Beverly Historical Society by the Numbers

Website visits - 6,815
Volunteer hours donated - 2739
Documents, photographs, and objects scanned and catalogued - 2100
New items in the collection - 1087
Program attendance - 945
Research inquiries (in person, by phone and email) - 364
Donors - 189
New members - 107
Donors to the collection - 56
Archives processed (in linear feet) - 2

The Beverly Historical Society

Annual Report
2015 - 2016
We couldn’t have done it without you!

Volunteers

Gabriel Abbott
Gail Balentine
Lisa Balentine
Katharine Bittenbender
John Bowden
Ed Brown
George Brown
Ryan Brown
Al Cook
John Cuffe
Jaye Cuffe
Ginny Currier
John Dario
Jeff Dauzat
Gregory Desmarais
Rich Donlon
Megan Donoghue
Judith Egan
Amanda Ferrante
Daniel Fish
Steve Frisiello
Daniel Frisiello
Alana Gabriel
Bobbi Grant
Law Hamilton
Fred Hammond
Adrienne Howard
Robert W. Jones
Fred Kippen
Brad Kippen
Paul Larcom
Frank Marcos
James Marshall
Ed McFadden
Russ Munroe
Matthew Nugent
Fay Salt
Michael Sarantopoulos
Andrea Stackpole
Kennedy Steiner
Tina Torsey
Martha Wetherill

Our summer staff!

Maria Connor, left and Amanda Wenzel were a great addition to the Society last year!

Virginia Currier

Director’s note: The following is an adaptation of an article that appeared in the Spring 2016 edition of the Chronicle.

Without the talents and hard work of all of our volunteers, the Society would cease to function. We are grateful to all of them. We must note, however, the passing of a woman of uncommon devotion. Ginny Currier, died on March 1, 2016. Her efforts on behalf of the Society, and of Beverly history, were significant. According to our board president, Ginny dropped in one day looking for something to do in retirement. That happens quite frequently, but seldom with this result.

Over the course of 20 years, Ginny served as the secretary of the board and the manager of the gift shop. She was an essential part of our education program and gave tours of all of our houses, but she was especially interested in the Balch House. Ginny was happy to dress in period clothes and portray someone from Beverly’s past, most notably Lucy Larcom and Agnes Balch, which she did yearly at the Balch dinner.

In addition to her work with the Society, Ginny was involved with the efforts to save the Carriage House at Lynch Park; another historic structure with a special importance to her. She had provided us with a draft history of Lynch Park, which we will publish in 2017. I hope to see many of you at a special event which will introduce that history and honor her for her extraordinary service. It breaks my heart that she won’t be with us when we do.
The year also saw the opening of three new exhibitions. *Old World Iron* was a collaborative exhibit with Montserrat College of Art’s Bear Gallery that was inspired by locomotive artifacts in the Society’s collection. *Emerging from Salem’s Shadow*, which is currently on view, looks at the spirit of change and possibility that emerged during the 18th century in Beverly. Another current exhibition that opened last year, *From Revolution to Republic*, looks at how Beverly residents had an impact on the region and the country in the years 1775-1815. We are currently preparing for a wide range of exhibitions, programs, publications and activities and we look forward to sharing them with you in a year’s time.

Archives Update
This year included both new inventories, and the completion of inventories begun in the previous year. The object inventory of the Walker Collection has been completed by the addition of 150 objects, bringing the inventory total to nearly 700 items. New objects added to the inventory include: large scale models of locomotives created in cardboard and wood by Wilber Frey (1925-2003); historic photographs of the B&M Railroad, which traveled throughout Essex County on its continuous routes between Boston and Maine, and visual material related to the life and work of Lawrence Breed Walker (1895-1969), a retired minister and a lifelong collector of railroad memorabilia. The Walker Transportation Collection began with a bequest of his collection.

A portion of the year was devoted to creating an inventory of objects donated by Katharine Peabody Loring (1849-1943) and other members of her family during her long tenure as President of the Beverly Historical Society (1918-1941). Another way to consider her presidency is that she came into office near the close of World War I, and retired as President about the time of the United States’ entry into World War II in 1941. The Loring family gifts include decorative arts objects, books and pamphlets related to the close of World War I, and retired as President about the time of the United States’ entry into World War II in 1941. The Loring family gifts include decorative arts objects, books and pamphlets related to Beverly and Essex County, photographs of the Loring family, and a collection of books that were either inscribed to, or written by. Katharine Loring.

The remainder of the year has focused on creating an inventory of objects that together form the Button, Medal, and Patch collection. The button collection includes donations from a number of local collectors, including: Mary Loring Clapp (1991), Sophie Hayworth (1988), Carl Jacobson, and the Hanners family. Clapp’s collection includes buttons from Sam Sam Day, an annual event sponsored by the United Shoe Machinery Corp. (U. S. M. C.) in Beverly. The Hayworth Collection features numerous buttons that date from World War I including Red Cross buttons and stickpins, Women’s Service buttons, and Liberty Loan buttons which raised money from the public to help fund the war. One highlight from the Hanners collection primarily targets political buttons from the past one hundred years. Jacobson seemed to enjoy collecting buttons from losing presidential candidates, such as Adlai Stevenson, George Wallace, and Eugene McCarthy, as much as winning ones, which include former Presidents John F. Kennedy, George W. Bush, and Jimmy Carter.

Page from a ship’s log kept by Abraham Kilham from 1787 to 1801. The entire log has been transcribed by former volunteer Amanda Ferrante and photographed by Jarrod Staples. The page of photographs and accompanying transcriptions will be available on our website.
Director’s Report

It has been a challenging and rewarding year here at the Beverly Historical Society. The most visible rewards have been the restoration and repair projects at both Balch and Hale. Thanks to the Community Preservation Act, the city of Beverly awarded the Society $180,000 for the second phase of work at Hale Farm. That work, which will not be complete until Spring of 2017, included inspection, repair, and selective replacement of the sills and clapboards, restoration of the front door and french doors, repair of windows and other elements, and repainting. The new color is historically appropriate, chosen from a study done by Sara Chase some years ago.

The 17th century Balch House has undergone numerous alterations and repairs over its long history, some of which were inappropriate. The Society has decided to restore the house to the vision of the Balch House Associates and others who saved the building in the early 20th century. The first phase of that work, generously funded by Balch descendants and other supporters, involved repairing part of the front facade. The remainder of that facade was repaired in kind. As more funds are raised, the work will continue.

Just some of the great programs and events of the past year:

- Candlelight tours of Hale Farm for Halloween
- Another successful Holiday House Tour! Our very generous homeowners provided a wonderful experience for our guests. Many, many thanks to all the volunteers who made it happen, particularly Sue Hacker, the staff of Coldwell Banker, and the incomparable Fay Salt.
- Explore Your Italian Roots, with genealogist Mary Tedesco, hosted by the Italian Community Center
- A fascinating lecture by Eric Jay Dolin about his latest book, Brilliant Beacons
- Two free performances by the Striving Artists Theatre Company of Shakespeare’s A Comedy of Errors
- Several movie nights showcasing some of the great films in our collection, including episodes of Beverly Times Past with Ed Josephs
- Our biennial Old Planters Reunion, which included an archaeology program led by Prof. Tad Baker of Salem State University, a lively talk by Ellen Berkland, archaeologist at the Massachusetts Department of Conservation and Recreation, and a fascinating glimpse into furniture making held at the Furniture Institute of Massachusetts.

Long time Curator of Collections Darren Brown left in May. It is hard to overstate his impact on this institution. He was absolutely devoted to the Society, its mission, collections, and people. Darren had a remarkable memory for Beverly history and loved to share stories with everyone. He certainly had his favorites (the Queen Hotel), but was equally conversant about the witchcraft era and the annual Sam Sam. Darren was a hard-working curator who fully understood what “other duties as assigned” means at a nonprofit, and he did whatever needed to be done for us to be successful. We miss him, but know he will remain a friend.

Peggy Wishart commuted from Maine last summer, and was a tremendous help after Darren left. She helped us to reorganize our accession/deaccession process, standardized procedures, and taught us about wallpaper! We wish her well at her new job (with a shorter commute). Kristine Saltonstall and Stacia Chamberlain also joined us last summer. How lucky we were to find them! Smart, hard-working and fun to be around, they were great additions to the staff.

Thanks to the generosity of Communications Ink, we launched an awareness survey in the spring to develop a greater understanding of how local residents and members perceived the Society, and what programs and activities were most important to them. We appreciate the many people who responded, and we learned a great deal. As a result, we began a rebranding process involving all aspects of the organization that will be completed in 2017.

We were quite excited when part of downtown Beverly was officially designated as an arts district. The southern boundary is at the Cabot House. This distinction, which results from the many artistic and cultural activities offered in the neighborhood, has great marketing potential for the city. The Society, through the process of collecting history, is the repository for a significant art collection as well, and we’re happy to highlight it.

The John Cabot House became an official visitor center in 2016! We are delighted to promote the many wonderful attractions in Beverly and throughout Essex County. This designation will attract more visitors to our building, provide a service to those looking for fun things to do or directions to a Beverly location. At the same time, we added some additional items to our shop including postcards of regional attractions, maps and more general works on local history.

- Sue Goganian
The past twelve months have been particularly productive for the curatorial and collections side of the Beverly Historical Society. We presented three lauded exhibitions on a variety of subjects, added hundreds of objects to our growing collection and further augmented our public programming.

From cabinet cards and bean pots to family bibles and t-shirts, the Beverly Historical Society has been collecting objects, like these, pertaining to the history of Beverly and its residents since its founding in 1891. This past year was no different.

We were pleased to receive hundreds of new acquisitions this year, including the Republican and Democrat benches that once made their home at the Prides Crossing Depot, a donation from Wendi Fortin and the Beverly Improvement Society. These will be a great addition to the galleries as the exhibitions start to rotate out. Not to fear, a new set of benches have replaced the old benches at the Depot. That façade just wouldn’t be the same without them!

The BHS was the recipient of a collection from the wife and children of Jack Kelleher III that pertain to the family ice business. This extremely generous donation allowed us to put together an exhibition currently on view in our galleries called *A Chilly Business*. This large donation of ice tools, documents, photographs and personal ephemera enhances and supports the story of the history of the family business as well as the ice industry in the city of Beverly.

Another addition to the BHS collection was a group of three chairs that date to the early 1700s. The banister back arm chair, ladder back arm chair and a rocking chair are exquisite additions to the BHS furniture collection because they offer tangible evidence of the rich historical stories that we continue to tell about the homes and lives of Beverly residents.

This past year also brought a treasure trove of military objects, from both World War I and II, from Paul Larcom, Col. Stuart Corning, and other kind donors. This collection of books, uniforms, letters, photographs, medals, and much more are a needed addition to the collection and will be a great resource for researchers, and future BHS exhibitions. A notable standout from these donations is a set of United States Army uniforms from a pair of brothers, Gene and Lance Bowden, that came to the BHS complete with both jackets and pants. This is very rare in collecting institutions, since the pants are often discarded due to disrepair or thought not to be a necessary part of the uniform to keep for posterity.

We continue to strive to enrich and serve the public through a wide range of programming, including three collections tours that were intimate opportunities to study objects up close. The tours focused on samplers, the United Shoe Machinery Corporation, and fire societies.

*Continued on p. 16*
Scholars and fiction writers contacted us for information on Beverly citizens of the past. Their questions involved occupations and church membership, family connections and home locations. Some of these are very difficult to determine, but thanks to historians of the past there is a great deal of data at the Society, so often we were able to answer such questions.

Both designers and artists visited to look at our photograph collection. The company who decorated the public spaces at the new McKay condominiums used photographs of schools and school children as well as neighborhood photos to grace the walls of the old schoolhouse.

Two sculptors visited to get inspiration for a sculpture contest held by the Cummings Center for their new building, Elliott Crossing.

An outing to the Cabot House by members of the Watertown Historical Society resulted in much excitement when they realized that the Walker Transportation Collection held many photographs of a long-gone rail road station in their community. They purchased copies for their files.

Exhibits

The unexpected departure of Darren Brown for a new position left me with the responsibility for exhibiting this year. In the past I assisted Darren with research and label writing, but the bulk of the planning and design had been part of his job. Although it was challenging to take on the new tasks, it was worthwhile. "Emerging From Salem’s Shadow and From Revolution to Republic" look at a changing and dramatic period from the late 17th century to the new republic.

Topics covered in the two exhibits include Beverly’s role in the aftermath of the witchcraft trials, changing styles in architecture and furniture, and religion and economics. During the early days of the Revolution, Beverly was home to Glover’s Regiment, sent here to protect the coast from the British. Later, the 14th Regiment was ordered to New York by General Washington and their vital role in 1776 at Long Island and Trenton is highlighted. The exhibit looks at the early 19th century when Beverly residents built bridges and roads, developed new industry and helped build the new nation through the political scene.

I am grateful to the many people who assisted with getting these exhibits up and running.

- Terri McFadden

Research, Education and Exhibits

Although there were many changes this past year, there were constants as well. We hosted children as young as 5, and also welcomed juniors in high school. English teachers, who were teaching students about Arthur Miller’s "The Crucible," brought their classes to Hale Farm and to the Balch House to learn more about the witchcraft period. Beverly High School history teachers also came to Balch to learn about life in the 17th century. Cub Scout troops, pre-school classes, and senior citizens learned about Beverly history through tours, slide shows and activities. During school vacation week in February, children from age 5 through 9 heard several stories and enjoyed a craft. Later in the year, Beverly’s public school third graders got a “Time Machine Bus Tour” of the city. I like to tell the students that, although they think they are on a big yellow school bus, in fact they are on a time machine that travels from 1635 through the Revolutionary War and into the early 20th century when President William H. Taft lived in Beverly for four summers.

In April, a conference sponsored by the Essex National Historic Area on Slavery in New England gave me the opportunity to lead a small group in a discussion on that topic, and prepare a poster showcasing the information we have gathered about the Larcom/Thissle family. They were slaves in Beverly in the 18th century, and later lived as free persons here well into the 19th century. Our rich archive has bills-of-sale for several children and adults, payment for work for the matriarch, Juno Larcom, and a lawsuit filed on behalf of one of her grandchildren trying to recover wages that were refused by a ship owner whom he worked for. Together these documents paint a vivid picture of a remarkable family. These papers are just a tiny part of the archive which tells us so much about the people, businesses and life in Beverly in the past centuries.

Research

Over the year we were asked questions on so many topics. A small sample includes:

- Information on buildings in danger of demolition; neighbors and City Hall looked for history that might save the structures.
- Fire Chief Cotter contacted us about a flag found in an old safe at Central Fire Station. We researched the flag and ascertained that it was rare and quite old. We also gave him the name of groups that could preserve the flag.

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### BEVERLY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

**Statement of Activities**

**For the Year Ended September 30, 2016 (Reviewed)**

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<th>Revenues and Support:</th>
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<td><strong>$10,282</strong></td>
<td><strong>$40,105</strong></td>
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Board of Trustees

Officers of the Board
Dan Lohnes, President
Don MacQuarrie, Treasurer
Maureen Troubetaris, Secretary

Trustees
Stefano Basso AIA
Lance Daly
Martha Gavrin
John Glovsky
Patricia Grimes
Jan Jefgood
Ben Nutter
Allan Vaughan

Collections
John Bowden
Beth Bower
Ed Brown
Madelyn Coluntino
Steve Fritschi
Jay Leahy
Karen MacInnis
Neil Olson
Tina Torsey

Finance
Jan Jefgood
Don MacQuarrie
Maureen Troubetaris

Marketing
Stefano Basso
Jill Christiansen
Cara Hutchins
Don MacQuarrie

Nominating
Stefano Basso
Lance Daly
John Glovsky
Babette Loring

Committees

Building and Grounds
Pam Bailey
Stefano Basso
Robin Hood
Jan Jefgood
Dan Lohnes
Ben Nutter
Allan Vaughan

Collections
John Bowden
Beth Bower
Ed Brown
Madelyn Coluntino
Steve Fritschi
Jay Leahy
Karen MacInnis
Neil Olson
Tina Torsey

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Don MacQuarrie
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Jill Christiansen
Cara Hutchins
Don MacQuarrie

Nominating
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BEVERLY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Statements of Financial Position
September 30, 2016 (Reviewed) and 2015 (Audited)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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<th>Reviewed</th>
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<td>Total Current Assets</td>
<td>180,093</td>
<td>56,427</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Land, Buildings and Equipment – Net</td>
<td>1,713,931</td>
<td>1,719,989</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other Assets:</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Investments</td>
<td>1,267,141</td>
<td>1,150,389</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Uninvested Cash</td>
<td>6,701</td>
<td>82,708</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Other Assets</td>
<td>1,273,842</td>
<td>1,233,097</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Assets</td>
<td>$3,167,866</td>
<td>$3,009,513</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS

Current Liabilities:
Accounts Payable and Accrued Expenses | $11,156 | $12,908 |
Security Deposit | 850 | 850 |
Deferred Revenue | 120,000 | - |
Total Current Liabilities | 132,056 | 13,758 |

Net Assets:
Unrestricted:
Operating | 852,199 | 840,408 |
Net Investment in Land, Buildings and Equipment | 1,713,931 | 1,719,989 |
Total Unrestricted | 2,566,130 | 2,560,397 |

Temporarily Restricted | 61,750 | 37,660 |
Permanently Restricted | 407,980 | 397,698 |

Total Net Assets | 3,035,860 | 2,995,755 |

Total Liabilities and Net Assets | $3,167,866 | $3,009,513 |

Detail from The Church at North Beverly as it appeared from 1753 to 1837
Donors to the Collection

The Society is very grateful to the following donors, who contributed more than 1400 objects and documents to our collection in the previous fiscal year. We actively collect in all categories and all time periods of Beverly history. Donors who include collections in their estate plans become members of the Beverly Heritage Circle.

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Gail Balentine
George W. Bender
Louis Bennett
Andy Bloedorn, Winona County Historical Society
Arno P. Bommer
John Bowden
Gene M. Bowden
Edward R. Brown
George W. Brown
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Fay Salt
Robert W. Sanchez
Martha Spalding
Olaf Stelling
Richard Symmes
Robert Trask
Roberta Villanti

Beverly Heritage Circle

A sincere thank you to these generous individuals who have included the Society in their estate planning, through a bequest or trust, or by naming the Society as a beneficiary of insurance or retirement assets.

Edward R. Brown
Bill Buttiner
John G. L. Cabot
William G. Elliott
Susan J. Goganian
Walter W. John
Daniel M. Lohnes
Caleb Loring III
Babette Loring
Terri and Ed McFadden
Paulianne Balch-Rancourt

Beverly Heritage Circle members are acknowledged in the Society’s Annual Reports and invited to special events.

Perhaps you have already included the Beverly Historical Society, or one of its houses or collections, in your estate planning. Please let us know so that we may acknowledge your generosity. For more information on planned gifts, please contact the director at sgoganian@beverlyhistory.org or 978-922-1186 x 204.

Gifts were received in memory of:
Nancy Benevento
Virginia Currier
Philip Karwowski
Dorothy Porter

We applaud the generosity of the following donors for supporting the Beverly Historical Society during fiscal year 2016

Gifts to the Endowment

Ms. Paulianne Balch-Rancourt
Mrs. Nancy Fischer
Ms. Jane Kelley
Mr. Bruce Kennedy
Mr. David Kennedy

Annual Support

Captain John Cabot Circle
Annual giving of $5,000 or more
Anonymous (2)
Mr. & Mrs. John G. L. Cabot
Mr. Caleb CL Jr. - RML Fund
Peter B. Seaman’s Fund of the Essex County Community Foundation
Mr. & Mrs. Peter Loring

Katherine Peabody Loring Circle
Annual Giving of $2,500 to $4,999
Ms. Paulianne Balch-Rancourt
Ms. Kathleen Harrah
People’s United Community Foundation of Eastern Massachusetts

John Balch Circle
Annual giving of $1,000 to $2,499
Mr. & Mrs. Quincy Abbot
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Mrs. Nancy Fischer
Mr. and Mrs. Fred Hammond
Mr. & Mrs. Jan Jefgood
Mrs. Deanna Karwowski
Ms. Jane Kelley
Mr. Bruce Kennedy
Mount Vernon Group Architects, Inc.
Mr. Norman Olsen
Mr. and Mrs. Stephen Roop
Many thanks to all who generously support our efforts at the Society. Our apologies in advance to anyone we might have overlooked. Please contact us if we left you off this list in error.

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Ms. Susan Goganian
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