Calendar of Events
Saturday, August 5
10:00 A.M.
Children’s Lawn Party
A lawn party will be held for children of all ages fea­­turing the stories of Jim Coogan, local author of books such as Clarence The Cranberry Who Couldn’t Bounce.
Face painting by Terri Fox.
Lemonade and cookies too!
Held inside in case of rain.
S. Dennis Library
389 South Main Street
Saturday, August 19
10 A.M. to 4 P.M.
Colonial Open House at the Manse
Enjoy a 1700’s reenact­­ment as costumed inter­preters demonstrate early American skills: dyeing, candle dipping, cooking, children’s games. Visit the 1745 one-room school house and see the Colonial Militia Encampment.
77 Nobscussett Road,
Dennis Village
Sunday, August 20
11 A.M. - 2 P.M.
Old Fashioned Skills Day at Jericho
Costumed guides demonstrate skills needed for 1800’s life.
Refreshments.
1801 Jericho Historical Center, Old Main St.
West Dennis
Coming soon...

As one of the main attractions at the Josiah Dennis Manse Museum's Colonial Open House on August 19 from 10 A.M. to 4 P.M. the Heaney family will be instructing us in the ways our forefathers and mothers cooked over an open fire. Notice the chicken which is spinning on a string cooking over the fire. There will also be demonstrations of dyeing yarn using plants and other natural materials to make the dyes. Learn how to dip candles and even give it a try.

The Colonial Militia will be on hand with Jan Rollins (left) in charge of their encampment. The spinners will be hard at work turning fleece into yarn. There will be colonial games for children and the chance to see what it would be like to attend a one-room school. Docents will be on hand to take visitors through the old Manse, and in case you were wondering, there will be cookies and lemonade for all.

Member News

Just a reminder that our membership year runs from September 1st to August 31st, which means that those of you who are not Life Members will soon be receiving a renewal notice. Several of you who joined us during the summer months are considered paid through 2007. Because postage costs have increased we hope to send this one notice and spare you constant reminders. Last year our Life Members were most generous with donations for mailing and office expenses as well as the costs of supplies for Burt's library work. As always, we are grateful for your support.

There are donations of other kinds which we are happy to receive. Elinor Slade has donated the colonial costume she wore for the Dennis Bicentennial in 1993. One of our Manse docents can now dress in style! Thank you, Elinor.

We were sad to learn of the death of member Verna Sethares who was born and raised in Dennis Port. Some may remember her when she was a soda jerk at her father's pharmacy.

Back in December 2003 we told you about Terri Fox's gift of a “mob cap” to her elderly friend, Anna Hannum of East Dennis. She wore the cap as protection from the air conditioned chill of the Pavilion rehab in Hyannis and, even when she came home again, she continued with this fashion statement. After we learned of her death at 99 years of age, we also learned from Terri that this sweet lady chose to be buried in her mob cap.

On July 22 there was a memorial get-together for Terri's mom, Sherry Sparrow, at her home on Judy Drive. Even if you couldn't be there, remember her with a smile and a toast!
Reserve today!

Make a reservation soon to have a place at the very first “Tea at the Manse” on Sunday, September 10. For a donation of $10, the finest teas, treats and sweets will be served by our costumed docents. Since seating is limited, call Terri Fox at (508) 760-0433. Choose either the 1:30-2:30 P.M. or 3:00-4:00 P.M. seating. All reservations are required by Friday, September 1.

By 1670 Boston was becoming aware of the popularity of tea drinking. In New York, once a Dutch colony, they were already aware of the delights of tea and served this fashionable drink in tea gardens. By 1720 tea had become a staple of trade between England and the Colonies and soon became a favorite of colonial women.

According to Linda Stradley, on the web site “What’s Cooking America”, there are rules of tea etiquette:

*Pick up your cup and saucer together—holding the saucer in one hand and cup in the other....Hold the cup lightly, by the handle—your pinky doesn’t have to be extended.* (Contrary to popular belief, the ring and pinkie fingers should not be extended, but should rest by curving gently back toward your wrist.) **Hold the saucer under your cup while you sip your tea (lest you should spill or dribble.)**

No matter how you take your tea, we won’t be critical. Just come and enjoy!

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More Acquisitions

We are fortunate to receive so many wonderful gifts and donations from members and friends. Here are a few we haven’t mentioned so far:

- Hinged wooden box in image of book containing 1930 manuscript “West Dennis Yesterdays” written by Marion Crowell Ryder with reminiscences by Mrs. Bernard Sheridan, Miss Bessie Howes, Mrs. Howard Tracey and retold by Mrs. Ellen M. B. Shaw.
  Donor: Nelson S. Cook
- 1965 Calendar from West Brewster Package Store on Dennis/Brewster town line.
  Donors: Ruth and Burt Derick
- 1932 Plans drawn by Lewis Derick for the renovation of South Dennis School House to the Dennis Fire Station #1.
  Donor: Elbert O. Derick
- Copy of Inventory of Estate of Isaac Crowell of East Dennis, October 12, 1847.
  Donor: Mrs. Henry Parker
- Ephemera collection including many old Dennis Town Reports, Old Home Week pamphlets, 1879 store account book of David W. Sears, and other papers.
  Donor: David S. Sears
- Circa 1890 women’s shirt waist.
  Donor: Marilyn McClune
- Three records of stories by Capt. Leon Nickerson who was a tug captain in Narragansett Bay and a resident of Dennis Port. Originally recorded by Droll Yankee. Transferred to disc and returned to
  Franklin Estey.
- Unopened tin of World War I hardtack
  On loan from William and Jane Bacon
- One Circa 1890 trade card from Otis E. Kelley Store in Dennis Port and one Dennis Port post card.
  Donor: David Rodrigues
The Way We Were

When you visit the 1801 Jericho Historical Center this summer, be sure to include a tour of the Fairbank’s Room to learn about our special connection to this famous family. Take note of Jericho’s collection of old daguerreotypes and photographs showing scenes of West Dennis and South Dennis as well as some of the village’s famous people. Summer hours are Wednesdays from 2 to 4 P.M. and Fridays from 10 A.M. to Noon. If you fall in love with this old sea captain’s house and would like to become a docent, call Joan Martin (508) 394-9303 or Peggy Eastman (508) 398-8592. If you really want to get involved, you could fill out a “green card” at the town hall and work first hand with the Jericho Committee. Don’t miss the Old Fashioned Skills Day at Jericho on Sunday, August 20 from 11 A.M. to 2:00 P.M. See you there!