



Friends of the Ogunquit Heritage Museum

Spring 2009

Mission of the Friends:

To Support the Educational Goals and Programs
of the Ogunquit Heritage Museum

Open House

for

Friends of the Ogunquit Heritage Museum

Saturday, May 30, 2009

3:00 - 5:00 p.m.

at the

Museum

Preview of New Exhibits

Marginal Way

Ogunquit Trolleys

Architectural Heritage

Refreshments



Some Coming Events

35th Annual Ogunquit Antiques

Show & Sale

Saturday and Sunday, September 19th & 20th

OgunquitFest

Ghostly Tours and Other Events

Friday through Sunday, October 23 - 25

We Remember Blanche...

We continue the series of interviews with the late Blanche Hutchins Staples, beloved docent, story teller, teacher and major contributor to the Winn House. These recordings were carefully transcribed by Bill and Judy Baker for the Ogunquit Heritage Museum in 2004 and 2005. Look for more in future FOHM Newsletters.



Blanche H. Staples

The Marginal Way

The Marginal Way belonged to the people who had property; their property ran to low water mark, and my husband's great uncle, his grandmother's father—Josiah Chase—bought up very carefully all the pieces of land bordering the ocean

from the people who owned property there. And in 1923, I think it was, he gave it to the town of Ogunquit. As you go on the Marginal Way, you'll see a plaque to the Honorable Josiah Chase. He left five entrances to the Marginal Way; one up by the Sparhawk; one where the little lighthouse is, which is the sewer district; and two or three other places, and of course it ended at Perkins Cove.



Dedication of the Marginal Way back in 1946. A bronze plaque was unveiled that year. Picture shown back page.

When I was young, the Marginal Way was not paved; it was just a gravel path. It was much

(See *Blanche... Back page*)

President's Letter . . .

Another beautiful spring has arrived in Ogunquit marking the days before the Ogunquit Heritage Museum will once again be open for visitors. We had a wonderful 2008 and look forward to interesting exhibits again this year.

Museum hours continue to be **1:00 – 5:00, Tuesday thru Saturday, June 2 thru October 3.** Please visit often to expand your Ogunquit history education.

Barbara Woodbury, our Curator, and her staff are presenting outstanding exhibits once again. This season you will be able to track the evolution of our famous **Marginal Way** and learn about the **Trolleys of Ogunquit** which brought summer visitors and their massive luggage to our Grand Hotels for a wonderful, elegant vacation in beautiful Ogunquit.

The **Ogunquit Heritage Museum Endowment Fund** established to sustain and preserve the museum's future is in place. We proudly announce our first person honored through the Ogunquit Heritage Museum's Endowment Fund: Ellen Asherman in memory of her husband **Adrian L. Asherman.**

The **35th Annual Ogunquit Antiques Show and Sale** will again be held at the Dunaway Center on **September 19th & 20th.** We have always had a fine selection of antiques for your perusal. Please put it on your calendar and stop in early for the best selection.

We encourage you to send in your membership for this year in our membership envelope. Your continued support is greatly appreciated and essential to the functioning of this fine little gem of a Museum in and about your hometown. We welcome our new and renewing FOHM members since our last newsletter.

Once again we are pleased to invite our members to the **Heritage Museum Opening Party** on **Saturday, May 30th from 3:00-5:00 p.m.**

Thank you for your interest and support. Hope to meet you at the museum!

Marilyn Eimon
President



Museum Hours

Tuesdays through Saturdays
1:00 - 5:00 p.m.
Closed Sundays and Mondays

June 2 - October 3, 2009

Facelift for North Wall



The Museum gets a new north wall and second story window (installed after this photo). Workers from DeHart Construction use historically correct custom-made clapboards.

Friends of the Ogunquit Heritage Museum *Board of Directors*

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Barbara Woodbury, *Curator*



Friends of the
Ogunquit Heritage Museum
Fall 2008

Peter R. Woodbury, *Editor*

Published twice each year, spring and fall by
The Friends of the Ogunquit Heritage Museum
P. O. Box 723
Ogunquit, Maine 03907

Curator's Report . . .

After a scary night of ghostly tours last October, led by Curator Barbara Woodbury, Robin Fagerlund, Marianne Clancy, and Pete Woodbury, we geared up for the Christmas Parade in Ogunquit's Christmas By The Sea. We entered the Dory as a 'float' with Santa himself 'rowing' down the parade route and everybody cheering. We received honorable mention and have a trophy to show for it.



Santa arrives in freezing weather and 'rows' his way through Ogunquit for the Christmas-By-The-Sea parade.

We only had 10 people for the Christmas open house. I decided to close on Sunday because of the weather. In any case, the decorations were wonderful and I can't thank Carole Lee, Ellen, Susan Levenson & Susan Meffert for their hard work. Eva came and helped with the tree and Stuart took pictures. We had borrowed angels from Kay Hamlin. They were exhibited so well! We served warm cider and punch with lots of cookies. The photographs from the Grand Hotels exhibit were still up so people could see what used to be Grand Ogunquit! The converted small room was turned into a Hanukkah display with lots of different specimens including Noah's Ark. A wonderful needlework brought by Eva rounded out the room. We put down a blue felt cloth with lots of chocolate money!

We ended the year with our annual Committee pot luck supper which was a success. It was an opportunity for all of us to get together in an informal way. The food was great!

Looking ahead to the coming season, the **Marginal Way** will be the subject of the main exhibit. We have some good pictures of the Marginal Way in the early days and Helen Horn has an

original map which shows the access points.

Historical pictures and artifacts from the **Trolley Days** and memories of the **Atlantic Shoreline Railway** will also be covered.

A third room will be dedicated to Ogunquit's **Architectural Heritage** showing grand original buildings still standing.

We have been working hard on the exhibits. We painted the back bedroom wall a dark buff color, so that white picture mats would show. We reduced some clutter by removing one of the large glass display cases.

I have many things on the Hon. Josiah Chase, donor of the Marginal Way. He was a graduate of Bates College and I'm hoping to obtain information from them. Other sources for this exhibits are the Shore Water Co., the Museums of Old York Library, and the current owner of the old Chase house in York, Michael Walek.

We will be having our **Open House** on May 30, sponsored by the Friends of the Ogunquit Heritage Museum.

Our exhibit committee is: Carole Lee Carroll, chair, Ellen Dannert, Susan Levenson, Susan Meffert and Barb Woodbury. I wish to thank our exhibit committee for a wonderful job. They have been working tirelessly and the job is near completion at this writing.

Barb Woodbury
Curator



Curator Barb Woodbury (r) accepts the beautiful bookshelf made by Bob Glidden, custom designed for the 26-volume set of historical scrapbooks about the Ogunquit Art Association.

(Blanche... from first page)

more attractive, but I can understand why the town was reluctant to leave it that way. There is so much traffic; it became so popular, the town became afraid that people would fall and hurt themselves, so they asphalted it over and build a little bridge down by where Dunaway's house used to be. That bridge washed out in the terrible storm they had on October 31 [1991].

The October 31st storm, a storm of the century, happened because the wind was off the land and the tide never went out completely. It got to be low tide, and the water would go out some, but because of the very strong wind, which would propel the ocean, and the tides never completely cleared the rocks. It just piled up and piled up and it went on for three days. That was the worst storm that I ever saw in my life time. I'd never seen where the ocean came up and went over the Marginal Way and picked up those big rocks and cement seats and threw them into the land beyond.

India Woodbury was a very, very important person in getting the restoration after that terrible storm, because it picked up those cement benches and just hurled them across the Marginal Way up into the bushes. But India was instrumental in getting a committee started, and she sold t-shirts, 'I Walked the Marginal Way,' they said, and organized other fund raising affairs. They contributed a lot of money and restored it.

There are a lot of wild roses, that are absolutely gorgeous, and they grow very well there, because they like salt air; they thrive on salt air. And those have still maintained their position and people have tended them and cared for them. They are very beautiful and you can't kill them. It doesn't take over completely, like bittersweet.



The plaque unveiling in 1946. It reads: 'Marginal Way; Presented to Ogunquit Village Corporation by the Hon. Josiah Chase of York, Maine 1925.' The Plaque can be found at Pirate's Cove along the Way just south of the 6-foot marble memorial monument.

New and renewing FOHM Members since our fall newsletter:

Marlene & Kenneth Bartuka
Craig Capone
Bob & Pat Dateo
Nancy & Ralph Davison
Rev. & Mrs. Charles J. Dutram
Yale & Blanche Feinberg
Muriel & Jordan Freedman
Bunny & Gerry Friedman
Robert Glidden & Lesley Mathews
Nancy Hogan
Anne S. Hunnicutt
Joanne Jacobs
Carol C. Kobus
Patricia Kriensky
Joe Littlefield
Marathon R. E. LLC
Bruce Martin
Lewis & Pat Mason
Philip & Marla McCurdy
Mary Mott
Malcolm Myers
Marsha Northrop
Bernie & Elain Stein
Anita Lauten Schein
John R. Secor
Nancy Seith
Norman & Jeanine Storrs
Suzanne & Raymond Wiggins

Patron/ Business:

William R. Tower
Joanne S. Tomao
Bob Young

Sponsor/Business:

Michael Ramsey

Honorary member:

Lynn Morton

Endowment Honor List:

Ellen Asherman in memory of her husband **Adrian L. Asherman**

