ANNUAL FUND MARCH MATCH IS NOW UNDERWAY!

March 31 marks the end of the museum’s Fiscal Year. The Annual Fund, a key component of the funding program for Strawbery Banke, is now underway. And thanks to the March Match – a commitment of $25,500 by past and present Trustees and National Council members – every additional dollar raised will be matched, doubling each gift.

Your Annual Fund gift supports new interpretive programs and educational initiatives that serve thousands each year and ensures Strawbery Banke is a place to learn, a place to gather and a sustainable resource for the community long into the future.

Each and every donation is appreciated. Please reply with the enclosed envelope, online at StrawberyBanke.org/donate.cfm, or call 603-422-7508 for assistance.
JOE APRIL JOINS STRAWBERY BANKE AS DIRECTOR OF DEVELOPMENT

Joseph April joined the Strawbery Banke team late in 2017 as Director of Development, bringing more than 25 years of fundraising and donor cultivation experience to the museum. He now supervises the four Strawbery Banke professionals in the museum’s Development Department, responsible for Membership and Annual Fund Relations, Corporate Relations, Foundation Relations and Site Rentals.

Prior to joining the museum, Joe was a Partner with Convergent NonProfit Solutions in Atlanta, serving as a strategic member of the leadership team responsible for creating the Community College Division of the firm. Handling oversight of all sales, marketing, branding, outreach and communications for the Division, he supervised five project directors in implementing major gift campaigns, feasibility studies, alumni and foundation strategic plans. Previously, he was a founding member and Executive Vice President and Partner with The Armistead Group in Lexington, KY, with a national focus on community college institutional advancement programs, applying several decades of direct experience with Springfield Technical and Community College, BayPath College, MassBay Community College and Holyoke Community College to the firm. Prior to that he developed and implemented comprehensive annual and planned giving programs for continuing care communities.

STRAWBERY BANKE PUBLISHES A NEW GUIDEBOOK

Thanks to a generous Planned Gift to the museum from Polly Perry, long-time supporter and friend to the museum, Strawbery Banke has published a new 72-page full color guidebook that provides historical, architectural and horticultural detail about the museum’s historic houses and heirloom gardens. With thanks also to Nancy Beck, who coordinated the last Strawbery Banke Official Guidebook in 1997, the new book was edited by the museum’s marketing director and is being made available through the online publisher and in the TYCO Visitors Center.

Director of Development Joe April presents the first copy of the new Strawbery Banke Museum guidebook to Hilary Clark whose aunt, Polly Perry, made the bequest that enabled its publication.

STRAWBERY BANKE ACQUIRES NEW TRUCK

Maintaining a 10-acre site filled with historic houses, gardens, seasonal events, educational programs and Labrie Family Skate at Puddle Dock Pond requires the transporting of many different materials by the Properties staff. Thanks to a generous donation from The Storer Goodwin Decatur Foundation in the form of a challenge grant and Foss Motors of Exeter, Strawbery Banke now owns a new Dodge Ram 1500 ST pickup truck to help carry the load.

“The old truck, a previous gift that supplied years of rugged service, finally gave up the ghost this past fall,” commented Strawbery Banke President and CEO Lawrence J. Yerdon. “Robert G. Bannish, a member of the museum’s National Council and trustee of the Decatur Foundation, a long-term advocate and donor, provided the Decatur challenge grant that fueled the gifts that encouraged Tim and Larry Foss at Foss Motors to complete the deal with their own support.”

Tim Foss of Foss Motors in Exeter (left) congratulates Rodney Rowland, Strawbery Banke Director of Special Projects & Facilities on the new truck.