



the

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## Mystic in the 1950s: Growing Up in a Small Village



A vintage aerial view of the small village of Mystic from the cover of Tom Santos' book. The author will be on hand to share his memoirs October 28.

On Wednesday, October 28, longtime local and author Tom Santos will discuss his recently released memoir "Mystic in the 1950's: Growing Up in a Small Village."

Queried about his inspiration, Santos remarks: *I wrote the book to preserve memories of a quaint little village called Mystic. We have several writings about old Mystic, dating back to the origination of Mystic. But I couldn't find anything that showed the building of Mystic as it is today. The fifties were a time*



photo ~ The Resident

*of change - businesses were all mom & pop stores, everybody knew everybody, and it was affordable to live in Mystic. Children could roam the streets go "downtown" and not be bothered, the streets were safe. The traffic was light, a lot of families didn't own a car or need one. The fifties were a peaceful time - families were close, most families had only one worker. I remember the fifties as a time of discovery, discovering what life was like growing up and what left indelible impressions on that young mind, that carry on today. The fifties should be remembered as the years Mystic grew to become what it is today. I want to have readers walk through town in the book and see what I saw back then.*

*The book will cause many discussions about growing up, and will make you say "I remember that", even if you are not from Mystic - there is a lot of discussion in the book about the fifties. The stories in the book are from memory.*

Join MRHS and Tom Santos in the discussion, and amble down memory lane at the membership meeting on October 28th at 7:30 at the Mystic Congregational Church Fellowship Hall. Signing and purchase of the softcover book, *Mystic in the 1950's* (\$19.95, Bookateer Publishing) will be possible onsite. The book is also available at Mystic Seaport Bookstore, Radio Waves, the Mystic Welcome Office at the Mystic Depot, Denison Pequotsepos Nature Center, the Whaler Inn, Bank Square Books, and at the Other Tiger Bookstore in Westerly, RI.

### Reminder: Membership Meeting Show & Tell

- Dorie Hanna

Over the last couple of years we've been doing a quick "Show & Tell" of Mystic related objects at the beginning of each monthly meeting and it's proved to be an "audience favorite". I've been delighted to bring in things from our collection, but all members are welcome to share their "treasures" as well. We've had footstools and Civil War swords, photo albums and commemorative badges. Really just about anything goes, although perhaps you might wish to avoid bringing in items that are very fragile and/or very valuable. So if you have something you'd like to show off, please consider bringing it to "show & tell" for the October meeting, or any future meeting.



## from the PRESIDENT'S DESK

Jim Kimenker

I recently read a book I'd been meaning to get to for awhile, *Sudden Sea--The Great Hurricane of 1938*, by R.A. Scotti, relatively short and very readable, but absolutely riveting. It provides a reminder that many of things we take for granted today, like the sandy, empty expanse of Napatree, wasn't always that way. Before the storm, Napatree was home to many houses and the book tells the tale, among many, of a destruction so terrifyingly complete, that today it's just that sandy, empty expanse. The book led me to contemplate how we sometimes think about history. Take Mystic, for example. Typically, I think, most of us view Mystic's history primarily in pre-20th century terms--old captains' houses, the whaling and shipping industries, etc. But, regarding more recent events, we often find it hard to think about them as "history". So, for those of us who grew up in the '50s and '60s, the Vietnam War remains a vivid, real event, but it's historical context may go somewhat under-appreciated. For our parents, the Depression, World War II (and the '38 Hurricane) aren't all THAT long ago (I like to think our parents do a better job appreciating such things, but who knows?).

So, I was delighted to learn that our Program Committee seems to have anticipated all this and scheduled a presentation on Mystic in the mid-20th century for our October member's meeting. I'm looking forward to it. Hopefully, it will remind us all to look around, consider the landscape, and think about today as the history that will be written in the future. It's not so much about stopping to smell the roses -- I trust you're all relaxed & sufficiently stress-free. It's much more about being aware of our place in a story yet to be written. And, while you're waiting for the draft, do yourself a favor and read "Sudden Sea".

## VOLUNTEER CORNER



### LEARN to be a PVA Volunteer Oct 22<sup>nd</sup>

- Tim Evers

The Education Committee is planning a busy spring for elementary school children at Portersville Academy. In addition to hosting 3rd grade LEARN students from urban and suburban schools in southeastern Connecticut, we plan to continue to have our programs available to 1st and 3rd graders in Stonington and Groton. But we need volunteers! A Volunteers' Orientation Day is scheduled at Portersville Academy between 10 AM and 12 PM on Thursday, October 22. If you enjoy working with children in small groups, please come and learn about our programs. Attendance does not mean you are required to sign up; it is simply an information session. If you want to sign up afterwards to help, great!



To join the fun,  
call us at 536.4779!

### A Tisket, a Tasket, a Tuesday in Your Basket

- D. Hanna

What are you doing Tuesday mornings? We're looking for someone to volunteer at the Downe's Building on alternate Tuesday mornings on a regular basis. Helen Keith is back on the job as our office manager, but it's always better to have two folks "on duty" when the building is open to the public. Charlotte Smith comes in every other Tuesday--we'd like to find someone to cover the days she is not available. Please call 536-4779 and leave us a message if you think you might be able to help out. Thanks.

#### Mystic River Historical Society Mission Statement

*The Society exists to collect, arrange, exhibit and preserve records, papers, photographs, artifacts, relics and related archival materials that document the history of the people who lived in the area around the Mystic River from the first settlement in 1654 to the present.*

#### Officers:

President - Jim Kimenker • Vice President - John Porter  
Treasurer - Bill Everett • Corresponding Secretary - Kay Janney • Recording Secretary - Cathy Marco

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Issues of the newsletter are available for online viewing at [www.mystichistory.org](http://www.mystichistory.org)*



# A Mother Hubbard Parade in Mystic?

- Jane Preston



*A parade of men wearing Mother Hubbard dresses amuses onlookers in Rahway, New Jersey in 1884. One sign reads: "Caught out after 12 o'clock" with a silhouette figure attacking another. Another appears to read: "Belva Lockwood Champagne Club" - perhaps a play on the phrase "campaign club."*

"What in the world is a Mother Hubbard Parade?" I asked myself as I read a letter that Sam Haley had written to Ettie Gates in February of 1885. Sam had written her to thank her for the poem she had sent to him after the Mother Hubbard Parade in Mystic.

I asked Dorrie Hanna what she knew about it and she went to the computer to see what she could find out. It seems that these parades were quite popular in the latter part of the 19th century during the Presidential election period of candidates Grover Cleveland and James Blaine. Belva Lockwood was running to be the first woman President of the United States also, and when reading of these parades that were held in many parts of the United States it is sometimes difficult to determine if they were for or against Belva's bid for the presidency and whether or not both men and women took part.

The participants marched in these parades dressed in a costume of the day that was similar to a house dress of the period. The picture above seems to indicate that the participants were only men. But there are other references that indicate that women may have involved themselves in the parades also.

But what was the force that created the Mother Hubbard Parade in Mystic in 1894 or '95? Was it in opposition to Belva Lockwood's bid for the presidency? Who were the participants? Do any of our readers know the sponsors of this event and when and where it was held? Please let us know if you have any information about this parade by contacting the historical society office.

# The Foul Winds & Tides of Change

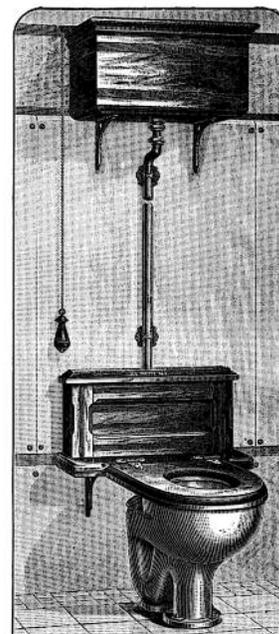
- Judy Hicks

When I moved to Mystic in the early 1960's, I soon learned about septic tanks, cesspools, leach fields and how important it was that they were in working condition. I was told that some houses in Mystic did not have room for any of the above, and piped right into the Mystic River. Ugh!!! Where I had lived, one just flushed and drained and it all went "somewhere."

On October 6, 1911, The Mystic Times printed a letter from a reader regarding an earlier editorial about public sewers for Mystic. The letter pointed out that the Stonington Health Officer had made a case for sewers in his annual report two years before. It points out that on page 67 of that report it states "The Town has a good supply of pure water, excellent roads, good trolley and railway accommodations, rich farm lands, and four bustling villages with beautiful scenery and plenty of fresh air and a liberal amount of sunshine. However, in the disposal of sewage the villages are behind times..." The letter goes on to say that the current use of outhouses and cesspools in the well populated villages are behind the times as well as an invitation to rampant epidemics.

In the October 27th newspaper, another letter to the editor concurs with the previous letter. This Reader goes on to write that Mystic is well located for a sewerage system because it is located on a tidal river. The west side being hilly would have few problems, but it would be more difficult for the east side since it is mostly flat land. The writer states that with all the progress in engineering, however, the east side really should not have that much trouble. And residents should not look upon this project as a tax burden, but a project that would make the village a safer and cleaner place. Health reasons outweigh expense.

These letters caught my attention because I was a resident in the 1970's and my husband was very active on the Groton Sewer Commission. If you, too, were living here, you can remember all the arguments, pro and con, that were voiced. It was a major subject in the newspapers and at town meetings. But finally before the end of the decade, both sides of the river had a public sewer system. Took a while but what else would one expect from New Englanders? Much deliberation is necessary when a "Change" is suggested.



THE "INODORO," ALL-PORCELAIN WATER-CLOSET.

*The "Inodoro" - presumably an improvement over the rustic "out-o-doro"!*

# September Board Meeting Minutes

- Cathy Marco

*The Board of Trustees of the Mystic River Historical Society met on Monday, September 21, 2009. Board members present were David Evans, Joyce Everett, Bill Everett, Tim Evers, Sally Halsey, Kay Janney, Jim Kimenker, Cathy Marco, Betty Noyes, Betty O'Donnell, John Porter, Jane Preston, Jennifer Pryor, Stephanie Thorp, and Kit Werner. Board members who were not present had been excused. President Jim Kimenker called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.*

**President's Report (Jim Kimenker):** Our first general membership meeting will be on Wed., September 23rd.

**Treasurers Report (Bill Everett):** Financials were distributed prior to meeting. We are in a healthy financial position at this time thanks to proceeds from the successful House Tour and trips. In time, we may consider moving monies to funds but this will await discussion with Dave Evans and possible monies needed for building maintenance. It will be left to the treasurer to continue to pay bills if they were budgeted or done previously; however, new items will need approval by the board. There was a discussion about how audits have been done in the past by the Finance Committee.

**Corresponding Secretary (Kay Janney):** There were nine thank you notes sent for donations in varying categories; two thank you note for new membership plus newsletter donation; one thanks to a benefactor; and three thank you notes for being a newsletter patron.

## STANDING COMMITTEES

**Buildings & Grounds (Alan Greener):** After reviewing the MRHS buildings and grounds, immediate attention is needed for the removal of garbage (weed) trees, bushes, crab grass and poison ivy from the grounds around the Downes and Academy buildings. We will be done sometime in October by a group of workers who can perform this task. It should take five volunteers about two hours total time. Having someone knowledgeable gardener to monitor the activities of dedicated weed whackers will be extremely helpful.

All windows and sills on the North, West and South sides of the Academy building are in need of scraping, cleaning, sanding, caulking and painting. The exterior stairs to the second floor will need scraping, sanding and painting as well. In addition the vertical corner post at the North side and a spot on the East side require scraping cleaning and painting. Alan will contact approved painting contractors to review the maintenance work required and obtain firm price quotes. We may possibly delay this work until the spring 2010. Files passed on from the previous chairperson (John Porter) will be reviewed to obtain the names of painters and Board members will be asked for recommendations.

The Board agreed with Alan's recommendations and also suggested getting quotes from two additional companies: Paul Enterprises and Rainbow Painting.

A board member also recommended painting the ceiling on the 1st floor; however, John provided a historical perspective of this problem. This ceiling was redone about 5 years ago by Marshall Plastering (plastered and painted) and within six months it started peeling. Paint chip analyzation found that there was a combination of too much dampness and a chemical reaction causing the problem. John felt it would be a waste of money to repaint. The board recommended Alan look into this.

**Curatorial (Jane Preston):** The committee met on September 16th. Those serving on committee are Helen Keith, Lou Allyn, Judy Hicks, Kit Werner and Chairman Jane Preston. Jane is resigning as chairperson because she is moving. Jane suggested that members of the committee rotate the chair position at each future meeting until a new chairperson comes forward. Lou has been appointed to follow up with the Mystic Garden Club on the status of the appraisal for the Garrett Price drawing.

Dorrie completed an online archival assessment survey regarding our collection and our concerns to the CT State Library. We are hopeful we will be selected to participate in a project of the CT State Library that would provide us with professional advice. We should hear more soon.

Charlotte and Helen have been working on the files of minutes, etc. We still need to choose a method of numbering photographs in the PastPerfect database. Louisa has some suggestions but we haven't made a final decision.

Lou has been updating our Disaster Plan. Review will need to be done the appropriate chairmen.

We have purchased Virtual Exhibit (add-on software for Past Perfect) using a grant from the Rotary Club of Mystic. The Committee consensus was that our first "exhibit" should be a sampling of photographs from various collections. Dorrie and Louisa will discuss.

We have a large amount of items going to North Stonington which Lou volunteered to deliver after Dorrie confirms that proper paperwork is ready.

As part of our program to give Archives Advice to non-profits, Lou reports that the Chamber of Commerce took our advice and has improved their files. Judy reported that Joanna Case is working on the archives of the Allyn Foundation.

The Transcription Group is now meeting at Apple Rehab center once a month on Monday mornings with 4 or 5 attending each session. There is plenty to transcribe and to type up. Judy suggested Mary Farrier to look at Brown recipes and some recipes would be a good feature for a future newsletter.

Jane is organizing the Haley Collection - Jane is organizing and hopes to continue for a while (even with her pending move).

It was agreed to continue Show & Tell at monthly meetings. Lou volunteered to do it if Dorrie couldn't.

Gordon Woodbury letters have never received a Deed of Gift for the photocopies Gordon Woodbury gave us.

Dorrie is looking into having the oil paintings appraised for insurance purposes. She will ask Russ Antiques; however, the board members had some comments regarding this which will be shared with Dorrie.

**Collection Manager Report** (*Dorrie Hanna*): We continue to re-capture storage space by re-boxing collections and have gained about two shelves worth. We completed an on-line Archival Assessment Survey for the CT State Library and hope to be chosen to participate in a program that offers professional evaluation of collections care to selected organizations. We answered a number of research queries and provided digital images for one publication.

**Education** (*Joyce Everett, Tim Evers, Helen Keith, Nancy McKay*): The Education Committee met and welcomed Kay Janney, Susan Keach and Wendy Merckel as potential new volunteers.

We already have 200 students, who are involved with a LEARN "buddies" project, coming in May. Two classes (approx. 40 students) will come on each of the following mornings (9:30 - 11:30) May 5, 6, 7, 10 & 11. We also want to continue to have our programs available for our local schools. If we can find enough volunteers we would like to offer our program for third grades twice a week (probably Tuesdays and Fridays). First grades had fewer classes visiting last year so we may continue that only on Thursdays, but could add Mondays if needed.

The committee agreed that the charge per school child be increased from \$2 to \$3. This increase is needed to cover the expense of the program resources we provide.

Even in May, PVA is cold and damp. We hope the Board will start to research possibilities of having some heat in the building on a year-round basis. We do have a number of electric radiators. These have to be plugged several hours before classes arrive (9:30) and circuits get blown if more than one is plugged in on the same circuit or if the total used is too great. Presently, we estimate the building is used about 30 hours total for the entire year.

Last year we had at least two wheel-chair confined students. Getting them into the building and upstairs presented a problem. Our local schools are mainstreaming more and more children with disabilities and we need to try to accommodate this trend. Again we would hope that the Board would start to research this problem and its possible solutions. The board members discussed possibilities and advised this be looked into further.

More volunteers are essential to our being able to offer our programs to all the classes that want to visit PVA. Therefore, we decided to hold a "volunteers' orientation day" and to ask all our present volunteers to invite two friends to come with them to PVA between 10 a.m. and 12 noon on Thursday, October 22nd. We also cordially invite all Board Members (and interested friends) to stop in, see our facilities and learn about our programs.

**Finance** (*David Evans*): Investments are up 16% year to date. A question about concerning what appears on the Balance Sheet for investments was asked. It was explained that the Balance Sheet represents the "cost figure" and, therefore, doesn't tie into the actual number until investments are sold (which, in this example would show a unrealized loss). Some felt that the Balance Sheet should reflect the current market value. President Jim will look into how this should be presented in our Balance Sheet.

**IT Committee** (*Stephanie Thorp*): Barry performed the monthly system update and file backup tasks monthly during the summer, on June 27, August 7 and August 29. All systems were verified to be in good operating condition and functioning properly. Updates included Windows XP, Microsoft Office and McAfee Internet Security. He installed Past Perfect Version 4.0E2 to bring that software up to date. He installed Past Perfect Virtual Exhibit, and updated it to Version 4.010. He performed a virus scan of all hard drives and a past Perfect External Backup. He updated Windows Explorer to Version 8, and installed Silverlight as recommended by Microsoft. He also installed updates to Sun Microsystems' Java software. Barry's detailed reports are available on request.

Barry found a note from Louisa Watrous, indicating that she had experienced some difficulty performing a daily backup of Past Perfect. This problem has failed to show itself again and has been classified as a one-time transient in the backup process. If the problem occurs again, the staff member encountering it should file a Computer System Incident Report without delay.

Because the USPS is transitioning to a requirement for bar codes as part of bulk mailing address labels, Barry investigated to determine what changes MRHS might have to make to accommodate this requirement. Although the Mystic Postmaster may not impose this requirement immediately, the prospect is still there, and the IT Committee believes that it would be prudent identify the tools and processes necessary to implement the change, in advance of the requirement's imposition. IT Committee believes that when USPS does impose the requirement on us, there will not be much time allowed for this and that we could be left without the ability to get our mailings out in the near term. Barry researched possible software and found the best one with single license use of \$75 was Precision ID. A question of whether there were recurring costs or annual fees related to this software. It was believed that there would be none. A motion was made to authorize the IT Committee Chairman to spend \$75 for this software as long as there were no recurring costs. Motion passed unanimously.



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Stephanie performed the several updates to the website, such as updating the Events Calendar and adding the September Portersville Press. She has received a request from Sally Halsey to add code to the website to provide a link directly to MRHS' Facebook page. The Board discussed the popularity of Facebook usage by organizations and agreed to include a link on our website for Facebook.

**Marketing** (*Sally Halsey*): Publicity for the September monthly meeting has been done.

**Membership** (*Cynthia Allyn*): We sent out 50 renewal reminders in September and have had good response so far. Membership appears to be in good shape.

**Newsletter** (*Jennifer Pryor*): Newsletter copy deadline is always the Friday after the Board Meeting.

**Nominating** (*Tim Evers*): As point of clarification, Kay Janney will be replacing Bettye on the board for the two remaining years with her term expiring May 2011.

**Program** (*Bettye Noyes*): The Program Committee met on August 11. Program Committee members are Bettye Noyes (chairman), Jane Preston, John Porter, Betty O'Donnell and Aimée Allaire. Bettye corrected a Portersville Press publication error for the upcoming membership meeting to the proper date of Oct. 28th. Bettye is grateful to Aimee for all her computer help and to Paul for all his material he has organized & passed on.

The committee decided that the contact person for each program will be responsible for handling publicity. They have also been securing speakers for future membership meetings. So far they have Cmdr. John McGrath speaking on "the search for Bon Homme Richard" in January; Fire Chief Hilbert speaking on the history of the Mystic Fire Department in February; Appraisers from the Appraisal Day speaking in March, James Baughman as author of Mallorys of Mystic in April and, hopefully, Sarah Melcher as a 1812 reenactor "Voices of Connecticut in The French and Indian War" for the May annual meeting.

Bettye got an understanding of the Program committee budget (\$800 for rental of the hall, \$400 for speakers' fees). Board approval is unnecessary if it falls within her budget. The program chair will work with Hospitality Chair Louisa Watrous to assure all taken care of for programs.

A suggestion was made to make sure membership programs not exceed 45 minutes in length which includes time for questions from the audience. If more time is needed for discussion of topic, announcement should be made to continue discussion after meeting has adjourned.

The next meeting of the Program committee is scheduled for Tuesday November 10th, 2009 at 1pm in the Downes Building.

The committee agreed to look into collaborating with other local historical societies for an occasional program. One possibility is having a character actor who portrays Amelia Earhart do a 90 minute program. Hopefully Noank Historical Society would be interested since Earhart was married in Noank. This will be discussed further at the next Program committee meeting on November 10th at 1:00 in the Downes Building.

**Special Events** (*Joyce Everett*): The fall trip to Long Island is full with 39 participants and a waitlist. A meeting for trip members is scheduled for Tuesday, September 29, at 4:00pm at the Mystic & Noank Library. We are mulling the possibilities for a spring trip in April 2010.

The program committee has included an Appraisal Day program for March 2010. The House Tour supplanted Appraisal Day for 2009 and provided a rest period. The projects committee would be happy to set one up for 2010 if desired. A motion was made to schedule an Appraisal Day on March 20th. Motion passed unanimously.

Joyce will need help with this event and any interested volunteers should contact her. Also, at the March membership meeting on March 24th one or two of the appraisers will be invited to present and discuss some of their interesting finds from the Appraisal Day.

**House Tours** (*Sally Halsey, Joyce Everett*): The income-expense statement bottomline is that the event was a tremendous success with \$25,759.11 evenly split between the Mystic Garden Club and MRHS. Great job to all those who worked so hard on this event!

#### UNFINISHED BUSINESS

**Ashley Halsey Project** (*Tim Evers*): Tim met with Dave, Sally and Dorrie to discuss which scenes should be included in this project. Twenty watercolor illustrations of historical sites have been decided with assistance from Jane, Helen, Carol Kimball, and Judy Hicks. The theme of the book will be Mystic: Yesteryear and Today but the title is currently undecided. Bank Square Books felt there would be a good market for this book. Although our publication date is scheduled for July 31, 2010, we would like to move this up if possible. The cost of the project including exclusive rights to 20 illustrations, the design, and the printing of 2000 copies is approximately \$17,750 which includes exclusive rights to the illustrations for use on greeting cards, postcards, posters, etc. Estimated revenues are \$30,000 based on selling all copies for \$15 each.

A motion was made for Board approval of funding up to \$20,000 from the Mystic River Historical Society's 25th anniversary fund to cover expenses to illustrate, write, design, and print this book. Motion was seconded. Proceeds from sales will go back into the 25th Fund until expenses are recovered. Proceeds in excess of expenses will go into the general fund. Motion passed unanimously.

#### NEW BUSINESS

**Mapping Main Street** - Tabled until next Board meeting

Curatorial Chair - Jane Preston is moving, and we need new Curatorial chair. Whether it was necessary to have a board member chair the Curatorial committee or the Education committee will be researched by Jim.

**October Trip to Manse** - Jane served as proxy for Helen to determine that no board members could go on the scheduled date, some may be able to make an alternate date.

*The next scheduled Board meeting is October 19. The October membership meeting is on October 28th.*

# DAR Fundraiser ~ Marilyn Comrie

The Anna Warner Bailey chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution will present a Colonial Tea at 2 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 17 in the LaGrua Center at 121 Water St. in Stonington Borough. There is ample parking.

The event will feature an afternoon tea menu of sandwiches and delicacies. There also will be a sale of treasures and collectibles from Mother Bailey's Attic. Groton Town Historian Carol W. Kimball, a DAR member, will offer memories of Mother Bailey.

Admission is \$8 & tickets may be purchased at the door. Proceeds will benefit the DAR's civic projects, which include Good Citizenship and American history awards in local high schools and middle schools, support of Indian schools, and preservation of historic houses owned by the Connecticut DAR and the National DAR archives.

We hope members of the Mystic River Historical Society will come out and support these efforts - and enjoy a lovely afternoon tea.



Born on October 11, 1758, in Groton, Connecticut, Anna Warner was orphaned at an early age, and went to live with her Grandmother Mills on a farm at Candlewood Hill, where the unusually strong & tall girl helped her uncle, Edward Mills. During the Revolutionary War, Edward was mortally wounded at the Battle of Groton Heights, and it was Anna who sought him out, and made a second trip on foot, carrying her infant cousin, and bringing her other cousin and aunt to give Edward their final farewells. In 1783, Anna married Elijah Bailey, a veteran soldier and postmaster of Groton, later establishing an inn just below Fort Griswold.

Anna's hearty manner made the tavern an instant hit.

When war was declared on England in 1812, Anna's patriotism was rekindled. As the British fleet sailed into New London harbor in June 1813, many locals fled, with Anna planning likewise until word came from Fort Griswold that the cannons were short on flannel wadding - rendering the weaponry useless. After a wadding fabric search party explained their mission to Mother Bailey, as she was then known, she loosened & removed her

flannel petticoat, presenting it with a wish that the wadding would do its work well. Amused, bystanders saluted the daring gesture and the messenger carried his prize to the fort, where it was received with cheers. Though the British decided not to attack, word of Mother Bailey's impulsive gift spread over the country. Newspapers hailed her as the war's greatest female patriot.

from <http://womenhistory.blogspot.com>



## "THE BRITISH ARE COMING!"

On Columbus Day Weekend, British and American forces will descend upon Groton's historic Jabez Smith House for Connecticut's largest Revolutionary War encampment.

Saturday, October 10 - 10 AM TO 6 PM  
& Sunday, October 11 - 10 AM TO 5 PM  
Skirmish begins each day at 2 PM

### Activities Include:

Military skirmish, musket displays, artillery, wood carving, period engineering, weaving, 18th century cooking, native Americans, blacksmithing, flax demonstrations, herbs, midwifery, flag display, 18th century military history, caning, tours of the c. 1783 Jabez Smith House and 18th century children's games

Admission \$5 - Children under 10 FREE!  
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# CALENDAR Notables

*The British Are Coming* Sat & Sun, Oct. 10-11, 10-6  
 Jabez Smith House, 259 North Road, Groton  
 \$5/Adults, Children under 10 free. Free shuttle & parking.  
*Connecticut's largest Revolutionary War encampment includes skirmishes, period trade demonstrations - cooking, blacksmithing, historic house tours & 18th c. children's games.*

**Colonial Tea DAR Fundraiser** Sat, Oct. 17, 2p  
 LaGrua Center at 121 Water St., Stonington \$8/ticket  
*Afternoon tea menu of sandwiches & delicacies. Treasures & collectibles on sale from Mother Bailey's Attic, Groton Town Historian Carol W. Kimball, a DAR member, will speak about Mother Bailey. Proceeds benefit DAR civic projects.*

**Membership Meeting** Wednesday, October 28, 7:30p  
 Fellowship Hall of the Mystic Congregational Church  
 Broadway & E. Main, Mystic - Always open to public.  
*Tom Santos discusses "Mystic in the 1950s".*

**Membership Meeting** Wed., November 18, 7:30p

# Newsletter Patrons

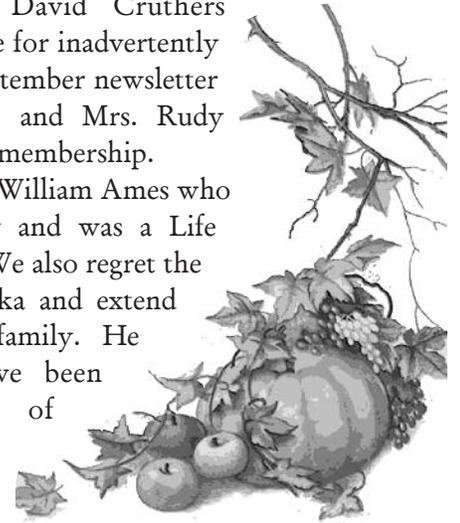
- |                                       |  |
|---------------------------------------|--|
| <i>Cynthia &amp; Louis Allyn</i>      | <i>Mr. &amp; Mrs. William Hermann, Jr.</i> |
| <i>Jane &amp; Dan Brannegan</i>       | <i>Judy Hicks</i>                          |
| <i>Mr. and Mrs. Webster Copp</i>      | <i>Mrs. David Hinkle</i>                   |
| <i>David Cruthers Family</i>          | <i>Mr. &amp; Mrs. Frank Marco</i>          |
| <i>Densmore Oil</i>                   | <i>Nancy &amp; Tom McLoughlin</i>          |
| <i>Sandra Dolan</i>                   | <i>Marjorie Moore</i>                      |
| <i>David &amp; Jean Evans</i>         | <i>Mr. &amp; Mrs. Roger Panciera</i>       |
| <i>Mr. &amp; Mrs. William Everett</i> | <i>Capt. &amp; Mrs. John Porter</i>        |
| <i>Sally Halsey</i>                   | <i>Elizabeth &amp; Peter Sorensen</i>      |
| <i>Mr. &amp; Mrs. Doug Hanna</i>      | <i>Mr. &amp; Mrs. Brian Thorp</i>          |

# Membership Updates - Cindy Allyn, Membership Chair

We sent out 50 renewal letters this month and the following members have renewed - thank you.

**Benefactor** - Mrs. Anthony Halsey • **Contributing** - Mr. & Mrs. James Burbank, Mr. Bruce Fielding • **Family** - Mr. & Mrs. Richard Butler, Mr. & Mrs. Edwin Burke, Capt. & Mrs. Wilbur Cooke Jr., Mr. & Mrs. William Hermann, Jr., Mr. and Mrs. Carl Sommer, The Peter Springsteel Family • **Individual** - Mr. Charles Beebe, Mrs. Anna Coit, Ms. Ginger Ely, Mrs. E. B. Read, Mrs. Richard Trimble. We have one new Benefactor membership - the David Cruthers Family. We apologize for inadvertently leaving out of our September newsletter membership list Mr. and Mrs. Rudy Brand - Contributing membership.

We will miss Mrs. William Ames who recently passed away and was a Life member since 1979. We also regret the passing of Ted Tylaska and extend our sympathy to his family. He and Betty Ann have been ardent supporters of MRHS since 1976.



Tuesdays 9 A.M. - 12 NOON  
 Wednesdays 1 P.M. - 4 P.M.  
 Thursdays 1 P.M. - 4 P.M.  
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