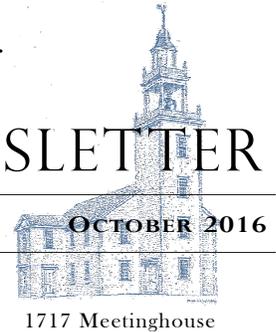


THE 1717 MEETINGHOUSE NEWSLETTER

FALL-WINTER EDITION



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

- George B. Newton, Foundation President

Since the last Newsletter in February, restoration has continued at a fast pace in and around the Meetinghouse. Please let me bring you up to date.

The final step in the rewiring of the Meetinghouse is to improve the lighting, both for Sunday services and for the various programs that require enhanced lighting for the participating group or individual. Our lighting designer (well experienced in historic buildings) has completed his "first cut" and met with members of the Board to review his effort.

The first half of the window sash restoration effort is done and the sash will be reinstalled during the 3rd week of August. The 2nd half will be removed in October and done by late November/early December.

The re-landscaping of the Meetinghouse grounds continues. A new plan - done to display the Meetinghouse as it would have appeared in the early 18th century - has been approved by the Old Kings

Highway (Historic District) Committee (required to proceed with project.) Included in that submission we also requested approval to install storm windows on the building and to remove the red brick chimney, which is no longer needed for our new gas furnaces.

Work on installation of improved fire prevention/suppression capability continues. Underbrush, located but a few feet from the northwest corner of the building has been removed, so a 50-foot open area (i.e., fire break) has been created behind the building. We have received the recommendations for fire protection/suppression improvements from an independent consultant, and await the input of a 2nd individual, before making decisions on a comprehensive system.

Restoration of the forged iron hardware on the external doors of the Meetinghouse has started. Two doors have been completed by a firm in Providence, RI. Other exterior doors will be re-worked as well. Re-installation occurred in late August.

The Meetinghouse Programs continue to be popular with both vacationers and residents alike. Ten programs are scheduled between August and the first of the year. If you are interested, check out our website <www.1717meetinghouse.org>, and do come. The programs are a mix of music, history and community spirit.

You should also be aware that we have just recently completed a comprehensive revision of the By-laws of the Foundation. The Board of Trustees approved them in July. While the old by-laws had been occasionally amended to reflect specific needs, our new set brings the Foundation into the 21st century. How time flies!

Please come to the Annual Meeting of the Foundation scheduled for November 6th at 11:30am in our beautiful Meetinghouse. The election of Trustees, selection of officers, a review of the Foundation's financial state and what the Board has done this past year towards the continued restoration will be some of the topics. Your participation helps the Board understand if we are doing a good job and if we are on track for a successful future.



Jacqueline Schwab

Special Veterans Day Event

Battle Lines: Poetry and Music of World War I

Veterans Day with Pianist Jacqueline Schwab and Judge Greg Williams

Friday, November 11, 7:00 PM

Pianist Jacqueline Schwab will accompany Judge Greg Williams who will recite poetry written in the trenches during World War I. Ms. Schwab was chosen by the Emmy Award winning Ken Burns for numerous television documentaries due to the emotional expression in her playing. Indeed, Ms. Schwab played the piano for the Grammy award-winning "Civil War", Emmy award winning "Baseball", "Mark Twain" and others. [See her bio: <http://www.jacquelineschwab.com/bio.html>]

You know that Judge Williams' presentations are always interesting and informative; now add a moving commemoration of those who fought in the "The War to End All Wars."

Admission: Free for everyone as a thank you to all veterans



British Vickers machine gun crew wears gas masks during the Battle of the Somme. source: Wikipedia: World War I

AN OPPORTUNITY TO SEE YOUR FUNDS AT WORK

—Georgia Lonkart, Vice President & Development Chair

Fund a window, fund a door, or a trap door! If you have been around the 1717 Meetinghouse in the past six months you have seen some important items leaving and then almost magically returning in beautiful condition. Half the windows left for restoration and returned ready to go for another 50 years or more. The other half of the windows are waiting their turn and are on the plan for restoration this Fall. Not to be outdone, the doors have been disappearing and returning later with their wood restored and their hardware gleaming. Soon the meetinghouse floor will get new trap doors to facilitate access under the meetinghouse so upgrades there can continue.

All of this activity to restore the 1717 Meetinghouse has taken very specialized craftsmen who have many years training and experience in historic restoration. Much of the work is done by hand and therefore very costly. Total costs for these restoration efforts are over \$100,000.

How can you help in this effort? One way is to fund a single window, a single door, or two, or a window and a door, or the trap door! The 1717 Meetinghouse has 38 windows and 6 doors. The average cost to restore each door is \$2500, the average cost to restore each window is \$2500 and the estimate for the trap door is also around \$2500. If you would like to fund a window, fund a door, or a trap door, contact George Newton, President or Georgia Lonkart, Vice President of the 1717 Meetinghouse Foundation. Be a part of this new restoration of the 1717 Meetinghouse.

Programs for 2016 Have Been Better Than Ever!

—Nancy Shoemaker, Trustee and Trusty Photographic Journalist

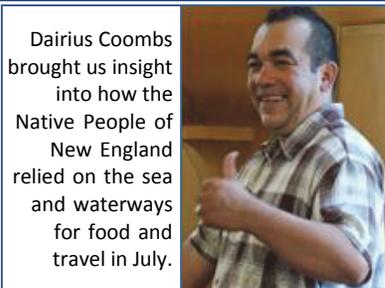


Michael Tougias speaks to a packed house about his book *The Finest Hours* (released as a Disney film) in February.

Standing room only in March for Judge Greg Williams' talk on the famous Lizzie Borden murder case.



Elizabeth Blossom Fitzrandolph shared her 17th-century life in Barnstable—a Plimoth Plantation Reenactment by Vicki Oman in May.



Dairius Coombs brought us insight into how the Native People of New England relied on the sea and waterways for food and travel in July.



A crisis in Plymouth Colony in 1624 created bitter division, nearly destroying the fledgling community. A fascinating and little-known moment in Early American history is presented by Douglas Blake who portrays John Oldham.



William Brewster, another Plimoth Plantation re-enactment, Brewster was the only Pilgrim with some college education or political and diplomatic experience.

Music programs throughout 2016 included The Hyannis Sound, Cape Harmony, Seven Times Salt, Back Bay Ringers, and the Philadelphia Hand Bell Ensemble. Visit the Foundation website to see what is still coming up and review what you missed.



The 1717 Meetinghouse Foundation, Inc. is honored to have The Cooperative Bank of Cape Cod as our first corporate sponsor for community and educational programs presented at the historic 1717 Meetinghouse.

MAJOR PROJECTS—A PICTORAL OVERVIEW

—Nancy Shoemaker, *Trustee and Trusty Photographic Journalist*

A picture tells a thousand words, or so it is said. But if you haven't yet, come see everything in person for the full story.



George Newton receiving the chandelier from Barnstable Historic Society president Richards French (above). The Meetinghouse pictured with the chandelier c. 1890 with the Civil War veterans (below).



Photo courtesy West Barnstable Historical Society



Refurbished landmark sign on Rt. 149



The "heavy lifting" this year was removal, restoration and reinstallation of the windows. Craftsman from Heritage Restoration (Providence, RI) describes the work involved with restoring the window sashes as well as the process needed to delicately remove and replace each window element.



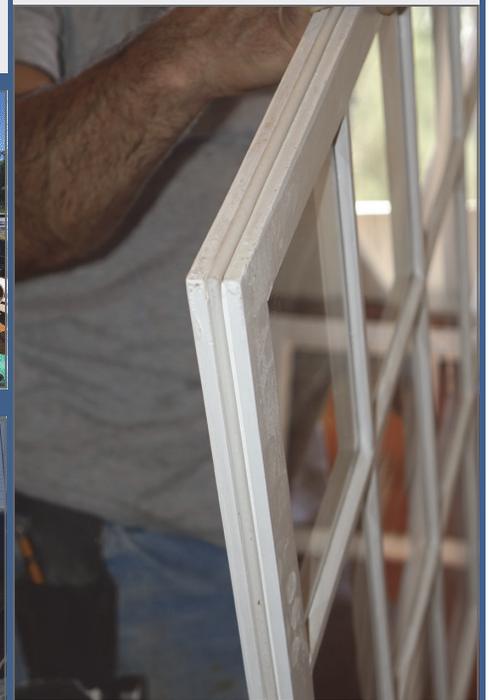
Providence Forge craftsmen and detail of some restored door hardware.

Window openings are protected with Plexiglas® while sashes were being restored.

Restored window is pictured in detail (below).



Under the watchful eye of the Meetinghouse's sexton, Fred Clausen, windows were removed and packed for transportation. Fred also assured that all openings were properly protected against the elements. He was there again to oversee the reinstallation.

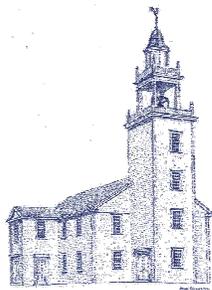


Pictured (lower left) is the rear of the Meetinghouse showing the now disused red brick chimney which became superfluous after the new gas furnaces were installed.



Annual Meeting:

The 1717 Meetinghouse Foundation, Inc. will hold the Annual Meeting on Sunday, November 6, 2016 at 11:30am in the historic Meetinghouse.



1717 MEETINGHOUSE FOUNDATION, INC.

2049 Meetinghouse Way
Post Office Box 781
West Barnstable, Massachusetts 02668

Phone: 508-362-4445
<http://www.1717meetinghouse.org>

A 501(c)(3) Tax Exempt Organization

PRESERVING THE 1717 MEETINGHOUSE AS A
MEMORIAL TO EARLY AMERICA AND AMERICANS

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MEMBERSHIPS SUSTAIN THE EFFORT

—Robin Fryer, Membership Chair

Besides the few grants we receive, we are completely dependent on our members' dues to sustain the mission. The roof and Revere bell are repaired, but the Meetinghouse still needs critical restoration to windows and the north exterior. Your new and renewed Annual Memberships have a huge impact on our ability to meet operating costs, obtain grants and create the funds to plan and implement the feature programs offered throughout the year.

As we approach the tercentennial of the 1717 Meetinghouse, we ask you to help us achieve the mission of preserving the 1717 Meetinghouse. Please join or renew your membership today; ask your friends and business partners, too.

Annual and Life memberships, renewals and supplementary donations are gratefully accepted at any time throughout the year as you are able. Your gifts can also be made *in honor of* or *in memory of* a loved one.



In addition to enjoying our newsletters and pre-announcements of cultural events—music recitals, debates & historic reenactments—you have a part in preserving this colonial-era treasure for generations to come.

Memberships are available at several levels.
Please choose one. Thank you!

- Individual:** Annual donation of \$25
- Family:** Annual donation of \$50
- Friend:** Annual donation of \$51 to \$794

— Life Membership Levels —

- Bell Ringer:** Donation of \$750—\$999
- Tower Climber:** Donation of \$1,000—\$4,999
- Silver Keeper:** Donation of \$5,000—\$9,999
- Revere Bell Society:** Donation of \$10,000 or more

Name
Mailing Address
City, State, ZIP
email

Amount enclosed: \$ _____
Mail to: Membership
PO Box 781
West Barnstable, MA 02668



Elizabeth Crocker Jenkins
(ca. 1922)

"The Woman Who Saved Our Meetinghouse" [1874-1956]