



**1717
Meetinghouse
West Barnstable**

1717 Meetinghouse Foundation Newsletter

November 2018

Volume 1, Number 1

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Dear Members and Friends

From the Desk of the President

As Fall is upon us and winter not far behind, I find myself reflecting on the activities of the past year at the 1717 Meetinghouse. The “Second Restoration” of The Meetinghouse continued this year making it a very active place this past Spring and Summer. Between various artisans, contractors, painters and electricians, the old building has been buzzing.

It is heartening to see the vibrancy of the old Meetinghouse. Too often historic sites are musty, dull, and empty places in disrepair--not so at the Meetinghouse. Thanks to the generous bequest from Donald and Marjorie Cary, and the ongoing gifts of our members the 1717 Meetinghouse Foundation is able to fund the work that keeps the Meetinghouse in great condition.

In addition to the work, the program committee made sure that the Meetinghouse was filled with rich panoply of music, educational, and community interest programs starting in February and continuing through this Fall.

And thanks to our ever active Programs Committee the 1717 Meetinghouse is an integral part of community life in West Barnstable.

Hope to see you all at the annual meeting, November 11, 2018 at 11:15AM in the 1717 Meetinghouse. Reception to follow.



Georgia Lonkart, President

Programs November and December 2018

BATTLE LINES: Poetry and Music of World War I



“The War To End All Wars” – THE LAST DAY

WORDS: Retired Judge Gregory Williams

PIANO: Jacqueline Schwab (Ken Burns's *Civil War*)
with Sarah Ford Marchio (Scottish pipes)

Sunday, November 11, 4:00 p.m.
1717 Meetinghouse

2049 Meetinghouse Way (Route 149), West Barnstable

Suggested donation: \$15 • \$10 for Foundation members & students • veterans are welcomed free

 **1717 Meetinghouse Lecture Series**
300TH ANNIVERSARY 508-362-4445 • www.1717meetinghouse.org
*The 1717 Meetinghouse Foundation is a secular non-profit corporation dedicated to restoring and maintaining the West Barnstable 1717 Meetinghouse. The historic use of the building as a public forum is encouraged.

Don't miss the Veteran's Day tribute. Join us for Battle Lines on Sunday November 11, 2018 at 4:00PM, a moving tribute to the poets of World War I with readings by Retired Judge Gregory Williams, music by Jacqueline Schwab on Piano and Sarah Marchio on the Scottish Pipes.

Celebrate the holidays with the West Barnstable Village Tree lighting on the green Sunday, December 2, 2018 at 5:00PM, followed by the Christmas Story and Carols in the Meetinghouse.

Annual Meeting

Don't forget the 1717 Meetinghouse Foundation Annual Meeting November 11, 2018. Light lunch will be provided after the meeting.



Tree Lighting on the Green and
Carols in the Meetinghouse
December 2, 2018 5:00 PM

For updated information on events
scheduled at the 1717
Meetinghouse visit
www.1717meetinghouse.org

1717 Meetinghouse Foundation partners with Barnstable Land Trust

Elizabeth Crocker Jenkins, whose leadership saved the Meetinghouse in the 1950's, bequeathed 3.5 acres woodland on Church Street to the West Parish Memorial Foundation, now the 1717 Meetinghouse Foundation, to be used as the Foundation deemed appropriate in furtherance of the Foundation's mission to preserve the Meetinghouse. Over three years ago, recognizing that the land was unused and that revenue from the sale of the land would be helpful in preserving the Meetinghouse, the Foundation's Board voted to sell the land. After considering subdivision of the property for possible sale as building lots, the Foundation determined that a conserving this land would be a more desirable resolution for both the Foundation and the community. The 1717 Meetinghouse Foundation approached the Barnstable Land Trust regarding a possible sale. The Barnstable Land Trust expressed great interest and over the next years raised the funds to purchase the property from the Foundation. The sale was completed in April of 2018. The land will remain natural and is adjacent to property the Barnstable Land Trust already owned, making this land a key link to the Cape Cod Pathways trail. A partnership that preserves both the Meetinghouse and the land in West Barnstable.

Board Members 2018

- Georgia Lonkart, President
- Donna Grohe, Vice President
- Peter Smith, Treasurer
- Robert Lonkart, Ass't Treasurer
- John P. Jenkins, Clerk
- Mindy Abbott, Membership
- Greg Williams, Programs
- Fred Clausen, Building and Grounds
- Peggie Bretz, Nominations
- Bill Mullin
- Shepard Williams
- Sarah Wyatt
- Nancy Shoemaker
- Pastor Reed Baer, Ex Officio

In Memoriam

Members we have lost in 2018

Marion Stobbart

Vivian Souza

Beatrice DeLacy

James Jenkins

John Stepita

Marjorie Bjork

Project Highlights 2018



The north wall restoration was completed this year with re-siding and venting. We were finally able to paint the north wall which now gleams in the sunshine. Most of the hardware restoration has been completed and the trim work replaced where necessary.

The cement handicap ramp was removed on the east side and a new temporary wood one installed on the west side by the handicap parking area. Eventually we will replace that ramp with a permanent one. First, we need to complete the research on the moisture abatement project. We are consulting experts on moisture abatement in historic buildings to determine the best course of action to prevent the moisture build up which affects the siding on the outer walls.

The fire alarm system was updated this year with a state of the art system, and we have a Water Tank Committee consulting with engineers regarding the placement of a new larger water tank to be used in case of fire. As you may know the current water tank is buried on the green and has been there for many decades. More to follow on this subject as we enter 2019.

From the Membership Committee

We have welcomed 15 new memberships into the 1717 Meetinghouse Foundation this year. Annual Renewals, Life Memberships and New Memberships comprise our 2018 memberships as follows:

147 Total Memberships (226 people)
77 Life Memberships (122 people)
27 Individual Memberships (28 people)
31 Family Memberships (54 people)
12 Patron Memberships (22 people)

- 57% of our members have some connection to West Parish of Barnstable church.
- 43% of our members hail from across the country (local and as far away as Hawaii, Arizona, Florida, California, New Jersey, North Carolina...) with no known connection to the church.



Renew your Membership Now or Join the 1717 Meetinghouse Foundation for 2019

If you would like to renew your annual membership at this time complete the form below and mail with your check to the address listed on the form. If you have not yet become a member please consider joining the 1717 Meetinghouse Foundation. Members enjoy a discount at cultural events such as music recitals, historic reenactments, and debates.

Cut here

Memberships are available at these levels (check one)

Annual Membership

- Individual Member: Annual Donation of \$25
- Family Member: Annual Donation of \$50
- Patron of the 1717 Meetinghouse: Annual Donation of \$51 to \$749

Life Membership

- Bell Ringer: Donation of \$750-\$999
- Tower Climber: Donation of \$1,000-\$4,999
- Silver Keeper: Donation of \$5,000-\$9,999
- Revere Bell Society: Donation of \$10,000 or more

Mail to:

1717 Meetinghouse Foundation
PO Box 781
West Barnstable, MA 02668

Name _____

Address _____

Email _____

Telephone _____

Amount Enclosed _____

Donations are tax deductible to the fullest extent allowed by law. The Foundation is a 501(C3) organization