
NEWSLETTER

CAMBRIDGE HISTORICAL SOCIETY AND MUSEUM

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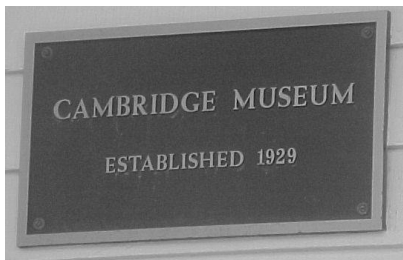
President's Message

Dena Love, President

Our New Name

Dear Members, let me tell you a tale. In 1929 a far-sighted woman, Martha McFarland, incorporated a Historical Society, bought a house, and began a museum. The paper trail detailing her exploits varies as to story but essentially it indicates that the Articles of Incorporation for the Society were filed with the Department of State listing the Historical Society as a business (I guess its business was collecting historical artifacts from the towns people for the museum).

So began the tedious task of finding out why and initiating the process of getting "*current language in our incorporation, transferring to the correct government department, applying and getting Chartered museum status (inclusive of name change), and after all that, filing with the IRS as a Federal Charitable organization*".



The State of New York recognized us as the Cambridge Historical Society and Museum (our new name) on June 21, 2005, and the Federal government recognized us as a non-profit entity on July 26, 2005.

Bravo to a diligent and patient Board of Directors and to you as members of the Cambridge Historical Society and Museum.

Rice Fountain Dedication

The Heritage Weekend kicks off with the dedication of the water fountain at 11:00 a.m. on Saturday September 24. Many will remember this fountain that adorned the Rice Seed campus for years. The fountain, an artifact of a significant piece of Cambridge's history, was donated to the museum by the White family.

Heritage Weekend

September 24 and 25

It has been a long, hot, and humid summer. The summer programs have gone well with good speakers and good attendance. The September event is our 3rd Annual Heritage Weekend.

This activity started in 2003 as a fundraiser when we sponsored several other town events. But, after the first year the Historical Society decided to focus primarily on historical events and have some fun in the process.

So, circle your calendars for September 24 and 25 and join your colleagues and towns people to enjoy three new exhibits. The exhibits this year are:

- Mary McClellan Hospital
- The Albert Shiland family
- DAR memorabilia

We ask the membership and community to participate by sharing their artifacts for a brief period of time. For fun this year we are trying to create a *Cavalcade of Twins* that were born at the Mary McClellan Hospital. So search your family history and get birthdates, weights, names, pictures, and tidbits about their life, family, and friends. Help us create a wall of twins. We currently have 4 sets of twins.

We are also starting an oral history of the hospital for our permanent collection. Please write, dictate, or film any comments, thoughts or reflections on events that connect you to the hospital. We all have memories that will become the history our children will cherish.

We have planned a music fest for Saturday afternoon from 1:00 – 5:00 p.m. Featured will be the Cambridge Valley Volunteers Band and the Battenkill Country Band.

On Sunday from 1:00 – 4:00 p.m. the Green Mountain Auto Club will hold an antique car exhibit on Broad Street in front of the museum

Cambridge Historical Society and Museum

12 Broad Street
Cambridge, NY 12816
(518) 677-5232

Antique Doll Party

The first four programs in our 2005 schedule covered searching for your roots, a late Archaic site in the village, the history of our schools, and treasure hunting using old maps. Hope you didn't miss a single one as they were all entertaining as well as informative.

The next program is our Heritage Weekend, but that doesn't conclude the year. There is still the Antique Doll Party on Saturday October 22 at 11:00 a.m. Bring your kids, bring your dolls and share in a panel discussion.

Museum Tours

The museum is open on Tuesdays and Sundays from 1:00 – 4:00 p.m. through December. The committees are busy and always looking for new blood. If you have any time to volunteer or just want to find out what's going on, stop by or call us at 677-5232.

Project Crazy Quilt

Cindy Gottry, Chairperson

The crazy quilt project is coming along nicely. Quilters of all experience levels, from old pros to first timers, have submitted some remarkable pieces of art.

Many squares have come from local residents, and a few from as far away as New Jersey and North Carolina. Everyone wanted to be a part of this exciting project, and clearly each contributor put her own individual personality into her square.

Our original goal was to have the quilt completed by October and on display for a drawing during the Historical House's Holiday Weekend in November. We still hope to have it on display in November, but with our time and resources stretched thin for the upcoming Heritage Weekend, the decision was made to push back the actual drawing until Valentine's Day 2006. This allows our fund raising to continue into the winter months when we anticipate the need with higher fuel costs.

A very big thank you to all who participated. I think you will agree once you see the quilt that the results are stunning and an appropriate project for our Victorian house.

2006 Historical Calendar

Last year's calendar of 1940's photos of Cambridge and its people was very well received by the community. This year we're planning a calendar comprised of old postcards.

Stop by the museum on Heritage Weekend and see a sample of what's in store. You can place your order at the museum or by calling 677-5232.

Board Meetings

Board meetings are held on the first Wednesday of the month at 6pm and are open to the public. There are two more Board meetings this year on Oct 5 and Nov 2.

Curator's Report

Dena Lowe, President

Two of Robert and Irene McClellan's granddaughters visited the Cambridge Historical Society and Museum this summer. It was a nice experience for each of us.

The museum is open for tours 6 hours each week. It could be open more often if we had more tour guides. If you could spend 3 hours a week or a month as a guide, please contact us and an orientation can be given. We need you ... besides it's fun!

Our search for the history of the Historical House got sidetracked due to the "Chartering" process but we hope to start again. We are desperately seeking social, professional, and pictorial information on (1) John and M. Abbie Smith; (2) Roxie Wildman; (3) Mary Gardner; (4) William McKie; and (5) Katherine McKie. We want to know more about these people who took such good care of the beautiful Victorian house located at 12 Broad Street.

Web Site Update

Ken Gottry, Publicity

The Cambridge Historical Society web site continues to receive lots of attention from near and far. We've started a virtual tour of the museum that includes photos and descriptions of exhibits.

Visit us at
<http://CHS.gottry.com>

