Suffragists at Strawberry Banke for “American Lives: A Timeline of Re-enactors”

**AMERICAN LIVES: A Timeline of American History**

**SATURDAY, JUNE 29, 10 AM TO 5 PM REGULAR ADMISSION (Members free)**

Meet the widest range of historic interpretation presented anywhere in New England! Dozens of costumed re-enactors and living history performers, presenting American history from 1602 to 1945, join the museum’s roleplayers for interactions all day long across the campus. Sponsored in part by Fidelity.

**AN AMERICAN CELEBRATION**

**1940S-STYLE SWING DANCE  WEDNESDAY, JULY 3, 6 PM TO 9 PM**

Stay and watch the City of Portsmouth Fireworks display over South Mill Pond (also presented by Wilcox)

**THURSDAY JULY 4  10 AM TO 5 PM**

US Naturalization Ceremony at 11 am.
Old-fashioned Family Field Day, 10 am to 2 pm.
Bicycle parade at 2 pm, sponsored by Exeter Hospital.
From the Chairman

I t is with great sadness that we share the news that Strawbery Banke has lost three of our greatest benefactors and staunchest supporters in the community. We have lost two very generous donors and advocates for the History Within Reach education program, Bill and Emily Hall. And we lost one of our most supportive Trustees, Mark Connolly, who was widely respected in the community and the state. We will miss you, Emily, Bill and Mark.

Seeing what Strawbery Banke has become, through eyes with different perspectives of who we are, makes it easier to recognize the legacy Bill, Emily and Mark have left us to build on. I thought of this in particular at two internal museum events I attended recently: the appreciation dinner for our invaluable volunteers and the spring National Council meeting that included the opening of the new Horticulture Learning Center.

Each one gave me the opportunity to see the museum from a new perspective, and to appreciate all the things that happen behind the scenes to make Strawbery Banke the extraordinary place it is.

At the Volunteer Appreciation Dinner we thanked dozens of the 300-plus volunteers who staff the special events, take care of administrative support and keep the gardens looking beautiful, day after day. By supplementing the small, dedicated full time staff, hard-working seasonal staff and interns, those volunteers make a real difference in the face Strawbery Banke presents to the world. Focusing on them at the dinner made me think about where we’d be without them.

The National Council meeting is always an opportunity to showcase Strawbery Banke: the campus, programs, and changes that allow us to grow and resonate. The meeting previewed the new “World of Wendells” exhibit that opens in June. Then, touring the new Horticulture Learning Center reaffirmed my belief that Strawbery Banke is about innovation, learning new ideas and having fun while tapping new interests. Both of these initiatives align Strawbery Banke’s past and present with the vision of a very exciting future.

Strawbery Banke Museum is a very special place, thanks to all who make it their work to sustain it. I thank you, the members of Strawbery Banke, for being part of that family; and look forward to seeing you around the museum.

Zach Slater
President & CEO

Puddle Dock Society Reborn!

C reated by the Board of Trustees in 1998, the Puddle Dock Society is composed of people whose love of the museum and its mission directed them to advise the museum that they plan to include Strawbery Banke in their long-term estate plans or wills.

By earmarking future resources, Society members ensure that the treasure that is Strawbery Banke endures for future generations. The financial security of planned giving through the Puddle Dock Society not only guarantees that Strawbery Banke has a future, it guarantees that recognized Society members leave a legacy that protects, preserves and sustains future engagement with Strawbery Banke.

The Trustees and Staff of Strawbery Banke recognize the Members of the Society by posting a list of members (excluding those who have requested anonymity) in the museum’s Annual Report and by hosting occasional events, tributes and other honors to thank the Members of the Society for their commitment to Preserving the Legacy of Strawbery Banke.

GRANTS/DONORS

Strawberry Banke thanks the following for their generous grants and sponsorships:

- Portsmouth Garden Club: a grant for the Goodwin Mansion, Native Shade Plants Garden
- Granite State Development Corporation for a Heritage House Program grant to restore Yeaton-Walsh
- Kennebunk Savings Bank sponsors the Tuesdays on the Terrace live music series, Tuesday July 9th through Tuesday August 27th.
- Wilcox Industries is the exclusive sponsor of free admission to An American Celebration on July 4th. Additional sponsors include BAE Systems, Eastern Bank, Appledore Medical Group, Exeter Hospital, and annual sponsors R.M. Davis and Proulx Oil & Propane. Marshall Tent and Event Rental provides in-kind assistance.
- Thomas M. Lynch and Lynch Pellet Stove Services for sponsoring the Thomas M. Lynch Archaeology Field School Scholarship.

IN MEMORIAM

BILL (WILFRED) AND EMILY HALL, members of the National Council were long-term advocates and donors in support of the History Within Reach program, which provides scholarships to cover school field trips to Strawbery Banke, including transportation, for schools in underserved communities. In an interview, the Halls commented, “We’re history buffs and we think the lessons from the past are particularly useful today. We believe in Strawbery Banke and this is one way to be useful.”

MARK CONNOLLY, Strawbery Banke Trustee for the past nine years, was such a strong supporter of the museum’s history and mission he included “puddledock” in his email address. Mark was elected a NH State Representative at the age of 22 and went on to become Assistant Secretary of State. In 2002, Secretary of State Bill Gardner named Mark the Director of Bureau of Securities Regulation. Among the many cases he pursued, he is best known for leading the fight against the Ponzi scheme created by FRM, in defense of many NH citizens who had been defrauded of their life savings.

Donations may be made to Memorial Funds in their names at StrawberyBanke.org/donate.cfm
June 14 is designated Flag Day to commemorate the decision by the Continental Congress to adopt the first version of the familiar red-white-and-blue Stars and Stripes on June 14, 1777. On Flag Day 2019, Strawbery Banke Museum and alumni from Haven School (in the former “Puddle Dock” waterfront neighborhood) and Farragut School in the North End present a Flag Day Commemoration opposite the Liberty Pole, once again reviving the neighborhoods’ celebration of Flag Day.

Members of the public are invited (free) to assemble on the Strawbery Banke side of Marcy Street opposite the Liberty Pole at 9 am on Flag Day.

Sherm Pridham, librarian emeritus of Portsmouth Public Library, former resident of Puddle Dock and Haven School alumnus commented, “The celebration is being organized by a group of Haven and Farragut School alums who hope to showcase the often-overlooked contributions local, and not-so-famous citizens, have made to Portsmouth’s and the Nation’s history and heritage. The goal is to provide opportunities to present and preserve more full and honest accounts of Portsmouth’s more recent past. The Liberty Pole is a symbol for honoring the stories and lives of working people in Portsmouth neighborhoods.”

Volunteer Dinner Awards

Strawbery Banke honored volunteers who donated 3,852 recorded hours of time to the museum in 2018 with a Volunteer Appreciation Dinner in April. Museum chair Zach Slater noted that interns, junior roleplayers, National Council members and Trustees donated an additional 7,000 volunteer hours to special events and programs, for a total of over 11,000 hours donated. Among those recognized for their outstanding volunteer efforts were: Brenda Schuechheimer, Volunteer of the Year; Madeline Johnson, Volunteer of the Year and Deanna Rossetti Segal, Rookie of the Year.

Flag Day Celebration: June 14

Tickets now on sale!

Members receive a $30 discount per ticket during the entire month of June.
The new “People of the Dawnland” interactive exhibit in the Jones House Family Discovery Center invites visitors, especially families, to learn more about the Abenaki/Wabanaki peoples of Northern New England, southern Quebec, and the Canadian Maritime Provinces, past and present, by exploring their culture, arts, foodways and storytelling traditions. The exhibit is open 7 days, 10 am to 5 pm through October 31, 2019 and is included in regular admission.

The exhibit incorporates hands-on activities, examples of traditional Abenaki games, and traditional arts supplied to the exhibit by Abenaki artisans. Visitors can also meet Anne Jennison, a Strawberry Banke interpreter of European and Abenaki ancestry, who is known for her traditional Northeast Native American storytelling. She shares stories of Abenaki history and culture in the exhibit several days a week while demonstrating how to make various forms of Abenaki handcrafted art. The exhibit area includes books for visitors of all ages with more stories, art and information about the People of the Dawnland. Families are invited to read stories aloud during their visit.

The exhibit was organized by the museum’s Education Department in collaboration with Anne, other Abenaki in the region and the museum archaeologist, Alexandra Martin. Alix is a non-Native Professor of Native Studies in the Anthropology Department at UNH. She and Anne are members of the UNH Indigenous NH Collaborative Collective there.