

New President, New Board Members

by Carol Keller

The Society's annual meeting and program in May, 2012 saw a new President installed for a two year term, and five new Board of Directors members elected. Bob Colt, the outgoing President presided, and Martha Lyon presented the program, "Sanborn Landscape: Past, Present, Future," to complete the event.

Tom Sevigny, who has been on the Society Board since 2009 was elected the new President. The returning officers are Susan Keats, Vice President; Nancy Schrock, Treasurer; and Wendy Swanton, re-elected Secretary/Clerk. At the June Board meeting, Bob Colt was appointed Past President and a member of the Executive Committee.



(l-r) Bob Colt, past President; Kent Porter Hamann, new Board member, Rachel Roll, new Board member, Tom Sevigny, new President, and John McConnell, new Board member.
(photo: Walt Finneran)

(continued on page 2)

Inside this issue...

New President, New Board Members	1	Luncheon for Sanborn Family	
Colonel Winchester Returns	3	Descendents	5
The Birth of the Winchester Hospital	4	2011-2012: The Year in Review	7
The Sanborn House Landscape Plan	5	Financial statement for 2011	7
		Calendar	8

Managing Editor: Carol Keller; Editor: Nancy O'Herron
Publisher: Margo Attaya

The Black Horse Bulletin is published quarterly by
the Winchester Historical Society. Subscription is free with membership.
Winchester Historical Society • 15 High Street • Winchester, MA 01890
781.721.0135 www.winchesterhistoricalsociety.org • www.sanbornhouse.org

2011-2012 Board Officers

President	Tom Sevigny
Vice President	Susan Keats
Treasurer	Nancy Schrock
Secretary	Wendy Swanton
Past President	Bob Colt

Board Directors

Roger Berman	David Stirling
Elizabeth Cregger	Paula Swartz
Carol Keller	Robert Tedesco
John McConnell	Susan Turpin
Kent Porter Hamann	Candace Van Aken
Nancy O'Herron	Peter Wild
Rachel Roll	Courtenay Williams

Society Executive Director
Rebekah Beaulieu

New Board of Director members are: Roger Berman, John McConnell, Kent Porter Hamann, Rachel Roll, and Susan Turpin. Thanks are extended to the Nominating Committee of Bob Colt, Courtenay Williams, David Stirling, and Nancy O'Herron for the outstanding slate of new Society officers and board members.

A brief background on each of the new Board members:

Roger Berman, a graduate of George Washington University and Amos Tuck School of Business, Dartmouth College, has worked on Capitol Hill and in the Office of Federal-State Relations as well as in Boston in political consulting and lobbying. He served 7 years on the Winchester Finance Committee, two years as Chairman, and also 6 years on the Winchester Board of Selectman, 1 year as Chair. He has been a Town meeting member for 20 years. In 1986 he started The Berman Company which owns, develops and manages commercial and residential buildings in Boston, Newton and Burlington. He is married to Anne Bailey Berman and they have two sons, Sam and Lee.

Kent Porter Hamann, who has a degree in Zoology from Connecticut College, published chemistry books for several well known companies in Boston for 30 years. She won several awards during her publishing career, two of which are 'publisher of the year' and 'book of the year'. Kent has been involved in several non profits. She was secretary of the Junior League of Boston and is on the board of the Winchester Home & Garden Club. She was the head of the flower guild at Church of the Epiphany for 10 years and contributes to Winchester Art in Bloom, a juried show. She is a member of the Trustees of Reservation, which own several environmental/historical properties. During Kent's time there she planned, planted and maintained the garden at the Stevens-Coolidge estate in North Andover. Kent has lived in Winchester for 35 years. She and her husband Jim have two children, ages 42 and 36.

John McConnell, who has a degree in English from Michigan State University and in Architecture from Harvard University, is a principal of McConnell+Partners Architects Inc in Boston. The firm specializes in residential and small-scale institutional and commercial design, as well as historically sensitive additions and renovation of older buildings. Prior John worked for Boston architectural firms, chiefly Shepley Bulfinch Richardson & Abbott. He has been adjunct professor of American Architectural history at Boston College since 1979, a lecturer in architectural history at the Harvard Graduate School of Design since 1987, a walking tour guide in Boston and an architecture lecturer-in-residence for the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston. He is a Director of the Griffin Museum of Photography in Winchester, Massachusetts, where he resides. In addition to being a practicing architect, he has devoted himself to oil painting

since 1990 (www.JohnMcConnellArtist.com), specializing in traditional landscape painting.

Rachel Roll, has a degree in Hydrology from the University of New Hampshire and a Professional Chef Certificate from the Cambridge School of Culinary Arts, works in town as a realtor and has recently become a town meeting member. Rachel is a member of the Lexington Chapter of the DAR and has done extensive research on her family history--recently discovering that she is related to the Sanborn Family. She is a regular driver for Winchester's seniors through the Jenks Center, enjoys volunteering at the Enka Fair, and is an active member of the Parish of the Epiphany. A lifelong New Englander, Rachel and her family have called Winchester home for eight years. Her oldest son is a recent graduate of Winchester High School, where her daughter is currently enrolled. Rachel can often be found tackling renovation projects with her husband.

Susan Turpin, who has a degree in Mathematics and Computer Science from Assumption College, developed software and was a Product Manager for various technology companies in the Boston area, and has lived in Winchester for 18 years. She and her husband, Tom, have three daughters, ages 22, 21, and 18. Susan served on the Parent's Association and Board of Trustees at Belmont Day School where her children attended school. Highlights of her service to the school include chairing the Committee on Trustees, co-chairing the Buildings and Grounds Committee, acting as Project Manager for the School's renovation project, and serving as Treasurer of the Parents' Association.

Weekend, Week Nights Job Opportunity

The Winchester Historical Society is interviewing for reliable housesitters to assist with private event rentals at the Sanborn Historical and Cultural Center. Assignments are scheduled as needed and the pay is \$15/hour. Applicants must be reliable, have regular weekend availability (sometimes week nights), and have excellent references. Training about the House and its systems will be provided. Please email a resume with references to the Society Executive Director Rebekah Beaulieu at director@sanbornhouse.org for consideration.

Colonel Winchester Returns

by Nancy Schrock

As Ellen Knight notes in *Artists of Winchester*, the Historical Society has a collection of artwork that includes prints, paintings, and drawings. Some of this art is on display in Town Hall and Winchester Public Library. Now that the Society has a home at the Sanborn House, other works can be put on proper display there.

The portrait of Colonel Winchester, based on the oil painting in Town Hall, is the first to receive conservation treatment and framing by Sarah Riley, Conservator of Art on Paper in Arlington. Careful examination under a microscope revealed that the artwork is photographic reproduction enhanced by charcoal drawing.

Treatment included removal of the acidic, stained matboard and backing materials, surface cleaning, and matting with archival quality materials. The modern frame was replaced with a nineteenth century frame and modern plexiglass that filters out ultra-violet light that could cause fading and discoloration.

It now hangs in the Oak Room of the Sanborn House for all to enjoy. Conservation was funded by an anonymous donor.

If you would like to “adopt” one of our other works of art so that it too can be conserved and exhibited, please contact Nancy Schrock at ncschrock@verizon.net.



Host Your Holiday Event at the Sanborn House!

Affordable grandeur for your holiday events



Jack Twomey, Susan Keats (l) and Nancy Schrock enjoy the festive Sanborn House during the holidays in 2011 (photo: Walter Finneran)

The Sanborn House will be decorated for the holidays for the month of December. Whether you are hosting a small private gathering or a larger social event the House nicely accommodates these happenings with its beautiful, turn-of-the century details in either large or small rooms with holiday decorations. There is access to a large kitchen for catered events.

An Event Coordinator is available to assist you and to recommend local caterers, floral designers, rental companies, and event planners.

To inquire about rental availability please call 781-721-0135, or email director@winchesterhistoricalsociety.com. Further details on rules and regulations, and rates can be found at www.sanbornhouse.org under Rentals.

The Winchester Historical Society is leading the fundraising campaign to restore and preserve the architectural integrity of the Sanborn House. By renting the Sanborn House for your event, you are supporting the restoration of this historic home.

Community Partners

The Winchester Historical Society thanks the following local businesses who have supported us by purchasing a business membership or by donating in-kind goods and services:

A Tavola and Bistro 5

ArborCare

Book Ends

Hall & Sullivan

Mahoney's Garden Center

W. Alan Wilde and Son Insurance Agency

Winchester Cooperative Bank

Winchester Wine & Spirits

The Winchester Historical Society is a member of the Chamber of Commerce. We welcome businesses to join the Society and consider the Sanborn House for their meetings and events.



The original hospital opened in the Todd house, 1912 (photo: Hospital Archives)

The Birth of the Winchester Hospital

by Jack Roll

It was billed as “The Birth of the Winchester Hospital,” presented at the Jenks Center on Tuesday March 20th in recognition of the one-hundredth anniversary of the opening of the first Winchester Hospital. However, as the attendees soon heard from the local historian Ellen Knight, it was more than that.

The history of the Winchester Hospital is inextricably tied into the history of the Town of Winchester -- to the tradition of advocacy and philanthropy and volunteerism, to the collaboration of other town organizations. Thus, a story telling only of the birth of the hospital may not be the whole story.

At least, that is the message that was left with this attendee when leaving the gathering.

Remember that Winchester became a town only in the mid nineteenth century. By late in the nineteenth century, there was a roster of five or six physicians with a supporting nurse complement practicing in the town. Medicine was practiced according to the then state-of-the-art protocols – including performing operations right in the homes of the patients. In 1899, nurses, responding to a need, formed the Visiting Nurse Association. And from this sprang the movement for a hospital right here in the town. While there was support from the local businesses, the idea and the momentum belonged to the VNA.

In 1908, a local businessperson offered to donate \$50,000 toward construction of a hospital if the citizens could come up with a like amount – today we would call this a “matching grant proposal”. However, the matching amount was not raised so the next best thing was to purchase an existing building [actually a home on the corner of Washington and Lincoln Street] for the hospital. That cottage hospital, shown here, opened for its first patients on March 11, 1912.

From this cottage hospital sprang the first new building at 41 Highland Avenue – opened in 1917 -- and then a series of expansions and reconfigurations at that site – the First Expansion, the West Wing, the A Wing, the Hood Wing, the Emergency Room, and so on. Eventually, off-site additions appeared not just within Winchester but extending well into the neighboring communities.

As Ellen identified, throughout its history the hospital has benefited from the support of the Winton Club, the En Ka Society, the Friends of Winchester Hospital, the local chapter of Rotary, the Winchester Fire Department, and so many others.

March 2012 marked the 100th anniversary of Winchester Hospital. The attendees at the Jenks were thus offered a slice of birthday cake to recognize and celebrate this centennial event. While sampling the cake, guests were afforded the opportunity to purchase Ellen’s latest book and have her sign it too!.

Ellen’s book received a silver Lamplighter Award from the New England Society for Healthcare Communications. Ellen Knight, PhD, is a specialist in the history of the arts of the Boston area at the turn of the twentieth century, as well as the history of Winchester. She has authored several published histories about Winchester. This most recent publication is *Winchester Hospital Our First Century* from which the material in her lecture was drawn.

Copies of the book are now available at the Winton Shop in the Main Lobby of the Highland Avenue building and at Book Ends in Winchester Center.



Ellen Knight signs her book of the Winchester Hospital's history after her lecture.



Martha Lyon, landscape architect historian, discusses the Sanborn landscape plan during the May program. (photo: Walter Finneran)

The Sanborn House Landscape Plan

by Charlene Band

Now that the exterior of the Sanborn House and Cultural Center has been meticulously and sensitively restored to its grand historical beauty, it's time to turn new attention to the landscape surrounding the building.

The first time I visited the Sanborn House was years ago when I signed up for a program offered by the Winchester Recreation Department. I knew the Recreation Department was in the Sanborn House, but I didn't know what the Sanborn House was let alone how to get there. Did I drive up that narrow entrance from Cambridge Street? (Thankfully, I didn't try that.) Once I arrived, how did I get to the house? Where was the parking lot? I parked on the Ambrose School property and made my way through some weeds, wet grass and mud. But where was the entrance? It seemed I had arrived at the back of the building. It was really puzzling and confusing.

Martha Lyon, an accredited landscape architect historian, is currently developing a master plan for the landscape design. She was a member of the design team for the Sanborn House Feasibility Study in 2005 and the recent exterior restoration. In late May, she presented the program "Sanborn Landscape: Past, Present, Future," which included the landscape design options that were currently being considered. Obviously she wasn't working with a clean slate. The Sanborn House, the Ambrose School and Sanborn Carriage House campus anchor the entire site while the new landscape plan concerned the land around the house. Existing and abutting houses and roads must be taken into account. She would have to consider parking needs, accessibility, modular classrooms adjacent to

- continued on page 6

Luncheon for Sanborn Family Descendents

by Courtenay Williams

The Winchester Historical Society hosted a luncheon at the Sanborn House for several descendents of the Sanborn family on May 29. It was the first time that many of them had come to the 'family home' in Winchester as they are from various parts of the country. Edward Hamlin and wife Julie, are from Colorado. Mary Hamlin (Edward's mother) came from Chicago, and Joanne Briana-Gartner brought her mother and sister from Maine. Priscilla McIntosh came from Nantucket. They were joined by eight members of the Society's Board.



The visiting "Descendents"; (l to rt) Mary Hamlin, Edward Hamlin, Julie Hamlin, Joanne Briana-Gartner, her sister and her mother (photo: Rebekah Beaulieu)

Edward Hamlin is a great-grandson of Oren Sanborn who built the Sanborn House in 1906—his grandmother on his father's side was Helen Sanborn Hamlin, a daughter of Oren. Joanne Briana-Gartner's great Aunt was Edna (Hatch) Sanborn Hagen who was married to Caleb Sanborn, Oren's son. On behalf of the family, Joanne Briana-Gartner gave the Society two marvelous portraits, one of James Sanborn (father of Oren Sanborn and co-founder of Chase and Sanborn Coffee) and the other of his wife, Harriet.

The family generously brought other wonderful mementos to add to the Winchester Historical Society collection of Sanborn memorabilia. Mary Hamlin brought a lovely silver charger that belonged to Rena, wife of Oren Sanborn. The Society was also given a book that belonged to Caleb Sanborn, with his signature on the frontispiece. The Winchester Historical Society was also the recipient of a portfolio of Sanborn family photos. All of the above are on display at the Sanborn House for all to enjoy.

- continued on page 6

-Sanborn Landscape - continued from page 5

the school, and the current and anticipated future use of the house into her plan.

To put all of these things into perspective, Martha took us back in time to the creation of the grand Sanborn estate in 1904. Some of the original landscape elements, such as terracing and the retaining walls, are still visible. Unfortunately, over time, the view from the property to the town center, the serpentine driveway, the allée, and landscape plantings have been lost. Pavement has been added and trees, by plan or happenstance, have grown and matured. Non-native and aggressive growth has also found an unwelcome home on the property.

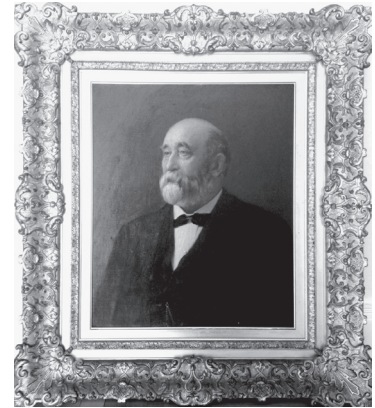
Martha cited the historical Wistariahurst Museum in Holyoke, and the Moses Stevens Estate in North Andover as examples. Both properties highlight established gardens that are stunningly beautiful backdrops to the historical buildings. Martha also cited the Joseph Simes Estate in the village of Manomet as an example of a work-in-progress landscape plan. The Simes Estate House is of particular interest to me as it has so many things in common with the Sanborn House. Both houses were constructed during America's Gilded Age of architectural and landscape design. Both were designed, constructed, and owned by wealthy individuals with intentions to showcase their property as evidence of their prosperity. Both were also sited on substantial parcels of land.

Fast forward to the twenty-first century. For a number of reasons, privately owned mansions are now few and far between, and Simes and Sanborn fell into that category. Like so many other old and grand mansions, Simes and Sanborn had fallen into disrepair and required extensive restoration. They also suffered an identity crisis, and the only way to save and preserve the buildings and lands was to repurpose the buildings to ensure their survival. In less than six years, the Historical Society and the community have made great strides in revitalizing the house to create a venue for public events and private functions. The Simes Estate lags a little behind in terms of moving forward with restoration of the building. However, thought has already been given to implementing a Simes landscape plan, and a conceptual plan has been developed.

The new landscape plan will add to and enhance the Sanborn House as an important and beautiful asset to the town. The plan calls for the removal of trees and growth that currently hide the view of the house from the town center, and will open the view of the town center to the house. A circular road that directs visitors to the house will be easily visible. Parking will be accessible to the building, but is masked and tucked in behind trees. New plantings will invite visitors to stroll and linger on the property outside the house. It will also serve as an important role in promoting the landscape as a venue for social events such as parties and weddings. Once the landscape plan is implemented, it will result in a unique property that doesn't currently exist in town. Can you imagine the wonderful impact that will have? The Society is fortunate to have the expertise of Martha to provide guidance.

Ms. Lyon's current work is being funded by a grant from the Griffin Foundation.

Sanborn Family/ Hamlin's Luncheon -
continued from page 5



Portrait of James Sanborn (photo: Rebekah Beaulieu)

The luncheon was enjoyed by all the 'descendents' (as they are fondly known) as well as the Board members who attended. Everyone took part in a lovely lunch and many lively discussions. The menu was 'Northeastern Cuisine', consisting of wonderful lobster rolls and cole slaw. This was the first occasion that the Winchester Historical Society was able to use its own tableware; those that were donated to the Society or were previously part of the Sanborn House collection. The dining room with its long tables set with gleaming china, silver and floral centerpieces would have made Oren and his wife Rena proud!

All in all, it was a wonderful day filled with new and lasting connections between the Winchester Historical Society and all of the Sanborn "Descendents." Meeting the Hamlins, Joanne Briana-Gartner and her family and Priscilla McIntosh has added a new and personal dimension to the Sanborn House.



Portrait of Harriet Sanborn (photo: Rebekah Beaulieu)

2011-2012: The Year in Review

by Nancy Schrock

With the completion of the Massachusetts Historical Commission Preservation Project in September 2011, the Sanborn House became ADA compliant and opened its elegant front doors to all. The fall was busy with two programs on historic topics: a second co-sponsored slide talk with Friends of the Library, "Drawing Towards Home: Designs for Domestic Architecture from Historic New England," presented by Lorna Condon; and "The Middles Canal, Winchester's Highway 1803-1853," presented by Thomas Raphael.

The holidays were festive this year as the Society decorated the Sanborn House for the season and held two parties – the annual holiday party featuring the McCall Choir and a new event, "New Year's Eve: Black and White Ball," with dinner and dancing to welcome 2012.

Spring brought another co-sponsored program, this one at the Jenks Center, "The Birth of Winchester Hospital: The Trials and Triumphs of the Early Years," with historian Ellen Knight. The Society annual meeting featured Martha Lyon, landscape consultant for the original feasibility study, who spoke on "Sanborn House Landscape, Yesterday, Today, and Tomorrow." The year ended with Town Day and the traditional Trolley Tour and Strawberry Festival.

The Society expanded its collaboration with other non-profit groups in town. It supported and participated in the Environmental Summit, Town Day, and Winchester in Transition: A Conference about Community. Additional collaborations occurred with the Seed to Plate project, with Ambrose students using garden space beside the Sanborn House, and Lucy Yang's Girl Scout project and talks on a children's history of the Sanborn House. The En Ka Society, Boat Club, Children's Own School, and the League of Women Voters, the Vinson-Owen School PTO, the Winton Club, the Winchester Neighbors' Club, and the Winchester Foundation for Educational Excellence all held programs at the Sanborn House. Use by individuals has increased – the Society invites you to think about the Sanborn House for your business or personal meetings and celebrations.

Thanks to the generosity of the family of Joseph and Mary Vitka, the Society was able to match a gift from the Town Day Committee and replace the doors that lead from the Oak Room to the veranda, allowing people to more easily access the veranda. A grant was also received from the Griffin Foundation to create a master landscape plan for the area around the house, and a grant from En Ka Society for kitchen upgrades, including new sinks. Work has begun on both projects.

The next hurdle is a new heating system. A master plan was commissioned from engineers at Thermotech to guide the planning. Unfortunately, the Society did not receive a grant from the Massachusetts Cultural Council for this project and will have to rely on private funding. Your continued support is needed and the Society looks forward to seeing you during the new 2012-13 program year. Together we will continue to transform the Sanborn House into the Historical and Cultural Center for Winchester.

Financial statement for 2011

by Nancy Schrock, Treasurer

Winchester Historical Society

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL CONDITION*

ASSETS as of December 31, 2011

Cash/cash equivalents	\$88,120
Investments	5,256
Accounts receivable	2,525
Monetary Assets	\$95,901
Furniture and fixtures	3,127
Leasehold improvements	383,394
TOTAL ASSETS	\$382,394

REVENUE for calendar year 2011

Membership	12,455
Program income	7,485
Sales	1,087
Rental of Sanborn House	11,170
Donations (general fund)	34,960
Donations (restoration)	20,369
Grants	51,955
Interest income	547
Investment income	195
Released from savings	34,144
TOTAL REVENUE	\$179,388

EXPENSES for calendar years 2011

Accounting, banking fees	1,972
Office	1,091
Communications	4,306
Programs	12,849
Executive Director	24,670
Sanborn House operations	20,471
Sanborn House restoration	110,184
Fundraising	3,872
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$179,388

*As reviewed by the accounting firm of Stone & Company, LLC, and filed with the IRS.

Meetings	Board meetings are held at the Sanborn House Historical and Cultural Center on the second Tuesday of the month (note the change) at 7:30 PM. The meetings are open to the public and all are welcome.
Programs	<p>Tuesday, October 2, 2012 : When America First Met China: An Exotic History of Tea, Drugs and Money During the Age of Sail", Eric Jay Dollin, author, 7:00 to 9:00 PM., Winchester Public Library, (This program is jointly sponsored by the Friends of the Winchester Library)</p> <p>Thursday, October 4, 2012, "Digging up Winchester's Past: Native Americans along the Mystic", Ellen Knight, Historian, Peter Wild, 7:00 to 9:00 PM., Jenks Center (This program is in conjunction with Winchester Reads)</p> <p>Wednesday, November 14, 2012, "The History of the Middlesex Turnpike," Thomas Raphael, Chairman of the Executive Committee, Middlesex Canal Commission, 7:30 PM, Sanborn House (Refreshments 7:00 PM)</p> <p>Sunday, December 9, 2012, Annual Holiday Party, 2:00 to 5:00 PM, .Sanborn House</p> <p>New Years Eve, December 31, 2012, Celebration Party, Sanborn House</p> <p>Tuesday, March 5, 2013, "What's Its Worth?", Skinner Appraisal Night featuring Stuart Slavid, Winchester Room, Winchester Town Hall</p>
Help Wanted	The Society has many volunteer opportunities. Some tasks can be done at home, others in the Sanborn House. You can help with our programs, collections, or the Sanborn House. For more information, contact Rebekah Beaulieu (781-721-0135; email director@winchesterhistoricalsociety.com) or Nancy Schrock (781-721-1229; email: ncschrock@verizon.net).

Non Profit Org.
U.S. Postage
PAID
Winchester, MA
Permit No. 146

Winchester Historical Society
15 High Street
Winchester, MA 01890

