

Historic Deerfield



MemberNews

Spring/Summer 2018





Have Your Photo Featured in Member News!

Have you taken a fabulous photo of Historic Deerfield that would look great in print? Tag your photo #HDmember on Instagram, Facebook, or Twitter and we'll pick a photo to print in an upcoming Member News! This photo, taken by our Director of Marketing, Laurie Nivison, last spring, features the beautiful lilacs in bloom outside the Visitor Center.

Members Get a Sneak Peek of New Exhibition

On Sunday, February 25, members had the opportunity to catch the first glimpse of the fabulous new Flynt Center lobby exhibition, *Rococo: Celebrating 18th-Century Design and Decoration*. Amanda Lange, Director of the Curatorial Department and Curator of Historic Interiors, and Dan Sousa, The Peggy N. Berry-Anne K. Groves Curatorial Intern, were on hand to answer questions about the Rococo style and the exhibit. Make sure to stop by the Flynt Center the next time you are in Deerfield to view this exhibition, which features a number of English and American Rococo decorative art forms from Historic Deerfield's rich collection, and which celebrates both Chippendale's legacy and the iconic style he helped promote.



Help bring Deerfield objects home!

By joining the Collectors Guild with an annual donation of \$500 or more you can help Historic Deerfield acquire significant objects of art, culture, and history made and/or owned in Old Deerfield from the 17th to early 20th century. Your support will enable the Museum to secure Deerfield objects that might otherwise escape preservation.

The Stebbins family tall clock, made by Aaron Willard (1757-1844) in Boston about 1800, first owned by Asa Stebbins (1767-1844), was the first Collectors Guild acquisition and is now back in its original home in the Stebbins House.

To join, call (413) 775-7176, or visit www.historic-deerfield.org/guild.



Try this uniquely American dessert that can be traced back to the 17th century!



**New
Feature!**

MEMBER NEWS RECIPE

Indian Pudding

A colonial treat from the Deerfield Inn.

Serves 6-8 people.

- 1 quart of milk
- 1 bag of cornmeal mix
- 2/3 cup molasses
- 1/3 cup maple syrup
- 1 ounce butter
- 4 eggs

Heat milk in a double boiler until skin forms. Whisk in cornmeal mix. Cook until thickened, stirring occasionally. Add molasses and maple syrup and heat thoroughly. In a separate bowl beat the eggs. Whisk in a small amount of the hot mixture into the eggs. Now mix the egg into the remaining hot mixture. Pour into a dish for baking. Bake at 350° in a water bath until set (1½-2 hours).

Send us your recipe to share in the autumn issue of *Member News*! Email it to: membership@historic-deerfield.org

Members Trip *Save the Date!*

October 24-27, 2018

Please join the Friends of Historic Deerfield and Phil and Betsy Zea as Historic Deerfield goes to the Crystal Bridges Museum and other historic sites and homes in Arkansas. Stay tuned for more details!



Discover the Art of Quilling This Spring

Historic Deerfield's History Workshop, an interactive space for hands-on learning of colonial history, will showcase the art of quillwork this spring. Quillwork is the art of curling small strips of paper into intricate coiled designs. An ancient art form first seen as metal filigree used to decorate Greek, Egyptian, and Etruscan tombs, many centuries later paper filigree became popular in Europe as an art form used in making framed coats of arms, portraits, and decorative shadow boxes. In colonial America coiling decorative paper was called "quillwork" because the shaft of a goose feather or "quill" was used as the tool to roll strips of paper.

During weekends in May and June, you can stop by and learn how to quill yourself! After you master this lovely craft, stop by the Museum Gift Shop and Bookstore to discover the quillwork cards for sale and perhaps pick up your own quillwork kit to continue the craft after you've left Historic Deerfield.



Welcome New Members!

Kristen Von Malder, Erica Francks,
Ellen Coty, Ray Boas, Donald and
Judi Campbell, David and
Jody Cooley, Samuel Cooley

January 1–March 1, 2018

Get to know the Historic Deerfield Staff



When you call to RSVP for an event, check if your membership is up-to-date, or for help renewing, you speak to Jessica Schofield. Jessica has been at Historic Deerfield for over a year and brings a varied career background with a strong customer service focus. "What I love most about my job is the interaction I have with our members. I enjoy answering their questions regarding their membership and helping them connect their passions and interests to our programs and events." Jess lives in Chesterfield, NH with her husband and three kids.



Member Profile: Elizabeth R. Rea

“Michael Moorhead Rea and I found our 1775 dream home in Washington, CT. Our restoration efforts led us to explore Historic Deerfield in Massachusetts. This unique town amounts to one magical street lined on both sides with authentic early American homes that one can walk through, each home a museum of period art and furnishings. The Wells-Thorn House immediately caught our eye, its exterior paint a rare brilliant blue. The interior wood trim colors, also exquisite in rich colors, represent a unique palette. Inspired, we painted our dining room trim a coral rose color and the keeping room a lavender gray wood trim. When my husband died several years after that special first visit to Historic Deerfield, to honor his memory, I painted the exterior

Elizabeth R. Rea (above), seated in the Dining Room of her 1775 home, Washington, CT. The trim color is painted a rich coral rose copied from the Wells-Thorn House in Historic Deerfield.

color of our home that unique Wells-Thorn blue. I feel a special connection with Historic Deerfield now that this unique color adorns my home. I am a long-time member of Historic Deerfield’s Asher Benjamin Society and recently upgraded to the American Builder’s Companion level.”
—Elizabeth R. Rea



Wells-Thorn House interior colors at Historic Deerfield.

Historic Deerfield Receives Important Gifts of Porter Family Materials Giving First-Hand Account of American Revolution

Historic Deerfield's Memorial Libraries recently received the gifts of important materials from the years of the Revolutionary War from Samuel and David Cooley, relating to their family, the Porters of Hadley, Massachusetts. The papers come from two brothers, Eleazar Porter (1728-1797) and Elisha Porter (1742-1796).

These important papers were kept in private hands, descending through the family, until now. Elisha's papers provide an intimate view of the Revolution from an officer just outside the limelight who had a front row seat to history. Elisha Porter's

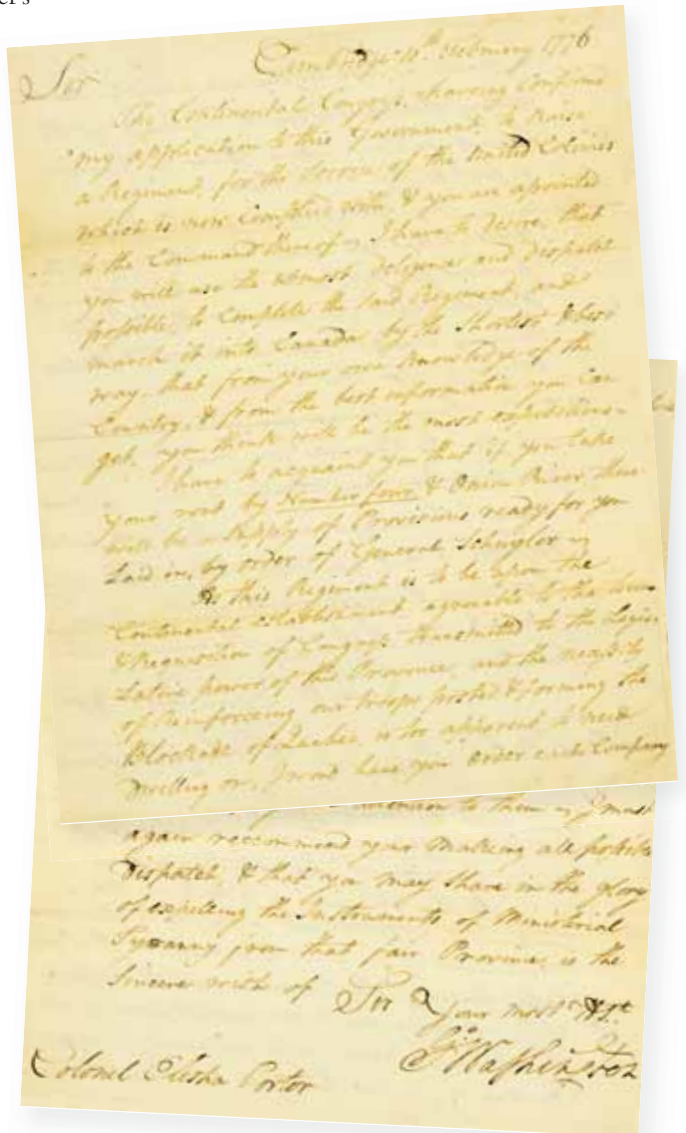
papers contain important letters, including a February 10, 1776, letter signed by General George Washington at Cambridge instructing Colonel Porter to move his regiment north to Canada via Fort Number Four and Onion River in relief of Montgomery/Arnold's failed expeditions. There are also letters signed by general officers Philip Schuyler, Baron de Woedtke, David Wooster, Timothy Danielson, and a dispatch with the signature of Benedict Arnold. Porter's 1781 commission from the State of Massachusetts-Bay bears the bold signature of John Hancock. In addition, the materials include correspondence with local dignitaries, broadsides, muster rolls, and receipts regarding equipping troops.

Also included in this gift are rare parts of the uniform of Elisha Porter, including the epaulettes he had made in

1778. The receipt for the epaulettes is included in this collection.

Eleazar Porter's papers provide valuable insight into local court proceedings in pre-Revolutionary Hadley. The papers include writs, orders, summonses, and receipts for various cases heard before him as a judge.

These papers are a fascinating resource for any scholar of the Revolution, as well as local historians. Historic Deerfield plans to have these materials on view in the future. At this time, they can be accessed by researchers in the Memorial Libraries.





Historic Deerfield

Opening Doorways To The Past

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MEMBER BENEFITS

Highlights:

- * Free unlimited admission & Guest Passes
- * Publications such as our *Historic Deerfield* magazine
- * Invitations to exhibition previews and other members' only events
- * Discounts at the Museum Gift Shop and Bookstore, Champney's Restaurant and Tavern, the Deerfield Inn, and on member trips, workshops and other events

For more information visit historic-deerfield.org or contact us today at (413) 775-7176 or membership@historic-deerfield.org.

