

The Sudbury Chronicle



Sudbury Historical Society, Inc.

Fall 2013

Photo Contest

As the saying goes, "a picture is worth a thousand words." The Sudbury Historical Society wants to know what you think makes Sudbury, Sudbury, through a new photo contest called "Picturing Sudbury, A Celebration of our town". We want you to use a photograph to complete the sentence "**Sudbury wouldn't be Sudbury without...**". The picture in your mind may be different from your neighbor's.

Photographs may capture Sudbury's buildings, landscapes, monuments, streetscapes, businesses, people, or any place or activity that is quintessentially Sudbury. Examples might include The Wayside Inn area, Town Center at sunset, Pantry Brook Farm while the corn is high, Mill Village at the holidays, or everyday life in general -- you show us!

The contest runs from September 1, 2013 through July 31, 2014. At the end of each month a selection of submitted images will be posted here on the Society's web site. You may submit up to five images a month while the contest is running.

Winners will be announced in September 2014 in an exhibition that coincides with the 375th Anniversary of Sudbury's founding. Photographs will be judged for various categories including young photographers, artistic merit, technical excellence, and most evocative of present-day Sudbury.

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Sudbury Celebrates

This year's programs of the Society will celebrate the 375th anniversary of the town of Sudbury. Ten programs will bring to life the spirit of Sudbury through the years. Each presenter has done a great deal of research. The Society is proud to present the history of Sudbury by the following programs listed in the order of the period they recall, not the order in which they occur.

Settlement Period

Puritans Make a Village - Hal Cutler

Edmund Brown's Library: A

Concert of a Puritan Minister's

Musical Collection - Stephen

Loikith

The King Philip War in Sudbury- Lee

Swanson

Colonial Period

Rev. Loring's Sudbury -Jane Graham

The Men Who Marched to Concord -

George Quintal

Victorian Period

Railroads in Sudbury - an ardent

railroad enthusiast.

Overall

War Memorials in Sudbury - Rachel Goodrich

Genealogy 101 -Elin Neiterman and Rachel Goodrich

Caroling and Music at the Town Center

Five Century House Tour -Wayland Historical Society

Tag Sale

The Society is planning a "First-of -its-Kind" Tag Sale on Saturday, October 19th from 9-3 in front of Sudbury Town Hall.

Now is the time to check your attic or basement for interesting, unusual and/or collectible items which are in good condition and which you want to donate. Please....no very large items, electronics, clothing or computer peripherals. Only the Society's de-accessioned items will be included in the Tag Sale and NOT items which are part of the Society's collections.

All are invited to stop by and visit the Tag Sale and find a special "treasure"! The Tag Sale is being held the same weekend as The Sudbury Art Association's Open Studio Weekend. They will have special exhibits of local artists' works at Sudbury Town Hall, the Grange Hall and numerous individual artist studios around town. It is also the day of the First Parish Annual Juried Craft Sale.

Contact SHS Trustees Stewart Hoover at (978)-443-9023 or Ursula Lyons at (978)-505-0426 for information and to make arrangements for pick up and storage.

All proceeds from the Sale will benefit the Historical Society. All items donated are tax-deductible as the SHS is a



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see us on Facebook



Keeping the Spirit of Sudbury's Past Alive.

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Joan Meenan

Ellen Morgan

Elin Nieterman

Beth Gray-Nix

Nancy Somers

Lee Swanson, Curator/
Archivist

Photo Contest, continued

Details about the Winner's Exhibition will be announced at a later date.

For entry forms and rules go to the Society's web page at www.sudbury01776.org. If you have questions about the contest, send an e-mail to shsPhotoContest375@verizon.net.

President's Letter

Dear Members and Friends,

It is with a grateful heart that I write this annual letter to our membership and others interested in the Sudbury Historical Society. So much has happened this year to move us further toward our dream of establishing a museum/history center in Sudbury—and so many dedicated trustees and other volunteers have contributed their time and talents in extraordinary ways.

Last fall, the Sudbury Foundation invited the Society to participate in a two-day workshop (with webinars in between) that led us through a process to create an Essential Strategic Plan for the future. Seven of us participated, and what a valuable exercise it turned out to be at this critical time in the Society's history. As part of this process, our Board of Trustees developed a set of goals—our aspiration for the Society ten years from now. They are as follows:

- A museum/history center
- A permanent, paid professional staff
- A steady stream of income
- An adequate number of volunteers
- Membership: Ten percent of households in town (which would be approximately 500)

So what have we done within the last year to move towards these lofty goals, and what will we be doing in the coming year?

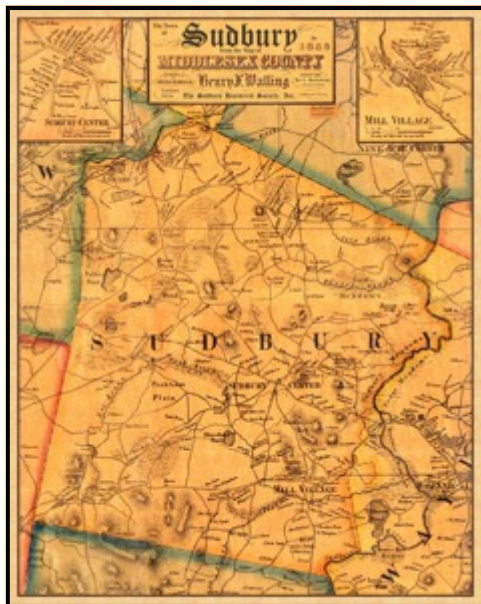
Members of our Board of Trustees visited eighteen other historical societies/museums in the area to learn what they offer and how they operate. From these visits, we discovered that what we thought was impossible to achieve might actually be possible. We got wonderful ideas for fundraising and real insights into infrastructure—how they are organized.

We have begun to gather information from town residents and groups as to what they would like to see in a museum. This will continue in the fall. With the information gathered, we want to develop a vision for what a museum can be. We need to establish a reason for why residents of Sudbury would want to support a History Center Museum.

We have been working hard to organize our collections in the space that we have now—the 2nd floor of Town Hall—into exhibits so that townspeople can see and enjoy these collections now. We plan to open this space to visitors on a regular basis during November.

What are some of the ideas for a museum that have been put forward thus far? We will obviously want to display our collections, perhaps rotating them from time to time. It has also been suggested that *we tell Sudbury's story* (both visually and interactively) so that children and adults can enjoy it. We want to introduce children to history, and we want to expand our programs in order to bring children into the museum either through weekend or after school activities or school group tours. Another suggestion has been that a part of the museum be set aside for local artists of all ages to display their work—painters, artisans, even authors and poets. Besides space for display, we would need space for storing of our artifacts, photographs, maps, books and other papers not on display. We need work space for conservation, archiving, and research, space for administrative work and perhaps a gift shop.

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1856 Map

A map of Sudbury in 1856 will soon be available for sale from the Society. Member Jan Hardenbergh located this interesting 5 foot by 4 foot map of Middlesex County by Henry F. Walling. Jan purchased a copy of the map, scanned and restored the Sudbury portion of the image to make it a nice piece with its original antique coloring. It includes what is now Maynard. With the guidance of Chuck Zimmer, prints have been made that will fit into the 16" x 20" frames to match the other maps sold by the Society.

More information about the map and the method Jan used is at <http://www.hardenbergh.org/places/sudbury/Walling1856>

For information about this map and the others available from the Society, go to the Society's web page

<http://sudbury01776.org>

and click on the left tab for Store .

All maps may be viewed at our headquarters upstairs in the Sudbury Town Hall.

Weekday work accessioning

Over 60 donations of items have been accessioned since January. Sometimes there were multiple items in one donation. To accession something means to put it into the database. Each item is given a number, is described, and, photographed or scanned.

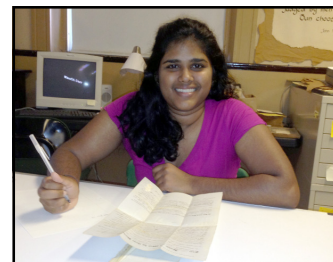
For volunteers to accession they need to learn how to use the simple database. That takes instruction and practice. Usually two people work together helping each other. One person handles the items and the other enters the descriptive information into the database. Scanning is done at the same time or later. Someone else (Usually George Kiesewetter) does photography later.

Not all of the items accessioned this year were recent to the collections. Some were located in an extensive sorting and cleaning that has been happening this year. Part of the fun of volunteering at the Society is seeing and touching very old and unique things.



Mystery Object

Above is a little ceramic container. We don't know what it is. Can you suggest what it could be? To guess contact Lee at sudburyhist@verizon.net.



New history graduate volunteer
Ally Rangachari

Presidents letter continued.

I'm happy to report that the Society has moved closer to finding the ideal place for our future home.

Obviously, the Sudbury Historical Society will need to raise funds in a very serious way to meet these lofty goals. We will be writing grants and targeting potential large donors that have an interest in Sudbury. But beyond that, we must rely on contributions from our members. As you will note from the Annual Membership Form that is part of this newsletter, our list of categories has increased. For those of you who believe in our mission and are able to support this vision financially, there is an opportunity to contribute beyond a simple membership. We hope that you believe, as we do, that establishing a well-respected History Center Museum that is accessible to all will enhance a sense of civic pride in Sudbury—a sense of place, past, and community, indeed a sense of awe.

Sincerely,

Ruth Griesel, President



School Connections

The Town Center was alive with tour groups of third graders last May. They toured Colonial Sudbury Center and “met” a Native American Chief, Ms. Loring as she worked outside the Loring Parsonage, Rev. Loring in the First Parish Meeting House, and the Pound Keeper. All of the Colonial re-enactors talked of their tasks in daily life.



Betsy Cutler as Mrs. Loring speaks to third graders

Their last stop was in the cemetery where they heard “Voices” of interesting people whose graves are there. A few parents helped out with each class. They appreciated the tour as much as did the students and teachers.



Cecily Doyle spoke to third graders as a voice from the grave of Sara h Noyes

Long Term Planning.

A board member has listed the Sudbury Historical Society as a beneficiary of her will. Another person has an insurance policy with the Society as the beneficiary. These considerations will be very meaningful in the long term success and survival of the Society and its efforts to keep the spirit of Sudbury’s past alive.

Expanded Membership Categories

This year’s membership form has more levels at which people can join.

The Individual and Family memberships are still available but other levels are added. The new levels offer people the opportunity to support new visions for the society – the visions of becoming able to support some paid staff and to work towards interesting displays in a History Center Museum.

The new categories are called the **Founders Circle** categories. Their names recall stages in the history of the Town.

Peter Noyes Supporter - \$100 Noyes was a prominent founder of Sudbury.

General John Nixon Champion -\$150 Nixon was a Revolutionary Patriot.

John Goodnow Sponsor - \$250 and above. Goodnow founded the library.

Josiah Haynes Patron - \$500 and above. Haynes was Revolutionary Patriot.

Israel Loring Benefactor - \$1000 and above. Loring was a long time spiritual leader of Sudbury.

These same names apply to businesses that join. They are viewed as our Community Partners and will be mentioned in the newsletter and at the Society’s public programs.

Members and Community Partners who give at the Patron and Benefactor levels may have a private guided tour of the Society’s collections, and a private guided tour of a historic location in Sudbury. Additionally Founders Circle members will be invited to at least one special event each year which could be a visit to a private site of historic or architectural significance.

Productive Summer

This past summer was no slow down. Energetic volunteers worked to sort and preserve collections and keep membership data up to date.

Active volunteers included Kate and Cecily Doyle, graduates of Lincoln Sudbury Regional High School, Catherine Hendry graduate in History from Boston University, and musicologist Stephen Loikith They did sorting, transcribing, cataloging, data base work and general help.

Also busy were members and board people. Chuck Zimmer has kept computers backed up and updated. Beth Gray-Nix, Joan Meenan, Peggy Fredrickson, Ellen Morgan, and Judy Merra did accessioning, sorting and cataloging. Much effort has gone into sorting items from the Walker Farm and from Lottie Smith. Stewart Hoover finished repairing an antique display case. Deb Keeney, treasurer, has kept accounts up to date. Lee Swanson has kept the Center open for visitors and researchers and has provided knowledge about the items being catalogued and about preservation procedures. Board committees have met to plan programs, publications, and future directions of the Society.

THANK YOU

Community Partners

Israel Loring BENEFACTOR

Staples

General John Nixon CHAMPION

Cavicchio Greenhouses

Ti-Sales

Wingate at Sudbury

Peter Noyes SUPPORTER

Marlborough Savings Bank