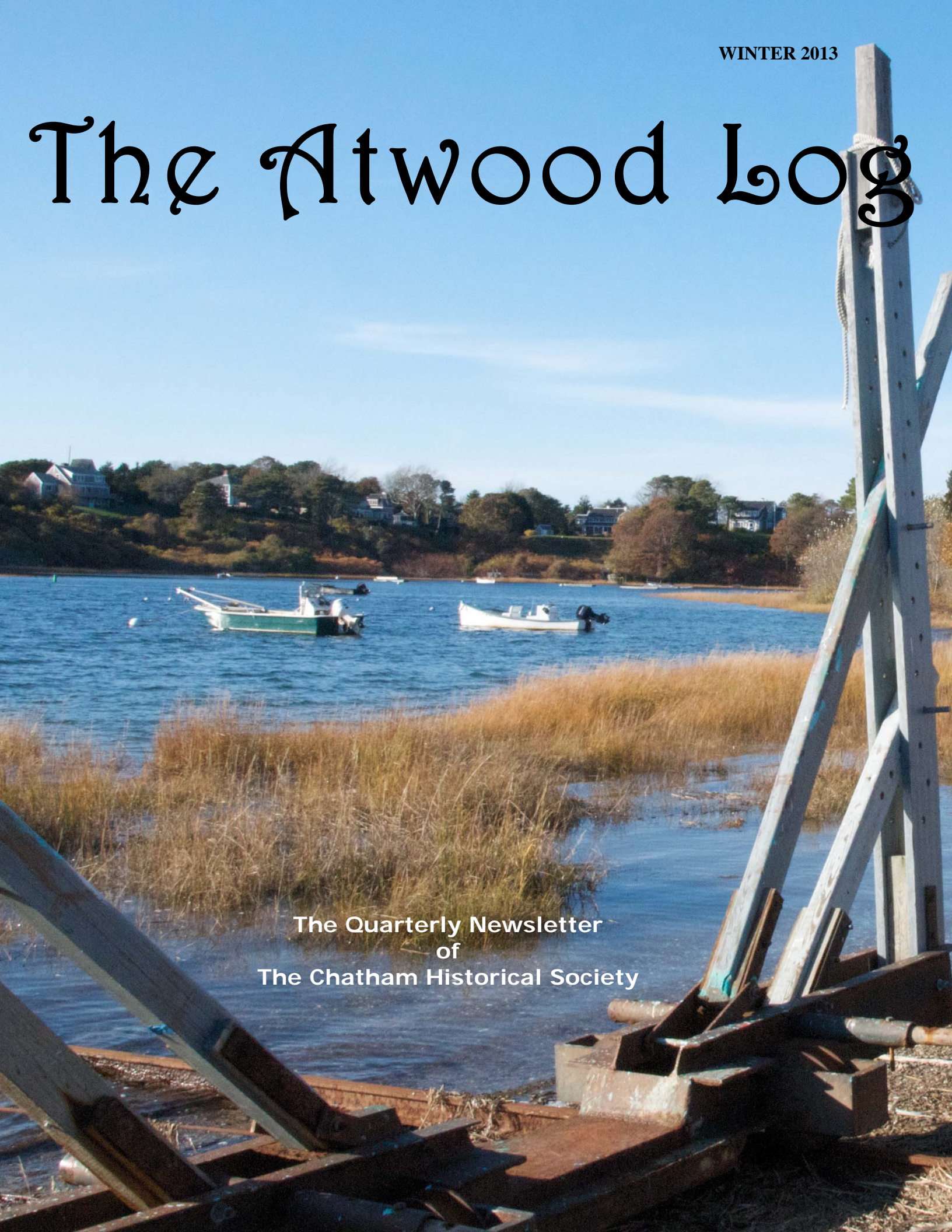


WINTER 2013

The Atwood Log

The Quarterly Newsletter
of
The Chatham Historical Society





From the Director

Several years ago I was on a committee that had been asked to advise the personnel office of a nonprofit organization on the development of an “Alternative Rewards” program. The charge was to identify ways to reward staff other than by raises. The organization was operating under tight financial constraints and it was apparent that for the next several years salary increases were going to be modest at best. The members of the committee brainstormed and talked to employees about different ways to acknowledge loyal service and exceptional contributions to the organization. Over and over we heard that one of the most important things the organization could do was recognize how an employee’s work contributed to its mission. Clearly employees believed in that mission and took satisfaction when the connection they saw between their efforts and the success of the organization was identified and acknowledged.

I want to take this opportunity to recognize the extraordinary contributions our many volunteers make to the Atwood House Museum’s efforts to *Bring History to Life*. To make the blanket statement that our organization would not exist without our volunteers doesn’t begin to acknowledge how much and in how many ways volunteers contribute to our work. The warm welcome and informative visit our guests receive when they visit the Atwood House and our exhibitions are provided by volunteers. They answer queries about Chatham people and places and help with research projects. Volunteers plan, organize, and staff events like Haunted Happenings, our Halloween program for kids, and the Hearth Warming in early December. Our fun and sophisticated shop is managed entirely by volunteers. These are the most visible places where you will find volunteers at work when you visit the museum. Any day of the week, any time of the year you will also find volunteers caring for the Museum collections, planning and building exhibitions, making sure the day-to-day operations of the Atwood House are managed professionally. And volunteers provide the exceptional planning and leadership of our organization too.

We know that people choose to volunteer for organizations like the Atwood House for various personal reasons. Some want to share their passion for history and knowledge of Chatham with visitors. Others enjoy research, are curious about history, and love piecing together the stories of their hometown. Work at the Museum gives some retirees a way to use the expertise they acquired over the course of a distinguished career and a reason to stay connected with advances in a field they love. Many enjoy the social contact that volunteering offers. In addition to their personal reasons for volunteering, each of the more than 100 people who generously contribute their time and unique skills believe in the mission of the Atwood House Museum and want to help us pursue it. If this sounds appealing to you, we hope you will fill out the form on page 5 of this issue of the Log and join us.

Dennis McFadden

Mission Statement

The mission of the Chatham Historical Society is to collect, preserve, exhibit and interpret art, decorative arts, artifacts, archives, and places of historical interest relating to the history of Chatham and vicinity; and in so doing provide a record of the cultures and the people of our past and thereby inform and educate succeeding generations.

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Cover photo: *Marine Railway
at Pease Bros Boatworks
by John King*

Afternoons at the Atwood Lectures 2013

The 2013 lecture Series was off to a most interesting start in January with a program about the building of the Cape Cod Canal. Our series, Afternoons at the Atwood will continue on February 10th with reminiscences by Tom Buckley of *Growing up in Chatham in the 30s and 40s*. Tom grew up in Chatham, graduated from Chatham High School (on Main Street), and went on to graduate from University of Miami, Miami, Florida. For a time he worked at Penikese Island School for Delinquent Boys. He is a former Director of the Chatham Historical Society, and also owned Bearse's Store in downtown Chatham.

On March 10th Rich Froh, an interpreter and educator from Mystic Seaport, will present a lecture on figureheads entitled *Figureheads: Icons of the Seas*. Mr. Froh will share tales, photographs, and techniques of these master craftsmen who created the extraordinary depictions of supernatural beasts, beautiful ladies, patriotic figures, and national heroes from the 19th century.



Tom Buckley with his sister and brother and his Aunt Anna, in 1934, along side her automobile

The seagoing theme will continue on April 14th with a program entitled *The Story of Whaling and Early New Bedford*. Take a step back in time with Seth Mendell when whale oil carried on New Bedford ships lit the lamps of the western world. Seth is a Mattapoisett resident, retired teacher of history at Avon Old Farms School in Avon, CT and has been President of the Mattapoisett Historical Society for many years. He is also a docent at the New Bedford Whaling Museum and is head of its Speakers Bureau.



March speaker, Seth Mendell, next to a portrait of his ancestor, Nathaniel Freeman, a whaler who died in 1838 in the Indian Ocean

Mr. Mendell will trace the story of New England whaling from the watch towers on the sand dunes of outer Cape Cod and Nantucket in the late 1600's to the fleets of whale ships sailing from New Bedford's harbor during the mid 1800's. During his remarks, he will talk about the men who sailed these ships around the world in search of whales and finally, what were the factors that brought about the demise of this incredible industry.

These programs are supported by a grant from the Chatham Cultural Council, a local agency which is supported by the Massachusetts Cultural Council, a state agency.



Figurehead in the Atwood House Museum collection from the Barkentine Altamaha



Volunteer Wanted

The Costume and Textile Department is looking for a volunteer to help with identifying various laces that are part of our collection. Items for identification include wedding gowns, dresses, bodices, collars, cuffs, handkerchiefs, and children's dresses. Knowledge of laces is essential; the time spent on this work is very flexible. Please contact Janet Marjolle at the Chatham Historical Society 508-945-2493 if you have this knowledge and would enjoy working with us.



2012 Volunteers

Our wonderful volunteers work in many aspects of this organization. Many serve as docents and shop volunteers. Others work downstairs in the archives, in costumes and textiles, preparing mailings, planning events, serving on boards, and a range of

small tasks that come and go. We have tried to list all who volunteered during 2012, but I know that I will have somehow missed at least one person who should have been named. Please accept my apologies.

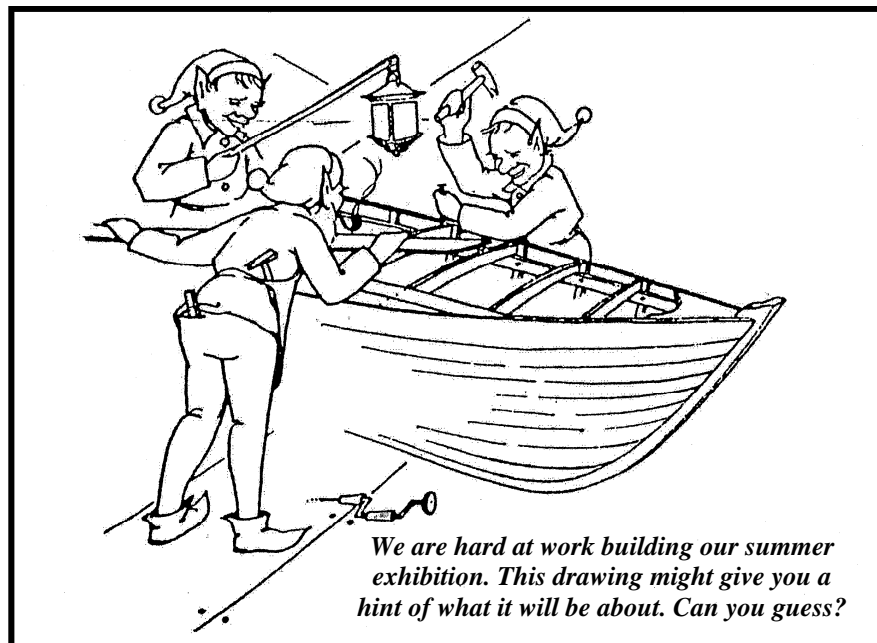
Margaret Martin

Sally Ackerman
Compton Allyn
Rebecca Arnold
Peg Balfe
Stephanie Bartlett
Richard Batchelder, Jr.
Sue Bauer
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Tamara Bazzle
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Ruth Bell
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Marilyn Brown
Joan Bulkley
Ward Burian
Kay Burlin
Steve Burlingame
Mary Frances Carey
Anne Carlson
Margaret Carr
Pat Cass
Linda Cebula
Ron Clark
Judi Clifford
Susan Collins
Bernard Cornwell
Carolyn Coursen
Gerry Cox
Joann Creedon
Annette Cremisi
Peggy Crespo
Edee Crowell
Emily Cunningham
Priscilla Dalrymple
Sally Daniel
Stephen Daniel
Barbara DeBonte
Barbara Donald
Claire Dubis
Marge Duffy
Elizabeth Edge
Robert Eldred
Marilyn Eldredge
Carol English
Betsy Evans
Lorraine Fleming
Phyllis Freeman
Mary Ann Fritsch
Ted Fritsch
Laurie Gates

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Spencer Grey
Dot Gross
Sue Halligan
Stephanie Hamilton
Marjorie Hendel
Laurie Hill
Barbara Hogan
Beth Holden
Bill Horrocks
Meta Hutchings
Luke Jodice
Vincent Jodice
Barbara Johnson
Donna Jordan
Emily Jostrand
Wayne Jostrand
Katheryne Kazemi
Roland Kelley
Kim Kenyon
John King
Pam King
Barbara Kline
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June MacDonald
Janet Marjollet

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Ryder Martin
Cynthia McCue
Ellen McKinley
RoseMarie McLoughlin
Elaine McSweeney
James McSweeney
Walter Meier
Dwight Myer
Florine Myer
Gary Myer
Elizabeth Natoli
Thomas Natoli
Barbara Newberry
Ginny Nickerson
Joshua A. Nickerson, Jr.
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Eleanor Oakley
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Norman Pacun
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Susan Ridgley
Nancy Ruez
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Pat Sachtleben
Joanne Schaller

Betty Schiller
Barbara Schweizer
Barbara Semple
Christopher Seufert
Phyllis Shaw
Lee Siegel
Thomas Siegel
Florence Seldin
Mark Simonitsch
Donald St. Pierre
Joyce Sterling
Ann Stern
Betsey Stevens
Donald Stevens
Paula Stookey
Peg Storer
Wendy Storer
Betsy Suter
Debbie Swenson
JaneTirrell
Ali van der Burg
Everett Watts
E.B. Wilson
Linda Wiseman
Nancy Yeaw
Andy Young
Jean Young
INTERNS:
Vince Cheney
Elizabeth Mauer



We are hard at work building our summer exhibition. This drawing might give you a hint of what it will be about. Can you guess?

VOLUNTEER AT THE ATWOOD

The Atwood House Museum cannot open its doors without the valuable assistance of our loyal volunteers. If you have been considering joining our volunteer family, now is the time to return the volunteer form on this page and the next. We have a job that will fit your interests. See the descriptions on the form.

Returning volunteers do not need to send in the form. Please

keep it to remind yourself of the dates for the preparation sessions for your area in June. Instead, either e-mail Carol Kolb at carolpeterkolb@gmail.com or call 508 432-6810 to confirm that you are joining us again for the 2013 season. Then you can update your contact information and assignment choices.

Carol Kolb

Atwood House Museum Volunteer Form 2013

Please provide the following information if you are interested in becoming a volunteer.

Name: _____ Summer Phone _____

Email Address _____ Winter Phone _____

Summer Address: Street or Post Office Box _____

Town _____ Zip _____ Reside from _____ to _____

Winter Address if different from above: _____

The museum has two general areas that need volunteers.

The first area welcomes both year- round and summer resident participation.

Please place #1 next to the choice that interests you most. If you want to work in more than one area, number the others in order of preference.

___1. **The Old House:** Lead visitors through the old Atwood House, relate its history, and point out furniture and other items of interest.

___2. **The Museum Galleries:** Lead visitors through The Durand Room (seashells, Parian ware, Sandwich glass, Crowell Birds); Portrait Gallery (sea captains' portraits and recollections); Tool Room; Joseph Lincoln Gallery; Maritime Gallery (paintings and nautical artifacts); Atkins-Kent Gallery (China Trade); Fishing Gallery; and Special Exhibits. Explain and interpret the displays in these areas.

___3. **The Mural Barn:** Provide information about the famous Stallknecht Murals, the artist, her work, the people of Chatham depicted in the murals, and their way of life.

___4. **The Nickerson Camp:** Describe summer vacations in this two room camp saved from North Beach storms and preserved in its original 1940's condition.

___5. **Hostess or Host:** Open museum; meet, greet, and assist visitors; accept admission fees; and close museum.

___6. **Museum Shop:** Greet visitors and assist them in purchasing museum-related books and merchandise.

The second area offers comradeship while performing essential services. If you can work year-round, on Tuesdays or Thursdays for one, two, or more hours in the office and/or archival areas, please check which of the following areas interest you:

Mailings ___ **Data Entry** ___ **Archival Filing** ___ **Folder Sorting and Filing** ___

You will be contacted for individualized training.

For docents, hosts/hostesses, and shop volunteers, please check below all that apply to your preferences:

Weekly ___ semi-weekly ___ mornings ___ afternoons ___ either ___
year- round for special events ___

Check at **least** two day preferences: Tues. ___ Wed. ___ Thurs. ___ Fri. ___ Sat. ___

Cont. on next page

In order to be ready for opening on **Saturday, June 15, 2013**, all volunteers must agree to attend one of the **Preparation for Opening Day Sessions**. We will impart essential information to returning volunteers, start training of new volunteers, and schedule further training where necessary. Our Director, Dennis McFadden, will participate in these sessions and have an opportunity to share ideas with us. Plan to stay for the entire session.

Please note the following sessions for each of the areas described above. Be prepared to attend one or more and indicate which. If you will not return to Chatham until late June or early July, we will arrange an individualized session.

The Old House: Tuesday, June 4, 9:30-11:30; Wednesday, June 12, 12:30-2:30

The Museum Galleries: Wednesday, June 5, 12:30-2:30; Thursday, June 13, 9:30-11:30

The Mural Barn: Thursday, June 6, 9:30-11:30; Tuesday, June 11, 12:30-2:30

The Nickerson Camp: Tuesday, June 4, 12:30-2:30; Wednesday, June 12, 9:30-11:30

Hostess or Host: Wednesday, June 5, 9:30-11:30; Thursday, June 13, 12:30-2:30

Shop: Thursday, June 6, 12:30-2:30; Tuesday, June 11, 9:30-11:30

Please return this form before Wednesday, April 3, 2013

**Carol Kolb, Volunteer Coordinator
The Chatham Historical Society
P.O. Box 709, Chatham, MA 02633
(508) 945-2493**

Comments: _____



Snapshots from the 2012 Atwood House Hearth Warming

From left to right: Decorations in the South Parlor, Mrs. Santa (Mary Ann Gray) and Director Dennis McFadden, Docents Eleanor Oakley and Katherine Kazemi admire a gown in the North Parlor.

Lower right: Visitors enjoying the soups and other refreshments offered in the Mural Barn.

The Atwood House was part of the Historic Inns Tour on Sunday, December 9 and had over 250 guests on that day, over 350 for the weekend.

SAVE THE DATE
Friday, June 28, 2013
“Chatham By The Sea” House Tour
10:00 - 3:30
Visit a collection of beautiful Chatham homes.
Museum admission and boutique included.
Tickets available on May 1

A Lasting Legacy of Chatham’s 300th
Additions to the Society’s Archives,
A Legacy Gift, and History Weekend 2013

December may have brought Chatham’s Tercentennial year to a close but it did not shut our doors at the Atwood House Museum on the observation of our town’s 300th. We are very fortunate to have been designated as the repository for documents of the several years of planning for the celebration and the records and memorabilia of the extraordinarily rich schedule of events and programs held throughout 2012. Our archives have been enriched by a treasure trove that will be of interest for those curious about the history of the town and, if our own use of the records of the 250th Anniversary are any indication, for those who will plan future celebrations.

In addition to the records and memorabilia that came to the museum, we also received generous financial support from the Chatham Tercentennial Committee to support our work adding these materials to the collection. The Committee’s support, in the form of a Legacy Gift to the Chatham Historical Society, was announced at a public reception in early January. This important gift will be used to organize and care for materials documenting the celebration, making them available in the years to come.

Another impact of the Tercentennial that promises to be important looking to the future is the strong spirit of collaboration that has emerged among the various organizations in Chatham that focus on history. For the Historical Society and our peers, the planning and implementation of programs and events for the 300th demonstrated the importance of working together on everything from schedule to lecture topics. At the final meetings of the Chatham 300 History Sub-Committee toward the end of the year a constant refrain among participants who represented every organization involved was, “How do we build on the relationships we have developed?” All agreed that one obvious way was to keep talking among ourselves. Another was to collaborate on the development of a Chatham History Weekend. The weekend of June 21st to 23rd has been set as the date for what we plan to be the first of an ongoing series of celebrations of history in and of Chatham and we encourage you to mark your calendars now. Additional information about Chatham History Weekend 2013 will be posted as it becomes available at chathamhistoricalsociety.org/historyweekend2013.

Join Us !

Chatham Historical Society members receive free admission to The Atwood House Museum, 10% off Museum Shop purchases, and a complimentary subscription to our newsletter. Our members play a vital role in helping to preserve the rich history and culture of Chatham and the surrounding region. Many members cherish volunteer opportunities at the Museum

Membership Categories

___ Captain Atwood Circle	\$1000 +
___ Heritage Society	\$ 500 - 999
___ Discoverer	\$ 250 - 499
___ Explorer	\$ 100 - 249
___ Family	\$ 50 - 99
___ Individual	\$ 25 - 49
___ Student Historian (to age 18)	\$ 10

Amount Enclosed \$ _____

Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____

Email _____

Method of Payment

Check Visa MasterCard

Credit Card # _____

Exp. date _____

Signature _____

Make checks payable to
The Chatham Historical Society
and mail with this form to:
The Chatham Historical Society
PO Box 709
Chatham MA 02633

If you have allowed your membership to lapse, please consider renewal now. If you are an active member perhaps you can think of someone to pass this along to who might be interested in becoming a member.

OR CURRENT RESIDENT

347 Stage Harbor Road
PO Box 709
Chatham, MA 02633



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Mark Your Calendars

Coming up at

THE ATWOOD HOUSE MUSEUM

Future Events - Afternoons at the Atwood Lecture Series See Details Inside

Lectures are 2:00 pm at the Atwood House Museum

Sunday February 10, 2013

Speaker: Tom Buckley -

Growing Up in Chatham in the 30s and 40s

Sunday March 10, 2013

Speaker: Rich Froh - *Figureheads: Icons of the Seas*

Sunday April 14, 2013

Speaker: Seth Mendell - *The Story of Whaling and
Early New Bedford*

Sunday May 5, 2013

Speaker: Ken Eisenstein - *History of Silent Film*

