

# News from the Old Town Museum

# MUS-NEWS

May 2010

Vol. 8, No. 2

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Joe Ayotte, Barbara Connors, Barbara Csavinszky, Philip Dunn, Richard Eustis, Virginia Fortier, Mary Gibouleau, Margaret Manzer, Carol May, Howard Merrill, William Osborne, Betsy Paradis, Kenneth Sirois, Carolyn Smith, Troy Turner

## 2010 Sunday Programs Set

The Museum season promises to be an interesting one. The Opening program planned for Sunday, June 6 is with "Port 'O Call" making a return performance. Other programs include: the Old Town Museum Chorus on June 13 with songs from the Era of 1900-1912; on June 27 the Ragtime piano of Jassou Jones will delight the audience; dancers from Indian Island will entertain us on July 25.

On August 8, Beth Hillson will present a program on her book, "Growing Up Jewish in a Catholic Community", relating stories of Old Town, where she spent her childhood. There will be a Talent Show emceed by Pam Martin on August 15. On August 22 there will be an interesting program called, "Village to Village", featuring Juan Condori on cello and Ellie May Shufro on violin; they will give us a taste of music from different places.

September programs will include the returning "Six Basin Street Dixieland Band" on September 12, and again, the Old Town Museum Chorus on September 19. On October 3, the Old Town United Methodist Church will present a program on the church and on October 10, the Old Town Baptist Church will present a program.

In addition to these programs, the Museum will have some fund raisers which include a Strawberry Festival at the Museum on July 10, a supper at the Museum with entertainment in late July or early August, and finally a Harvest Tea on October 17. We hope that the community will enjoy all of these times at the Museum. Please pass the word and we'll see you there!



Port 'O Call, Maine's madrigal to sea shanty singing trio will perform at the Museum's first Sunday program for the 2010 season.

### 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.*

# News from the Museum Board

## HISTORY AND INFLUENCE OF RELIGION IN OLD TOWN

Beginning in June of the 2010 Museum season, one focus will be on the development of the several religions in Old Town. For the past several months representatives of the religious community have met at the museum to plan their exhibits. Each religion will have a separate display focusing on the development of that religion. Artifacts and documents will be on display along with the general history of the religion.

## PREVIEW OF THE 2011 SEASON THEME: "FOUNDERS AND FAMILIES"

It is never too early to start planning for the next season. The display committee is planning to focus on the founding families and their descendants as well as the individuals who established the town government and industry. This will be a community effort, as we will invite families to contribute their family histories, photos and genealogy trees. Often visitors inquire about specific families or people and this will be an excellent resource available locally. These may be contributed in hard copy or on a disk to be viewed on a computer. Please contact Mary Gibouleau at 207-827-2435 if you are willing to assist with this project.

## FUNDRAISER HARVEST TEA Sunday, October 17, 2010 2:00 p.m.

A formal 3-course tea will be served to guests at the Museum on Sunday, October 17, 2010 at 2:00 p.m. Seating is limited, and reservations are required. Tickets will be available in September. Reservations may be made anytime. Individuals or small groups of 2, 4, 6 or 8 can be accommodated.

For information or if you are willing to help with the tea, please call Mary Gibouleau at 207-827-2435

## Medieval Works On Exhibit

A collection of original works based on the arts of the Middle Ages and Renaissance will be on special display at the Old Town Museum, on loan from individual members of the Endewearde branch of the Society for Creative Anachronism (SCA).

Among the diverse items on display are: a hand-painted stained glass piece in the style of the 13th century; a needle case featuring embroidery popular in Elizabethan England; a 16th century Flemish style woolen lady's gown, handsewn and modeled after those seen in paintings by Peter Bruegel the Elder; a hand carved falconer's whistle; SCA award scrolls based on numerous extant period documents; hand dyed and spun yarns and spinning implements; a steel helmet and articulated and decorated plate gauntlet; pewter castings and soapstone moulds; and a child's doll based on the Bayeux Tapestry .

Each item on display was created by a local member of the Society for Creative Anachronism, an international organization dedicated to researching and recreating the arts and skills of pre-17th century Europe. All of the items are handmade; none are manufactured.

The Shire of Endewearde hosts many activities and events in this region, from the Medieval Festival at Fort Knox to a weekend-long archery tournament in Newburgh; from a grand tourney and feast at the Brick Church in Bangor to a rough and raucous tavern brawl in our own "Bare Blade Tavern"; from weekly lessons in rapier and armored combat forms to evening gatherings for music, dance, medieval cookery, archery, and more.

The "Knowne World" of the SCA consists of 19 kingdoms, with over 30,000 members residing around the world. Members dressed in clothing of the Middle Ages and Renaissance attend events that feature tournaments, royal courts, feasts, dancing, various classes and workshops, and more. For more about the SCA worldwide, visit [www.sca.org](http://www.sca.org).

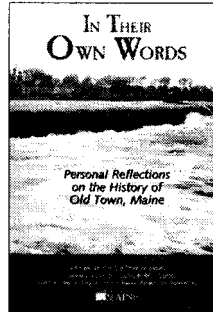
The SCA welcomes those who are interested in the Middle Ages. For more information on SCA activities in your area, visit [www.SCAMaine.com](http://www.SCAMaine.com) and follow the links to your local branch.

# 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

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



(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

# 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 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

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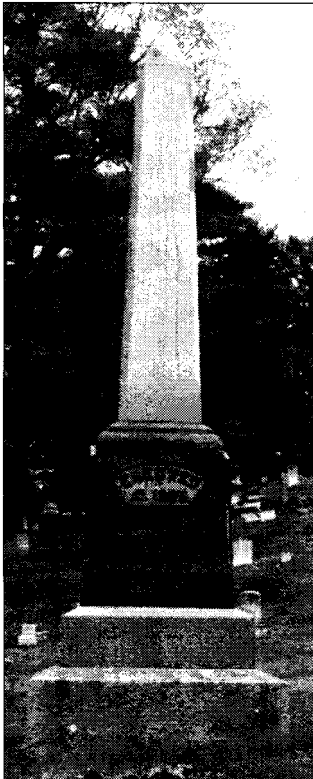
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## *Maine's Civil War Monuments: Silent Sentinels*

Contributed by Bill Osborne

Are you a Civil War enthusiast? Many of us are very interested in the Civil War and the role Maine and its communities played in it. Did you know that Old Town has a Civil War monument? I was born here and have lived in Old Town sixty years and never knew we had a monument to our citizens who served in the Civil War!

The Old Town monument is located in Forest Hill Cemetery on Main Street. It was erected in 1906 by the Women's State Relief Corps of Old Town. The monument is visible from Main St. and is in the southern end of the cemetery. The inscription states, "Erected A.D. 1906 By the Women's State Relief Corps of Old Town, in Memory of Our Soldiers, 1861-5."



I never would have discovered the monument had it not been for a notice issued by the State of Maine. A new web site has been established to document Maine's involvement in the Civil War. The new site is still under construction, but the first phase of it is ready. That phase was a listing and photographs of all the monuments in Maine dedicated to those who served in the Civil War. The site can be viewed at [www.maine.gov/civilwar/sentinels.html](http://www.maine.gov/civilwar/sentinels.html). Much more data

is scheduled to be added on other areas of interest concerning the war according to Earle G. Shettleworth, Jr., Maine State Historian. According to Mr. Shettleworth the Maine Civil War Centennial Commission identified 74 monuments in Maine in a 1965 publication compiled by Maurice J. Warner its chairman. Mr. Shettleworth has found an amazing 148 monuments to date and is still counting!

Please make a visit to the site and view some of these "silent sentinels" of our past. If you know of a monument that is not listed, Mr. Shettleworth would love to hear from you so that it can be added.

