



Freedom's Way Heritage Association

43 Buena Vista Street, Devens, Massachusetts, 01432

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Preserving our National Heritage from Arlington, Lexington/Concord to Mt. Wachusett.

VOLUME 3, NUMBER 2, WINTER 1999

FREEDOM'S WAY HERITAGE ASSOCIATION IS DEDICATED TO THE PRESERVATION OF OUR REGION'S IMPORTANT HISTORICAL AND NATURAL RESOURCES THROUGH A CONGRESSIONAL DESIGNATION OF A NATIONAL HERITAGE AREA.

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

- *Devens Museum Group Agrees to Incorporate*
- *Sibyl Brownlee participates in HEAR US: State House Dedication*
- *Ideas for Saving Our Special Places*

A Devens Historic Museum, to be created on the former Devens military base and dedicated to commemorate the military and social history of Devens is off to a strong beginning. On November 23rd interested participants packed the main conference room of the Devens Commerce Center and agreed to form an ad hoc committee to prepare incorporation papers.

The idea of a museum emerged after months of discussions facilitated by MassDevelopment and Freedom's Way Heritage Association. The first draft of a purpose of such a historic museum was summarized as follows:

- To show the military and social history including family life of Devens through each period of its history;
 - To show the impact of the Army 's presence on the region at wartime and at peace;
 - To show the sequence of land usage; the successive waves of private, federal, and state use of property and the resulting changes in land topography, even contamination;
 - To show the historic background of the land, how and why it became available for military use.
- The participants, whose backgrounds include military officers, educators, historians and interested citizens, coalesced over the idea that a museum would provide a significant place of remembrance

Continued on page 3

Freedom's Way Heritage Association

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Interpretive Centers as of December 1999

Concord Museum, Drumlin Farm Wildlife Sanctuary of Mass. Audubon Soc., Fruitlands Museums, Gardner Heritage State Park, Dunn's Pond State Park, Great Meadows Wildlife Sanctuary, Great Meadows Wildlife Ref., Oxbow Wildlife Ref., Museum of Our National Heritage, Nashua River Watershed Assoc., Resource Center, Wachusett Meadow Wildlife Sanctuary of Mass. Audubon Soc., Wachusett Mountain State Res., Walden Pond State Res. Rte. 2 Johnny Appleseed Hospitality and Information Center.

Membership News 2000

Safe the Date! Annual Meeting, Monday, March 20th -mark your calendar now!

*We don't play the membership game! The current advice to non-profit organizations is to begin asking for donations one month after a person has paid dues!!!! We hate that, and we guess you do too. **Bobbi** informs you when you should renew your membership -- and that's it! We do need operating and administrative expenses, and dues do not cover it all. Consider a donation in addition to your membership fee. OR bring us ten new members from your town -- that would cover the cost of half a newsletter.*

Fundraising Possibilities: We met for a great lunch at the Stow Airport with **Barbara Sipler**, chair, and two idea people, **Doreen Gibson** and **Patricia Selin** to discuss a gala fundraiser at a secret venue known to Barbara. She'd love some help planning our Year 2000 Celebration. Do call us!

Welcome the new and renewed members since the fall: Bill Ashe, Susan Baldwin, Audrey and John Ball, Isabel Beal, Jay Crocker, Concord Chamber of Commerce, Sheryl Demers. Bernie Dillard. Pauline and Winslow Duke, Priscilla Endicott, Phyllis Farnsworth, Kate and Hermann Field, Fitchburg Historical Society, Pam and Glen Frederick, Audrey Friend, Anthony and Katherine Galaitis, Charles Gordon, NH State Representative Betty Hall, Sarah and Jim Hamill, Joan Hathaway, Florence Koplou, Joe Dzekevich and Rita Lancaster, Town of Lancaster Historical Society, Sandra Lefkovits, Louis O. Lorenzen, Maryanne MacLeod, Margaret Martin, Ruth Miller, Mohn Family, Montachusett Regional Planning Commission; Zeld Moore, Carolyn and Bill Patton, Jane R. Pendleton, Gayle Padula, Mona Rice, Mary Rivet, Pearl Russell, Melissa Saalfield, Harry and Elena Semerjian, Sudbury Historical Society, Betsi Tennessee, Theresa Thomas, Phd., Romaine Timms, Susan Tully, Ken Turkington, Westminster Historical Society.

Devens Museum Beginning

Continued from page one.

for those whose lives are linked to this area. All the participants feel a strong pull to document the area's history so that more than seventy-five years will not be erased from memory. But, to paraphrase Barry Fuller from Pepperell, war should not be glamorized, the stories should include the good and the bad. Five committees have been formed and anyone wishing to participate may join one of them: Corporate, to begin process of incorporation; Property, to look at available space; Vision, to write a vision/mission statement; Collection, how to express and fulfill the vision/mission; Fundraising, to raise necessary funds.

Freedom's Way is proud to help establish this museum. While it is not within our mission to run a museum, facilitating the preservation of history is one of our goals. Call the Freedom's Way office for more information (978) 772-3654. The public is invited to our next meeting at 6:30 p.m. on Tuesday, January 11 to hear the reports of these committees and consider the next stage.



Above is one of the buildings in the Civilian Military Training Camp area that was originally recommended for preservation by Freedom's Way because of its unique history. MassDevelopment has offered a conceptual plan for a museum at this site. Located on Barnum Road across from Mirror Lake, the area began as a Training Camp and during WWII it was used as a Prisoner of War camp. Many of the German and Italian prisoners worked on the base and in surrounding towns doing farm labor. Some of these prisoners did not return home, but stayed to become American citizens. A memorial service is held on Devens yearly by the German and Italian governments to honor those who died and are buried on Devens.

Defining Heritage Development and the Preservation Movement

In a special edition celebrating 50 years of the National Trust for Historic Preservation, Robert Campbell, Pulitzer Prize winning architectural critic of the Boston Globe was asked to host an email symposium of a group of "wise heads," a mix of preservationists, architects, academics and a few Pulitzer Prize winners: Stewart Brand, Paul Spencer Byard, James Marston Fitch, Ada Louise Huxtable, Douglas Kelbaugh and William Murtagh. The resulting comments, are a lively exchange on the meaning of the preservation movement and thoughts on where it might be headed in the future. Some sample remarks:

I vastly prefer the shabby survivals, even the bowdlerized ones.... I love pizza parlors and laundromats in Georgian buildings in Lower Manhattan.... I deplore [the] prissily artificial that destroys an evolving architecture and a neighborhood's character. "

Huxtable

Although the neighborhood may have changed because of driving and telecommunication radii, the traditional quarter of the walkable, face-to-face by half-mile still seems to have cache and value.... We have a special weakness for the architectural past because buildings, on average, used to be built better.... So, preserving old buildings as a good deal.

Kelbaugh

Preservation doesn't bring things back, it keeps available artifacts that give us access to understandings about states we were once in but inescapably aren't any more.

Byard

The more things change, the more some things must remain the same.

Brand

*Freedom's Way, the landscape that nurtured
Democracy.*

Events and Visits

We visited with **Charles Manca**, the Mayor of Gardner, to ask for his support for Freedom's Way. He has become enthusiastic about the project. Mayor Manca is a charming man who grew up in the city he leads, and as a result, has a special feeling for its history. We took some time out that day to pay a visit to the **Gardner Museum**. There we were

THE GARDNER MUSEUM



greeted by **Mary Ann Hunt** who had graciously agreed to meet us at the museum and open it especially for us. What a treat it was to have a private tour! The museum building is currently

undergoing renovations. It was originally constructed with funds given by the son and daughter of Levi Heywood in his memory. Until the mid-1970s the building was the site of the Gardner Public Library. Now, it is a museum "to house memorabilia from the City's founding in 1785 to the present."

The front of the building has an unusual design, unique, but appropriate for Gardner. The entrance and window treatment above it create a chair out of masonry. We could not see the entire collection, which had been put away during the renovation. But we were fascinated by an exhibit of a private collection of Greek artifacts and pottery owned by a resident of Gardner who loaned the exhibit items to help the Museum display Greek culture and heritage. Gardner is proud of the contributions to the culture of the city that have been made by its immigrant families. Celebrating those cultures is a valuable teaching experience for children.

Serving as an educational resource can sometime be fun -- the dollhouses displayed on the second floor would delight a child from any cultural heritage.

Leominster

Heritage education doesn't take a back seat in Leominster under the Leominster School Department. Students of Leominster High School participated in a "Legacy Project" which brought young people together with veterans to hear their stories, to learn something about American history first-hand, while acquiring skills to conduct interviews, and write the biographies. As every good interviewer knows, it takes more than just skill to handle an interview. The students who did the interviewing must have also learned some important social lessons. And finally, it is certain they made some lasting bonds with a generation they might otherwise never have known.

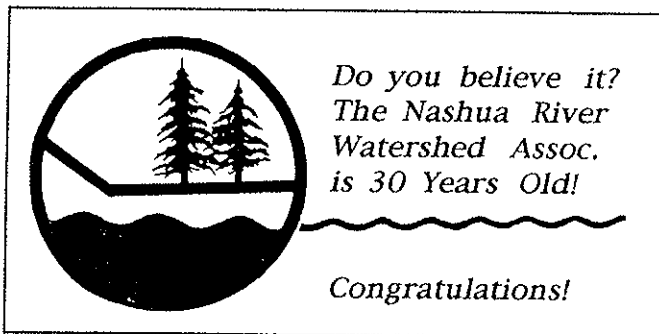
The students researched 104 veterans of WWII. After the interviews and biographies were completed, the Class of 2000 formatted the stories for computer.

A celebration of the project was held in the Leominster Library and Town Hall attended by the Mayor of Leominster, the School Department, a panel of veterans, and of course the students. American history and academic achievement isn't often given such a grand party. For more information, contact **Gina Wironen** at the Leominster School Department.

Sterling.

A full weekend of events in Sterling commemorated the life and works of the Reverend John Mellen, the first minister of Chocksett in 1744. Reverend Mellen was a noted scholar, popular Pastor, and prominent citizen. He was dismissed in 1778 due to his Tory leanings. His story is not unlike other ministers who felt they owed their allegiance to the King.

When his congregation felt it no longer wanted to ignore his Tory convictions, they voted to elect a new pastor, and a court case ensued. He was found innocent of charges leveled against him and was awarded a settlement. His property remained tax-exempt while he remained in Chocksett. He continued preaching to an ever-dwindling congregation of loyalists until 1784. At some time during his tenure, an important colonial artist painted the portraits of Mellen and his wife, Rebecca. The newly conserved paintings were unveiled at the weekend celebration which featured 18th Century music, a pre-Revolutionary militia drill, an 18th Century worship service, and a tour of Historic Sterling.



Books

Charles Eliot, Landscape Architect, by Charles W. Eliot, University of Massachusetts Press, 1999. A biography of the influential designer and planner who died at the age of thirty-seven. The book was compiled by his father, then president of Harvard University from his journals and writings. This reprint contains a new introduction by Keith Morgan, professor of art history at Boston University. Charles Eliot, a partner of F. L. Olmsted, worked on Boston's Emerald Necklace park system including the Arnold Arboretum, he also laid the groundwork for the creation of the Trustees of Reservations and the Metropolitan Park System and supported the development of regional open space planning.

Harvard Historical Society



Walt and his dog Sylvester sit on the front stoop of 13 Fairbanks Street. The house, built in 1799, was purchased by Walt's grandfather in 1866.

Talking Life: Walter Harrod's Stories,

an oral history of **Walter Harrod** has been completed. A retired faculty member of Fitchburg State College, where a chair has been endowed in his honor, Harrod was on hand at the Harvard Historical Society for the announcement of the completion of the project. The 85-year old Harrod is a master craftsman and woodworker whose work graces private homes and churches. The CD version of 21 stories, edited by **Beth Surdut**, interviewer, are available for sale from the Harvard Historical Society. The presentation at the historical society included slides by photographer John Love. The Harvard Historical Society, Fitchburg State College, and the Local Arts Council of Mass. Cultural Council supported this project.

Project Stewardship Planning and Projects Grants for Town Forestlands,

applications due January 16th, contact Susan Campbell

413/256-1201



Trees



Lancaster, Lexington, and Shirley have participated in the Mass ReLeaf grant program through Mass Highway's use of Intermodal Surface Transportation Act (ISTEA) funding to states for road enhancement projects. Tree planting projects in these towns will enhance the communities and green up neighborhoods.

Also, Mass ReLeaf will provide "Rambo" apple trees to schools that entered the state's annual Arbor Day Poster Contest. The "Rambo" is said to be an offspring of one planted by Johnny Appleseed. Information call Jeff Meyer 800-320-TREE.

In cooperation with DEM, the National Arbor Day Foundation *Tree City USA* award program will recognize towns that are striving to protect and manage their urban forests. Awards will be given to towns with a dedicated tree board or forestry department; an ordinance that governs public trees; spends a minimum of \$2.00 per capita annually on forestry; and has a public Arbor Day celebration. Application deadlines are December 31, contact Edith Makra at DEM 617/626-1466

Why has the Merriam Webster dictionary been dumbed down?

Why is the Merriam Webster 1930 edition of the dictionary larger than the 1960 edition? Because they removed 250,000 words including definitions to fit the jaws of the bookbinding machine! They removed "work" words and those common to African Americans. You probably won't find good landscape words in a new dictionary, such as the definition of a "guzzle,"¹ or many other very good usable words.

From John Stilgoe.

THE TRAIN TO FREEDOM



The Gathering.

Joy Peach Lancaster Historical Society genealogist and *Milly Chandler* attended The Gathering on November 13 at the University of Massachusetts, Dartmouth, arranged by the National Park Service and the New Bedford Historical Society to raise regional support for the NPS Underground Railroad Network for Freedom Program. Two recommended publications are: *Exploring a Common Past: Researching and Interpreting the Underground Railroad and Underground Railroad Resources in the United States, Theme Study*. Both can be obtained from UGRR History Office, NPS, 1849C Street, NW, Room NC400, Washington, DC 20240

FWHA African American Heritage Effort

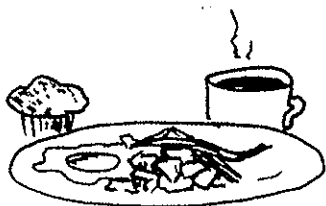
The first focus group meeting about the African American and tri-racial heritage of Freedom's Way scoped out the projects under this heading.

- The Freedom's Way Heritage Association will act as a regional clearing house for genealogical research, oral and informal histories. FWHA cannot act as archivists, but we can create a catalog so we can direct researchers within the area to source material.
- FWHA goal is to foster collaboration to avoid duplication and competition.
- Another goal is to partner with the National Park Service.

¹ A guzzle is a place covered by the high tide. Plenty of such land is sold every year.

- Hazard Story Scholar-in-Residence is Sibyl Brownlee, Ph.D., currently member of the Fitchburg State College history department. Hazard Family stories, three centuries of a Freedom's Way family.
- Paths of the Patriots: those stories not related to the Hazards, but all African American participation in the Revolutionary War such as Prince Estabrook
- Underground Railroad, again, all stories not related to the Hazards and those portions of the Hazard family story, which would be usable documentation for the National Park Service Underground Railroad Project.

Anyone wishing to be added to the mailing list for this project please contact Marge at (978) 772-3654



First Prospective Partners Breakfast Meeting At Mt Wachusett Community College in Gardner

A well- attended Prospective Partners Breakfast was held at Mt. Wachusett Community College.

Welcomed to Gardner by Mayor Charles Manca, and graciously hosted by the College, the attendees conversed over a full breakfast about the goals and objectives for the heritage area.

Two very important points of clarification emerged from the meeting.

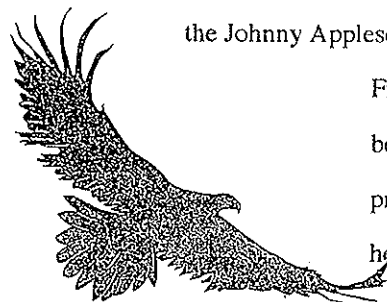
First, National Heritage Areas are working landscapes, home to many active users and property owners. These areas are not only cemeteries or hallowed battlefields, although many contain both types of sites – they represent much more.

Without respect for those experiences that are the fabric of our towns, people develop a sense of disenfranchisement. Some National heritage areas celebrate communities that might appear “unworthy” to the casual observer who imagines that heritage areas are all stunning natural monuments. In fact, until the heritage designation provided the vehicle for interpreting the importance of some areas, many were on the verge of being lost, their heritage obliterated. The Illinois Michigan Canal from Chicago to LaSalle, Peru, had deteriorated into a stinking waterway. As a result of heritage development it is rapidly becoming a beautiful site. Called “Prairie Passage,” the region now benefits from soaring new investments.

The Southeastern Pennsylvania Heritage Area celebrates the coal and steel industries; Silos and Smokestacks in Iowa tells the story of the agricultural and industrial apparatus required to feed the world – and are only two examples of working landscapes we describe in our Freedom's Way slide presentation.

Part of the work of the Freedom' Way management entity will be to define the historical, cultural, environmental landscape of Freedom's Way. The environment includes the recreational and working aspects of the natural and built landscapes. The idea of a Freedom's Way heritage area will be to celebrate the craft, creativity and Yankee ingenuity of the region to preserve the region's identity.

Second, What is the difference between Freedom's Way and the Johnny Appleseed Trail Association?



Freedom's Way will become part of a national program for heritage development administered through the

Park Service as a result of a congressional designation. The Freedom's Way region includes 40 Massachusetts and 6 New Hampshire towns that share a common heritage: from Arlington to Gardner and Nashua, New Hampshire. Once the designation is made Freedom's Way will be able to offer member towns and non-profit organizations federal matching funds for theme-related heritage projects and activities.

Corporate, business and commercial establishments will support community sponsored heritage efforts on a voluntary basis. Using federally designed formats, signage and logos for Freedom's Way will be developed to relate to the interpretive, educational and destination centers and sites.

Heritage based tours, and self-guided tours of regional trails will follow the heritage themes outline in the proposed legislation such as: the Paths of the Patriots, and the Black Freedom Trail. Additional theme-related trails that pertain to the region's nationally significant heritage may also be eligible to receive funding.

Freedom's Way Heritage Association is a non-profit grass roots organization whose goal is a national heritage area designation for Freedom's Way. Membership in FWHA is to support the organization's work to gain national designation based upon flat fees. (See back page)

The Johnny Appleseed Trail Association is the brainchild of the North Central Chamber of Commerce, and is a business-marketing vehicle for North

Central Massachusetts.

Membership is offered on a scale that provides levels of advertising benefits for the organization's contributing members, many of whom display the Johnny Appleseed logo.

Johnny Appleseed was the name chosen by John Chapman, a



Leominster born missionary for the Swedenborgian Church, who went west as a traveling peddler. Chapman adopted the name of Johnny Appleseed to advertise his seed company as he traveled to Wayne, Indiana, where he lived most of his life. He sold seeds and probably whips (young trees) from orchards he owned in Ohio and Indiana, and eventually became an American folk legend. School children love the Appleseed logo, a silhouette of a barefoot peddler with a tin pot on his head, sewing seeds. Freedom's Way is a member of the Johnny Appleseed Trail Association and distributes Freedom's Way maps through the Johnny Appleseed Hospitality Center on Route 2.

A survey was distributed at the breakfast meeting, and a summary of the responses is available from the FWHA office (978) 772-3654.

Participants asked for three focus groups sessions they are: Developing a Freedom's Way Curriculum Handbook/Guide (TBA); Marketing for the Interpretive Centers, House museums, Historical Societies and other visitor interpretive sites (TBA); Freedom's Way African American Heritage Effort/a multi-racial heritage. (The first focus session on the Black Freedom Trail and the multi-racial heritage of Freedom's Way has been held. See the previous report about the meeting with Sibyl Brownlee and others. A second focus meeting will be held at Dr. Brownlee's request.)

Tom Leonard, of the Salem Partnership and the Essex National Heritage Area was scheduled to be our speaker at the Partners Breakfast to talk about the organizational structure of his national heritage area. Two days before the breakfast, Tom was hospitalized for an emergency. Fully recovered, he will be our speaker as soon as we can arrange another meeting.

Saving America's Treasures

Lancaster and Lexington wrote to us about their treasures, and of their submittals to the Executive Office of Environmental Affairs for the December 8th 1999 Community Preservation Day at the State House.

Lancaster submitted a photograph of the Pine Hill Open Space Area and slides of the Bulfinch Church and the Old Settlers Burial Grounds. To be accurate, the fifth meeting house



The Church of Christ, Lancaster, 1816

on the Lancaster Town Green is the First Church of Christ, and a national historic landmark. It is considered to be the greatest single work of the architect, Charles Bulfinch.

Lexington submitted pictures of the Horning Land on Marrett Road and the Wright Farm on Grove Street.



The Horning Land

We are quite sure many more of you submitted entries for the Community Preservation Day and just never got around to letting us know about them. If that is true, we'll give you space in another issue to show your treasure.

On The Subject of Saving Treasures...

Orchard House

Concord, Massachusetts

Louisa May Alcott



Almost a hundred years ago, the Concord Women's Club helped to save the Orchard House, Home of the Alcotts. That house museum is again in need of repair and looking for support. Orchard House: P.O.Box 343, Concord, MA 01742-0343

Utopian Communities



Administration Office Photographed by Barbara White

The search for the perfect society in 19th-century America has left Freedom's Way a rich legacy of places of social innovation. These societies were mostly composed of people trying new ways to live within the environment. Many were concerned about or at least sensitive to social issues. The November /December issue of Preservation Magazine

examines some of these legacies. We cherish our Shaker heritage and mourn the state's failure to preserve the Shaker buildings at MCI Shirley. Perhaps, in time, even the tide will turn and the value of the Shirley Shaker buildings will be recognized. Cynthia Barton is currently working on a book for FWHA about the Utopian movement in our area. We can't wait!



Ministry Shop photographed by Barbara White

Ideas

Just as individuals and animal habitats are interconnected, so are organizations and institutions. Collaborative efforts are the way to grow stronger.

In order to save our treasures, we must demonstrate that we have broad-based support. Providing a steady stream of revenue is the bane of all our organizations, historical societies, house museums, other museums and cultural institutions. What are required is constant fundraising, membership pledges and pleas, gift shop items, admission charges, and a clever mingling of grants from public and private sources. While some grantors look for admission charges or shop sales as an indication of a steady revenue source; others consider the fluctuating nature of these sources to be insufficient to show organizational health. Other grantors look for evidence of increasing dues and donations. And some

grantors even want to see evidence of support from other grantors.

What is to be done? Competing with each other for dwindling dollars is not a good idea. The answer is *Connections*.

We don't mean knowing someone-who-knows- someone, although sometimes that helps. We mean connections with each other. Through theme development and collaboration, we can create partnerships to work for our mutual benefit.

From time to time we will offer ideas for you to think about. These are meant to spark your imagination for cooperative endeavors. A museum or historical society will always attract visitors to a special exhibition. If you consider collaborating with others, you will increase your exposure and benefit from shared costs. The idea of Freedom's Way is to help you celebrate our connections. If an idea appeals to you, let us know and we will make sure you are invited to the focus group meetings about:

- Passport Ticketing, and other marketing ideas for museums and cultural institutions. A meeting will be held in January. Date and time TBA
- A Freedom's Way Historical Curriculum
- African American Heritage in Freedom's Way
- Native American Heritage in Freedom's Way
- A Freedom's Way *Women's* History Trail
- Freedom's Way has its share of ghosts and gravestone stories. We've heard there is a ghost who haunts the Devens cemetery. Boston has a Ghosts and Gravestones tour conducted at night by "Paul Revere" and "Solomon the Gravedigger. Think about your own town's ghosts, and eerie graveyard stories.
- Ashby has a successful barn tour. Fitchburg has an architectural tour. Consider a coordinated multi-town architectural tour to bring even more people to the area.

Freedom's Way People in the News

Nashoba Valley Chamber of Commerce honors Freedom's Way by honoring one of our members, **Hermann Field**, Devens Enterprise Commissioner. Last year, Freedom's Way was honored by becoming one of the recipients of the Chamber's awards for our contribution to the region. At this year's awards, Hermann, who lives in Shirley, received the Robert W. Lewis Award for Community Service and Leadership. Congratulations, Hermann!

Welcome **John H. Ott**, who has been named the new Director of the **Museum of Our National Heritage**. He comes to the area from the B&O Railroad Museum in Baltimore. His career has included serving as the Executive Director of the Atlanta Historical Society and Director of the Hancock Shaker Village in Pittsfield. We are excited to have him join our ranks. John and his wife Lily live in Groton.

HEAR US: State House Dedication. Sibyl Brownlee, history teacher at Fitchburg State, participated in a panel discussion and dedication ceremony at the State House on Tuesday, October 19, 1999 to honor the contributions of six women to public life in Massachusetts. This dedication day was a turning point for all Massachusetts women who have walked the halls of government and seen only portraits of men. The day was an acknowledgement that in the long history of the Commonwealth, women's contributions have been overlooked. That oversight is beginning to be rectified. Likenesses in plaster of the honored women were commissioned for exhibit by the Massachusetts Foundation for the Humanities, the Schlesinger Library on the History of Women in America at Radcliff, and the Suffolk University

History Department. Dr. Brownlee's presentation was about Sarah Parker Remond (1824-1894) a well-educated black woman, who became an abolitionist, and activist in the Underground Railroad. Understanding the importance of communication, she went to England and the continent to speak out against slavery. Although she never received press coverage at home, once she was in Europe, her speeches were reported in the states. The other women chosen to be honored were: Dorothea Dix, Lucy Stone, Josephine St. Pierre Ruffin, Mary Kenney O'Sullivan, and Florence Luscomb.

Ed Horgan, author of *The Shaker Holy Land: A Community Portrait*, and other books has provided us with some fine photographs that we were able to have copied. They included: a picture of Robert Goddard standing beside his rocket launch tower at Devens in 1929-30; a recent article we had missed about Goddard; an informal portrait of General Henry Hodges, First Commandant of Camp Devens; and a picture of the lovely brick home of Luther Burbank in North Lancaster, now the artillery range. These are being added to the notebook of the History of Devens.

Zelda Moore, another past recipient of the Nashoba Valley Chamber award, has provided resource material and articles about the Trinitarian Bell that hangs in the steeple of the Federated Church in Ayer, and Nahum Hazard for our African American Heritage Effort. She has also provided sources and photographs to assist Cynthia Barton in her writing of a new book on Utopian Communities including the Shakers and Millerites. The Littleton Historical Society has also been helpful with information about their Millerite Compound.

WANT ADVERTISER

THANK YOU! We are grateful to all the historians and others who anticipate our needs and bring their much-appreciated offerings to our door.

Volunteers Needed

If would you like to help with office work, bulk mailings, data processing, filing, telephoning, etc. and have Monday, Wednesday or Fridays available, please apply. Contact Marge or Milly at 978-772-3654. Or drop us a card: 43 Buena Vista Street, Devens, MA 01432

Freedom's Way is an Equal Opportunity Employer – all volunteers are equal.

WANT ADVERTISER

Photographs Needed

Milly Chandler has many talents, and occasionally she'll slip out of the office to take some photographs, like she did recently to catch a few shots of an exhibit in the making at the Fitchburg Art Museum. (See "Activities ") We like to keep pictures in our reference files, new and old, as well as slides to use in presentations. Do you have any?

Deliverers Needed

To deliver maps to distribution centers. Must have a car and strong arms.

WANT ADVERTISER

Newspaper articles

We often miss stories in the local papers, because we cannot read them all. We're missing too many of the happenings we should know about. If you have time, please send us clippings for our scrapbook files.

Internet Researcher Needed

If you are a frequent internet user and have some extra time to browse, WE NEED YOU! As often as once a week we hear of something that requires a search. If you would like to be our man or woman on the www, let us know by snail mail or phone.

An activity and an idea for Freedom's Way members.

The Boston Women's Heritage Trail

Four Centuries of Boston Women

A Guide to Five walks

A revised and expanded edition with dozens of photographs including walks through Downtown, North End, Beacon Hill, South Cove/Chinatown and Back Bay. This new 1999 Guide book is published by the Boston Women's Heritage Trail, a nonprofit organization founded in 1990 as a program of the Boston Public Schools.

Available now. Boston Women's Heritage Trail, 22 Holbrook Street, Boston, MA 02130

Phone 617-522-2872 Fax: 617-876-1038 Email: howsmoyer@aol.com Price: \$9.95 plus \$2.50 shipping, total \$12.45. Call for pricing on orders of more than three copies.

Activities

Friends of the Performing Arts Center. *Ebenezer Scrooge: A Christmas Carol*, a musical adaptation of Dickens classic. December 18, 19, (2 p.m. and 7:30 p.m.) 21, 22, 23 (7:30 p.m.) Performances held at 51 Walden Street, Concord, MA. Not suitable for children under 5. Call 978/369-0061 for ticket information or www.newlife.org/scrooge.html.

Concord Museum. Exhibit: Family Trees inspired by Christmas story favorites, through January 3, 2000. Story telling, December 28, 29, & 30. **Treasures from the Boston Athenæum Fine Arts Collection** from January 20 – April 26. While the Athenæum is closed for repairs, the Concord Museum is able to offer “a unique opportunity to enjoy some of the remarkable treasures of one of the most respected Boston institutions,” according to Désirée Caldwell, Executive Director of the Concord Museum. 978/369-9763 or www.concordmuseum.org for information about hours, admission and special events associated with the exhibits.

Fitchburg Art Museum. Exhibit through January 9, “*America’s Most Loved Mountain*,” about Mt. Monadnock, which means “mountain that stands alone” in Algonquin. Paintings, photographs, and maps encourage the visitor to examine the mountain’s beauty. Tuesday-Saturday 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Sundays 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. 185 Elm Street, Fitchburg. Admission \$3.00, children free.

Indian Hill Music Center. Chamber Music, Family Concerts, and Jazz. Sample: February 5, 2000 Bruce Hangen conducting, guest soloist, composer David Amram; March 11, and 12 *Peter and the Wolf*, reserved seating; March 25, Bruce Hangen conducting, with guest soloist Joseph Silverstein, violin. Information about full series, 978/486-0540 or www.indianhillmusic.org.

Museum of Our National Heritage: Permanent exhibit: *Lexington Alarm’d* the story of the early morning of April 19, 1775. Special exhibits: December 18 & 19 Saturday and Sunday all day, Model Trains. Landscapes of the Civil War, through Jan 16, 2000, Admission, free. Information, 781/861-6559, ext. 142 or www.mnh.org.

Orchard House. Annual Holiday Program, “*High Spirits & Simple Pleasures - - A Dickens’ Christmas at Orchard House*” December 18th and 19th, no reservations for this event -- tickets first-come-first-serve basis. Family rates, call 978/369-5617. After January 15th, call 978/369-5617 for complete February-March-April schedule. Sample: *A Valentine Party with Louisa May*, 4-6 p. p.m. February 12th; School Vacation Week events, February 22-25th; March and April “*Hand in Hand*” and “*Welcome to Our Home.*” Alcott and Friends Book Group series begins, 7 p.m. on January 10th *Little Women*, with Jan Turnquist as Louisa May Alcott; 7 p.m. on March 27th; *Transcendental Wife: The Life of Abigail May Alcott*, speaker, Cynthia Barton; *Transcendental Wild Oats and Pedlar’s Progress*, David Hannegan as Amos Bronson Alcott. Inquiries 978/369-4118.

Thoreau Institute, Concord Museum, Thoreau Society. *Cultivating Self/Cultivating Nature, Emerson, Thoreau & the Challenges of Today* lecture series. January 21, 7:30 p. m. *Literature and Conservation: A New England Tradition*, speaker, John Elder; Thursday March 23, 7:30 p. m. Husbandry was once a sacred art: *Thoreau and the Transformation of Farming in Concord*, speaker Brian Donahue. Lectures held at the Concord Museum, 978/369-9763. Admission free.

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