

We welcome your comments about this issue of Banke Notes and encourage your ideas.
Please contact us at 603-433-1100 or info@strawberybanke.org



Strawbery Banke Museum, PO Box 300
14 Hancock Street, Portsmouth, NH 03801

Artifact of the Month

by Strawbery Banke Assistant Curator Amanda Breen

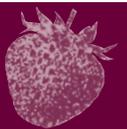
The 2015 featured exhibition, Game On! — the perfect reflection of the theme “Winter Pastimes”— stays open to visitors during Candlelight Stroll. Showcasing cards, board games and their players in Portsmouth, the exhibition includes this folding game board (#2001.145) which appears to be two book volumes when closed. Inside, it features two ancient games that have remained the same to the present day: checkers and backgammon. The game board dates to the late eighteenth century; and reputedly belonged to the New Hampshire statesman and signer of the Declaration of Independence, Josiah Bartlett of Kingston. The game board includes game pieces, dice and covered cups made of wood, leather and ivory. On view in the Rowland Gallery during Candlelight Stroll, this winter pastime will also be enjoyed by role-players interpreting Shapley-Drisco House residents in 1795 and in 1950, using reproduction game boards. The Museum’s purchase of this piece was made possible by a gift to the Collection Acquisition Fund.



figtreekitchen

MEMBERS RECEIVE A
VARIETY OF SPECIAL
BENEFITS AND DISCOUNTS
(SEE WEBSITE) INCLUDING
10% OFF PURCHASES
AT PICKWICK'S & CAFÉ.

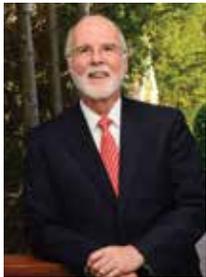
JOIN
TODAY!



JOIN OR RENEW TODAY AND ENJOY
ALL OF THE MEMBER BENEFITS
STRAWBERRY BANKE HAS IN STORE!

President's Message

Lawrence J. Yerdon, President & CEO



Three years ago, the Board of Trustees adopted a Plan for Sustainability for Strawberry Banke that was the result of two years' work by senior staff and the trustees. The plan organized

the entire scope of the museum around three strategic frameworks designed to ensure the museum will continue to serve for many more generations to come as "A Place to Learn, A Place to Gather and A Sustainable Resource." Along with many programs and enhancements now underway, the Plan also identified the development of a Long Range Interpretive Plan as a priority.

Now, thanks to a significant grant from IMLS (see page 3), Strawberry Banke has started work on this Long Range Interpretive Plan, and has begun to identify a 'thematic umbrella' for Strawberry Banke, connecting ideas, stories, messages and products found at the museum to a larger sense of shared history and purpose among visitors, members and partners. These themes encourage visitors to see themselves and find their place in Strawberry Banke's storied waterfront neighborhood, past, present, and future. The Interpretive Plan will build on those themes to help strengthen visitor awareness that they share and are participants in the compelling and continuing living history presented at Strawberry Banke. It's an exciting time to be looking at Strawberry Banke's past, present and future. We hope you will be part of the conversation. As always, I look forward to hearing from you.

36th Annual Candlelight Stroll celebrates "Winter Pastimes"

DECEMBER 5-6, 12-13 AND 19-20, 2015



CREDIT: DAVID J. MURRAY/CLEARREYEPHOTO

When Yankee Magazine featured Candlelight Stroll on the cover of its December issue, the editor wrote "if there's a place that does a better job of celebrating the holidays, I don't know where it is." An anchor of the Vintage Christmas in Portsmouth festivities, Candlelight Stroll is a cherished tradition, now in its 36th year of making December across 300 years in the Puddle Dock neighborhood a vibrant experience.

This year's theme "Winter Pastimes," builds on the focus of the Game On! exhibit on display in the Rowland Gallery and showcases the outdoor ice rink, Labrie Family Skate at Puddle Dock Pond, now in its second year of operation. The sights, sounds and scents of December fill Strawberry Banke, as do thousands of hand-made decorations crafted from materials collected in the gardens over the summer. Skaters in vintage costume are scheduled to add atmosphere to the Labrie Family Skate.

New this year, Pickwick's at the Banke presents a **HOLIDAY DINNER** in the Historic Pitt Tavern. Requiring a separate ticket (\$5 discount for members), the dinner is offered at three times on each night of Stroll and features a four-course menu created by Chef Evan Mallett of Black Trumpet fame.

STROLL TICKETS are **ADULTS \$25, CHILDREN 5-17, \$17.50, FAMILIES \$60** (2 adults and 2 children) and are available online. **DISCOUNTED/FREE ADMISSION FOR MEMBERS.**

The event takes place from **5-9 PM** on **SATURDAYS** and **4-8 PM** on **SUNDAYS**. Candlelight Stroll is generously supported by the Lincoln Financial Group, Bank of New Hampshire, D.F.Richard, FairPoint Communications, People's Bank, Amica, Heinemann Publishing, Newburyport Five Cents Savings Bank, Northeast Credit Union, Northeast Delta Dental, Northway Bank, Optima Bank & Trust, Sheraton Harborside, York Hospital, Joy's HVAC, Inc., R.M.Davis.



Labrie Family Skate at Puddle Dock Pond returns!

Outdoor ice skating at Labrie Family Skate at Puddle Dock Pond is shaping up to be even better than last year, with an extended season stretching (weather permitting) from late November into March.

The rink schedule is full of opportunities to get out and enjoy the season:

- Weekly skating lessons for adults, kids and tots. First session begins December 1st, with a second session beginning in January. (Register online.)
- Daily food service, holiday parties, company outings and winter celebrations with on-site catering options from Figtree Kitchen.
- Skate rentals and skate sharpening available.
- NEW this year-Broomball Leagues on Tuesday and Wednesday nights! No experience necessary-register with NH Sports and Social Club (nhssc.com).

Building a temporary rink each year is an ambitious and costly effort. Thank you to Exeter Hospital, sponsoring this year's operation of the Zamboni. Pictured right: Strawberry Banke president Larry Yerdon thanks Exeter Hospital vice president, Mark Whitney. We are also grateful for Living Innovations, for again sponsoring the weekly Adaptive Ice Time for those with physical challenges. And thanks to Newmarket International for a new \$2,500 sponsorship.

For information on making a donation, scheduling an event or registering for lessons, visit www.puddledockpond.org or contact Monique Deforge, mdeforge@strawberrybanke.org or 603.422.7552.



Congratulations to Jeff Keefe, chair of the volunteer Puddle Dock Pond Committee honored as Volunteer of the Year by the Invest in Others Charitable Foundation in NYC for his work on Puddle Dock Pond.



LABRIE FAMILY SKATE
AT PUDDLE DOCK POND
STRAWBERRY BANKE MUSEUM

**OPENING LATE NOVEMBER
MEMBERS SKATE FOR HALF-PRICE!**



Strawbery Banke receives \$103,982 IMLS grant for interpretive plan



The Institute of Museum and Library Services, that provides federal support for the nation’s 123,000 libraries and 35,000 museums, has awarded one of its highly competitive grants to Strawbery Banke Museum to complete the next step in the development of a Long Range Interpretive Plan (LRIP) for the museum. The \$103,982 grant was awarded in the IMLS “Learning Experiences” category to create the LRIP to provide a framework to help Strawbery Banke make decisions shaped by the needs and desires of their current and future visitors.

The IMLS grant allows Strawbery Banke to seek consultant, stakeholder and audience input to assess and restructure interpretive themes and approaches so that the museum can continue to be a vibrant gathering place that, in the words of the Plan, “brings history and people together for exploration, learning and community engagement.” Consultants Jane Gordon and Maude Ayson are currently meeting with staff and community stakeholders to enhance Strawbery Banke’s understanding of existing and potential audiences and will continue to delve into critical ‘what do we need to know’ questions over the coming months.

The 18-month project will define a road map for the museum to evaluate, design, and deliver engaging museum experiences and memorable services. Based on research and evaluation, the LRIP is intended to identify new themes, review site usage and recommend experiences to incorporate differing learning styles and physical and intellectual accessibility to museum offerings.



Figtree Kitchen Café welcomes holiday parties!

Figtree Kitchen café in the TYCO Visitors Center is the ideal catering host for festive gatherings, with seating available in the café or lecture hall (or both) and a full menu of entrees, buffet selections and beverages. Book now for a November event and the room charge is waived. The perfect way to get a jump on holiday scheduling and to say thank you to clients, staff and supporters. For details on catering menus and custom details, please contact Melissa Harrington at 603.766.4300 or melissaharrington25@yahoo.com.

February Winter Vacation Camp — registration now open!

Relax and have fun at Strawbery Banke during February school vacation, enjoying hands-on crafts, historic cooking, old fashioned games and dress up. Intended for grades 1 through 5. Choose one morning session or several and see how exciting history can be! Details on programs and registration at StrawberyBanke.org



\$25 per day members/\$30 per day non-members. Discounts for multiple camp/sibling registration. E-Mail camps@strawberybanke.org or call 603.422.7541.

EXTENDED CAMP OPTION: Stay an extra 90-minutes for some outdoor winter fun and go skating at Labrie Family Skate. Time: 12:00 – 1:30. Price: \$10 .00/Skate Rental: \$5.00. Bring a lunch.

Thank you new sponsors!

