



The Sudbury Chronicle



President's Letter

Much as New Englanders like summer, we also enjoy crisp, cold air and the sparkle of sun or moon on bright white snow. In Sudbury we enjoy the same sounds and scenes that have made New England famous for generations. Wintertime in Sudbury invites cozy indoor activities like drawing, painting, and letter writing. It does now, and it did 40 years ago, even 100 years ago.



Peggy Fredrickson

Much is still the same. Moms still write to sons in service. Choirs still sing some of the same music; the classic philosophers are still studied; people love apple pie and ice cream, and the moon on the sparkling snow is still a lovely sight. In the Sudbury Historical Society, Inc. we preserve the memories of Sudbury's earlier days and gain understanding of the character and history of the town, the building blocks for Sudbury's future.

Sudbury Historical Society

Upcoming Program Highlights

January 8....."Art on Loan": Exhibit of local artists works and debut of SHS ART LOAN PROGRAM

February 5....."John Christian Ambacher: The experiences of a Union Soldier" as seen through the eyes of his great grandson, Dr. John R. Ambacher

March 5....."Grist from the Mill", as told by Richard Gnatowski, of the Wayside Inn Gristmill

April 2....."Florence Hosmer's Achievement": Helen Marie Casey introduces Miss Hosmer's life as a woman, artist, teacher, and citizen

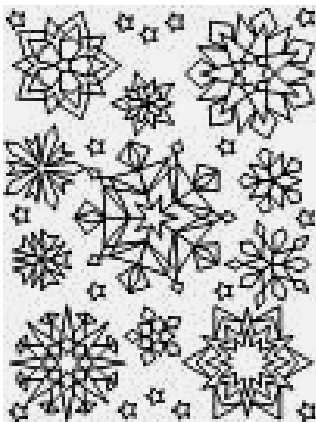
May 7....."CSI: Sudbury": Behind the walls look at State Police Crime Lab work in Sudbury presented by lab supervisor, Bill Hebard

June 4.....SHS Annual Meeting and election of officers followed by a Mystery Walk and Tour of a beautifully restored Victorian home and barns

All events take place on Sunday afternoon at 2 pm, at Town Hall

*Officers**Sudbury Historical Society
2005-2006*

- Curator / Archivist:
Lee Swanson
- President:
Peggy Fredrickson
- Vice President
Bob Gottberg
- Secretary-clerk:
Elly Berry
- Treasurer:
Debbie Keeney
- Trustees:
Jacqui Bausk
Joe Bausk
Alice Byington
Betsy Gottberg
Terry Keeney
Ursula Lyons
Virginia Maenpaa
David Pendleton
Nancy Somers
- Honorary Trustee:
Town Historian
Curtis Garfield



Civil War Memories: February Program



Dr. Ambacher in Civil War dress



*Dr. Ambacher's great
grandfather in civilian attire.*

What was it like in a Civil War Army camp? Would you want to spend winter there? At our program on February 8th, Dr. John Christian Ambacher will tell it like it was. His sources? Actual letters from his Great Grandfather. You will enjoy seeing civil war backpacks, hair-brushes, and other gear. Dr. Ambacher, a professor at Framingham State College, has a law degree and a Ph.D. in International Relations from Tuft's Fletcher School of International Diplomacy.

Editor's Scribbles

Suzanne Steinbach

Recently, a delightful, spiral-bound volume has joined my library: *The Sudbury Cook Book*, as the frontispiece states "Containing the Favorite Recipes of Many Residents of the Town of Sudbury, Massachusetts". The Sudbury Public Health Nursing Association compiled the collection in 1950. Its 300 pages hold recipes from Sudbury's ladies, written in their own hand (see adjacent page), some with charming decorative motifs, as well as countless advertisements from area businesses and renditions of Sudbury scenes by local artists. Some entries are familiar and others quite surprising, providing insights into not-so-distant history. *The Chronicle* will share highlights with you in successive issues. A copy of *The Sudbury Cook Book* will also join the SHS collection, where you may peruse it. (Do we have one already, Lee? Have you tried the recipes?)

Sudbury Historical Society Enters the 21st Century!

The Sudbury Historical Society website is now under development with domain name www.sudbury01776.org— certain to become your preferred source of information about historic Sudbury.

Exploring the Legacy of Sudbury's Artists Peggy Fredrickson

In contemporary times many people are too busy earning a living and maintaining a home to enjoy winter leisure activities. That was also true when Sudbury was a farming community. Earning a living and maintaining a home have always been hard in New England.

Maintaining a home was especially difficult for single women in earlier days. Two Sudbury women of the 20th century managed to support themselves as art teachers and professional artists, and they have left the town a better place because of their efforts. SHS programs in 2006 focus on their accomplishments.



Helene Sherman painting

paintbrush.

January spotlights Helene Sherman. Her unique and memorable art runs the gamut from tiny children's books with cute little animals and birds to world class illuminations of letters and documents in the style originated by medieval monks.

For many years she did the calligraphy on Harvard University diplomas. At her death, she bequeathed a large number of works to the Sudbury Historical Society, Inc. Some were displayed at the Society's program on January 8th. Others will be in the upstairs gallery at the Wayside Inn during the months of January and February. At the January meeting, a video of Fr. Joseph Curran telling about Helene was shown,

and those who recalled Helene shared some of their memories.

Art exhibited at the SHS meeting is part of the Society's Art Loan Project, which features works of art available for Sudbury businesses to borrow and display. This gives visibility to the Society's art collection and helps the community appreciate local artists. The April program will focus on Florence Hosmer, another single woman who supported herself by teaching art and selling portraits and landscapes. Her house is now a landmark at Sudbury Center. What kind of person was she? Who were her friends? What were her interests? Not much has been written about Miss Hosmer. Helen Casey, an award winning writer and communications consultant, has been digging into papers, diaries, and pictures relating to the artist, conducting original research through these primary source materials. In April Helen will present to us the result of her investigations. It will be an interesting and informative discussion.

Below, for your collection, a recipe in Helene Sherman's calligraphy, as it appeared in The Sudbury Cookbook (1950).

SWEDISH COOKIES.

½ cupful of butter, 1 cup of sugar
1 egg, 1¾ cupfuls of flour
2 teaspoonfuls of baking powder,
1 egg white, 4 tablespoonfuls of
sugar, 1 teaspoonful of cinnamon
Blanched almonds.

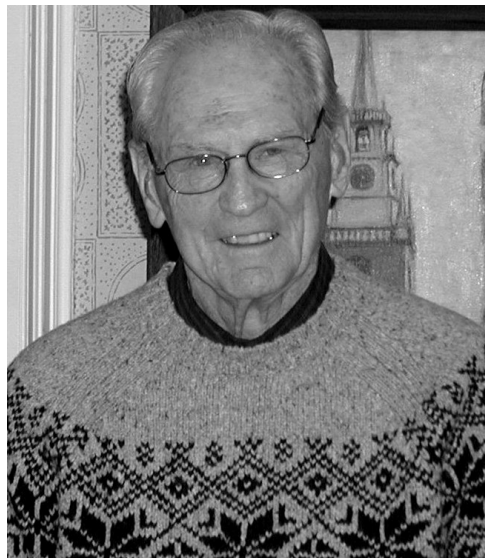
Cream the butter, add the cup of sugar gradually, and the egg well beaten. Then add flour sifted with baking powder. Chill, roll ½ inch thick. Cut in round or star shapes, and brush over with egg white, and sprinkle sugar mixed with cinnamon. Split almonds in halves, arrange 3 halves on each cookie, and bake 12 to 15 minute (slow over 300° degrees) on greased cookie sheets.

E. Helene Sherman

The Family Christmas Party on December 4 opened the holiday season for SHS members and friends. After spirited caroling on Town Hall steps amid falling snow (pictured in *The Town Crier*), the group gathered in the Hosmer House to enjoy refreshments and holiday decorations. Clockwise from right: Lee Swanson (in colonial attire) with Marines who accepted Toys for Tots donations, Elly Berry and Betsy Gottberg, Joe and Ruth Brown, and Dave and Joe Pendleton, delighted by the *Willie Wonka and the Chocolate Factory* décor created by Jacqui & Joe Bausk .



Holiday Happenings ~





Enjoying the SHS Holiday Party, (clockwise from top), Bill Andreas and Bob Gottberg, Chuck Zimmer & a caroler, June Allen and Miss Piggy, Ursula Lyons, Terry Keeney and Chuck Zimmer, Mary Vivaldi and Peggy Fredrickson.

Photos courtesy of Debbie and Terry Keeney.



~ SHS at Hosmer House



I remember, I remember. Do you remember?**Mary Trubiano**

I remember moving to Sudbury in July 1966, when the Town Report at the end of 1966 listed 11,275 residents. Now Town Report at the end of 2004 lists 17,925 residents.

Going to the dump at the corner of Codjer Lane in the Cavicchio Land. Then it was moved to the Sudbury/Wayland Line and called the Sudbury Landfill. Now we go to the Transfer Station.

Paying a Water Tax. Now there is no Water Tax. However, the fees are a lot more!

There were six Elementary Schools: Haynes, Nixon, Fairbank, Horsepond, and Loring for K-5; Noyes for 6th graders, and Curtis Junior High School. Total enrollment in Sudbury Schools was 2759 according to 1966 Town Report. Now Sudbury has four elementary schools (Haynes, Nixon, Noyes, and Loring) and Curtis Middle School with enrollment 3,153, according to 2004 Town Report.

Lincoln-Sudbury Regional High School enrollment was 1182 in 1966. LSRHS students number 1,503 according to 2004 Town Report, and some students attend Minuteman Regional Vocational Technical High School.

Town Meeting was held in Sudbury Town Hall, but it is now held at LSRHS. I remember all residents of the entire town, not divided into precincts, voting at Town Hall.



Ice skating on the Sudbury River

I remember Sudbury Players performing in Town Hall and sitting in the balcony for the play "1776".

Children took swimming lessons at Lake Cochituate and then Walden Pond.

Houses on Rt. 117, sold for \$117,000. The Town originally thought of a shopping center on this land, and then voted to keep it residential.

Florence Hosmer actually living in her home that she later bequeathed to the Town.

Hearing the train whistle on the north/south railroad line through Town.

In 1989, dancing at many of the pavilions set up for the 350th Anniversary of the 1639 founding of Sudbury.

Working in the Children's Department of the Goodnow Library with Mildred Tallant who passed away this year at 100 years of age. In 1923 she was the first Miss Sudbury.

JT's Steak House, then Winchester and Company, then Matt Garrett's and now Sky Restaurant.

I remember two Sudbury newspapers: *The Sudbury Fence Viewer* and *The Sudbury Citizen*.

Automotive History Here at Home

Suzanne Steinbach

At the November sixth, 2005 meeting of the Society, members and guests learned about history unfolding daily in our community in a program entitled “An ESOP in Our Midst”. No, that was not a misspelling, though the presentation certainly conveyed an Aesop-like moral: individuals working together can accomplish great things. ESOP stands for “employee stock ownership plan”. As Fred Tierney, President of Foreign Motors West, Inc., explained, his organization, aside from being a remarkable one-stop source for luxury automobiles, is the first and only auto dealership ESOP *worldwide*. Tierney shared the fascinating account of how Tom Mix (not the legendary cowboy silent screen star, but a relative, it is believed) founded the business in the 1960’s with 8 staffers and grew it into a large enterprise with 430 employees. By the 1990’s when he yearned to retire, though, he could not find a buyer who shared his company’s culture and philosophy. Mix, it seems, cared deeply for his employees and his customers.

He believed, said Tierney, “that if you have

100% satisfied employees, then you will have 100% satisfied customers.” As a result, Mix worked with Sentinel Benefits Group, Inc., represented by John Carnevale at the meeting, to entrust the company to his employees by creating an ESOP.

Initially, Mix assumed a large loan which enabled the employees to buy the company with their retirement investments over time. This proved to be a “win / win” situation for Mr. Mix, Foreign Motors West employees, and the company itself. The employees are now “self-employed”, it could be said, with great dedication to the company and very little staff turnover. Economies “are in the bones of the employees—everyone is alert for opportunities to enhance efficiency and cost-saving”. The company continues to grow with unprecedented success. A special encore followed the presentation—the audience was invited outdoors to inspect close-up four luxury automobiles parked in front of Town Hall.



A million dollar display—

In front of Town Hall, a lineup of luxury vehicles shown by Foreign Motors West to accompany SHS’s program, “An ESOP in Our Midst”, the story of how a local company became employee owned. The program can be viewed on Channel 8.

Newsletter Editor –Suzanne Steinbach

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Sudbury Historical Society, Inc.



*raises awareness
& appreciation for
our heritage by the
collection,*



*preservation,
and sharing of records and
artifacts which document all aspects
of daily life in the
Town of Sudbury*

Sudbury Winter Memories

Becky Fairbank remembers sledding on a sled with two metal runners. It could hold two or three people. The person seated in the front section could guide the sled using something like a steering wheel. Where did they go sledding? "Why on the street" she says. The street was covered with packed snow. Becky's home is on Old Sudbury Road, not far from Town Hall. Down the hill, heading towards the river, is a pond that people called Bog Pond. She ice-skated there. In those days the fields were clear of forest. If the snow was deep enough, they could toboggan down the hill, over a stone wall, down some more, over another stone wall, across a road and down some more. She says, "It was wonderful on a moonlit night."



Does this resemble your sled, Becky?