
PICKERING HOUSE NEWSLETTER

Issue #13

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December 2008

The Pickering House
Newsletter
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**The Pickering
Foundation**

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In Memorium: *Sherrie Hovey Goodhue*



Sherrie Hovey Goodhue, age 49 of Salem, died Saturday, June 28, 2008 in the Kaplan Family Hospice House, Danvers. She was married to Albert "Tag" Goodhue III for twenty-two years and raised two wonderful boys, Albert Leland Goodhue and Nathaniel Hovey Goodhue.

She was born in Millinocket, Maine, the daughter of Joyce (Trautt) Hovey and the

late Leland Webb Hovey, Jr. and later moved to Stockbridge, MA with her family. She graduated from Monument Mountain Regional High School in the Class of 1977 and attended Colorado State University. In 1981 she graduated from Boston University School of Business with a B.S. in Information Systems.

Sherrie was employed by Texas Instruments and then for many years by Mellon Bank as a Systems Analyst. Among many of Sherrie's interests were sailing on the family boat "Quadrille", skiing in New Hampshire, antiquing, formal dinners at home and running her own interior design company. Sherrie was a member of the Salem Females Charitable Organization, the Mayflower Society, the Vincent Club, The Colonial Dames of Massachusetts and the Pickering Foundation.

Sherrie is also survived by her brother Leland Webb Hovey III of Sytacuse, NY; a sister-in-law Temple Durham Goodhue and her husband Thomas Montanari of Lexington, MA, two nephews Edmund and Alvert Montanari of Lexington, MA.

Sherrie's unforgettable smile and total dedication to her family will always be cherished and remembered by all.

LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

It gives me great pride to welcome you to our annual newsletter. I hope you'll take the time to explore our informative articles and entertaining illustrations.

Foremost in our thoughts is the passing of Sherrie Goodhue, our friend and intrepid Executive Director. It was certainly a life well lived with compassion, wit, enthusiasm, and great courage. The Pickering family feels blessed to have such a stouthearted crew as Tag, Leland, Nathaniel and the puppies (of course!) holding down the fort at 18 Broad St. I think most of us can only imagine the chaos at the house in the past year with Sherrie's illness, chimney rebuilding, Pickering business, work, family and a leaky roof. All of it confronted with grace and aplomb by the Goodhue family. We are all very thankful to have them at the house.

With our important chimney project behind us, it didn't take long for the next problem to rear its ugly head. Our weathered roof was leaking and with every passing storm, Tag had to add a new bucket to a new location. Enter J.B. Kidney & Company with a new 50-year roof with copper flashings and gutters. This major improvement will insure the wellbeing of, not only the important contents of the house, but the wellbeing of its inhabitants as well.

As you drive by the house to admire our new roof, you may also notice a few things missing from the front yard. Our 165-year-old English oak tree on the right corner had to be taken down along with the pine that was almost growing "in" the corner of the library. We keep a portion of the tree for anyone visiting to view the age of the grand old tree. Growing up I often admired the great old trees on the property and always considered them to be an important part of the historic fabric of the Pickering House. With guidance, the Board will see that the remaining trees and plantings are well maintained and/or replaced as needed.

We should all take pride in this recent activity around the house as it serves to remind us of two things. First and foremost, the Pickering Foundation's continuing need for contributions from our important members past and present. Second, it shows that we have an

enthusiastic Board of Directors that is committed to take necessary actions to preserve and direct this great old house for another 350 years or more! It is our members' enthusiastic support and interest that makes these improvements possible.

Our chimney repair, new heating system and roof were all crucial and time-sensitive maintenance that needed our immediate attention. As many other homeowners in these difficult times have found out, we may have been able to purchase these improvements, but unfortunately, affording them is another matter. I would ask of our membership to kindly consider a contribution at this time to help us to maintain this historic old house. If you are not currently a member or a lapsed member, or know of someone that may be interested in belonging to the Pickering Foundation, I welcome you to enjoy the benefits of helping to support this historic house.

With my thanks on behalf of the Board of Directors for your past and present support!

Happy Holidays,

H.B.Pickering, President

NEWS, EVENTS & ITEMS OF NOTE

The Board of Trustees would like to thank neighbor and good friend Karen Cady for her generous donation of a new computer to the Foundation. It will be put to good use!

The Board of Trustees also would like to thank ElizaBeth Emery for her continued administrative support to the Foundation.



In Memorium: Sally Pickering

South Hamilton, MA – Sarah Coughlan Pickering, wife of the late John Pickering Jr. of Salem, died suddenly early Friday morning January 18, 2008 at the age of 86.

The daughter of Emmett Poe Coughlan and Katharine Montgomery Reed, Sally was born in Wells, ME and grew up in Poughkeepsie, NY. She spent her early summers in the York-Ogunquit area of the southern Maine coast, where she met her husband, and she later enjoyed summers in Brooklin and Friendship, ME. A graduate of Saint Agnes School (now the Doane Stuart School) in Albany, NY and Skidmore College in Saratoga Springs, she worked for many years as a travel consultant in Andover, and later as a real estate agent on the North Shore.

Sally and her family lived in Marblehead and Andover before moving into The Pickering House in Salem in 1967, becoming the 10th Pickering generation to reside there and making the home the oldest house in America to be continuously occupied by the same family. She was a past president of the Board of Trustees of the Pickering Foundation, whose mission is to cultivate an appreciation of one family's role in the American experience, which is manifested in the preservation of this historic home, built in 1651, for the enrichment and enjoyment of the community. Sally delighted in receiving visitors to the house from the around the world.

She was also a member the National Society of the Colonial Dames of America, Grace Episcopal Church of Salem, Harmony Grove Cemetery of Salem, and the Cheerful Workers sewing circle. She was an enthusiastic fan of tennis, the Boston Red Sox, and the New England Patriots. She loved keeping up with the goings-on of her grandchildren and nieces and nephews, reading the newspaper, and spending time with her friends in her bridge group.

Sally is survived by two children, Katharine Pickering and her husband Richard O'Dwyer of Hamilton, and David Montgomery Pickering and his wife Jennifer Williams Pickering of Harpswell, ME; five grandchildren, Thomas Motley, Sarah Pickering Weese and her husband William Kipfer Weese, Elisabeth Crowninshield Motley, Brooks Montgomery Pickering, and Grant Amory Pickering; two great grandchildren, Henry Reed Weese and Holden James Weese; and many beloved nieces and nephews. She was the sister of William Carlisle Coughlan of Hobe Sound, FL, the late Charles Montgomery Coughlan, Margaret Coughlan Hill Howe of Rhinebeck, NY, and Peter Reed Coughlan of Orrs Island, ME.

Pickering Foundation Announces the Inaugural Sarah C. Pickering Scholarship

On Sunday, June 15, 2008 at 6 pm at the Pickering Foundation's Annual Members' Open House, the trustees of the Pickering Foundation presented the inaugural Sarah C. Pickering Scholarship to graduating Salem High School senior, Anne "Brooke" Grasberger.

In keeping with the Pickering Foundation's goal to educate the public of the home's significance, the Pickering Foundation's Board of Trustees has elected to give away a yearly scholarship to a student from Salem High School who has shown interest in the study of American history and has a solid understanding of its importance to our society.

The decision as to who should be the recipient of this first annual award was made by the History Department at SHS. "The teachers at the school know the kids best. They see the students in action and know which students have shown interest and have gained knowledge", says Richard Pickering, from The Pickering Foundation.

This year, the scholarship will be awarded to Anne Brooke Grasberger. According to SHS' AP US History teacher Craig Massey, "She loves history. She received a 5 on the AP test last year (perfect score). She grasps history's importance and complexities better than any student I have seen in my short career. She is an amazing writer. There is no one else in the senior class who even comes close to her passion for the subject."

The scholarship is named after the late Sarah C. Pickering, a long time resident of The Pickering House and a beloved member of the Salem community, who passed away last January. Wife of John Pickering X, Sally and her family moved into the Pickering House in 1967, becoming the 10th Pickering generation to reside there and making the home the oldest house in America to be continuously occupied by the same family.

Mrs. Pickering was a past president of the Board of Trustees of the Pickering Foundation, whose mission is "to cultivate an appreciation of one family's role in the American experience, which is manifested in the preservation of this historic home, built in 1651, for the enrichment and enjoyment of the community." Mrs. Pickering delighted in receiving visitors to the house from around the world and showing them the important Washington papers, Colonel Timothy Pickering documents and collections.

AN EVENTFUL 2008 OPEN HOUSE

It was another beautiful day for our Annual Open House, which always occurs on Father's Day. New and rejoining members filled the house and grounds enjoying cocktails and delicious hors d'oeuvres. Everyone enjoyed the lively entertainment thanks to The Glover Regiment. The House was in a fine style for the event – freshly painted and surrounded by gorgeous plantings. One special event included the presentation of the first annual Sarah C. Pickering Scholarship for \$500 to Anne Brooke Grasberger. Brooke had been a docent for the House the previous year, and even led a tour through the house during the party. Enjoy the photos from the Open House below and we hope to see members next June!



The party in full swing!



The Board of Trustees and Bora Mici, Website Designer



Holden Weese & Glover Regiment



Joy Snell, Becky Putnam, Philio Wigglesworth Cushing, Martha Shreve



William Kiley, Barbara Weese, Richard O'Dwyer, William Weese, Kip Weese



Kaylee Pickering, Deb Pickering, Ron Abramson, Tina Abramson, Nate Pickering, Madison Pickering



John Armstrong saluting



Smith sisters



Brooke giving a tour



Board President, Ben Pickering and Brooke Grasberger

FUNDRAISING PAYING OFF – BUT MORE IS NEEDED

The first major capital campaign of the Pickering Foundation is starting to pay off significant dividends. Over the last year, with the help of many generous members, the Pickering House has seen some much-needed improvements.

Many of the repairs have been updates to ensure the House, as more than a museum but also a home to the Goodhues, takes advantage of modern efficiencies while preserving its historic integrity. Driving by the Pickering House, the new roof is the most visible symbol of these improvements. After years of leaking, the roof risked serious damage to the structure. After the first round of fundraising exclusively within the Pickering family this fall, the Pickering Foundation was finally able to authorize replacement of the roof, with the blessing of the Salem Historic Commission.

The grounds of the House also received needed-attention this summer (although much of that work is barely visible now). Many Pickering cousins and friends set upon the House in advance of the Annual Meeting on a beautification campaign (see photos from Work Day 2008). They were painting, weeding and planting to make sure the House looked as grand as ever for our Annual Open House.

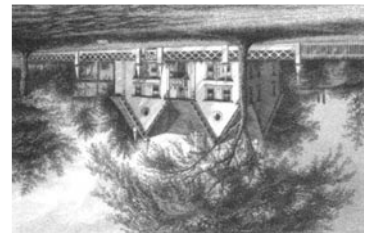
Going inside the House, a substantial portion of the past few years' fundraising efforts came to fruition with the stabilization of the historic chimney. One of the branches of the chimney was crumbling and at risk of creating serious damage to the entire House. Shoring up this centerpiece of the House was both a symbolic, as well as a fundraising accomplishment. The Pickering Foundation Board of Trustees thanks all of those members who have responded to the Board's admittedly unexciting pleas to help with the chimney repairs. And just in time for winter, the House has a new furnace and heating system.

But necessary repairs to the Pickering House are ongoing. Indeed, New England winters are rough on any house, particularly one more than 300 years old. In addition, the current economic environment has taken its toll on our endowment. In order to ensure funds are available to maintain the integrity of this historic house for the coming generations, the endowment must endure through this storm. We thank all members in advance for their continued support of the Pickering House.

By: Nina Pickering Cook

18 BROAD STREET • SALEM, MASS. 01970

PICKERING HOUSE



If you are not currently a member,
please consider joining by choosing membership in one of the following categories:

<input type="checkbox"/> \$500 Patron	Name(s) _____
<input type="checkbox"/> \$250 Sustaining	Address _____
<input type="checkbox"/> \$100 Family	City _____ State _____ Zip _____
<input type="checkbox"/> \$50 Individual	Email _____

Credit card: _____ Exp. date: _____

Foundation members are welcome to attend the June Open House
If you are a member, please renew your commitment
in one of the above categories. Send your tax-deductible gift/dues to:

The Pickering Foundation
18 Broad Street
Salem, MA 01970