

CHEQUAQUET LOG



The Newsletter of the Centerville Historical Museum

www.centervillehistoricalmuseum.org

FANCY NANCY VALENTINE TEA

On February 5th, the warm temperatures outside were beginning to melt the hard packed ice along the walkway leading up to the museum's front door. Inside,



the Ayling Room had been transformed into a magical setting for the February Fancy Nancy Tea Party, elegantly decorated in shades of hot pink and light green.

The excited little girls and their chaperones arrived at the museum dressed up in their fanciest clothes and carefully matched accessories, oohing and aahing as they entered the room. They loved finding their personalized place settings, taking a peek at the refreshments arranged on tiered plates, and walking right up close to the 8-foot lighted Eiffel

Tower that stood in the corner. From the littlest young lady wearing a tiara and a boa to the proud grandmother decked out in her favorite hat and jewels, all the guests appreciated the efforts of the volunteers who worked to make the tea party a memorable occasion. Under the leadership of Nancy Nash, the team of volunteers sharing their time and talents were Kiley Donovan, Sue Ellis, Shirley Fisher, Gale Greene, Michelle Law, GeeGee Murphy, and Judy Souza.



Throughout the afternoon, the party guests were entertained with lively music, French words, a fashion parade, exciting games of BINGO, and a fun story about the popular children's book character, named Fancy Nancy. The children especially enjoyed decorating and putting together their own mini-pocketbook designed with a wide

ribbon handle and a clasp made out of a lovely tissue paper rose.

In this Fancy Nancy wonderland with a fireplace mantle of pink and red tulle and tables set with fine china and cloth napkins, the participants nibbled on tasty tea sandwiches and sweet morsels of cakes and cookies. The servers poured from pots of hot steeping tea and pitchers of pink lemonade with cherries and heart-shaped ice cubes.

As the tea party came to a close, lots of pictures were taken of smiling little girls sitting on the beautiful flowered and ribbon-wrapped Fancy Nancy chair that held a place of honor in the front of the room. The happy expressions on the faces of the children and adults as they exited the museum was a sure sign that the celebrated



party guests were delighted to have attended another Fancy Nancy Tea at the Centerville Historical Museum.

DECORATING WITH JOAN



Spring is here, and our thoughts naturally turn to renewing and redoing. On March 5th a group of guests were treated to a delicious lunch, followed by a Power Point presentation on redecorating your home in ways you might not have thought about before. Our own in-house decorator, Joan D'Ambrosia, showed us how to renew our spirits and prepare for spring by "putting a new face" on our homes. She gently guided us to throw out the old rules, surround ourselves with the things we love, create vignettes, use unusual objects and put others

where you might not necessarily think of putting them, make symmetry a choice while keeping balance, and not be afraid to put colors and patterns together.

To illustrate her ideas Joan had many photographs of her lovely home, which was on the house tour several years ago. You might not think of a corner of your kitchen with upholstered chairs as a reading area. How about a pretty chandelier in your bathroom? Perhaps you have a favorite lamp that needs a little height. Put some colorfully covered books under it. Your mantle doesn't have to be decorated symmetrically. You may have a collection of glassware to display which may or may not contain flowers or plants. Odd numbers of things can be arranged thoughtfully. Different sized plates can make a nice collage on a wall. Mix-and-match furniture can add style and your own personal touch to a room. Modern and traditional do fit well together.

Vignettes can be the perfect way to begin your decorating project. If you are feeling overwhelmed or don't know where to begin, pick a small area or a corner of a room and create a vignette, a few pieces that you like together or colors that you've always wanted to try. Make your home a place of your own.

Lunch was made by dedicated volunteers and consisted of spinach quiche, salad with dressing, and cream puffs with chocolate sauce. Everyone went home ready for new spring decorating ideas and quite well fed.



COMING EXHIBITS

Contemporary Fine Art Jewelry April 29 - July 9th

The Chequaquet Gallery will feature the work of four extraordinary jewelry artists. Two of the jewelers, Cara Romano and Nisa Smiley, are based in Maine, Melissa Stiles lives in Oregon and Carly Wright is from New York. All are nationally recognized, award-winning jewelry makers and will be presenting pieces of their unique works. This is an opportunity to experience a fascinating variety of contemporary jewelry.

Carly Wright creates her jewelry in sterling silver and enamel, basing the designs on patterns she finds revealed in nature. Melissa Stiles, an architect turned jewelry maker, works with a combination of aluminum and pigmented resins arranged in geometric forms, while Cara Romano creates her jewelry with sterling silver and balls of felted wool in beautiful colors. Nisa Smiley is inspired by the combination of gold and silver with organic materials, such as sea shells, feathers and other objects found in nature.



COLLECTION EXHIBITS

Centerville Capers

The Phinney Room will feature one hundred years of ladies' capes and men's vests. Thirty garments will be displayed from the museum's collection. The earliest vest dates from 1790 and the earliest cape dates from 1840. Utilitarian to elegant, these pieces convey the construction, styles, and design changes of these once commonly worn garments.

Morning to Night

In the Mary Lincoln House bedroom, the museum features eleven night and morning gowns, from Empire to Edwardian, in cottons, silks and lace. Several pieces are from the era prior to sewing machines and are exquisitely made by hand.

The Civil War Remembered

The Civil War started on April 12, 1861. This year we commemorate this historic time with a special exhibit in the A. Meigs Marine Room. Weapons, uniforms, diaries, photographs and ephemera of this period from the collection will be on exhibit, highlighting Centerville's part in the War.



Chinese Snuff Bottles

Forty rare and delicate Chinese snuff bottles from the Qing Dynasty will be featured in the Ayling Room. Bottles of ivory, jade, onyx, porcelain and glass were made to hold snuff, a finely ground tobacco. Snuff was often mixed with ground mint, camphor, jasmine or aromatic herbs. The Portuguese and Spanish found tobacco in the Americas and started cultivating and exporting it to Japan in the 16th century. From there tobacco made its way to China.

The Qing Dynasty (1644 – 1912), also known as the Manchu dynasty, was the last of the Chinese dynasties. During this period the snuff bottle was created. Smoking tobacco was considered a dirty European practice by ruler Shun Chih and was outlawed in 1644. It was then that recreational snuff was created. The snuff box, already in regular use in Europe, was not practical for the Chinese as humidity affected both the snuff and the boxes. Unlike the Europeans, who often wore gloves and used the pinch method of administering snuff, the Chinese considered this method unclean, as it stained the fingers. The Chinese solved the problems of the European method of storing and using snuff by creating an air tight bottle sealed with a cork and attaching a spoon to sprinkle snuff on the thumb nail so as not to stain the fingers.

By the end of the 17th century, snuff and snuff bottles were firmly established in the elite court of the Qing Dynasty in Beijing. The bottles were easy to carry in the sleeve cuff of the typical Chinese garment. The snuff bottle was used as a form of barter or currency and to purchase favors, positions and advancement in the government. The snuff bottle remained within China throughout most of the 18th century, and collecting them became a nationwide practice among all social classes.



Children's Book Illustrations by Scott Nash

July 15 - September 24

Scott Nash has illustrated over forty children's books, including *Saturday Night at the Dinosaur Stomp* and *The Bugliest Bug* by Carol Diggory Shields, *Betsy Who Cried Wolf* by Gail Carson Levine, the *Flat Stanley* series by Jeff Brown, and the just released *Camping Day!* by Patty Lakin. Scott is also the author/illustrator of *TUFF FLUFF*, *The Case of Duckie's Missing Brain*.

Scott, a Barnstable High School graduate, later earned his Masters Degree from Cranbrook Academy of Art. He has taught at Boston University, Northeastern University, and The Art Institute of Boston and helped establish the Illustration Department at the Maine College of Art. In addition to his work as an illustrator, he has developed and produced animated programs for Disney, Nickelodeon and MTV as well as animated and live-action spots for ABC, FX and PBS. Scott is also creative director for *NASHBOX Studios—Designs for Kids*, based in Portland, ME.

Scott's work as a designer and illustrator has been recognized by major trade organizations, such as The Academy for The Arts and Sciences (EMMY award), PROMAX, Broadcast Designers Association, American Institute of Graphic Arts, Society of Illustrators, and by publications, such as *HOW*, *Communications Arts*, *Print*, and *Publishers Weekly* magazines.

On display in this special exhibit will be original illustrations, drawings and 3-D marquettes related to the process Scott follows in illustrating children's books.



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

Ladies High Tea

This traditional high tea is another in a series of elegant teas hosted by the Centerville Historical Museum. Along with delicious edibles and fine tea, there will be a presentation of the development of the folklore and traditions of weddings. Beautiful wedding gowns and related artifacts from the museum's collection will be on display. Advance reservations are required. **Saturday, April 16th, 1 - 3PM.** \$20 members; \$25 nonmembers.

Fancy Nancy Spring Tea

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. **Saturday, May 7th, 2PM - 4PM.** \$20 member; \$25 nonmember. Reservation are required; please call the museum regarding availability.

Bus Trip to New Bedford

Spend the day with us as we travel to the New Bedford Whaling Museum. Advance paid reservation required by May 5th. **Tuesday, May 10th, 9:30AM - 4PM.** \$50 member; \$55 nonmember, for the bus and museum admission; lunch in revitalized downtown New Bedford is on your own.

Fashion Show

Come have lunch and view the latest summer fashions. Mullberry Corners of Osterville will present their new summer line. Admire the clothes as models walk the runway at the museum. Enjoy a gourmet three course lunch, starting with pureed spring vegetable soup, salade de poulet aux herbs on a bed of lettuce with springtime pasta and bacon, finishing with creamy cappuccino squares for dessert. **Sunday, May 15th, 1 - 3PM.** Advance reservation required by May 5th. \$30 members; \$35 nonmembers.

Annual GALA Event

Our annual evening on the lawn will again be held at the Captain David Kelly House and hosted by owners Rick Garceau and Tom Nortz. Join us for our traditional kick off to the summer season and enjoy fine wine, delicious food and live music. This year our theme is the Civil War. **Friday, June 3rd, 6 - 8PM.** \$30 member; \$35 nonmember. Advance reservation required.

Centerville House Tour

This biennial tour of Centerville homes is held in conjunction with the Centerville Public Library. The tour this year will features six historic, contemporary and unusual homes located all around the village of Centerville, from Main Street to the beachfront at Craigville. **Wednesday, June 15th, 10AM to 3PM.** Tickets are available in advance at the Centerville Museum, the Centerville Library and the 1856 Country Store. Tickets are \$25 per person and can also be purchased on the day of the tour.

Concert and Lecture Series

During the summer season we will be scheduling several interesting events. Plans are underway for an evening concert featuring piano music from the 1920s and 1930s; a lecture on gardening, landscaping and the environment; a presentaion on the history and philosophy of Feng Shui, and its relation to objects in the museum's collection; and a evening of poetry and storytelling.

EVENT REGISTRATION / RESERVATION

NAME(S): _____

(include additional names on separate sheet if needed)

ADDRESS: _____ TEL: () _____

EMAIL: _____

EVENT

(check event and put in number of persons)

_____ Ladies High Tea, and number of persons _____ Fancy Nancy Spring Tea, and number of persons** _____

_____ Bus Trip, and number of persons _____ Fashion Show, and number of persons _____

_____ CDKH Gala Event, number of persons _____

** please call the museum to see if there is still space available for the F.N.Spring Tea.

Please note who is a current member. TOTAL ENCLOSED: \$ _____

Please make your check(s) payable to: Centerville Historical Museum, 513 Main Street, Centerville, MA, 02632

_____ Please charge my credit card.

(please print)

Name on Card: _____

Address of the Card: _____

Card Type: _____ AMEX MC VISA DISCOVER

Card Number: _____

Card Expiration date: _____

Card Holder Signature: _____



MEMBERSHIP CATEGORIES & BENEFITS

INDIVIDUAL (\$25)

Free admission, museum store discount, advance notice of activities, newsletter, free or discounted admission to events, discounts on workshops, lending privileges of library books.

FAMILY (\$40)

All the benefits of an Individual membership extended to parent(s) and children under 18 yrs living in the same household.

PATRON (\$75)

All the benefits as above membership plus free admission for up to eight guests.

BENEFACTOR (\$125)

All the benefits as above membership plus free admission for up to twelve guests.

BUSINESS (\$200)

All the previous benefits plus twenty guest passes, a feature article highlighting your business in the Chequaquet Log newsletter, feature in Business Member Catalogue (distributed to museum visitors), website links and website business membership recognition.

Join as a member and save on admissions

Name(s) _____ Tel () _____

Address _____

Email (to receive event updates) _____

MEMBERSHIP LEVELS

INDIVIDUAL (\$25.00) _____ PATRON (\$75.00) _____

FAMILY (\$40.00) _____ BENEFACTOR (\$125.00) _____

BUSINESS (\$200.00) _____

Please make check payable to: Centerville Historical Museum or

Charge my membership to: VISA MASTERCARD DISCOVER

Account# _____

Expiration Date _____

Signature _____

Please detach and return this form with payment

Business member spotlight

In this issue we acknowledge our business member, Cape Cod Five Cent Saving Bank, which joined our membership in October 2008. Branch Manager Patty Erickson is active in the business community and in reaching out to nonprofits like ourselves.

On March 13, 1855, the Barnstable Patriot published a story announcing the creation of a new mutual savings bank in Harwich, Massachusetts to serve the needs of people who lived and worked in surrounding communities. Such savings institutions, the newspaper reported, were “becoming quite common in various sections of the state...and we believe this one will be most judiciously managed.”

The new bank’s name referred to the minimum amount of five cents required for an initial deposit to open an account. On April 29, 1856, a gentleman named John Burk made the first deposit - setting in motion over 150 years of independent banking at the Cape Cod Five Cents Savings Bank.

Deposits and transactions at the bank grew steadily, and by the early 1920s the officers and trustees felt the need to expand the institution “to a bank capable of rendering greater service, and interested in encouraging and promoting the practice of thrift - the purpose for which the bank was originally established,” notes an early history of the bank. Expanding from Harwich, the first branch of the Cape Cod Five was opened in Orleans in 1924.

Over the years, the Cape Cod Five continued branching out, extending its banking and community services throughout the Cape and experiencing explosive growth during the past few decades. For instance, in 1955, on the bank’s 100th birthday, there were only 10 employees. Presently there are close to 350.

The Cape Cod Five’s long and rich heritage is one of its greatest assets. Customers fondly recall family relationships with the bank that date back five generations and more. They appreciate the many benefits that come from such stability. Unlike most banks, the Cape Cod Five still operates under its original charter, ownership and name. They choose to remain a mutual bank because it is mutuality that, years ago, set the stage for the truest form of community banking.

Today, Cape Cod Five Cents Savings Bank has grown to be one of Cape Cod’s largest banks and its leading lender, while remaining a mutual savings bank. It is a full service community bank with 14 branches from Wellfleet to the Canal, its total assets exceed \$1.9 billion, growth that would indeed please the bank’s founders.



The Centerville Historical Museum
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CHM BUSINESS MEMBERS

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



Dowling & O'Neil
INSURANCE AGENCY

