

The Atwood Log

The background of the cover is a photograph of a historic house with a dark roof and light-colored siding. A small sign on the house reads "ATWOOD HOUSE (c.1810) MUSEUM". In the foreground, two small white sailboats with wooden trim are on a green lawn. A large, leafy tree is on the left side of the image. The sky is clear and blue.

The Quarterly Newsletter
of
The Chatham Historical Society

SUMMER 2013



From the Director

Reading *The Atwood Log* you have probably come across the phrase “Bringing History to Life.” It’s a kind of credo that we believe captures the gist of what we try to achieve through our programs at the Atwood House Museum. Several years ago when the Society set out to recognize members of our community who have made substantive contributions to our understanding of, and appreciation for, the history of Chatham we incorporated the phrase in the name of the award we have now given four times.

The most obvious interpretation of what it means to bring life to history might be the creative act of instilling the sometimes dry facts - the names, dates, and events – that populate dusty volumes with vibrancy and relevance. This year the Society explored a related but distinct interpretation of the phrase when it chose to give the Bringing History to Life Award to Brad and Mike Pease.

Brad and Mike have built an enviable reputation in the wooden boat world with their work at Pease Boat Works & Marine Railway on Chatham’s Mill Pond. Their work includes, in the guise of maintenance, the preservation of older boats and the design and construction of handsome new ones. They are known for their commitment to traditional craftsmanship and their ability to maintain the high standards of their chosen profession while developing a mastery of contemporary construction techniques and materials. We felt they were more than deserving of the award because through their work they are keeping a part of the history of our town alive, adding a new chapter to the story of boatbuilding in Chatham.

Giving the award to Brad and Mike this year fit perfectly with our summer exhibition about sailing in Chatham and the work of F. Spaulding Dunbar. The Pease Boat Works & Marine Railway is on the site where Spaulding and Doris Dunbar relocated their yard in the late 1930s. It was here that the *Monomoy* and earliest *Whistler* one-designs were built. Today the visitor to the Mill Pond not only sees where Chatham boats were built in the past, but where they continue to be built today. Several weeks ago, when participants in our summer camp took a day off from their work with Dave Archibald building a 10’ Spaulding Dunbar skiff to visit Brad and Mike, they spent a wonderful morning not observing history, but experiencing it, an opportunity we all will have during the Museum’s Dunbar Celebration on Saturday, August 17th. I hope to see you there.

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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Building the Dunbar Skiff



The Children's Summer Camp was transformed this year from a Monday morning program into two one week events. During each session participants work with master craftsmen David Archibald and Wayne Jostrand to build a 10' Dunbar skiff. The first camp was held from July 8 - 12, and the second event is happening August 5 - 9. One day during each camp is spent at the Pease Boat Works. The finished skiff from the July camp was auctioned off at the Evening to Remember on July 20th.

Town Supports Chatham Nautical Chart Initiative

The Museum received good news in May when citizens at Town Meeting voted to allocate funds generated under the Community Preservation Act for the project conserve and digitize a group of nautical charts in the Historical Society collection. The collection is among the most compelling and significant of the Society's holdings. It includes charts describing oceans and landforms around the globe. Many of them bear annotations recording their use during the period of the town's preeminence in the history of international sea trade. Not only conveying information about the state of knowledge at the time they were created, they often inspire appreciation as objects of beauty. A significant number can be linked with known Chatham sea captains who recorded specific journeys on them. Captains Gersham Jones, Charles W. Jones, Reuben Eldredge, Simeon Taylor, John Taylor, and Charles W. Hamilton all have been identified as the ship masters who used specific charts in the collection. In addition to their value as individual objects, the charts also supplement other materials in the Society's publically accessible collections.

2013 Annual Meeting of Members

Sunday, August 18, the Chatham Historical Society's Annual meeting will be held at 2 pm in the lecture/exhibit hall of the Atwood House Museum. There will be a short business meeting including election of officers and trustees, approval of the Board of Overseers, report of the Treasurer, and consideration of any others matters properly brought before the meeting.

Following the business meeting speaker Tim Smith will present a lecture titled *F. Spaulding Dunbar and the "Ocean Pearl."*

Check our website or call the museum for more information on the August, September, and October events and programs (www.chathamhistoricalsociety.org and 508-945-2493)



Thank you Volunteers,

Thank you all for your generous volunteer for the Atwood Tour, June 28, 2013. The huge undertaking and with the challenge for a successful Museum.

Thank you also to the owners of the homes that were part of the tour: the Samuel Young House, the Royal House, the Octagon House, and the Brandeis House. The museum was also a part of the tour. Because of the generosity of opening their homes, this tour.

With much appreciation

Judi Clifford



generous gift of time to
House Museum House
House Tour is always a
with your assistance we met
successful event to benefit the

owners of the six wonderful
the tour. The houses were
se, the Dairy Farm, Port
on House, the Sail Loft,
The Atwood House Mu-
ne tour.

y of the home owners in
was a truly special house

on,

(Chairperson)





An Evening to Remember 2013



This annual event, ably chaired by Pat Sachtleben and organized by an experienced committee made up of Stephanie Bartlett, Susan Collins, Peggy Crespo, Phyllis Freeman, RoseMarie McLoughlin, Ginny Nickerson, and Debbie Swenson, was once again a resounding success. The evening included hors d'oeuvres provided by The Wequasset Inn and Resort, and beverages provided by Chatham Bars Inn. Forty-three items were included in the Silent Auction including the Dunbar skiff built by the young people of the camp held July 8th through 12th. About 150 guests attended the event which honored Mike and Brad Pease of Pease Boatworks and Marine Railway on the Mill Pond here in Chatham.

Wood, Wind & Water Brings in New Information to Light About Sailing in Chatham and Dunbar

Visitors to our current exhibition about sailing in Chatham and F. Spaulding Dunbar's career frequently begin their comments about the show with the phrase, "I never knew..." But some start with the provocative words, "Did you know..." In personal conversation, by phone call and email we are gathering some fascinating new information about sailing here and about Dunbar. Did you know, for example, that the sloop Marwall, designed by Dunbar in 1957 for Wallace Marden, is still being enjoyed, but on the waters of Lake Erie? We didn't until her current owner got in touch with us. If you know something that should be added to what we have gathered in putting the exhibition together, don't hesitate to pass it along. You can call the museum general number, (508)945-2493, send us an email at info@chathamhistorical.org, or just stop by. We'd love to hear from you.

Think Museum Shop



Are you beginning to think about Christmas shopping or is there someone for whom you need a birthday present? What about a hostess gift? Stop into the Atwood House Museum Shop and see the beautiful array of gifts and books available for your shopping pleasure!

We especially thank the generous individuals and businesses who donated items to our Silent Auction, therefore contributing to the success of this annual event

Alan and Pat Sachtleben
Audrey Plumer
Bob Hessler
Brad Pease
Candy Manor
Celestino's,
Charles & Christine Daly
Chatham Bistro,
Chatham Cheese Shop
Chatham Cookware
Chatham Fisheries, Inc.
Chatham Light Liquors
Chatham Natural Market
Debbie Hearle
Debbie Spang
Del Mar
Dick Evans
Forest Beach Designer
Frances Johnson
Geri Appleyard
Ginny Nickerson
Gustare
Harwich East Liquors
Housescapes by Jane
Island Pursuit
J. McLaughlin
Jane Nickerson West
Jeanie Gillis/Parterre Garden Services
John and Pam King
Joyce Longworth

Kim Roderiques Photography
Kirk & Judy Kitson
Lazy Lobster
Libby Mottur
Linda Cebula and Robert MacCready
Linda Wiseman
Maps of Antiquity
Mark August
Midsummer Nights
Ocean Edge Resort
Ollie's
Pate's
Picnic Fashion
Puritan
Richard Batchelder
Stephen and Mary Beth Daniel
Suzanna Nickerson
Sweet Tomatoes
The Children's Shop
The Corner Store
The Impudent Oyster
The Shoe Salon
The Squire,
The Trading Company
Tom Buckley
Wild Goose
William H. Hayes
Yankee Ingenuity
Yellow Umbrella



*"Bringing History to Life" Honorees Bard and Mike Pease
with Society Director Dennis McFadden
Photo courtesy of RoseMarie McLoughlin*

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 _____

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



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Mark Your Calendars

Coming up at

THE ATWOOD HOUSE MUSEUM

Future Events - Check our web site or call the museum
Dunbar Celebration Saturday, August 17, 2013
Annual Meeting Sunday, August 18, 2013

Afternoons at the Atwood Lecture Series
Lectures are 2:00 pm at the Atwood House Museum

Sunday August 18, 2013
Speaker: Tim Smith - *F. Spaulding Dunbar and the "Ocean Pearl"*

Sunday October 13, 2013
Speaker: Guy Barube- *The Story of the Chatham Airport*
Sunday November 10, 2013

Memories of Chatham's Past, from Sonny Mallowes, Fran Jones, and Dan Ragan

