

CHEQUAQUET LOG

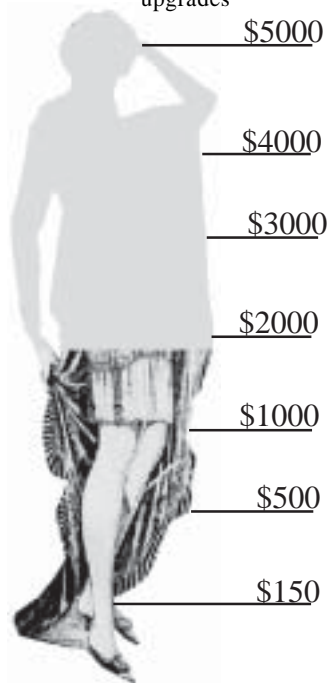


The Newsletter of the Centerville Historical Museum

www.centervillehistoricalmuseum.org

Gertie's GERTHOMETER

contributions toward needed technology upgrades



TECHNOLOGY FUND DRIVE

To Gertie Gadfly's friends:

As the unofficial chair of the fundraising drive to improve the museum's technology, I have a report from Randy that so far we have six contributors to the very important fund to update our technical capabilities into the 21st century. (And what I know about technology would fit in a thimble! I just know that the museum cannot continue to function with the antiquated system and programs it has now.)

Our generous contributors to date are Peter Buffington, Andrew and Virginia Carothers, Roy and Jacqueline Richardson, Virginia and Douglas Murphy, Ralph and Iris Tolbert, and Joanne B. Chope Corsiglia. And don't forget me – I was the first.

In addition, how about this: We have the promise of two new laptop computers, one each from Reza Mahdavi and his wife, Marie-Pierre Dillenseger. They are the

by Jean Desmond

remarkable folks who recently moved here and renovated the old Bacon House on Bacon Lane. If you saw it on the recent house tour, I'm sure you were blown away by what a beautiful and sensitive job they've done. Incidentally, they chose to move to Centerville because it's about halfway between San Francisco and Paris. How lucky are we?

With new and better technology, we can keep better track of our fabulous clothing and costume collection and all our other treasures, as well as our archives of Centerville history. We'll also be better able to share our information with visitors and scholars. Please do keep the museum's technology needs in mind and give generously. We are nearly half way to our goal and we can make it – just some more "economic stimulus", please!

Best regards, Gertie Gadfly

DUE TO MEMBERS' GENEROSITY OUR MUSEUM IS CONTINUALLY MAKING IMPROVEMENTS



The month of May was a very active one for the museum. One of the most visible changes to occur at the museum in sometime was when museum patrons Don and Margaret Agnoli of Agnoli Sign Company in Springfield sent a crew to Centerville to install our new outdoor sign (left). The Agnolis very generously donated the design, construction, and installation of this wonderful new improvement to the front lawn, making our presence much more visible on Main Street. Volunteers decided on a pineapple motif (the symbol of welcome) because they want guests and members alike to experience the hospitality we continually strive to offer all who visit our museum.

Thank you, Don and Margaret.

ELEGANT BLACK DRESS AFFAIR STARTS NEW SEASON

Our exhibit season began in May, and what better way to start than with the Black Dress Affair. This wonderful event was hosted by our neighbors and new owners of the Captain David Kelley House Bed and Breakfast, Rick Garceau and Tom Nortz. The late afternoon soiree was accompanied by a rare showing of sunshine, but equally delightful were the dozens of elegantly dressed women. Rick, Tom and neighbor Bonnie Wenger provided the cuisine, which was *to die for* (excuse the contemporary slang). Our hosts engaged a pianist who provided enchanting music, which created a warm and welcome atmosphere to all the celebrants. The evening was also highlighted by a Best In Black Dress contest, judged by Tom Lynch, Assistant Town Manager; Charlene Colon of Sposabella Bridal; and Rick Garceau, co-owner of the CDKH. The winner received a gift certificate to the Captain David Kelley House.



Best In Black Dress Winners and CDKH Owners

Left to right: Pam Carew, honorable mention; Tom Nortz, CDKH co-owner; Deb Converse, winner; Rick Garceau, CDKH co-owner; Joan D'Ambrosia, honorable mention.

At the Elegant Black Dress opening reception

Tom Nortz, CDKH co-owner, center; Sue Rohrbach, left; and Molly Sproul, right.



In the CHEQUAQUET GALLERY: THE CRAIGVILLE CHRISTIAN CAMPGROUND

The museum's current exhibit in the Chequaquet Gallery features a fascinating glimpse into Craigville, the Christian Campground, and the inspirational religious leader, the Reverend J. Austin Craig, for whom the area is named.

The founders of this summer retreat hoped not only to provide a beneficial location for recreation and religious revival but also to promote harmony among the various Protestant denominations. Purchasing the Perry Farm on Strawberry Hill in 1872, the group formed the Christian Camp Meeting Association (CCMA) and established a place where they and like-minded believers could meet and worship. Camp Christian, as it was then called, provided a place to pitch tents (one large one for the tabernacle and small ones for families) and vacation in an idyllic setting.

In 1881, Camp Christian and the area around it were named Craigville, in honor of Reverend J. Austin Craig, a popular preacher and educator. By 1887, Camp Christian had developed into an established settlement of carpenter gothic cottages, substantial hostleries, recreation facilities and a permanent tabernacle fronting on the village green. CCMA later purchased 800 feet of beachfront on Nantucket Sound. In 1988, the Craigville district of Centerville was listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

THANK YOU

JUNE HOUSE TOUR

The June house tour was heralded by many as one of the nicest they have seen. We give special thanks to tour coordinators Dianne Kennedy-Kelly and Susan Ford. Their efforts as well as dozens of volunteers provided for a splendid afternoon. We also sincerely thank the home owners: Marie-Pierre Dillenseger, Joan Reed, Tom Nortz and Rick Garceau, Linda Clark, and Michelle Jacoby who opened up their homes to the public.

COMING EVENTS

MAIN STREET WALKING TOUR

SO, HOW MUCH DO YOU KNOW ABOUT MAIN STREET?

You've surely admired the collection of homes and buildings that make up much of the historic center of our village. But how much do you know about this remarkable collection of 19th century architecture on Main Street?

Do you know:

- Why the stately James Crosby House at 480 Main Street had three dramatically different appearances between its original construction about 1855 and its most recent major alteration in 1903?
- That Osterville may have the Crosby Boatyard, but Centerville has no fewer than seven houses with the name Crosby attached in just the short distance between the Old Schoolhouse and Monument Square?
- What went on in the basement of the Russell Marston House at 454 Main Street during Prohibition?

For the answers to these and many other questions, take the museum's annual walking tour of Centerville's historic Main Street, Saturday, August 8. The walk covers the block between the 1856 Country Store and Monument Square. Pick your time – one tour starts at 10:00 AM and the second takes off at 11:30.

THANK YOU LAWN KIOSK

This important project we have seen completed came from a generous gift donated by Ellen Ingram. John Brooke donated his time and expertise constructing the attractive information kiosk outside by the sidewalk. The summer pedestrian traffic is making much use of the kiosk by stopping and reading all that we offer in the museum.

4TH ANNUAL YARD SALE

August 8th, 9AM to 3PM

Our 4th annual Yard Sale will be held on Saturday, August 8th, during Centerville's Old Home Week. The Yard Sale, an important fundraiser, gives the museum great visibility and volunteer camaraderie. Please DELIVER any items you no longer need/want in that cluttered basement, attic, or garage -- bric-a-brac, antiques, small furniture, collectibles, artwork, jewelry, kitchenware, etc. (*Please - No clothing, electronics, broken or damaged items!*)

Items will be accepted at the Museum
August 1st, 4th, 5th, and 6th.
Call ahead or drop in 12 - 4pm

LECTURES

Historic District Lecture

National Register of Historic Places and Historic Districts

What do they mean to our community?

Monday, July 20th at 7PM Sarah Korjeff will give a talk on what these terms mean, what they are and how they affect our community. Sarah is the historic preservation specialist with the Cape Cod Commission.

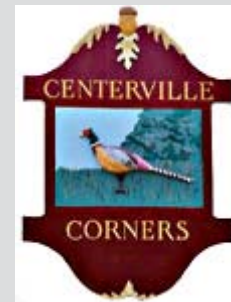
Historic Craigville Lecture

Historic Craigville, Its People and Places.

Friday, August 7th at 7PM Rev. Dr. Donald Overlock will give a talk on the history of Craigville and the Christian Camp.

BUSINESS MEMBERS

May and June were months spent by the membership committee working on soliciting business memberships. As this endeavour is still in process it is too soon to tell how it will go. We do wish to acknowledge our current business members and ask you our constituents to support these businesses in every way you can.



The Centerville Historical Museum
513 Main Street
Centerville, MA 02632
(508) 775-0331
www.centervillehistoricalmuseum.org

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HOURS:

Tuesday through Saturdays,
May 1 through December 12,
from 12:00 p.m. - 4 p.m.



Summer 2009

Coming Events

Historic Districts Lecture
at the CCC Tabernacle
with Sarah Korjeff
July 20th 7PM

Museum Lecture
Rev. Dr. Donald Overlock on
Craigville's History
August 7th 7pm

Old Home Week
Annual Yard Sale
August 8th 9-3pm

C'ville Main Street
Walking Tours
August 8th 10 & 11:30am

Reception
In the Loop Exhibit
September 11th 5-7PM

OUR MUSEUM'S WISH LIST

Please consider a tax-deductable contribution toward these items the museum needs in order to continue our mission in your community.

\$695. Museum environmental monitoring system data loggers
~~\$4400.~~ / \$3250. New museum technology systems (laser printer; computers, network and wireless capable; laptop; monitors; software programs)

We wish to thank the following people for contributing to the Wish List:

Recent contributions for ... **thank you** Reza Mahdavi
Technology Fund Marie-Pierre Dillenseger
Virginia and Andrew Carothers
Virginia and Douglas Murphy