

Built In 1804

**Black Tavern
Historical Society of
Dudley, Inc.
P.O. Box 143
138-142 Center Road
Dudley, MA 01571**

**NEWSLETTER
February 2017**

**Tel: 508-943-8782
Web: theblacktavern.com**

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Officers

Chairman: Linda Bazinet
Vice-Chair: Robert Ducharme
Treasurer: Will Moseley
Clerk: Linda Branniff

Members of the Board

Tom Boyd
Michael Branniff
Ken Butkiewicz
Carolyn Earp
Joy Glynn
Marc Moseley
Peg Pedersen
Sandy Peterson
David Proulx
Nancy Roy
Scott Roy
Sarah White

The Black Tavern regretted accepting the resignation of Board member George Martin this year. Always ready to help, whatever the project, George will be missed by the Board. We thank him for his years on the Board of Directors.

James Conrad, Ph.D., a founding member of the Tavern, passed away in 2016. He was a driving force in getting the Tavern on the Federal Register of Historic Places.

Joining the Board this year was our webmaster, Scott Roy. Welcome to the Board!

EVENTS FOR 2017

**(All Held At 7 PM At The Tavern
With
Light Refreshments to Follow)**

March 16: Peddling Your Wares by Tom Kelleher of Old Sturbridge Village, Curator of Mechanical Arts.

April 20: "Major Taylor, The Worcester Whirlwind" presented by Lynne Tolman

May 6 Annual Yard Sale, 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. At the Tavern.

May 18: "The 1893 World's Fair" presented by Pat Perry of Sneak Peak Productions

June 9: Third Grade Visit

June 15: Grange Strawberry Festival & Tavern Tours. 4 p.m.

July: Nothing scheduled.

August 12: Summer concert with the Gray Whisker Pickers. Bring chairs and a snack. 5 to 7 p.m.

Sept 21: Eleanor Roosevelt, "The First Lady of the World"

Oct 7: Black Tavern Craft Fair, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Rain or shine.

Oct 19: Panic in Connecticut, Accused Witches Have Their Say

Nov 16: Revolution of 1774 - Quest For Liberty -

**MESSAGE FROM THE
CHAIR**

Recently I was reading some notes from the early days of the Black Tavern Historical Society. Founders, with vision and dedication to preserve the Tavern for future generations, undertook the task of rehabbing it. The many obstacles they encountered and overcame made for very interesting reading. Many things have changed in the 30 years since they began what to many would have been an overwhelming project. But the Tavern still stands on the Hill for all to see and appreciate.

As I read the names of the early members, I was struck by the fact most of them are no longer with us. One of these, Dr. James Conrad, passed away in August. I wonder what they would think of the Tavern as it stands today. Would they approve of our taking down the wallpaper they chose and painting the walls? Painting the Annex / Shoe Shop yellow? I guess what I am trying to say is over the years changes have been made and in the future other changes will be made, that's just the way life is. But hopefully the Black Tavern will stand, as it has for over 200 years, and as future generations step in to maintain the Tavern, I trust they will understand and appreciate all those who worked so hard before them.

We all know in order to keep the Tavern viable we need to fundraise. We have been rather successful in this endeavor. We held a successful Yard Sale in May. The barn was overflowing with treasures and shoppers got to take advantage of many bargains. In June we had

the Upscale Barn Sale in conjunction with the Grange Strawberry Festival. Again, a shopper's delight.

We were fortunate to be part of the Publick House's fundraising dinners this year. People got to partake of a wonderful meal, and we reaped the profits. In October we held the 4th Annual Craft Fair. For those of you who got last year's Newsletter, you may remember I talked about the rain and mud we had to endure. Well this year we didn't have any mud, as the Center Road was finished, but we had rain and cold. The Grange was running its Apple Festival and the Congregational Church had an afternoon wedding! So the top of the Hill was very busy! This event has grown and we even had crafters on the Town Common. Once again our "Thanks" to Deborah Bazinet, for her donation of a painted window for our raffle.

Memberships are our main source of income. Nancy Roy again did a wonderful job as our Membership Chairperson and brought in our largest membership to date. So please don't disappoint her. Renew your membership and get your friends and relatives to join too.

On the social side, we once again participated in the Last Green Valley's Walktober in October. It was a chance for people to tour the Tavern and learn of its history. We haven't hosted the Third Graders yet this year. Due to conflicting school schedules we will see them in the spring. We also hosted the Dudley Board of Selectmen, for their annual meeting on Dudley Hill. Our monthly programs for the public have been held with great attendance. More about them will be found further on in this newsletter.

Since I am talking about programs, we were pleased to receive a grant from The Janet Malser Humanities Trust that allowed us to purchase audio/ visual equipment. Now you can see and

hear our speakers from the back row of the barn! Many Thanks to the Malser Trust for their continued support.

In our continuing effort to keep the Tavern looking like the gem that it is, we had the back of the Tavern painted. But if it wasn't for the work, care and love that our caretakers, Bob & Chris Ducharme, give to the Tavern, no amount of paint would matter. They both go above and beyond in their duties to keep the grounds in spectacular array whether it is with beautiful flowers and hanging pots or whisking away the snowflakes as they fall. Chris always makes sure any rental gets the white glove treatment. They are truly the magnificent face of the Tavern and we thank them for all their work.

I mentioned change at the start of this. We had a couple of changes to the Board of Directors. George Martin resigned from the board so that he could concentrate on his many other commitments. Scott Roy, our webmaster, stepped up and joined the board. Many thanks to George for all his contributions to the Tavern.

I have covered just some of what has gone on over the past year at the Tavern. We continue our stated mission to the community of offering interesting programs and preserving the Tavern and its history and importance to the town of Dudley for generations to come.

Linda Bazinet
Chair

<p>Black Tavern Annual Yard Sale May 6, 2017 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. Rain or Shine</p> <p>Leave Donations At The Barn Or If You Have A Donation To Be Picked Up Call Call 508-943-8782 Or 508-943-5509</p> <p>(No Electronics or Clothing, Please)</p>
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2016 Tavern Programs

The Black Tavern Historical Society is most grateful to the following business sponsors for their generous support of the 2016 Tavern Programs:

Hometown Bank
O'Connor Insurance
Universal Tag
Webco Chemical Corp.
Webster 5 Cents Savings Bank

We also thank the Dudley Cultural Council for continued support of our events.

March: "I Still Live" was the presentation in March. Professional actor Jim Cooke was Daniel Webster in this informative and entertaining event that opened our season of public programs.

April: It was standing room only on the evening of April 21, 2016 at the Black Tavern. People were on the front porch peering through the windows and even standing at the side door to get a glimpse of, and hear the story of Deborah Samson, first female soldier in the Continental Army.

Deborah, AKA Judith Kalalora, visited us at the Black Tavern to a full house of guests. We were treated to a wonderful and informative performance of the life of Deborah Samson Gannett.



Judith Kalalora

Through several costume changes, we followed Deborah from an admiring sister who wanted to follow her brother and join the militia, to her time spent

attendance and the Tavern treasury benefitted.

in service, and her unusual discharge.

Following her time in the Army, Deborah married, became a mother, and a speaker who visited many towns and cities to educate residents about life in the service.

Judith held the rapt attention of the audience, and provided us with an evening of both entertainment and historical information. We look forward to another visit from Judith in the future.

Nancy Roy

May: Our program for May was held in the barn. Mr. Jason Newton presented an extremely well-attended program on The Old Connecticut Path. A direct descendent of Reverend Thomas Hooker, he told an illustrated story of the march through the wilderness from Cambridge MA to Hartford CT.



Jason Newton

The determined men and women of the congregation faced many challenges. It was an entertaining evening for all.

Linda & Mike Branniff, Hosts

June: The Tavern sponsored a well-attended Publick House Italian Buffet as a fundraising effort. There was a great



Publick House Dinner

July: On a warm Sunday afternoon in July, families and friends gathered on the Tavern lawn with their picnic baskets and enjoyed a live concert of classical and light popular music by the Fanfare Brass Choir.



This concert was generously funded by the Dudley Cultural Council.

Sandy Peterson, Host

August: The Irish music duo of Doolin' used the Black Tavern as a backdrop for their music this month thanks to a Dudley Cultural Council Grant. They provided lively entertainment for all attending.



Doolin'

September: On September 15, Patricia Perry of Sneak Peek Productions presented Under the Petticoats. Have you ever wondered about the day-to-day lives of our Colonial ancestors? Were the good old days really that good? Exactly how did one use a chamber pot? How many skirts did one woman wear at a time? How often did they bathe?



Pat Perry of Sneak Peek Productions

Well on that evening, with a packed house in our restored barn, Patricia had the audience in stitches as she answered these questions in a most humorous way. Maybe the "good old days really weren't so good after all.

Bob Ducharme, Host

October: Our October program at "the Tavern" was "Things That Go Bump in the Night" presented by Patricia Perry of Sneak Peek Productions. Ms. Perry has a large repertoire of programs that she has presented through the years. The event was hosted by Tom Boyd and Sarah White with funding from the Dudley Arts Council.

The capacity crowd in the Barn was treated to thrilling stories of the paranormal through out New England. The gathering was a little skeptical in the beginning but soon began to see what she was enthusiastically

presenting about local hauntings. We were then all invited to share some goodies baked by our helpers.

It was great to see so many people from all over the tri-state area in attendance for our October program and hope to in the future.

Tom Boyd, Host
Sarah White, Host

October: The Black Tavern hosted a two hour guided tour on Saturday, October 15, in cooperation with The Last Green Valley (TLGV) – Walktober. Visitors were greeted and provided with the history of the three structures that make up include the tavern, the annex/shop, and the barn.

Ownership of the Tavern stayed in the Healy family for almost all of its existence. The Tavern remained as it was built with very little alteration. The descendants of the Healy Family still live in the area and remain active in the Black Tavern Historical Society.

The atmosphere of early America is found today at the Black Tavern which provided travelers back in the 1800s with much needed rest, food and drink, the latest news, and a variety of entertainment.



Joy Glynn

November: Russ Cohen's presentation of "Wild Plants I Have Known ...and Eaten" was

a very enjoyable program. I still have very little respect for the weeds I pull out of my vegetable garden, however, now I know I can eat the things, even its roots. It still does not sound very appetizing, but at least I don't have to haul the weeds to the compost pile any more, I think, or I can serve an exotic fare to my guests ha, ha, ha. A big thank you to Russ! This presentation concluded the 2016 programs, so mark your calendar for March 16, 2017.

Ken Butkiewicz, Host

Want To Join The Black Tavern?

**See Membership Form
At The Back of The Newsletter
or at
theblacktavern.com**

2016 Barn Committee Report

The Barn has been regularly used for our yard sale, craft fair, antiques and collectables auction, as well as a venue for concerts and for monthly programs where the turnout was expected to be too large for the Tavern itself. It has also been a station during Dudley Elementary's 3rd grade visit and the Last Green Valley's Walktober program. It has been a useful and wonderful space for Tavern programs during warm weather.

Dave Proulx
Barn Committee

2016 Membership Report

"Thank you so very much" does not seem sufficient when considering the success of our 2016 membership drive. It was our best year yet! Your generous support not

only helps our organization maintain the Black Tavern, but also helps provide free educational and enjoyable programs for all.

Several of our programs have been so well received, that we filled to capacity our available space.

Please consider renewing your membership in 2017. We thank you in advance for helping the Black Tavern Historical Society continue to take care of the historical Black Tavern and to provide quality programs for the people of Dudley and surrounding communities. We appreciate your support

Membership forms may be found at the end of this newsletter, at the Black Tavern, and online at

theblacktavern.com

Nancy Roy, Chairman
Membership Committee

REMEMBER THE DATE

October 7, 2017

BLACK TAVERN CRAFT FAIR

**10 a.m. – 3 p.m.
Rain or Shine**



*A Civil War Christmas Wedding
Reception Took Place At The
Tavern in December*

2016 Caretaker's Report

It's hard to believe that Chris and I are starting our eight year here as the Tavern caretakers. It has been another uneventful year as far as major Tavern repairs were needed but normal maintenance to this 212 year old building continued on a daily basis.

The year started with a cleaning of leaves from the gutters to prevent ice dams from forming later in the winter. Minor maintenance repairs were needed to the furnaces much like the ones you would find in your own homes. Normal winter chores here at the Tavern required the removal of snow, splitting firewood and preparation of the fireplaces, cleaning the Tavern and setting up for rentals. This past winter was milder than the past couple of years, but our old snow blower still had to do some work. The milder winter did bring us an earlier spring and allowed us to start cleaning the gardens and yard areas in March this year. A couple of overgrown trees were removed from near the entrance to the east ell apartment and the garden beneath them rebuilt.

In April we were asked by the Dudley Women's Club to participate in their August garden tour by hosting the Tavern's gardens on the tour. We agreed to do so and the never ending work of maintaining the gardens began immediately. In case you have never been in the back of the Tavern, we have at present about 10 different gardens on the grounds including a Civil War garden dedicated to the four soldiers who were born and lived here at the Tavern, a

shade garden, a vegetable garden and cut flower garden among others.

These gardens, which I maintain and am quite proud of include over 75 varieties of plants. Next summer if you are in the area feel free to stop by and check them out.



The caretaker's grandson helps in a garden.



Time for the gardeners to rest.

Besides working in the gardens, spring means the annual raking, reseeding, aerating, liming and fertilizing the lawns.

After the past several hard winters it was determined that we should purchase a new snow-blower to replace the old one that needed yearly repairs to keep it going. Stone dust was purchase to repair the back driveway that had worn down and was causing cars to get stuck. On an ongoing basis perennial plants were divided and moved in the gardens in preparation for the August garden tour.



Guests touring the garden during the Garden Tour in August.

The Center Road reconstruction project was nearing completion so work needed to be done to the front lawn to repair areas not done with the road job.

In May the decision was made by the Board of Directors to tackle the one major project that needed to be done this year, that of painting the back (north and east side) of the Tavern. This was done in July by local painting contractor, John Sielawa of Reliable Painters.

The garden tour held in August was a huge success and many folks not familiar with the Tavern had an opportunity to see this priceless "Gem on Dudley Hill".

Finally with the advent of fall, reversal of the spring chores began in preparation for the cold months ahead with the storage of firewood, raking of leaves and the winter storage of outdoor furniture.

Taking care of this old building along with the gardens and yard that surround it is no easy task but definitely is a labor of love. This job would not be possible without the help and support of many people, but I must single out four of those people whose help has been invaluable.

Our Chairperson Linda Bazinet, and her husband Ed are always there, even without asking, always helping to make running the Tavern an easier job. They also run two highly successful fundraisers during the year.

Bill Moseley, our Treasurer, who manages the funds that pay for materials and equipment needed to keep this old building and grounds in shape. Bill is also always around to provide input and guidance when we need to purchase materials and/or services needed by the caretaker for maintenance during the year.

Linda Branniff, who not only puts together this newsletter each year but is always available to write thank you notes or letters and look up any question we might have concerning some repair or purchase made from past years maintenance. She also takes the minutes at the Board of Director's meetings.

Finally my wife, Chris, without whose help I could not do this job. She is the "head cook and bottle washer" of the Tavern without whom this place could not function. She not only bakes for all meetings and activities held here at the Tavern throughout the year but cleans the inside of the building, books rentals, meets with renters, sets up tables and seating for each function and is always on top of things that need to be done around here.

The Black Tavern continues to be the focal point of

Dudley Hill with our numerous historical programs, concerts, rental functions and Tavern tours, and thanks to your membership support we continue to keep the history of this grand old building alive.



Bob Ducharme
Caretaker

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Wedding
Anniversary
Engagement
Birthday
Reunion

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Bob or Chris

TAVERN YARD SALE!

**May 6, 2017
8 a.m. – 2 p.m.**

“Shop ‘Til You Drop”

**Call Bob to Leave
Your Donation in the Barn
or
For Pick-up Call:
Bob 508-943-8782
Linda 508-943-5509**

(No Electronics or Clothing, Please)

“NEW”

**BLACK TAVERN
SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE
REPORT**

The BTHS is pleased to announce the creation of the Black Tavern Historical Society Scholarship.

The scholarship will be awarded to one student of Shepherd Hill Regional High School who resides in either Dudley or Charlton and will be in the amount of \$1,000. The recipient will be selected by a committee composed of BTHS Board of Directors members, with selection criteria to be weighted towards students with an interest in history.

Scholarship applications will be available in the SHRHS guidance department and should be remitted to the BTHS mailing address prior to the first Friday in April of this year.

Marc Moseley
Scholarship Committee

2016 Craft Fair

Something Different At The Tavern April 20, 2017

Lynne Tolman will speak about the life of Marshall "Major" Taylor, a black cyclist and public figure who lived and trained in Worcester, MA during the peak of his cycling career in the late 19th century, at a time when blacks were banned from competing in many forms of cycle racing in the United States. Aside from the worldwide fame he gained by accumulating palmarès in cycling that included a national and world title, Taylor was also remembered for his grace and comportment off the bike, becoming well known for espousing that "life is too short for a man to hold bitterness in his heart."

The Fourth Annual 2016 Black Tavern yard sale was another success, with some familiar crafters returning and new ones as well.

Because of the increased interest this year, there were five crafters under tents across the street from the Tavern on the town common.

There was jewelery, doll clothes and accessories, knitted items, quilted items, wood crafts, alpaca socks and scarves, Woodstock maple syrup products, shawls, soaps, wreaths, and greeting cards. These hand-made items were a big hit with early Christmas shoppers.

Many thanks go to Chris and Bob Ducharme, Linda and Ed Bazinet, Bill Moseley, and to other Tavern members and shoppers for their help and support.

Karen Moseley,
Craft Fair chairman

**Be A Member Of The Black
Tavern.**

Return The Membership Form In
This Newsletter With Your Dues.

CRAFT FAIR AT THE TAVERN

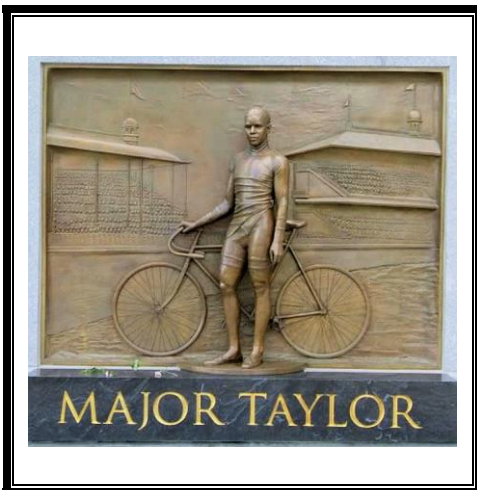
**October 7, 2017
10 'til 3**

Great Variety of Vendors

Food Available

**Do Your Christmas
Shopping Early !**

Rain or Shine



2016 DONATIONS
BLACK TAVERN HISTORICAL
SOCIETY

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Bruce & Emily Babbitt
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The **Black Tavern Historical Society** is most grateful to the individuals and businesses who have supported it financially and/or "in kind."

Every effort has been made to ensure these lists are accurate and complete. If there are, however, any errors or omissions, we apologize and ask that you notify the Society at P.O. Box 143, Dudley, MA 01571. Thank you.

In Memory Of:

-Jeff Means by the Glynn Family
-Theresa Dumouchel by Carolyn Earp
-Theresa Dumouchel by the Dudley Seniors Needlework Group
-Charles Goodell by Martha Goodell
-Andrew Thompson by Patricia Kelly
-Jim Conrad by Anne Eaton
-Sarah William Bank by Barbara Guerny

In Kind Donations

Deb Bazinet
Ed & Linda Bazinet
Linda Branniff
Philip & Kathleen Brown
Dudley Cultural Council
Dudley Conservation Land Trust
Dudley Fire Department
Bob & Chris Ducharme
Anne Eaton
Joy Glynn
Marilyn Labbe
George Martin
Karen Moseley
Margaret Pedersen
Sandy Peterson
Dave Proulx
Nancy Roy
Scott Roy
William & Mary Stewart
Marilyn Barrette Whitney

A special thank you to all the people who volunteered to bake for our monthly programs

Benefactors

Scott & Karen Anderson
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Mary & William Stewart
Jim & Lisa Stochaj
Nancy J. Vajcovec
Kurt & Debbie Warms
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Paul & Visha Wieloch

“A Chair Comes Home”



The chair in its place of honor at the Tavern.

This past fall, Mary & Bill Stewart from Chesterfield MO, generously offered to donate a chair and small table that were original pieces to the Black Tavern.

Mary Sage Stewart is the daughter of Mary Goodell Sage who was a daughter of the Rev. Charles Goodell, the last surviving member of the Goodell family that lived at the Tavern. Mary remembers spending joyful summers at the Black Tavern prior to WW2. Charles gave the chair to his daughter, Mary as a way to remember Dudley. Mary then gave it to her daughter, Mary (Stewart) who brought it to St. Louis as a way to remember her wonderful summers in Dudley.

So now after many years of travel the chair has finally come back to Dudley thanks to Bill and Mary Stewart.

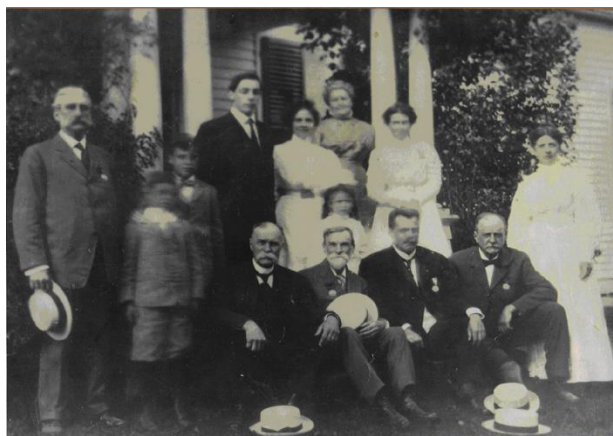


Photo taken about 1905 in front of the Black Tavern)

(Note Charles and Mary Goodell in photo)

Standing – Unknown, Francis, Earl, and Leroy Goodell (3 sons of Charles) young girl, Mary daughter of Charles. Women unknown.

In Front – W. Waldo, Anson P., Charles L., Edwin D., (note Edwin’s wooden leg – lost leg from wound received in ankle at Cold Harbor, VA)

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