



Sudbury Historical Society, Inc.

NEWSLETTER



January - March 2001

Editor: Ursula Lyons Typist: Carole Flynn

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Contributing Editors: Lee Swanson, Clay Allen, June Allen

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What's Happening at Town Hall Second Floor?

Takayuki Morita, 1999-2000 archival intern (see photo) is back in Japan awaiting results of SHS's application to the Immigration and Naturalization Service to give him a H1-B Status Visa, allowing him to return to Sudbury, live and work here for three years with a possible three-year extension. U.S. Senator Kennedy and U.S. Representative Meehan have been very helpful and encouraging. We will know after the first of the year. In the meantime, Taka has been working on research needed to publish a history of Anjyo, a nearby Japanese town.

Taka has also been elected Secretary of the Japan Society of Archives Institutions, which has nationwide conferences. He recently spoke to the national group on American Archival practices. His e-mail address is <flyingdoc@aol.com> if you would like to keep him cheered up. Should we be successful in our bid for him to return to Sudbury, he would be working for "The Sudbury Town Archives." More on this in the next newsletter. Taka sends Holiday Greetings to all of the Society members.



SHS Trustees and guests gathered at Sheila & Norm MacKinnon's home with Japanese Intern Takayuki Morita before he departed for Japan (hopefully to return in 2001).

From the Curator:

The strength of an Historical Society is its collection. The Sudbury Historical Society is really just beginning to collect, as we did not have a home before now. We would like to collect not only historic Sudbury papers, artifacts, etc., but also records from Sudbury businesses, especially greenhouses from the 19th and 20th centuries. We also hope to collect records of Sudbury organizations. Photographs of Sudbury events are most welcome. In short, we would like to have a collection of people's lives as told in pictures, words, or examples of what they ate, drank, used in their daily lives. Just imagine if you could open the door of George F. Moore's house (as he so wanted to do when he was away for three years during the Civil War) and walk back in time to 1863 Sudbury. One hundred years from now people will be interested to see how life was in the year 2000, when we will be "history." We hope our collections will reflect accurately many periods of Sudbury life, including our own. If you would like to donate items to our collection, call 443-3747.

Coming Up:

Save the Dates!

Programs in early 2001:

Sunday, January 7 – 2 p.m. at GOODNOW LIBRARY - **TRIBAL RUGS OF NORTHERN AFGHANISTAN.** Abdul Zahar, owner of Amu Oriental Rugs, Inc., Sudbury, will discuss traditional Afghan rugs: their design, symbols, colors and manufacture. **LEARN WHAT TO PUT ON YOUR FLOORS!** (non-members - \$5.00)

Sunday, February 4 – 2 p.m. at GOODNOW LIBRARY – **“THE OLD WAY OF SEEING - HOW ARCHITECTURE LOST ITS MAGIC AND HOW TO GET IT BACK,”** presented by noted architect and author **Jonathan Hale.** (non-members - \$5.00)

Sunday, March 4 – 2 p.m. at GOODNOW LIBRARY – **“ENTRY COURTS AND DOORYARD GARDENS”** - Sudbury Landscape Designer **Maria Von Brincken** will show how entry gardens, derived from historic examples, can enhance your landscapes. (non-members - \$5.00)

Sunday April 15* – 2 p.m. at FIRST PARISH OF WAYLAND, Rts. 27 & 20 – **“MEET HENRY DAVID THOREAU”** - Performer **Richard Smith** will take us back to Thoreau's time and his favorite walks in and around Sudbury and Wayland. Co-sponsored with Wayland Historical Society.

** Note: April program is the 15th, not the 1st.*

Highlights of Fall Programs:

For those of you who missed any of SHS's programs and events, our season opened at the Goodnow Library with a three-week exhibit of works by the late internationally acclaimed Sudbury artist/illuminator **E. Helene Sherman** on the anniversary of her birthday in September. It was an impressive display of the many-faceted talents of the late Miss Sherman and was enlivened by the anecdotal presentation of Rev. Joseph Curran, long-time friend of Miss Sherman and former assistant pastor of Our Lady of Fatima, Sudbury.

Another famous local artist, watercolorist **Loring Coleman** shared his insights and inspirations with SHS in October. Also internationally recognized, Mr. Coleman spoke of his own life and its influence on his poignant reflections of country life as depicted in his watercolors.

In November, we heard a rich collection of happenings in Sudbury from the people who witnessed them or heard of them from parents or grandparents. We learned about school life, the existence of local greenhouses, the site of a Victorian railroad station on Union Avenue, and the pond and mill at Mill Village, among other things. (See photo below.)

Thank You to the Sudbury Historical Commission for making available the magnificently decorated Hosmer House for our Holiday Party in December. We are most appreciative of having such a perfect setting and the opportunity to sell the new Sudbury book (see p. 5) along with SHC's cup plates, Sudbury throws, etc. We look forward to this festive occasion each year. Special thanks to Pat and Vic Walsh for organizing the refreshments.

SHS Co-president Nancy Vanderslice holds microphone while Sudbury resident John Bartlett shares stories of Sudbury remembered in November. Also in photo is Videographer and Trustee Peggy Fredrickson.



Acquisitions:

MOORE COLLECTION RECEIVES FULL FUNDING FROM DONATIONS AND GRANTS (see photo). **DISPLAY SCHEDULED FOR MARCH.** As many of you know, Curator Lee Swanson recently seized the opportunity to purchase a rare collection of three years of letters between Sudbury resident and soldier George F. Moore and his family during the Civil War. The original complete collection also includes pictures and diaries. Swanson arranged for the purchase of the collection and then sent out requests for donations to cover SHS's cost, not the recommended way to do business, but under the circumstances SHS's only choice, as we were under a time deadline. We are pleased to report that more than 55 people have sent donations ranging from \$10 to \$1,000. In addition, the Sudbury Cultural Council has granted SHS \$950, and more recently the Sudbury Foundation has agreed to fund SHS an additional \$5,000 for the purchase and related expenses. Our funds have been replenished by what was truly a community effort for something that will certainly benefit the community.

The first scheduled display of the collection will be in the Goodnow Library display case during the month of March. It will show how one man's life affected so many other people, places, events, and streets, and how one bullet could have changed everything. The Sudbury Historical Society will notify contributors regarding a private viewing

and detailed presentation of the Moore Collection. Thank you to all who supported this acquisition.



Photo: Lee Swanson shows the Moore Civil War Collection to Marilyn Martino (left) and Derry Tanner from the Sudbury Foundation.

Harry Rice Native American Artifacts Collection/Wood-Davison House Funds Update: SHS's efforts to get the monies from these funds released to SHS have been put on hold by the Town pending a Buildings Facilities Study and more research by Town Counsel. We will keep you posted.

Recent Donations:

The SHS is grateful to the following for donating historical items this year:

Janet Alfort – "SPAN-IT" climb the mountain game made in Sudbury.

Paula Adelson – B&W portraits of Sudbury people taken by Dr. Wm. Adelson, showing: people involved in 1989 Town Meeting Tonight play, which he also wrote; in Rainbow Coalition demonstration; in Memorial Day and July 4 parades; people in scenes of Sudbury and involved in building of Kid's Space at Noyes School.

David Bentley – 1968 reprint of Hudson's *History of Sudbury*.

Betty & Don Bishop – Collection of farm items, including sheep shearer, curry comb, hand scythe, and large work table.

Forrest Bradshaw's Files of SHS (courtesy of his daughter), including original ancient Sudbury material, copies, pictures, files from his many years of involvement with SHS.

Joe Brown – Paul Ecke's Films of Sudbury; Sudbury Men's Club Films; Gen. Nixon's Military Record; Heard Family

Genealogy; Training Field File; Hosmer House File; records of SHS's interests and involvements; objects from archeological dig at Mossman Road homestead.

Robert J. Fillmore – Antique drum from Sudbury Fife & Drum Co. given in memory of Robert Gerry Fillmore via Mary Ann Courtemanche.

Barbara Deveneau – 1936, 1976, 1977, 1979 newspapers with Sudbury articles.

Becky Fairbank – Scythe and three blades from Bradshaw House.

Christine Faucher – Two twin-size Lindsey/Woolsey Blankets (1840-1860).

Curt Garfield – Lottie Smith's personal papers and artifacts.

Spencer Goldstein – Copy of Jane Brown's print of historic Sudbury (given to Taka).

Pam Hollocher – Walnut cast iron pulley from an 1870s private Sudbury school.

Royal Haynes – 50th Anniversary Book of the National League of American Pen Women; Town Reports; E. Helene Sherman's sketch of Sudbury Center.

Royal Haynes and Loryne Koeble (Estate of E. Helene Sherman) – Twenty-one framed works of E. Helene Sherman, exhibited in September. These will be part of a rotating loan program developed by SHS.

Dorothy Kay – Two of her mother's recreated 18th century work/ ball gowns.

Lyn MacLean – Corn shucker from the old Farrell asparagus farm on Water Row.

Arline & Barry MacNeil – Coffee grinder spout can from Bradshaw's store.

Virginia & John Maenpaa – 1940, 1963 Town Reports; Industrial Development Board Picture and ID; Sunny Hill Pre-School 40th Anniversary Booklet; copy of "BLUGOLD" 1937; Gordon Hunter's life (unpublished manuscript); 1979 map of Sudbury; Arnie Maenpaa's receipt for purchase of 1931 Chevrolet; 1925 Driver's License application; 1941 newspapers about the 1938 hurricane in Sudbury.

Ellen Jane Siegars – Three Sudbury, England, brochures received from England town in 1989 trip.

Other Programs Sponsored by Area Historical Societies:

- ❑ **JANUARY 14 (Sunday)** – “The Orphan Trains” by Jim McFaul at Ashland Historical Society’s Ocean House, 2 Myrtle Street. Call 508-881-8183 for details.
- ❑ **JANUARY 22 (Monday)** – “Back to the Annex.” Archaeologist for the Assabet River National Wildlife Refuge, Victoria Jackson, will speak and show pictures and examples of recent archaeological findings on land formerly known as the Sudbury Army Annex. Town Building, Main Street (Maynard Historical Society)
- ❑ **JANUARY 23 (Tuesday) Grout-Heard House, Wayland, 7:30 PM** – “The Clocks at Grout-Heard House: What Are Their Stories?” Presented by Michael Poisson, Cochituate Craftsman. (Wayland Historical Society)
- ❑ **JANUARY 23 (Tuesday), 7:30 PM** – **Richard Wilcox**, Curator, will present a program from the Archives of the Marlborough Historical Society. Hosts will be Frank Valianti and Robert Scott, with a surprise treat!
- ❑ **FEBRUARY 27 ((Tuesday), 7:30 PM** – **Robert Scott**, President of the Marlborough Historical Society, will present information on the **People’s Ice Company** active in Marlborough from 1916-1945. Hostesses will be Jeannette Pollard and Marilyn Otto.
- ❑ **THROUGH JANUARY**: The current exhibition, Keeping House, shows changes in housework methods from the past 100 years. It continues through January at the Framingham Historical Society and Museum, 16 Vernon Street. For more information, call 508-872-3780.

Thank You Volunteers:

Although the Trustees are expected to assume most of the responsibilities associated with the Sudbury Historical Society, we could not accomplish all of the required work without members who have volunteered their time in various ways. We would like to acknowledge and thank those members who have helped SHS since September with the Sherman Exhibit, Archival work at Town Hall, and with programs and refreshments:

Mary Ainsworth	Denny Donaldson	Mary Ellen and Stewart Hoover	Cynthia Stocking
Jane Armbruster	Betty Drum	John Maenpaa	Maggie Surwilo
Fran Caspe	Gladys Guethlen	Terri Newton	Sylvia Throckmorton
Martha Curran	Ann Harvey	Doris Niederauer	Marion Tratnyek
Priscilla Linden-Demers	Royal Haynes		

A special thank-you to Betty Foley and Ed Blackey for their help with mailings and distribution of Town Historian Curt Garfield’s book, *Sudbury: 1890-1989*; to George Lewis and Paul Gardescu of Wayland for their archival help, and to Winnie Grinnell for her ongoing genealogical help. Our goal is to make use of everyone who has volunteered. If you have not been called, please contact Betsy Gottberg at 443-3081.

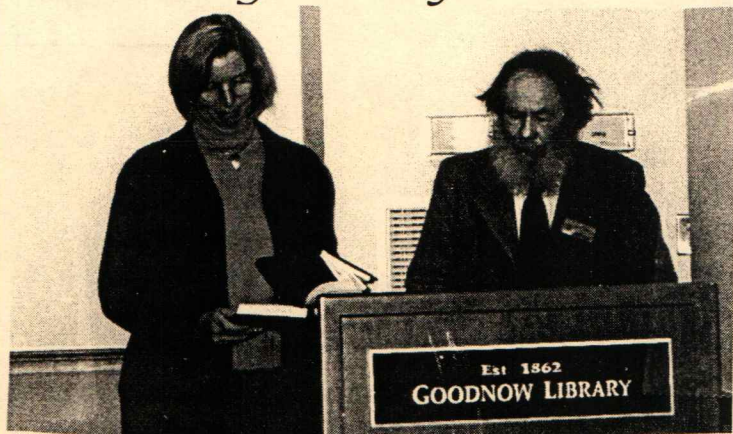
Volunteer Wish List: Is there anyone who could . . .

- ▶ finish insulating 2nd floor Town Hall for the winter?
- ▶ transcribe the letters from the George F. Moore Civil War Collection onto the computer?
- ▶ begin to catalog the SHS acquisitions on a computer program?
- ▶ become an SHS liaison to the Friends of the Assabet River National Wildlife Refuge (Sudbury Annex) who are working on documenting the homes, roads and other places that date back to the Revolutionary War times, e.g., the Rice Tavern?
- ▶ If you think you can help in any way, call Lee Swanson at 443-3747.

SHS Wish List:

- ▶ Fax Machine
- ▶ 2'x2' Paper Cutter
- ▶ Postage Scale – up to 2 lbs.
- ▶ Vacuum Cleaner
- ▶ Modern personal computer with capability for Windows 2000
- ▶ Laser Printer
- ▶ Copy of *Book of Historic Houses* by Sudbury Historical Commission

New Book of Sudbury's Last 100 Years Launched:



Sales and reviews of *SUDBURY: 1890-1989: 100 Years in the Life of a Town* have been very encouraging. Author Curt Garfield has completed at least four signings since October (see photo). Hardcover and paperback books are available at The Paper Store, Town Line Hardware, Wayside Inn, and Bearly Read Books. Signed copies are also available at SHS 2nd Floor Town Hall on Tuesday and Thursday afternoons or by calling 978-443-3747.

Curt Garfield presents Book #1 (dedicated) to the Sudbury Foundation Executive Director, Derry Tanner, on October 11, 2000, at Goodnow Library.

Did You Know?

Curator Lee Swanson has researched Town records for the true history of the building that the Grange has owned and occupied since 1891 (between Presbyterian Church and Town Hall). He found that the building, begun as Center School #1, was the first school in Sudbury Center in the 18th century and had many modifications up to 1891. Information on schooling, taxes, vandalism, teacher's problems, testing of students, and even crows has been unearthed. Part of this history will be in the historical survey being completed for the Grange by preservationist consultant Sarah Chase and in a booklet for the Historic Sudbury Centre Tour project.

Thanks mostly to the efforts of former Chair of the Sudbury Historical Commission, Lyn MacLean, and State Representative Susan Pope, the restoration of the railroad section house on Rt. 20 at Mill Village is now completed. What will happen next is the big question. Ideas for a "mini-museum" of railroad memorabilia will be discussed at the next SHS Trustees' meeting. Incidentally, the Sudbury Historical Commission's 2000 Sudbury commemorative cup plates depict the same railroad section house and may be purchased at Hill's Jewelers, Concord Road, or at the Town Clerk's office, Town Hall.

Welcome New Members:

There are 125 memberships in SHS to date, including 24 NEW memberships. We anticipate that a recent mailing to more than 600 Sudbury residents will result in additional memberships. Don't forget, even if you only attend two meetings, your membership expenses are covered. If you haven't already, join NOW. We will publish a complete list of members for distribution at our Annual Meeting in June.

SHS MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION FORM – SEPT. 2000 - AUG. 2001

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

PHONE _____

FAX _____

E-MAIL _____

CHECK MEMBERSHIP CATEGORY BELOW:

(Make check payable to Sudbury Historical Society, Inc.)

Send form & check to: SHS, P.O. Box 233, Sudbury, MA 01776

\$10 INDIVIDUAL

\$15 FAMILY

\$25 SUSTAINING / BUSINESS

\$200 LIFETIME MEMBER



Sudbury Historical Society, Inc.

Post Office Box 233
Sudbury, Massachusetts 01776



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NEWSLETTER

Wishing you all a Happy, Healthy & Prosperous New Year!

SHS Mission Statement (adopted in 1998)

The Sudbury Historical Society accepts the commitment to collect and preserve artifacts, to foster an appreciation and understanding of history and traditions, focusing primarily, but not exclusively, on Sudbury.

Sudbury Centre, 1895

