

First home—199 Main Street
The Old Parish House

Historical Happenings

the newsletter of the

Medway Historical Society

Est. 1902

Experience the History of Medway, Massachusetts

Volume 2017, Issue 1

Medway Historical Society

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President's Note

Dear Historical Society Members and friends,

We have had yet another very productive year! And next year we look forward to having more time to spend learning about our new database software program "PastPerfect." It has many great features for accepting items, cataloging and sorting them for conducting a periodic inventory. This software is used by many societies and museums such as ours.

Enclosed in this issue are just some of the "happenings" of the past year. Since online newsletters have become more popular we find that they are less frequently read. So we will plan to send out one annual printed newsletter and keep you updated via email with quick read notice of news and events more frequently.

There are so many topics of interest about people and places around town that we would like to share with our members on a regular basis. And since our museum is now ready to accommodate small groups of people we will be able to host these events.

Sadly, last year we suddenly lost one of our dedicated friends and Honorary Director of the Society, Iyawata Schneider. Having had a chance to look through Historical Society scrapbooks and pictures of years past, I found Iyawata very much a part of the Society. I am so very glad that I got to know this sweet lady. Our sympathy goes out to her husband Norm Schneider, Past President of the Medway Historical Society. We dedicate this issue to Iyawata Schneider.

Sincerely,
Sheila Dubrawski

THANK YOU ! 2016 Business Sponsors

Charles River Bank -Medway Oil and Propane—Liscombe and Parrella

Direct Tire and Auto—Murphy Insurance—Paul Harkey Real Estate

Long Distance Auto & Tire—Ginley-Crowley Funeral Home



Above Col. Mike Matondi and Fred Souza present the Medway Historical Society with a book commemorating the "Moving Wall" event held in Medway as part of the town's 300th anniversary celebration in 2013.



Margaret Shea Swanson celebrated her 90th birthday. Margaret graduated in the Medway High School Class of 1940. Pictured is Gloria Swanson, Margaret, Sheila Dubrawski and Pauline Swanson.



Medway Veteran's Day Open House 2016

Bob Saleski
Chuck Waldron
Joe Dzikczek
Doug Downing
Harry Johnson

THANK YOU
to these men
and to all our
Veterans!

Just some of the Society 'Happenings' in 2016!



Thank you to Debbie Meier and her mom Madeleine Johnson Thomas, Palmetto FL, pictured at left, for their donation of images and school mementos. Debbie's dad, Edwin Warren Thomas was the Medway High School Class President and Madeleine Johnson was the Vice President of the Class of 1941.

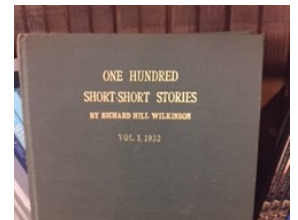
Jane Alexander from CA, wrote, "I am a descendant of the Jones family, many of whom resided in Medway, MA during the 1700 and 1800's. I have in my possession a "toaster" made of wrought iron and to be used to toast bread on an open hearth. It presumably dates from the 1700's and my elderly mother has said this is a family heirloom passed down through the family.

Jane sent the toaster at right and went on further with more details about her family.

"My mother is Lesley (Jones) Alexander. I've been refreshing my memory a bit on our family history in Medway. According to Jameson's, "The Medway Biographies and Genealogies 1886" our first recorded Jones ancestor, William Jones, was born about 1587 and was one of the earliest settlers of Charlestown, MA. His death recorded as "Old Father Jones, near ninety, died March 8, 1677. His son Thomas I, then Thomas II, both lived in Charlestown. Thomas III was born in Charlestown and 'settled in Sherborn, that part which since 1723 is Holliston, MA." Thomas IV was born in Sherborn and was the first Jones to settle in East Medway. Horatio Jones 1823-1903 was the last direct ancestor to live in Medway.



Rhoda Wilkinson Domingo at left with Priscilla Howker and Sheila Dubrawski visiting from CA. Rhoda donated a book of short stories written by her dad Richard Hill Wilkinson in 1932. Her dad wrote a daily column for several local newspapers and this book is a collection of his works. Richard Hill Wilkinson was born in Medway and moved to California to work as a writer for several television programs. He was the son of William Wilkinson who owned and operated Wilkinson Brass Machine Shop which stood at the corner of Main and Mechanic Streets and was the Daniels Boot Shop before that. The building burned in 1964.



Upcoming Events

ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING

Monday, May 15th 7:30 p.m.
Board Elections
MHS Museum 223 Main St.

MUSEUM OPEN HOUSE - 223 Main St.

Sunday April 23, 1-3 pm (Closed Easter)
Sunday, May 17, 1-3pm
Saturday, May 20 Medway Pride Day 12-2pm

MEET JOHN ADAMS

with historian George Baker

Sponsored by a grant from the Medway Cultural Council
Saturday, September 23rd 2pm - Location TBD

MEDWAY HISTORICAL SOCIETY BLUE PLATE DINNER FUNDRAISER

Celebrate Medway's 304th Birthday
Thayer House - Wednesday, October 25th
Tickets limited.—\$50 pp members
\$60 non-members ..

Label your Photos!

Please remember to note the names of people and places on the back of your old photos. This makes the photo meaningful to family descendants. More and more people are interested in genealogy research and some family member down the line will appreciate the effort!

Old Yearbooks

Don't throw away old Medway Grammar and High School yearbooks! Consider donating them to the Medway Historical Society.

Check out our many publications
available for purchase at
www.medwayhistoricalsociety.org

FOLLOW US ON FACEBOOK!



HOLIDAY PARTY 2016

Thank you to the Medway Garden Club for creating a beautiful "Snowflakes and Sparkles" table display of various festive place settings and a beautiful centerpiece that was raffled off to benefit the Society. The Garden Club has a new "Medway Doors" poster for sale for \$15. The last one was done in 1996 and is now a collectors item. This one will be too! You can get more information at medwaygardenclub.org.