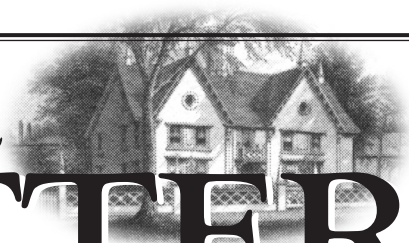


PICKERING HOUSE NEWSLETTER



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ANNUAL MEETING DRAWS LARGE CROWD DESPITE SOGGY JUNE WEATHER

Well over 100 friends of the Pickering House came over on June 14th to enjoy a brief sunny break in the otherwise rainy June weather and to mingle with new and old friends and family at the Annual Meeting.



John & Irene Pickering and family with Katharine Pickering

The Board of Trustees was invigorated in particular to see so many new faces at the Annual Meeting. There were new neighbors from the area surrounding the house being welcomed graciously into the community by the long-time residents of the Chestnut Street area. There were even new Pickering family members to be found! John Pickering and his wife Irene and two daughters made the trip from Merrimac, New Hampshire to investigate the family connection. We are so glad they did!

This year's Annual Meeting also marked the bestowing of the second annual Sarah C. Pickering Memorial Scholarship. This year's recipient, Vanessa Marshall attended the meeting with her two proud parents. Before and after the scholarship presentation, Vanessa and her parents were able to walk around the house and the grounds and learn more about some of the history right in their back yard in Salem.

Ben Pickering, President of the Pickering Foundation, also laid out for annual meeting attendants the progress that has been made on the House in the past year and the focus of the Board in coming year. Specifically, many of the major capital improvements and repairs have been tended to over the past year, leaving this coming year blissfully-free of major House projects. Ben stated that the focus of the coming year will be financial maintenance. Like all non-profits across the country, the Pickering Foundation saw its endowment significantly impacted by the global financial crisis in 2008-2009. In the coming months, the Board of Trustees will be switching its efforts to shoring up the endowment and making sure it is in a financial position to care for the House for many years to come.

With all that business out of the way, members enjoyed cocktails in the late afternoon sun, complete with a salute from the Glover Regiment. We thank all those members that ventured over for the first time and look forward to expanding the Pickering House circle even wider for next year's meeting.

- Nina Pickering Cook



Nancy Smith Hood and Temple Goodhue



Betsy Bundy, Beverly Seamans, Judy Pickering and Edie Armstrong



Tim and Jennifer Clark with Katharine Pickering and the Glover Regiment



Katharine and David Navins with Ann Parson



Barbara Metcalf, Dickon Armstrong and Elizabeth Atkin



Dean & Betsy Lahikainen and family with Jim Hogan



Paine and Barbara Metcalf with Neil and Martha Chayette

MS. VANESSA MARSHALL RECEIVES SARAH C. PICKERING SCHOLARSHIP

At the Pickering Foundation Annual Meeting and Open House this past spring, Vanessa Marshall, a graduating senior from Salem High School, was awarded a \$500 scholarship. This was the second annual awarding of the scholarship named after the late Sarah C. Pickering, a long time resident of the Pickering House and beloved member of the Salem Community.



Vanessa and her parents with board members, Ben and Rich Pickering

The decision as to who should be the recipient of this first annual award was made by the Social Studies 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, Pickering Foundation board member.

This year, the scholarship was awarded to Vanessa Marshall. Ms. Marshall is currently studying American Government and Politics at George Washington University in Washington, D.C. Prior to her receiving the award, a Salem High Government teacher said, "She has shown tremendous interest in learning the Constitution and the workings of our government. She has good study habits and research skills. Vanessa demonstrates all the qualifications of a stellar student, and she is very deserving of the Pickering Foundation award."

The Pickering Foundation Board of Trustees and Foundation members congratulate Vanessa. "Our mission is to continue to support students from the Salem community", says Ben Pickering, president of the Foundation. "Currently we are in the midst of an endowment fundraising campaign. There have been some much-needed repairs completed on the house, and our resources are a bit depleted. Hopefully, the Salem community will continue to support us and our efforts, so that we can increase this scholarship in the years to come."

- Rich Pickering

SPRING SPRUCING

The piercing sound of a chainsaw greeted Pickering House neighbors on a glorious May Saturday as the Foundation Board members got together for the annual Spring clean-up day on the grounds of the Pickering House. A number of projects were tackled including the removal of some branches that were growing into and on top of the front fence, pruning long overdue hedges and bushes, planting annuals, and mulching and weeding some of the existing flowerbeds.

As was expected, at the end of the day, there were still many projects left undone; however, because of good turnout and organization, it was a productive day.

The board is committed to continuing to organize workdays for both Spring and Fall seasons. The work has benefits that go beyond simply beautifying the grounds; it also connects board members to the home in a more intimate way, and keeps board members more aware of ongoing outdoor needs. Members of the Salem community and Pickering Foundation are encouraged to join in as well.

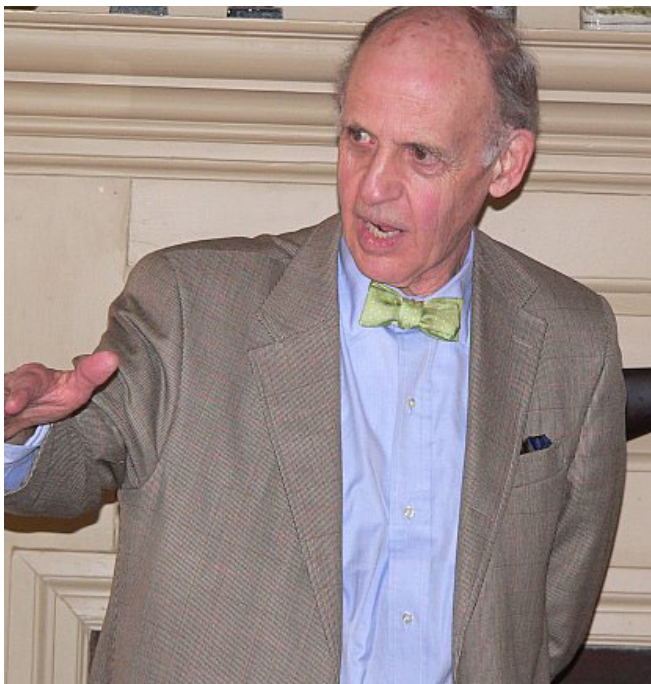


Tag Goodhue is to be commended for his continued "good works" surrounding all aspects of the Pickering House. Without his guidance, willingness to share tools, and hard work, the day would not have been such a success.

- Rich Pickering

PICKERING HOUSE LIBRARY LECTURE WITH LLEWELLYN HOWLAND III

Last March, the Pickering House hosted “a tell all” lecture presented by Llewellyn Howland III, and was entitled Forging ahead: The life and times of Chestnut Street’s most improbable criminal, George Burnham Ives (1856-1930). The lecture was followed by a tasty chowder luncheon whipped up by Tag Goodhue, Benji Shreve, and Dana Jones.



Llewellyn Howland III, a life long friend of the Pickering House, regaled the audience with the fascinating life of his great grandfather George Burnham Ives. Like his grandfather Ives was, Louie is an editor, bibliophile, and bibliographer, and in addition is antiquarian bookseller, and has been fascinated by the story of his great grandfather Ives.

The story in Louis’s own words:

“On May 12, 1890, George B Ives, a 32-year-old resident of Chestnut Street, Salem, and Assistant District Attorney of Essex County, pleaded guilty in the Newburyport Superior Court to the crime of forgery in eight counts and was sentenced to 8 1/2 years in Charlestown Prison. For a member of one of Salem’s best known and most achieved families,

a graduate of Harvard College, a summa cum laude graduate of Harvard Law School, a member of the Eastern Yacht Club, and the happily married father of two young boys, it was, indeed, a shocking fall from grace. But George B Ives’ improbable story did not end with his incarceration, and his long subsequent career as a translator, bibliographer, and editor at Atlantic Monthly was very nearly as remarkable as had been his brief, but costly life in crime.

I have been reviewing the file on my Great Grandfather George Burnham Ives--and a strange story it makes, too!

He was only 32, the assistant DA of Essex County, when he was convicted of embezzling some \$30,000 or \$40,000 from various trust funds (a million or more in today’s dollars), not to mention wiping out his wife’s inheritance, and stiffing many, many friends who had lent him money along the way. For a graduate of Harvard College and Harvard Law School, a member of the Eastern Yacht Club, and a member of one of Salem’s more interesting and achieved families, it was a tremendous fall from grace. He was sentenced to 8 1/2 years in the Charlestown Prison and, of course, disbarred for life. My grandfather Ives was only 10 years old the year GBI went to prison; his brother Manley was 12. What a role model for them to live down! Yet his wife, my Great Grandmother May Creamer Ives, visited GBI almost every day at the prison and stayed by him to the very end of her life.

But the story was not without its redeeming features. George B Ives was a serious student of French history and an excellent linguist; in prison and for the rest of his life he became one of America’s foremost literary translators from the French and, ultimately, the editor of what was for some decades the standard edition (in four volumes) of the essays of Montaigne (the so-called “fig leaf” edition, for reasons I will explain at the Pickering House). He also served as an editor at the Atlantic Monthly and prepared the first comprehensive bibliography of the writings of Oliver Wendell Holmes.

He died in 1930, when my mother was 17. She knew her Grandpa Ives well and loved him dearly, but never, until years later, knew anything about his criminal past.”

~ Becky Putnam

Note: Llewellyn’s lecture at the Pickering House was organized in cooperation with the Bowditch Institute.

BOOK ON THE PICKERING HOUSE TO BE PUBLISHED

"It may not look it, but the slate-gray house at 18 Broad Street in Salem, Massachusetts, is about 350 years old – or at least that's true of its southeast parlor and overhead chamber. What a tremendous about it might tell us, this dwelling that can claim as distinguished and storied a past as just about any residence in the United States."

So begins *The Pickering House of Salem, America's Oldest Home*, a family history that will be available in time for the New Year.

Considering that 18 Broad Street is Salem's oldest surviving dwelling, not to mention the oldest colonial in the country continuously maintained by one family, a book about it and its occupants is long overdue. The story begins with John I, a young adventuresome carpenter, leaving England in the 1630s and settling in Salem beside a broad highway in the 1640s. As for the nine John Pickerings to follow, who with their wives and children lived under the same roof and cared for the same land, many demonstrated the same idiosyncrasies, notably a love of farming, a "mechanickal genius," and a rather distinctive Pickering nose.

The narrative traces these ten generations and what they endured: the harsh environment of colonial times, witch hysteria, the French-and-Indian wars, the Revolution and Civil War, the rise and fall of Salem's maritime trade, Salem's cultural heyday, the onset of the industrial age, one world war followed by another, and finally the arrival of some of those technologies that certain Pickerings predicted. Yeoman turn into Harvard-educated gentry; the house evolves from a modest saltbox to a gable-peaked mansion.

Few families can boast of such interesting ancestors. Statesman Timothy Pickering is the best known, and yet the Pickering House also saw the comings-and-goings of a heroic lieutenant, one of Salem's earliest shipwrights, a pioneering sea captain, the world's foremost linguist, a famous naturalist, a celebrated astronomer, a poet as well as a female literary lion, and several devoted townsmen and women.

To listen to the Pickering House's story is to experience the growth of a remarkable New England town as well as that of a nation. "I sometimes think of Salem as Pompeii, buried not by volcanic ash but by the indifference of Americans to their history," historian Robert Booth observed. "This family is an invaluable lens on everything that has been forgotten."

~ Ann Parson

Note: For more information about ordering a copy of the book, please email us at pickeringhouse1@gmail.com.

*Interested in receiving
our newsletter by email?*

Contact us at pickering1@gmail.com.

HOUSE NEWS

Congratulations to Leland Goodhue who graduated from Shore Country Day School in Beverly, MA in June. He is now a freshman at Salem High School.



The Graduate!

SAVE THE DATE!
HAMILTON HALL CHRISTMAS DANCE
DECEMBER 19



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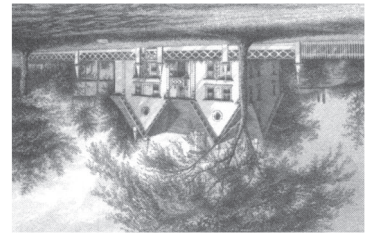
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PICKERING HOUSE



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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