

CHEQUAQUET LOG



The Newsletter of the Centerville Historical Museum

www.centervillehistoricalmuseum.org

Coming in May: A VISIT TO HISTORIC CENTERVILLE

Crosby, Kelley, Phinney, Howard Hall, Old Home Week: All are names associated with the 19th century development of the village of Centerville and the subject of an exhibit at the museum set to open on May 4.

Gorham Crosby (1808 - 1883) had a farm, grew cranberries, operated a livery stable and drove a stagecoach between Sandwich and Hyannis to deliver mail and transport passengers. After the railroad arrived in 1854, he continued to carry mail to villages using horse-drawn vehicles. Gorham Crosby and his family maintained Crosby House, the village inn. He also conducted auctions, contracted for road building and firewood cutting and invested in real estate, ships and local businesses.

How about Ferdinand G. Kelley (1818 - 1902)? Kelley was another prominent Centerville citizen who contributed to the village development. At the age of 18, he became a clerk in the newly organized Centerville Trading Company store, located at the intersection

of Old Stage Road and Main Street. At age 36, he bought the business and maintained it until 1891. He was appointed postmaster by President Martin Van Buren and served for over 52 years. He was elected clerk and treasurer of the Town of Barnstable in 1845. He became a director, later vice president, of First National Bank of Hyannis and also served as president of the Hyannis Savings Bank. Along with others, he was instrumental in building Liberty Hall and then Howard Hall, which were centers for all cultural, social and public gatherings in the village.

Captain Eli Phinney (1822-1871) went to sea at the age of 11. He was a deepwater seaman and commander of five ships. Phinney built one of the two mills in Centerville, which was used for grinding corn and carding wool. He raised cranberries in the lowlands behind his house and was a member of the school committee and town truant officer. He served a term in the legislature and was part of the group that formed the Centerville Cemetery Association, which

purchased the five acres of land on Old Stage Road and developed Beechwood Cemetery.

Liberty Hall in Centerville was built as a result of an incident in 1846 when Sylvanus Jaggard was criticized for voicing his liberal ideas on controversial matters within the church. Liberty Hall became a place one could express thoughts freely, and the hall accommodated political, social and cultural events. Liberty Hall was too small to meet the needs of the growing village, so in 1876 prominent Centerville citizens banded together and worked toward the construction of Howard Hall. Liberty Hall was eventually relocated to serve as a cranberry storage house for the remainder of its days.

For more of Centerville's history, visit the up-coming exhibit and read the fascinating book, "Centerville Scenes" by Dr. Charles Herberger.

**KEEP
CURRENT**

Saturday Matinee Movies

Classic Black and White Films from the '40s, March and April at 2 PM

10 Most Common Decorating Mistakes

Rearrange - Redesign - Recycle: A lecture and lunch, March 27, at 1 PM

A Victorian Tea

Tea, refreshments, a raffle, and a presentation of what it took the Victorian lady to prepare for her day. There will be explanations and illustrations of toilette, dress, hairstyles, makeup and more. April 24, 1 PM

Fancy Nancy Children's Tea

A 'May Day' celebration for 4 - 8 year old girls. *Fancy Nancy* once again comes to the museum to illustrate manners, sharing, etiquette and, of course, a bit of French for little girls. May 1, 2 PM

MUSEUM ACTIVITIES



Volunteers enjoying the hilarious movies *Craigville General Store* and *Treasure in Craigville Bay*, starring Sam Nickerson and friends.



Grace Sweeney, Kay Shaughnessy, and Barbara Fahrenholz, seen here at the "Early Cape Homes" lecture and lunch.



Volunteers Joan D'Ambrosia and Barbara Fahrenholz work on costumes for the Spring exhibit, "A Visit to Historic Centerville".



Attentive card players enjoying lessons to update their bridge skills.

Ooh - La - La!! - - - "Fancy Nancy" Valentine Tea Party



Volunteers GeeGee Murphy, Michelle Law, and Nancy Nash presenting gifts to the "Fancy Dressed" participants.



Volunteer Michelle Law and 'Fancy Nancy' party goers.



C O M I N G E V E N T S

Matters of the Heart, though Arpil 17



If you haven't had the time to see this exquisite exhibit, be sure to come over and enjoy it before April 17. On display are over two-hundred valentines dating from the 1820s.

By the 18th century, exchanging cards on Valentine's Day had become quite common in England and elsewhere on the continent, but not until the 1850s did the custom become popular in the United States. Esther Howland, a native of Worcester, Massachusetts and a graduate of Mt. Holyoke College, started a small business in mass producing valentines. By the early 1870s Roxbury, Massachusetts printer Louis Prang, due to improvements in printing technology and his astute advertising, was able to market thousands of valentines annually. Modern Valentine's Day was born.

Luncheon and Program with Michelle Jacoby "The 10 Most Common Decorating Mistakes"

Saturday, March 27th, 1 - 3PM

USE WHAT YOU ALREADY HAVE

Rearrange - Redesign - Recycle

Join us for lunch and an afternoon of decorating insights featuring Michelle Jacoby, a certified Interior Redesigner. Michelle's designs have been featured in *Cape & Island Home*, *Yankee Magazine* and *Cape Cod Magazine*.

Members \$20.00, Non-members \$25.00

Advance reservations required.

Victorian Lady's Tea

Saturday, Arpil 24th, 1 - 3PM

Come enjoy a delightful high tea with sandwiches, pastries, desserts and tea. Step back in time with us and experience the daily ritual of the Victorian woman and how she prepared for an outing. Learn about the fashions, hairstyles, jewelry and scents all coming together to create the high style of the Victorian woman. The event includes a narrative historical presentation, demonstrations with objects from the collection and a raffle.

Members \$20.00, Non-members \$25.00

Advance reservations required.

CHM Classic Theater

Remember the old days of the black and white movie? They are back!

Best Years of Our Lives (1946), *Big Sleep* (1946), *Sunset Boulevard* (1950), *Portrait of Jennie* (1948), *Rebecca* (1940), *Top Hat* (1935) and more. Popcorn, of course, and free admission. Come see the best of black and white. Saturdays, March and April.

March 13th, 2PM, *Mr. Blandings Builds His Dream House* (1948). Starring Cary Grant and Myrna Loy in this classic American comedy about buying a home that becomes a money pit.

March 20th, 2PM, *The Women* (1939). The film is notable in that its cast of more than 130 speaking roles were all women. It stars Norma Shearer, Joan Crawford and Rosiland Russell. Another notable feature is the 10-minute fashion parade filmed in Technicolor.

April 3rd, 2PM, *Enchanted Cottage* (1945). A romantic fantasy film starring Robert Young and Dorothy McGuire set in New England.



"Fancy Nancy" Tea Party

*for young girls
and their escorts*

Saturday, May 1st, 2PM

In time for May Day! A tea party for young girls four years and up. *Come fancy!* Fun with crafts, special food treats, story telling, a fancy parade and more. Members \$20.00, Non-members \$25.00 Register early, limited seating.

BUS TRIP

Johnson & Wales University Museum of Culinary Arts and Hospitality

Thursday, May 6th

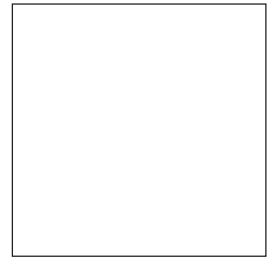
Join us as we travel in comfort and style to the very popular Johnson & Wales University Museum of Culinary Arts and Hospitality. Explore their collection of 70,000 objects and five centuries of irreplaceable culinary treasures. Included are notable collections of Rosa Levi Berambaum, known as the 'Diva of Desserts'; Heinz Bender, 'Chef of the White House'; and Chef Louis Szathmary.

The bus will leave at 9:00 AM from the Our Lady of Assumption parking lot in Osterville and returns by 4 PM. Members \$55.00, Non-members \$60.00.

Lunch is included.

Advance paid reservations required.

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www.centervillehistoricalmuseum.org



RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



Centerville Historical Museum BUSINESS MEMBERS

We do wish to acknowledge our current business members
and ask you, our members, to support these businesses that support us.



**Attorney
Frederick Chirigotis**

