



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CONTACT:

Kealyn Garner
Atwood House Museum
kealyn.garner@chathamhistorical.org
(508) 945-2493

Summer of Centuries

Living Memories of Chatham's 300 Years

January 2012, Chatham, MA As Chatham honors its 300th birthday this year, the town is busily preparing for the upcoming events to preserve and celebrate their rich history.

The Atwood House Museum is coordinating their efforts under the Chatham 300 umbrella, inviting visitors and residents to honor and be inspired by those who came before us. The *Summer of Centuries* is a year-long series of programs designed to reconnect us with Chatham's dynamic and diverse past, through the eyes of the real people who lived here and made history in the 17th, 18th, 19th and 20th centuries.

LIVING HISTORY WEEKENDS

A major highlight of the *Summer of Centuries* will be the **Living History Weekends**, held June through September. Truly bringing history to life, all five senses will be engaged as key moments from Chatham's past are recreated and even reenacted. Weekend themes range from World War II (over Founder's Weekend in June), to the Civil War, Colonial Chatham, and pre-Pilgrim life in the 17th century.

Summer of Centuries at a glance:

What: The Atwood House Museum's *Summer of Centuries*: 2012 programs and events in honor of Chatham's 300th

When: Special exhibit runs during the Museum's regular season: June -October. Other events (lectures, living history weekends, book signings and an art exhibition) are scheduled throughout the year.

Where: Most events held at the Atwood House Museum, 347 Stage Harbor Road, Chatham

Cost: Admission: \$6 for adults, \$3 for students, children under 6 free

For a complete calendar of the Summer of Centuries and related events, please visit the Atwood House Museum website at www.chathamhistoricalsociety.org

SPECIAL EXHIBIT

The Museum is also premiering a special exhibit of personal stories throughout the centuries: ***Visions of Chatham Past***. The exhibit honors the living memories of four Chatham citizens, giving visitors the opportunity to connect directly and personally with the compelling stories of their forbearers, complete with restored photographs and period artifacts. The exhibit will open June 8th and run throughout the season until mid-October.

LECTURE SERIES

Beginning in February (and continuing on select Sundays throughout the year), the Atwood House Museum will also host ***Voices: Our Village in Perspective***. With an impressive roster of speakers from the community, the 2012 lecture series will feature a variety of historical discussions pertaining to Chatham and its surrounding areas.

CHATHAM 300 BOOK RELEASE, CHATHAM IN ART

Other highlights include a book release in honor of Chatham's 300th anniversary: ***Three Centuries in a Cape Cod Village: The Story of Chatham***. Sponsored by the Atwood House Museum, the book will be available in June at the Museum and distributed regionally by Schiffer Publishing. In October, ***Chatham in Art: An Anniversary Exhibition*** will be on display at Chatham's Creative Arts Center. Co-sponsored by the Atwood House Museum and the Cape Cod Museum of Art, this visual representation of Cape Cod's rich art history will showcase Chatham artists throughout the past three centuries.

#

As stewards of the regions' history and culture, the Chatham Historical Society strives to educate, inform and enlighten the public, and bring attention and enthusiasm to the Cape Cod community. The Summer of Centuries is part of a rich roster of programs designed to help maintain and grow the Atwood House Museum as a unique center for discovery and research for all ages.