



155 West Bay Road
Post Office Box 3
Osterville, MA 02655

Non-Profit
Organization
U.S. Postage
PAID
Osterville, MA
Permit No. 29

Spring 2010 Issue!

<<firstname>> <<lastname>>
<<company>>
<<address1>>
<<address2>>
<<city>>, <<state>> <<zip>>



**OSTERVILLE HISTORICAL SOCIETY and MUSEUM
BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

President - Carol Allen

Vice Presidents

Kathleen Capo · Jacqueline Martin · Will J. Price, MD

Treasurer - James Eastman

Secretary - George Rowland

Board Members

Alison Audibert · Marilyn Colman · C. Eldon Lawson
Hugh MacColl · Barnes Riznik · Michael Schulz · Kathleen Silva
David Trimble · Richard Weir · Anne Wildman · John Williams

Executive Director - Cynthia D. Hall

Curator - Cathryn Wright

Honorary Advisory Board

Bette Birmingham · Malcolm Crosby · Mari Poss
Mary Wells · Stanley Wheelock · Richard Whitman

- Thank You -

A special thank you to **Alice Alger** for her years of dedication as a volunteer, especially for her hours of helping to catalogue the extensive doll collection at the Museum.

Barbara Johann and **Peggy Breslow** for chairing the fabulous Festival of Trees.

Judy Staples and **Joe Tavilla** for their volunteer hours in our photo archives.

Dick Whitman for helping with odd-jobs around the properties and for his inexhaustible spirit of "can do."

Save the Date

Osterville Museum Annual Meeting

Monday, April 26th
at Wimpy's

5:00pm - Cocktails and Dinner
Business meeting starts at 7:00pm.



OSTERVILLE HISTORICAL MUSEUM

Parker's Corner

A great small museum, bringing local history and people together.

155 West Bay Road, P.O. Box 3, Osterville, MA 02655 ~ 508-428-5861 ~ Fax: 508-428-2241 ~ www.ostervillemuseum.org

from the Director . . .

While winter's "quiet season" is upon us, we are getting many things accomplished at the Museum. In December, the Museum held a Festival of Trees during the annual Village Stroll that brought in over 350 visitors to view and bid on the beautifully decorated trees. Then in February, we participated in the Chocolate Festival and offered a valentine craft-making event. Sixty-five people brought their creativity, made valentines for their loved ones and filled a box of valentines for our soldiers overseas.

Now we are busy preparing for the summer season that will feature our annual events and programs outlined in the following pages.

The best news I want to share with you is that we will be proceeding this year with much needed foundation and structural work on the Cammett House. Because of the historic significance of the dwelling, this property was rescued in 1981 from demolition by a group of forward thinking residents of the village and the Museum's Board of Directors. It was then moved to the Museum's site where it was carefully restored to represent how it would have looked in the early 1800's.

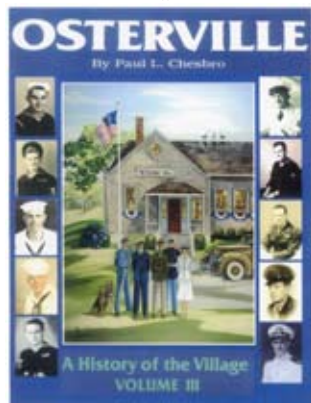
The Cammett House is used as a significant educational tool for local schools. The Osterville Garden Club lovingly tends the beautiful garden in the front and the garden becomes a part of the curriculum taught to students on the early medicinal properties of plants and herbs. We have volunteers who take on the role of "Mrs. Cammett" replete with a circa 1800's costume and who speak to the students in first person allowing them to imagine themselves back 200 years.

There is so much about the Cammett House that is important. In the words of the Director of Preservation Planning at Mass. Historical Commission, "The Cammett House is a culturally, historically and architecturally significant property meriting the protection of a perpetual preservation..." The funding we have been awarded by the Community Preservation Act of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts will allow us to make necessary improvements. We are very grateful to be able to continue to preserve and protect this wonderful heritage.

Cynthia
Cynthia D. Hall
Executive Director

*An Afternoon with
Paul Chesbro*

While no introduction is necessary when it comes to Paul Chesbro and the Osterville Historical Society, we thought it would be fitting to visit with Paul just prior to the release of his latest book (his fourth!) called Osterville : A History of the Village, Volume III. We spent a windy, snowy February afternoon learning so much about "Osterville's Own Historian" and his labor of love when it comes to preserving Osterville's history.



An Osterville native, Paul's interest in his family's history was sparked on a trip to Arizona of all places when he was in his twenties. He was visiting his great-aunt who was a history buff and then in a conversation on a bus ride to the Grand Canyon, it turned out that the only other tourist from the New England area happened to be a distant relative from Edaville, MA. When he returned to Osterville, he decided to pursue his interest in his heritage tirelessly which resulted in the publication of his first book in 1979, co-authored by Chester Crosby called Osterville - A Walk in the Past. He then went on to publish two volumes in 1988 and 1989 about the history and the people of Osterville. Over five years in the making, his third volume is now hot off the press.

Osterville: A History of the Village, Volume III includes over 600 photographs portraying different scenes and people from the village. It is an incredible visual documentary of Osterville's past. In order to amass this impressive collection of photos and personal accounts, Paul sent out countless letters to many residents - past and present - inviting them to share their memories and recollections. He was elated with the response he received from all over the country. He also scoured attics of various houses in his attempt to uncover all that he could in the way of photographs, diaries, oral histories, stories and more.

continued on next page

continued from page 1

Paul's book covers myriad aspects of Osterville life including the old bands and baseball teams, the 1944 Hurricane, our schools and church life, life before television, Oyster Harbors and so much more. Most significant is his last chapter which is devoted to the Osterville servicemen and women of WWII.

Taking their names from the memorial in the village, Paul was able to track down 112 photographs of the 158 Osterville men and women who fought and documented where they served and how many battles they fought in – no easy feat to accomplish, but he did! He then designed the cover with the artist, Jayne Shelly Pierce's help, to pay tribute to these men and women.

We asked Paul what some of his fondest memories are of growing up here. He shared that he enjoyed his time at church with his parents and his brother, his time caddying at the Wianno, and working on his paper route. He loved helping his mother with her florist business and he even confessed to participating in some childhood pranks right in front of our very own Parker House!

OHS is extremely grateful to Paul for the time he took to meet with us and even more so for his unbridled passion and dedication to the preservation of Osterville's history. Paul's efforts have created a cornerstone of the museum's photographic collection and are an invaluable resource for our museum and generations to come. Thank you, Paul!

-copies of Osterville: A History of the Village, Volume III are available for purchase in the Museum's gift shop.

Internships

High School Internships at the Museum during the summer season are offered again this year. Last year, the program was a wonderful success for both the interns and the Museum staff. We hope to duplicate it. If you know of someone who would be interested in volunteering as a high-school student, please have them check out the website at www.ostervillemuseum.org/internships or call the office at (508)428-5861.

Wish List

If any of the following items are taking up space in your attics or basements, the Museum would love to take them off of your hands!

- Book shelves: any size
- Coffee maker: for 10-12 cups
- Hot plate
- Glass drinking cups: 4-6
- Kitchen flatware: forks, spoons & knives 4-6 sets
- Bicycle rack: so visitors can park their bikes
- Outdoor folding table
- Garden hose
- Small locking file cabinet
- Chair mats for wooden floors: 3

OHS Needs You

Hostesses: Hostesses wanted for upcoming events at the Museum. If you love to plan and be a part of event preparation, this is for you!

Docent Training: OHS is starting a new docent training program at the Museum. We will be training interpreters for the Crosby boat shops, the Parker House, and Cammett House tours. If you fancy yourself a historian by nature and have ever wanted to become an interpreter of history, now is your chance!

Gift Shop: The Museum is looking for a dedicated volunteer who would like to be a part of the gift shop for the season.

If any of these opportunities appeal to you, please call us at 508-428-5861 or stop by.



OSTERVILLE FARMER'S MARKET

~ Every Friday ~

June 4th until October 1st, 2010

9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Fresh
FRUITS and VEGETABLES
JELLIES ~ JAMS ~ HERBS ~ HONEY
and much more!

Located on the campus of the



Osterville Historical Museum

155 West Bay Road

at the corner of West Bay and Parker Roads

For more information please call (508) 362-6049

or email: info@OstervilleFarmersMarket.org

www.OstervilleFarmersMarket.org



Accessions

Sometimes a gift comes along that epitomizes who we are and touches everyone that comes in contact with it. That is the case with the gouache painting by Frank Wagner commemorating the 75th anniversary of the Wianno Senior class. "Sunday Senior Race in 1930" conjures up memories of summers past; no racing experience required to feel a child's joy at being on an adventure; no sailing experience needed to feel the imminent sunset and light wind of a summer's evening. Wagner captured this timeless moment perfectly. But there are also surprises in the painting . . . can you tell who is in the boat?



"Sunday Senior Race in 1930"
by Frank H. Wagner, gift of Bill and Bobbie Tripp

From large to small, everything that is accessioned by the Museum has an Osterville story. Below are just a few of the recent accession items in 2009:

- Set of spars for a 1904 Charles Crosby knockabout named "Tioga" (see photo) The Tioga was 32 ft. in length and the mast is 35 ft. (Gift from Bruce Hammett)
- F.A.O. Swartz wooden toy train set made up of engine and two trailers. Circa 1950's (Gift from Polly Bellingrath)
- Book "Cape Cod: Its People and Their History" by Henry C. Kittredge, 1930 (Gift from Charlotte Shane)
- Four sets of original bill of sales for shares in different Schooners dating from the 1850's. Most of the shares were purchased by Osterville families. (Gifted in the name of Katharine C. Cotter)



The "Tioga" under sail

What's New at the Museum

The museum will be open this summer June 4 – October 2, Thursday – Saturday from 10:00am – 2:00pm instead of the afternoon hours it held for so many years. With the growth of visitors to the Museum, it became apparent last year that offering earlier hours would allow greater access to the collection. With that in mind, we increased the hours open to the public to four hours a day and started them earlier for those beach lovers!

Spring Tour - Join us this year as we visit the **Johnson & Wales Culinary Arts Museum** in Rhode Island. This collection houses cookbooks dating back as far as the 1500's and exhibits recreating centuries of dining establishments. Menus, silver, appliances and advertising spanning centuries form the cornerstone of the Museum collection. The Museum opened its doors in the late 1970's and has received rave reviews from all its visitors. The bus trip is scheduled for Thursday, May 6th, departing at 9:00am and returning by 4:00pm. A box lunch from Fancy's Market will be included this year as there are no restaurants near the Museum. The cost to members is \$55.00 per person. Please email ohs@ostervillemuseum.org or call the office (508-428-5861) to make a reservation.

A new permanent exhibit is coming to the Museum. The Herbert F. Crosby boat shop will have an audio exhibit on display making the shop come alive with sounds and narration. The three minute piece will give visitors a feeling of being transported back in time and place. The narration will interpret what visitors see when they enter the shop, as if they happened on Herbert in the middle of sanding the hull of the boat . . .

Digital photography course for 6th grade students. The Museum is offering a 4 week course in digital photography for 11 & 12 year old students. The course will run on Saturday mornings in July and culminate in an exhibit of the students work in August. Places are limited, if you have a student who would be interested, please call the Museum at 508-428-5861.

A special event is underway this summer. What better way to celebrate with friends and family than on a summer's evening, under the stars, with fabulous food and entertainment? August 8th, the Museum will host a "Summer Soirée" catered by **Casual Gourmet** who is collaborating with several of our local farmers to produce an exquisite array of fresh vegetables and seafood. The featured entertainment will be **Jiggs Whigham with his Jazz Ensemble**. Mark your calendars for Sunday, August 8th for an event you will not want to miss.