President’s Message

Lawrence J. Yerdon, President & CEO

A few weeks ago, Strawbery Banke welcomed visitors to experience the museum “Unpacked.” The Education, Collections and Horticulture staff tested new programs, and new approaches to interpreting the museum’s buildings, gardens and objects being developed in conjunction with the Long Range Interpretive Plan. The idea was to turn the day into a laboratory for uncovering new experiences and learning how visitors responded.

As we listened to guests’ reactions and read their thoughts on the day, we were gratified that the pilot programs seem to have worked. The “Building Detectives” workshop, adapted from one of the Hands on History education programs, the guided tour of the gardens and lab session in the Horticulture Center, and the self-guided “Dig Strawbery Banke” archaeology tour each earned praise from participants—adults, children and families.

The “Unpacked” comments echoed what TripAdvisor reviewers say: “Strawbery Banke is a wonderful place, filled with opportunities for discovery and guides/roleplayers who help me learn something I didn’t know before.” The event demonstrated a great deal of good work by staff; and we look forward to integrating more ideas like these into the daily program.

Lawrence J. Yerdon
President & CEO

Vintage & Vine
Saturday September 8

For 30 years, the Board of Trustees of Strawbery Banke Museum have presented Vintage & Vine as the key annual fundraiser for the museum’s educational programs and daily operations. Vintage & Vine fine wine and food festival and silent auction takes place on Saturday, September 9, 2017 throughout the 10-acre museum campus, when the grounds and gardens are at their peak. Full details at StrawberyBanke.org

TICKETS ARE NOW ON SALE AT STRAWBERYBANKE.ORG/TICKETS

VIP TICKETS which allow guests to enter at 4 pm and circulate the entire site as well as the designated VIP tent are $120 per person (designated driver VIP tickets are $30). General admission opens at 5 pm and tickets are $65 per person (designated driver general admission tickets are $20). The event ends at 7:30 pm.

RAFFLES AND SILENT AUCTION of items ranging from trips to ‘behind the scene’ tours to shows and home décor, add to the excitement of the evening—and the funds raised for Strawbery Banke educational programs and preservation efforts. Kittery Trading Post has donated a paddleboard package to the event raffle.

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Boatshop Opens, Launches HANDS ON BOATS Programs

The Boatshop at Strawbery Banke, a partnership between Piper Boatworks of Rye, NH and Strawbery Banke Museum, celebrated the completion of the new shop on the museum grounds and the start of the HANDS ON BOATS programs on Monday, July 10 with a ribbon cutting ceremony.

HANDS ON BOATS, the Boatshop’s new signature program, is designed for adults who are interested in wooden boats and who want to be part of constructing a new boat—a Piscataqua River Wherry based on one in the museum collection—while learning-by-doing alongside a master boat builder.

Between now and October, the Boatshop offers sessions focusing on sequential phases of the boat’s construction. Interested participants can sign up for one or multiple sessions based on their interests, schedules and budgets. The next session, “Planking a NEW Piscataqua River Wherry” takes place September 11–14 & 17–19. For reservations or more information visit BoatshopatStrawberyBanke.org.

(**NEWS**

**THE FULLER FOUNDATION** for July 4th Performing Arts Activities

**GRANITE STATE DEVELOPMENT CORP.** for Penhallow House Preservation Study

**THE WINDOVER FOUNDATION** for History Within Reach

**EASTERN BANK CHARITABLE FOUNDATION** for July 4th Immigration Celebration

**PUTNAM FOUNDATION** for Botanical Sciences Program at the Horticulture Center

**BANK OF AMERICA CHARITABLE FOUNDATION** for operating funds

**ITACONIX** and **THIRSTY MOOSE TAPHOUSE** for sponsoring Passport (Sep 16)

**EXETER HOSPITAL** for generous support of family-focused events in the coming year.

**THANK YOU**

Rodney and Lee Roberts for their ongoing support for Strawbery Banke Museum. Their names were inadvertently left off the list of 2016 donors.)
Community Gardeners Donate Extra Fresh Vegetables to GATHER

GATHER, the organization previously known as the Seacoast Family Food Pantry, for the past 200 years has served Seacoast residents facing hunger. Gather is committed to end local hunger through collaboration and leadership, providing nutritious food through innovative distribution programs and the Pantry Market and collaborating with community partners to address the root causes of hunger.

In the Community Garden at Strawbery Banke, Gather is collecting gardeners’ “excess bounty of vegetables or fruits” in a special basket on the site.

“Growing Up in Puddle Dock” Tour

Can you identify the places in this photo of the Puddle Dock neighborhood that is now Strawbery Banke?

To Sherm Pridham, Director of the Portsmouth Public Library from 1973 to 2003, they were home. Pridham spent his 1940s–50s childhood in three houses in Puddle Dock on Charles Street (now Puddle Lane). All three—the Lowd, Sherburne and Shapley-Drisco Houses—are now part of Strawbery Banke Museum and interpret different eras in the waterfront neighborhood.

In a new walking tour, “Growing Up in Puddle Dock,” Pridham features these houses, and his great grandmother Georgie Gould’s store (no longer standing). Included in regular Strawbery Banke admission, the tours are offered on Thursday August 24 and 31, and September 7 and 14 at 11 am. The one-hour tours are a short walk in space but span decades in time as Pridham visits his former home and talks about growing up there in the 1950s surrounded by family, when his playground was Prescott Park, Peirce Island, the river, and the metal scrapyards that once dotted Puddle Dock.

“I appreciate Strawbery Banke’s giving me the opportunity to recount and share some of the good times and good lessons learned growing up in Puddle Dock,” Pridham said in joining curator Elizabeth Farish to announce the tours.

In Memoriam

JOSEPH G. SEVICK
Longtime friend of Strawbery Banke, Joseph (Joe) George Sevick, 92, of Winthrop, New York and York, Maine passed away at his NY home in February.

HERB A. GRANT
Former Strawbery Banke Board President, Herb A. Grant, of Bigfork, Montana, passed away on July 5, 2017.
Object of the Month

Paintings by Patrick Healey

In conjunction with this year’s featured exhibition, “The Painted Past,” Portsmouth artist Patrick Healey has set up an artist-in-residence studio in the Rowland Gallery. Since May he has worked on a collection of new paintings, many of which feature buildings and landscapes from Strawbery Banke. A new exhibit of these paintings, “Color and Structure: New Paintings of Strawbery Banke” by Patrick Healey opens October 1st in the TYCO Visitors Center. On Tuesday, October 10th at 5:30 pm, local poet Kimberly Green will lead a dialogue between artist Patrick Healey, Chief Curator Elizabeth Farish, and former Puddle Dock resident, Sherman Pridham on their different perspectives of the Puddle Dock neighborhood. In anticipation, a preview of Mr. Healey’s work is being exhibited now in the Visitors Center.