



## Easton Historical Society Celebrates 65 Years of History!

In 1948, a small group of people gathered to establish a new society whose charge it would be to gather and preserve the history of their town, Easton. The group met at the Ames Free Library and Frothingham Memorial Hall, and over the next six and a half decades, has become the Society you all know today. All kinds of good things have happened during those years. The humble beginnings of our collections were started through the generous donations of members and friends; in 1969 four members of the Ames family (the late Mssrs. John S. Ames Jr., David Ames, Senator Oliver F. Ames, and William A. Parker) purchased the former Old Colony Railroad Station and presented it to the Society to serve as their museum; *The History of Easton* was reprinted in time for the town's 250th anniversary in 1975, and a second volume was written; antique car shows and flea markets raised needed funds; a gift established by the Robert D. and Sally G. King family allowed for the hiring of a curator and allowed the Society to expand its programs; a number of interesting programs and talks were held.

Today, the Society continues to grow in members, collections, and in community outreach, telling the rich history of Easton to interested listeners. We have become an important resource to researchers and genealogists from around the globe, young people through school programs, scouting, and youth volunteer opportunities, an ever-increasing number of national and international visitors, and architects and other historians. We continue to publish and share your stories, search out the historical items that illuminate our history, and preserve those things—artifacts, photos, local legends and stories, and oral histories—that make Easton such a wonderful place to be a part of.

We invite you to join with us in a members' only celebration scheduled for October 26th. Details for this event are still being formulated. Please save the date and watch your mail. We will be sending your invitation in a few weeks with all the details. It is our members who make us a successful Society, and it is with an attitude of thanks and appreciation that we recognize your importance to us, and give a nod of thanks to all of our members who have faithfully served and supported us since that first gathering in 1948.

*The mission of the Easton Historical Society is to preserve, promote and interpret the unique industrial, social, cultural, architectural and environmental history of the Town.*

### CALENDAR

*All events are held at the Easton Historical Society unless otherwise noted.*

*Sunday, September 8th, Open House at the Society, 1-5 p.m. Curator's choice, and a look at going back to school in years past.*

*Saturday, October 5th, the Ken Martin Memorial Bottle Drive, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Rain or shine!*

*Sunday, October 6th, visit us at the 40th NRT Harvest Fair at Sheep Pasture, Main Street, North Easton, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.*

*Sunday, October 13th, open House at the Society, 1-5 p.m. Easton Discovery Day!*

*Saturday, October 26th, join us for a special 65th Anniversary celebration! Details inside.*

*Sunday, November 10th, Veteran's Day Open House at the Society, 1-5 p.m., featuring a display honoring Easton veterans.*

*Sunday, November 17th, Fall Meeting at Frothingham Hall with Easton Fire Department Captain Jeff Webster, 3 p.m.*

*It's not too early to be looking to the holiday season!*

*Saturday, December 7th, and Sunday, December 8th, Annual Holiday Festival Weekend. Saturday hours are 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. including the Easton Garden Club Greens Sale, Sunday hours 1-5 p.m.*

*Sunday, December 15th, Open House at the Society, 1-5 p.m. Great gifts, a warm atmosphere, and of course, delicious refreshments. Come and give us some holiday cheer!*

## Curator's Corner - Curator / Caretaker Frank T. Meninno

Last summer, several officers of the Society, members of the Research Team, and I spent an informative day with a professional archivist. She came to the Society by way of a program sponsored by a grant from the Massachusetts State Historical Records Advisory Board. The purpose of the program was to offer advice and direction to local historical societies. Being someone who goes by the motto “if it’s free, it’s for me!” it goes without saying that this was an excellent opportunity to get the Society up to professional standards.

The terrific collection we care for is here due to the generosity of our members and other like-minded people who find the past worth protecting for future generations. In recent years these donations have been pouring in. Gene Roddenberry famously stated that “space is the final frontier.” However, when “space” is constrained by four walls, a ceiling and a floor, it gets crowded. The frontier, then, is the creative mind which best utilizes that “space”. The Society is taking a serious look at that as we move forward. However, even the most innovative storage techniques can only define a space, and cannot really create more of it.

This is one area where the professional archivist can guide us. Our Mission Statement serves to focus us on Easton while reminding us of what is important to preserve, and why it is important. Over the past few months we have developed, and have now adopted, a formal collections policy which will help determine what is appropriate for our mission. This is how it will work: we will take temporary custody of a proposed donation and have up to thirty days to review it for appropriateness. We will look over each item offered to us, and to determine several things:

- Is the item offered historically significant?
- Is the item related directly or indirectly to Easton or its people?
- Does the item fit into one of the areas defined by our Mission Statement?
- Is it an item of which we already have many examples?
- Is the item in better condition than others we have in our collections?
- Does the item, or the collection offered, define a period in the history of the United States, Massachusetts, Bristol County or Easton that would be used by researchers?
- Is the item or collection unique?

Once a decision is made, the donor will be notified. If we accept the donation, or a part of a large donation, then a Deed of Gift will be signed by both parties. If we cannot accept the item, the proposed donor will be given time to get the item back.

By being more focused on who we are and what we do, we will be in a better position to preserve Easton’s history, and serve researchers, genealogists, and other historians of all ages. The items that have been entrusted into our care are cherished and valued. They serve as important reminders of lifestyles, cultures, and people and places that once made up the very fabric and being of Easton. But we need to be sure that what we do makes the best sense now and for the future. All we ask is an opportunity to serve you as we always have, but better, and perhaps to be a bit more selective as well.

I personally believe this is an appropriate approach to take, and I hope you will agree. After all, we all run out of “space” sometime! I look forward with excitement to receiving your donations of items from our common historic past, preserving them, and using them to teach others about Easton and Eastoners! I also urge you to contact me, or any of the review team (Hazel Varella and Ed Hands) if you have any questions or concerns regarding this new program. You can also check with neighboring historical societies. You will see that they too have good solid collections policies to guide them. Thank you for your continued support, and for furthering our knowledge of the town we all love.

The Easton Historical Society Newsletter “Train Tracks” is published quarterly by the Easton Historical Society.

### *Officers for 2012-2013*

President Kenneth J. Michel  
 1st Vice President David Ames, Jr.  
 2nd Vice President Edmund C. Hands  
 Treasurer Nancy DeLuca  
 Recording / Corresponding Secretary Hazel L. Varella

### *Directors*

Patricia Baker  
 Judge Leon J. Lombardi  
 James MacPhee  
 Debra Salisbury  
 Robert J. Wooster  
 Immediate Past President—Deborah MacPhee  
 Curator—Frank T. Meninno

## Reminiscences, Volume 4

Welcome to the fourth volume of Reminiscences! Our second volume began with the history of the Ames Shovel Company. Volume Four presents two studies of the workers by Edmund Hands and Professor James Kenneally. Mr. Hands has researched extensively the early generations of the Yankees and the Irish employed at the company. Several years ago, Maureen Raymo of the Research Committee found a small newspaper article about a strike in 1889. Professor Kenneally, one of her fellow Research Committee members, devoted an extraordinary amount of time following this lead, and his review of the strike is the second part of the Ames workers' story.

In the previous volume of Reminiscences, Signe Johnson (DiPasqua) narrated her account of growing up on Reynolds Street with the other "Southenders" who lived south of Main Street. This year her description continues, including a separate article she wrote about the Rockery, original Oliver Ames High School, and other public resources of downtown Easton in the early 1900's. In 1955, on another North Easton street, a number of children contacted polio. That experience is skillfully described by Judy King, a resident of that street during the crisis.

Avery "Lee" Williams' description of his father's ability to barter—gaining a cow by the end of the day—is fascinating. A group of cows from several decades later, the unique Scotch Highlands purchased by Jack Luke, is beautifully described by his daughter Melinda Luke Ryan.

Various aspects of government are featured in the next three articles. Daniel P. Paré, who has been analyzing the Easton police records of the early 1940's, examines accident reports and other log entries that reflect the vital role of the automobile. Another type of government service is the postal system. Norma-Jean Hanscom, who was Postmaster of the smallest Easton post office from 1973 to 1989, writes about her experiences and reviews the earliest post offices in Easton. A third article focuses on the extraordinary legal and political life of Leon J. Lombardi, an Easton native who became a state representative, lieutenant governor candidate, and Massachusetts Land Court Judge.

2013 has witnessed the tragedy of the Boston Marathon bombing. It was the third marathon for Sara Lupica, who narrates her experience in Boston that day. A more enjoyable experience during 2013 was the Celebratory Occasion at "Langwater" with Mrs. Oliver F. Ames as hostess. As the Ames Free Library—Easton's Public Library celebrates its 130th anniversary, the Easton Historical Society is enjoying its 65th year. Pictures from this special day are included.

The appendix includes names of Easton officials since 1975. The list is a continuation of the one included in The History of Easton, Massachusetts: 1886-1974.

The Society is deeply indebted to Daniel P. Paré, who not only prepared all the materials for this publication but "also edited what was appropriate". The volume is dedicated to Melanie-Jane Deware and Kenneth Martin.

Reminiscences Volume 4 is expected to be ready this fall. The price for this 82 page edition, which includes color photographs, is still being determined. The Reminiscences books have been a very popular gift idea. Why not get these interesting books which takes a first hand account of life in Easton for someone special? Special pricing will be available for the complete set of four volumes.

## Easton Historical Society Fall Meeting

You are cordially invited to join us on Sunday, November 17th for our fall meeting. We will meet at Frothingham Memorial Hall at 3 p.m. to listen to a presentation given by Captain Jeff Webster of the Easton Fire Department. Captain Webster is also our Fire Prevention Officer. He has studied many historic fires, and his talk will focus on the tragic Station Nightclub Fire which occurred in West Warwick, Rhode Island on February 20th, 2003. Captain Webster will also discuss some well known Easton fires. Light refreshments will be served following the meeting.

Frothingham Memorial Hall is located on Barrows Street. There is plenty of parking, and the building is handicap accessible. This historic building was formerly the Anna C. Ames Gymnasium and was the scene of many of the early Oliver Ames High School basketball games. In this building Easton's women rolled bandages and dressings during World War I to help our wounded soldiers. Later the building became an American Legion Hall, and within its walls the earliest high school music programs sponsored by Anna C. Ames took place. Thank you to the Frothingham Memorial Corporation for the use of this great historic venue.

## Society Announces its 2013 Holiday Ornament



### “Queset”

**We are pleased to introduce our 2013 holiday ornament. “Queset”, the 1854 Downing / Davis house built for Oakes Angier Ames, is captured in a full color photograph which is wonderfully reproduced on a glass ornament. This historic property features the house which was enlarged in the 1870’s by John Ames Mitchell. It was also the former home of Winthrop Ames, called the “Gentleman Producer of Broadway”, and has recently become a part of the Ames Free Library-Easton’s Public Library campus. The mansion is currently being restructured as a Learning Commons and will be used for a variety of activities.**

**We are also pleased to announce that we are able to offer this year’s ornament at the same price as years past. That price will be \$10 each, or 4 for \$36. Special pricing will be available on the entire 11 piece set while any previous editions are still available.**

**As in the past you may reserve your ornaments and pick them up at the December open houses. Please call Hazel Varella at 508-238-3614 to place your request, or email us at [curator@eastonhistoricalsociety.org](mailto:curator@eastonhistoricalsociety.org).**

## Button, Button, Whose Got the Button?

The Easton Garden Club Festival of Trees is coming in December. Last year, our talented tree decorator, the late Melanie Deware, came up with a terrific idea of using old buttons for ornaments and trimmings for this year’s Easton Historical Society tree. We would like to honor her memory by continuing along with that idea for our 2013 tree.

We have Melanie’s great idea but we need buttons! Many of us are thrifty Yankees whose collections at home include tins or jars of buttons. If you would like to donate them towards our tree, please email or call Frank at the Society at 508-238-7774. All varieties of sizes, colors, and shapes are welcome. They will make a great garland once they are strung together. Past winners have loved our old-fashioned themed trees. Please consider helping us to keep that tradition of an old-fashioned tree alive!

## Ken Martin Memorial Bottle Drive

Our fall bottle and can drive will be held on Saturday, October 5th at the Society from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m., rain or shine. All clean, Massachusetts returnable items are welcomed! Unfortunately, we cannot accept recycling items.

Our spring event brought in \$289.55 in returns, along with \$120 in donations in memory of Ken Martin, bringing the day’s total to \$409.55, our best drive ever! Four truckloads of all kinds of bottles and cans were delivered to the local redemption center. We think Ken would be pleased. Your continued contributions to this important fundraiser are very much appreciated. As you can see, all those 5-cent bottles and cans, when added together, really help us out. Special thanks to our terrific helpers Ed Hands, Bob Carpenter, Roger “Pete” McNamara, Hazel Varella, Tom Bono and Barbara Bech.

## In Memorium

Melanie Jane (Lyons) Deware, 48, of Easton, died Friday, May 31, 2013 after a brief but brave battle with cancer. Melanie was an active member of the Society, serving as a Director, volunteering at open houses and special events, providing home baked goodies, and became our Christmas Tree decorator for the Society's contribution to the Festival of Trees. In 1995 Scott and Melanie moved to Easton from Quincy and purchased the oldest house in the town, the 1717 Josiah Keith House. She was a longtime member of the Easton Historical Commission, and later, the Easton Cemetery Commission. Among her many accomplishments was her role in preserving the Ames Shovel Works; the compilation and creation of an electronic database of Easton's cemeteries; her active support of the Easton Grange; and the creation of an "Adopt A Cemetery" program in association with the Easton Lion's Club. She was also instrumental in the town acquiring the historic Pine Grove Cemetery. Because of Melanie's love and dedication to preserve the history and character of the town of Easton, the Easton Lion's Club recently awarded her with their 2013 "Outstanding Service Award". In addition Melanie was recognized by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts House of Representatives for her service to her community. Melanie is survived by her Husband D. Scott Deware and her children Lily, Bethany, and Eden, parents John (Jack) and Charlotte (Urban) Lyons of CT. along with brothers and sisters, nieces and nephews. Remembrances may be made to Deware Family Educational Fund, C/O Marilyn Cyr, North Easton Savings Bank, P.O. Box 299, North Easton, MA 02356 or the charity of your choice.

David W. "Brownie" Brown, 77, a lifelong resident of Easton and a retired Easton Fire Chief, died Friday, June 14, 2013 after a period of failing health. He was the husband of Geraldine "Gerry" (Johnson) Brown for 53 years. Born in Brockton on March 28, 1936, a son of the late Walter and Dorothy (Warren) Brown, he was raised in Easton and was a 1954 graduate of Oliver Ames High School. Brownie began his career with the Easton Fire Department as a volunteer fire fighter at the age of 18, retiring at the age of 55 as Chief of the Department. He was a member of the Massachusetts Fire Chiefs Association and the Bristol County Fire Chiefs Association. An active member of the VFW Post 2547 in Easton, he was a longtime elected official of the Easton Finance Committee. Brownie was a member of the Easton Historical Society and a member of the "Wheels of Time", showcasing his 1966 Ford Mustang. In addition to his wife Geraldine, he is survived by two sons, John Brown of Raynham and James Brown of Middleboro; a brother, Douglas Brown of Easton; four grandchildren, Nicholas Brown, Samantha Brown, Jonathan Brown and Janelle Brown; and several nieces and nephews.

Robert "Bob" F. Gallagher Jr., a lifelong resident of Easton died tragically in a motorcycle accident on Saturday, June 22, 2013. He was 57 years old. He was the loving husband of Ramona A. (Shephard) Gallagher, and the beloved father of Gina Marie Gallagher, Kimberly Sue Gallagher, and Meagan Gallagher Hinchliffe and her husband Mark, all of Easton. He was the devoted son of Robert F. & Lucy A. (Abreu) Gallagher of Easton. He was the brother of Lu-Ann Winsor and her husband James of Berkley and Richard J. Gallagher and his wife Patricia of Bridgewater. Bob was the cherished Grampie to Cassandra Lorraine (Cassie Raine) and Morgan Riley. He is also survived by many nieces and nephews. Bob was a special friend and a generous supporter of the Society, and frequently visited during the monthly open houses. He was never without a smile and always had a few stories to share. Bob worked as a machinist and owner of Hanson Precision Machine and Langwater Corp. In lieu of flowers donations may be made in Bob's memory to Immaculate Conception Church, 193 Main St., North Easton, MA 02356 or to the Easton Historical Society, P.O. Box 3, North Easton, MA 02356.

Ernest R. Camara passed away Tuesday, July 30, 2013 following a period of failing health. He was the husband of Mary (McManus) Camara for 57 years. Ernie Easton Town Accountant for 18 years. A veteran of the Korean War he served with the US Marines as a Corporal. Ernie was a Past Commander and an active member of the George F. Schindler Post 2547, Veterans of Foreign Wars, a charter and life member of the Knights of Columbus Council 238 of Easton, as well as other veteran's associations. He served on the planning committee for Easton's 250th Anniversary Parade in 1975 and the 275th Anniversary Parade in 2000. In addition to his wife Mary, he leaves four daughters, Anne Marie Camara of Taunton, Joanne Faust and her husband Scott of Easton, Lisa Bodio and her husband Jack of Bridgewater, Jeanette Mitchell and her husband John of Bridgewater; five grandchildren, Benjamin Faust, Edward "Ted" Faust, Nathan Faust, Stephanie Ataman and Rebecca Ataman. He is also survived by three brothers, John Camara of Stoughton, Joseph Camara of Easton, and Abel "Bill" Camara of Rockville, MD.; five sisters, Celeste Dahlborg of Taunton, Evangeline Crocker of Easton, Alice Camara of South Fallsburg, NY., Isabel "Linda" Amorim of Easton and Gloria Walsh of Bourne. He was predeceased by his older brother John and his sister Mary Rose.

(More Obituaries on Page 6)

Howard L. "Teet" Porter, Jr. passed away in North Easton July 25, 2013 at the age 85. He was the beloved husband of 63 years to Elizabeth Ann (Wade) Porter. He was the loving father of Deborah J. Varisco and her husband Philip of the Township of Washington, NJ, Howard L. Porter III and his companion Denise Kenney of Brewster, and Bonnie J. Porter-Maglio and her husband Vincent of North Easton; brother of the late Wallace E. Porter and brother in-law of Ella A. Porter of No. Easton; grandfather of Matthew, Ross, Lindsey, Christa, and Jamie; great-grandfather of Alexa, Kaitlyn, and Johnathon. Howard was born and raised in Easton, a graduate and president of the class of 1946 at Oliver Ames High School. He owned and operated his own plumbing and heating business known as Howard L. Porter Plumbing and Heating Co. for 53 years. He coached Easton Little League teams, played on Easton Huskies Team, was a member of the Masons Paul Dean Lodge in Easton and Paul Revere Lodge of Brockton for 53 years, a member and Deacon at Holy Trinity Lutheran Church of Easton for many years, past patron of the order of the Eastern Star Chapter 164 and Brockton Chapter 87. He was director and President of the Easton Coop. Bank for 43 years. He was an active member of the Easton Historical Society and Oakes Ames Memorial Hall. In lieu of Flowers the family would like donations made in Howard's memory to a charity of your choice.

Shirley M. (Burgess) Hatchfield St. John, founder of the Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Vero Beach, Fla., died July 14, 2013, at Indian River Estates Medical Center in Vero Beach. Mrs. St. John was born in 1920, in Boston. She was the daughter of the late Irving A. and Minna (Schulz) Burgess. She was educated at Burdett College and attended classes at the Boston Center for Adult Education and Stonehill College. While residing in Easton, Mass., she and her late husband Robert W. Hatchfield were the co-founders of Merchants Burglar Alarm Co. They raised their three children, Susan, Robert and Janice, in Easton and operated their business there for over 25 years. She was an active member of the Easton Historical Society, and through the generosity of the Hatchfield family, the Society was able to install its first burglar and fire alarm system. Mrs. St. John was an active volunteer at Goddard Memorial Hospital, the Brockton Art Center and the Council on Aging. She was a life member of the Woman's Republican Club and the Oakes Ames Memorial Development Committee. She is survived by her daughter, Janice N. Lyttle and her husband William G. Lyttle; three granddaughters; and five great-grandchildren. She was predeceased by her daughter, Susan R. Krohn, and her son, Robert W. Hatchfield, Jr.

The Society extends its deepest sympathy to the families of these special people.

## Recent Acquisitions

Items from the Geddes family who came to Easton from Scotland in 1874 including a 19th century side chair from the Geddes house in Easton, high school and grammar school diplomas for Mabel Geddes, and a photo of the OAHS Class of 1898 (Mabel Geddes' class), from Becky Chin; a plastic ID tag from the Brookline Country Club with David Ames' name on it, from Burt Lewis; 50 star flag, from Doug Mullen; small 48 star flag, items from the Almquist family including Enie Almquist's wedding dress, bride and groom cake topper, and a pair of gloves worn by Harland Almquist as a child, from Priscilla Almquist-Olsen; deeds from Norma-Jean Hanscom; a cradle that was used by the Randall family since the 1870's, from Roberta Randall Phillips; tools that belonged to master carpenter Robert Birnie and Steven Southworth, and other Southworth family items, from Robert and Jean Alger; a very large wrench for train tracks from the New York, New Haven and Hartford Railroad, from Robert Farrand; an antique monkey wrench and saw, from Francis Meninno; a 1957 New York, New Haven and Hartford Railroad timetable, from Burt Lewis.

Financial donations have been received from Wayne Hill; Patricia Baker in memory of David Luke and in appreciation of the Society's role in the recent Geddes Family Reunion; Emmy's Hair Salon and Spa in memory of Melanie Deware; Mr. and Mrs. Robert Gallagher Sr., Patricia Baker, Jen Suellentrop, Richard L. Freitas, Christine and Howard Margulies, STD Med, Inc., Laurie Pacitto, Richard, Margaret, Lisa, Nicole, and Steffen Hill, Mr. and Mrs. Steven Hill, Jeanette Lieberman, Arthur and Wendy Osborn, Noonan Waste Services, Inc., Kevin and Sarah Curow, Edmund Hands, Cory Destribats, Virginia and Robert Hinchliffe, Reardon and Company LLP, Zhaopeng Ji, Lori Parmet, and Claire O'Sullivan of the Franklin W. Olin College of Engineering, in memory of Robert "Bob" F. Gallagher, Jr; Myrtle Blaisdell, Joanne Soule, in memory of Kenneth Martin who would have turned 70 on July 25th; David and Hazel Varella in memory of Ernie Camara, Howard Porter, David Brown, Shirley St. John, and Sema Ullian.

## Growing Up in South Easton

### By Shirley Redden

Back in 2004, the late Shirley Redden wrote down many stories of her family's time living in South Easton. Her writing began with a letter to me in response to an article written on snow removal during the late 19th and early 20th century. She later wrote a number of pages about her grandparents and parents, the Farrar family, who moved here from Canada during that period. They lived at the extreme southernmost part of the town, along Route 138 and adjacent to the Hockomock Swamp. The next few newsletters will feature her stories. They give a very personal, and at times humorous, insight into life in Easton during the years before the Great Depression. You might recognize some of the names of the people mentioned. I hope you will enjoy this as much as I have, and I hope it inspires you to write down your own stories, and your parents stories, to share with us. Permission to publish was granted by Mrs. Redden before her passing in 2005, and more recently, by her daughter Jennie Redden.—Frank

Mrs. Redden writes:

I read the article on snow removal in old Easton with a great deal of interest.

My mother grew up in South Easton during the time period 1906 to 1925 at which time she married and moved to Stoughton. Throughout my childhood she constantly told me stories about hers (which, amazingly, I listened to and remembered).

She told me she remembered (this would perhaps have been between 1910 or so to about 1920) them (the town) using a huge horse drawn flat bottomed sledge to pack the snow down hard enough to provide a smooth and dense enough surface to bear the weight of whatever vehicles were using the roads at that time. Of course, the more weight on the sledge, the better the surface that would be attained, so all the heftier men volunteered or were asked to ride on the sledge and the more the better. She said that one of the men most often sought for this work was a man called Birnie (Robert Birnie was a well known master carpenter and builder living in South Easton during this time—ed.) who was a huge man weighing perhaps close to three hundred pounds. The corners and curves of the road were particularly tricky and needed extra weight to pack them nicely and smoothly. Every time they came to one or the other, the other men would call, "Here comes a corner! Bear down, Birnie!" and then roar with laughter. She said she never knew Birnie's first name; she only ever remembered him being called "Bear Down Birnie."

I thought this description of an additional method of snow management in bygone years might be of interest to the author of the article and others.

Sincerely,

(signed) Shirley Redden

## Thank You, Simpson Spring!

The Society extends its sincere thanks to Simpson Spring and the Bertarelli family for hosting our July open house. More than sixty visitors had the opportunity to tour this South Easton institution which is the oldest bottling company in the United States operating on its original site. Visitors saw the Spring Room, the Macy Room, production equipment, the old office area, and the second floor museum and laboratory. Everyone who attended was treated to cool, refreshing spring water from Simpson Spring's natural spring. Many people also took advantage of the offer of Simpson Spring sodas in a variety of home made flavors. Even Moxie was available! Christine Bertarelli and her family also provided a selection of fresh baked goods. It was a wonderful afternoon and the Society thanks the Bertarelli family for their generosity and time to provide our members with a memorable afternoon.

DICKERMAN'S  
EXCURSION

TO THE  
**Hudson,**  
**Niagara,**  
**Saratoga,**  
AND  
**Hoosac Tunnel.**

MONDAY, TUESDAY, WEDNESDAY, THURSDAY,  
FRIDAY, SATURDAY,  
October 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, and 15, 1887.

**With all Expenses included, for \$30.**

Tickets must be procured before Thursday, Oct. 6,  
As the number is limited.

**J. W. DICKERMAN,**  
MANAGER,  
NORTH EASTON, MASS.

DICKERMAN  
EXCURSION to NEW YORK

VIA FALL RIVER LINE.  
Steamer Pilgrim.

Up the Hudson to Albany, then by West Shore Line  
through the Mohawk Valley to Buffalo and  
Niagara Falls,—Returning to Saratoga,  
then through Hoosac Tunnel  
to Boston.

MONDAY, TUESDAY, WEDNESDAY, THURSDAY,  
FRIDAY and SATURDAY,  
OCTOBER 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 1887.

With all expenses included, for the LOW COST of

**\$30.00.**

Never was there given to the people of NORTH  
EASTON and vicinity such an opportunity as this tour  
presents, at nominal cost, at a time when the grand-  
deur of the natural scenery, combined with the  
gorgeous display of Autumnal foliage, such views as  
are not seen at any other season of the year.

The tour will be made under the personal super-  
vision of J. W. DICKERMAN.

The party will take Old Colony R. R. to Fall  
River, thence by Steamer Pilgrim to New York.

**TUESDAY MORNING**, leaving New York,  
the party will proceed up the Hudson, the  
"American Rhine." Here some of the finest views  
in the world will be seen. At Fort Lee the wonder-  
ful Palisades begin. From Peekskill to Newburg  
the scenery is unsurpassed by any river scenery in  
the world.

**Tuesday Night**, at Albany, Sleepers will be  
taken for Niagara, arriving there **Wednesday morn-**  
**ing** in season for Breakfast at the Spencer House.  
Some of the points of interest at Niagara are Pros-  
pect Park, Goat Island, Table Rock, Whirlpool  
Rapids, etc. Since the opening of the State Park,  
Prospect Park and Goat Island are free to the  
public.

**Wednesday Evening**, Reunion at the Spencer  
House.

**Thursday morning** the party will return through  
the beautiful Mohawk valley, stopping at Syracuse  
for Dinner, then moving on to Saratoga, remaining  
there **Thursday Evening**. Some points worth  
seeing at Saratoga are Woodlawn, Saratogo Lake,  
the Geyser Springs, etc. Leaving Saratoga we return  
to Boston by way of the picturesque Hoosac Tunnel  
route, stopping at Athol, where Dinner will be pro-  
vided, reaching Boston in the afternoon.

Are you looking forward to some fall leaf-peeping? It seems that today's Columbus Day Weekend foliage lovers are following a treasured tradition that dates to the mid-19th century, and probably earlier. J. W. Dickerman, whose business was travel and portage, arranged these excursions for many years. Above is a brochure and itinerary for his October 1887 foliage tour. Sounds like a great time to me!

Address changing? Please tell us!

Address Service Requested

NON-PROFIT ORG.  
U. S. POSTAGE  
PAID  
NORTH EASTON, MA  
02356  
PERMIT NO. 25

Easton Historical Society  
Post Office Box 3  
80 Mechanic Street  
North Easton, MA 02356  
508-238-7774 [www.eastonhistoricalsociety.org](http://www.eastonhistoricalsociety.org)

