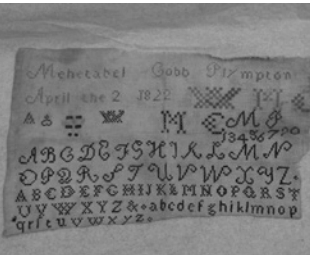


# Old Colony Historical Society



*Annual Report*  
2015

## Board of Directors

William F. Hanna ..... *President*  
Maryam L. Nowak..... *Vice President of Building & Grounds*  
Charles A. Thayer, M.D..... *Vice President of Development and Acting Treasurer*  
Susanne Costa Duquette ..... *Vice President of Personnel*  
Jordan H. F. Fiore, Esq..... *Assistant Treasurer*  
Colleen C. Karsner..... *Secretary*

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Eileen Crochiere  
Norman R. Dunphe  
Ethel M. Fraga  
Dean Larabee III  
Peter G. Mozzone  
Kathleen M. Mulhern,  
*Acting Vice President  
of Personnel as of October 2015*  
William Napolitano  
Cynthia Booth Ricciardi, Ph.D.  
Christopher Scully, Ph.D.  
Richard L. Shafer

### OCHM Committees Buildings & Grounds

Paul Allison  
Norman Dunphe  
Peter Mozzone  
Maryam Nowak

### Collections

Ethel Fraga  
Bill Napolitano  
Chris Scully

### Community Outreach

Ethel Fraga  
Norm Dunphe  
Peter Mozzone  
Bill Napolitano  
Chris Scully  
Dick Shafer

### Marketing

Eileen Crochiere  
Kathy Mulhern

### Staff

Katie MacDonald  
*Director & Ruby Winslow Linn Curator*

Elizabeth M. Bernier  
*Assistant to the Director*

Stephanie Poole  
*Community Programming Coordinator*

### Honorary Directors

Joseph C. Betz  
David F. Gouveia, M.D.  
\*Emma R. Andrade  
passed away in 2015

### Development (inc. Membership)

Paul Allison  
Eileen Crochiere  
Jordan Fiore  
Dean Larabee  
Dick Shafer  
Charles Thayer

### Finance

Jordan Fiore  
Dean Larabee  
Cindy Ricciardi  
Charles Thayer

### Personnel

Jordan Fiore  
Colleen Karsner  
Kathleen M. Mulhern  
Cindy Ricciardi  
Charles Thayer

Michael Curran  
*Caretaker*

Andrew Boisvert  
*Archivist & Library Manager  
through September*

## From the President

As our organization approaches its 164<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting, I'm grateful for the opportunity to briefly reflect upon the year just ending. It was just one year ago that the membership voted to approve a new five-year strategic plan and all of our efforts since then have been directed toward its implementation. The theme of that plan is growth and we can report significant progress in several areas. Last spring, as part of our determination to expand public outreach, we hired a part-time Community Outreach Coordinator. She has already made significant inroads, not only into our public schools but also with several other community and regional organizations. More recently, as we begin to place greater emphasis on our museum, we added a full-time Curator of Collections. We anticipate an exciting and innovative transformation of our exhibit space in the months and years ahead, and the first steps toward meeting that goal have been taken. Finally an ongoing and ambitious marketing program aimed at increasing our visibility as a regional destination has continued unabated over the past several months. All of these efforts will continue in the coming year.

As president of the OCHM, I realize every day that our organization remains a collaborative effort among staff, volunteers and the membership. Katie MacDonald has taken the lead in revitalizing one of the oldest historical organizations in the Commonwealth, and she directs a staff that brings credit to all of us. Likewise, one of the most promising developments of the past few years is the number and quality of volunteers who have come forward to offer their time and talents to the museum. They are the unsung heroes of the OCHM. And last, but never least, are our members, whose generosity and enthusiasm carry the organization forward.

In summation, good things are happening at the OCHM, and we have just begun. With deepest thanks to all who labor on its behalf, I look forward with relish to the coming year.

Sincerely,

William F. Hanna  
*President*



# About the Old Colony History Museum

Founded on May 4, 1853, the Old Colony Historical Society is one of New England's oldest historical societies. It was established at a time when its founding fathers saw drastic changes taking place in the Old Colony region (the old Plymouth Colony). Industrialization had begun; improved transportation throughout New England meant that Taunton was no longer isolated. Immigration had also begun, and Taunton was becoming quite cosmopolitan. Early Puritan families were dying out or moving west, and the new Society put forth as its original mission "the preservation and perpetuation of the history of the Old Colony region of Massachusetts." To fulfill the organization's modern-day mission the Society maintains the Old Colony History Museum (OCHM) of regional objects and archives and a research library specializing in local history and genealogy.

Since its founding the steady growth of its collection, programming, membership and physical plant illustrate the Museum's relevancy to the local community. A touchstone to the region's past, the Museum has evolved to include a rich collection of furniture, decorative arts, portraits, military artifacts, and an extensive collection of silver pieces. The Museum's photographic and document collections make it a center for scholarly research on Southeastern Massachusetts and the Hurley Library also contains materials for local genealogical researchers. The Museum displays exhibits on two floors and is handicap-accessible to the first floor.

Throughout the year the OCHM offers many exiting exhibitions, activities, programs, research opportunities and, most importantly, an inspiring setting for visitors from around the block and around the world. We're happy that you have chosen to be a part of this wonderful experience. Welcome!

## VISION STATEMENT

This organization is committed to the principle that our region's future depends upon the shared knowledge of its past. Our vision is to fully utilize our collection in order to become a thriving regional center where visitors of all ages and origins develop a lifelong love of learning and an enduring connection to those who came before us. By providing meaningful experiences with local history and culture, we envision an active engagement with members and visitors who are increasingly knowledgeable and continually inspired to become better informed participants in the transformation of our community.

## MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of the OCHM is twofold: First, to collect, preserve and exhibit the history of the region of southeastern Massachusetts once known as the Old Colony. Second, through a vigorous program of outreach and education, we aspire to interpret the area's history in ways that are accessible, inclusive and meaningful to local residents and visitors.

## Year in Review Statistics

	2015	2014	2013
Weeks Open	51	51	51
Days Open	242	243	243
Membership	626	667	667
New Members	76	39	44
Member Deaths	16	14	10
Full-Time Staff	3 Jan-Sep 2 Sep-Dec	3	4 Jan-Jul 3 Jul-Dec
Part-Time Staff	1 Jan-May 2 May-Jun	1	2 Jan-Jul 1 Jul-Dec
Volunteers	51	43	40
Volunteer Hours	2,576.25	2,427.5	1,648.5
Visitation	5,606	5,503	5,196
Museum	489	479	513
Library	432	400	476
Programs & Special Groups	1,524	907	918
General	1,329	1,375	1,268
Website Visits	52,888	21,257	16,542
Research by Mail Patrons	17	19	54
Grants Received	5	4	4
Grant Amounts	\$10,950.27	\$6,875.00	\$1,800.00



# *Year in Review*

The year 2015 was all about looking forward to the future, which can be a challenge for a place dedicated to preserving the past. In order to look forward we felt it necessary to create a new brand that blends our modern approach with our rich history. You've seen it popping up on letterhead, websites, highway signs, and on our building itself and we hope that it's a logo people will recognize all across the region in the future. We could not have accomplished all that we did without the talented team at Litos Strategic Communication and the unbelievable hard work of our Marketing Committee, Kathy Mulhern (Chair) and Eileen Crochiere.

Speaking of talented teams of people, we were able to welcome Stephanie Poole as our Community Program Coordinator in the spring. Stephanie will continue to be instrumental in our efforts toward engaging more school groups and developing outreach initiatives to welcome new visitors to the museum. We also welcomed three new board members, Dean Larabee, William Napolitano, and Christopher Scully in 2015 as well as a new President of the Board, William Hanna. We said goodbye to long-time board member Susanne Costa Duquette who resigned after more than two decades of service and bid a fond farewell to Archivist & Library Manager Andrew Boisvert at the end of September. We wish them both all the best in their future endeavors.

You'll read more about what took place inside the walls of our building in the coming pages, but I would be remiss not to share my thanks for the incomparable work of our staff and volunteers. For a quarter of the year we had only two full-time staff members, and much of the added work fell on the exceptionally capable shoulders of Elizabeth Bernier. We would be nowhere near as successful as we were in 2015 without her, though I have a feeling most of you know that. Mike Curran kept our building looking beautiful despite an increase in visitors and programs. Renee Walker-Tuttle oversaw the ambitious N.H. Skinner exhibit, and her hard efforts produced a truly great exhibit. And to the volunteers who keep us up and running – we just simply can't do what we do without you. Thank you.

We set big goals for ourselves at the end of 2014, and in 2015 we took great strides towards fulfilling a number of those goals. I remain excited about our future and look forward to seeing it unfold.

*Katie*

# *Museum 2015*

The museum became the focus of our efforts in 2015 – a direct result of the long-range planning completed last year with our new five-year strategic plan. As you have read about in the past, the theme of this strategic plan is growth. We believe our strong collection, gathered over a century and a half, consisting of three-dimensional objects, books, and works on paper will allow our museum to become the centerpiece of our efforts to meet the challenges of attracting and engaging a wider audience. We also want to use the treasures that we hold to adopt a regional rather than a strictly local approach to our exhibits and programming, with the goal of being more sensitive to the needs of the diverse population that surrounds us.

You've read about the marketing efforts that were made throughout the year in support of this plan. Our next steps were to begin to position the museum itself to meet our goals. To do so, two major projects were undertaken. The first was to invite students of the Rhode Island School of Design (RISD) enrolled in the graduate course: Collecting Public History: Reshaping the 21st Century History Museum to use our museum as their laboratory. For an entire semester they studied our building, our mission, our daily activities, and ultimately offered their recommendations for how we can modernize our space. Armed with ideas about the future of the building itself the next step was to turn to the exhibits within the building. Our goal is to tell a cohesive narrative which conveys the importance of the area of Southeastern Massachusetts known as the Old Colony. We want this narrative to be engaging, informative, and interactive.

So, following this first major undertaking we took on the second major project of the year. We realized that to do all that we plan to do, it was time to dedicate a full-time staff person to the care and management of the collections which we will use to tell our story. At the end of 2015 we posted a job for a full-time Curator of Collections. This museum has not had a full-time curator since 2007, and our posting received applications from more than 55 qualified candidates across the country. As you read this Annual Report, our new Curator is hard at work. By this time next year we hope to be reporting on all of the new exciting changes in the museum and that you have come to see them, shared your feedback, and seen some new things. A museum needs a curator, and we are very glad to have welcomed Curator of Collections Brian Miskell to the OCHM.

## Archives & Library

We had a busy year in the Archives and Library this year with comings, goings, and the steady hum of research and genealogy that we are accustomed to. In May we installed a new plaque commemorating the generous benefactors of our library, William and Mary Hurley and continue to thank the Hurley family for their support.

In the spring we also welcomed Roving Archivist Rachel Onuf thanks to a grant from the Massachusetts State Historical Records Advisory Board (SHRAB). Ms. Onuf spent a day in our archives offering her suggestions for the future and giving us a crash course in archive basics. Her report was instrumental in assisting us with developing a plan to organize our archives which will include arrangement, description, and increased access for our visitors. Many of these changes will take years to fully implement, but we look forward to expanding the role our archives play in our exhibits, special programs, and for our researchers.

The end of September saw us saying goodbye and wishing good luck to longtime Archivist & Library Manager Andrew D. Boisvert. Andrew joined the staff here in December of 2003 and helped hundreds of researchers during his tenure. We wish him all the best on his new adventure in Washington D.C. and thank him for his time spent with us.

Without a full-time staff person to oversee the archives and library, it is only thanks to the exceptional work of our volunteers that we have been able to keep up with research requests and visits from genealogists. They have gone above and beyond what is expected of them and the entirety of the staff and board is indebted to their hard work.

Overall, we saw 17 requests answered for researchers all over the country and we continued to assist local historians on their quests to find long-lost relatives, original land records, and secret marriage certificates. We welcomed many more to our cozy library and began a project at the end of the year to identify books that do not tie to our mission and give them new lives in historical societies closer to their topics.

We are actively working to increase access to our library collections and hope to add an online catalog in the coming year. We also plan to showcase our archives by uniting them with the object collection and having them managed by one person. This should allow stronger connections to be made between the two, and the result will be deeper research and richer exhibitions. We appreciate everyone's patience in this transitional year and look forward to working with you going forward.

## Programming & Outreach

2015 was a big year for programming and outreach with the addition of a new part time staff member, Stephanie Poole, joining the team in April as the Community Program Coordinator. This year brought new children's activities, exciting programming, and increased efforts toward the museum being a field trip destination for students. The OCHM also hosted recurring favorites such as the Old Colony Book Club, which always welcomes new members.

June found the staff of OCHM going into the classroom of Tammi Swensen, fourth grade teacher at Bennett school to provide a fun History Day for her students after they collected the most pennies during the OCHM penny drive. The students learned about what it was like to grow up during the colonial period. They identified colonial artifacts, made their own colonial toys and participated in colonial games. June was also the month a brand new children's activity series entitled "Making History" was introduced at the OCHM. This was a recurring program throughout the summer that brought children to the museum to participate in hands on activities and crafts. We are excited to say that the "Making History" program will be making reappearance in 2016.

July brought Peter Gillen to visit with his 8th grade students from the summer program Project Enlightenment where they learned about early Taunton maps and how we can gather historical information by looking at how maps change over time.

August was a busy month at the OCHM with a visit from the Taunton Alternative High School who enjoyed learning about immigration and the different cultures that make up Taunton's history. OCHM filled a bus with members and new visitors and took to the road for a fun field trip to Newport, RI where we visited Doris Duke's Rough Point and walked about the colonial section of town. As soon as the trip was over, we started to get requests for our next field trip! Where should we go next? We also unveiled our Guided Downtown Taunton Walking tour to a large crowd in August. People gathered to learn about some of the prominent buildings, people, and stories of Taunton on this 1-mile loop around downtown Taunton. This is a walking tour that continues to be offered on the third Saturday of the month during warmer months of the year.

October was another busy month for us and kicking it off was the launch of our new brand. Soon after, a volunteer from the RI Public Archaeology Lab helped children and families understand how archaeologists uncover the past at our Kid's Archaeology Day, a recurring favorite for October, nationally recognized as Archaeology Month. A large group of interested cemetery-goers joined us

for a guided tour of Westville Cemetery to learn about some of the prominent people buried there as well as a discussion of grave stone iconography. No October would be complete without Liberty and Union Weekend! Everyone had a great time at this year's Arts and History festival with great food, activities, and of course the raising of the Liberty and Union Flag! October also brought two more school groups to the OCHM. Debbie Smith brought her third grade class from St. Mary's Primary School to tour the museum and to get some hands-on experience with what it was like to buy clothing before you could buy it off the rack, with our "Made to Measure" interactive exhibit. English teacher Diane O'Brien from Taunton High School also brought her class for a tour of the museum and the students were enthralled with the collection.

A very mild December and a fabulous reptile and raptor show brought record numbers to the museum for "Lights On!". The auditorium was packed with excited children and families listening to Marla Isaacs as she introduced her scaled and feathered friends.

We had another successful year with our lecture series. At the start of the year we learned about herring, an archaeological dig in Duxbury, and Taunton's bootlegging past. Presenters Jan Whitaker and Renee Walker-Tuttle, helped us to take a glimpse into the history of department stores with their presentations, "The World of Department Stores" and "The Secrets of Skinners," respectively in the fall. Both of these presentations paired beautifully with our featured exhibit, "A Most Commodious Store," featuring Skinner's Department Store. Jeff Belanger packed the house in December for his "Creepy Christmas" presentation during which he showed the scary side of Christmas traditions from around the world. Rather than hanging your stockings for a jolly Santa to fill, you had to be worried about being taken away by horrible creatures like the Krampus! In the midst of all the creepiness, everyone thoroughly enjoyed themselves.

2015 was a great year at the Old Colony History Museum. Enjoy this look back at some of the best moments of 2015 and join us for more fabulous programming during our 2016 season.

## 2015 Meetings & Programs

### JANUARY

Members' New Year Brunch  
Book Group

*Lecture: The Alewives' Tale: The Life History and Ecology of River Herring in the Northeast, by Professor Barbara Brennessel of Wheaton College*

### FEBRUARY

*February Flicks: Stolen*  
How to Steal A Million  
Art & Craft

Winter Carnival

### MARCH

Book Group

*Lecture: Digging Duxbury: The Brewster Homestead's Archaeological Past, by Erin McGough, Executive Director of the Duxbury Rural and Historical Society*

National Medal of Honor Day, March 25

### APRIL

*Exhibit Preview: A Most Commodious Store: N.H. Skinner & Co.*

Book Group

*Annual Meeting & Lecture: Boston Organized Crime: Prohibition and Bootleggers, by Emily Sweeney of The Boston Globe*

Scout Genealogy Badge Workshop

### MAY

Member Picnic

Book Group

Sherwood Avenue Cemetery Cleanup and Documentation

### JUNE

Book Group

*Making History: Kids Art Workshop: Painting*

*Making History: Kids Art Workshop: Sculpture*

### JULY

*Making History: Kids Art Workshop: Outdoor Chalk Mural*

### AUGUST

Walking Tour of Historic Downtown Taunton

*Making History: Kids Art Workshop: Frame Yourself!*

*Making History: Kids Art Workshop: Recycled Art*

Field Trip to Newport, R.I.

### SEPTEMBER

Book Group and film showing of *The Maltese Falcon*

### OCTOBER

Archaeology for Kids

*Lecture: The World of Department Stores, by consumer historian Jan Whitaker*

*Liberty & Union Weekend: Arts and History Festival*

Tour of Westville Cemetery

### NOVEMBER

Genealogy Panel with representatives from local lineage societies

Book Group

*Lecture: The Secrets of Skinner's by OCHM Guest Curator Renee Walker-Tuttle*

### DECEMBER

*Lecture: A Creepy Christmas with well-known author, lecturer, and talk show host Jeff Belanger*

LIGHTS ON!

Book Group



## DONORS TO THE 2015 ANNUAL FUND

For 2015 we mailed our Annual Fund request in December along with dues for 2016. With such a short turnaround time, the response has been unexpected and excellent. This has been our best response in years and we thank all of our donors for their support! The total for gifts received through March 2016 in response to the Annual Fund 2015 request is: \$5,681.

### (\$0-49)

Mr. & Mrs. Manuel S. Coelho,  
in memory of Helen Medeiros  
Norman R. Dunphe, Chevalier  
Noreen Julius Kiff  
Mary R. Bliss  
Jane Harris Ash  
Mary Hutchins  
Beatrice Kirk  
Robert M. Gerrity  
Lt. Greg Galligan  
Lucille Atkinson  
Sally S. Vaun  
Richard G. Bart  
Cherry Fletcher Bamberg  
Elizabeth MacLean  
John and Joanne Uva  
Richard & Noreen Mendes  
Lawrence Blood  
Jeffrey & Annalee Nystrom  
Mathew Arruda  
Shoshannah Garshick  
Susan F. King

### Gifts in Memoriam:

In memory of:  
Charles E. Crowley  
Jeff Baker  
Janet M. Reese  
Robert W. Williams III  
Vina Harrigan

### Grants Received 2015

Mass Humanities Project Grant  
Roving Archivist Program  
Taunton Cultural Council  
TDI Placemaking Grant from MassDevelopment  
BCSB Charitable Foundation

### (\$50-499)

Elaine S. Briggs  
Bonny R. Cook  
Nancy Whalen  
Wardwell C. Leonard, Jr.  
Mr. & Mrs. Joseph C. Betz  
David Rollin & Jean Dean  
Carol Andrews Mills  
John F. Laughlin, Jr.

### (\$500+)

Dr. & Mrs. William F. Hanna  
Harodite Industries, Inc.  
James J. Duffy  
Reed & Barton Foundation  
Mark & Colleen Karsner  
Cynthia Booth Ricciardi  
Elisa & Chris Scully  
Charles A. Thayer, M.D.

### Donors to Museum:

Robert W. Nelson  
Jordan H.F. Fiore  
Reva Newfield  
Barbara LaFrance  
Armand Morin,  
on behalf of Jane Wagner  
William F. Hanna  
William F. Hubbard  
Dawn Lynn Standing,  
on behalf of Donald I. Paull

### Donors to Archives & Library:

Rebecca W.S. More,  
on behalf of the Weeks family  
John H. Rogers  
Gaile F. Fletcher  
Brian C. Miskell  
Marc N. Belanger  
Maryan L. Nowak  
Adam Levine  
Peter G. Mozzone  
Jennifer Anderson  
Scott Grigoreas  
Bristol Chapter of the  
Massachusetts Society  
of Genealogists  
Cynthia Shearstone  
John B. Caron  
David F. Gouveia, M.D.  
Nancy Staton  
Stephen Desroches

Dane Rogers  
Edward Rounds  
Carole Rose  
Anne L. O'Neill  
Frank and Karen Dillon  
David F. Gouveia, M.D.  
Jean E. Dean  
Renee Walker-Tuttle

Sharon Dorian, Librarian at  
The Gladys H. McIsaac Library  
at Taunton High School  
Carlton A. Caron  
Peter F. Randazzo, Jr.  
Maureen Taylor  
Kevin R. Nunes  
David Shaw  
George Rhodes  
Donald H. Burke  
Michael Gregg O'Connell  
Kathy Carpenter  
Edward M. Dean  
Thomas J. Nichols  
William J. Breen  
Dell A. King  
Albert J. Clarke II  
Carolyn M. Basler  
Paul T. Allison



# Finance

The financial report for 2015 shows the Old Colony Historical Society remaining as a strong and stable parent organization to our growing museum and library. Our investments continued to be managed by Bank of New York Mellon, though it was in our investments that we saw our only area of decline for the year. The largest part of our annual operating budget is funded from a five-year rolling average value of the interest of these investments and is therefore vital to the daily operations of the museum. The dedicated and capable members of the Finance Committee took notice of this and devoted considerable time to reviewing our current positions as the year came to a close.

Despite this area of concern, what is particularly exciting for our future is the increased support from our community, realized through increases in the year's admissions, memberships, donations, and grants. Of particular note is the generous gift of the Estate of Dr. Edward B. Williams, which was unexpected and for which we are extremely thankful.

The remainder of our annual operating budget is funded through gift shop sales, research fees, and building rentals. As a self-funded non-profit, we appreciate all of the support we received throughout the year.

## Balance Sheet, year end

	2015	2014*	2013*
<b>ASSETS</b>			
Current Assets			
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 426,728.00	\$ 173,580.00	\$ 160,655.00
Inventory, at cost	10,000.00	9,485.00	11,183.00
Total current assets	436,728.00	183,065.00	171,838.00
Property and Equipment			
Land	5,000.00	5,000.00	5,000.00
Building and improvements	816,026.00	816,026.00	816,026.00
Furniture and fixtures	92,524.00	92,524.00	85,989.00
Subtotal	913,550.00	913,550.00	907,015.00
Less accumulated depreciation	(592,401.00)	(555,549.00)	(518,697.00)
Net property and equipment	321,149.00	358,001.00	388,318.00
Invested Funds,			
at fair market value	3,728,770.00	3,949,653.00	3,927,020.00
Total	\$4,486,647.00	\$4,490,719.00	\$4,487,176.00
<b>LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS</b>			
Current Liabilities			
Payroll taxes payable	\$ 0.00	\$ 1,922.00	\$ 1,950.00
Sales taxes payable	29.00	23.00	42.00
Total current liabilities	29.00	1,945.00	1,992.00
Net Assets			
Unrestricted net assets	2,653,293.00	2,620,342.00	2,614,830.00
Temporarily restricted net assets	0.00	37,000.00	37,000.00
Restricted net assets	1,833,354.00	1,833,354.00	1,833,354.00
Total net assets	4,486,619.00	4,488,774.00	4,485,176.00
	\$4,486,647.00	\$4,490,719.00	\$4,487,176.00

\*Please note: reports for 2013 and 2014 have been professionally prepared. The figures for 2015 are as of yet unaudited.

## 2015 Operating Statement

### SUPPORT AND REVENUE

Draw from Investments	\$181,800.00
Dues	16,260.00
Admissions	3,292.00
Donations	17,013.00
Sales	8,560.00
Annual Fund	4,785.00
Miscellaneous	2,407.00
Grants	10,950.00
Research and Copies	1,281.00
Photo Reproduction Fees	395.00
Postage	80.00
Total Support and Revenue	\$246,823.00

### EXPENSES

Wages and Benefits	\$138,863.00
Operating Costs and Utilities	69,211.00
Building Supplies and Maintenance	14,038.00
Office Supplies	2,434.00
Printing	9,387.00
Museum Supplies	6,528.00
Archive/Library Supplies	1,291.00
Programs	6,753.00
Total	\$248,505.00
NET	(\$1,682.00)

For the first time in the museum's history we were able to incorporate a marketing budget in 2015. We benefitted from a full year of professional consulting, a new logo, website template, identity design (business cards, letterhead, and envelopes), brochure, highway signs, and new signs in the front yard and on the building. We were even able to throw a very successful brand launch party on October 1. The cost of the tent for that event, which was added due to a rainy forecast, is the only reason we were over budget for the entirety of FY2015's budget. We were able to take on this project for two main reasons. The first is for the efforts of the past two years to streamline the budget and eliminate unnecessary expense. Secondly, we had the invaluable help of an exceptionally talented Marketing Committee. We appreciate all of their efforts throughout 2015.



# Membership

We added 76 new members in 2015 – by far the best year we have had in a long time. Thank you to all for your support! We also updated our Membership software and eliminated some old records which had been inactive for a number of years. So while it appears that our total is lower than in years past, it is a truer reflection of our active supporters and we are so pleased to count you all among them.

## New Members

Name	City/State
Anonymous	
Kenneth E. Amaral	Berkley, MA
Beverly A. Barry	Bedford, NH
Gail R. Brown	Warwick, RI
Michael D. Brown	Warwick, RI
Nancy D. Brown	Dighton, MA
Sarah Funke Butler	New York, NY
Robert B. Carter	Glen Arm, MD
Eugene L. Christiansen	Taunton, MA
Brooke Colella	Salem, MA
Kevin Coleman	Taunton, MA
Susan Coleman	Taunton, MA
Edward L. Corr	Taunton, MA
Elaine R. Corr	Taunton, MA
Carolyn Crist-Schwab	Jamestown, NC
Dale E. Crossman	Louisville, KY
Jonathan Ellse	North Dighton, MA
Carol L. Ferreira	Raynham, MA
William A. Fitzgerald	Taunton, MA
Gordon H. Francis	Raynham, MA
Barbara E. Fulton	Attleboro, MA
Mary S. Withington Gardetto	Beavercreek, OH
Jack Gibney	Fall River, MA
Renee Gibson	Charleston, SC
Elsie H. Goldstein	Berkley, MA
Kenneth C. Grout	Taunton, MA
Martha E. Grout	Taunton, MA
Dennis Hohengasser	Taunton, MA
William T. Hurley, Jr.	Raynham, MA
James L. Johnson	Fairfax Station, VA
William Johnson	Taunton, MA
Eden Jones	Berkley, MA
Judith A. Jones	South Yarmouth, MA
Eileen Kelleher	Taunton, MA
Michael Kelleher	Taunton, MA
Dean Larabee III	Berkley, MA
Mary T. Larson	Seal Beach, CA
John W. Leddy	Raynham, MA
Maura Leddy	Raynham, MA

## New Members [continued]

Name	City/State
Janet Harvey Lennox	Auburn, MA
Steve Leonard	Greenland, NH
Margaret S. Lippincott	University Park, MD
Morss Lippincott, Jr.	University Park, MD
John L. McNay	Bloomington, IN
William A. Manganiello, Esq.	East Taunton, MA
Jean P. Marcoux, Jr.	Taunton, MA
Theresa Monteiro	Taunton, MA
Anna Lee Nystrom	Taunton, MA
Jeffrey Nystrom	Taunton, MA
Mike Reed	Boston, MA
Pauline Robello	Lakeville, MA
Kathryn Robertson	Sebring, FL
Colleen Rose	Berkley, MA
Manuel E. Rose	Taunton, MA
Joan V. Roster	Raynham, MA
Robert S. Ryan	Lewisburg, PA
Jason H. Sanderson	Madison, NH
Mike Sergieff	Rehoboth, MA
Emma Sevigny	Milton, MA
James Silvia, Jr.	Taunton, MA
Heather Stevens	Taunton, MA
Tammi Swenson	Taunton, MA
Hope N. Tillman	Woburn, MA
Susan Trimble-Schubert	Independence, KY
Barbara L. Briggis Tuley	Arnold, MO
Jennifer Turnbull	Dighton, MA
The Steven J. Vieira Family	Taunton, MA
Linda Wensrich	Sacramento, CA
Janet Yelle	Norton, MA
Virginia H. Young	Taunton, MA

## New Life Members

Carolyn M. Basler (East Taunton, MA)  
Kathleen M. Mulhern (Taunton, MA)

## Corporate Members for 2015

*For the most up-to-date list of Corporate Members, including those for 2016, please visit <http://www.oldcolonyhistorymuseum.org/corporate-membership/>*

Bristol County Savings Bank  
Karsner & Meehan, Attorneys (Taunton, MA)  
Taunton Development Corporation (Taunton, MA)  
Taunton Federal Credit Union (Taunton, MA)



## Necrology

We would like to extend our deepest condolences to the friends and families of the sixteen members who passed away in 2015. They will be deeply missed and always remembered.

Name	City/State
Emma R. Andrade	Taunton, MA
Leo P. Benoit, Jr.	Berkley, MA
Judith D. Blodgett	Hanover, MA
Margaret M. Borden	Duxbury & Plymouth, MA
James R. Dorsey (d. 2013)	Taunton, MA
Harold R. Dyke	Taunton, MA
Donald E. French	Dighton, MA
Ovsanna Harpootian-Veitch	Taunton, MA
Sylvina Harrigan	Taunton, MA
Anne B. Kalaczniak	Taunton, MA
Annah Silsby Lincoln	Osterville, MA & Melbourne, FL
Frances Sanford Lincoln	Naples, FL & Taunton, MA
The Reverend Lynn G. MacLagan	Somerset, MA
John A. Murphy	Taunton, MA
Helen A. Nowak	Taunton, MA
Robert W. Williams III	Taunton & Raynham, MA

## Volunteers

*Total Volunteers: 51*

*Total Volunteer Hours: 2,576.25*

Name	Task/Expertise
Irene Allie	Mayflower Sampler Guild-Sampler Survey
Paul Allison	Penny Drive
Elizabeth Amaral	Exhibits
Alexis Andrews	Outreach, Hospitality
Athena Athas	Clerical
Mary Barrett	Tour Guide, Clerical, Hospitality
Rachel Bliss	Tour Guide, Walking Tour Guide
Cyndie Bernard	Curatorial
Paul Buckley	Education
Chloe Byrne	Curatorial, Exhibits
Sandy Bisson	Clerical, Hospitality
Sean Boyden	Hospitality
Eleanor Calvin	Music
Susan Caramelo	Tour Guide, Hospitality
James Carey	Tour Guide, Research, Library, Hospitality
Jean Dean	Refreshments
Denise DeMore	Mayflower Sampler Guild-Sampler Survey
Sean Donnelly	Curatorial, Publicity, Hospitality
Audrey Dors	Tour Guide, Curatorial, Hospitality
Jane Emack-Cambra	Curatorial, NERGC Outreach
Jillian Gardner	Education, Hospitality
William F. Hanna	Newsletter Editor, Research, Exhibit Preparation
Katie Heroux	Curatorial, Exhibits

## Volunteers [continued]

Name	Task/Expertise
William F. Hubbard	Tour Guide, Curatorial, Library
Paulette Hurley	Archives, Hospitality
Christian Hurley	Clerical, Hospitality
Janet Inman	Holiday Decorating
Jamie Lyn Knight	Mayflower Sampler Guild-Sampler Survey
Leah Lopes	Making History Art & Activity Workshops
Bronson Michaud	Curatorial, Exhibits, Programs
Samantha Miller	Tour Guide, Curatorial, Hospitality
Steven M. Miller, Jr.	Library, Archives, Research
Brian Miskell	Penny Drive
Peter G. Mozzone	Event Photography
Maryan L. Nowak	Community Liaison, Maintenance
Deb Partain	Mayflower Sampler Guild-Sampler Survey
Perry Rushton Pelkey	Education, Outreach-Archaeology Day
Matthew Pelkey	Education, Outreach-Archaeology Day
Armand G. Provencal	Tour Guide, Hospitality
Douglas P. Rankin II	Education, Outreach
Mike Reed	Outreach, Hospitality
Cynthia Booth Ricciardi	Tour Guide, NERGC Outreach
Holly Roberge	Library, Archives, NERGC Outreach
Craig Roberts	Tour Guide, Education
Elaine Robinson	Library
Louise Rose	Bookkeeping, Clerical, Hospitality
Doreen Roy	Curatorial, Archives, Clerical
Jennifer Sinnott	Education, Outreach, Hospitality
Charles A. Thayer	Outreach, Downtown Walking Tour
Renee Walker-Tuttle	Exhibits, Curatorial
Deborah Lane Whalon	Bookkeeping

*Some of the best moments  
of 2015*



Benjamin Broomhead & Ann Middleton MARRIED  
at St Peter's Church Sheffield October 9<sup>th</sup> 1814  
Amelia Broomhead Born January 20<sup>th</sup> 1816  
Ann Broomhead Born December 23<sup>rd</sup> 1817  
John Broomhead Born November 1<sup>st</sup> 1819  
Sarah Ashton Broomhead Born January 4<sup>th</sup> 1822  
Sophia Broomhead Born February 5<sup>th</sup> 1824  
Theresa Broomhead Born March 31<sup>st</sup> 1826  
Elizabeth Priscilla Broomhead Born June 14<sup>th</sup> 1828

Jesus Permit Thy Gracious Name to Stand  
As The First Effort of an Infants hand  
And While Her Fingers-Over This Canvas Move  
Enlarge Her Tender Heart to Seek Thy Love  
With Thy Dear Children Let Her Share a Part  
And Write Thy Name Thrice UPON Her Heart.

Sarah Ashton Broomheads  
Work Aged 15 Years 1837



**THE HURLEY LIBRARY**

THE HURLEY LIBRARY,  
NAMED IN HONOR OF  
**WILLIAM THOMAS HURLEY, JR.**  
(1906-1985)  
AND  
**MARY LYNCH HURLEY**  
(1910-1989),  
WAS DEDICATED DECEMBER 27, 1990.  
FUNDING WAS PROVIDED BY  
THEIR CHILDREN.

MR. AND MRS. HURLEY WERE ACTIVE  
CONTRIBUTORS TO TAUNTON BUSINESS  
AND COMMUNITY ORGANIZATIONS AND  
WERE LONG-TIME MEMBERS OF THE OLD  
COLONY HISTORICAL SOCIETY.  
MR. HURLEY SERVED AS OCHS  
TRUSTEE FROM 1969 TO 1985.

THE HURLEYS WERE PROPONENTS OF  
LIFE-LONG EDUCATION AND BELIEVED  
THAT UNDERSTANDING THE HISTORY  
OF OUR COUNTRY, OUR COMMUNITY  
AND OUR FAMILIES IS ESSENTIAL  
IN THAT PURSUIT.

## Annual Meeting

**Thursday, April 21**

The Annual Meeting of the Old Colony Historical Society will be held at the Society, 66 Church Green in Taunton, MA on Thursday, April 21, 2016 at 6:30 p.m., for the election of officers and the transaction of such business as may properly come before said meeting. To be followed immediately by:

### THE FINEST HOURS

*Presented by Michael Tougias*

To begin at 7 p.m.

On February 18th, 1952 an astonishing maritime event began when a ferocious nor'easter split in half a 500-foot long oil tanker, the *Pendleton*, approximately one mile off the coast of Cape Cod, Massachusetts. Incredibly, just twenty miles away, a second oil tanker, the *Fort Mercer*, also split in half. On both fractured tankers men were trapped on the severed bows and sterns, and all four sections were sinking in 60-foot seas. Thus began a life and death drama of survival, heroism, and a series of tragic mistakes. Of the 84 seamen aboard the tankers, 70 would be rescued and 14 would lose their lives.

Michael Tougias, co-author of *The Finest Hours*, joins us for our Annual Meeting and will use slides of the storm, the sinking tankers, the rescues, the victims, the survivors and the heroes to tell the story of this historic event. Tougias will describe the harrowing attempts to rescue the seamen, especially focusing on four young Coast Guardsmen who must overcome insurmountable odds to save the lives of 32 crewmen stranded aboard the stern of the *Pendleton*. Standing between the men and their mission were towering waves that reached 70 feet, blinding snow, and one of the most dangerous shoals in the world, the dreaded Chatham Bar. The waters along the outer arm of Cape Cod are called "the graveyard of the Atlantic" for good reason, yet this rescue defies all odds.

A book signing will follow the program, and the presentation is suitable for all ages. NY Times bestselling author James Brady (*Flyboys and Flags of Our Fathers*), says "The Finest Hours recounts incredible heroism... A Gripping Read." *The Finest Hours* has been the #4 bestselling non-fiction book in New England according to the New England Booksellers Association. Disney is making a movie of the Finest Hours and the book was a finalist for the Massachusetts Book Award, selected as a "must read."

Refreshments will be served at 6 p.m. The brief meeting to conduct the business of our Annual meeting will begin at 6:30 p.m. and the lecture will begin at 7 p.m. This event is free and open to the public.



### Old Colony History Museum

66 Church Green

Taunton, MA 02780

Tel 508-822-1622

[www.oldcolonyhistorymuseum.org](http://www.oldcolonyhistorymuseum.org)



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**OLD COLONY  
HISTORY  
MUSEUM**

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TAUNTON, MA 02780

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