

EASTON HISTORICAL SOCIETY

TRAIN TRACKS



CALENDAR

Holiday Open House! December 1 from 10 A.M. to 4 P.M., and December 2 from 12 P.M. to 4 P.M.

December 9, Open House, 1P.M. to 5 P.M.

January 1, 2002 Happy New Years!

January 13, Open House, 1 P.M. to 5 P.M.

February 1—Last Day for 2002 Dues!

February 10, Open House, 1 P.M. to 5 P.M.

April 4, Chowder and Chatter, Sponsored by Advest

May 22, Annual Meeting at Stonehill College's Industrial Historical Center

May, Spring Bottle Drive, Details to be Announced

Easton Historical Society Newsletter is published quarterly by the Easton Historical Society.

Officers:

President—Dot Berry

1st Vice President—Ken Michel

2nd Vice President, Curator—Paul Berry

Treasurer—Patricia Baker

Recording Secretary—Hazel Varella

Corresponding Secretary—Curtis Chase

Director—Ed Hands

Director—Gary Uzdevinis

Director, Editor—Frank T. Meninno

Annual Holiday Open House !

The Easton Historical Society cordially invites you to our Holiday Open House ! This event is held in conjunction with the Town of Easton's annual Holiday Festival. This year's festival will be held on Saturday, December 1st and Sunday, December 2nd.

Many exciting activities are being held during the two-day event. This is a wonderful time to shop Easton and take in the excitement of the holidays in the setting of the North Easton Village His-

toric District.

The Old Colony Railroad Station, just off the center of North Easton, will be open both days. If you haven't been in for a while, come by! Paul always has something new on display.

This is a great time to shop at the Society for gifts for those who are away from town. We have our latest book, "Memories of Twentieth Century Easton" which commemorates the new millennium and Easton's 275th anniversary. You can also pick up a copy of

"Easton's Neighborhoods" by Ed Hands, a perfect companion for your Easton history books. Copies of the "History of Easton", volumes 1 and 2 are also still available.

We are pleased to make available an excellent book entitled "The Swedes of Greater Brockton". It is a fine collection of family portraits of the Swedish immigrants and their descendants who played an important role in our own history! Be sure to stop by and say hello!

Veterans Honored at October Meeting

The October meeting of the Historical Society was held at the Olmsted School on the 24th of the month. A group of veterans from several wars recounted their personal stories in a

forum moderated by Ed Hands. These brave men risked their all to protect the valuable freedom we enjoy today. The speakers present were John Hurley and John Kent, WWII

veterans, Ernie Camara, Larry Hurley and Lou Silva, Korea veterans, and John Amorin and Steve Nolan, Vietnam veterans. We graciously acknowledge the sacrifices of all our veterans!

The Station Master

President Dot Berry

Dear Members,

As you are aware, history was made on September 11th. We at the Society wish to extend our deepest sympathy and concern for any of you who have been personally touched by this tragedy. The events of that day have often been compared with the attack on Pearl Harbor, both for the horrific scene and the lasting effect on our lives.

We also live in another historic time, a time when patriotism is

swelling within the country. Americans once again are rising to meet the challenges put forth, and are doing so with courage. The candlelight vigils and the flags around town have stirred our hearts, reminding us that we live in the greatest country in the world.

At our September 12th board meeting, a moment of silence was observed for all who were victims of the attacks on the United States, and the rescue personnel

who gave their lives so others could live.

We would be interested in hearing your stories, or remembering loved ones who have passed on or are away at war. Please forward their names and we will include them in the next newsletter.

The holidays are upon us now, and with them come our wishes to you for a happy season filled with peace for all our members, families and friends.

Happy Holidays to All!

Curator's Corner

Paul Berry

The yearbook collection has begun! We recently received two early issues of "The Acres", Stonehill College's annual yearbook. They are packed with information about the early years of the school. One interesting note is that boxing was one of the sports offered to students. Another item is a picture of Lou Gor-

***Have an old yearbook?
Consider adding it to
our collection!***

man, Stonehill alumnus and longtime member of the Boston Red Sox organization.

We recently received a wonderful book on orchids by Oakes Ames, professor of botany at Harvard. The book is richly illustrated by Blanche Ames, an accomplished artist, and wife of Oakes. This wonderful item is a gift from Ms. Judy King, daughter of the late Mr. Robert King. Thank you for such a great book!

Dues, Dues, Dues !

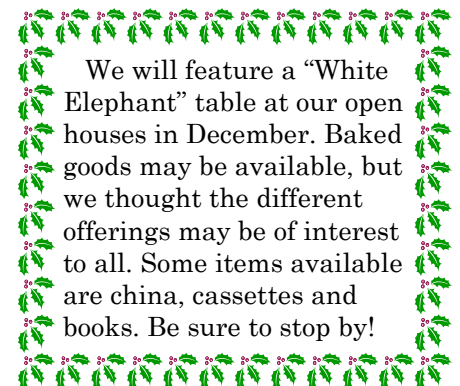
A review of our records indicate that many have not yet sent in their dues for 2001. In fact, some have not paid for several years. Since we believe this is just an oversight, a dues letter is being sent as a reminder.

We would like to retain all of our current members. Please respond to the letter, with payment

for past due 2001 dues and next years 2002 annual dues by February 1st, 2002.

Failure to pay dues will result in removal from our mailing list. This is necessary because of the continued rising cost of postage.

Thank you for your continued support of the Society. We appreciate your promptness.



Station To Station

Member News and Milestones

The Society continues to grow! Please join us in welcoming the following new members:

Nicole B. Tourangeau, North Easton

James Duggan, North Easton

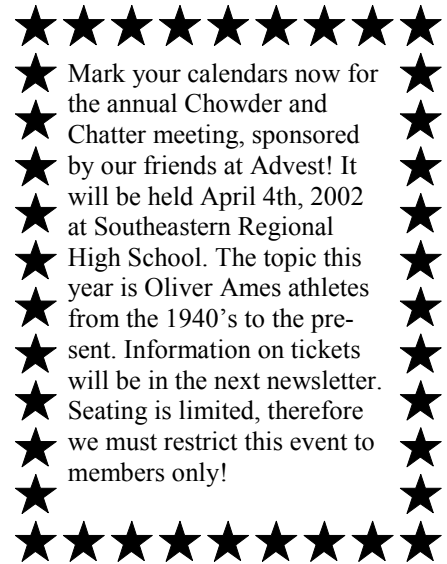
Christina Rival, North Easton

Karl Smith and Kathy Fobes Smith, Easton

Dorothy Conceison, North Easton

Unfortunately we must extend our sympathy to the families of members Mrs. Walter Johnson and Frances R. Andrus, both of whom recently passed away.

We endeavor to provide any information we can to our members. Please drop us a note if we missed someone who deserves notice. After all, our members are the most important resource we have!



Spotlight on History

A Taxing History

Taxes have been a part of our history since, well, recorded history. There is no escaping them. Our best defense for them is to pay them on time.

A review of some old Easton tax records brought some interesting items to light. Among them is a list of the twenty-five highest taxpayers for the year 1853.

1853 was a time of peace and prosperity, and a time of growth and discovery. Represented here are industrialists, politicians, doctors, businessmen and well-to-do farmers. Many are well established and recognizable families. They come from all areas of the town. Here then, for your perusal, is the twenty-five taxpayers and the amounts they paid.

1. Oliver Ames and Sons, \$979.44

2. Linclon Drake (in right of Oliver Ames and Sons), \$113.08
3. Daniel B. Wheaton, \$64.20
4. E. J. W. Morse and Co., \$62.92
5. Isaac and Edmond Lothrop, \$58.19
6. John Kimball, \$46.82
7. George Washington Hayward, \$43.96
8. Horatio Copeland, \$43.19
9. Caleb Swan, \$40.77
10. Seba Howard, \$39.01
11. Heirs of D. W. C. Lothrop, \$38.83
12. Tisdale Harlow, \$38.35
13. Dwelly Goward, \$34.17
14. Lewis Williams, \$32.52
15. Hiram Keith, \$32.19

16. Nathan Willis, \$31.75
17. Horace M. Pool, \$29.99
18. Bernard Alger, \$29.00
19. E. J. W. Morse, \$29.00
20. William King, \$28.56
21. Alson Gilmore, \$28.45
22. Lucius Howard, \$28.12
23. Hiram Copeland, \$26.36
24. John Selee, \$23.14
25. Martin Wild, \$25.66

E.J.W. Morse is listed twice, once as a business owner and again for his personal holdings.

The Ames' family appeared to put their personal fortunes and homes under the auspices of the Ames company, resulting in the huge disparity between the first two taxpayers and the rest of the list.

The Easton Historical Society invites you to become a member of our organization. Please use this form for a new membership. Include your check or money order payable to the **Easton Historical Society** and send it along to : Easton Historical Society, P.O. Box 3, North Easton, MA 02356.

New Member(s):

Name _____

Address _____

Town _____ State ____ Zip _____

Phone () _____

If this is a gift, please include your name: _____

Membership Individual \$10.00

Family \$15.00

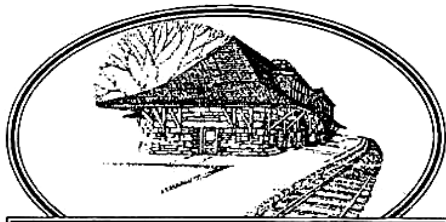
Corporate \$100

Senior (65 and up) \$7.00

Other Donations \$ _____

Total \$ _____

EASTON HISTORICAL SOCIETY



Old Colony Railroad Station

**P.O. Box 3, 80 Mechanic Street
North Easton MA 02356**

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