

Winchendon Historical Society, Inc.

Murdock Whitney House and Museum
151 Front Street P.O. Box 279 Winchendon, MA 01475
Telephone: 978-297-2142 (voice mail)
Website: www.winchendonhistoricalsociety.org
E-Mail: info@winchendonhistoricalsociety.org

Volume 6 Issue 3 Spring

April 2011

Mark Your Calendars for the Mad Hatter's Tea!!!

**Saturday May 21, 2011
(rain date: Sunday May 22, 2011)**

**The Murdock-Whitney Mansion
151 Front St, Winchendon**

12-4pm

Join us for our newest and first event of the 2011 season!! Tickets are available by calling the museum: 297-2142, or Peg Corbosiero: 297-2415. They are \$10 per adult, \$5 per child and a maximum of \$25 per family. This is your chance to come wear your most outrageous hat, and have some great food, and great fun for all ages. Don't miss it!!

Workshop for Tour Guides

We are looking for interested and enthusiastic volunteers to give tours of the mansion for the 2011 season. If you are interested, please contact Don O'Neil at 978-297-7247, or email him at djoneiljr@gmail.com. A workshop will be conducted on Sunday May 15th at 1pm. Tours are conducted on Wednesdays and on Weekends. Any help you can give would be greatly appreciated!



Annual Luncheon

This year's luncheon will be held at The Carriage House in Winchendon on Tuesday May 17th at 12pm.

Please fill out the enclosed sheet with your menu choices and return it to us by **May 7th**

Museum Opens for the 2011 Season

The museum will open for the season on Alumni Weekend - June 4th and 5th. Tours will be given both days at 1 and 2:30 or by appointment. Regular hours will resume for the summer: Wednesdays and Sundays from 12-4.

**Be sure to check out the SALE on items
in the Museum Store!!**



The Winchendon School Chorus performs at the "Night of Music" at the Murdock Whitney House.
Photo courtesy of the Winchendon Courier

President's Farewell Message

We are hopeful that Spring and Summer is soon around the corner and brings forth brightness, color and an announcement of change.

I am announcing my retirement as President. I have served the Board since 1993 in the capacity of Secretary, Treasurer, Co-President with Shirley Parks for two years, 1st Vice President and President for the past six years. The past 18 years have been years of dedication and responsibility to the Winchendon Historical Society and the belief in the mission of preservation of, not only the collection, but the archives of Winchendon history. At this time, I salute all the volunteers who have supported, not only me, but also their dedication to the Winchendon Historical Society.

It is time for a new beginning and time to pass the gavel and open the door to a new and younger talent to lead the society and the museum to another level of leadership.

My president's farewell message does not mean that I am leaving the society. I will join the Wednesday staff in the Anna Broadhurst Research Room on Wednesday

Respectfully,

Theresa N. Beauvais, President



Recent Events

Holiday Tea and Tour:

This year's holiday tea and tour was an overwhelming success. We had 70 guests at the two seating's. The mansion was decorated in its holiday finest. A great time was had by all. Everyone who attended got to take home a lovely souvenir holiday decoration that adorned their table.

Winter Musical Program:

The sound of beautiful jazz and acapella music filled the stately rooms at the Murdock-Whitney Mansion. 90 guests came out on a cold winter night to enjoy an evening of music, wine, and cheese. Students from the Winchendon School performed for the audience. Directed by music teacher Debbie Maloney, the students played and sang current and classic favorites. It was delightful to see the museum full of people with the sounds of music heard everywhere. We were able to put this event on due to a generous grant by the Winchendon Cultural Committee, and of course the students and teachers at the Winchendon School. We hope this can become an regular event!



The Winchendon School Jazz Band Performs
Photo courtesy of the Winchendon Courier

Winchendon Millworker History in Yankee Magazine

For the past three years, Mass. resident Joe Manning has been researching and documenting the pictures taken by photographer Lewis Hine almost 100 years ago. The March/April issue of Yankee Magazine has featured all his hard work. He has also been featured in the Winchendon Courier. Joe has approached the Historical Society about possibly doing an exhibit of these most interesting photos and the stories attached to them. Below is one of the fantastic pictures of mill life in Winchendon's heyday. Be sure to check out Yankee Magazine for the full article, or you can go online and read it at:
<http://www.morningsonmaplestreet.com/winchendon.html>

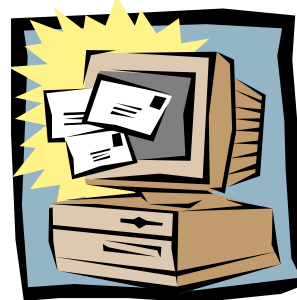


Mamie LaBerge, September 1911 at the GlenAllen Mill - Photo by Lewis Hine

Museum Wish List :

We have created a museum wish list of items we could use at the Museum. Currently we are seeking:

Window treatments— lace curtains
Plastic storage bins

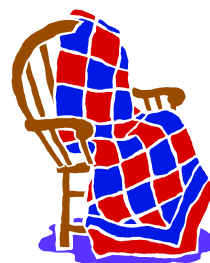


Newsletter by Email:

Would you like to receive this newsletter by email instead of regular mail? Please call the museum: 978-297-2142, or email: info@winchendonhistoricalsociety.org and we can easily set you up to receive an electronic copy.

Membership Renewal Forms:

Make sure you fill out the enclosed membership renewal form and send it back to us as soon as possible to keep your membership up to date!!



Wool Blanket Raffle

We extended the raffle for this gorgeous 100% wool blanket made entirely from wool from Massachusetts sheep! This was generously donated by the McDonough's of the David Brown Farm. Tickets are \$5 and the winner will be drawn at the Mad Hatter's Tea on May 21

In Memoriam:

These faithful members passed away recently. All were long time members and we ask that you remember them:

**Ray Clement
Gilbert Schoales
Charles (Pete) Chapman**

Some Special Thanks:

The Historical Society would like to extend some special thanks to a group of people who helped the museum make it through this especially harsh winter:

Roger Hunt, Peggy Corbosiero, Guy Corbosiero and Jay Treshinsky for tirelessly keeping an eye on the snow levels on the various roofs and for spending countless hours shoveling them!

Linda Hunt and Peggy Corbosiero for the extensive cleaning and dusting prior to our winter program.

Bob Betourney and John Goan for putting up and taking down the trees in the music room and the East Parlor—and for lending us the fabulous Lionel train to put around the Christmas tree.

All of their hard work is most appreciated!!

Christmas Tour Houses Needed

We will be doing a tour of homes this year and are starting early recruiting volunteers. If you would like to show your home this December, please call the museum or email Don O'Neil at: djoneiljr@gmail.com

Planned Events:

Mark your calendars!! We have set the dates for some fun and exciting events:



The Mad Hatter's Tea Party:

When: Saturday May 21, 2011

Where: The Murdock Whitney House Museum

Time: 1-5pm

This is sure to be lots of fun - Wear your most outrageous hat and spend an afternoon with the Mad Hatter!!



Tea's on the veranda

We will continue the tradition of the teas on the veranda this year, with dates to be announced. We plan on having one in July and one in August.



Casino Royale:

When: Saturday September 10, 2011

Where: The Orange Whitney House
122 Pleasant St, Winchendon

Time: 7pm-Midnight

This has become a yearly favorite that we look forward to. Once again, Don O'Neil and Bob O'Keefe will lend out the Orange Whitney house and transform it for a night of food, fun and gambling. Don't miss it this year!!

Winchendon Historical Society, Inc

151 Front St, P.O.Box 279
Winchendon, MA 01475
Established 1930
Incorporated 1955

Telephone: 978-291-2142 (voice mail)

Web Site

www.winchendonhistoricalsociety.org

Mission Statement

The Winchendon Historical Society's mission is to preserve the history of the Town of Winchendon by collecting, archiving and maintaining our museum collections and archives with special emphasis on wooden toys made by the Morton E. Converse Company and Mason Parker Company and to preserve the Murdock-Whitney House as our 22 room mansion and home

Memberships

American Association for State and Local History
Institute for Non-Profit Development- MWCC
New England Museum Association
Gardner Chamber of Commerce

Membership Dues (due in May Annually)

Membership benefits include free admission to the Murdock-Whitney House Museum, invitations to special events, reduced fees to events and quarterly newsletter

Student (High School 16-18yrs): \$5.00
Individual: \$20.00
Individual (Senior Citizen 65+): \$15.00
Family (includes children under 18yrs): \$35
(children under 12 accompanied by an adult)

Meetings are held on the second Tuesday of
September, October, April and May

Note: The Winchendon Historical Society, Inc. is a tax exempt organization 501 (3) C of the IRS code and all contributions are tax deductible

Send information to be published in the newsletter to:
Email: djoneiljr@gmail.com
Postal Mail: WHS Newsletter PO BOX 279,
Winchendon, MA 01475

Officers

President: Theresa Beauvais	978-297-2405
1st Vice President: Peggy Corbosiero	978-297-2415
2nd Vice President: Peter Newton	978-297-0730
Treasurer: Roger (Gerry) Hunt	978-297-1133
Secretary: Coral Grout	978-297-0239
Curator: Rita Saveall	978-297-0326

Board of Directors

All officers above

Ruth DeAmicis	Cell: 978-869-1472
	Work: 978-297-0050
Mary Fitzpatrick	978-297-0611
Don O'Neil	978-297-7247

Board of Directors meetings are held the third Tuesday of the month at the Murdock-Whitney House.

Trustee of Trust Funds

Theresa Beauvais, Marc Brouillette, Roger Hunt

Committees

Hospitality: Elaine Gaspard
Membership: Theresa Beauvais, Marc Brouillette
Nominating: Lois Abare and Ruth DeAmicis
Newsletter & Website: Don O'Neil
Program Committee: Jean Olsen and Volunteers
Publicity: Ruth DeAmicis
Remembrance: Mary Fitzpatrick
Ways & Means: Donna Shaugnessey, Chairperson
Bookkeeper: Joyce Beauvais

Volunteer Staff

Curator: Rita Saveall
Archivist/Data Entry: Diane Legros, Betty Blodgett
Membership/Data Entry: Virginia Hardy
Tours & Research: Kerry Bettez

**This newsletter is printed by Richard Creamer at
Performance Press in Winchendon**



**WINCHENDON HISTORICAL SOCIETY
CALENDAR OF EVENTS**

<u>EVENT</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>TIME</u>	<u>PLACE</u>
Mad Hatter's Tea Party	Saturday May 21	12:00-4:00	Murdock Whitney House
Alumni Weekend Tours	Saturday and Sunday June 4th & 5th	1:00 & 2:30	Murdock Whitney House
Casino Royale	Saturday September 10th	7:00-Midnight	The Orange Whitney House

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