



GATHERINGS FROM THE GREEN

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www.hamptonhistoricalsociety.org

Little Lady - Big Impression

On February 10, 2012 we lost one of most ardent supporters.

Twelve years ago, new resident Catherine Fletcher came into the museum looking for somewhere to volunteer. She liked what she found, and over the years did fundraising, membership, tours, and publicity— she tried it all.



Catherine was the “grand dame” of the board of trustees, serving for eight years. She understood the mission and function of a good board; she was a delight to work with and kept us moving in the right direction. But she was capable of giving us a big kick in the backside when needed.

Her mantra was “If only I were 20 years younger – you would see what I could do.” Unleashed, what would she have been like! She turned her 80th birthday party into a celebration where the museum was the beneficiary.

She was a force like no other. When her health prevented her from coming to the museum, she would call to see what jobs we had for her. Her will and determination were unbelievable (really, how do you get dropped from hospice not once, but twice!).

She left her mark and will be missed.

Director’s Report

Part of the mission of the Society is to make ourselves available to the community. Of course we manage the campus of buildings at 40 Park Avenue, where we house exhibits, collection, and research library; as well as offering a series of programs to our members and the public. Did you know that we reach out in other ways, too?

- Thanks to Karen Raynes, we offer three walking tours a year. Each one covers a particular part of

town and every year the tours change.

- We see over 1,000 students a year with our school programs – whether we are in the school, at the museum, or at sites around town, we want them to know the history of their community and feel a part of something bigger than themselves.
- At the local level, we belong to the Chamber of Commerce and participate in their events. We also belong to the Association of Historical Societies of New Hampshire, the New England Museum Association, and the American Association of State and Local History.
- Our ever expanding website is maintained by Rich Hureau. It is full of information about the HHS and Tuck Museum, and features photos from the collection. We average over 1200 “hits” per month. If you have never checked us out, do so. The name is long, but so easy to remember: www.hamptonhistoricalsociety.org
- We are part of the social networking scene. We are on FaceBook, where Liz Premo adds comments and entries for our various activities.
- We work with researchers, genealogists, students, and residents trying to find out about Hampton’s history. Our most recent project was working with teacher and documentary maker Joshua Silveria on *Salt Marsh Farming on the New Hampshire Seacoast*.
- We are making our own history in the community. Right now we are working with the Hampton Arts Network on activities for the June 2 Gala opening of the Seashell at Hampton Beach. We are also planning a series of activities to be held in 2013 for the 375th anniversary of Hampton’s founding.

Visit the museum, take a walking tour, check out the website, attend an event – we’d love to see you!

Betty Moore, Director

President's Report

We were deeply saddened by the death earlier this year of long time Director Catherine Fletcher, after a prolonged illness. Catherine was an enthusiastic member of the board, with a can-do attitude and who always provided us with sage advice. Her contributions to the Society were many, and her leadership in the annual Pig Roast fundraiser will be missed. Her many friends and family members have made donations in her memory to our building fund, and we will make certain that she is remembered as that addition is planned.

The building committee has been meeting, and I hope we will be ready with a plan by the time of our annual meeting in October. We expect to be able to present a plan that is financially prudent and solves our most basic issue, which is storage and work area space.

Many of you will remember the town clock in the Odd Fellows building on Lafayette Road (the building burned down in the 1990's). Cliff Pratt and other volunteers are working to have the clock back in business by the 375th anniversary of Hampton in 2013. We have been assisting Cliff and his work on restoring the town clock in small ways. The clock mechanism is nearing the completing of its restoration and the bell has been cleaned. Recently, Joan Eagleson and the team from Lavallee Brensinger Architects presented the building design to the Hampton School Board for the placement of the clock and bell in a new structure in front of Centre School on Winnacunnet Road, and the plans look great.

I think the highlight of the winter was the debut of the film "Salt Marsh Farming on the New Hampshire Seacoast," created by Josh Silveria. Seventy-five attended the event held at the Lane Library, and Josh did an excellent job of weaving together pictures, video, live interviews, and historic writings into the documentary. Copies of the DVD are available for purchase from the Museum and a portion of the proceeds benefit the Society.

Our fundraising plans are set for the year. The 11th Annual Pig Roast will be held on September 1 on the grounds. Tickets for members are available by mail for the reduced price of \$18 until August 1. Email your order to info@hamptonhistoricalsociety.org. We are continuing to be a sponsor of charitable gaming at Ocean Gaming on Ocean Boulevard. Our dates for the balance of this year are May 6 and 9; July 18 and 19; September 19 and 20; and December 5 and 6. We have

already received approximately \$1,000 for our sponsorship of 2 gaming days in March.

We have a busy summer and fall planned, and can really use more volunteers to help. The Monday morning work parties have started, and we encourage everyone to drop in and assist in a variety of activities, from gardening, to cleaning, to carpentry. No reservation required; drop-ins welcome; Mondays from 9 to noon.

Ben Moore
President

A Short Oral History Project Update

The Hampton Historical Society recently purchased a Zoom H2 Handy Recorder. This recorder is a portable solid state audio recorder and will provide the Hampton Oral History Project with an enhanced recording capacity. While the current recording system has successfully produced several interviews, the Zoom H2 will create even higher quality audio recordings. Betty Moore and I have been practicing with the Zoom H2 and are both impressed with its recording capacity and sound quality.

Oral history interviews will resume in May and an interviewee list and plan is being developed. A meeting of the Hampton Oral History Committee is planned for May.

Successful interviews have been conducted with Ada and Russ Merrill, Priscilla Walker, John and Pat Christensen, Bud Palmer, Bud DesRochers, and Fred Rice, with more to come.

I am reviewing the current interviews and developing individualized folders for each interviewee.

There is a need for volunteers to listen to current interviews and prepare outlines of the topics discussed by the interviewee. Help is also needed in the development of individualized interviewee folders to be used in an oral history library.

Bill Keating
Hampton Oral History Committee

Turner Night at the Tuck - May 23

Come see the latest exhibit at the Tuck Museum – the Turner Room. Inspired by Cheryl Lassiter, we gathered furniture, paintings, and Charles Henry Turner-related items into the parlor of the 1880s portion of the museum. Museum lighting was installed to showcase the collection and the results are fantastic!

Charles Henry Turner was born in Newburyport, MA in 1848. After his mother's death he came to live in Hampton with his grandparents, Theodate and William Goss, at their home on Lafayette Rd.

Turner began painting in his 30s, training in Europe, where he met his wife, Elise Hagedorn. They lived in Boston's Beacon Hill, where Charles had his studio and made his living as a portrait painter. He enjoyed returning to his ancestral home in Hampton, and spent time photographing and painting the local landscape. Later in life, he moved to Jackson, NH, becoming part of the White Mountain painting movement.

Well respected and revered in Hampton, he was buried in the High Street Cemetery in 1908.

Turner Night takes place May 23, at 7PM. Learn more about Turner and join us for refreshments as we open the exhibit. Who knows – Turner may even show up himself!

Sneak Peek at an Upcoming Publication

Just imagine, after a hard day's journey, sleeping in a bed with a couple of strangers! This was commonplace in colonial days. Cheryl Lassiter is finalizing her book *Meet and Substance; A History of Tavernkeeping in Olde Hampton*. In it you will learn about Hampton's everyday life, fights, court cases - the stuff good soap operas are made of.

For a prepublication glimpse of the content, check out her blog at lassitergang.com. Cheryl writes about what happens when a lodger, Doctor Cordwin, tries to get a local tavern keeper's servant to procure for him Mary Wedgewood, "the prettiest girl in Hampton."

The first ten people to post their name in the comments section under the "WIN A FREE COPY OF TAVERNKEEPING IN HAMPTON!" will win a free copy of her book when it is published.

Hampton's 375th Birthday Celebration

Hampton turns 375 in 2013, and the Hampton Commission 375 is already making plans to commemorate the occasion. Although the main observance will be held August 9-11, other smaller events will take place throughout the year, in coordination with other organizations in the town.

The Commission, chaired by Dustin Marzinzik, has been working on a number of different events to be held in August, such as a militia encampment, historical displays, games for children, and entertainment. The idea is to have a full weekend of activities as the main focus of the celebration, and to involve as many townspeople as possible. A contest in the schools to design the 375th logo is in progress. A website is also being designed to put all the information in one place.

The first event will actually take place this year. On October 14, 2012 the Congregational Church will celebrate Descendants' Sunday with a special church service welcoming descendants of the early families, and plans are being made for a picnic afterwards. More details will be forthcoming soon.

Mix, Mingle, and Share

The Hampton Arts Network had their membership drive April 28th at the new Hampton Beach South Pavilion Conference Center.

A display from the Hampton Historical Society's collection of artists gave a rare showing of the talents of Charles Henry Turner, Caroline T. Cutler, Edna Leavitt, Doris Bragg, and Isabella Shirley Lane Lamprey. The work of these artists may be seen at the Tuck Museum during their hours of operation, Sunday, Wednesday, and Friday, 1 to 4 pm.

Hampton Historical Society's Director Betty Moore was elected as a new board member of HAN. Betty will bring to this fledgling group her experience and energy. Congratulations Betty!

The Hampton Arts Network and the Hampton Historical Society often work together on community events. The two groups are at present involved in arts and history presentations during the Hampton Beach Gala event June 1 and 2, 2012.

Karen Raynes

Noted Architectural Historian to Speak

“Big House Little House Back House Barn”...This catchy little children’s rhyme ties into some of the research of architectural historian, Thomas Hubka, whose specialty is vernacular architecture and its cultural meaning. A program of the same name begins at 2PM, Saturday, July 7, at the Tuck Museum. Hubka will talk about this 19th century New England farm-building style, how it fit into that way of life, and point out some examples throughout the region.

Vernacular architecture is the study of buildings that were constructed using local building traditions and construction materials, and how those buildings reflect the environmental, cultural, technological, and historical context of an area. Examples familiar to us would be farms, bungalows, ranch houses, and worker’s cottages. These were the “common man” type of buildings, built without the benefit of an architect.

Hubka wrote the book *Big House Little House Back House Barn: The Connected Farm Buildings of New England* (The University Press of New England), for which he received the Abbott Lowell Cummings Award in 1984 for the best book in American vernacular architecture. He has also studied the wooden synagogues of Europe, for which he won the Henry Glasse Award in 2006, and has received the 2009-2010 Association of Collegiate Schools of Architecture (ACSA) Distinguished Professor Award. Now retired, Professor Hubka taught architecture at the University of Wisconsin–Milwaukee for over twenty years and the University of Oregon for fifteen years.

This program is sponsored by the New Hampshire Humanities Council. It is free and open to the public. We hope that you can join us for a most informative and interesting afternoon.

Hampton Photos on Display

If you are interested in old photos of Hampton, stop by the *401 Tavern* on Lafayette Rd.

For the past few months we have been working with Dan Lanio, providing photographs for the “Old Hampton” section of the restaurant. Right now there are over 100 photos of Hampton on exhibit, with more to come. The food is great, too!

Gala Opening of the Seashell Pavilion at Hampton Beach

June 1st and 2nd mark the two-day event celebrating the new \$14 million renovation to Hampton Beach. Friday night will be the official ribbon-cutting, concert, and fireworks.

On Saturday, the Hampton Historical Society and Hampton Arts Network have been asked to provide events for the public to enjoy from 10am – 4pm. There are lots of great things planned for the day! There will be art exhibits and demonstrations by local artists, book signings by local authors, and book readings for children. A nationally known artist, Will Moses, will be featured artist/author. Planned are children’s crafts, a mural painter, and huge kites flying above the shore from KONE (Kites Over New England). The Blue Ocean Society will have a marine life tank for kids. Music will continue throughout the day on the seashell stage and in the side tents.

The Historical Society will be showing videos relating to Hampton’s history, along with exhibits, including Hampton postcards, silhouette artist Lillian Clarke, and beach fashions 1890s to the present. The day ends with more entertainment, a dedication of the new lifeguard station, and more fireworks.

It will be a wonderful weekend event. More information can be found on the Hampton Beach Village Precinct website, www.hamptonbeach.org, in their events sections. All events are free and open to the public.

Historical Hampton Walk Through Hampton’s Past & Present Business Community

The first walk of 2012 will take place Saturday, May 19th, 2012 at 1PM, with Betty Moore and Karen Raynes taking you down memory lane in Hampton.

This new walk will be about the Past & Present business community in Hampton.

We will tour seven businesses, looking into the corners and walking the creaky floors of buildings that remain vibrant after 112 years.

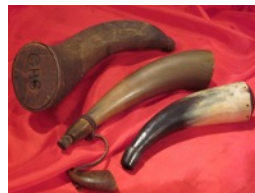
Meet in the High Street parking lot at 1PM. Reservations are required by calling the Tuck Museum at 603-929-0781. A \$10.00 per person fee insures future walks.

Gifts to the Collection 2011

- Commonplace book of Josiah Page; notes on Mary Page and the history of Hampton by Josiah Page- Steve Brigandi
- Sheet music - *Let's go Down to Hampton Beach* – Robert de Loura le Doux Bouvier-Cosmos
- Genealogy - *The Heritage of Mary Katherine Towle Book 1* – J. Kenneth Crozier, Jr.
- Lane Company Cedar Chest from Eames House Furniture; Hampton; excerpts from a Campbell House diary (made by Carl Campbell); book - *American Heritage History of Antiques Civil War – WW I* – Elizabeth Aykroyd
- Dedication booklet- Exeter Hampton Elks Lodge No. 2075; membership notice – Theresa Ryan
- U.S.S. Hampton “Welcome Aboard” packet; booklet of “Courses and Distances”, 1837; Great Boar’s Head Road information; report of purchase and sales of liquors 1847-1858– Town of Hampton (Fred Welch, Town Manager)
- Book - *Brief History of Old Newbury*; copies of town records from the NH State Archives; *Ward Family Account Book 1723-1839*; copy *Confessional Tears of a Louis d Orr* by Oliver Whipple; copy Constable Morris Hobbs Tax and Military Receipts 1696-1710 – Cheryl Lassiter
- Photographs of Leavitt Barn showing siding and roofing phase – estate of Ken Hanson
- Selectmen’s photos c. 2005; James House Assoc. Final Report 1998; Benjamin James House Historical Report 1997; collection of museum reference books; Lydia E. Pinkham tablets; slate board- Betty Moore
- Book - *Manuscripts/N.E. Historical Genealogical Society*; DVD – *Arbor Day 2011 at the Tuck Museum*; CD Dave DeGagne programs at Tuck Museum; CD Hampton Tax Maps 2010 Abutters Index; CD Barn Surveys- Candy Stellmach
- Kid leather toddler shoes – Susan Schwartz
- *2010 Annual Report Town of Hampton*; *2010 Hampton School District Annual Report*; 2011 Memorabilia Hampton Christmas parade; book *‘G’ is for Granite* – Tuck Museum Collection Committee
- Book- *‘32 in 44’ Building the Portsmouth Submarine Fleet in World War II*- Naval Institute Press
- Oil Painting – *James Homestead* by Silvia Getchel – Brad and Karin Jacobson
- Oil Paintings – *The Hurd Farm* by Bernice Palmer and *Salt Marsh Farming* by Lavinia Larkin, women’s dress shoes, women’s dancing shoes – Irene Palmer
- Items belonging to Caroline Bell Nudd and Madeline Webster Nudd: lace top, bonnets, table runner, hooked rug, crazy quilt, sewing equipment, children’s toys, candy box, hairbrush, school bell from East End School, collection of town reports 1864-1918, guest register Eagle House Hotel, photograph Eagle House Hotel c. 1880s, booklets - *Hampton in the Revolution*, and *Hampton Beautiful Place of the Pines*; 1938 program *Memorial Exercises for Eunice “Goody” Cole*– Robert Nudd
- Madame Alexander doll, fox stole – Martha Williams
- Photographs – storms at Hampton Beach (1933, 1938, 1944, 1950) - Jackie Manix
- Slat folding chair c. 1950s, folding wooden wool bale box – Rose Ciesla
- Minard’s liniment bottle – unearthed during Eagle Scout sidewalk project 5/2011
- CD containing information relating to Deacon Tuck Gristmill (High St.); scans of mill articles, correspondence, transcript of William Barkley’s oral history and his personal papers relating to mill – Kim Grondin
- Stereopticon Card of Hampton Beach House, 1872– Museum purchase
- Whiting Milk Bottle – Boy Scout Troop 177
- Board Game, woodworking tools, planes and scribe, Book *Antique Trader Tools Price Guide*– Bud DesRochers
- Whittier collection – photos, postcards etc. –Pat Thoen
- Souvenir pin of the 50th Anniversary Hampton Beach Village District – Charlie Preston
- Cookbook - *A+ Recipes From Marston School* - Lane Memorial Library
- Booklet – *The Length of a Man’s Days*; *Hampton Beach News Guide* – Nat Figuers
- Watercolor – *District School House* – Judy Morris
- Watercolor – *District School House* – Peg Duffin
- Book - *A Museum of Early American Tools* - Chet Riley
- Woven linen tablecloth (Moulton /Palmer family); photograph of the interior of the US Coast guard station - John and Ruth Mason
- Memoir - *Memories of Hampton Beach* by Herbert J. Henneka – Claire Henneka Service



- Photograph – Herbert L. and Sarah B. Tobey – Bud Palmer
- Tuck Hall Trowel used at the dedication of the 1960s wing– Estate of Wilbur M. Hoxie
- Collection of post office stamps from H.B. office at Sands Hotel – Joan McLeon
- Wicker doll sleigh, wooden one horse sleigh – Rose Claire
- DVDs- interviews with Harold Fernald, Ellen Goethel, Eric Small, and Alex Herlihey regarding salt marsh farming – Joshua Silveria
- Photographs – Ocean House Hotel from the beach, Delancy House, fish houses at North Beach (copies) – Eric Small Seabrook Historical Society
- Photographs – 1949 Hampton Center Girls Bowling Champs and George Emery’s blacksmith shop – Priscilla Walker
- HB bumper sticker, post card folder – donor unknown
- Souvenir china bowl of Boar’s Head – Kathleen Tattan
- Postcard collection NH seacoast towns – Henry Patten
- Collection of powder horns; miniature tintype album; booklet - *Trolleys to Hampton Beach Vol. 3 Amesbury Division*, bible records and family obituaries, photos – Marston homestead Exeter Rd. Marston family – Richard Symmes
- Photograph – Office of Sea Castle Motel and Cabins – Frank Loopley
- Photograph – 1937 Center School – H. Alfred Casassa
- Framed advertisement for Hampton Movie Theater – Judy DuBois
- Papers relating to Perkins House 54 Tide Mill Rd. – Ann Carnaby
- Blotter for Goldenrod Kisses- Bernie Dunbrack
- J. Frank Walker glass plate negatives, photos and postcards - Wayne Mason – Kittery Historical and Naval Society
- Keer Family Genealogy – Gary Charles Keer



Building and Grounds

The close of 2011 realized completion of 2 Eagle Scout projects now benefiting HHS: Steven Hurley of Troop 377 earned the rank of Eagle Scout in March, 2012, for his front walkway project. Ryan Lamers of Troop 177 completed the wheel chair ramp for our main entrance last fall and is now working to complete the rest of his Eagle Scout requirements.

Building and grounds work for 2012 will be as busy as past years. Several projects have been identified to be tackled by the Monday Morning Work Party and other groups. Aside from cleaning out the workshop and setting up new exhibits in the barn, two higher priority projects must be completed this year. First, the beach cottage roof was found to be leaking and must be replaced. For now, it is covered with a tarp. Second, our school house has water damage from the stone chimney. After school tours are completed this spring, exploratory work will begin to determine the best method of repair while preserving the history of the schoolhouse. Depending upon results, repairs may be significant and require additional help and resources from HHS volunteers and members.

Any help that can be offered by our members is greatly appreciated. Please contact Ken Lobdell or Ben Moore for more details.

Membership drive for 2012

The 2012 membership drive is off to a good start. As of April 12, 84% of our members have responded. Many have included additional contributions towards the HHS Operating Fund, Endowment Fund, and Building Fund, further solidifying our financial position. Thank you very much!!

There are still 60 members we have not heard from yet. If your mail label has a check mark next to it, that means your membership has expired. Please consider supporting HHS by renewing your membership for 2012. Any questions or concerns can be sent to me, Ken Lobdell - Membership Coordinator, at the Hampton Historical Society mail address.

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.

Donors to the Operating Fund, Endowment Fund, and Building Fund

We recognize with thanks the following members who made donations to the Operating Fund and the Endowment Fund during the annual appeal. Also included are donors in memory of Catherine Fletcher for the Building Fund. Their gifts are extremely important to our on-going success.

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Garden at the Museum

This is the before picture of a garden at the Tuck Museum which is being prepared for the planting of an herb garden. The Hampton Historical Society was awarded a \$125 grant from the Exeter Area Garden Club to establish a garden by the Leavitt Barn.

The garden will be a historical, educational representation of a garden that colonial settlers would have used for their everyday cooking, medicine, and cosmetics.

Come visit throughout the summer to watch the garden progress and grow.

Karen Raynes



UPCOMING EVENTS

See the HHS website for more info about any of these events

- **May 19 1PM** Hampton Center Walking Tour; \$10; RSVP 929-0781
- **May 23 7PM** Program "Turner Night at the Tuck"-Grand Opening Turner Room
- **June 2 10AM-4PM** Gala Opening Seashell Complex at Hampton Beach
- **June 16 10AM** Gardens to Graves Walking Tour; (notice time change); \$10; RSVP 929-0781
- **June 19 7PM** Program "Through the Lens" - Photographs of J. Frank Walker; Betty Moore; Tuck Museum
- **July 7 2PM** Program "Big House, Little House, Back House, Barn"; Thomas Hubka; Tuck Museum
- **August 15 7PM** Workshop "On the Wall-Print and Painting Care"; Tuck Museum; \$15; Limit 15; RSVP 929-0781
- **Sept 1 noon-2:30** Pig Roast yearly fundraiser; \$20 adults/\$10 students
- **Sept 15 1PM** Walking Tour; Harvest Ramble and Repast Walking Tour; \$10; RSVP 929-0781
- **October 5 6:30PM** - Annual Meeting & Pot Luck Dessert; **7PM** - Glenn Knoblock speaker "Brewing in New Hampshire"; St.James Masonic Lodge, Tide Mill Road

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We thank the following business members for their support of the Society:

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GATHERINGS FROM THE GREEN

HAMPTON HISTORICAL SOCIETY

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