



WISH LIST

Every so often at a DHS Board meeting someone will say, "I wish we had so-and-so" -- for the Manse--or Jericho--or for a special program. So here's a general appeal for all sorts of a number of things. First and foremost--we are still searching for a picture of the wharves at Dennis Port for Nancy's book. We know many of these pictures were hanging in Dennis Port homes 50 years ago. Where did they all go?....The Manse has need for some old, white, cotton sheets to be used as dust covers when the house is closed down for the winter. Another item is a feather, or straw, mattress--or in fact, they are looking for three of them. Also they would like to have some certain herbs or cuttings for the herb garden. They're hoping to replicate an herb garden of the 1700's such as Mrs. Dennis would have maintained at her back door....Volunteers are needed for the Manse and Jericho Barn to be hostesses....Any Dennis memorabilia will be welcomed at both historic houses and Nancy Thacher Reid has recommended two books for the DHS Library at the Manse, Cranberry Culture by Benjamin Eastwood, and Story of a Pioneer by Anna Howard Shaw. To volunteer at Jericho Barn call Kitty McNamara at 394-6114, for herbs call Nancy Howes at 385-3528, and for the remainder call Phyllis Horton at 394-0017.

One item we are especially interested in is your family genealogy if it has anything to do with Dennis. We are making an effort to gather as much Dennis information as possible, and are especially interested in the migration of our families and where they went. If you can add anything--even one name and date--to our information we'd love to hear from you. Send it to Phyllis Horton, Box 607, South Dennis, MA 02660.

TIME CAPSULE FOR 2093

On Saturday morning, June 18th at 11:00 in front of the Dennis Town Offices, the Bicentennial time capsule will be sealed and placed in the Town clerk's vault to be opened on June 19, 2093.

The capsule came from California and is presently being filled with mementos of our Bicentennial. Phyllis Horton, with assistance from Kate Byron and other committee members clipped two years of newspaper articles about the Bicentennial--and a few other interesting items about our town. All of these have been copied onto acid-free paper through the kindness of Linda Fleming at Town Hall. A few special paper items will be treated with a spray deacidifier so they can be included in the original, i.e.: a poster from the Afternoon of Jazz By the Sea that was autographed by all the musicians, and a poster from the Pizza Party--that was an eyecatcher!, plus a few others.

Other items are the parade banner, one each of all the memorabilia that was sold to raise funds, pictures of the parade and other events, personal letters from Dennis residents, and other mementos of our big year. Do come to Town Hall on the 18th for the closing ceremony.

I have tried to imagine what Dennis will be like 100 years from now. Let your imagination run wild....I did, and the result was both scary and exciting. Bring your best answers to the DHS Birthday dinner on June 17th at Lighthouse Inn. They may provide some sobering thoughts or a few laughs. Perhaps those thoughts can be the last item to go into the time capsule.

LAST CHANCE!!

This will be your last opportunity to become a sponsor of Nancy Reid's "History of Dennis". If you are interested in having your name in the book as a sponsor, please send \$100.00 and your name exactly as you wish to have it listed to: Joshua Crowell, DHS Treasurer, Box 607, South Dennis, MA 02660

AND ONCE AGAIN....

The Boy and Girl scouts of Dennis will conduct a flag disposal ceremony on June 12, 1:00 P.M. at the Vietnam Memorial Park in West Dennis. They tried twice to hold the ceremony in November and December 1993 as a Bicentennial event but it was cancelled both times because of extremely bad weather. This is being held as near Flag Day as possible, and I understand they plan to hold it in anything short of a hurricane. Scouts are prepared and tough! If you have a flag that is a bit past its prime and needs to be disposed of in an honorable and dignified manner you are invited to bring it to Merrill Park on June 12th or you can drop it off at Fire Station 1 on Rt. 28 before Sunday. I suggest you try to attend the event. It is a very moving ceremony and one that is seldom seen by the general public. It is especially meaningful in the 50th anniversary year of D-Day.

DINNER AT SIX

A short reminder to get your DHS Birthday dinner reservations in to Josh Crowell. Use the form in last month's newsletter, or send for tickets from Josh at Box 963, Dennis, MA 02638, stating whether you want the Chatham Scrod or Chichen Bianco at \$13.50 per person--tax and gratuity included. Please include a stamped, self-addressed envelope. Our menu cover will feature the Shiverick Shipyard and we'll say a special thanks to John Burton for his painstaking work on the shipyard diorama now on display in the Josiah Dennis Manse Maritime wing. We will be entertained by the "Classical Kids"--a chamber group of very talented young people. Our birthday dinners are always special. We will assemble Below Decks at Lighthouse Inn at 5:00 for a bit of sociability, and then dinner topside at 1800 hours (or 6:00 in non-nautical terms). We hope to see you there as we celebrate our town's 201st birthday.

CALENDAR

June 8	7:30 P.M.	DHS Board meets at the Manse.
June 12		Flag Disposal Ceremony. See related article.
June 17	5:00 P.M.	DHS Birthday Dinner at Lighthouse Inn.
June 18	11:00 A.M.	Sealing of the Bicentennial Time capsule at Town Hall.
June 18	to 26	Cape Heritage '94. See article below.
June 25	1-4 P.M.	Opening tea at Jericho.

CAPE HERITAGE '94

Once again the Dennis historical organizations are part of this Cape-wide Heritage celebration. This is a collaborative effort of 58 non-profit organizations who have banded together to further the historical, cultural, and environmental heritage of Cape Cod. Heritage Week will run from June 18-26, but the brochure now being distributed will be useful for the balance of the year as it also lists the regular activities of these organizations and other special events on the Cape later in the year. As established in 1992, Cape Heritage '94 is dedicated to promoting and emphasizing Cape Cod's rich and diverse cultural heritage, including its history, art, architecture, and environment. As you readers of this newsletter know, Dennis is loaded with 'all of the above'. We are more than a little proud of all that Dennis has contributed to the Cape and the world. The 1801 Jericho House and Barn Museum will host an open house on June 22, 24, 25: 2-4 P.M. and will feature a slide show, "Cape Cod Thru A Quester's Eye". The 1736 Josiah Dennis Manse will also host an open house on June 21, 23, 25: 2-4 P.M. with two showings of "Shiverick Ships" at 2:15 and 3:15. The Dennis Historical Commission will present "Dennis: An Historical Revue...." -- an original play with music by Ben Thacher. An "original" cast has been assembled under the name of "Mostly Old Cape Codders and a Few Washashores". I understand this is being billed privately as one of the last great assemblages of "old Dennis Cape Codders"--and that the accents are tinged with more than just a little salt. In fact, it's somewhat difficult to get through rehearsals--what with the ad libbing and laughter that takes place. This production will be held on June 23, 8:00 P.M. at Dennis Union Church in Gertrude Lawrence Hall. It's guaranteed that if you attend this gala production your thoughts on Dennis may never be the same.

SUMMER OF '94 AT THE MANSE AND JERICHO

Jericho will open for the summer officially on June 25th with their annual tea from 1-4 P.M., and will be open thereafter on Wednesdays and Fridays during July and August. The Josiah Dennis Manse will start its summer season on Tuesday and Thursday until September 1st. The special exhibit this year will feature the works of Marguerite Ickes. Mrs. Ickes was a foremost quilt expert and artist, and a major benefactor to the Dennis Senior Center and the Josiah Dennis Manse. If you have any of Mrs. Ickes' work, a memento, or information that would enhance the exhibit, and you are willing to loan it for this special event, please call Phyllis Horton at 394-0017. During Dennis Festival Days in August the Manse will again host the Village Garden Club's Annual Flower Show and an enhanced school program demonstrating Colonial life in Dennis.

PINK JEWELS IN SOUTH DENNIS

Mother Nature put on her loveliest pink outfit on Saturday, the 4th, when Dr. Norton Nickerson led two groups on his Annual Lady slipper Walk on the Indian Lands in South Dennis. It was an absolutely gorgeous Cape June day and the hikers were well rewarded for their efforts. Thanks again, Norton, for your generous donation of time to show off this lovely jewel of ours.

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

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