



Sheffield Historical Society

November 2003

New Adventures!

NEWLY STOCKED SHELVES in the OLD STONE STORE



Looking for just the right presents for your holiday giving? Well, look no further than

the Society's own Shop. Sheffield residents shopped there during the good old Victorian holidays and now you to can keep up that tradition! Volunteer Shop Manager Dorothy Marosy and her stalwart assistant Doreen Atwood have been working hard to bring you items of high quality at reasonable prices. They have traveled to trade shows, used the modern surfing technologies of on-line sales, and searched regionally for the works of local artists. They stocked the shelves in October and your response has been of such good cheer that you even bought out some items as fast as they could get them on the shelves! More orders have been placed and all of the Stone Store volunteers are ready to lend a helping hand with your shopping. Items new for this year include folk art prints, bobbin lights, various ornaments including the hand-painted Old Parish Church, the third in our collector's series, and hand-made textiles.

HOLIDAY ART SHOW
IN THE STONE STORE



"INTIMATE
TREASURES" opens on Wednesday.

December 3 at 11 am. The Sheffield Art League is sponsoring the show, which will include "The Artists' Expressions of Whoever. Whatever. Wherever" displayed in approximately forty paintings and small sculptures.

The opening reception takes place between the hours of 1:30 and 4 p.m. on Saturday, December 6.

The show runs for the month of December. Hours: Weekdays, 11 to 4; Saturday, 10 to 2; Sunday, 11 to 4. Closed on the holidays.

OUR FIRST CONCERT SERIES...

Mark your winter calendars!!

Spend three wintry Sunday afternoons enjoying warm friendships, great music, enlightening history, and appealing refreshments.

John-Arthur Miller, Sheffield resident and musician, will present three programs, each in a different Sheffield home. The programs will be fashioned on the early salon musicales, but with an interesting twist—music heard thanks to the early technology of Thomas Alva Edison.

Edison developed a new and innovative recording process that was the Rolls Royce of the recording industry between 1888 and 1929. The air will be filled with the amazing sound of these historic recordings.



Sunday, January 18th, 2:00 PM
Wine and Opera on the Old Edison

Sunday, February 15th, 2:00 PM
Wine, Chocolate, and Love Songs
with Your Valentine

Sunday, March 28th, 2:00 PM
March Out Like a Lamb with John
Philip Sousa on the Old Edison

Minimum contribution for the series:
\$75

Minimum contribution per single
concert: \$30

Seating Limited! Reserve Early!

COLLECTIONS ON THE WEB

The Society's portraits of the Rev. James and Margaret Bradford were just put on line on the website devoted to their creator, Nelson Cook, an artist of some prominence in the 19th century. The only known sitters from Massachusetts were the Bradfords (painted in 1847). Check out www.nelsoncook.com to see details of "Mrs. Bradford, the best single portrait rendering on the site."

Calendar of Events 2003-2004



The Sheffield Historical Society announces its 5th Annual **FESTIVAL OF TREES**, a favorite event in Sheffield's celebration of the holidays.

The **HOLIDAY SHOWCASE** is now on view in the Old Stone Store on the Green in Sheffield. David Walker-Price has again created a handsome window display, and the ever popular community-inspired miniature trees await

your viewing and purchase. Raffle items this year include a candy replica of the Congregational Church, a freshly cut Christmas tree, and a locally created quilted wall hanging. New this year are classic holiday stockings made by local residents, and holiday jewelry.

Early Bidding for the Silent Auction of miniature trees and menorahs will take place on Friday, November 28, from 4 to 6 p.m. Other items available that day include boxwood trees and ornaments. **The Silent Auction hours on Saturday, November 29, will be 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Both events will take place at the Stone Store.**

Come and get in the mood for the holidays—and shop for decorations and gifts. Keep in mind that the Society is again offering Holiday Wreaths—see the order form.

December 12—Holiday Music with the Mt. Everett Madrigal Group, at 7:30 p.m., Fellowship Rooms of Old Parish Church. Nancy Loder will direct the student ensemble as they perform a number of selections: most of the selections will be a cappella. The singers are from grades nine through twelve and they love to sing Renaissance music.

January 9—What's It? Night with Milt Barnum & Chris Coenen, at 7:30 p.m., Fellowship Rooms of Old Parish Church. The ever popular program is on again—get out your gadgets to stump the experts!

January 19—Martin Luther King, Jr. Day-- A Special Family Event, 1 p.m., a joint program with the Bushnell-Sage Library to be held at the Library.

February 13—Ancient Cairns of our Native American Landscape Heritage, with George B. Emmons, at 7:30 p.m., Fellowship Rooms of Old Parish Church. An oral and pictorial presentation describing the landmarks and monuments of indigenous people of the Woodland period—including the Mahicans and Mohegans—with a discussion of their burial customs. Native American items recently donated to the Society by Rodney Palmer will also be on view.

February 18—School vacation workshop: "Kids Crazy for Quilting," a joint program with the Bushnell-Sage Library and the

Berkshire Quilters' Guild. A popular annual project: a hands-on program that allows today's youth to join in an age-old process of self-discovery and fun! A program for 8- to 12-year-olds, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Bring a bag lunch. Registration required. Fee.

March 12—The History of the American Elm and the Sheffield Plantings, with Tom Zetterstrom, at 7:30 p.m., Fellowship Rooms of Old Parish Church. Zetterstrom has been a leading figure in the national Elm Watch program.

Sheffield's Kiwanis Club Celebrates 50 Years of Service will be the **March exhibition** in the Stone Store. This international organization began in 1915 and now exists in 82 nations and geographic areas. Come and see how local members of this community-service organization have made a difference in our region!

Thank you! New contributors to the Annual Appeal since the Fall newsletter are:

Michael and Wendy Advocate

Sandra and Dale Alden

Ann Barrett

Barbara E. Delmolino

Inez Flinn

Natalie H. Funk

Anita and Tom Garrett

Anthony Sabatelli in honor of

Daniel Sabatelli

Cathryn Clary and Ed Schweizer

David J. Walker-Price

On-line shoppers, don't forget you can help out the Society by using Shopformuseums.com.



Sheffield Historical Society
2003
Holiday Wreath Order Form



Quantities are limited – please order early.

Wreath #1: 12-inch wreath, Burgundy & Gold bow with gold decorations.

Wreath #2: 12-inch wreath, Double Gold bow with gold decorations.

All wreaths made of balsam/evergreens. SHS reserves the flexibility to substitute another bow of comparable quality.

To order: please mail this completed form, along with your check, to:
Sheffield Historical Society, PO Box 747, Sheffield, MA 01257-0747 or fax to 413-229-7761.

Name: _____ Address : _____
(Required if you request local delivery.)

Phone #: _____

Email _____

Wreath # 1 Quantity _____ @ \$ 27.50 each Total Amount: \$ _____

Wreath # 2 Quantity _____ @ \$ 27.50 each Total Amount: \$ _____

Grand Total & Amount Enclosed: \$ _____

You may request delivery if you live in the Sheffield and Ashley Falls area. By mutual agreement, deliveries will be made the week of Dec. 1st. Otherwise, wreaths may be picked up at the Society headquarters, 159 Main Street, Sheffield, M-F between 10 and 4. We will phone or email you to confirm your delivery or pickup date.



Thank you for your support & Happy Holidays!





159 Main Street
PO Box 747
Sheffield, MA 01257

Phone: 413-229-2694
Email: shs@sheffieldhistory.org

Tours of the 1774 Dan Raymond House are available
Monday through Friday, by appointment

Mark Dewey Research Center open Monday and
Friday afternoons, 1:30 to 4 p.m., and by
appointment

Stone Store hours are Saturday 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. and
Sunday 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.

WE'RE ON THE WEB
SHEFFIELDHISTORY.ORG

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MDRC Archival Facts

Frederick Augustus Porter Barnard, Sheffield born, became the tenth president of Columbia College (now University) in 1864. He filled that office for 25 years and during that time was a firm advocate of women's education. Barnard College was later named for him.

In 1866 the Sheffield China Clay Company was formed by Archibald Taft to capitalize on the fine white clay beds in the southeastern part of Sheffield. The concern manufactured pottery and fire brick.

Sheffield's original Catholic Church, the Church of the Assumption, was built in 1884. It

burned on August 18, 1904, the victim of a lightning strike. By September 1905, the new building, Our Lady of the Valley, was dedicated.

Southern Berkshire Regional School District was the first regional school in Massachusetts and it opened in September 1955. Today it consists of the towns of Sheffield, Monterey, New Marlborough, Egremont, and Alford.

A lych-gate, designed by Roger W. Drury, was added to the property of Christ Church in 1970.

Save these dates:

November 28—Early Bidding

November 29—Festival of Trees

**December 6—Art Show Opening
Reception**