



MEDWAY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Est.1902

www.medwayhistoricalsociety.org

January 2018

Happy New Year everyone! Last year support from personal memberships, business sponsors and donations topped just over \$3000. These funds cover our operating expenses- utilities and maintenance, insurance, security, plowing, etc. Please – forward this news to anyone you think may find it of interest! Our membership form may be printed from our website. Check us out on Facebook! ----- **Thank you for your support!**

Meeting – Our next meeting will be on Monday, January 15th – 7:15pm, 223 Main St. All members welcome! Board members..... Please check your schedules so that we may determine the best meeting time/day/evening for everyone for 2018. Could we meet twice per month and/or change open house to an early evening during the week vs. Sunday to increase attendance? Perhaps our open house could double as a working meeting!

Recent News..... We have a lot to look forward to in 2018! We appreciate the support of the town's purchase of the Ide House. Protecting and preserving this piece of Medway's history is so very important.

- Our improvements at the museum are ongoing but I am delighted to report that we have finally completed our grant obligation with Mass Cultural Council/ Mass Development in mid-December. We received our final disbursement last week. The museum building is looking mighty fine with a new ceiling and track lighting. It is much quieter with the furnace having walls around it and it looks much brighter. Very fancy!
- Now that our capital improvement grant obligations are complete, we may focus on our annual membership campaign in April/May, getting back to cataloguing with our new museum software, organizing and labeling displays and getting caught up on our intake process for donated items. But, perhaps one of our first projects should be to prepare a "history" of the Ide house to welcome visitors. I have been in contact with Jim Stewart and Gordon Booth, Ide house owners prior to the Womack's. And, while it seems like the holidays are barely over we also have some people interested in getting the Ide House decorated for an open house 2018. We will form a committee for the Ide Holiday Open House and if you or someone you know is interested please send an email to info@medwayhistoricalsociety.org. This is guaranteed to be lots of fun and enjoyment for volunteers and visitors alike!
- When checking on the building and picking up the mail on Dec 28th I found the place frozen! A failed gasket in the furnace caused the water pan to fill and shut off the furnace. Victory Heating came out on the 29th, tightened problem part to get the furnace going again. But the part will need replacing.
- I received an email from Lynne, the presenter of the Abbey Foster program looking to schedule a date since our application to the Medway Cultural Council for this program has been approved! We have yet to host a program where there are a lot of people already gathered and to increase attendance, perhaps this year we may be able to run this program in July at Family Day at Choate Park.
- We have received several donated items including a beautiful Anson Daniels painting from Adriene Scorpio Smith. And, we have an offer to help with scanning from Laura McInstosh-Sencio!
- I am planning to be at the museum on **Thursday's from about 10am-12pm** and welcome anyone available to help out. We'll begin by focusing on the software and cataloguing system. But, there is always work to be done... organizing, displays, dusting etc. For now.... Sheila Dubrawski

Officers

Sheila Dubrawski, *President*, Paul Russell, *Vice-President*, Steve Malloy, *Secretary*,
Cathie Perkins, *Treasurer*, Joe Dzikczek, *Curator*

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