



### CALENDAR

May 3 7:00 P.M. Annual Town Meeting. Nathaniel Wixon School.  
May 11 7:30 P.M. DHS Board meeting at Jericho.  
May 15 2-4 P.M. Maritime Day at the Manse. Shiverick Ship show at 2:15 and 3:15.  
Cape Cod Maritime Week in celebration of National Preservation Week.  
May 16, 17, 19, 20, Ezra Baker school program at the Manse. If you can give a couple of  
23, 24, 25, 26. hours to this worthwhile program please call 385-3528.  
Lady Slipper Walk (see below)

#### Continued from other side....

Just as Henry had a special way with the livestock, Lester had gardening talents that endeared him to Sheriff Crocker, and he was in Barnstable often enough to keep things in pretty good shape. One year in particular the judge sentenced Lester to 90 days which ended in late spring. Poor Lester backslid a bit and landed back in Barnstable in July. On one particularly hot afternoon he told Sheriff Crocker, "I planted these damn cucumbers but I didn't know I'd have to pick 'em too!" Barnstable County House of Correction was noted for its showcase gardens. Mrs. Ida Howes of Dennis remarked while driving through Barnstable that she was glad that Lester was there because now the place would look right. Her husband, I. Grafton Howes remarked once to Sheriff Crocker, "I could have a good looking place too if I had all the convict labor of Barnstable County working for me." For the most part Cape Codders didn't think of the inmates as convicts. they were just people you had always known who couldn't seem to stay sober very long--and all were what we now call colorful characters.

#### BIRTHDAY DINNER--1994

On June 17th DHS will have a birthday party to celebrate our 201st year of incorporation or the first year towards our tricentennial. Only 99 more to go! We will meet at Lighthouse Inn at 5:00 P.M. for a little sociability on the Lower Deck with LHI's famous hors d'oeuvres. The Stone Family do their best to make us feel welcome and we always have a delightful time being together, enjoying a fine meal, and watching the sun go down on Nantucket Sound. Gertrude Lailey has arranged for the Classical Kids, a chamber group, to entertain us after dinner. This group was recently invited to perform at the Massachusetts Music Education Association conference. I believe we're in for a real treat.

#### INDIANS AND ARTIFACTS

The Indian program on April was well attended. 65 people gave up being outside in one of our first really nice warm days to join us at Carleton Hall and they were well rewarded. Dr. Gloria Brundage gave a very informative talk on the Indian experience in America and especially regarding the Cape Indians. Henry Kelley II put together an excellent exhibit of arrowheads and other artifacts, some from the Pauline Derick Collection at the Jericho Barn and others from private collections, all found within Dennis. He detailed a map showing the Indian sites in town and also displayed copies of the Indian "marks" or names found on some of the early Dennis deeds, and a list of men, including many Indians, who went to fight in one of the episodes of the French and Indian War. Henry's map and other information is so educational he agreed to donate them to the Ezra Baker 3rd grade school program. Learning about early Dennis Indians is part of the program, and these items will make great teaching tools. Many thanks to Dr. Brundage, Henry, the DHS Board for baking and serving some delicious refreshments, and to Program Chairman Gertrude Lailey for putting it all together.

#### IT'S LADY SLIPPER TIME

This has been such a lo-o-ong winter--most of us are glad to see it gone--and suddenly our "Cape spring" is here. Daffodils are in profusion everywhere, PJM rhododendrons and forsythia are making colorful statements in our drab landscape, and there is a feeling of excitement that comes with each new spring. The early peas should be in, the seedlings have a good start in the cold frame, and by now we should have reconciled ourselves with everything that winter-killed. It's time to turn our thoughts to our annual walk with Norton Nickerson over the Indian Lands to view Dennis' spectacular display of lady slippers. This is one of the most splendid showings of this native flower on the Cape. Dr. Nickerson gives a very interesting lecture and some of the people on the walk will be doing it for the umteenth time. Anyone who has never seen this display should make the effort. For years this was one of Dennis' best kept secrets. Bring a friend and enjoy the beauty of this native American orchid in all its glory on Saturday, June 4 at 9:00 and 10:30 A.M. Please make reservations with the Natural Resources Office at Town Hall. We will meet at the Town Hall parking lot.

Dennis Historical Society  
P.O. Box 607  
South Dennis, MA 02660

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