



# GATHERINGS FROM THE GREEN

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[www.hamptonhistoricalsociety.org](http://www.hamptonhistoricalsociety.org)

## Executive Director's Report

Wintering in a warmer climate does not mean time away from the Tuck Museum. Far from it! With a little distance from the everyday duties, I was able to do some long range planning (literally and figuratively) and worked on components from the StEPs program – like job descriptions, a written housekeeping plan, a collecting plan, as well as my goals for 2017.

One of my goals is to better serve our volunteers by enhanced recruitment and training. If you have thought about volunteering but don't know how you would fit in, we have a variety of opportunities, from weekly jobs to a once a year gig. Here is a partial list of the areas where we can use help:

- Assist with special events – projects like the annual pig roast need plenty of help with the silent auction, set-up and clean-up, servers, and homemade desserts.
- Help with museum tours – we provide training to lead small groups through the buildings at the museum. All you need is an interest in people and Hampton! We are open three days a week from 1-4p.m.
- Help with school presentations – five separate school programs, covering grades 1, 2, 3, 8, plus home-schoolers, are offered. The programs run in the fall over the course of one week, and then five days in the spring over a two week period. You can help with one program, two, or all. The choice is yours.
- Join the Monday Morning Work Party – during good weather, a group meets to perform maintenance, landscaping, and cleaning projects inside and outside the buildings. Camaraderie is built as groups work together, and it is a great way to meet people. It is not a weekly commitment, but most people put it on the calendar and try to show up. The work parties run from 9a.m. to noon, coffee included.
- Serve on a committee – there is a committee for almost every interest (programs and events, membership, fundraising, building and grounds, and pig roast). All of them can use various skill sets and time commitments.
- Join a research project – we are always looking for people who have genealogy and research skills. We compile information on Hampton businesses, motels,

hotels, houses, people, organizations, and events. We have an active oral history program and are always looking for more interviewers (as well as interviewees).

- Scan photographs and newspaper articles.
- Assist with inventory projects – we are constantly improving our storage facilities, rehousing textiles as we check their condition, and moving objects on and off exhibition. We also go through the files to make sure that they are complete and accurate.
- Cataloging donations to the collection and preparing them for exhibit or storage. Training is provided.
- Photography skills are always welcome. We need people to photograph the collection, as well as programs and events. Video and video editing skills would be of great use to us.
- Create web based projects – we would like to put more of the collection online – like our costume and textiles – so that these wonderful items can be viewed by more people.
- Assist with exhibits and exhibitions.
- Share your special skill – graphic arts, music, drawing, painting, research, photography, public speaking, cooking – come and create your own job.

The Tuck Museum is a community-based treasure and we want as many people as possible to join us!

Betty Moore

## Board of Trustees; Officers

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## Hampton's Oceanside Grange

In February 1927, Hampton's Grange was at its peak. Membership had grown to 180 members from the original 15 members who formed the Grange in 1897. Four of the founders were women – because membership in the Grange was open to both men and women, which was unusual at that time for fraternal organizations.

A national organization, the Grange was formed as a secret fraternal society to promote rural interests, provide information on agricultural practices, and offer educational and social opportunities for its members. The Hampton chapter, named Oceanside Grange, became popular in the farming town, meeting at various locations.

Early in 1927, the Oceanside Grange announced plans to build its own hall on High Street and acquired Frank Mason's barn for that purpose. It moved the barn for remodeling to the present location of American Legion Post #35, which also used the Grange hall as a meeting place.

The Grange hall opened in April 1929 with a supper that cost of 40 cents per person. At the September 1929 dedication, 300 guests represented all towns in New Hampshire. During the 1940s, movies were shown upstairs and the projection room is still part of the facility. For its 50th anniversary in 1947, the Oceanside Grange held a mortgage burning ceremony.

The Grange hall has since become home to American Legion Post #35. Local historian and photographer Karen Raynes captured the 2011 American Legion event pictured.



The Hampton Historical Society has minimal material in its collection to tell the story of the Oceanside Grange. If you have material that you would like to donate, please contact Betty Moore at 603-929-0781.

## Annual Symposium

### *Life and Death in the Piscataqua Region*

The Portsmouth Historic Sites Associates presented their annual winter symposium, *Life and Death in the Piscataqua Region*, at the St. John's Masonic Lodge in Portsmouth on March 4, 2017.

There were four presenters:

- Karen Raynes of the Hampton Historical Society – “The Queens of Hampton Beach: The History of the Carnival Queens & Miss Hampton Beach Beauty Pageant 1915-2015”
- Jim Craig of the USS Albacore Park in Portsmouth – “A Measureless Peril: Wartime Hysteria, Spies, Surrenders at Sea and German U-boats off Portsmouth in WWII”
- Gerry Ward of the MFA and the Portsmouth Historical Society – “Four Centuries of Portsmouth Furniture”
- Richard Adams of the Wentworth-Lear Association – “Notable Denizens of Portsmouth's South Cemetery”

Karen says, “It was a great honor to present on the same stage with such brilliant men and entertain an audience of interested historians.”



Gerry Ward, Richard Adams, Karen Raynes, and Jim Craig

### Mission

The mission of the Hampton Historical Society is to increase public knowledge and understanding of the history and cultural heritage of the town of Hampton, New Hampshire, from its earliest inhabitants to the present generation. We will communicate that history through an active museum, educational programs, and a resource library.

## Thanks, Terry!



The HHS Board of Trustees thanks Terry Grube of Seacoast Inspections, LLC, Hampton, for volunteering his services.

In February, Terry and Gary Grashow, HHS Building and Grounds Chairman, did a walk-thru of the Tuck Museum. Recent improvements to our heating equipment and insulation have resulted in lower operating costs. Terry is a

Level II Thermographer. He used an infra-red camera to inspect the existing insulation.

Terry made recommendations that will further reduce operating costs and improve air quality in the building. Some of the changes include: insulating, adding vapor barriers to the basement crawl spaces, sealing cracks in the foundation brickwork, correcting the drain on our dehumidifier, sealing duct chases, and adding a sealed attic access hatch.

So thanks, Terry, for your help and expertise!

## Business members

We thank the following business members for their support of the Society:

234 Lafayette Road Realty LLC  
401 Tavern, LLC  
Atlantic Motel  
Robert Dennett  
Eccentric Hair  
Galley Hatch Restaurant, Inc.  
Hampton Beach Casino, Inc.  
Kingfish Trolley Lines, LLC  
Lamie's Inn & The Old Salt Restaurant  
Cheryl Lassiter  
Mackensen & Company Inc.  
William Nay  
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Preston Real Estate  
Provident Bank  
Remick & Gendron Funeral Home & Crematory  
RLSafeHome  
The Troiano Wealth Advisory Group  
Tobey & Merrill Insurance  
Tracy Theatre Originals  
Unitil Corp.  
Dr. Leonard Walker  
Windjammer By The Sea

## We thank the members listed below for their donations to the Annual Operating Fund.

Douglas & Elizabeth Aykroyd  
Philip & Diane Backstrom  
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Priscilla Ann Thoen  
Roger Towle  
Art & Mickey Wardle  
Alfonso Webb Sr.  
Chuck & Karen Weinhold  
Diane P. Withee

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## Gifts to the Collection 2016 - Includes Education Items & Display Aids

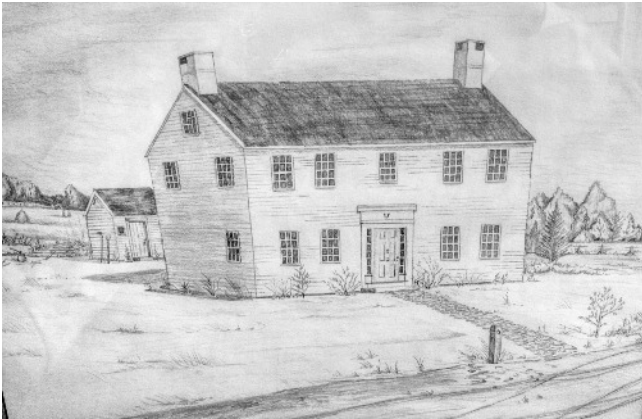
- Ocean House Registry & Ocean House Daybook (1903-1906) - Arthur Moody
- Oral History CDs: Bruce Aquizap; photographs and ephemera from Priscilla Emery - Oral History Committee
- Photographs relating to Hampton, Dierks Family, Hampton Beach Fire 1918, HPD & HFD booklets, school related memorabilia, American Legion Auxiliary photographs and clippings, *USS Hampton* memorabilia, Hampton related genealogical information, collection of artwork by Ruth Stimson, bound 1938 *Hampton Union*, Bill Elliot photographs and ephemera, scrapbook Hampton Playhouse, watercolor of Marine Memorial, various school reports 1930,1931, 1999, 2000, 2004- Lane Memorial Library
- Helene Harris political ad, Farragut postcard, photographs and ephemera relating to architect Ralph Harris, photograph of Beverly Hollingsworth and Gov. John Lynch - Helene Hickey
- Newspaper CDs - *Beach Comber & Beach News* - Rich Hureau and Candy Stellmach (Digitization Project)
- Rupert Lindsey Collection (manuscripts, photographs), minutes of the Baptist Brotherhood (1919) - Gerald W. Lindsey
- Two sketches of Hampton Beach attributed to Johan Stelmer - museum purchase
- Collection of fashion books, WWI service handbook, Tuck Museum event photographs, items relating to Alfred A. Hoyt, (schoolbook, artwork, photo), pewter coffee pot, latch & hinge from 60 Park Ave., James House materials, print scarf, antique greeting cards (1920-1950), dolls made by Margaret Berry, photograph of Margaret Berry, series of McGuffey readers, poetry collection of Evelyn Philbrick, education magazines and schoolbooks, research for school programs, history of Hampton school lunch program, Helen Hayden's graduation dress, yellow summer dress c. 1950s, mini album class of 1944, Script *The Trial of Goody Cole*, manuscript *A Window on Old Hampton*- Priscilla (Pat) Triggs Thoen
- Scrapbooks of Hampton (clipping and memorabilia 2003-2008) compiled by James Duhamel - Donor unknown (through Hampton Town Clerk)
- Scrapbooks relating to Seacoast Community Women and Jaycee Wives (1971-1990), photographs Seacoast Community Women - Katie Ells
- 2015 Hampton Town Report, Hampton School Reports, Tuck Museum DAR Historic Preservation Award and Pin, Children's Festival 2016 giveaways, book - *Historic New England Powder Houses*, collection of children's history books, 2016 Christmas Parade poster - Collection Committee
- Hampton Beach Post Office crew c. 1939 - Gail Langley Donald
- Book - *Northwest Passage* - Michael Angelari
- Hampton Monday Club negatives 1920-1944 - Douglass Hunter
- Moulton deeds, Turnpike Causeway deeds and shares, Academia 1898-1899, almanacs (7), collection of postcards, Barbara Toppan wedding guest list and marriage certificate, panel from the Toppan Garrison House, photographs class of 1936, photographs storm damage at Hampton beach, Edmund Toppan essay while at Harvard University (copy 1796), newspapers (12) *The Country Gentlemen* 1893-96, book *Beautiful Place of Pines* (1888), HAHS newspaper *Academia* (9)- Michael Toppan
- Book - *Color Me Included* - Rev. Deborah Knowlton
- Carriage plans from the Garland House (Winnacunnet Rd.)- Jack Vogt
- Miss Hampton Beach ephemera - Sheila Scott
- Scans - Ruth Stimson related - Marilyn Wallingford
- Book - *Memorial of Honorable Richard Jenness* - Jonathan Clark
- Baptist Church history - Beverly Stoughton church historian
- "Achoo! Stop the Flu" & "The Best of Julie and Brownie" CDs - Gardner Brown Macintosh
- Mrs. Winslow's Domestic Receipt Book (1862) - Betsey Davis
- Exeter and Hampton Electric Co. Annual Report 1960 - Leigh Smith
- Tercentenary Parade photos and wooden nickels - Anne Wiggins
- Photographs - DAR Award Ceremony, 2016 Miss Hampton Beach Contest, HHS open House Dec. 4, 2016 - Disaster Civil Defense Kit bag - Karen Raynes
- Palmer Family photographs - Arnold (Bud) Palmer
- Plow, aerial photo Park Ave. area, loafer rake - Ed & Nan McDermott

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- Postcard “Surf and Rocks” - Alvin Schaut
  - Souvenir china - Whittier Birthplace and ashtray HB precinct 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary - Pauline O’Brien
  - Photographs relating to Roland Sawyer- Nathalie Potts
  - Photographs relating to Mildred Dudley Autio - Fanny Autio
  - Framed perambulation of the town lines 1836 - Diane and Chet Riley
  - Postcards of Hampton area - Gail Szydlo
  - Books - *Hampton & Hampton Beach, Historic Tales of Windam* (NH) - Collection Committee through Dani McGrath - Arcadia Publishing
  - Hampton beauty queens information - Frances Houlihan
  - Photograph & memorabilia relating to Walter White - Carole Wheeler Walles
  - Pung from Perkins/Berry family - Tobey Berry
  - Hampton Academy warm-up jacket c. late 1970s, WHS hockey jersey, WWI hat and top hat - Linda and Steve Trofatter
  - Materials relating to Hampton Playhouse - donor unknown
  - Shadowbox Batchelder Ice, photograph of Nathaniel Batchelder, comic book “Red Ryder”, fabric eyelet parasol - Betty Batchelder Hart
  - Research - Charles Perkins gold rush records, DVD *Mysteries of NH*, DVD *100 Years at the Beach: Queens of the Carnival and Miss Hampton Beach*; research relating to Edmund Toppan, postmaster account book 1841-42 (copy), research Wallace Lovell - Cheryl Lassiter
  - “Universal” store bottle - Elizabeth Aykroyd
  - Hampton National Bank deposit bag - Scott Bean
  - Clock face Odd Fellows Building, HPD &HFD memorabilia, seawall information, map lot line High Street, Hampton District Court misc. papers - Town of Hampton
  - Book - *American Witches* - Susan Fair
  - Record album “The Continentals”, Hampton Beach souvenir plate - Shirley Howard
  - Mini -photographs Hampton & Hampton Beach, 2008 sand sculpting contest photographs - Ann Welch
  - Railroad spike and nail - Margaret Dennett
  - History of Hampton Vol. 1 & 2- Judith Hayden
  - Photographs Hampton Beach bathers & cottage, postcards - Eleanor (Elly) Becotte
  - Photographs - Miss Hampton Beach 2016 - Brooke Riley
  - Church Records Vol 1-5, Index - Candice (Candy) Stellmach & Rich Hureau
  - Hampton Garden Club records 2006-2015 - Carol Keating (HGC Custodian)
  - Wooden Finial from Ocean House - Bernard Dunbrack
  - Collection of 19<sup>th</sup> century newsletters, collection of NH almanacs, NH Register 1796, 1822; patriotic booklets, personal papers of Taylor Family, governmental pamphlets and publications - estate of Arabella Taylor-Tuttle
  - Book - *Index to Genealogies in New Hampshire Town Histories* - Robert Dennett
  - Grange memorabilia, decal Hampton Beach, medicine bottle Dr. Thompson, background on Dr. Thompson by Ron Bourgeault, history of 22 Academy Ave. & research on Harry I. Noyes by Linda Trofatter - Dean Merrill
  - Scrapbook - Salty Marsh Junior Garden Club c. 1960s - Sheryl Bernier
  - Slides - Ruth Stimson collection I & II - Lori Cotter
  - Pencil sketch “Covered Bridge on a Summer Day” by Ruth Stimson - Linda Sadlock
  - Quilt from Towle Family homestead - Shari Garrett-Miller

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## A Ghost in the Captain David Perkins House?

In 1825, Sea Captain David Perkins married Asenath H. Batchelder. They built a house on the main road to the beach, which is now Winnacunnet Road.



David and Asenath raised five children in the house; the last to live there was their daughter Elizabeth. She was a teacher who taught in Texas and other places, then returned to the family homestead. She would eventually move to a house across the street.

The house stayed in the family until 1977. The last Perkins descendants to live there were Arthur Johnson, an artist, and then his widow Ann.

Ann Johnson, who considered herself a psychic, moved to the back of the house after Arthur died. From there, she would look outside, and see her deceased husband sitting on a rock. She knew she had to build a new house there and moved to this house on what is now Presidential Circle. She sold the Perkins house in 1977.

The Captain David Perkins House was empty until 1979, when Joe and Pat O'Keefe bought it. They raised four children in the house, where Pat (an HHS volunteer) still lives. She plans to stay there at least until 2025 to celebrate the house's 200th anniversary.

After Pat moved in, Ann Johnson would visit, and it is Ann who told Pat the house's ghost stories...

One day Ann was in a downstairs room that had a mirror over the fireplace. She was carrying a tray, heard a rustling of skirts, looked up into the mirror, and saw the likeness of the house's first owner, Asenath Perkins. With that, she dropped the tray!

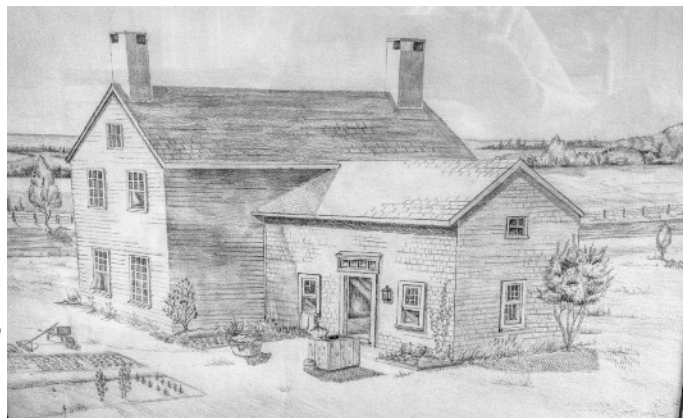
Ann told Pat that she recognized Asenath from old tintype photographs she and Arthur had found in the barn.

Ann also told Pat about the night she and Arthur were sitting together downstairs in one of the few rooms that had heat when they heard footsteps on the stairs. Arthur looked up and said to Ann, "If she [Asenath] knew how much we love and care for this house, she would go away."

Ann and Arthur had a number of children who grew up in the house. According to Ann, Asenath would appear at night when the children were in bed and tuck them in. Ann said they would wake up, terrified.

Ann would constantly ask Pat if she'd seen or heard anything, but Pat never did and hasn't to this day.

Captain David Perkins and Asenath Batchelder were descendants of two of Hampton's founders – Abraham Perkins and Reverend Stephen Bachiler. Captain Perkins's ship was the Virginia, possibly built in Portsmouth, NH. Captain Perkins drowned in the Gulf of St. Lawrence in October 1851. Asenath died in May 1888.



Mike O'Keefe, an architect and Pat's oldest son, created artist renderings based on his conception of what the house might have looked like in Captain Perkins's time. They are on display in Pat's house. She says Mike will have to update the renderings to show a well they later discovered just outside the front door when the walkway and patio were built.

The Hampton Historical Society would like to record and save Hampton's ghost stories. If you have a ghost story, please tell it to us so that it won't disappear. Email Kathy McLaughlin, a trustee, at [kmclaughlin119@gmail.com](mailto:kmclaughlin119@gmail.com), or call her at 603-601-6770.

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## WWI Exhibit at Tuck Museum - Starts April, 2017



Three Hampton families have loaned to the Tuck museum for display memorabilia from Hampton men and women who enlisted and served in WWI.

Lori White Cotter and Nancy Osgood have shared photos and information about family member Jeannette Packard White, who served as a nurse in France during the war.

John Mason brought in his grandfather Harry Newton Elwell's WWI trunk, with uniform, boots, hat, knife, trench art, buttons, and photos.

Dean Merrill has shared photos, medals, trench art, hats, and letters from his grandfather Dean Bixby Merrill's collection.

The information and items will be showcased at the Tuck Museum's WWI exhibit (starting in April, 2017), and incorporated into the WWI video that is in process, to be shown at the American legion Hall on November 11, 2017.



Anyone who has information about Hampton people and WWI please contact Karen at the museum, 603-929-0781

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## HHS Authors Presentation About Slavery in New Hampshire: History Uncovered



Rev. Knowlton; Michelle Sherburne

On April 2, HHS hosted its first program for 2017 at the Congregational Church's Fellowship Hall.

Authors Reverend Deborah Knowlton, *Color Me Included*, and newspaperwoman Michelle Aronsky Sherburne, *Slavery and the Underground Railroad in New Hampshire*, shed light onto the hidden history of slavery and black heritage during the program entitled "Windows into African-American Life in New Hampshire."

Reverend Knowlton mentioned that there were over 100 slaves in the Hampton area during the time period she researched in the church record books from the late 1600s to the early 1800s.

Sherburne has been researching the subject of the underground railroad for 25 years. She spoke of the Quakers and Abolitionists in New Hampshire who secretly transported slaves who followed the "North Star" to Canada in hopes of finding freedom and acceptance.

Knowlton and Sherburne both said that they enjoyed bringing out the truth in the history of this subject. New information is always being discovered and networked to other historians.

All who attended were enlightened by these two authors and their presentation.

HHS wishes to thank the Congregational Church's "Gods Baby Closet" for supplying refreshments for the program.





# Hampton Historical Society 2017 program of events

**april 2** *Windows into African American Life in New Hampshire*

rev. deborah knowlton & michelle sherburne  
fellowship hall congregational church  
127 winnacunnet road hampton  
sunday april 2 @ 4:30 p.m.

**september 19** *The Last Run: A Tale of Rum Running in New Hampshire*

stephen clarkson  
tuck museum  
40 park ave hampton  
tuesday september 19 @ 6:30 p.m.

**may 13** *Color Me Included Walking Tour* \$10 RSVP 929-0781

led by author rev. deborah knowlton  
meet at congregational church  
127 winnacunnet road hampton  
saturday, may 13 @ 1:00 p.m.

**october 19** *Discovering New England's Stone Walls*

kevin gardner nh humanities  
hhs annual meeting tuck museum  
40 park ave hampton  
thursday october 19 @ 6:30 p.m.

**june 15** *Life on 17th Century New Hampshire's Coastal Frontier*

neill dePaoli nh humanities  
tuck museum  
40 park ave hampton  
thursday june 15 @ 7:00 p.m.

**november 11** *Hampton Voices from World War I*

karen raynes & mike garland  
american legion hall  
69 high street hampton  
saturday, november 11 @ 11 a.m.

**august 9** *Creative Feast: Recipes from Colonial New England*

liz barber  
lane memorial library  
2 academy ave hampton  
wednesday august 9 @ 6:30 p.m.

**december 1&2** *Hampton Christmas Tree Lighting & Parade*

marelli square & route one downtown  
cookies friday, parade float saturday  
tree lighting - friday dec 1 @ 7 p.m.  
parade - saturday dec 2 @ 1 p.m.

See the WWI exhibit!



Tuck Museum,  
Starting in April