Newsletter

(508) 358-7959

www.waylandhistoricalsociety.org

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Founded in 1954

John Heckscher, Editor

The Grout-Heard House Museum, 12 Cochituate Road, Wayland, Massachusetts

Open to the Public Tuesdays and Fridays, 9:30 – Noon

2015 ANNUAL MEETING RESULTS

The Annual Meeting of the Society was held at the Grout-Heard House Museum on Wednesday, May 13, 2015 beginning at 7:30 pm. Candidates for expiring Officer, Director and Trustees of Funds positions were presented and, with no candidates proposed from the floor, were elected unanimously. The FY2016 Board of Managers is composed of the following volunteers:

OFFICERS (one-year terms)

President - Molly Faulkner Vice President - Bob Mainer

Treasurer - George Ives Secretary - Margery Baston

Curator - Lois Davis Museum Mgr. - Joanne Davis

Building Mgr. - Roger Backman Past President - Jane Sciacca

DIRECTORS (three-year terms)

Ending 2016 - John Heckscher & Jane Sciacca

Ending 2017 - Kate Jenney & Brad Keyes

Ending 2018 - Alice Boelter & Elisa Scola

Curator Emerita - Jo Goeselt

TRUSTEES OF FUNDS (one-year terms)

John Beard, Chair

Debby Jones

Bill Hicks

George Ives, Treasurer

The Board is pleased to welcome Molly Faulkner as our new President. We welcome Bob Mainer as Vice President, replacing John Heckscher who will serve out Bob's term as a Director. We are pleased also to welcome Alice Boelter, Elisa Scola, and Brad Keyes as new Directors, and Bill Hicks as a new Trustee of Funds.

At the conclusion of official business, Woody Baston presented his promised program about Sebastian Miniature collectibles. Woody and his dad started this business in 1938 and were the only sculptors. Their last studio was directly across the street from the GHHM. Woody treated us to the history of the company and showed several actual miniatures.

Education Program Recognized by WHS Superintendent Stein

A big thank you to Alice Boelter for forwarding to the Society this wonderful note Superintendent Dr. Paul Stein sent to the Wayland Public Schools faculty in June 2015. Historical Society members please note the second paragraph, which singles out our education committee program:

[Quote] Wayland Moments (a note to faculty for the last day of school) to WPS

This past weekend, I joined a "history paddle" along the Sudbury River. During this guided canoe trip, I learned a great deal while enjoying what turned out to be an idyllic journey. One of the things that I learned was that, 16 years ago, the Sudbury, Assabet and Concord Rivers were designated part of the national Wild and Scenic River System, which protects free-flowing rivers, "deemed to possess outstanding remarkable scenic geological, recreational, ecological, historical or cultural resource values." These three rivers are uniquely noteworthy because of their historical and literary associations – which brings me to my second Wayland moment.

In May, I joined our annual third grade program, led by volunteers from the Wayland Historical Society, at the Grout Heard House Museum. Here, students learn of revolutionary times and the role that Wayland residents played in the American Revolution. At the Museum, students hear about what happened in Wayland during the battles of Lexington and Concord, and they see and hear about a Minuteman costume. At the end of one of the talks, the presenter noted that students all over America study the American Revolution – but very few can lay claim to living in the midst of a community that actually participated.

So yes, Wayland is a very special place. As educators, we help carry on its traditions. We help our students uncover the past, which in Wayland at least feels quite near (see, for instance, the Wayland High History Project website on Jessica Henderson). In the words of William Faulkner, "The past is never dead. It's not even past."

I know you don't all teach history, but you all stand right at the intersection of student growth, student know-how, and student pride in community. History is an easy example, but my belief is that you foster all three – growth, know-how, and pride. You do so wonderfully, no matter what you teach. In the storm and stress of your daily work, you may not see this. Sometime this summer, take a contemplative trip down a wild and scenic river and, like I did – you'll see it clearly. Thanks for all that you've done for each and every one of your charges over these past 10 months. Enjoy a well deserved, relaxing summer break.

Sincerely,

Paul

[end quote]

Our dedicated, hard-working volunteers included Education Co-Chairs Kathy Heckscher & Marney Ives together with Joanne Davis, Claudia Heller, Kate Jenney, Kathy Finch, John Heckscher and Jane Sciacca. We thank you, Dr. Stein, for this recognition and promotion of our efforts to the WPS faculty.

Wayland's First Burial Ground -- Your CPA Money at Work

Our first program this autumn will meet on Sunday, October 4, 2015 at North Cemetery, off Route 27, Old Sudbury Road at 2:00 pm rain or shine. Co-sponsored by both the Wayland Historical Society and the Wayland Historical Commission, the program is one among many October events celebrating Archaeology Month in Massachusetts (officially so designated by William F. Galvin, Secretary of the Commonwealth).

The Town of Wayland hired Barbara Donohue, Historical Archaeologist and a Specialist in preservation of old burial grounds, to prepare a Preservation Management Plan for North Cemetery -- the first Town Center of the Sudbury Plantation and the first burying ground for Sudbury and Wayland. The plan includes three key components: documentary research on land use, a conditions assessment, and a ground-penetrating radar survey. Ms. Donohue will discuss the plan, its results, and how it can benefit both the town and the fragile historic property.

According to her LinkedIn profile, Ms. Donohue is a graduate of UMass Boston and has worked for over 17 years in two historic preservation management firms, Timelines, Inc. and John Milner Associates, Inc. before starting her own consulting business. Presently she is working on a guide of the Copp's Hill Burying Ground in Boston for the North End Historical Society, focusing on the evolution of the Puritan burying ground from 1659 to the present.

High School Book Award Recipients

In the May-Jun 2015 Newsletter you may recall that the Historical Society initiated two awards to be presented to qualified high school candidates, in cooperation with the high school awards committee. The Wayland Historical Society's Senior Award was presented to Andrew Jenkins on Wednesday, June 3, 2015. The award consisted of the book, Wayland A to Z, and a \$250 gift certificate. The Society's Junior Book Award was presented to Tom Stordy on Thursday, June 11, 2015. The book, chosen by the chair of the history department, was accompanied by a certificate provided by the high school guidance department.

A Belated but Heartfelt 'Thank You' to the Program Committee

You recently received your copy of the Program Brochure for the Historical Society. Omitted were the names of the hardworking committee: Gloria Backman, Joanne Davis, Jan Dunn (Chair), Dick Hoyt, Kate Jenney, Tonya Largy, Dottie Lee, and Lois Toombs. We had many laughs as we moved forward through our work and we will be continuing to finalize dates and times through the program year. Thanks for your work and commitment, folks, and we're glad you enjoyed the experience.

A Membership Reminder

Within the Program Brochure booklet you hopefully will have noticed the Membership Application/reply envelope tucked between the tan cover and the white pages. Please, try not to put this aside, as your membership fees are an important part of our current operating budget. Last year, replies lagged sufficiently that we felt the need to send reminder letters at the beginning of December. This did the trick, but we hope to avoid that expense this year! Thank you in advance.

Wayland Historical Society
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2015 DATES TO REMEMBER

Date-Time/Place

Sunday, Oct 4, 2 - 4 pm North Cemetery, Rt. 27 **Event/Presenter**

Wayland's First Burial Ground --Your CPA \$\$ at work Barbara Donohue

Sunday, Nov 15, 2:30 pm Wayland Public Library

Changing Landscapes and Floral Records --From Thoreau's Time to Today Cherrie Corey

Sunday, Dec 6, 2 - 5 pm Grout-Heard House Museum **Holiday Open House**

Thank you for supporting the Grout-Heard House Museum!