

SPRING/SUMMER 2017

The Atwood Log

1600 - 1700

1700 - 1800

1800 - 1900

1900 - 1930

Windows into Time Clothing & Artifacts

Proudly Sponsored by the Max and Victoria Dreyfus Foundation

TWO NEW EXHIBITS THIS SUMMER

Chatham in the Military

*Proudly sponsored by
The Kemper Family Foundations*

The Newsletter of The Chatham Historical Society



From the Director

Greetings!

We are enthusiastic about highlighting what's new at the Atwood House & Museum this year. Many of you receive our monthly e-newsletters but we want to make sure that you have the latest information.

Thanks to major grants from the Dreyfus Foundation and Kemper Family Foundation, we have two new exhibits in the Main Gallery and the Portrait Gallery. The exhibits were created by a team of volunteers and staff under the leadership of Costumes & Textiles, Chair, Janet Marjollet and her colleague, Barbara Hogan. These two dedicated volunteers have worked over a year assembling a review of clothing and artifacts from the 17th to the 20th century, many of which have not been on display in the past. Our mission as a museum is to not only preserve these items but to display them as we share the stories from our rich history. The other new exhibit reflects on how major battles including the Civil War, Revolutionary War and World War I impacted our community as we honor those who served our country.

Additional highlights at the Museum for 2017 include:

- * Concerts and more lectures than ever - offering a variety of fascinating perspectives on our past and our present.
- * Our new Gift Shop Manager, Gaylene Heppe, who set up technology for easier checkout and inventory management and added many items specially selected for our visitors including locally-made goods, educational games and literature, and unusual gift items relating to our history and culture.
- * A free audio-guide tour of the Old House and Stallknecht Collection for smartphone users. This 20-minute customized tour allows you to move through these popular permanent exhibits at your own pace with fact-filled stories and entertaining descriptions.
- * Membership benefits for higher level donors such as private tours and use of our facility as another way of showing our gratitude while providing an opportunity to get to know our Museum even better.
- * Business sponsorship programs with free admission passes and website links to show your support and also get the recognition that you deserve.
- * Formalized facility rental program providing an elegant and unique venue for your private parties and special groups.
- * An extended season for our exhibits allowing you and your guests to spend more time with us.

Are you getting our regular emails and e-newsletter updates? If not, and you have given us your email address, our messages may be going into your spam folder. We can help you fix this. Simply send us an email at lvd.atwood@gmail.com and we will send you directions. If you still have problems, give us a call and we will assist you by telephone.

We hope to see you soon at the Atwood House & Museum new exhibits, the upcoming American Baroque Concert during History Weekend in June, our ever-popular Evening to Remember Gala in July honoring Barry Clifford Sr. for his research on the Whydah, the special lectures, and our Annual Meeting in August featuring renowned author and historian, Sally Gunning.

A special thank you goes out to the Chatham voters who approved the \$80,000 Community Preservation Act grant that will allow us to move forward on renovations to the Atwood House's foundation and flooring.

Danielle Jeanloz

Chatham Historical Society

Board of Trustees

Chairman
Stephen J. Burlingame
Vice Chairman
Virginia T. Nickerson
Secretary
Stephanie Bartlett
Treasurer
Linda Cebula

Trustees
Richard Batchelder, Jr.
Richard H. Evans
Stuart Green
Cynthia B. McCue
Steven Nickerson
Norman Pacun
Alan T. Sachtleben
Angie Simonds
Craig Vokey

Operations

Executive Director
Danielle Jeanloz
Assistant Director
Kevin Wright
Archives
Jean Young
Buildings & Grounds
Donald St. Pierre
Costumes & Textiles
Janet Marjollet
Display Coordinator
Mary Ann Fritsch
Publications & Shop Books
Florence Seldin
Barbara Semple
Shop
Gaylene Heppe
Technology and Information
Bob Ralls

Overseers

Bernard Cornwell
Spencer Y. Grey
William G. Litchfield
Walter J. Meier
Joshua A. Nickerson, Jr.
David R. Oakley
Winifred Portenoy
Christopher Rhinesmith
Christopher Seufert
Mark Simonitsch

Administrator/Newsletter Editor
Margaret L. Martin
Administrator
Lynn Van Dine

Upcoming Events for the Spring and Summer 2017

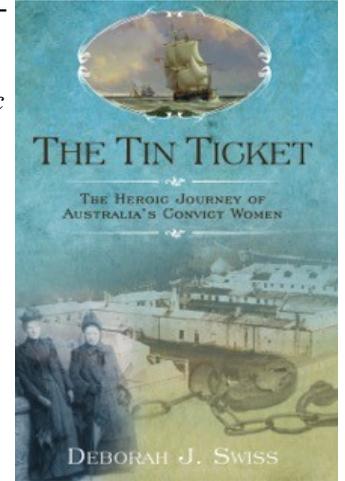
The schedule of events planned for the late Spring and Summer is extensive and varied. Opening weekend will be Memorial Day weekend, May 26 and 27, from 1:00 to 4:00 pm both days. Hours will continue to be weekends, Friday and Saturday, 1:00 to 4:00 through July 1. Beginning Tuesday, July 5 hours will be Tuesday through Saturday, 10:00 am to 4:00 pm. Hours change to afternoons again on September 5th.

History Weekend is June 16th through 18th this year. There will be various events among the museums in Chatham. The Atwood House & Museum will be open with free admission Friday and Saturday. On Sunday afternoon at 2 p.m., the Atwood Lecture Series will host *The Winged Cell Phone of Yesteryear*, presented by Phil Kyle. Admission is free for museum members and \$5 for non-members.

A very special event will be sponsored by the Atwood House & Museum on Sunday, June 18th at the United Methodist Church on Main Street in downtown Chatham. This will be a concert by the American Baroque Orchestra at 4 p.m. A taste of the music for this event was enjoyed at the Atwood House & Museum recently during a lecture/concert on April 30th. Two members of the orchestra, playing the baroque viola and two different baroque guitars performed and discussed the development of music during the 16th and 17th centuries in Europe and North America. The concert on June 18th will feature a 15 member orchestra in a program titled *Voyage to the Colonies*. Tickets for this fund raising event are \$25 if ordered in advance, \$30 at the door. A limited number of

reserved seats are available for \$40 each. Student tickets are \$15 each. Reservations are encouraged by contacting atwoodmuseumevents@gmail.com or (508) 945- 2493.

On Sunday, July 9th at 2 p.m., there will be a lecture by local author Deborah Swiss. Historian and Harwich resident Ms. Swiss will discuss her latest book, *The Tin Ticket: The Heroic Journey of Australia's Convict Women*, and share a slide presentation and Australian artifacts. Deborah has appeared on *The Today Show* in the United States and on ABC Radio across Australia. Her work has been featured in *The New York Times*, *Time*, *Fortune*, *The Wall Street Journal*, and *The Sydney Morning Herald*. Learn the compelling true story of survival and triumph of the human spirit as seen through the eyes of three ordinary women who led extraordinary lives and were among the founding mothers of modern Australia. Admission is free for members, \$5 for non-members.



The Annual Meeting will be held on Sunday, August 20th at The Eldredge Public Library. The business meeting will be at 3:30 p.m. with the program by author Sally Gunning at about 4:00 p.m. Members may make reservations in advance. The featured speaker will be Sally Gunning, author and President of the Brewster Historical Society, who will discuss "*The Humans Behind the History.*"



American Baroque Orchestra in performance



*Author Deborah Swiss
Speaker on July 9th*

Exhibits opening May 2017

Chatham in the Military and Windows into Time

Through the use of our extensive collection of textiles, the Museum has created two new exhibits for 2017 – *Chatham in the Military* and *Windows into Time*.

Chatham in the Military, sponsored by the Kemper Family Foundations, pays tribute to the many local men who fought for our country's freedom. The Revolutionary War (1775-1783), the Civil War (1861-1865) and the early years of World War I are all represented. We have an array of artifacts from each war as well as Army, Navy, and Coast Guard honor rolls on display. Items include a musket, a pistol, a gun cleaning kit, a Tommy gun replica and an actual hydrogen pump for inflating the blimps of World War I.

A brief history of the Coast Guard in Chatham highlights its importance to our town.

View a model of the Naval Air Station in North Chatham and its story, as well as a description of the role of the Marconi Station as it related to Chatham.

Included in this area of the exhibit is a beautiful array of American flags from our collection. Not only does it show the growth of our country but the patriotism of our people who sewed flags and added stars as new states entered the union. The Flag of the Revolution or Grand Union Flag (1776), the Bennington Flag, handmade 13 star flags and an early printed flag are all fine examples of well-preserved patriotic textiles. Post-Civil War flags give some surprising facts about our country's growth. All of the flags have audio interpretations to enhance their stories.

Windows into Time, sponsored by the Max and Victoria Dreyfus Foundation, takes a grand tour through Chatham from our early beginnings through the Roaring Twenties.

Using a series of vignettes one can experience how Chatham grew from an early farming and fishing village with the help of the Monomoyick into a community of increased wealth, education and transportation, all of which supported the tourism, and still abounds today.

In 1656, William Nickerson purchased land from the Monomoyick tribe. His settlement of Chatham is the basis for our first vignettes, The "Monomoyick Trail" and the "Beach Scene". We can observe what life looked like by seeing a Monomoyick Wetu, a domed hut made of saplings and bark used by Northeastern American tribes, as well as an early settler woman handwashing her family clothing by the beach and drying items atop bushes.

By 1799, we arrive at the "Age of Homespun". Through the warmth of a keeping room scene, we experience what clothing was worn, along with a beautiful handmade quilt and christening dress.

During the "Age of Independence" schools and churches were added to the community. We see the school master and student, teaching and learning.

The "Age of Transportation" brings the arrival of the railroad to Chatham. This and the popularity of the automobile brought an influx of people to the town and thus brought in the "Age of Tourism". Hotels began to flourish; visitors came wearing their finery and headed to the beaches in their bathing suits. Chatham accommodated the interests of its visitors and tourism took off.

As the "Roaring Twenties" arrived so did Prohibition. Chatham's coastline was a perfect setting



Kevin Wright adjusting a flag for the Chatham in the Military exhibit



Ron Flechtner and intern Jacob Cunningham adjusting the mantel in the Age of Homespun vignette

for rum running. (Visitors will be able to listen to our audio story.) Clothing in this era changed from longer clothing to flapper styles and fancy lingerie.

At the center of our exhibit is a wonderful sleigh complete with a gentleman in top hat and long coat and his lady in her cloak, finery from the 1880s, set in a winter's scene.

Rounding out the exhibit is a children's hands-on play area with toys of the past. Children may play with paper dolls from different eras, block puzzles to solve as well as a riddle board.

Come into Atwood House/Chatham Historical Society this summer and experience how our community began to thrive over three centuries. Watch it come alive through the use of our beautiful textiles!

Special thanks go to our exhibits' naming sponsors, the Kemper Family Foundations and the Max and Victoria Dreyfus Foundation.



Jean Marjollet and Barbara Hogan hang a quilt for the Windows in Time exhibit.

Voters approve \$80,000 in CPA funds for restoration

Voters at the annual May town meeting handily approved \$80,000 in Community Preservation Act funds for restoration of the original foundation and related work at the Atwood House & Museum.

The Old House, built in the 1750s, has undergone restoration several times in the last decade. The additional funds are needed to complete the project and solidify the base of the house that has been subjected to erosion and moisture over the last centuries. A conservation and preservation builder has recommended a way to restore the foundation and protect it with a vapor barrier without lifting the building.

Despite its deceptively good appearance on both the interior and exterior, the building has serious deficiencies and damage that threatens to contribute to its loss and potential destruction, as well as the loss of rare artifacts, textiles and paintings.

The project was supervised by Board of Trustees members Norm Pacun and Stuart Green, who prepared and filed the CPA application with the committee and appeared before them to answer questions about the proposal, as well as receiving the endorsement of the Chatham Historical Commission. Norm and Stuart are continuing their

work, which includes interfacing with the selected contractor, preparation of a contract, and working on the schedule of work. "Trustee Steve Nickerson, with his background as a builder, has been extremely helpful with this project, as has the engineering firm of Ryder & Wilcox, who provided a preliminary drainage / grading plan without charge, for which we thank them," Norm said.

In examining the foundation and flooring of the historic building, Steve and Norm found that even though some of the Society's concerns were addressed in 2009-2010, all of which were paid for by the Society and individual donors, some problems remain and have worsened. Serious issues exist regarding damage from improper mortaring of the rubblestone foundation through the use of Portland cement and movement of individual stones. Improper grading of the land caused water run-offs to permeate the building. Vapor and moisture problems rise from the basement. Soil contact with the wooden frame caused extensive decay. There is a need to create additional crawl space for re-splicing of the majority of the sills.

"Work is expected to begin in the Fall of this year and continue through the winter," says Executive Director Danielle Jeanloz.

SAVE THE DATE

The Chatham Historical Society's Annual Summer Celebration

AN EVENING TO REMEMBER

Saturday, July 22, 2017
4:30 to 7:00 p.m.

Cocktails and Hors d'oeuvres

Please join us as we present our annual
"Bringing History to Life" award

INVITATION TO FOLLOW

WEQUASSETT
RESORT AND GOLF CLUB
You have arrived.

The Chatham Squire
FINE FOOD & SPIRITS SINCE 1968
CAPE COD

Meet Wydah explorer Barry Clifford at Evening to Remember

Planning is well underway for the Society's signature summer event, Evening to Remember, by committee members Janet Marjollet, Stephanie Bartlett, Ginny Nickerson, Linda Shannon, and Linda Cebula. The Wequasset Resort will again generously provide libations (and what evening in July is complete without a libation or two). And our very own Chatham Squire will be providing hors d'oeuvres. Many thanks to both of them for their continued support.

The donation for this event is \$75 per person. If you do not want to wait for the invitation you may email us at director.atwood@gmail.com to make your reservations .



*Photo above: a model of the pirate ship Whydah;
Photo at Right: Barry Clifford with artifacts from the Whydah*

As you might recall, the Historical Society presents an award, Bringing History to Life, to an individual(s) or organization that has endeavored to bring a part of history to all of us. This year's recipient, Barry Clifford Sr, not only brought the Whydah to life but to the world, a tremendous contribution, and we are excited to honor him at this event. Perhaps he will give us some inside scoop on locating and recovering this important ship! He has volunteered to bring some artifacts to the event for our viewing.

Please plan on joining the festivities silent and live auctions, and great conversation. (Some items will be pre-viewed on our web site.) Invitations will be mailed in June with more details.





Wait-staff checking the refreshment table at the Evening to Remember

All Photos from Evening to Remember 2016



Silent Auction Items

Guests checking in at the Sign-in table



REAL ESTATE GIFT WANTED: To help meet its long-term storage and related needs, the Society urgently seeks one or more tax-advantaged gifts of real estate, with or without buildings. Such a gift would ideally be a 5,000 or more sq. ft. commercial warehouse, with 10 feet headroom, in excellent repair, located on 1/4 acre or more of land within a 5-mile radius of the Atwood House Museum. However, any sizeable parcel, with or without a building, anywhere in the U.S. with a current market value of \$500,000 or more will be welcome. Such a gift could benefit the donor as provided in the IRS Tax Code, and provide naming rights. Depending on location and other circumstances, such a gift could help meet the need as is; or with appropriate rehabilitation and rearrangement; or, sold by the Society and the proceeds applied toward this need. To arrange an exploratory discussion, please call Craig Vokey at (508) 945-2493 or email Craig@vokeyinsurance.com. Thank you!

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

| | |
|-----------------------------------|---------------|
| ___ Benefactor | \$2500 + |
| ___ Captain Atwood Circle | \$1000 - 2499 |
| ___ Heritage Society | \$ 500 - 999 |
| ___ Discoverer | \$250 - 499 |
| ___ Explorer | \$100 - 249 |
| ___ Family | \$50 - 99 |
| ___ Individual | \$35 - 49 |
| ___ Student Historian (to age 18) | \$10 - 34 |

Amount Enclosed \$ _____

Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____

Email _____

Method of Payment

Check Visa MasterCard

Credit Card # _____

Exp. date _____ Security Code _____

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

NON-PROFIT
US POSTAGE PAID
ORLEANS MA
02653
PERMIT NO. 11

CHATHAM HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Mark Your Calendars

Coming up at
THE ATWOOD HOUSE MUSEUM

Opening Weekend:

Friday May 26 and Saturday May 27, 1:00 to 4:00 pm

Special Fundraising Events

American Baroque Orchestra Sunday June 18th, 4:00 pm

Voyage to the Colonies Concert

At First United Methodist Church, 569 Main Street, Chatham

Evening to Remember Saturday July 22nd , 5:00 to 7:00 pm

Under the tent at the Atwood House & Museum

Other Upcoming Events:

History Weekend June 16th, 17th, 18th

Chatham Historical Society Annual Meeting

Sunday August 20th , 3:30 pm

At the Eldredge Public Library, 564 Main Street, Chatham

Check our web site for lectures in the coming months or call the museum

