



"THE STONE HOUSE MUSEUM"

Belchertown Historical Association  
Belchertown, Massachusetts  
1903—2010

January 2010

Volume 10, Issue 1

# MEMBER NEWSLETTER

DEDICATED TO THE MANY INDIVIDUALS WHO SUPPORT THE ASSOCIATION'S MISSION

## New Year, Renewed Energy!

### 2010 Calendar

Save the dates and share them with family, friends, neighbors!

**5th Annual Dinner Theater**  
Grapevine Grille, Belchertown  
**Saturday, February 6**

**Boston Bus Trip**  
Flower Show & Quincy Market  
**March 24th or 25th**  
Watch the Sentinel for specifics or call Tom Stockton, 323-0946

**Annual Meeting**  
**April 2010**

Spring Cleaning and Organizing Opportunities as we prepare for opening day. **Join the fun!**  
**Call 323-0946 to volunteer**

**Museum Opening Day and Plant Sale**  
**May 8, 2010**

**Stone House Museum Open May through October**  
Saturday 2 to 5 pm  
and by Appointment (call 323-6573)  
Admission: **FREE** for Members;  
\$5 adults, \$4 seniors, \$2 children

**Member Cocktail Party**  
**June 2010**

**6th Annual Living History Days / Garden Tour**  
**July 10—11, 2010**

### TOM STOCKTON, PRESIDENT

President's Column

What a busy and event-filled fall it has been! The Stone House is truly a busy place, filled with momentum and activity in all aspects of our mission and it is exciting to be part of such a vibrant organization! A lot has been happening with regards to the maintenance and preservation of our Museum, our finances, and of course, the social life of the Association.

Since our last newsletter we have had several fun-filled events and our volunteers have done much important work to secure the future of our Museum and Association. We enjoyed seeing many old friends and making some new ones at the Belchertown Fair, where many visitors came to the Belchertown Historic District Commission's booth—and our decorations won the Fair Booth Theme Prize! It was a great opportunity for us to advertise our mission and upcoming events, including the very successful Halloween 'n' History Mount Hope Cemetery tours on October 27th. Many thanks to Marnie Henneman who organized this wonderful event that included presentations in the Old Town Hall, walking tours of the Mount Hope Cemetery with live reënactors, and magician Fran Ferry, courtesy of McCarthy's Pub. Many people commented that this was a wonderful evening for the whole family.

Then, the very next weekend, it was time for our annual Yuletide Event, and many kudos are due to Sally Shattuck, Denise Smith, Maureen Austin and the whole com-

mittee for bringing off this event so beautifully.

Our many elegant baskets, wreaths, and crafts were the talk of the town and all who attended the many bazaars that weekend. The Yuletide Event culminated with the drawing of our Fourth Annual Cash Raffle. We owe so many thanks to all those who supported our raffle so cheerfully, and to all who gave of their time selling tickets. I am pleased to announce that this was a very successful raffle for us. Our prize-winners were Barbara Sullivan (1st prize), Judy Bettencourt (2nd prize) and Lynne Coleman (3rd prize).

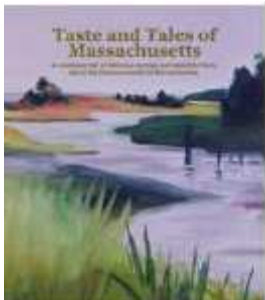
And as soon as Thanksgiving was over it was off to New York with our annual NYC Bus trip—just on the day of our first snowstorm! They were in New York a long time: it was Fall when they left and Winter when they got home! Thanks again to all who donated their time, talents, and treasure to make these last major events of 2009 a success.

The last of the new shutters arrived and was installed in time for the Yuletide Event. Many thanks to Kirk Stephens for all of his fine work! Less glamorous but vitally important are our continuing plans for a new furnace and air conditioner. (We will proceed with these projects as soon as we receive the Community Preservation funds voted at the town meeting last May.) The new replacement de-



*Continued on page 2*

## P. Ann Pieroway, Back by Popular Demand!



**P. Ann Pieroway**, writer and editor of *Taste and Tales of Cape Cod and the Islands* and *Taste and Tales of Massachusetts* joined us in November at the Museum to talk about her latest books: ***A Taste of Cranberries and some tales, too*** and ***Taste and Tales of Cape Cod and the Islands***.

All three books are chock full of irresistible recipes and delightful tales, Pieroway's cookbooks make the perfect gift for the chef in your life (or for yourself!)



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**Please call Tom Stockton at 323-0946 to volunteer!**

*Message from our President Continued from Page 1*



humidifier should be installed in January—long before the humid Spring and Summer weather. We should all give thanks that the malfunctioning furnace and frozen water pipe in the kitchen was discovered before any water leaked into the basement. We are embarking on some long-needed repairs and improvements to the Tremaine House and Barn, and thanks to a very generous anonymous gift the lawn behind the Ford Annex has been improved and re-seeded, so let us also be grateful to all our kind donors and benefactors without whose generosity we would not have been able to meet these challenges.

Other more exciting projects underway relate to the redecoration of the Museum interior and redesigning the exhibit room in time for Opening Day. Much work remains to be done this winter and spring.

And speaking of winter and spring, it is not too early to mark your calendar for two upcoming fun fundraising events. First, our fifth annual Dinner Theater will be held on our (now) traditional date of the First Saturday in February (Feb. 6th). We are very excited this year that we will have a new acting troupe: actors will be organized by Todd Farnsworth and the fees we usually pay the actors will serve as a fundraiser for the Congregational Church. Tickets will soon be available, and we hope for a good turnout again this year, as this fundraiser helps get us through the dark dreary months of winter. The ticket price is expected to be \$39.00 and includes dinner and the show at the Grapevine Grille here in Belchertown. **By the way, the show will have a "Love Boat" theme, so if you're so inclined dress accordingly for a cruise!**

Second, we will again this year have a Bus Trip to the Boston Flower Show and historic Quincy Market. The flower show did not happen last year, but this trip sold out quickly year before last, so try to get your reservations in quickly. The trip will be held on Wednesday March 24 or Thursday March 25. (For more information call Tom Stockton, 323-0946.) We are still negotiating ticket prices, so look for upcoming announcements in the Sentinel.

Finally, planning is already underway for our Annual Meeting in April, our annual Opening Day Event and plant sale, (to be held on the second Saturday of May), and our sixth annual Living History Days/Garden Tour July 10th – 11th. Volunteers and plant donations will be gratefully accepted this spring.

As winter progresses we continue to be active in working to promote our mission even though the museum is not open for regularly scheduled hours. We hope many of our members and friends will take advantage of the fun and educational activities in our upcoming calendar.

# Membership Update

Carol Mierzewski

Please welcome our NEWEST members!

**John Curry  
Paul Kaplita  
Amy Moran**

Reminder: Let us know if you have moved, changed your e-mail or phone number. Our mailings are sometimes returned as "Address Unknown". Having up to-date info helps us to responsibly manage our mailing costs. We often send out e-mail reminders to events. During these busy times of electronic mail and message machines, it may be the speediest way to contact you. You can e-mail me: [emierzewsk@aol.com](mailto:emierzewsk@aol.com) or call me @ 3234344 with any changes. Thanks.

We rely on memberships, donations, business sponsorship, and fundraising to maintain and care for the Stone House Museum and its collections, and to present exhibits and programs for the community. With your support we continue to promote and preserve our community treasure.

# Museum Committee

Florine Neggers

Interested in doing some volunteer work? The Museum Committee needs additional members.

The Committee meets every fourth Wednesday at 7 pm at the Stone House and is composed of seven (7) members including the Assistant Curator.

This group is responsible for:

- ◆ collecting, cataloging, cleaning, repair, and storage of historic objects:
- ◆ arranging museum exhibits, and for the correct historic interpretation of those exhibits:
- ◆ care and upkeep of the museum quarters.

Anyone interested in becoming a part of this group, please call Florine Neggers at 213-0345 or the Stone House at 323-6573 and leave your name and phone number.

This is fun, interesting and an important way to be a part of the Belchertown Historical Association. We look forward to hearing from you.



## MEMBERSHIP FORM -- thru April 30, 2010

*Yes! I am pleased to support the Belchertown Historical Association and want to renew/join.*

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

TELEPHONE (optional): \_\_\_\_\_ EMAIL (optional): \_\_\_\_\_

If a Gift Membership, please indicate whom the gift is from: \_\_\_\_\_

**Indicate category of membership below** and return the completed form with your tax deductible check payable to Belchertown Historical Association. Please consider moving up a level! Thank you very much for your support.

Individual: \$15 per person       Family: \$30 per family (children under 18)  
 Student (under 18): \$5 per person       Friend: \$50       Senior (65+): \$8 per person       Patron: \$100       Benefactors: \$250  
 Additional Membership Donation \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
 Membership Donation in Honor or Memory of \_\_\_\_\_  
 Corporate Matching Program: Attach employer's corporate matching gift form

Would you like to be involved in activities of the Association? If so, please indicate your interests and skills, and the best time for us to contact you. **Please consider including the Belchertown Historical Association in your estate plans.**

**Mail to: Belchertown Historical Association — 20 Maple St. PO Box 1211, Belchertown, MA 01007-1211**



BELCHERTOWN HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION  
 P.O. BOX 1211 BELCHERTOWN, MA  
 01007 | VISIT US AT THE STONE HOUSE,  
 CALL US AT 413 323-6573 OR VIEW US AT  
 WWW.STONEHOUSEMUSEUM.ORG

ASS'T CURATOR: SHIRLEY BOCK  
 ARCHIVIST CLIFF MCCARTHY

BOARD OF TRUSTEES '09-'10  
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 EDITOR: MARY F. KNIGHT,  
 MFKNIGHT@CROCKER.COM

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**YULETIDE AT THE STONE HOUSE  
 GREAT SUCCESS!**

The Yuletide event was a great success thanks to many, many helping hands. The sales room was packed with lots of original, homemade gifts. The kitchen was overflowing with delightful cakes, pies, cookies and special seasonal treats. Our silent and Chinese auctions were very successful and all the winners went home happy. Mike Madden won the gorgeous Irish quilt donated by Florine Neggers. There were many sad faces from those who tried to win it, but, congratulations Mike!

The house looked absolutely festive. Our thanks to everyone who volunteered, donated or just came and shopped. Have a great new year and..start working now on how you can help with next year's Yuletide.



**Sally Shattuck, trustee**

11007-1211  
 BELCHERTOWN, MA  
 PO BOX 1211  
 20 MAPLE STREET  
 ASSOCIATION  
 BELCHERTOWN HISTORICAL

