

THE HISTORICAL SOCIETY
OF PHILLIPSTON, INC.

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*Fostering Awareness of Our
History and Pride in Our
Community*

Update on the MOTT Grant

Our clerk Linda Langevin reports that we have received the first installment of \$6,250 of the \$25,000 grant from the Massachusetts Office of Travel and Tourism (MOTT).

Our Rep. A. Gobi and Sen. S. Brewer worked hard to get our Society the grant to help us publish the book "The Spirit of Phillipston." The book will go to the printer in early 2007, and we will need at least two of the grant's payments in order to cover this expense.

Funds from the grant will also be used for the preservation of the Society's artifacts, building renovations, establishing a web site for the Society, administrative expenses for our annual drive, and general operating expenses.

Getting Ready for the Society's First Annual Drive

In order to meet the Society's ambitious 2007 goals including both printing the book "The Spirit of Phillipston" and completing the proposed renovations to the Society's building on Route 2A (pg. 1 stories), the Society must raise an additional \$25,000 in its first Annual Drive.

As we go to press, eighty per cent of the Board of Directors and several other members of the Society have already made their pledge to the annual drive — this even before we have begun our soliciting efforts.

We are a very young organization, so the number of members that support the annual drive indicates to outsiders the measure of support and strength within the Society. This is one way they will gage their contribution to our society. So we ask that you make a contribution— however large or small — whatever you feel you can afford. **ALL** contributions count.

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of Phillipston, Inc.

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"The Spirit of Phillipston" — On Track for Spring Release

According to author Carole Gariepy, "The Spirit of Phillipston," a history of our town, is on track for an April 29, 2007 release date. The writing is complete, with only a few photos left to do. "We are doing the final design and layout now, and mid-January we go to the printer," she said.

The authors are Carole Gariepy, who has written two other historical books including a history of Queen Lake, and Jane French, the Society's curator. The book's approximately 50 illustrations were done by another society member, Joan Johnson, who is an author and artist in her own right.

The book will be printed by the Highland Press of Athol. The hard cover book is more than 300 pages long and will sell for \$30.00, with profits going to our Society. The book will be released during the Society's program on Sunday, April 29th at 2:00 PM when the authors and illustrator will be available to sign copies.

A Goal for the Society — Open House at the Society's Building in Early September 2007

Building committee chair Gerhard Fandreyer has submitted a construction plan for the Society's building for 2007. The total cost of the proposed renovations is estimated at \$25,000. In September when these renovations are completed, we can hold an open house for the public at the building to view some of our collection items in the new display cases and to learn about further improvement we want to make in 2008.

The proposed renovations for 2007 include making the building handicap accessible by enlarging the rear door and installing required ramp and platform; installing new rough electrical wiring; insulating the structure; and whitewashing the outside walls. They do not give us heat, water, or septic — these come later. For public events we would have to hire Scotty's Potties.

Fall 2006 Program Schedule

Generally programs are held on the second Wednesday of the month.
New members and guests are always welcome.

December 2006

Lighting of the Memory Tree on Phillipston Common. Sunday, December 3, 2006. Lights go on at 5:00 PM. Entertainment by Narragansett High School musicians. Carol singing and refreshments follow the reading of the memories.

January 2007

Queen Lake Girls Camp. Presented by Rick French. Wednesday, January 10, 2007. Time: 7:00 PM. Location: Congregational Church Vestry.

February 2007

Vintage Clothing. Presented by Sonja

Langlais. Time: 7:00 PM. Location: Congregational Church Vestry.

March 2007

Climbing Your Family Tree. Presented by Linda Langevin. March 14, 2007. Time: 7:00 PM. Location: Congregational Church Vestry.

April 2007

Gala Book Event—"The Spirit of Phillipston" Sunday, April 29, 2007. Time: 2:00 PM. Location: Congregational Church Vestry.

May 2007

Annual Meeting and Pot Luck Supper. Wednesday, May 9, 2007. Time: 6:30 PM. Location: Congregational Church Vestry.

We need Your Help — Join a Committee - Make an Impact

Needed: Only one more member needed for the *ad hoc* committee to review by-laws, policies and procedures. The review will begin once there are 5 committee members. Interested? Contact Dick Hamel (978-249-8656) after 5 PM.

Society Sponsors Program at Phillipston Memorial School

The Society has joined with the Parent-Teachers' Group at the Phillipston Memorial School to sponsor "Colonial Days" - a local history program put on by 20 Revolutionary War re-enactors. In planning now, the program will take place sometime in 2007.

Society Accepts Flags

After hearing that we had voted to begin all our meetings with the Pledge of

Allegiance, Sen. Steven Brewer presented a U.S. flag to the Society. Rep. Anne Gobi felt we should have a "matching" State flag, and presented one to the Society at the November 8th meeting/program.

New Museum Cases

Thanks to the Worcester Art Museum and their Building Service Manager George Babineau of Gardner our Society has 10 new display cases. Our curator Jane French hopes to begin using them in September when we open the building as a museum.

The cases are all of oak and in excellent condition. Six upright and two table cases are already here. Two larger cases still need to be picked up.



A Message from our President . . . by Thelma McMahon

Summer and fall have been extraordinarily busy times for our Society. First, I must commend Gerhard Fandreyer, Chair of the building committee, for completing the initial work on our building. He has seen that sills, thresholds, fascia boards and clapboards have been repaired/replaced, sealing the building against the weather.

In addition, we now have a plan for building renovations that would begin in the spring and —when completed—would allow us to host an open house for the public. We are making a September 2007 open house one of our Society's goals for the coming year.

During the open house we can also showcase some of our collection items in a few of the 10 new museum cases we received from the Worcester Art Museum.

The work on the book "The Spirit of Phillipston" is nearly complete and the authors will be sending the manuscript to the printer in January. Our first (just received) and second installments of the MOTT grant will be applied to book printing charges.

We are also sponsoring the "Colonial Days" history program for Phillipston Memorial School. We are working with the Parent-Teachers Group to get a 2007 commitment from the Revolutionary War re-enactors who put on the program.

In order to accomplish our goals, we will begin our first annual drive. We ask each member to contribute to the drive in order to demonstrate to non-members (who also might contribute financially) just how strongly we are committed to our programs.

Summer and Fall Activities

