

OLD TOWN MUSEUM

353 Main St., P.O. Box 375
Old Town, Maine 04468

www.oldtownmuseum.org

email:oldtownmuseum@gmail.com

Established 1976

News from the Old Town Museum

MUS-NEWS

May 2011

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Things to see at the Museum

In addition to the permanent displays relating to Old Town's past, several temporary displays are new this season.

Boy Scouting --

Beginning the Second Hundred Years

A new display this season which features pictures, costumes, badges, uniforms, flags, books and much more history and information on area Boy Scout troops.

Bradley Historical Committee

Last November a meeting was held at the Bradley Municipal Building to see what interest there was in forming a historical society. Over 20 residents came and there was a great enthusiasm about this. One idea was evident - the possibility of saving the old fire station. After much discussion we cannot financially support this idea. The cost to repair the building and the cost to become a historical society is way beyond our financial ability. At the suggestion of our Town Manager, Melissa Doane, we approached the Town Council asking to be a Historical Committee of the Town of Bradley - it was approved. An Open House was held in March to display all the items that we have now accumulated. All who attended enjoyed the gathering. And several ideas and leads developed. Mary Gibouleau of the Old Town Museum offered the use of one of their display cases for the summer. We immediately went to work and you can check us out at the Museum anytime this summer. Call Ann Delaware 827-2733 or Maria Baker Desrosiers 827-3619 for more information.

Orono Historical Society

Orono Historical Society's display will include a collage of photos depicting scenes from the town's history as well as a few special artifacts. One item of special interest is an Esther Eayres doll, modeled after the first white child born in Orono, and made for the country's bicentennial celebration in 1976. There were only 200 of these dolls made. To represent the important impact the University of Maine has had in our town, there will be three first edition 1940 Wedgwood plates with images of various campus buildings, which are on loan to us from the collection of James and Helene Whitty.

Civil War - 150th Anniversary Year

As the country celebrates the 150th year anniversary of the Civil War, the Museum has a display relating to the men who enlisted from the Old Town area. Please see back page.

Things to do at the Museum



Come in and look at our collection of Pictures from the Past

Enjoy looking at a slide show collection of over 200 pictures which represents Old Town's past.

Take a tour of the Museum

Contact the Museum to arrange a group tour or visit.

Hold your meeting at the Museum

The Old Town Museum is available for meetings - call us and learn the details.

Reunion gatherings

If your graduating class is holding a reunion, come on in and enjoy reliving the past. Call to arrange times.

Special events

Our spring Strawberry Festival and Autumn Tea are popular community gatherings and this year we will also host an Antiques Appraisal event.

New Hours for the Museum this Season

The Museum will be open on Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. throughout its season. Group visits may also be arranged by special appointment. Please contact the Museum if you would like to visit on a day it is not regularly open.

Everything Old is New!

While that's only partially true, we can promise that the Old Town Museum website is new! The website, www.oldtownmuseum.org, was recently given a new look by Old Town graphic and web designer Monique Bouchard.

The new site, which will be maintained by Museum staff, has a blog for new event and display postings, is closely linked to the Old Town Museum Facebook fan page, and has an easy-to-access calendar. The easy-to-navigate site has the history of the Museum, information about exhibits and displays, volunteer applications, driving directions, membership information and more.

The new website will allow Museum staff to update information easily and frequently. Visitors can also sign up for the new newsletter, which will highlight items in the Museum collection and upcoming events.

Monique Bouchard, an Old Town native and UMaine graduate, completed her Girl Scout Silver Award doing volunteer work for the Old Town Museum as a teenager, and has donated the design, setup and training for the website to the Museum.

Bouchard commented, "It is a real pleasure to create an online space for the Old Town Museum, where I enjoyed volunteering when it was still in the old waterworks building. The Museum is an important and often overlooked part of our community - it has a lot to offer, and I am delighted to help raise awareness for the Museum!"

Monique Bouchard Design can be found online at www.mbouchard.com.

How to reach us:

Old Town Museum

353 Main St., P.O. Box 375

Old Town, Maine 04468

Phone: 207-827-7256

email: oldtownmuseum@gmail.com

website: www.oldtownmuseum.org

MUSEUM BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Joe Ayotte, Barbara Connors, Barbara Csavinszky,
Philip Dunn, Richard Eustis, Virginia Fortier,
Mary Gibouleau, Margaret Manzer, Carol May,
William Osborne, Betsy Paradis, Harry Sanborn,
Kristin Segee, Carolyn Smith, Troy Turner

MISSION STATEMENT:

The mission of the Old Town Museum is to collect, preserve and display objects and information related to the heritage of the Old Town area and its residents; and to create interest in this heritage through programs, exhibits, education and other methods.

VISION STATEMENT:

The Old Town Museum will be the premier source of information on the history and culture of the Old Town area and its people.



Old Town Museum

First Annual

Antique Appraisal Show

The Old Town Museum is planning what is hoped to be its first annual Antique Appraisal Show! The "Show" will feature Maine's premiere antiques and fine art appraiser Bruce Buxton of Portland. Mr. Buxton is one of the top antique appraisers in New England and is affiliated with the Skinner Auction House.

The Appraisal Show is planned for Sunday, August 21, 2011 at the Museum.

The Show will run from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Pre-registration for an appraisal is not required but those who do will go to the front of the line. Watch the Penobscot Times for future notices and pre-registration instructions. Appraisal fees will be; one item at \$10, two items at \$18, or a maximum of three items for \$25.

Appraisals can be done from photos and descriptions if the item is too large to bring to the Museum.

Mr. Buxton presents a lively show and antique enthusiasts will want to come early to secure a seat for the show. Stay tuned for more details in the weeks to come.

Volunteer!

The Museum for the 2011 Season will have an all volunteer staff on duty. Any one who would like to assist with this effort is invited. There are always two volunteers on duty and any necessary training will be provided. Contact the Museum for more information.

Memorial Contributions

The Old Town Museum gratefully accepts donations which will help to preserve and display materials related to the heritage of Old Town and its surrounding communities for people of all generations to enjoy. A memorial card and acknowledgement is sent to the family and a receipt to the donor. Please contact the Museum or local funeral home if you wish to make a memorial donation.

Since the last Newsletter, donations have been made in memory of:

Ralph Laplante – 1914 - 2010

Annette Dugans – 1930 - 2010

Lorraine Dunn – 1929 - 2011

Philip Dow – 1937 - 2010

Richard May – 1946 - 2010

Lieselotte O'Meara – 1920 - 2010

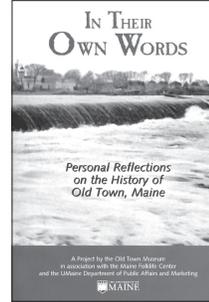
A memorial book is on display at the Museum

Great Gift Ideas from the Museum

In Their Own Words \$15

Personal Reflections on the History of Old Town narrated by several local citizens.

Available in VHS (\$5 each) or DVD (\$15 each) tax inc., \$2 shipping



"Family Favorites" Cookbook

\$7
\$2 shipping



(Please include shipping costs)

NEW! T-Shirts

in Forest Green or Heather Grey with our new Peavey logo in sizes M-L-XL-XXL \$10.95 tax inc., \$2 shipping

Old Town Afghan \$55

tax included, \$7.25 shipping

These items may be purchased by calling (207) 827-6785 (Barbara Csavinszky)

Or send check to: Old Town Museum, c/o B. Csavinszky, 15 Sewall Drive, Old Town, ME 04468

Membership/Donation Drive

Membership in the Old Town Museum or financial donations are ways which anyone can help in preserving the history of the Old Town area. Dues and donations are a substantial help in the funding of the Museum operations. As you know, the Museum does not charge an admission fee. Your Membership payment or your donation is greatly appreciated.

We hope the readers of this issue of Mus-News will continue their support of the Old Town Museum. The

Museum is the place where the history of the area is displayed for your viewing. It is a place to visit to bring back old memories and a place to show your children (or grandchildren) how things were in earlier times.

Remember, donations of any amount to the Museum may qualify for a tax-deduction in accordance with IRS regulations. Donations should be sent to the same address as dues. Please consider a membership in the Museum or a donation to this valuable institution.

Old Town Museum, P.O. Box 375, Old Town, ME 04468

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____

State and Zip: _____

Phone Number: _____

E-mail: _____

OLD TOWN MUSEUM

353 Main Street
P. O. Box 375
Old Town, Maine 04468

Established 1976

Individual \$30

Family \$45

Group or Business \$150

Senior \$15

Life \$375

Donation: \$ _____

Membership entitles you to voting rights at the Annual Meeting.

Donations and memberships are tax deductible to the extent provided by the applicable regulations.

The Old Town Museum is a 501(c)(3) organization.

If you are interested in volunteering at the Museum, please check here



Sunday, June 5

Museum Grand Opening for 2011 Season will Feature “Village to Village”

“Village to Village” will perform at the Museum Grand Opening on Sunday, June 5 at the 2 p.m. program. “Village to Village”, Ellie May Shufro, violinist, and Juan Condori, cellist, performed at the Museum last season and were much appreciated. This year their program is titled Music of Greece and her Neighbors. Refreshments will be served at this special program.

During the summer season, the Museum has special programs consisting of lectures or special presentations. Some of these have included: demonstrations of an art form; period fashion shows; Native American bead work; and lectures on lumbering; historical people or special places.

This summer’s program include a tribute to the Gay Nineties Gala with the Old Town Museum Chorus, a “Scout Sunday” when all Scouts past and current from the area will have an opportunity to share experiences and reminisce about their past adventures, and a presentation by Harold Borns to name a few.

Readers should refer to the website for information on future programs and events.

Old Town and the Civil War

As this year is the 150th Anniversary of the start of the American Civil War, it is a good time to not only honor those that participated in that war but also recognize the magnitude of that event. More Americans were killed in the Civil War than any other war in our history, by far.

It is reported that just over 500 Old Town residents served in military service during the Civil War, many never to return to Old Town, not even to be buried here. Can you picture Old Town if 500 young men were removed from the local area to fight a war in that distant land of Maryland, Virginia or Pennsylvania?

Based on information provided by the State Archives, there were no records kept during the Civil War era of the home town of all those that served in the military. However, there are individual military unit records of the men in each unit, frequently organized by home town, especially military units that were formed in a state. An afternoon of research at the Maine Archives has produced a list of about 220 Old Town residents whose service was primarily in Maine Military Units

The Old Town Museum is attempting to compile a list of the people from Old Town that served in the military during the Civil War with as much information as reasonable on each person. Research in the State Archives is a start but we need the help of those who had Old Town ancestors that served in the Military during that time. The Museum will be displaying the list of former Old Town residents in the Museum and will update the list periodically during the coming months. Please stop by the Museum to see if you see any familiar names or if you have any information that will help us expand the list or provide additional information about those already on the list.

In addition the Old Town Museum is developing an exhibit to commemorate the Civil War and is looking for additional items to display. We are also encouraging other communities in the area to share their community’s Civil War History by displaying items in the Old Town Museum. Even if each community has only a few items, the collective display should be of interest to all. Municipal boundaries have little meaning in the recognition of the impact of the Civil War. If you have any items such as photos, letters or other memorabilia that you would be willing to loan to the Museum on a temporary basis, please contact Mary Gibouleau, Chair of the Museum’s Exhibit Committee at 827-2435.



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