, new sidewalks, new trees, walking tours, school programs and more!

Kevin Skarupa from Channel 9 did an interview with our own Harold Fernald regarding the July 4th storm of 1898. In this fast-approaching storm, seven drowned, three were killed, and 17 injured. Last year a mini-segment was done on the tornado/cyclone as part of series of NH weather events called "Storms that Changed New Hampshire." This year, Hampton's story was chosen as one of five towns to investigate in more depth. I contacted Harold, who is a local historian and former history teacher (and former HHS president), who obliged with photos, newspaper articles, and stories. Harold's archeology class had done a "dig" around Capt. Frank Nudd's sloop that had sunk during the storm, when it appeared out of the sand in 1976. Along with Kevin and the cameraman, I spent the morning mesmerized, as Harold told stories about that storm and other disasters that have hit the seacoast. Hampton Beach history expert, John Christensen, emailed me from Florida that he had copies of photographs from glass plate negatives of the wreckage from the storm. When he returned we scanned those to add to the program, which will

air in November of 2011. If your interest is piqued about this storm, the Lane Memorial Library has a number of news accounts about it on their excellent website.

Ben's report mentioned the new brick sidewalk from the street to the front porch of the building. It went from a heaving, unsafe, cracked mess to a thing of beauty! It was a huge project done over the course of four days, with scouts, parents and friends working together. As you drive down Park Avenue, the sidewalk makes the grounds look even lovelier. However, the new walk and landscaping makes the front porch look shabby, and painting it is now top of the summer "to do" list. Just like home - isn't it!



Biff Gratton and I have been working on organizing the clothing room. The rehab project during the winter of 2010 gave us deeper, sturdier shelving, but our crunch for more space has made us expand into all corners of the building, so administrative work has expanded to that room, too. We are pleased with the results! Ken Lobdell has led a group working on making the workshop more functional.

I am going to start telling "behind the museum door" stories, because such wonderful things happen on a day to day basis, but they get lost in the rush to get the newsletters out. However, they are important for members to know about.

John and Ruth Mason stopped in one Sunday to donate a hand woven linen tablecloth that his great-great grandmother had made. The Masons had given a spinning wheel last year - the same spinning wheel that the thread for the tablecloth was spun on, per a hand written note on a box. Elizabeth Hale Palmer wrote "spun and wove by my grandmother Moulton for Mother Palmer's wedding present Nov.3, 1853." Sundays don't get much better than that! (Well, maybe for some of you they do...). They also gave us Hampton postcards with pictures taken by Nelson Ewell, a family member who was a professional

photographer.

Vic Lessard dropped in to see if we would be interested in a copy of a Village District of Hampton Beach map from 1937. He also brought a copy of a newspaper called *Hampton Beach News-Guide*, published by John W. Tucker in the 1920s-1930s, to see if we had any copies in our collection. We don't, so he returned with a series of papers given to him by the editor's daughter, which we have been photocopying. It is all part of our efforts in gathering information about Hampton and Hampton Beach from the 20th century.

Yesterday, just before closing, a couple from Minnesota stopped in. They heard from someone at the library that we had the original copy of William Palmer's will from 1685. We do, and pulled it out of the archives so that they could see it. They were overwhelmed to see the real thing and couldn't believe it was still in existence.

We are able to preserve and show these things because of your interest and support. Thank you!

Betty Moore

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Hampton Centre School & Sacred Heart School Arbor Day Artwork

On April 29th 2011, in honor of the 125th Anniversary of Arbor Day in Hampton, the Hampton Historical Society asked the community to join them in a celebration of trees. With a grant from the Rye Driftwood Garden Club, the museum purchased and planted on Arbor Day three trees, two sugar maples and an ornamental cherry, in honor of the children of the town, that someday they too will enjoy their shade on the Meeting House Green.

This also was a day to connect with the community. The students from Centre School & Sacred Heart School proudly displayed their artwork on clotheslines outside. Hampton Arts Network artists with paints and easels sketched on the green the historic buildings. Also participating were Hampton Recycling Committee, Fred Borman, Extension Education & Forest Resources with the UNH cooperative extension, Guy Giunta and helper Barbara with the Governor's Lilac & Wildflower Commission & the N.H. DOT, Vic & Kenny Lessard who dug the holes for the trees, and all the many volunteers from the Tuck Museum who helped make the event successful.



To quote Executive Director Betty Moore, "We've enjoyed tying the planting of these beautiful trees in with Arbor Day. It has also allowed us to host a community group like the Hampton Arts Network and share the historical significance of the structures and items preserved here on the property."



Arbor Day Artists donate their artwork to Tuck Museum



Judi Morris & Peg Duffin with their watercolors

On Arbor Day, April 29th, 2011, six artists from the Hampton Arts Network brought materials and easels to the Tuck Museum to paint, plein air, in the natural beauty of the Meeting House Green.

Judi Morris and Peg Duffin have donated to the museum their artwork painted on that day. Judi is Peg's student. Both artists choose as their subject the 19th century schoolhouse, which was moved from Lafayette Road in North Hampton to the Green.

Also showcased in the paintings is the cottage that was once part of a motel in Hampton Beach. Both artists were able to capture with their talent a moment in History.

Gardens to Graves Historical Walking Tour Featured Local Gardens

Blue skies greeted twenty-four walkers, as they embarked on a loop walk during the Gardens to Graves Historical Walking Tour, sponsored by the Hampton Historical Society. Guides Betty Moore, executive director of the Tuck Museum, and Karen Raynes rounded up the enthusiastic group and began the walk with a tour of three established gardens on Winnacunnet Road and Mill Road.

Each garden was a work of art. Marilyn Wallingford, a N.H. Master Gardener, Lynn Blume and Pat Navin walked the tour around their beautifully crafted gardens.

Cheryl Lassiter, historian and writer, collected photos and information for an article to be published in the *New Hampshire To Do* magazine in September about the three historical walks that the HHS sponsors during the year.

Further on during the walk, in the High Street Cemetery walkers were introduced to some interesting people from Hampton's past, including artist Charles Henry Turner, evangelist Nancy Towle, and the Godfrey family.

The third in the walk series is *Harvest Ramble & Repast*, Saturday, September 17th, at 1 pm. This walk starts at the Tuck Museum's historic Leavitt barn, discussing the importance of the salt marsh hay to the farmers and Hampton as a town (once called "Little Egypt" because of its abundant corn crops). The walk ends at the historic Hobbs House, the Trinity Episcopal Church parish house, with a repast of pies and cider. All walks are \$10.00 per person. Reservations are required. For information about the walks call the museum at 603-929-0781

Find Us on Facebook!

The Hampton Historical Society's Facebook page is steadily gaining additional "Friends" who have chosen to "Like" us with a simple click of a button!

As of the end of June, we had 117 "Friends" who can interact with us on Facebook. And because they do so, they now have another way to stay on top of what's happening at the Tuck Museum and with the Hampton Historical Society.

It's not unusual for one of our "Friends" to let us know they "Like" what has been posted on Facebook, either by giving us a "Thumbs Up" or actually saying so by posting a comment.

Just in the last couple of months we have publicized on Facebook a number of great events, including our Arbor Day Tree Planting, and the "Are We There Yet? A History of Roadside Motels & Cabin Colonies" event.

We also announced (complete with a photo) that our "Graves to Gardens" tour press release was prominently publicized in the "Go and Do" section in the center spread of Spotlight Magazine.

In addition, we have promoted our latest "Gatherings From the Green" newsletter, encouraged people to visit our "Where History Happens!" blog, invited the public to join our walking tours (and our membership!), and told how they can purchase our "Hampton Cook Book" online.

Currently we are promoting our 10th annual Southern Style Pig Roast fund raiser, and the July 10 "Tool Time With Dave" informative presentation. And every once in a while we tell our Facebook "Friends" how they can become members of the Hampton Historical Society.

Thanks to Rich Hureau, we have a "Find Us on Facebook" link on our HHS Web site. If you're already on Facebook, come join us!

-- Liz Premo, Administrator

Education Committee Adult Programs

Our adult program year started with over fifty attending Cheryl Lassiter's presentation of a truly Hampton story, "A Page out of History: A Hampton Woman in the Needletrades, 1859-1869." Not only was Cheryl's presentation a true storyteller's tale fit with costumed reenactors; the Tuck Museum's Tuck Hall transported the visitor back to an age of feminine finery, elegant dresses, and an underlying sense of the growing American style; bravo to Cheryl and her players for a job well done.



Are We There Yet? A perennial question asked especially by the young traveler. Our second offering moved us up the road to the 20th century to experience a contemporary expression of a time-honored tradition - vacationing.

Jennifer Carroll-Plante, our second speaker, presented a delightful multimedia presentation on roadside motels and cabins. She drew on all forms of 20th century media to tell her tale - a little Gable and Colbert classic film-clip woven into a pictorial map of cabins, motels, and even Hampton's own Sea Castle Motel. The thirty or so in attendance enjoyed Jennifer's nostalgic travelog.

Upcoming Must Sees

On Sunday July 10 at 2:00 p.m., the museum's tool man Dave DeGagne is having Tool Time with Dave in the Barn at the Tuck Museum. Dave is an expert on the history and use of early American farm and industry tools. If you have ever wondered how stuff was made or fixed (what a novel idea) back in the olden days then come and marvel as the tool man talks about and shows hand tools from the past. If you have an old hand tool you want to know more about, then bring it along. Dave probably can tell you its history and show you how it is used.

Our annual meeting will be on October 14, Founders Day, at 7:00 p.m. at the Tuck Museum - a good time to start thinking about the town's upcoming 375th anniversary. Gus Reusch, the historian, actor, and public speaker will be our presenter. Mr. Reusch is the curator of the Whittier Homestead in Haverhill, Massachusetts. Whittier's connection to Hampton and the towns that surround Hampton make him not only a literary figure but also a local whose life is significantly connected to the New Hampshire seacoast. Gus will not only talk about the poet John Greenleaf Whittier, he will bring him to life. So come to our annual meeting and spend an evening with John Greenleaf Whittier.

The Hampton Oral History Committee has been hard at work mastering the (at times frustrating) challenges of audio recording. We have met those challenges and successfully recorded Ada and Russ Merrill. We captured an hour of thoughts and stories from these longtime Hamptonites. The Committee will be meeting in July to work on our summer plans, so there is more to come.

We ask that you support our efforts by attending our programs and periodically clicking onto the Society's website. Be sure to check out our programs in the Upcoming Events calendar on the last page of this newsletter and post them to your home calendars.

Bill Keating
Co-Chair Education Committee

10TH ANNUAL PIGROAST!!

Order Your Tickets with the Form Below

Hampton Historical Society
PO Box 1601
Hampton, NH 03843-1601
603-929-0781

Pig Roast Ticket Order Form
September 3, 2010

I would like to order tickets for the Hampton Historical Society Pig Roast

_____ Adult tickets at \$20 each _____

_____ Advance Sale Member tickets at \$18 each _____

(Must be ordered by August 10)

_____ Student tickets (ages 9-16) at \$10 each _____

_____ Table for eight at \$150 per table _____

Children 8 and under free when accompanied by an adult _____

Total _____

Checks made out to Hampton Historical Society
Mailing address P.O. Box 1601 Hampton, NH 03843

Ticket options (select one)

_____ Mail tickets directly to:

Name: _____

Address: _____

or

_____ Hold my tickets at the serving line. But notify me for confirmation

Phone # or email address _____

UPCOMING EVENTS

- July 10, 2 p.m. Dave DeGagne - Tool Time with Dave, a presentation, a tent, some food and a barn tour, Tuck Museum barn and grounds
- August 5, time TBD - "Discovering Roots" Genealogy Workshop at Lane Library
- August 6, 1:30-4 p.m. Tuck Museum tour, Locke Family artifacts and quilts
- September 3, Noon to 2:30 p.m. The 10th Annual Pig Roast - Tuck Museum grounds
- September 17, 1 to 3 p.m. Walking Tour - "Harvest Ramble and Repast"; Karen Raynes and Betty Moore are your guides - Learn about Hampton's agricultural heritage as we stroll from the Leavitt Barn at the Tuck Museum to "Ocean View Farm."
Reservations required; Cost \$10. Call 929-0781 or 926-2543
- October 14, 7 p.m. Gus Reusch, dramatist, actor and speaker brings John Greenleaf Whittier to life, Tuck Museum

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