DENNIS HISTORICAL SOCIETY NEWSLEITER Vol. 16 No. 7 July 1993 Compiled and Edited by Nancy Thacher Reid



DENNIS' SUPER SPECTACULAR BIRTHDAY PARTY

What a week end! From early Friday afternoon to late Sunday evening you could feel the excitement in our town. There were flurries of activity all over Dennis and even in Harwich (we ran out of garage space in Dennis to accommodate all the floats being built)as people pressed uniforms, put the finishing touches on yards along the parade route, put the floats together, or did the hundreds of other things that all combined in making such a wonderful week end. Jane Stevens and her Parade Committee did a great job of working out all the detials of the parade and it went off as if they'd been doing it for years. Chief-of-Staff Walter Von Hone---ably assisted by good neighbor Sheldon Thayer of Harwich--assembled the parade with military precision, and as Walter had promised, the parade stepped off promptly at 1:00 P.M. Town Crier Ben Thacher preceeded the parade to the Reviewing Stand at Town Office to read the Proclamation issued by The Great and General Court of Massachusetts in honor of our 200 years of incorporation. He remained there to announce the parade entries as they passed by. Our very own Joshua Crowell led the parade as Grand Marshal in a 1947 dark blue Cadillac convertible donated by Hyannis Restoration and driven by his son, Joshua Lovell. There were marching bands, color guards, flags, and Scottish pipes enough to thrill any and every one, enough Shriners to form a straight line from Dennis Port to Dennis Village (that may be a slight exaggeration, but it seemed like that many!) and numerous floats that delighted the senses with their beauty and imagination. Plus the magnificent 8 hitch team of Hallamore horses, antique cars, trick bicyclists, Girl and Boy Scouts, local service clubs, numerous other entries, and trucks that spanned the years from Ed Crowell's recently restored 1913 Autocar to the newest shinest rigs on the road today.

The parade judges were the Selectmen from our parent town, Yarmouth. There were so many great entries it must have been a difficult decision to narrow it down to a winner. The Ezra H. Baker School students won the Grand Marshal's Trophy for their "Schools 1793 to 1993" float, the Parade Committee Trophy went to the Dennis Town Employees float which featured a huge birthday cake and employees dressed in costumes that spanned the years, the West Dennis Garden Club was awarded the Popular Choice Trophy for their beautiful float depicting a 1793 garden. 15 Nathaniel H. Wixon Middle School 5th grade students, calling themselves "The Smart Cookies" took home the Best Youth Trophy. Stop the Outfall Pipe organizers won the Best Use of Theme Trophy for their interpretation of "things we get from the Bay", and the Judges Trophy went to Peter McDowell Associates who had built a replica of the 1736 Rev. Josiah Dennis Manse. The Best Rig trophies went, in order, to Robert Childs, Edward A. Crowell, and David Stochetti.

Many people along the parade route were families enjoying an old fashioned gettogether with picnic, barbeques, and even a wedding! Our Department of Public Works had Dennis spruced up and looking fine for our celebration, and our Police and Fire Departments kept everything running smoothly.

Here's three cheers and a hearty WELL DONE to each and every one who made June 19th such a memorable day.....

.....AND ON THE 20TH.....

the party continued at the Lighthouse Inn to help DHS celebrate with a Birthday 175 celebrants assembled to toast our town with good wishes for achieving 200 Dinner. interesting years. Nancy Thacher Reid did a superb job as Mistress of Ceremonies as President Richard Howes was unable to attend. Town Crier C. Benjamin Thacher read the Proclamation and Nancy read a Certificate from Governor William Weld congratulating Dennis on our 200th anniversary. Nancy awarded a Certificate of Appreciation to Dr. Norton H. Nickerson in thanks for his many years of leading our Lady Slipper Walk on the Indian Lands, and a Life Membership Certificate to Pauline Nickerson Kennedy. The Bicentennial guests from Dennisville NJ, Alice and Myron McGuinan, were present and Alice read a Resolution of Congratulations from the Town Council and Mayor of the Township of Dennis, NJ. Many thanks to DHS Board members Maureen and Brendan Joyce for hosting our visitors. Nancy Reid accompanied by pianist Julie Winchell led us all in singing "Dennis", "Dennis--This Land Is Your Land" and Happy Birthday as Bicentennial Co-chairmen Barbara Hart and Jonathan Stone cut our magnificent two-tier birthday cake. It was a carrot cake that was not only delicious but seemed too beautiful to cut. Our sincere appreciation to the Stone Family for doing our Birthday Dinner up in such Grand Style. Gertrude Laily did her usual fine job in arranging our entertainment. Rudy Schwartzer and his Cape Cod Bavarian Band had everyone clapping and tapping their toes. Rudy arrived here over 20 years ago after escaping from a Communist prison in East Germany and found Dennis a nice place to live, just as our first settlers did in 1639. The menu, designed by Phyllis Horton, has become a collectors item as Ives Printing embellished it with real gold. That is one of the many things that will go into the Bicentennial time capsule to be buried in December. The feelings of excitement, good will, and optimism prevailing at our Birthday Party bids well for the Town of Dennis as we start the countdown to our Tricentennial in 2093!

CAPE HERITAGE '93

Our participation in Cape Heritage Week went extremely well. The Josiah Dennis Manse and Jericho House and Barn Museum programs were very well attended, and our visitors seemed very interested in what we had to offer. Both historic houses look forward to an exciting summer as we celebrate this special year. Come and see us!

			CALENDAR
July	22	4:00 P.M.	Board meets with Gertrude.
July-Aug.		7-9 P.M.	Concerts on the Green. Dennis Village: July 5, 11, 23, Aug. 9,
			23. Dennis Port: July 13, 27, Aug. 10, 24. A real slice of
			America. Try to fit one in this summer.
July	31	4 P.M. on	Bicentennial Family Picnic at Johnny Kelley Recreation Area. Bring
,			a picnic and enjoy an Old Fashioned Get-Together. Games, decorated
			doll carriage and bicycle contest, more. Watch local paper for
			more details.
Aug.	27	7:30 P.M.	Illustrated talk by William Quinn, "Salt Works of Historical Cape
			Cod" at Jacob Sears Memorial Library, East Dennis. Refreshments
			will be served.

FROM THE PRESIDENT:

I want to thank all the people who helped put the D.H.S. float together and make it a success. First Mr. Ed Crowell for the loan of the flat bed, tractor and driver, Mr. Ed Kossack of Hart Farm for the loan of the bushes and tree, Mr. Stephen Burke of Acorn Land-scaping for the donation of the sod. A big thank you to John Burton and Brendan Joyce for help fabricating and erecting the school house, Rachel Carey-Harper and Gail Hart for paint-ing the shingles, stones and vegetation, Maureen Joyce, Jim Carr, Fred Eble, Peter O'Brien and Patrick Johnson for help in putting it all together, Karen Howes for lettering the D.H.S. sign and Nancy Howes for making the stove, sewing and a lot of support. Our thanks also to the people who rode on the float: Mr. William Clark, school master, and daughter Allison, Michelle Lohr and son Nicholas, Gail Hart and daughter Lucia Hart-Miller, Brooke Sullivan, Maggie Ciarcia, Nathaniel and Bethany Stone, GreerSilverstein, Vanessa and Oliver Peabody, Daniel Richman, Sarah Deck, Jessica and Heather Foster and Nancy Howes and her daughter Karen Howes. Thank you one and all. Richard S. Howes, President.

IT'S DUES TIME AGAIN

Are these years slipping by faster or does it just seem so to me? At any rate, our Membership Chairman Isabelle Flynne has asked to have a reminder in the newsletter. Re: Delinquent dues: "D.H.S. By-laws Article III, item 6. If the annual dues of any

Re: Delinquent dues: "D.H.S. By-laws Article III, item 6. If the annual dues of any student, individual, or family member are not paid by the annual meeting, the member shall be notified by the Treasurer or his designee, and unless such dues shall be paid before the following September 1st, the membership shall be terminated as of that date." With your remittance please note, if a seasonal residence, to insure receipt of 3rd class mailing of non-forwarding newsletter, other address and dates of departure and return to Dennis. If a membership card is requested, please enclose a stamped, self-addressed envelope.

D.H.S. Membership Dues--Year September 1, 1993 through August 31, 1994. Student \$2.00 Single \$8.00, Family \$10.00, Individual LIFE \$100.00.

DID YOU TRY THE TRIVIA?

If so, you might have won, for no one turned in the answers at the anniversary dinner. Many savvy people were there, however, and when the questions were thrown out to the group, almost all were answered correctly by someone. Get your last months letter out and try the questions before you read on. Some are the same as were asked of the Wixon Middle School kids last month and they were able to answer them. Sobering, isn't it? A lot like asking your grandchild to program the VCR for you! Here goes.

1. Sarah Caverly in 1971. 2. Luther Child Crowell of West Dennis. 3. Dennis Port, Lower County Road near Division Street. Michael Finnegan of Worcester established a large farm there at the time of World War I. The meadow was originally an 5. It was the "Water 4. In 1927 by Raymond Moore. open waterway called Pound Pond. , established in 1855 by Dr. Edward Nye in a house built in 1846 on the shore of Scargo Cure" Lake, just east of "Cap'n Mark's Landing", now the Town Landing on 6A. Clients were enticed to come to the Water Cure to bathe and drink the waters of the lake, and it was guaranteed to cure every ailment. 6. Richard Sears Hall, appointed in 1932. 7. 1978-79. 8. An incredible 61! 9. Scargo Tower. 10. Nobscussets. 11. Totten Hall, for the family which gathered up the individual shares and presented them all to the people of the village.

Dennis Historical Society P.O. Box 607 South Dennis, MA 02660



