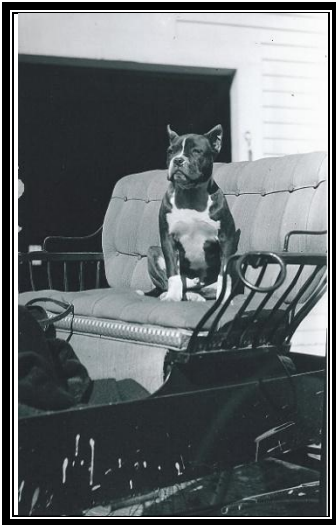


The Old Stone News

The Newsletter of
The West Boylston
Historical Society
Fall 2012
Volume 14, Number 2

MEMBERSHIP

The dues for the calendar year 2013 are payable by January 1, 2013. But will be accepted any time prior to that date. An envelope is included for your convenience. We appreciate your continued support of the society and its programs.



I'll sing for a brick!
Keyes' collection

A \$3.00 donation will pay for the purchase and installation of one brick



The Historical Society is open every Thursday 9:30 AM to noon at 65 Worcester St.
(508) 835-6971
or by appointment

From the President

At long last, the hot sticky summer has given way to clear days and cool nights and none too soon. The first event of the season, AHOY PIRATES is October 3, 2012, all you ever wanted to know about the history of pirates. It should be a wonderful program. Neil Norum and his committee have done a great job putting together an interesting year of programs and I hope you will support as many as possible. You will find more information on the November trip in our newsletter and your signup sheet. This should be a fun day. You will also have the opportunity to purchase some nice wines at the winery to use as hostess gifts or stocking stuffers for the coming holidays.

In December we will again have our Holiday open House with the annual Christmas tree lighting on the common to follow. We are always looking for help and you will find our wish list enclosed.

This year marks the 40th year of the incorporation of the society. We have a new hat designed by member April Whitcomb Gustafson, to celebrate this milestone. We very much appreciate April's help with this project.

I would be amiss if I did not thank Debbie Parks and Don DeMarsh for their able assistance with the news letter and the program.

And lastly, we hope that you read and enjoy some of the letters received from the 3rd graders who took part in the Historical Society bus tour of the town this spring.

Beverly K. Goodale

HISTORICAL SOCIETY YARD SALE

Our FUNDRAISER will be held on Saturday, October 13, 2012 from 9 AM-2 PM at the historical society in conjunction with the FALL FEST and SCARE CROW CONTEST. We will be hosting a flea market and are soliciting smalls from our members for a society table. We are looking for items in good condition such as jewelry, good linens, tableware, household accessories, collectables, good toys, and gardening tools, etc. We would appreciate any donations. We are also doing our BAKELESS BAKE SALE again as a fundraiser for the BRICK WALK. There is information on that included else where in this mailing, and we will have a society table featuring our new hats and other historical wares. We thank you in advance for your support.

Too, we are looking for workers for that day. Call (508) 735-8889 if you can help.

CURATORS CORNER

We have received a number of objects for our collection since our last newsletter. They include the following:

A beautiful oil painting of the OLD STONE CHURCH by Emily S. Boosahda from her family

A number of pieces of furniture belonging to the Barbara LaComfora estate from her daughter, Suzanne Staples

A collection of tools and miscellaneous household items from Stanley Phillips

We thank each and everyone for their generosity.

We are looking to add to our collection of West Boylston High School Yearbooks. Do you have any of the following that you are looking to find a good home for?

The years preceding and including 1935

1949

1951-1957

1960

1965 to the present

They can be dropped off at the society 8-11 AM on Mondays, 9 AM-12 PM on Thursdays, or by calling (508) 735 -8889 for pickup. Thanks for your help.

Bev Goodale, Curator

Be sure to check the Historical Society website for up to date information at:

www.wbhistory.org.



HELP!!!

LOOKING FOR A FEW GOOD MEN AND WOMEN

Do you have a few hours to volunteer at the society. We could use your help. Call us at (508) 835-6971 or (508) 735-8889 or email us at bigelow@wbhistory.org.

We need:

COMPUTER WORK/WEB PERSON

HELP WITH OUR NEWSLETTER/PRINTING

LIGHT HOUSE KEEPING

A FLAIR FOR DECORATING

RESEARCH ON A VARIETY OF SUBJECTS

HELP WITH CATALOGUING, THIS IS AN ONGOING PROJECT

We would be most grateful for your help in any of these areas.

100 Years Ago

70 Years ago, West Boylston and the Second War

Seventy years ago, the world and its nations were in turmoil due to the atrocities of the Second World War. West Boylston, along with the rest of the nation felt its pain; with that comes change and new ways of adapting to everyday life.

In 1941, a Tri-Church Council, consisting of the three protestant churches in town was established. The council worked with individuals and families and the church congregations that were dealing with everyday changes and influences caused by the start of the Second World War. The Tri-Church Council sponsored a week-end party for about thirty soldiers from Camp Devens. A canteen chicken pie supper was served at the Congregational Church. Private families entertained the boys overnight. Sunday, a special service was held with Prof. Robert S. Illingworth, of Clark University as the speaker.

In 1942, World War II brought many changes to town, and from the Oakdale Methodist Church alone, forty-two men of the church congregation joined the armed services. The men remaining worked under forced tensions and schedules. Church suppers were a thing of the past, due to gas and food rationing. "The Messenger" publication of the church was sent to all the town service men. A little paper, the "Oakdale Observer" was published by the young people. It carried news of the town and also of the town boys overseas. This was sent to all town service men and women as well, letting each service member know that the folks of West Boylston were in their thoughts and prayers.

We, in the Town of West Boylston and the Nation thank all of our dedicated service members and to those who lost their lives in service protecting our great country.

Steven Carlson, Historian



Dwight M. Goodale Jr. digging the grave of Kenneth Reid Eames, who died October, 1949. The Shepard Turkey Farm, now the Bigelow Tavern is in the background.