### March

**MUSEUM**
- February 16-June 3
  - Drawing Together: The Arts of the Longfellows
  - Henry: America’s King of Song
  - Mon-Sat 10:00-5:00

**PROGRAMS**
- Sat, March 3
  - The Story of the Acadiaans: Screening & Panel Discussion
  - 2:00
- Thurs, March 15
  - Longfellow Stamp Celebration & Special Cancellation
  - 10:00-2:00
- Tues, March 20
  - Neil Rolde Lecture
  - 12:00-1:00

**THURSDAY NIGHTS**
- 12:00-1:00

**TUES., APRIL 19**
- Drawn to Art: The Longfellows and the 19th Century American Dream
  - Diana Korzenik, Author, Historian
  - 7:00 [6:15 Gallery Tour with Curator Laura Sprague]

**TUES., APRIL 24**
- Henry Wadsworth Longfellow:
  - America’s King of Song
  - Charles Kaufmann, Music Director
  - First Parish Church, Portland
  - 12:00

**THURS., APRIL 26**
- John Ford Lecture
  - Michael Connolly, Professor of History, Saint Joseph’s College
  - 7:00

### April

**MUSEUM**
- February 16-June 3
  - Drawing Together: The Arts of the Longfellows
  - Henry: America’s King of Song
  - Mon-Sat 10:00-5:00

**PROGRAMS**
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    - 7:00

### May

**MUSEUM**
- February 16-June 3
  - Drawing Together: The Arts of the Longfellows
  - Henry: America’s King of Song
  - Mon-Sat 10:00-5:00
  - Sun 12:00-5:00

**TUES., MAY 1**
- Longfellow House Opens to the Public for the Season
- Buy Tickets in MHS Store
  - Mon-Sat 10:00-5:00
  - Sun 12:00-5:00

**MAY 5 & MAY 6**
- Longfellow House and Museum Free to Public

**PROGRAMS**
- Thurs, May 10
  - Maine Olmstead Alliance & MHS Present: Tourism and the Maine Landscape
  - Donna Brown, History Professor
  - University of Vermont
  - 7:00

**EVENTS**
- Sat, May 5
  - MHS Gala
  - Woodlands Country Club
  - Thurs May 17, 8:00-8:00
  - Genealogy Research Trip
  - To Nehgs & MA State Archives in Boston
  - Call to Register

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**All Programs are Free, Open to the Public, and Held in the MHS Lecture Hall Unless Otherwise Noted. Call 774-1822.**

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**March 2007 Calendar of Events Spring 2007**

**Maine Historical Society**

**Museum**

499 Congress Street
Portland, Maine 04101

**Library**

50 Commercial Street
Portland, Maine 04101

**Maine Memory Network**

- www.mainememory.net
- www.mainehistory.org

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**Maine Historical Society Library**

- www.mainehistory.org
- www.mainememory.net
- www.historymaine.com
- www.hwhlongfellow.org
There’ll be some changes made…

By now you’ve noticed something different about our newsletter. We hope you find the changes attractive and interesting. The magazine-like cover incorporates our new MHS logo and a new overall design for greater impact; it lets us put an image where our mouth was (so to speak).

On the inside there are new design elements as well, but most importantly, we’ve added three more pages of content. One page in each issue will feature one of the hundreds of historical organizations that are now partnering with MHS throughout the state. The other pages—our centerfold—will focus on history: images and primary documents from Maine Memory Network, commentary, analysis, and perhaps some good stories too. There will still be the news you expect—about exhibits, education, events, collections, and institutional developments—but in a new and, we hope, more informative way. Please tell us what you think.

Oh yes, and there’s now this space—a space usually devoted to a message from the Executive Director. I’ve yet to read one of these columns in other newsletters that doesn’t put me to sleep. It’s not the writing, or the Director, but somehow the expectation of a pronouncement that makes everything dull. So I’m debating about the use of this space. Perhaps I’ll rent it to interesting voices. Perhaps I’ll abuse the privilege in useful ways. Let me know what you want to hear. Thanks.

—Executive Director

Celebrating Longfellow’s 200th Birthday

The big year is upon us: the 200th anniversary of Henry Wadsworth Longfellow’s birth. Longfellow, as you will know, is an important presence at MHS. This anniversary provides wonderful opportunities to revisit his legacy and enjoy his poetry anew.

Throughout 2007, Maine Historical—working with organizations around Maine and beyond—will host events, exhibits, workshops, and other programs that explore Longfellow’s life and poetry. Full details about the celebration and related events are available on our Longfellow website (www.hwlongfellow.org). To coincide with our annual Longfellow Forum, Poet Dana Gioia, Chairman of the National Endowment of the Arts, will be keynote speaker. The weekend will bring together poets, writers, scholars, public figures, and others to read and respond to Longfellow’s poetry, and to consider his legacy in American literature and culture.

Join us for the celebration!
The 1877 Sketchbook of Alexander Wadsworth Longfellow Jr.

As I write this, we are deep in the midst of preparing the gallery and objects for the installation of Drawing Together: The Arts of the Longfellows. Text is under review and nearly ready for printing, walls are wet with fresh paint, and objects are being framed and mounted. It is an amazing stage in production when the many, many people and objects are all in movement and working towards our opening. As you read this, you will either have seen the exhibit – or be planning your visit.

Drawing Together has literally drawn together many colleagues in the process. Laura Fecych Sprague has served as the curator of the exhibit; she has selected the objects and written the interpretive text. It is my responsibility (and true pleasure) to handle every object going in the show, design the mount or mat, and make sure the object is properly installed.

From this perspective, I have enjoyed seeing the surprising drawings of Henry Wadsworth Longfellow and his family. The staff at Craigie House and Houghton Library have been extremely generous making collections available and providing guidance for the show. We have also looked into the collections of Maine Historical Society and seen some of our material in a new light.

A favorite item of mine is the sketchbook of Alexander Wadsworth Longfellow Jr., made on a cruise down east in 1877. Born in 1854, he was the second child of Alexander and Elizabeth Porter Longfellow, grew up in Portland, and became a prominent architect working in the style of the Colonial Revival. ‘Waddy,’ as he was known, was the architect of the MHS library – finished in 1907 and celebrating its 100th year of service this year. The sketchbook reflects his skill and sensitivity as an artist and architect, and captures the scenic beauty of the Maine coast.

John Mayer
— Museum Curator

kids’ collections

As part of our Local History/Local Schools program, and in conjunction with the exhibit, Passionate Pursuits: History Through the Collector’s Eye, students in eight Portland classrooms (grades two through five) wrote about and presented their own collections. The students showed great imagination and range in the types of materials they chose to collect, from colored pencils to Pez dispensers to 19th century glass bottles.

The culminating event for the program, all 163 students and their families were invited to an evening celebration at MHS which included a slide show presentation of the students, their collections, and their collector’s statements.

Reilly Musgrave
Many Rivers, Hall School
Rocks

My name is Reilly Musgrave. I collect rocks. I collect them because I like the feel of the rocks and the looks of them. I can’t really remember when I started collecting but it was probably when I was three. I don’t have any favorite rock in my collection. I like them all.

Mackenzie Lewis
Many Rivers, Hall School
Manga

I collect Japanese Anime Comics, Manga. I collect them because, for one thing, the drawings are hilarious. I also like that they go backwards, from left to right. I think that is fun. I started my collection when I went to California last summer. My 18 year old cousin is a Japanese addict, and she showed me Manga. My favorite Manga is from a series called “One Piece.” My favorite book in the series is the seventh one called “The Cape Gorgeous.” Everyone should read Manga!!

Suu Di Mohamed
Riverton School
Colored Pencils

I collect colored pencils. I started my collection on November 8, 2006. My favorite pencil is blue because I like the color blue.

Jolie Seme Uhoza
Riverton School
Necklaces

I collect necklaces because I like them. My mom made some of them in Rwanda. I started collecting in 2005. My favorite one is short.

From the Curator of Collections

The 1877 Sketchbook of Alexander Wadsworth Longfellow Jr.
Maine has a long and continuing history of shipbuilding. Some of that history is visible on Maine Memory Network, which contains some 200 items relating to shipbuilding and ships built in Maine. The photographs, documents and museum objects come from at least 11 Contributing Partners, including Belfast Historical Society, Brewer Public Library, Brick Store Museum, Back Memorial Library, Camden Area History Center, Camden Public Library, Davistown Museum, Great Harbor Maritime Museum and Maine Maritime Museum.

Online at www.mainememory.net are receipts and orders for ships, boats, and materials, along with images of ships, shipyards, launches, and numerous shipbuilding tools.

Maine’s coastline and protected harbors, along with its supply of tall virgin pines, helped attract European settlers looking for timber for masts and other uses. By the 18th century, Mainers were building many wooden merchant sailing vessels and providing sea captains and sailors for those ships, traveling worldwide.

Maine’s coastline also prompted a large fishing industry and boats for it. When the age of steam arrived in the 19th century, Maine shifted to building steam-powered vessels capable of everything from the ocean-going merchant trade to passenger service on rivers and lakes.

Shipbuilding continued as a Maine tradition in the 20th century with everything from personal pleasure boats to Navy destroyers and Liberty ships, built predominantly in Bath, Portland and South Portland during World War II.

In the 21st century, shipbuilding remains. Bath Iron Works continues to specialize in Navy vessels while many shipyards turn out boats for fishing and pleasure, including many wooden boats.
Freeport Shares its Rich Past with MMN

In January 1859, the Freeport Mutual Improvement Society Proprietors, a church group, started a hand-written newspaper to be circulated in South Freeport. The “Cruiser” was intended for “the general interest and amusement of said society.” They encouraged contributions from members and non-members “on any and every subject that they may wish to write on.” The editors noted that the paper would include “the current news of the day, Poetry, a shipping list as well as all other matter of interest usually found in similar publication.”

In 1859, South Freeport comprised about 60 households. Residents were involved primarily in shipbuilding and related occupations, and farming. There was one church and clergyman, a school, a store, and a post office.

Hand-written newspapers intended to be read aloud or shared among households, were not uncommon in the 19th century. Like many such papers, the “Cruiser” did not last long – eight issues produced from January to April 1859. Most of the articles were literary, rather than “breaking” news and many were signed with pseudonyms. Humor also was common, such as this item about ship arrivals from the first issue, “Wednesday, Jan 19. Owing to the embargo laid upon our harbor, by King John I – vulgarly known as Jack Frost – we have no arrivals to chronicle.”

The Cruiser, Freeport, January 20, 1859, vol. 1 no. 2, MMN# 9429

Maine Memory Network (www.mainememory.net) is the online repository of the Maine Historical Society. Over 130 organizations in Maine have arranged to put their historical collections on this network, thereby sharing over 5,000 catalogued images with researchers on the internet. In each newsletter we hope to highlight one of the organizations that is partnering with us. If you know of any group in Maine who would like to put their historic images online, please call Kathy Amoroso, Director of Digital Projects, (207) 865-3170, ext. 227.

**FREEPORT HISTORICAL SOCIETY**

**FOUNDED:** 1969

**MEMBERSHIP:** 400 members – and growing!

**RESEARCH:** Archives are professionally staffed and all materials are organized, cataloged, and available for research. Visit the website for more information about research services.

**COLLECTIONS:** Objects, paintings, books, manuscripts, diaries, letters, account books, cemetery records, maps, postcards, ephemera, photographs, and various media formats – all related to the history of Freeport dating from the late 18th century to the present.

**EXHIBITS:** From June to November, MHS mounts one major exhibit at Harrington House that highlights Freeport history. Rotating “mini” exhibits occur at Freeport Town Hall.

**CONTACT:** info@freeporthistoricalsociety.org (207) 865-3170

**FHS owns Pettengill Farm, an early 19th century saltwater farm on 140 acres.**

**CONTRIBUTING PARTNER PROFILE:** FREEPORT HISTORICAL SOCIETY

**WHAT’S NEW FOR GENEALOGISTS**

**A Good Deal**

MHS has partnered with HISTORICMAPWORKS.COM to offer a wonderful opportunity to our members.

**HISTORIC MAP WORKS IS A MAINE-BASED BUSINESS SPECIALIZING IN RESIDENTIAL GENEALOGY.**

**THEIR WEBSITE HOUSES AN ENORMOUS COLLECTION OF SEARCHABLE 19TH AND EARLY 20TH CENTURY AMERICAN TOWN, CITY, AND COUNTY MAPS.**

**THE MAPS ARE EXTREMELY DETAILED AND COMPREHENSIVE, MAKING IT EASY TO RESEARCH THE HISTORY OF PLACES AND STRUCTURES AS WELL AS THE PEOPLE WHO OCCUPIED AND OWNED THEM.**

**The regular annual fee to use HISTORICMAPWORKS.COM is $29.99/year, but MHS members can get the greatly discounted rate of $10.00/year just by signing up with your membership number. Just go to www.historicmapworks.com and after getting on the registration page, click on the Maine historical society link, or go to the members only page MHS website for a direct link to the HISTORIC MAP WORKS REGISTRATION PAGE. THIS OFFER IS GOOD THROUGH 2007.**

**HIGHLIGHTS INCLUDE...**

• The English architect Peter Nicholson is represented with several editions of his work including The Carpenter’s New Guide, 1818.

• Books on building types include bungalows, cabins, libraries, country houses, churches, schools and hospitals as well as Japanese homes and their surroundings (1886) by Portland’s Edward Sibley Morse.

• The Tenement House Problem (1897) and The Tenement House Problem (1902) are two intriguing titles.

• Architectural authors include H. H. Richardson, Ralph Adams Cram, Augustus W. N. Pugin, and Royal Barry Wills

• Many annual exhibition catalogues from the architectural clubs of Boston, Chicago, Los Angles, New York, Philadelphia and other cities are included, illustrating winning designs of the day.

These books can be searched remotely in our online catalog Minerva with www.ursus2.ursus.maine.edu by author, title or subject.
Remembering Esta June Astor

Reference Librarian of the Maine Historical Society from 1971-1977, Esta June Astor passed away on January 2nd. She was the fourteenth person to hold this post in a distinguished line reaching back to our organization's founding in 1822. Among her predecessors were the Rev. Edward Payson (No. 1), Professor Parker Cleveland (No. 2), Professor Henry W. Longfellow (No. 4), Nathan Good (No. 7) and E. Marie Estes (No. 11).

A Portland native, born June 26, 1922, Esta was a daughter of Abraham and Marion Rappaport Venner. Her husband was businessman and television personality Dave Astor. Their children were Kenneth Astor and Patricia Padernacht.

Esta came to MHS after her retirement as Librarian at Portland Public High School, and quickly emerged as the public face of a modernized, more patron-friendly MHS under the direction of Gerald E. Morris. Indeed, historian Elizabeth Ring had described modernized, more patron-friendly MHS under the direction of Morris as still something of an “old men’s club.” Along with other skilled and energetic staff members including Thomas L. Gaffney and Sigrid P. Austin, Esta helped change attitudes within and about MHS. Her knowledge, humor, and grace will be missed, along with that unforgettable smile.

In 1970, Miss Margaret H. Jewell died in Portland at the age of 103. At the time, she left a generous bequest of $35,000 to Maine Historical Society supporting her lifelong interest in local history. We have recently learned that in addition to her outright bequest, Miss Jewell had also created a trust, naming Maine Historical Society as a remainder beneficiary along with several other charitable organizations. Now 30 years later, the trust is expiring and MHS will receive another generous gift, adding to Miss Jewell’s legacy of preserving Maine history.

MHS President Judy and Steve Halpert baron Wormser $24.95. “The Road Washes Out in Spring” (also available in Numbers Dice); Audubon Birds of America 550 piece puzzle tin $14.95; Audubon Birds of America 550 piece puzzle tin $14.95; Audubon’s Birds of America” tiny folios $12.95; “A Maine Artist’s Garden Journal” folio $12.95; Bartlett’s British Wild Flowers $35.99; The Simple Gifts Collection 3 CD Set $35.99; Assorted fish guest towels $6.00; Alphabet Dice Spelling Game $13.95 (also available in Numbers Dice); “The Road Washes Out in Spring” by Baron Wormser $24.95.

CALLING ALL MEMBERS!
The 185th Annual Meeting of the Maine Historical Society will be held on Saturday, June 2, 2007 10:00 a.m.
Maine Historical Society 489 Congress Street Portland

A scene from the MHS 2006 Annual Meeting on Chebeague Island. On alternate years the meeting is held at an historic point of interest for attending members. This year’s 2007 program at MHS will focus on one of many exciting changes underway in the organization.

Join Maine Historical Society for our 2007 Trip! September 8-22
Costa del Sol to Cote d’Azur Western Mediterranean Cruise
Travel with MHS and Oceania Cruises from London for a 14-day voyage down the Western Mediterranean coast to Spain, Morocco, the Costa del Sol, Monaco, and Italy. Enjoy the ports of La Coruna, Cadiz, Casablanca, Malaga, Barcelona, Marseille, Monte Carlo, Livorno, Portofino, and Rome. Tour fortified medieval cities, ancient spice markets, and Kasbahs. Visit the Alhambra, shop in Barcelona, and enjoy the sapphire waters of the Costa del Sol.
For more information, please call Leslie Waters at MHS (207) 774-1822 or Eric Baxter at Hewins Travel (800) 370-0888, Ext. 1209 or EBaxter@hewins.travel.com.
We look forward to traveling with you!

Please join us! The Maine Historical Society Spring Gala Saturday, May 5th, 2007 at the Woodlands Country Club Falmouth with the Phil Rich Big Band Invitations to Follow

It’s Spring at Maine Historical Society. The museum shop has something for everyone!

- Baseball Balance Toy $74.95
- “We the People” leather baseball $20.00
- Audubon Birds of America 550 piece puzzle tin $14.95
- Baseball Stadiums of America 550 piece puzzle tin $14.95
- Audubon’s Birds of America” tiny folios $12.95
- “A Maine Artist’s Garden Journal” folio $12.95
- Bartlett’s British Wild Flowers $35.99
- The Simple Gifts Collection 3 CD Set $35.99
- Assorted fish guest towels $6.00
- Alphabet Dice Spelling Game $13.95 (also available in Numbers Dice)
- “The Road Washes Out in Spring” by Baron Wormser $24.95

A 1962 photo of the Park St. block where Miss Jewell lived at the time.

Legacy of Margaret Jewell benefits MHS again.

Today, both the casual visitor and serious researcher alike can consult these treasured items and so many others like them that document the breadth and depth of Maine’s cultural heritage. Margaret Jewell’s legacy – both in contributions of artifacts and in financial resources to protect and preserve them – will help preserve the extensive collections of the MHS Research Library for generations to come.

WHAT’S IN STORE

IT’S SPRING AT MAINE HISTORICAL SOCIETY
THE MUSEUM SHOP HAS SOMETHING FOR EVERYONE!

JOIN MAIN HISTORICAL SOCIETY FOR OUR 2007 TRIP!
SEPTEMBER 8-22
COSTA DEL SOL TO COTE D’AZUR WESTERN MEDITERRANEAN CRUISE


JOIN US AT HENWIS TRAVEL (800) 370-0888, EXT. 1209 OR EBAXTER@HEWINS.TRAVEL.COM.

WE LOOK FORWARD TO TRAVELING WITH YOU!

PLEASE JOIN US!
THE MAIN HISTORICAL SOCIETY SPRING GALA SATURDAY, MAY 5TH, 2007
AT THE WOODLANDS COUNTRY CLUB FAIRMOUTH WITH THE PHIL RICH BIG BAND
INVITATIONS TO FOLLOW

AND DON’T FORGET THAT YOUR MEMBERS ONLY DISCOUNT CAN BE USED IN THE SHOP AND ONLINE AT WWW.MAINEHISTORY.ORG.

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Margaret was one of three daughters of Harvey Jewell, a prominent Boston lawyer and judge. It was during family summer visits to Scarborough and Cape Elizabeth that she became an avid collector of antiquities and scholar of local history and a patron of the MHS Research Library. Her interest in local history was centered in York County and the towns along the Saco River.

An article about Margaret Jewell’s bequest appeared in the 1971 summer issue of the MHS newsletter.

“The generosity which marked the disposal of her estate was characteristic of Miss Jewell during her lifetime. With more income than she could use, it was her custom to inure to the Library if we had need of anything of a practical nature which would add to the comfort and convenience of the staff and readers. Gifts of money for that particular need would be forthcoming. More valuable were gifts of historical value, of letters and diaries which she had acquired through her great interest in antiquities. Forty such acquisitions are recorded in the Society.”

Today, both the casual visitor and serious researcher alike can consult these treasured items and so many others like them that document the breadth and depth of Maine’s cultural heritage. Margaret Jewell’s legacy – both in contributions of artifacts and in financial resources to protect and preserve them – will help preserve the extensive collections of the MHS Research Library for generations to come.

If you would like to learn how you can make a bequest to Maine Historical Society, please contact Bonnie Vance in the Development Office at (207) 774-1822, ext. 231.

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