

Black Tavern Historical Society

Donors

Continued from page 7

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Mr. & Mrs. William Stewart
Mr. & Mrs. Albert Thibaudeau
Mr. & Mrs. Kurt Warms
Jean Williams

*deceased

Every effort has been made to ensure that the above list, as well as the list of The Black Tavern and Barn Restoration donors, 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 Dudley Hill P.O. Box 1804, Dudley, MA

BTHS Trivia

As stated earlier in the newsletter, at the end of the 3rd grade visit, each child receives a complementary Joe Frogger cookie and for discussion in the classroom, there is a question and answer handout, which includes some Black Tavern Trivia. Following is an example of the trivia sheet handed out to the children:

Black Tavern Trivia

1. What is the long-handled, flat shovel in the Hearth Room?
2. What hand held tool has a long, curved blade with a wooden handle and is used to cut grass and grain crops?
3. What wooden object was used to make butter?
4. How did the farmers keep the animals from getting through the fences?
5. What tool was used for making round logs square by chipping away bits of wood ... also used to hollow out logs?
6. What did they use in the 1800s to make thread from wool or flax?
7. What was used for weaving both wool and linen?
8. How did the settlers warm their beds on a cold winter night?
9. What type of cup was used so that a man would not wet his mustache while drinking coffee or tea?
10. What was the hole in the top right corner of a student desk used for?
11. What were the pens called back in the early 1800s and what were they made of?
12. What type of bed did the box spring replace?
13. Who gifted the large table that is located in the meeting room to The Black Tavern?
14. What are the 4 numbers above the entrance to The Black Tavern and what do they represent?
15. Do you know the legend of Joe Froggers?

Black Tavern Trivia Answers:

1. Peel
2. Scythe
3. Butter churn
4. Placed pokes around the neck of the animal
5. Adze
6. Spinning wheel
7. Loom
8. Filled a warming pan with hot coals and moved it quickly around between the covers so the sheets would not get scorched.
9. Mustache cup
10. Ink well
11. Quill; made of goose feather
12. Rope bed
13. Mrs. Calvin Coolidge (wife of our 29th U.S. President)

14. 1804; the year The Black Tavern was built

15. The Legend of Joe Froggers:
An old man named Uncle Joe, who lived on the edge of a frog pond in Marblehead, Massachusetts, made the best molasses cookies in town. They were called Joe Froggers because they were as large as a lily pad and as dark as the frogs in the pond. Fishermen found these cookies would keep on long sea voyages, and so they began trading rum for Uncle Joe's cookies. Every spring, when the 3rd graders of Dudley visit The Black Tavern, they each receive a Joe Frogger cookie. These cookies are homemade by Jean Williams.

Joe Froggers

Yield: 8 dozen

This recipe and the legend* behind it are a part of the history of Marblehead, Massachusetts. Be sure to use the specified ingredients -- no substitutions. Avoid too much rolling out.

- 3/4 cup hot water
- 1/4 cup plus 1 tablespoon dark rum
- 1 cup (2 sticks) butter
- 2 cups sugar
- 2 teaspoons baking soda
- 2 cups unsulphured dark molasses
- 6 to 7 cups flour
- 1 tablespoon salt
- 1-1/2 teaspoons ginger
- 1 teaspoon cloves
- 1 teaspoon allspice
- 1/2 teaspoon freshly grated nutmeg

Combine hot water and rum in small bowl. In large bowl, cream together butter and sugar. In a third bowl, combine soda and molasses. In a fourth bowl, combine 6 cups flour with salt and spices. Blend water and rum into creamed mixture in large bowl. Add molasses and dry ingredients alternately; blend. (If dough is too stiff, add a little water; if not stiff enough, add more flour.) Divide dough into three balls, cover with plastic wrap, and chill thoroughly. Preheat oven to 375 degrees F. Sprinkle board with remaining flour. Roll out dough and cut with 2-inch cookie cutter or rim of glass. Bake on greased cookie sheet 10 minutes.

Contributed by Joy Glynn

nickname, "Swamp Yankee", by making do with the means and materials at hand, meager as they were.
He will be greatly missed.....his spirit will dwell forever in the rooms of The Tavern

Submitted by John Vanderaa

The Barbers

Long time members, Elliott and Luree Barber, of The Black Tavern Historical Society, have moved to a retirement community in California. They would love to hear and/or see their "old" friends at 2100 Fowler Ave., Clovis, CA 93611, Apt. # 215. Both Barbers served on the Board of Directors for many years. Some of you will remember Elliott gracing the cover of The Worcester Telegram & Gazette Sunday supplement many years ago. He was one of the "3 Old Men" involved in the early restoration work being done at The Tavern; the other two were Charlie Moseley and Bob Worrnick, both of whom are no longer with us. Luree was our treasurer for a number of years, moving us into the computer age.

Memorial Gifts to The Black Tavern Historical Society

**In Memory of Arthur L. Glynn
of Natick, MA**
Bruce J. & Judith C. Ziemski

**In Memory of Charles L. Moseley
of Dudley**
Mr. & Mrs. George K. Bair
Sally W. Banks
Mrs. Frederick W. Chase
Mr. & Mrs. Louis Coccia
Mr. & Mrs. Richard Ellis
Friends of John & Françoise Moseley
Charles L. Goodell

Barbara Gurney
Mr. & Mrs. Donald Hibbard Mrs. Arthur Jones
Kentucky State University (Mathematics & Science Dept.)
Clarinda Lewis-Jones
Mr. & Mrs. Clark I. Moseley
Mr. & Mrs. Clark Moseley
Mr. & Mrs. William Moseley
James S. & Lucille M. O'Sullivan
Margaret B. Pedersen
Lillian E. Plasse
Frank J. Preston
Lieut. Col. Ret., Carlton Wells
Mr. & Mrs. Paul Zumphe

In Memory of Barbara M.F. Smith of Dudley

Francis M. Hoey
Mrs. Charles L. Moseley
Mr. & Mrs. William Moseley
Mr. & Mrs. Bruce W. Tebo

The Black Tavern Historical Society is most grateful to the families of Arthur Glynn, Charles L. Moseley, and Barbara M.F. Smith for thinking of the Society as a way to remember them.

Unexpected Gifts

Dudley Elementary Students

June 1st, the students of the Dudley Elementary School presented an enormous facsimile of a check (it ultimately reached \$1,560.57) to the Black Tavern Historical Society. With the 3rd grade and their six teachers providing the original impetus, this project called PENNIES PRESERVING OUR PAST, soon included all students, teachers, staff of the Dudley Elementary School, and undoubtedly students' parents, and grandparents. This gift made possible the purchase of locally milled (band-saw cut) pine plank floorboards that will be the first floor of The Barn. As this article is being written, work is being done on its interior with the expectation that, when the 3rd grade makes its annual visit to The Black Tavern 2006, the students will be able to say, with pride as they walk on the new Barn floor, they helped make it possible.

Aubuchon Hardware

Earlier in 2005, The Black Tavern Historical Society was honored to have been selected by AUBUCHON HARDWARE to be the beneficiary of its Community Appreciation Day. As Chairman of The Black Tavern Historical Society and on behalf of The Society, Marilyn Whitney, Chairman, accepted a \$200.00 check from Martin Peterson, Manager of the Webster, MA Aubuchon Hardware store. Thank you Dudley Elementary School and Aubuchon Hardware for your support.

Barn Restoration Donor List

The Black Tavern Historical Society is very grateful to the following individuals who have contributed, during the year 2005, \$100.00 or more (including "in kind") toward the Barn Restoration project.

Anonymous (1)
Sally W. Banks
Joseph and Janina Antos
Eric Antos
Aubuchon Hardware
Robert W. Bryan
Robert Ducharme
Dudley-Charlton Regional School District
Jason Hall
Joanne Keohane
Janet Malser
David Proulx
Mark David Smith
Mark D. Smith
A. James & Marilyn Whitney
Paul Wieloch.

Black Tavern Historical Society

2005 Donors

Anonymous (1)
Mr. & Mrs. John Bacon
Mrs. Sally Banks
Mr. & Mrs. David Bayer
Mr. & Mrs. Edward Bazinet
Mrs. Linda Brink

Cont. on next page.....

October 20, 2005
The Blackstone Valley
Canal System

Ranger Ray Boswell of the Blackstone River Valley Heritage Corridor was our speaker for the October meeting.

His topic was the Blackstone Canal which included a slide show.

He told us the canal operated between 1828 and 1848, but only ten of those years were at full capacity.

The canal boats were 72 feet long and 9-1/2 feet wide and the locks were 82 feet long.

They carried everything from apples to furniture. The furniture from Gardner was shipped by canal boat from Worcester to Providence RI and then shipped around the world. The canal was also responsible for the railroads coming to Worcester from Boston. The railroad also turned out to be the canal's demise.

Joe Antos

November 17, 2005
Nipmuck Stories

Unfortunately the program that had been scheduled for November 17th entitled Nipmuck Stories had to be cancelled because we were unable to make contact with the presenter. But, as luck would have it, the program committee had scheduled a program in conjunction with the Quinebaug-Shetucket Heritage Corridor's "Walking Weekend" in October. The walk entitled "The Civil War on Dudley Hill" would be one in which Bob Ducharme would lead a tour through Village and Corbin Cemeteries. While doing this he would identify the burial places of each Civil War veteran buried there as he told stories of several of these men. Unfortunately due to very heavy rains and flooding in town that weekend which resulted in a state of emergency being declared that event was cancelled as well so at the last minute Bob was asked if he would be willing fill in at the November meeting by presenting the information he had gathered for his

cancelled walk. Although we were unable to actually walk the cemeteries, Bob took photographs of each grave and projected them on a screen as he told stories of several of the men. Following is a list of the burials that he had compiled for the walk and presentation:

Bob Ducharme

"Gone but not Forgotten"
Civil War Soldier Burials in Village and Corbin Cemeteries

Village Cemetery

Dudley Cemetery Records show 16 Civil War veterans as being buried in Village Cemetery. I have located the graves of all 16 men.

Corbin Cemetery

Dudley Cemetery Records show 19 Civil War veterans as being buried in Corbin Cemetery. I have located 16 of them and possibly found another not listed (Wm. H. Hitchcock). (Perhaps he is not buried here and his name is on the Keech family stone as a memorial). I have been unable to locate two other burials that are listed in the Dudley Records as having no stone. The Dudley Records also state that Erastus Durkee is buried there but my research has found that no man by that name served in the Civil War. Could this man possibly be Charles F. Durkey who did serve from Dudley? I have not been able to find that burial as well.

Soldiers Buried in Village Cemetery

*Henry D. Healy	1 st MA. Heavy Art.
Andrew H. Paulk	1 st CT. Heavy Art.
*Lt. B.F. Leland	10 th MA. Inf.
*D.L. Marsh	1 st MA. Heavy Art.
D.D. Marsh	U.S. Navy
Abiel P. Williams	25 th MA. Inf.
*George C. Williams	1 st MA. Heavy Art.
*George E. Elwell	1 st MA. Heavy Art.
Daniel Foskett	51 st MA. Inf.
Henry H. Ball	51 st MA. Inf.
George B. Carpenter	1 st MA. Heavy Art.
*Merrick Chaffee	14 th MA. Inf.
John E. Davis	1 st MA. Heavy Art.
William H. Amidon	15 th MA. Inf.
Charles H. Lamb	15 th MA. Inf.
*Lucian B. Corbin	4 th MA. Cav.

* Denotes that the soldier died in service

Soldiers buried in Corbin Cemetery

Albert L. Brown	25 th MA. Inf.
George E. Vinton	57 th MA. Inf.
Albert Gould	1 st MA. Heavy Art.
John H. Jordan	34 th MA. Inf.
+Marcus Gould	21 st MA. Inf.
	36 th MA. Inf.
	56 th MA. Inf.
William G. Willis	51 st MA. Inf.
Joseph Spencer	51 st MA. Inf.
Hiram Raymond	15 th MA. Inf.
+Erastus Durkee	No record found
George Keech	1 st RI. Inf.
	3 rd RI. Heavy Art.
*Wm. H. Hitchcock	3 rd CT. Inf.
	11 th CT. Inf.
Anthony Deon	25 th MA. Inf.
J. B. Griggs	1 st MA. Heavy Art.
George O. Nye	8 th MA. Inf.
*Frank Corbin	15 th MA. Inf.
C.H. Johnson	15 th MA. Inf.
Francis Walker	2 nd MA. Heavy Art.
Lucius Penniman	51 st MA. Inf.
Winsor Corbin	51 st MA. Inf.
+Burlingame	Unable to find this man

*Denotes soldier died in service
 + Unable to locate these three men

A Great Loss

One of the original founders of the Black Tavern Historical Society, Charley Moseley, passed away on September 16, 2006.

Charley's memory was a great repository of local lore and history, a knowledge he loved to share with anyone who showed a genuine interest therein. Most fortuitously, and just in time, his recollection and that of his wife Marion, was recorded and saved for posterity by Tom Boyd, (the current archivist of The Black Tavern) in the form of a Congregational Church sponsored hardcover book titled "Looking Back". For anyone interested in the humble beginnings of Dudley, the book presents a fascinating overview of how the town came about.

It was Charley who, under the supervision of Cappy Bateman, did most of the electrical rewiring of the Tavern, and together with Art Williams and others, did the lion share of the reconstruction carpentry. He truly earned his

Cont. on next page.....

was cancelled due to a snowstorm. The program was rescheduled to take place in January of 2006.

March 17, 2005

Civil War Letters of Anson P. Goodell and Abiel P. Williams

On a clear cool night last March 17th Bob Ducharme entertained a standing room only crowd by sharing with us the Civil War letters by and about Anson P. Goodell, Edwin D. Goodell, Abiel P. Williams and George C. Williams. Bob had spent over 100 hours transcribing and researching the content of letters written by the Goodell boys who lived at the Black Tavern as well as their cousins, the Williams boys, who lived down the street at Kekamoochaug farm. In his presentation He read from several of the letters and explained the events and people and places that each writer was telling about in his missive home. As Bob moved on reading excerpts from the letters in chronological order one could see the contrasting writing styles of each letter writer as well as how their attitudes toward the war had changed as their experiences during the war went on. The letters showed not only the incredible hardships that each soldier had to endure, but also the pain and suffering of the families back home in Dudley as well. Especially poignant were letters from Abiel Williams' brother and mother telling him of the death of his brother George at Petersburg, VA and a letter to his father explaining how they might have George's body sent back home to Dudley. Also on display that evening was the entire set of Anson's original letters, photos of each soldier, along with Anson's boot pistol and Abiel's GAR (Grand Army of the Republic) hat. Bob has compiled all his research material along with transcriptions of each letter into two booklets entitled "IN THE HANDS OF PROVIDENCE" the Civil War Letters of Anson P. Goodell, and "MAY GODSPEED" the Civil War Letters of Abiel P.

Williams and George C. Williams. Bob has placed copies of each at the Black Tavern. At the end of the evening one could not help but to appreciate the great sacrifice that the "boys from Dudley" and their families had made in helping to preserve the Union.

Bob Ducharme

**April 21, 2005
Annual Meeting
Election of Officers.**

June 3, 2005

Third Graders Visit the Tavern

In the 2004/2005 school year the Dudley Elementary School made a decision to get involved with a piece of Dudley history. They collected \$1,560.57 in donations to support The Black Tavern Historical Society (BTHS) Barn Renovation Project. The BTHS is very proud of the contribution made by the school and welcome them to The Black Tavern for a visit any time.

On Friday, June 3rd, 2005, the Dudley Elementary 3rd Grade Class came to visit The Black Tavern. Here is a list of the rooms the 3rd Graders visited on the tour: Outside/Barn, Meeting Room, Hearth Room, Museum Room, Bar/Tap Room, Ball Room, Children's Room, Artifacts Room and the Front Porch.

At each location there are volunteer guides to, in a sense, bring them back to life in the 1800's.

At the end of the visit, each child receives a complementary Joe Frogger cookie and for discussion in the classroom, there is a question and answer handout, which includes some Black Tavern Trivia.

Every year volunteers continue to support this educational effort for the Dudley 3rd Grader. It is a truly wonderful way of giving back to our children. If you are interested in helping the BTHS with the 2006 3rd Grade visit, please contact me.

Joy Glynn
Tel # 508 943 9611

June 16, 2005

Grange Strawberry Festival

The Black Tavern was open to the public and tours were conducted through the

"Tavern". A display was set up on the front lawn and items were offered for sale to benefit the "Barn Restoration Project".

Summer Concerts

June 23, July 21, 2005

For the 13th year, The Black Tavern Historical Society sponsored free early evening concerts on the back lawn of the Black Tavern. We were fortunate to have good weather and not have to make use of a "rain date or location". The gardens were lovely and again we were blessed with no mosquitoes! June 23rd the Heritage String Band returned for the fourth year. This very popular group, in costume and with a variety of instruments, played and sang patriotic music of the mid to late 1800's. A month later, July 21st Aubin & Cole returned for the 6th year. This vocal duo sings memorable music of the past - pleasing to all ages! The Black Tavern Society is grateful to the Dudley and Massachusetts Cultural Council for their support.

The first 2006 summer concert will be Thurs. evening June 29th. We are excited to have, for the first time, the QUINTESSENTIAL BRASS, a group (5) of professional musicians who, in spite of strong New England ties (Berklee School of Music and New England Conservatory), individually have performed in Europe and the Orient. Save the date!

Peg Pedersen

September 15, 2005

Annual Membership Meeting

A large gathering was on hand to discuss the programs being presented for the upcoming year, after which Joe Antos entertained us as he read several articles from the late 19th and early 20th century that he had culled from local newspapers. All the articles pertained to "characters" or locations in Dudley, some being quite humorous.

Barn Restoration Update

This past year we:

I. Hired Hammersmith Construction to replace front foundation wall with a concrete wall and a tone cap. At the same time we replaced the front sills and front halves of the interior "drive girts". A drain was installed in front of the barn to mitigate a water problem in the cellar of the barn. Landscaping in front yard of the barn has been started to move surface water away from the front of the building. This work was done at a cost of approximately \$22,500.

II. The 1st, 2nd, and 3rd grade students of the Dudley Elementary School conducted a penny drive in which they raised \$1,500 and donated this sum toward the Barn Restoration project. This money was used to purchase the new flooring and floor joist material for the barn. Presently we are in the process of replacing the floor in hopes of having it completed for the next visit of the 3rd graders in May.

III. This past fall we hired Jason Hall to remove the chimney in the barn and replace the portion of the roof where the chimney was located for approximately \$750.

IV. We needed to replace 2 twenty-seven foot 7x7 oak timbers for the drive bay "bent" restoration. We decided to hew new timbers for this. Joe Antos donated 2 trees and Dave Proulx, Bob Ducharme and Mark Smith spent a couple of weekends in November hewing them into beams. They are currently drying on the lawn of the Grange.

V. For the past several weeks, Dave Proulx and Bob Ducharme have continued to work on removing the old flooring and are replacing timbers and floor joists in preparation for laying down the new floorboards that were purchased with the gift from the Dudley Elementary students.

Dave Proulx

Note- Anyone interested in helping out on the barn restoration can contact Dave Proulx at 508-949-0804.

The Hill Loses Two More Houses

The cause of historic preservation was dealt a blow this year on the Hill. Both the 1805 House and the President's House were demolished by Nichols College.

The 1805 House sat next to the Black Tavern on Center Road. Built in 1805, it was often thought of as the "sister" building to the Tavern. It was the home of Phineas Bemis and his family, one of Dudley's first storekeepers and postmasters, and a contemporary of Hezekiah Healy. It had its original 12/12 windows, wide plank flooring and all but one of its original fireplaces, including a unique double-sided fireplace in the kitchen. The fireplace in the summer kitchen in the cellar was also still in existence.

The Friends Of The 1805 House, made up of local citizens, tried desperately to save the house. Nichols waged a battle against the Town of Dudley in court, twice, trying to raze the structure. An attempt at acquiring the property via eminent domain to save it failed.

Despite a no-cost-to-the-college offer to disassemble the house for later reconstruction, and even despite a letter from the Massachusetts Historical Commission saying the building was eligible for the National Register of Historic Places, Nichols College demolished this 200-year-old building. It had been used for a dorm by the College and needed restoration (as did the Tavern at one time). Deemed a "perfect restoration project" by an expert in antique homes, the classic post-and-beam building was totally destroyed with nothing being salvaged. Local preservationists were outraged. Two slate "tombstone shaped" pieces of slate, which were encasing one of the chimneys, actually survived the demolition. Bearing the names of William Cargill and Charles Cargill (who died in 1799 and 1808, respectively) the mysterious pieces of slate may have been "reject" headstones fashioned by a local carver. They are currently in the possession of Nichols College. Also destroyed by Nichols College in the

spring of 2005, was the beautiful 80-year-old President's House. Although not as old as the 1805 House, it lent itself to the total ambience of the Hill and will be missed by many.

Linda Branniff



The 1805 House



The President's House

A Review of the Past Year's Programs

January 23, 2005

**Gala Closing Celebration of our
200th Anniversary
1804-2004**

Many of our members and friends gathered at "Oxford's Casual Dining" for cocktails and an elegant dinner.

Jim Whitney was master of ceremonies and John Vanderaa entertained us with his music. Great conversation and good food was enjoyed by all.

Jean Williams

February 24, 2005

"The Iceman Cometh"

Dennis Picard was to present a program on Ice Harvesting and the Natural Ice Industry in New England. Unfortunately the event

copy them and use them in my presentation. They most graciously allowed me to take these precious pieces of not only their family history but that of our nation's. I then spent about 40 hours of the next week transcribing and researching the content of these letters as well as making copies of the photos. After an additional 40 hours of typing Abiel's letters and retyping Anson's letters along with the research done on each, I placed the information along with all the photos in two binders and gave copies to the Williams family. I have also given a CD containing all the transcribed letters to a local schoolteacher so that she may share them with her students while they study the American Civil War. My research on these American heroes is ongoing, and I have continued to find more information on their post war activities. At the conclusion of my research I plan to place copies of my findings at the Black Tavern so that future generations may be aware of the sacrifices that these local heroes made in helping to preserve the "Union". My plans for the future are to put together an exhibit that may be displayed at "The Tavern" and to publish a series using these letters in the local newspaper so that folks in the area will be aware of the sacrifices made by these local patriots who answered the call to preserve the Union. Anson P. Goodell and his brother Edwin D. Goodell along with their cousins Abiel P. Williams and his brother George C. Williams were but a few of the Dudley boys who went off to fight in the Civil War. Edwin would lose his leg at Cold Harbor and George would make the supreme sacrifice when he was killed at Petersburg, but thankfully today in their letters we are still able to share their thoughts, hopes, dreams, and beliefs. Reading and working with these letters was truly a privilege and I will be forever grateful to the Black Tavern Historical Society and the Moseley

family for allowing me to do so.
Note- After making my presentation at The Black Tavern last March, I was invited to give the presentation in May at Old Sturbridge Village as part of their Community History Series. That evening as I was preparing my material for the presentation, Ms. Ruth Dunnam of Bondsville, MA approached me and stated that she had seen a advertising flyer issued by Sturbridge Village concerning my presentation on Civil War letters which included those of Edwin Goodell who had lost a leg at Cold Harbor. She stated to me that she had an aunt who was the child of a man named Edwin Goodell who had an artificial leg. She felt that this could not be a coincidence so she decided to attend my lecture. After some discussion we concluded that this was indeed the same man, and she proceeded to give me a photo of her aunt (Edwin's daughter) holding his grand daughter on her lap. In addition, Ms. Dunnam told me that both Goodell boys were buried in Brookfield Cemetery. I have since located and photographed the graves of both Anson and Edwin along with those of their wives and children. Since neither soldier's grave had flags on them I have placed flags on each and plan to place GAR markers on them as well. I have since contacted the authorities in Brookfield to see that they would arrange to have flags placed there in the future. At that time I also contacted the Brookfield Historical Commission seeking additional information and have since received a reply, which included additional information on the lives of the Goodell boys after the war. As you can see, this research has taken on a life of it's own and continues to be ongoing. Anyone having additional information on either Anson P. Goodell, Edwin D. Goodell, Abiel P. Williams, or George C. Williams and would be willing to share it with me, I would be most appreciative.

Robert R. Ducharme

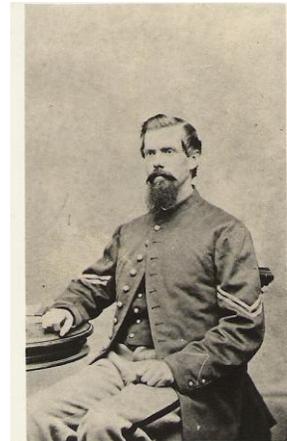
Photos of Goodell & Williams boys



Anson P. Goodell



Edwin D. Goodell



Abiel P. Williams



George C. Williams

Sept. 21, 2006

- **Annual Membership Meeting-Harvest Basket** (bring a goodie for the basket). (Update by Bob Ducharme on his research of Anson P. and Edwin D. Goodell. Both of whom lived at the "Tavern")

Oct. 19, 2006

- **"Images of Webster"**- John Mrazik, one of the authors of "Images of America, WEBSTER" will speak on the process of writing his book and detail some of the images therein.

Nov. 16, 2006

- **"The Last Green Valley"**- Places to go and see, along with a description of the Quinebaug-Shetucket Heritage Corridor.

Dec. 3, 2006

- **A 19th Century Children's Christmas.**

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

From the President

Continued from Page 1

order was depleted. Copies of the book are available for \$30.00.

A "Fireside Dinner" was held at the Tavern on April 9th and featured an evening of 19th century dining and music. Tickets were \$50.00 each and the Tap Room once again assumed its original use. The event raised over \$900.00 for the Barn Restoration. Thanks to the Grange for the use of round tables and to the First Congregational Church for use of dishes and flatware. Also, thanks to Eric for his much-appreciated assistance.

Significant chimney repair work was accomplished on three chimneys

of the Black Tavern including replacement and repointing of broken brick and replacement of cement caps. The old chimney in the Barn was demolished and the roof repaired.

Rental fees for the Tavern were raised to \$90.00 per event. This amount is seasonally modified for non-profit organizations.

The BTHS jointly purchased a snow blower with the Grange and the First Congregational Church. We have heard that Eric is very happy to have his shoveling reduced considerably.

Two exceptional community fund raising events for Barn Restoration took place in 2005.

The children of the Dudley Elementary School conducted a penny drive over the course of several months during the school year. The children gifted the Black Tavern Historical Society with a check in the amount of \$1,560.57 that was used to purchase the new floorboards for the barn. The BTHS Board and members of the society extend their heartfelt thanks to the children of Dudley for their very special effort and wonderful gift.

Aubuchon Hardware donated 10% of their total sales on February 12, 2005 to the Black Tavern Barn Restoration Fund as part of their Community Appreciation Day program. Their donation was a check in the amount of \$200.00. The BTHS is very grateful to Aubuchon Hardware for choosing our organization as their program recipient.

Our 2006 meetings have begun and work is underway in many directions. The BTHS Annual Meeting will take place on April 22nd at which time new officers will be elected. The Board of Directors sincerely hopes all of you can attend and provide us with your insights and input. It has been my pleasure to act as your chairperson for the past four years and I wish to extend my thanks to all my fellow board

members for their tireless and knowledgeable assistance. A special thanks to Vice-Chair Peg Pedersen for her personal assistance to me during this time.....I couldn't have done it without her.

Sincerely,

Marilyn Whitney DVM

Letters Donated to Tavern

On January 20th 2004, the family of Harold and Claudine Goodell, of Murietta, CA, donated 50 original letters, written by Civil War soldier Anson P. Goodell of the 25th Massachusetts Volunteer Infantry Regiment between 1861 and 1877, along with transcribed copies of these letters to The Black Tavern Historical Society. Last February, in preparation for a presentation on these letters that I would be making at the Black Tavern on March 17, 2005, I began to read and research the letters. After some 40 hours of reading, (some requiring the use of a magnifying glass) correcting errors in the transcription, and researching the subjects in the letters, I decided to call Mrs. Marion Moseley who along with Anson Goodell is a descendant of the Tavern builder Hezekiah Healy, to ask if she would be willing to discuss some of the subjects of the letters with me. Mrs. Moseley not only graciously accepted to do so, but invited me to her home where I spent some two hours with Marion her husband Charles and their son Will discussing Anson's letters. During that time she showed me several Civil War letters written by Abiel P. Williams, Mrs. Moseley's grandfather, who was also in the 25th Mass. Regiment. She also showed me several artifacts that Abiel took home from the war along with photos of Abiel, and George C. Williams, Abiel's brother, and their cousin Anson P. Goodell and his family. I was so excited at this find that I asked the Williams family if they would allow me to borrow the letters and photos so that I might



Newsletter

January 2006

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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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Vice Chair Joe Antos
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From the President

Greetings and Happy 2006! The BTHS Board of Directors met several times during the 2005 calendar year to manage and institute projects for the Black Tavern and for the Barn Restoration. Below are some examples of work done by the Board.

Artist Tom Menard was commissioned to paint "Old Dudley Hill", which now hangs in the Black Tavern meeting room. The painting depicts the Black Tavern, the Grange and the First Congregational Church in a primitive 19th century setting. Reprints are available for purchase at \$40.00 each. Additional copies of the Black Tavern Tales were purchased as our original

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- 2006**
List of Events
- Dec. 11, 2005**
- *Family Christmas Open House*- Music, children's activities, fireside stories and refreshments to ring in the holidays.
- Jan. 19, 2006**
- *"The Iceman Cometh"*- by Dennis Picard. Ice harvesting and the Natural Ice Industry in New England. (Snow date January 26.)
- Feb. 16, 2006**
- *"The Titanic Railroad"*- by Larry Lowenthal. The author of Titanic Railroad: the Southern New England, the story of New England's last Great Railroad War. (Snow date Feb23.)
- Mar. 16, 2006**
- *"Clara Barton, the Angel of the battlefield"*- presented Cathy Woods, curator of the Clara Barton Birthplace museum. (Snow date Apr. 23)
- Sat. Apr. 20, 2006, 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 15, 2006**
- *Strawberry Festival*- The Black Tavern is open to the public for tours.
- June 29, 2006, 6:00 P.M.**
- *Summer Concert*- Quintessential Brass.
- July, 2006**
- *Summer Concert*- TBA.
- Continued on next page.....