

Dunham Tavern Museum *News*

January/February 2010

Volume 70, Issue 3

A PUBLICATION FOR FRIENDS AND STAKEHOLDERS OF DUNHAM TAVERN MUSEUM



Francis Drury Story for January Meeting

Sunday, January 24, 2010 at 2pm in the Barn

Join us for the first meeting of 2010 featuring speaker Dan Ruminski who will relate the story of one of Cleveland's wealthiest industrialists, Francis Drury. Drury helped found the Cleveland Play House and the Drury Theater is named in his honor. Drury made his fortune in the manufacture of stoves, built a large mansion on Euclid Avenue, and later another country estate in Gates Mills, today the home of Gilmour Academy. Join us for this fascinating story of one of Cleveland's most prominent citizens. The meeting is free and open to the public. Refreshments are provided following the meeting.



Gilmour Academy



Cleveland Play House

Holiday Candlelight Gathering Wrap-Up

Following the successful format of last year's Candlelight Gathering, well over one-hundred members and guests enjoyed the holiday ambiance of the Tavern. Candlelight, pine greens and flowers, Celtic music, food and drink, and lively conversation all provided for a great evening. We are grateful to John Hellman and Ellen Ilkanic for coordinating the evening and making it the most popular event of the year. Another salute to Christeen Tuttle and Jay Szabo for all the creative holiday décor. Our thanks to Barbara Peterson for arranging the display cases with Christmas collectibles and for greeting the guests at the door. The Tavern was alive and festive. We almost expected to see Jane and Rufus Dunham walk out to join in the fun.

New Board Officers

Following the resignation of President Marsha French, trustees held a special election in November for officers to finish out our fiscal year ending May 31, 2010. Elected to interim positions were Bill Ruper, president, and Barbara Peterson and John Hellman, vice-presidents. Mary Loud and Garrit Wamelink remain as secretary and treasurer respectively.



Museum Closed for Cleaning in January

With few visitations and the need for a major cleaning, the museum will be closed in January. This necessary project is being coordinated by Harlan Peterjohn and Barbara Peterson. The work will include cleaning of small and large area rugs; dusting and vacuuming; cleaning of curtains, draperies and windows; and small maintenance repairs. Volunteers are needed to make the effort easier for all involved! If you can devote a few hours please call the museum office, 216-431-1060, and give your name and day you can attend. Scheduled days include:

Saturdays, January 9th and 23rd from 9am to 1pm
Wednesdays, January 13th and 27th from 11am to 3pm

Call the Museum 216-431-1060 and leave your name, phone number and day you are coming. Harlan Peterjohn, Barbara Peterson, and Mary Loud are making the lists and organizing the event. Refreshments will be available. If you can't participate, but would like to help in some way...a monetary donation would be greatly appreciated.

We hope to reopen in February sparkling clean! Please note that the January meeting in the Barn is not affected by this project.



Passing of Former Member Ed Sutton

We learned recently of the passing of former member Ed Sutton. Ed and his wife Donna were very active in all the museum activities until their retirement and move from the area several years ago. Our condolences to Donna and family members.

2009-10 Sustaining Fund

The 2009-10 Annual Sustaining Fund will be in the mail shortly. The annual giving for this appeal represents twenty percent of our budget and helps to pay our day-to-day expenses. All donations are tax-deductible and donors will be provided with an acknowledgment. Alternatives to cash gifts include a charitable distribution from an IRA or a contribution of appreciated securities (a challenge in today's market). We already have several generous donations so we're off to a good start.

Scotch Auction Items Needed

In a little over 120 days the Annual Scotch Auction will help welcome spring. This year's event is set for Saturday May 8th and once again we are seeking your unwanted antiques and collectibles for this always popular fundraiser. Your castoffs can be brought to the museum during regular hours on Wednesday and Sunday or during Sunday meetings over the next few months. Also, a call to the museum office 216-431-1060, can be made for pick-up of your items.

February Soup Supper

A Dunham winter tradition, the Soup Supper, will once again provide hospitality and warmth on Sunday, February 21, 2010 at 4:30pm in the Barn. We will start the late afternoon event with wine, beer and appetizers followed by a selection of soups from the recipes of our member chefs. A selection of desserts and coffee will provide a sweet ending to the meal. No formal program is planned, just an opportunity to socialize with fellow members and guests. As always, we need many hands to help so use the enclosed invitation to designate how you can contribute. This is a great way to entertain family and friends and introduce them to Dunham.

Search Begins for a New Museum Manager

Our current manager, Lynette Filson will be leaving the museum in January. Our thanks to Lynette for her dedicated service to our organization over the past several months. A committee has been formed to search for a new museum manager, and we hope to have someone in place by this spring.

"The Art of Bequeathing Your Personal Property" by James Corcoran

from Crain's Cleveland Business, Volume 30, No. 43

Are you considering donating artwork, furniture, antiques or other personal property to a university, museum or a nonprofit organization as part of your estate planning? Recent changes in IRS regulations, particularly with regards to fractional donations, may affect your donation.

Donations of personal property items such as fine art, antiques and furniture to nonprofits can provide the donor with substantial tax benefits and give the nonprofit a valuable and usable item to further its mission.

In recent years, the federal government has imposed limitations on fractional donations of personal property.

Previously, donors could transfer partial ownership of a work to a donee for a virtually unlimited period of time and could revalue the work (and therefore each fractional gift) in the year of each subsequent fractional gift. The new rules limit the amount of time a fractional gift can last; full transfer of ownership to the donee institution must be completed within 10 years of the date of the initial gift or the date of the donor's death, whichever comes first. If full transfer of the item is not completed within the time limits, the donor could face a substantial penalty from the IRS.

Previously, donors could transfer ownership of a work of art to a museum while retaining possession. This allowed the donor to have her cake and eat it, too. For example, a donor could use the tax deductions for her painting's donation while maintaining possession of and displaying the painting in her house. Now, the museum must take physical possession of the gift for a substantial period of time each year and use the gift for the museum's primary purpose.

Finally, the rules for valuations of fractional gifts have changed. Under the old rules, valuations could be adjusted for each fractional gift; thus if the fair market value of a donated painting increased, the tax deduction would increase for each further fractional donation of the painting. The new rules limit the valuation to the lesser of the fair market value of the work at the time of the initial gift, or the fair market value as of the date of the subsequent fractional gift.

The IRS also requires that charitable donations valued greater than \$5,000 be appraised by an IRS-qualified appraiser in order to obtain the tax deduction. These qualifications require the appraiser to have earned an appraisal designation (e.g., the right to use AAA, ASA or ISA), and for the appraisal to be consistent with the substance and principles of the Uniform Standards of Professional Appraisal Practice.

114th Antiques Show Summary

While financial figures for our recent antiques show are a few months away, we can report that there were many positive comments on the show's new location at the Ratner School in Pepper Pike. Many dealers had exceptional sales and the booth arrangement flowed better than at our old location. As you may be aware, a change was necessary because of the increased rental rates at Shaker Middle School. As has happened in the past when our show has changed locations (over a dozen new venues over the life of the show), we had a slight drop in dealer participation and attendance. Hopefully with an improved economy, and now an established location, we look forward to next year's 115th show. It is certainly no small accomplishment that we have held antiques shows continuously since 1937, at times two per year. No other organization in this area can make this claim. Obviously, this is due to thousands of dedicated volunteers over the past 72 years, and the past several years are no exception with the show under the guidance of Chairman Garrit Wamelink. The museum owes Garrit our deepest gratitude for coordinating this event and meeting the challenges for an undertaking of this kind. We also are most fortunate to all the members, friends and attendees who volunteered and attended the show. A more complete report will be forthcoming in the next newsletter.

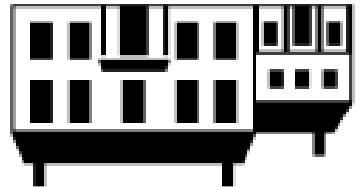
Upcoming Events

- 1/9: Museum Clean-Up Project from 9am-1pm**
- 1/13: Museum Clean-Up Project from 11am-3pm**
- 1/23: Museum Clean-Up Project from 9am-1pm**
- 1/24: January Meeting in the Barn at 2pm featuring "The Francis Drury Story"**
- 1/27: Museum Clean-Up Project from 11am-3pm**
- 2/21: February Soup Supper in the Barn at 4:30pm**



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