

GREAT CRANBERRY ISLAND HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Newsletters

Great Cranberry Island Historical Society

Museum Memos

Volume 5

July 2004

On Wednesday, July 14th the church will echo with happy songs from the stage as David Jackson and Kristen Blodgett transport us on a trip to Broadway. They'll bring us hit show tunes, many of our old favorites.



Both artists have varied professional backgrounds, performing and directing on Broadway and on other stages, here and abroad.



They have generously donated their talents to benefit the Historical Society. We are most fortunate to be able to offer this great show.

Our Broadway Stars

**July 14, 7
p.m.
at the
church**

Children's Night

"Christmas in July" is the theme for an

Museum Status

The museum has grown. We now have over 700 island-related documents stored in archival boxes and indexed for easy finding. Interesting artifacts enable islanders and their guests a chance to view the old life, framed photos honor our past citizens, and our publications and videos both educate and entertain.

The Multimedia Room has been busy with a constant output of publications: booklets and brochures, posters and post cards, for islanders and the museum.

At the June Selectmen's meeting, there was discussion on possibly enlarging the Town Office in the Longfellow School. If this does happen, the museum will have to vacate at least one half of its space.

We now completely fill our space and spill into the hall. We wonder how we can be effective in greatly reduced

evening children's program at the museum on Wednesday, July 21st at 6:30 PM.

Youngsters should come in their pajamas. They will have a fun time decorating gingerbread cookies, singing songs, and making old-time Christmas decorations.

Following a story time led by Susan Storey Frank, they will gather by the Christmas tree to open presents. Later they will get to sample their cookies, served with the traditional hot cocoa.

The evening is planned by Charlotte Harlan, assisted by Historic Society members. Parents are invited. A sign up sheet will be available at the post office. State your child's name and age.

headquarters.

Your Board of Trustees has been diligently working to solve this dilemma. Treasurer Bruce Komusin generously donated two acres of prime woodland to the Historical Society. The Board will present their plans for this property on August 4th.

Family Files

Following other museums, we will soon reserve a separate file folder to hold memorabilia for each island family: newspaper articles, photos, genealogies, etc. Everyone is invited to submit materials for the files.

New Publications

We are happy to announce two new publications for 2004:

"Winter: The Other Season"

Old Photos of the island, with many stories from year-round residents, by Wini Smart & Bruce Komusin

"Hitty Preble of Cranberry Isles"

A flat wooden doll, plus a storybook telling how



Sarah Newell and Georgie Ware working on the "Winter: Work & Play" exhibit.

A Note from your President:

I hope you've all visited our new museum exhibit, "Winter, Work & Play." All the great old ice-cutting tools there were used years ago at Hadlock Pond in Northeast Harbor, and were loaned to us by the Northeast Harbor Maritime Museum.

Rachel Field's award-winning book, *Hitty, Her First Hundred Years*, was written, and how it describes people and places here on Great Cranberry Island.

The same type tools were used on Great Cranberry, where we had at least three ice houses. A short film at the museum illustrates the methods used in ice harvesting.

If the "ice" reminds you too much of last winter, you can warm your hands by our "fireplace." We also have an original Cranberry Island mail delivery sled!

Copies of the books are available at the Museum and The Whale's Rib.

Our Hitty Preble book has enjoyed much publicity. Filling the front page of the Friends of Hitty Newsletter, it was sent to 1000 Hitty fans. Our little doll and book is also featured this month in a national doll magazine, Doll Castle News. We may also be shown in a publication in Denmark.

We need your talents

Bruce and I have been invited to speak at the tenth Hitty Club Reunion in Williamsburg, VA this October. We are making a video to show there, featuring Great Cranberry (Hitty's Home), Rachel Field's home on Sutton Island, the Preble House (Mickey Macfarlan's), and some of our darling island children dressed as Hitty look-alikes!

Museum Hours:
10:30 to 4 p.m.
Monday - Saturday

We're on the web at:
gcihs.org

We keep trying to make the museum a fun place to visit, one to educate and enjoy - for the whole family.

Great Cranberry Island
Historical Society

Remember it's your museum, supported by your dues and donations. Many thanks to those who have contributed this year. We couldn't do it without you!

P.O. Box 12
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Sincerely, Wini Smart