

Dunham Tavern Museum *News*



Volume 69, Issue 3

A PUBLICATION FOR FRIENDS AND STAKEHOLDERS OF DUNHAM TAVERN MUSEUM



Willard Metcalf, *Summer at Hadlyme*



Childe Hassam, *Late Afternoon Sunset*

The History of Art in the Connecticut Valley

Dunham Tavern Museum is pleased to join The Decorative Arts Trust in welcoming Jeffrey Cooley, owner of The Cooley Gallery and specialist in Fine American Art, to the Tavern on Friday, June 19.

“Upon moving to Old Lyme...we were excited to discover the breadth and quality of many of the Connecticut Impressionists,” states Cooley. “A respected artist’s colony sprang forth from simple beginnings. During 1895 through 1930 artists of renown, such as Willard Metcalf and Childe Hassam, were inspired by their surroundings and exposure to other artists who made their way to the colony.”

Even today, artists build on interpretations of the French Impressionists as indicated through the eyes of the American Impressionists who were associated with the Old Lyme Art Colony.

Join us for an evening sure to interest fine art collectors, decorative arts collectors and those who enjoy objects of beauty. Cocktails begin at 6pm with dinner to follow at 6:30pm. Reservations, \$50 per attendee, are required. Please RSVP to John Hellman, 39501 Cedar Rd., Gates Mills, OH 44040, or further information at 440-423-4690.

Introducing New Museum Staff

Dunham Tavern Museum welcomes two new staff members working together to manage museum operations: Lynette Filson and Allison Tillinger Schmid.

Lynette has worked in marketing and fundraising for the nonprofit sector for over ten years, including the Erie Art Museum in Pennsylvania and Peninsula Fine Arts Center in Virginia. She holds a M.A. in arts management from Carnegie Mellon University and now resides in Mentor with her husband, Scott, and two sons.

Before coming to Dunham, Allison worked at the Akron Art Museum for three years in the curatorial department, organizing exhibitions and planning programs. She received an M. A. in art history from The George Washington University and a B.A. in art history and history from The University of Akron. She resides in Lakewood with her husband, Dale.

We are very pleased to have both Lynette and Allison on staff. Please introduce yourself when you see them in the upcoming months!



Allison and Lynette



Jay Zabo Reclaiming Land at Dunham

Farming is a hopeful profession. Each seed or seedling, planted and nurtured, anticipates the harvest. For Jay Szabo, a local horticulturalist who lives in Midtown Cleveland, the hope of harvest and dream of new use for part of the Dunham Tavern property became a topic of discussion with board member Chris Tuttle. As they stood in the warmth of the Dunham Barn on a day this past December and peered from the West window onto a snow-covered plot of land, a reclamation of land developed. From the historical perspective of Dunham as a farm and an inn, Jay is creating a market garden that is both attractive and productive, inspired by the organic methods of farming in the agricultural age of the 19th century, but sustainable in the urban culture of the 21st century.

To prepare for this undertaking, Jay completed the 12-week Market Gardening Class conducted by Ohio State University Extension. To ready the property for production, Jay tested soil and cleared the area of weeds, saplings and remnants of former gardens. Some of the crops planned for the garden include novelty and heirloom tomatoes, Italian and Asian eggplant, basil, rainbow carrots, sunflowers, zinnia and a mixed perennial border. Seedlings emerging from production pots under fluorescent lights await their new home as Jay finishes the garden layout and planting schedule.

Jay's love of plants and experimentation is not new. As a child, he shadowed his father who was an avid gardener and beekeeper. As an adult, he completed a master's degree in agronomy from Cornell University. In the optimistic spirit of the hopeful farmer, please visit the garden often and enjoy its progress. Harvests will be available for purchase--stay tuned for announcements!

Annual Meeting and Picnic

The DTM Annual Meeting will be held on Sunday, June 14 at 4:30pm in the Barn. The afternoon events include a wine and beer reception followed by a brief business meeting and finishing with a potluck picnic.

During the meeting, we elect our new Trustees for the upcoming fiscal year based on the nominations presented by the Nominating Committee. For the potluck picnic, the entrée and beverages will be provided. Everyone looks forward to the appetizers, salads, side dishes and desserts members bring. If you would like to share one of your dishes, please contact Germaine Gibian at 216-761-1263 or ggibian@sbcglobal.net. To attend, please RSVP to DTM by June 8 at 216-431-1060 or dunhamtavern@sbcglobal.net.

Barn Debt Down

Thanks to very generous anonymous donations in excess of \$16,000 during the last fiscal year, we have reduced the outstanding barn debt to \$22,833.22!



Museum Wish List

While the museum gets better with age, not so of our office equipment and kitchen appliances. If you feel like giving the museum an early Christmas present this year, please consider donating some much needed replacements (either new or slightly used, please) including a microwave, office chair, bookshelf and cordless telephone. Call Lynette or Allison at 216-431-1060 to arrange drop off and receive your tax deductible receipt.

Nominating Committee Now Selecting Candidates

The following individuals have been nominated to fill the position of Trustee of the museum for a three-year term ending May 31, 2012: Marsha French; Germaine Gibian; Jeffery Pesler; Barbara Peterson; William Ruper; Gilbert True; and John Winter.

As you may note, Glenn Solomon, a tireless supporter of Dunham Tavern and dedicated Chairman of the Capital Improvements/Maintenance Committee has indicated he would like to continue his involvement with the maintenance of the museum but would like to discontinue as a member of the Board of Trustees.

Dunham is thankful for Glenn's continued involvement and very pleased to welcome Matt Solomon, Glenn and Pat's son, as a nominee for Trustee to fill the position of Trustee of the museum for a one-year term ending May 31, 2010--and hopefully a continued term from 2010-2013.

This one-year position was created when Joanne Poderis indicated she would like to remain active in Dunham activities but found her other involvements kept her from the time commitment she felt she should be giving to Dunham as a Trustee. We are grateful for Joanne's past involvements and look forward to her gracious volunteering and hosting.

Any DTM member may submit to the Nominating Committee written recommendations of names of persons suggested as nominees for Trustees for consideration by the committee.

Our thanks to the members of the Nominating Committee: David Ney; Christeen Tuttle; Garrit Wamelink; John Hellman; and David Nachman.

Auction Action

The 2009 Scotch Auction held on Saturday, May 9 proved to be another successful and fun fundraiser at the Tavern. Over 60 people scoured and scored hundreds of antiques, collectables, services and more generously donated by the many friends and associates of the museum. As always, the event started with a silent auction where people secretly tried to outbid each other and ended with a live auction featuring rare antiques and art work. Everyone was able to get a variety of treasures at a fraction of the cost while helping raise nearly \$3,000 for the museum. This event is made possible every year thanks to generous donations, welcome guests, and dedicated volunteers. Thank you to all who participated this year!



In Memoriam by Bill Ruper

Jack Wiegman – Rita Buchanan – Libby France

The museum lost three dedicated members recently, all of whom will be sorely missed.

In early April, Jack Wiegman passed away after a lengthy illness. We had not seen Jack at museum functions for a couple of years, but he was always in our thoughts and members frequently asked about his health. Jack, a life long Clevelander who loved life, Dunham Tavern Museum and the Cleveland Play House, will be most remembered by us for his service to our museum spanning three decades. Jack was a Board member, officer, chaired the Scotch Auction, worked the antiques show, and with his fun loving spirit, led the carol sing-a-long at our annual holiday gathering. His dedication to Dunham Tavern is best exemplified by Jack choosing to attend a Dunham event over a conflicting function held by one of the many Cleveland organizations he was part of. We are all a little richer for having known Jack and somewhat poorer now by his absence.

A few days before Jack's passing, we also lost long time member Rita Buchanan. A close friend of Jack Wiegman, Rita was involved with many Dunham functions, volunteering for the Scotch Auction and antiques show, in addition as a regular attendee of programs.

Late last year, Elizabeth "Libby" France also passed away. Libby frequently attended Dunham programs with her husband Edward, and after his passing, she continued her participation, in a quiet unassuming manner.



What a Difference A Day Makes

Each year, Key Bank organizes their *Neighbors Make the Difference Day* in May whereby employees volunteer at community organizations for the day. Dunham Tavern Museum is fortunate to be a part of this wonderful tradition, and, this year, over twenty hardworking volunteers spent the whole afternoon working on the museum grounds. From moving mulch to raking leaves to picking up garbage, these wonderful people accomplished our entire spring clean up in one day. Thank you!



Upcoming Events

June 13: Parade the Circle, paper quiltmaking activity, 11am-4pm at Circle Village

June 14: Member's Annual Meeting and Picnic, 4:30pm at Dunham Barn

June 19: Decorative Arts Trust, "The History of Art in the Connecticut Valley" by Jeffrey Cooley, 6pm at Dunham Barn

Museum hours: Wed. & Sun. 1-4pm
Office hours: Tues. 1-5 pm

6709 Euclid Avenue
Cleveland, Ohio 44103
216-431-1060
dunhamtavern@sbcglobal.net
www.dunhamtavern.org

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