



THANK YOU, KIND SIRs

In July's newsletter I told you about the very special Bicentennial menu that was printed with gold ink for our Birthday Dinner and is now a collectors item. I neglected to say that, being gold, it was naturally expensive. To help defray the cost of these commemorative souvenirs Messers. Charles E. Chamberlain, Peter L. McDowell, Edmund Rhodes Nickerson, William E. Crowell, Jr. and Joshua Crowell contributed generously towards our printing bill. Thank you, one and all.

CALL TO THE ANNUAL MEETING

The DHS Annual Meeting will be held at Jacob Sears Memorial Library in East Dennis, on Sunday, September 26, 3:00 P.M. As in years past, the board will try to keep the business portion of the meeting and election of officers as brief as possible. Our Program Chairman, Gertrude Lailey, has arranged for Lil Phillips, illustrious author and columnist, to give one of her humorous talks, "The Funny Side of Misery". Those of you who have heard Lil know what a treat we have in store. For you others--don't miss it! Refreshments will be served.

A WORD FROM ISABELLE

Our membership chairman, Isabelle Flynn, has had a few questions about the dues. To clarify it the dues are as follows: Individual Life Membership \$100.00, Family Yearly Membership \$10.00, Yearly Individual \$8.00, Yearly Student \$2.00. The dues year runs from September 1 to August 31. Due to postal costs the newsletter can only be sent to current members. Isabelle also says thanks to the many people who responded so promptly with their dues. For a few days she was deluged with mail. Our sincere thanks to Isabelle for keeping our membership records in such good order and also (with the help of husband Bill) for folding, labeling, and mailing our newsletter every month. It's a big job, and they do it with a smile.

BICENTENNIAL FESTIVAL DAYS

Well, I would say that anyone who did not thoroughly enjoy this year's Festival Days wasn't really trying. There were dozens of events that included something for all ages. DHS sponsored two events. The first was a Bike Tour of Dennis Port led by Catherine and George Wilson. Pauline Wixon Derick and Adelia Wixon West met the group at different locations along the route to give some historical information to the bike riders. We understand that everyone had a wonderful time.

The other event was an Open House at the Josiah Dennis Manse where our volunteers demonstrated the school program we do every year for the Ezra Baker third grade. This was an enhanced program that included more activities than we usually do, such as quilting, ice cream making, and sampling Colonial-type food. The later proved to be a huge success. Phyllis Horton pored over dozens of early recipes and adapted them to our modern day tastes. On the menu was Portuguese and whole grain breads, Tansy, Meat Pasties, Queens Cake, and Chess Pie washed down with gallons of lemonade and cranberry juice. So many people requested the recipes that we will include some of them in the newsletter as space permits, The surprising fact wonder that emerged from the research was that anyone of that time lived past the age of 30. Most of the recipes called for a dozen to eighteen eggs, at least a quart of heavy cream, and a pound or two of butter. Today's dietitians would throw their hands up in horror. The adult visitors were as pleased as the children to take part in the other usual school activities such as writing with a quill pen, weaving, and making butter. Ice cream was really a nineteenth century invention but we decided to include it because there were people living in the Manse during that century. Turning the handle on the ice cream maker was not such an easy job (ask President Dick Howes) but the rewards of tasting home made ice cream and especially of licking off the dasher when the ice cream was finished made all the effort worth while. The program was so well received we are thinking of making it an annual event during Festival Days. Our old Manse was shined up and put it's best foot forward, and all of our costumed guides looked as if they really belonged there. Sincere thank you to all who helped. Just think of all the school classes who will hear about you when it comes time for "What I Did On My Summer Vacation".

TWO GRAND LADIES

This past month we lost two ladies from our membership who should be remembered fondly and gratefully. One was Jean Johnson who was the DHS Recording Secretary from 1979 to 1981. Jean presented the minutes of the board meetings in a very clear and concise manner. We have a very good picture of our Society's history from her records. The other was Jean Taylor who held several positions on the board but is remembered mainly for her great talent as Program Chairman and especially for her efforts in acquiring some wonderful door prizes for our Mid-Winter Festivities and Birthday Luncheons. Our sympathies to their families and gratitude for the many hours they gave to DHS.

BICENTENNIAL BITS

Sept. 18...Dennis Consolidated/Ezra Baker School Reunion, 1-4 P.M. Visit present and former teachers in their rooms. Meet old classmates. Refreshments and social in the cafeteria 3-4 P.M. Sept. 24...1st Annual Circulation Dinner Dance at Lighthouse Inn. Black Tie... \$37.50 per person. Proceeds to benefit Cape Cod Council of Churches and Harwich Food Pantry. A Bicentennial/Dennis Chamber of Commerce Event. For information call the Chamber at 398-3568.

CALENDAR

Sept.	8	7:30 P.M.	DHS Board Meeting at the Manse
Sept.	15	10:30 A.M.	Hostess Appreciation at the Manse.
Sept.	18	1-4 P.M.	Dennis Consolidated/Ezra Baker School Reunion at Ezra Baker School.
Sept.	24		1st Annual Circulation Dinner Dance, Lighthouse Inn. Call 398-3568 for information.
Sept.	25		Cranberry Harvest Celebration. (See article below.)
Sept.	26	3:00 P.M.	DHS Annual Meeting and Election of Officers at Jacob Sears Memorial Library, East Dennis. Lil Phillips will present "Funny Side of Misery". Refreshments.
Oct.	9	10-4	Bicentennial Quilt Show. Dennis Senior Center. \$2.00 admission.
Oct.	13	9:30 A.M.	Bicentennial Walking Tour of East Dennis.
		1:00 P.M.	Bus Tour of East Dennis for those unable to walk. Reservations 385-5067.

DEDICATING HENRY HALL'S DISCOVERY

Saturday, September 25th will be "Cranberry Harvest Day" on Cape Cod--a celebration of our cranberry heritage. The Cape Cod Cranberry Growers Association and the Dennis Historical Commission will dedicate a plaque to commemorate the site of the first commercial cultivation of cranberries. Henry Hall was born in Nobscusset in 1761 and was a mariner by trade. During the Embargo that led to the War of 1812 Henry, who was also a farmer, improved his forced time on shore by catching up on some of the chores which were neglected when he was at sea. One of those chores was to get in some firewood for his family. He decided to cut a grove of oak and pine on a knoll which stood between the Bay and the wild cranberry yard where his family gathered their crop of that native fruit. During the winter the northerly winds blew sand from the knoll onto the north half of Henry's yard. He thought the berries would be ruined, but noticed in the next fall that the berries were larger and more plentiful than those on the south end of the yard. In the second year the sanded part did even better, so Henry decided to sand the south part and the rest, as they say, is history.

In Southeastern Massachusetts there are more than 13,200 acres of cranberry bogs. Massachusetts is the leading producer of cranberries with an average annual crop of approximately 1.9 million barrels, about 42% of the world's supply. And it all began with our Henry Hall of Nobscusset.

The dedication ceremony will take place at 4:00 P.M. at the Josiah Dennis Manse. Prior to the dedication, cranberry harvest tours will be leaving from the Barnstable County Fair Grounds (off Rt. 151 in East Falmouth) to visit local cranberry bogs during the day. The harvest tours are sponsored by the Barnstable County Farm Bureau, Barnstable County Extension Service, and the Cape Cod Cranberry Growers Association.

The Harwich Historical Society at Brooks Academy Museum, Rt. 124 in Harwich Center will be open from 1-4 P.M. for visitors to see their extraordinary collection of cranberry artifacts. The exhibit features a historical glimpse into the cultural and economic impact the industry has had on the region. Dennis can take credit for developing the crimson berry, but Harwich gets the honors for taking it to market.

Immediately following the dedication of the plaque refreshments will be available in the Manse, featuring, of course, the delectable cranberry. You are all invited to attend.

A SHIVERICK BY ANY OTHER NAME...

Josh Crowell, our Treasurer and local historian, is also a great story teller of local happenings. In the September 5th Sunday Cape Cod Times was a transfer of property listed in East Dennis for 11 Shivench Road. When he read that he laughed and said, "Mr. David would have put that on his list." It seems that Mr. David Shiverick, grandson of Asa, Sr., had a piece of paper in his desk on which he had compiled a list of all the different ways his family name had been misspelled in correspondence and publications over the years.

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