

# The Old Stone News

The Newsletter of  
The West Boylston  
Historical Society  
Spring 2010  
Volume 12, Number 2

## MEMBERSHIP

Your membership dues are due and payable January 1, 2011.

You will find an envelope enclosed in this mailing for your convenience.



Mrs. Bacon's Dog, Bingo, circa 1905

We welcome Patrick Novia to the Board of Directors. Patrick is replacing Rockie Blunt.



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

## From the President

by Beverly K. Goodale

Greetings! It is that time of year again – the beginning of the 2010 – 2011 season.

The program committee has worked hard to put together an enjoyable year of programs for you. This year's committee members were Bev Goodale, April Gustafson, Neil Norum, and Patrick Novia.

As you know from our recent mailing, we have a major fundraiser coming up on October 2, 2010. Elaine Novia has done a commendable job chairing this event. For those of you who have sent in your slips volunteering your time and talent, etc, we applaud you. For those of you who have not, there is still time. It will take as many members as possible to make this event a success. The Faire committee members are Barbara Deschenes, Bev Goodale, April Gustafson, and Debbie Parks.

As I take over as president of the West Boylston Historical Society, I want to extend my gratitude and that of the society, to Past President, Rockie Blunt, for all that he did for the society in the past five years. I believe his legacy will be his very enjoyable historical bus tours shared by third graders at Edwards School. We wish him well.

We look forward to seeing you in October.

## MARY COOK'S SCRAPBOOK DVD

The society is now selling the Mary Cook scrapbook collection on a DVD. This is a complete collection of all her newspaper columns written for some 30 years for the Worcester Telegram and Gazette. The proceeds will benefit the West Boylston Historical Commission. Cost is \$20.00.

The society is also selling all of the souvenirs from the Bicentennial. Everything is marked down and the clothing is one third of its original price.

The proceeds will be split between the society and the commission. So, think of us when you need a special gift.

## CURATORS CORNER

Summer has not seen a lot of activity at the tavern. I guess that it was just too hot. Even our air conditioner conked out and the repairman could not fix it till it cooled down as it meant a trip into the eves over the library. We did have some visitors, but not as many as usual. Now that fall is upon us, we look forward to the task of continuing to organize our "stuff". Norman Goodale and Don DeMarsh are in the process of inventorying the barn tools. That, too, is a cool weather project.

Our supplies have arrived to clean and store our glass negatives. This process will probably be scheduled for early next year.

We recently received a complete World War I uniform worn by Frank Luce from Wayne Erickson. Also included was an old Memorial Day Program. Warren Hartman donated several old Town Reports and an old photo album of West Boylston and Princeton. We are very grateful for these gifts.

The House Committee has kept the grounds and the house in good shape this summer doing projects as needed.

Bev Goodale, Curator

## 100 YEARS AGO

Congratulations to member Eric Carlson on the occasion of his 100<sup>th</sup> birthday on August 20<sup>th</sup>, 2010. Eric is the towns oldest resident and the holder of the Boston Post Cane.

### ~ In Memoriam ~

Our sincere sympathy to the families of the following members:

NANCY HAWLEY

HEIDI E. KVINGE, wife of Don DeMarsh

RALPH WHITCOMB, Edgar's brother

Be sure to check the Historical Society website for up to date information at [www.wbhistory.org](http://www.wbhistory.org).

### CALENDARS

We hope to have the 2011 calendars ready for purchase at the Bigelow Tavern Country Faire. The price will remain at \$10.00

The society wishes to thank all those exhibitors and workers that participated in our successful **Maps and Art of West Boylston** show in June. It was very well received.

### PROGRAMS

On October 6, 2010 Ann Marie Shea will present a program on Frances Perkins. Raised in Worcester, Frances was Secretary of Labor for Franklin D. Roosevelt from 1933-1945. She was the first women ever appointed to a cabinet position. Frances Perkins Branch Library in Greendale is named in her honor. This year marks the 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Social Security Act.

On Sunday, November 7, 2010, we will travel by bus to the Artemas Ward House Museum. Dinner will follow at the Verona Grille. Please note the day. Reservations will be required.

In December we will again host a Holiday Open House. This event is scheduled for Sunday, December 5<sup>th</sup>, from 3-5 PM. This year we will be celebrating the holidays between 1850 and 1880. Decorations and food will reflect this theme. The lighting of the Christmas tree on the Common and carol singing will follow.