

Robert L. Worrick Dudley Resident

When Bob Warrick passed away on August 28, 2004, the Black Tavern lost one of the original hard working volunteer group. This group worked steadily to restore and save the historic home. Starting with saving the front porch, this group covered every section of the building which was damaged by water and time. Whenever possible, historic features were saved and noted. One example is the wallpapering done extensively by Bob and his wife Jeanette at no labor cost. Their interest and help in other tasks was prominent in the task of preserving a part of the ways vital to the growth of today's cultural life in New England.

Charles & Marion Moseley

Editor's Note: Robert L Worrick was a long-time member of the Board of Directors of the BTHS

Raffle to Benefit the Barn Restoration

Recently, a raffle to benefit the "Barn Restoration" at the Black Tavern was held, with the drawing for the following prizes taking place on September 16, 2004.

First Prize-

An original framed painting (20" X 26") of the Black Tavern painted by local artist Dolores Kosciusko.

Second Prize-

\$50.00 gift certificate to Dudley Park 'N Shop.

Third Prize-

\$50.00 Gift Certificate to Forget-Me-Nots florist.

The following people won:
1st Prize- JoAnn Szymczak
2nd Prize- Carol Reardon
3rd Prize- Joy Glynn

The gift Certificates were donated by Dudley Park 'N Shop, and Forget-Me-Nots florist. The painting and all the artist's labor were donated by the artist; the BTHS paid for her supplies and the framing of the picture.

Connie Nedoroscik would like to thank everyone who purchased tickets and also the BTHS members who sold them. The profit of \$460.00 was turned over to the Barn Restoration project.

Connie Nedoroscik

Leicester Historical Society

As a continuation of the Black Tavern Historical Society's outreach to the "community", Thompson Boyd, Black Tavern curator, and Peg Pedersen traveled to the Leicester Historical Society Monday evening, February 16th. Leicester, due north of Dudley and west of Worcester, is similar to Dudley with its 10,471 pop. and as home of a college, Becker's satellite campus. Tom Boyd told the story of The Tavern, and as it related the history of the U.S.A., from 1804 to the present. Peg Pedersen recounted the story behind the purchase of the adjacent Barn property and plans for it. We brought with us various objects we thought would bring the Tavern alive to our audience, including a copy of the BLACK TAVERN TALES reprint, a CAT'S MEOW of The Tavern, and a variety of photographs.

Saturday morning, July 10th, Tom Boyd, Bob Ducharme, Claire Gregoire, and Peg Pedersen greeted a small group from the Leicester Historical Society on the steps of The Tavern. Tom Boyd took the group on a tour of the Tavern pointing out the

many things he had described in February, including the "wandering teapot" and the clocks made by Hezekiah Healey. Claire Gregoire, who works at Sturbridge Village, was in costume of the period and was in the process of spinning yarn on a spinning wheel in the upstairs children's room. Claire spent some time engaged in conversation with the visitors about 19th century practices and products concerning the hand spinning of various fibers. Bob Ducharme then showed the group the Barn describing what had been done (internal demolition) pointing out the "post and beam" features, and telling of The Society's future plans for it. Before leaving, the Leicester Historical Society members took advantage of a lovely summer day and ate their picnic lunches on The Tavern's front porch with liquid refreshments provided by the Black Tavern Historical Society.

Peg Pedersen

Editors Note

Note- Due to the difficulty of gathering information in time to publish the newsletter in September, as we did last year, we are now returning to the practice of publishing in January. Anyone wishing to include items in the yearly newsletter should submit information to Bob Ducharme by December. Information may be sent to the The Black Tavern Historical Society at P.O. Box 1804- Dudley Hill, Dudley, MA 01571.

In addition, I would like to thank all who contributed to this edition of the newsletter and in particular Peg Pedersen who gave her time in proofreading copy.

Bob Ducharme

various people mentioned (first names only!) were, in these two chapters, and then told us what had happened to them. Mr. Bazinet concluded this excellent program with additional selections from the Black Tavern Tales.

Peg Pedersen

Where Do We Go From Here ?

The 200th anniversary year of the Black Tavern has ended with the passing of 2004 and much lies ahead of the Historical Society in 2005 and coming years.

Our current major project, the Black Tavern Barn restoration, is well underway and visitors to Dudley Hill will see signs of construction work at the front of the building. The barn and the land surrounding it were purchased from Nichols College for \$17,000.00 in May of 2002. In 2003 the interior of the barn was stripped of all non-original materials thus exposing the post and beam construction. Interior demolition costs amounted to approximately \$8,900.00.

In December of 2004 work began to stabilize the foundation of the barn structure. The front wall of the original stone foundation was bowing into the interior of the barn cellar resulting in concern over the safety of the structure. The Board of Directors voted to hire out the construction project of replacing the original front stone foundation wall with a new poured concrete foundation wall and stone cap.

The new wall will have a waterproof membrane and the front yard will be regraded and all asphalt removed. These construction costs amounted to \$14,500.00. To date this process has uncovered two unexpected finds:(1) the wooden sill over the stone foundation was completely rotted due to constant moisture from poor grading and (2) the original stone slab just inside the barn was under the building and

has been saved. Total replacement of the rotted sill added another \$5000.00 for a total of \$19,500.00. In March 2004, the Board of Directors applied to the Quinebaug-Shetucket Heritage Corridor Historic Preservation Grant Program for funds to assist with financing these projects. When our grant application was denied, Mr. David Butler, our grant writer, and myself requested a meeting with Ms. Charlene Perkins Cutler, Executive Director and CEO of the Quinebaug-Shetucket Heritage Corridor, Inc. During that meeting, it was suggested that the Black Tavern Historical Society consider hiring a professional consultant to formulate a long-term plan for the Tavern, the Barn and the Society. Evidence of this professional assistance on future grant applications should provide greater credibility to our organization and its commitment to historic preservation.

Investment in professional consultants and the establishment of a long-term strategic plan for the Black Tavern Historical Society will open many new avenues for the Society to consider. It will also result in more substantial demands on the Society from those who would grant us funds. So it is this topic, "Where Do We Go From Here" that will be the primary focus of our annual membership meeting on Saturday, April 23, 2005 at 10:00 AM. I encourage all members to attend and provide input on this very important discussion.

With best wishes for a safe and happy 2005,

Marilyn Whitney, Chairperson
BTHS



Barn construction site showing removed foundation wall and exposed rotted sill. (Photo by Bob Ducharme)

Barn Restoration List of Donors

The Black Tavern Historical Society is deeply grateful to the following friends and businesses who have contributed, through December 31, 2004, \$ 100.00 or more (including "in kind") toward the Barn Restoration project.

Anonymous (2)
Elliot & Luree Barber
Edward & Linda Bazinet
Thompson W. & Cynthia M. Boyd
Bussiere Demolition Co. Inc.
Robert W. Byran
Jayne G. Cacciapouti
Robert & Christine Ducharme
Forget-Me-Nots
Kenneth H. Gillon & Karen B. Griffiths
John & Joy Glynn
Clarinda Lewis-Jones
Mary H. Lonergan
Janet Malser
Anthony & Regina Micholajczak
Morrisey-Frank Family
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Park N' Shop
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Russ & Robbin's Catering Service
Mrs. Raymond W. Sheldon
Cornelius & Virginia Slack
Mary S. Stewart
A. James & Marilyn B. Whitney
Wieloch Family
Jean Williams
Mr. & Mrs. Charles Zajac

Every effort has been made to ensure that the above list as well as the list of Black Tavern donors on page 2 is accurate and complete. If there is, however, an error or omission, we apologize and ask that you notify The Black Tavern Historical Society at P.O. Box 1804-Dudley Hill, Dudley, MA 01571



Special Visitors

On a late fall day in October of 2004, the Black Tavern was treated to a visit by Charles Goodell of Seattle, grandson of the late Rev. Charles Goodell BLACK TAVERN TALES author. He was accompanied by his son, Ted Goodell, and his wife Eileen, and their two children, Grace and Benjamin, from Lynn, MA. Three generations of the Goodell family toured the Tavern with Curator Tom Boyd and Peg Pedersen. The Goodells had already spent some time with Marion and Charlie Moseley on Healey Road; Marion, who is a direct descendant of Becca Healey Williams, daughter of the Tavern builder, Hezekiah Healey, is a 3rd cousin of Charles Goodell, who is a direct descendant of Clarinda Healey Goodell, also a daughter of the Tavern builder. Though their birth years range from 1904 to 1937, Charles Goodell of Seattle, Marion Williams Moseley of Dudley, and Sarah Williams Banks of Ohio, are all great grandchildren of the Tavern builder Hezekiah Healey, and are 3rd cousins.

Peg Pedersen



From right, Charles Goodell, his son Ted Goodell, Ted's wife Eileen Goodell and their children Grace and Benjamin.

Summer 2004 Concerts

As part of the Black Tavern Historical Society's continued celebration of the 200th anniversary of the building of the Black Tavern, 3 concerts were held, supported in part by the Dudley and

Massachusetts Cultural Councils. Cooperating weather made it possible to have 2 of the 3 concerts on the rear lawn of the Tavern as planned. In June, for the 3rd year and with the Tavern's lower lawn a playground for the many children who came, the Heritage String Band, in costume performed patriotic music of the 1800's. The Heffernan/Sabatini Jazz Quartet made a return visit in July, playing well into the dark. For the 2nd year, Russ & Robbin's Catering Service provided food and drinks for those wishing to have a picnic supper at the Tavern while enjoying the music, with the proceeds benefiting the Barn restoration. The luck with the weather ran out with the 3rd concert. The kindness of the 1st Congregational Church of Dudley, across the street, made it possible for the August concert to be held there. Aubin & Cole, a duo performing memorable music of the past, returned for the 5th year. Plans for the 2005 Summer Concerts are currently in the works; it will be the 13th consecutive year that these concerts have been offered free and open to the public.

Peg Pedersen

Black Tavern Cookbook

The whole idea of creating a Black Tavern cookbook was to commemorate the Tavern's 200th anniversary by collecting old family recipes, and family traditions, stories and memories having to do with those "receipts" (an old way to refer to recipes). Jean Williams, Faith Armstrong and I met monthly for the past year sorting through the submissions, working on the layout, completing the illustrations, and proofreading. We attempted to make it more than a cookbook by giving a bit of Dudley history, lore and wit. Most of the recipes are tried and true but some should not be attempted, such as a few of

those in the last chapter entitled "Remedies, etc." (hence the skull and crossbones illustration). Lynn Cook, a local artist, contributed the cover sketch of the Tavern's hearth. Faith Armstrong and I did the inside illustrations. Faith used pen and ink and I used pencil, striving to keep it simple. Each book was hand bound by Jean Williams. We printed only 100 copies, available now at \$10.00 each and \$12.00 after January 1, 2005. Shipping and handling is \$1.50. The dedication on the last page is from a Tavern cookbook created about 100 years ago

Sandy Peterson

Reading from the Black Tavern Tales

On October 21st, the meeting room of the Black tavern was filled with new and old friends of the Black Tavern Historical Society. They had come to hear selections from the Black Tavern Tales written by Dr. Charles Goodell, grandson of Hezekiah Healey builder of the Black Tavern, read aloud.

Edward Bazinet, a Dudley native and currently adjunct professor at Nichols College who has produced, directed, and performed in many theatrical productions, started off the evening program by introducing The Black Tavern Tales, its author, and The Town of Dudley as it was in the 19th century and earlier. He read excerpts from several chapters and then turned to Robert Ducharme, a Webster native and Civil War reenactor, who has been instrumental in discovering and preserving area Civil War memorabilia. He read "Zack's Rebel Flag" and "Are We All Corporals?" chapters that pertained to the Civil War. But what captured everyone's imagination and admiration was the research Mr. Ducharme had done. He produced a 3 page document describing whom he thought the

Sept. 15, 2005

- **Annual Membership Meeting- Harvest Basket** (bring a goodie for the basket). Present Fall Program.

Oct. 20, 2005

- **The Blackstone Valley Canal System-** presented by Ranger Chuck Arning.

Oct. 2005

- **Walking Weekend- Civil War on Dudley Hill-** Bob Ducharme will lead a tour through Village and Corbin Cemeteries and will tell the stories of the Civil War veterans who are buried there.

Nov. 17, 2005

- **Nipmuck Stories-** presented by Bert "Rainmaker" Heath.

Dec. 2005

- **Christmas Tea-** Date TBA.

For program information, contact Sandy Peterson (508) 949-2468 or Jean Williams (508) 943-3473

Most events begin at 7:00 pm, are Open to the Public & held at The Black Tavern, Dudley Hill, Center Road.

To schedule the Black Tavern for functions/meetings, contact Eric & Sue Clearwater (508) 943 4579).

Please watch the local newspapers & listen to WESO or call (508)-943-8391 for any changes with these events

Black Tavern

List of Donors

Dec. 2003 - Dec. 2004

Peter Bannister
Mr. & Mrs. David Bayer
Robert W. Bryan
Dr. & Mrs. Frederick Busch
Mr. & Mrs. Richard Casavant
William & Mary Cegelis
Mr. & Mrs. James Conrad
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Barn Restoration Update

The Black Tavern Historical Society has finally truly started the repair of the barn. Over the next few weeks Hammersmith Construction Co. will demolish the front wall of the foundation and replace it with a modern concrete wall and footing along with a waterproof membrane exterior. The top of the wall will be capped with fieldstone to give the appearance of a fieldstone foundation above grade. At the same time, the front sill and a part of one of the crossing girths will be replaced. Also the front yard of the barn and the annex will be regraded to cause the roof runoff water to flow away from the barn instead of into the basement. Total cost for this phase of reconstruction is \$14,500.

Dave Proulx



Stabilizing the front wall of the barn foundation (photo by Bob Ducharme)

Items for Sale

Cat's Meow



Limited edition "Cat's Meow" collectibles of the Black Tavern are now available at the cost \$20.00 each plus \$4.00 for S&H. All proceeds to benefit the "Barn Restoration Fund". If you are interested in making a purchase please contact Tom Boyd at (860)-928-1969.

Black Tavern Tales

The Black Tavern Tales, written by Rev. Charles Goodell, was published in 1832. "A limited edition in the first place, 'Tales' has become a sought-after collector's item in recent years." The Black Tavern Historical Society, in conjunction with the 200th anniversary of the Tavern, has reprinted the book in order to raise money for the restoration of the Black Tavern Barn.

Copies of the reprint are available for the cost of \$30.00 plus \$5.00 S&H. Anyone interested in purchasing a copy of this interesting book may do so by contacting Peg Pedersen at (508) 943-8391.

Black Tavern Cookbook

Copies of the Black Tavern Cookbook are now on sale (see description on pg. 3) for the cost of \$12.00 plus \$1.50 S&H. If interested in purchasing a copy please contact Faith Armstrong-508-943-4076, Sandy Peterson-508-949-2468, or Jean Williams-508-943-3473.

Note- The above items may also be purchased by writing to BTHS, Dudley Hill P.O. Box 1804, Dudley, MA 01571



Newsletter

January 2005

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Editor - Bob Ducharme

The Black Tavern

Historical Society of Dudley
Dudley Hill P.O. Box 1804
Dudley, Massachusetts 01571

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| Asst. Treasurer | Jean Williams |
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| Ann Layton | |

Special Celebration

Sarah Williams Banks, great, great granddaughter of Hezekiah Healey Black Tavern builder, celebrated her 100th birthday in the fall of 2004. Now living in Ohio, she grew up in Dudley on the Williams farm which was located where the Webster-Dudley Golf Course is now. Her grandfather was Hezekiah Williams, grandson of Hezekiah Healey Tavern builder, and brother of Abiel Payson Williams, Civil War soldier and grandfather of Marion Williams Moseley and the late Arthur and Elliot Williams. She keeps in touch with her Dudley 3rd cousin, Marion Moseley.

Peg Pedersen

- 2004-2005**
List of Events
- Dec. 16, 2004**
 - *Holiday Cheer- Music, wine, cheese and cheer to ring in the holidays! \$5.00 per person.*
 - Jan. 23, 2005**
 - *200th Anniversary Closing Celebration. Dinner at Oxford's Casual Dining. 5:30 – Cocktails 6:00 – Dinner \$20.00 per person.*
 - Feb. 24, 2005**
 - *"The Iceman Cometh"- by Dennis Picard. Ice harvesting and the Natural Ice Industry in New England. (Snow date March 3.)*
 - Mar. 17, 2005**
 - *The Civil War Letters of Anson P. Goodell and Abiel P. Williams- presented by Bob Ducharme.*
 - Sat. Apr. 23, 2005, 10: AM**
 - *Annual Meeting- Election of Officers.*
 - May, 2005 Date TBA**
 - *Third Graders to the Tavern- Third Grade students from the Dudley Elementary School visit The Black Tavern.*
 - June 16, 2005**
 - *Strawberry Festival- The Black Tavern is open to the public for tours.*
 - June 2005**
 - *Summer Concert- TBA.*
 - July 2005**
 - *Summer Concert- TBA.*
- Continued on next page.....