



Spring 2014

The Marston's Grist

The newsletter of the Marstons Mills Historical Society
P.O. Box 1375 Marstons Mills, MA 02648
marstonsmillshistorical.org

A few thoughts from the President...

The Marstons Mills Historical Society extends an open invitation to one and all to attend a meeting, become a member, volunteer, donate. The Society's committees are doing all kinds of interesting things. The archives room at the Marstons Mills Public Library is being measured up with the expectation that the fundraising appeal will bring in needed funds to acquire protective archival supplies and a fireproof cabinet.

The 375th Committee is excited to be working with the town of Barnstable in its 2014 celebration of the town's 375th Anniversary, with a focus on the history of all seven villages in the town.

The Historical Sites Committee has designed a "Walking Tour Guide" that is included in this newsletter and will be available on our website www.marstonsmillshistorical.org Our thanks to Jim Gould.....

The Oral Histories Committee is ongoing and excited about expanding the Oral Histories interviews. If you know any old-timers that would enjoy being interviewed, please contact the MMHS.

The Membership and Education Committee(s) focus on community outreach for growth, expansion and appreciation of the village.

Perhaps you would like to participate and help us preserve the history and charm of Marstons Mills in your own special way.....

Let's keep Marstons Mills alive and well.

Very best regards,
Sandra L. Bolton, President

The Mission of the Marstons Mills Historical Society is to foster an interest in the story of our village. We preserve historical images, documents and artifacts, research historic resources and support educational opportunities for all ages for villagers and other interested persons, in order to better understand and appreciate the past, present and future of Marstons Mills.

COMING EVENTS AND NEWS:

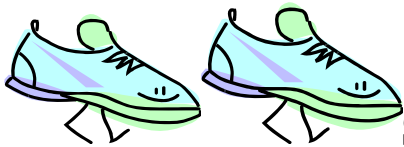
Signed copies of the Arcadia publication, "*Marstons Mills*", by Jim Gould and Vivian Cushing, are available for sale at the Marstons Mills Library for \$24.00.

Tuesday, June 17, 2014 at 2:00 p.m. Meeting of the Marstons Mills Historical Society, Liberty Hall, 2150 Main Street, Marstons Mills MA.

What the Collections Committee is up to.....The Collections Committee has been busy organizing the archives room at the Marstons Mills Library and working diligently on sorting and filing of historical documents and photos, which will be secured in archival protective sleeves and folders. and to be stored in a fire-proof file cabinet.

Crocker Snow Exhibits...Crocker Snow, Jr. and his son visited the Cape recently, and viewed the Crocker Snow display that was at the Marstons Mills Library and also the exhibit still on display at the Barnstable Municipal Airport in Hyannis, which is part of the town's 375th celebration.

Digital Commonwealth.....Dianne Potter and Renee Voorhees attended a training at the Boston Public Library on April 16th. Seventy five libraries (including the Marstons Mills Library) in the state have been selected to participate in the Digital Commonwealth Library and the Digital Public Library of America. The attendance at the training guarantees that the historical society and the library can submit items for harvest (digitization). Staff at BPL will scan, photograph and create images for upload to the Digital Public Library of America site and local webpages at no cost to the library or historical society.) Check out the Digital Public Library website: <http://dp.la/info/> and see what you can look up.



Sandy Sneakers walks the Village.....

That's a beauty of a sign MARSTONS MILLS CEMETERY right here on Cotuit Road and look at that obelisk monument. Hmm.... Judge Nymphas Marston, a distinguished lawyer who became a state senator and Judge of Probate. 1828-1854 WOW! I am walking in such great company.

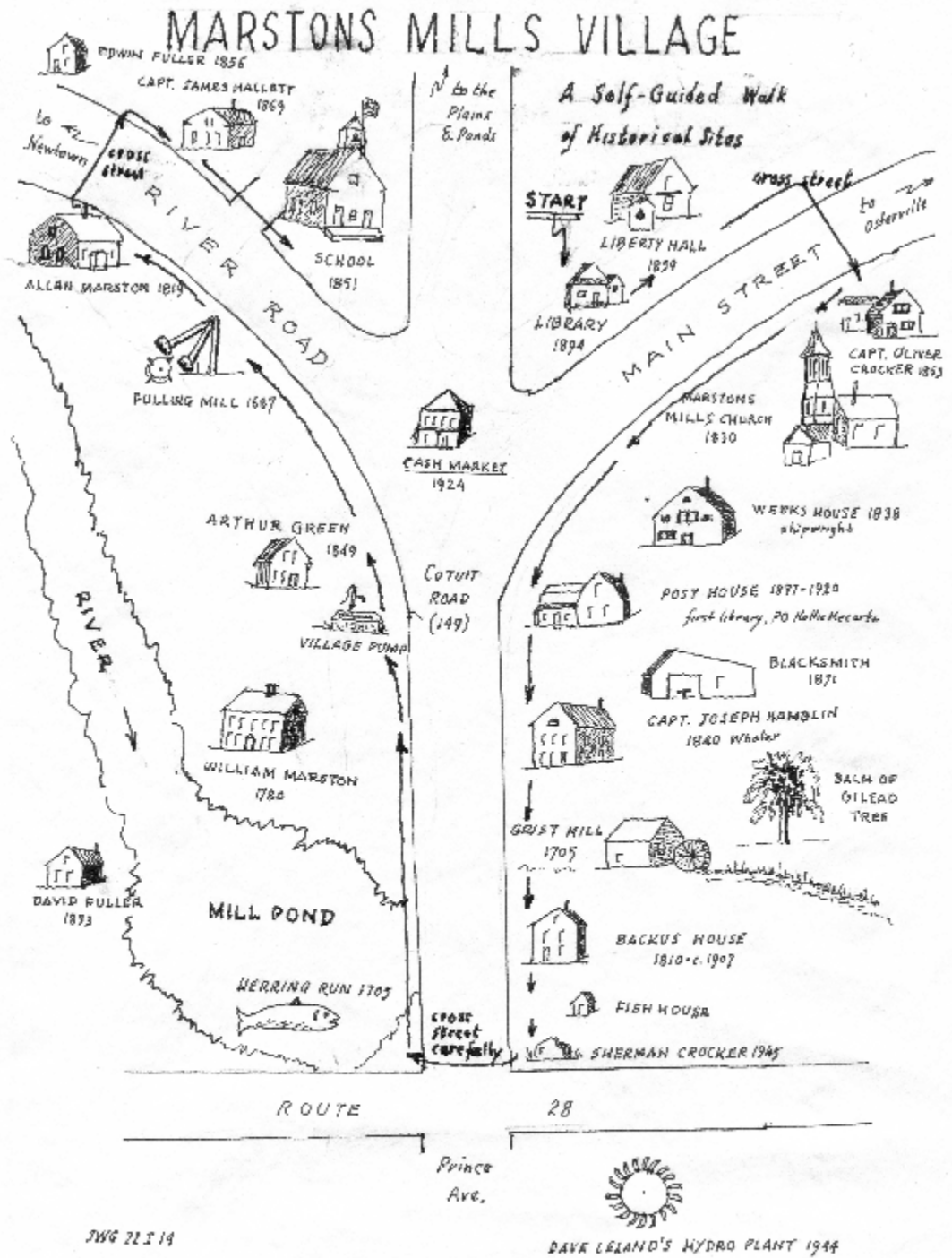
Wish List for MMHS.....

Fire-proof file cabinet
Archival Storage Supplies
Storage Shelving
Computer Software
Digital recorder
Scanner

**MARSTONS MILLS
HISTORICAL SOCIETY
OFFICERS**

President: Sandra Bolton
Vice President: Hank Farnham
Secretary: David Martin
Treasurer: Nancy Wong

Marstons Mills Village Walking Map



Historical Sites Descriptions

1. MARSTONS MILLS PUBLIC LIBRARY, 2160 Main Street. Built 1893. Marstons Mills Public Library was built on land donated by Robinson Weeks and is the intellectual center of the village.
2. LIBERTY HALL CLUB, 2150 Main Street. Built 1859. Liberty Hall Club is the community center for voting, plays, musicals, suppers and concerts.
3. CAPTAIN OLIVER CROCKER HOUSE, 2117 Main Street. Built 1853. Greek Revival. Captain Oliver Crocker, a whaling captain, had his own saltwater dock out back.
4. MARSTONS MILLS COMMUNITY CHURCH, 2135 Main Street. Built 1830. Greek Revival. The Methodists had the Community Church moved from Yarmouthport 8 miles by ox team.
5. WEEKS HOUSE, 24 Hilltop Road. Built 1838. Greek Revival. The Weeks House was the longtime home of the singing blacksmith Robinson Weeks.
6. POST HOUSE, 86 Cotuit Road. Built 1897. Colonial Revival. The Post House was built by Hattie Mecarta, the first woman postmistress, who also sold notions here.
7. BLACKSMITH SHOP, 2071 Main Street. Built 1871. The Blacksmith Shop shoed horses and repaired wagons, buggies and farm and mill machinery.
8. CAPTAIN JOSEPH HAMBLIN HOUSE, 69 Cotuit Road. Built 1840. Greek Revival. Captain Joseph Hamblin was captain of the whaling ship *Phoenix* of Nantucket.
9. BALM OF GILEAD TREE, 69 Cotuit Road. The Balm of Gilead tree at the Hamblin House is famed for its fragrant blossoms in springtime.
10. GRIST MILL site, 26 Cotuit Road. Built 1705. The Grist Mill operated until 1916; the land is now protected by Barnstable Land Trust.
11. BACKUS HOUSE site, 26 Cotuit Road. Built 1810. Greek Revival. The Backus House was the home of a cloth dyer and also of the first Northern captives of the Civil War.
12. FISH HOUSE site, Junction Route 149/28. C.1900. The Fish House was built for the most productive herring run in town, going under the highway.
13. SHERMAN CROCKER MEMORIAL, Junction Route 149/28. Built 1945. Sherman Crocker was an Air Force Captain whose bomber was shot down in Germany in 1945.
14. DAVID LELAND'S HYDRO PLANT, South side of Route 28. Built 1944. David Leland built a hydroelectric plant during World War II at this site.
15. CAPTAIN DAVID FULLER HOUSE, 50 Acadia Dr. Road. Built 1853. Captain David Fuller and his son were discovered drifting at sea, dead from Yellow Fever.
16. WILLIAM MARSTON HOUSE, 71 Cotuit Rd/Route 149. Built 1780. Federal. The William Marston House was the home of the shopkeeper and then Dr. Higgins, physician.
17. VILLAGE PUMP and TROUGH, Route 149/River Road. The watering trough is next to memorials for village soldiers who served in two World Wars.
18. ARTHUR GREEN HOUSE, 5 River Road. Built 1849. The Arthur Green House was once a hardware store selling sewing machines, hay mowers, etc.
19. CASH MARKET, 1 River Road. Built 1924. The Cash Market was built by Loring Jones from locally made cement blocks.
20. FULLING MILL site, 55 River Road site. Built 1687. The Fulling Mill, built by the town to clean wool, was later expanded to dye and weave cloth.
21. ARTHUR MARSTON HOUSE, 71 River Road. Built 1819. Greek Revival. The Arthur Marston House was home of the co-owner of the Mill and later a doctor's office.
22. EDWIN FULLER HOUSE, 130 River Road. Built 1856. Greek Revival. The Edwin Fuller House is the most endangered historic house in the village.
23. CAPTAIN JAMES HALLETT HOUSE, 130 River Road. Built 1869. Greek Revival. Captain James Hallett died from a fall into an elevator shaft while Christmas shopping in Boston.
24. ONE ROOM SCHOOL HOUSE, 149 Route 149. Built 1851. Greek Revival. The village school, enlarged in 1915, was here until 1936, when it was moved to the hilltop.



We are fortunate in that we have a resident with a generous offer to match any donated funds up to the amount of \$700, provided that we raise matching contributions by June 1st. We are asking for your support and help.

MEMBERSHIP FORM

___ I / we wish to join the Society and enclose payment
for my / our Individual Membership(s) at \$15 each.

___ I / we wish to make a charitable contribution to the Society to support the
development of its Village Archives and the Preservation of its Collection.

\$250 ___ \$150 ___ \$75 ___ \$25 ___ \$10 ___ Other _____

Name: _____

Street / POB: _____

City: _____ State: _____

Zip: _____ E-mail: _____

___ I / we wish to be notified about MMHS Meetings.

Mail to: MMHS, P.O. Box 1375 Marstons Mills, MA 02648

The Marstons Mills Historical Society is a 501(c)3 Charitable Organization and all dues and donations are tax-deductible.

The MARSTONS MILLS HISTORICAL SOCIETY, MARSTONS MILLS PUBLIC LIBRARY and the MARSTONS MILLS community and beyond swivel their hips, laugh and mingle in the farcical-noir comedy-mystery-musical *DEATH AT THE LIBRARY* fundraiser, an original interactive play written by local resident Sandra Bolton “just for the fun of it.”



Was it the cranberries?

Photos by Bill Bolton



They are all suspects.



Minnie Pearl aka Renee Voorhees shouts out “Howdy” and Who done it?



Hula Hoop hysteria !