

Great Cranberry Island Historical Society Museum Memos

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CRANBERRY HOUSE ^{still} NEEDS YOU!

We hope you had a great Thanksgiving, wherever you are. On Great Cranberry Island the Historical Society certainly has much to be thankful for. Just a year ago we moved our permanent building to its new home next to the parsonage. Weren't you all thrilled this summer to see the ongoing work, and the amazing transformation of that tired old building?

Our architect maximized museum display space, while meeting Fire Marshall and handicap requirements. The large front central window, a remarkable feature of the old building, was fully restored. It will fill the new, wider stairway with light, just as it did before. All the other windows and doors were replaced. The building was totally resided, electric and telephone service was installed underground, and the driveway, parking lot, and grounds were graded, ready for landscaping.

Now, exactly a year later, work has started on the full-width front deck and porch. They'll be made of white and red cedar, for long life and low maintenance. We'll have the well drilled this winter, while Gary Gould is on the island. By next Spring the building's exterior will be just about finished, except for the fire escape, and the complete project will be more than half done.

The great success of the 2005 art show and auction, with a net income of about \$23,000, paid for this work. But we were still just a little shy of funds until a very

generous donor wrote out yet another check in late September to cover the shortfall.

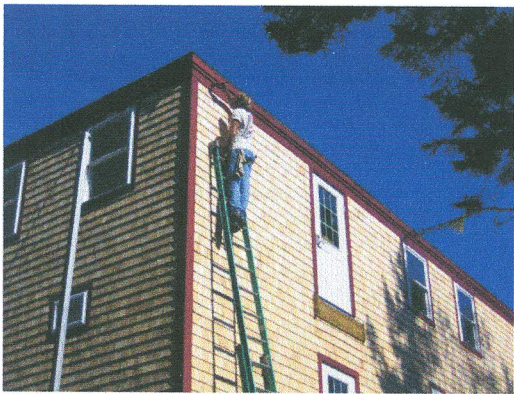
You've got to admit, you can truly see where your money goes! But we're being careful with each dollar. Our general contractor, Heartwood Builders, has been most patient as plans and schedules change, often due to the necessity of having money in hand.

The coming year will be another BIG one. We'll start interior work on the new stairs, kitchen, and flooring. There's hope the original wood floor on the ground level can be restored, rather than covered over.

We know this is a big challenge for all of us, but with the cost of building materials escalating, we're thankful we started building last year. And it'll be so wonderful when it's finished: something we can all take pride in, something to make the island a better place for ourselves and for future generations.

We'll be hosting another big fund raising event in Northeast Harbor next July 20th – a craft exhibit and auction. It'll be hard to beat this year's totals. And we'll again be applying for additional grants.

But we also have to rely on YOU, our members, to help raise the funds needed. Please see our "Buy a Piece of Cranberry House" campaign on the back.



Painting the trim



Placing support columns for the deck

