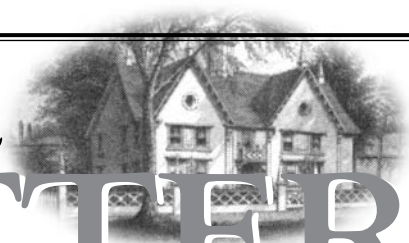


# PICKERING HOUSE NEWSLETTER



Issue #18

18 Broad Street, Salem, MA 01970

December 2013

**The Pickering House  
Newsletter**  
*is published by*

**The Pickering  
Foundation**

18 Broad St.  
Salem, MA 01970  
(978) 744-4777

www.pickeringhouse.org  
pickeringhouse1@gmail.com

## Officers

### President

H. Benson Pickering

### Vice President

Richard Armstrong

### Executive Director

Linda Dini Jenkins

### Treasurer

Richard O'Dwyer

### Secretary

Nina Pickering Cook

### Board of Trustees

Edith Armstrong

Nathalie Binney

Tim Jenkins

Katharine Pickering

Timothy Pickering, Jr.

Carol Pickering

Jonathan Reardon

Racket Shreve

Liz Taft

### Docent

Jeff Swartz

### Administrative Assistant

ElizaBeth Emery

## EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S LETTER

When Tim and I got the call that we had been accepted as the new tenants of the Pickering House — the 12th generation to live here — we were thrilled! We would be moving from one Pickering House (at Essex Street and Bott's Court) and into another — separated by an eight-year hiatus in Richmond, Virginia. As someone who has lived in Salem, outside of Salem, and back in Salem again, I can tell you unequivocally that living in Salem is far superior. The strong sense of community, stewardship, and the joys and responsibilities of city living are alive here, and we're grateful to be back.

It's early fall as I write this and we're feeling very much at home now — but that wouldn't have been possible without all the hard work that the Foundation did in preparing the way for us. If you haven't come to see the "new" old Pickering House, please stop by. It's never looked better, and there's always something new to see.

For those who don't know, I am a freelance business and travel writer, and Tim is a partner in an investment advisory based in Winchester, MA. Since we both work from home, we're able to be extra vigilant to the needs and opportunities of 18 Broad Street. And our dog, 12-year-old Maxine, is very much at home here and greets our Sunday tour guests enthusiastically.

I've spent my time this summer laying the groundwork for the house in 2014, sowing seeds of "we're open" and "we want to be part of things" around town. We had an important outreach with the Salem Athenaeum in August [see Docent's Corner article] and are now a location partner for the very popular Salem Food Tours. I've also been in conversation with other historic hall managers, in addition to building relationships with Destination Salem, Salem State, and Essex National Heritage Area — all are eager to work with us to make this end of Salem as much a destination as the downtown is.

Racket Shreve and Jon Reardon stepped right up to help Tim oversee the garden — pruning trees, pulling invasive vines, planting bulbs, and interviewing arborists for larger projects. A neighbor gifted us a fig tree in August, which should bear fruit next year. And we've been enjoying apple juice made from the apple trees on the property. Please come and enjoy the garden before it's covered in snow!



You'll be hearing more about all these efforts over the next several months, but know that we're on the "special events" circuit now and have been approached by several organizations and individuals who want to use our space. We'll also be launching the 2nd Sunday Chowder & Lecture Series that will run monthly from January through April, and are already planning for an exciting member event next fall [see Sunday Chowder & Lecture series article]. More items are on display at the house now, and new rugs and furnishings are being installed. All in all, it's an exciting time for the Pickering House.

We're looking forward to a busy autumn and our first holiday season in this wonderful home. We hope to see you at our lecture series this winter and at our annual meeting in June. We welcome any and all suggestions for how we can make the Pickering House an even more special place for you and the City of Salem. Thank you for your continuing support.

- Linda Dini Jenkins, Executive Director

## SPRING CLEANING GOES INTO OVERDRIVE

Taking advantage of the interval between residents at the Pickering House, the Buildings and Grounds Committee went hard at it in March this year, cleaning and making preparations inside and out. The decorating committee was given sage advice from Sally Wilson of Wilson Kelsey Design.



The painters were enthusiastic, perseverant and unstoppable: every room, window, closet, window seat, cupboard, nook and cranny got cleaned, scraped, spackled and painted, and painted again. These painters' preparation and attention to detail were extraordinary.

The Board of Trustees wants to thank Bucco Plastering and Bergeron Floors for their care with our old rooms. New wallpaper was chosen and hung, windows were washed, fresh curtains went up, a bathroom shower was installed and we even managed new flooring and a new range for the old kitchen.

Not surprisingly, our President, Ben Pickering, proved a formidable general contractor.

Thank you to neighbor and trustee Nat Binney for her gracious hospitality and for her generous contribution to the Grounds Committee. Racket Shreve continued his outstanding and loyal service as trustee and committed caretaker of the house and grounds.

John Armstrong's generosity, in the form of a credit with Home Remedies of Portland, Maine has made a huge difference. With contributions to the furniture fund from family and board members, the decorating committee has been able to make prudent acquisitions at auction from a Chestnut Street estate. The committee is immensely grateful to all who have donated and loaned furniture and furnishings.

We are pleased that the Pickering House roof is sound and that the chimney is now true and strong. Our new embellishments do not change the personality of this old house. Please come visit and see that the Pickering House will be very familiar to you.

- Katharine Pickering, Trustee

## 2014 SUNDAY CHOWDER & LECTURE SERIES

WHAT A GREAT WAY TO SHAKE OFF THOSE WINTER BLUES! PLEASE JOIN US AT THE PICKERING HOUSE FOR A HEARTY LUNCH AND A STIRRING LECTURE ON THE FOLLOWING DATES. ALL OF THE LECTURES START WITH A CHOWDER LUNCH AT 12:30 PM FOLLOWED BY SPEAKERS BEGINNING AT 1:00 PM.

**COST:** \$20 per lecture for members;  
\$25 for non-members

### JANUARY 12

**Jim McAllister:** *Salem in the Mid 17th Century*

We'll start our series with a profile of Salem life at the time the Pickerings were settling into their new home in the Broad Fields. Jim's talk will look specifically at the layout and topography of the town, and land use. Also to be covered will be the political and religious landscape, and important current events.

**Jim McAllister Bio:** *Since founding Derby Square Tours in 1983, Jim McAllister has conducted countless tours of, and lectured extensively about, the history of Salem and Boston's North Shore. Through the international Elderhostel program Jim has taught more than 250 courses on local history, architecture and art. He has also served as an historic consultant to many local organizations and institutions.*

*A now retired local history columnist for the Salem News (from 1999-2013), Jim has written or co-written two books about Salem. The Morristown, New Jersey native has appeared on Chronicle, The History Channel, Home and Garden TV, National Public Radio, and many other media outlets. In 2008 he was the recipient of both the Essex National Heritage Commission's first ever Heritage Hero Award and the regional Storyteller Award given by the North of Boston Visitor and Convention Bureau.*

## FEBRUARY 9

**Charles Newhall:** *Becoming "Native" American: John Pickering, Lexicography, and the New Republic*

John Pickering VI (1777-1846) learned to read and spell using Noah Webster's *The American Spelling Book* (also known as the *Blue-Backed Speller*) and quickly took to philology. After time spent at Harvard and then at the Court of St. James, he entered into the law and politics as the New Republic was testing political factions. In his spare time he pursued lexicographical work with precision and passion. That avocational career brought publication of numerous books on words and led him to the presidency of both the American Oriental Society and the American Academy of Arts and Sciences. His intellectual journey provides us with a window into the life of the mind of a post-Revolutionary American, a second generation United States citizen, and a sixth generation Pickering hard at work becoming "native."

**Charlie Newhall Bio:** *Charles L. Newhall is a history teacher at St. John's Preparatory School in Danvers, MA, and a historian of the Early National Republic. His current project focuses on the relationship between New Englanders and Liberia.*

## MARCH 9

**Rev. Jeffrey Barz-Snell:** *The Other Renaissance Minister in 18th Century Salem: The Rev. John Prince*

While the Rev. William Bentley often receives a great deal of attention because of his famous diaries that chronicled life here in Salem during the 18th and early 19th centuries, there were other sophisticated "divines" roaming these parts. John Prince was the Minister of the First Church in Salem, a Patriot during the Revolutionary War, and an amateur scientist and astronomer. Some of his instruments are now owned by the Smithsonian Institute in Washington.

**Rev. Jeffrey Barz-Snell Bio:** *Jeff Barz-Snell is the current minister of the First Church in Salem and a local writer and activist. He has been studying Salem's "Great Age of Sail" for several years and some of the personalities that made this period in Salem's history so fascinating. He has masters degrees from Boston University School of Theology and Tufts University School of Urban and Environmental Planning.*

## APRIL 13

**Linda Dini Jenkins:** *Pickering Poets — A Celebration of National Poetry Month*

Henry Pickering (1781 – 1838), son of Colonel Timothy, was a failed banker, an art connoisseur and a poet whose works appeared in the *Evening Post* and *Good Housekeeping*, among others. And his niece, Mary Orne Pickering (daughter of John VI) — in addition to being a devoted journalist and historian and the author of *The Life of John Pickering* — was also a poet. Let's look at some of their work and then hear from you. Bring a poem to share — yours or someone else's.

**Linda Dini Jenkins Bio:** *An avid poetry nut and travel writer, Linda is the author of *Up at the Villa: Travels with my Husband* (named by [journeywoman.com](http://journeywoman.com) as one of the "Ten travel books I'd give my girlfriends") and *Journey of a Returning Christian: Writing into God*. Her poetry has appeared in *Tampa Review*, *South Florida Poetry Review*, *Peregrine*, *Bay Windows*, *Vermont Voices* and *Poeti italo-americani*. Her travel writing has appeared in *Richmond Times-Dispatch*, *Dream of Italy*, *AAA's Home & Away*, and *Healthcare Traveler*. She blogs at [www.travelthewriteway.com](http://www.travelthewriteway.com) and is Executive Director of the Pickering Foundation.*

## SARAH C. PICKERING SCHOLARS

This year the Pickering Foundation, working with the Salem High School history department, chose two rising seniors. During our annual June meeting and garden party, scholarships were awarded to the following students:



**Will McCarthy:** Will is a junior, and a member of the Salem High's marching band as well as the jazz band. He is also a member of the cross country, indoor track and outdoor track teams. Will is currently fourth in the class of 2015 and a member of the National Honor Society. Update: *Will is currently hard at work on college applications!*

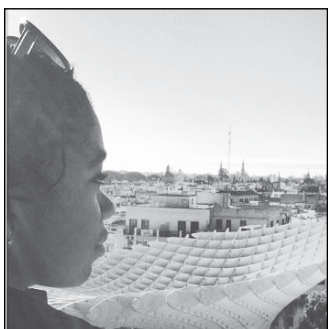
**Emma Williamson:** Emma, also a junior, is a member of Salem High's orchestra, field hockey team, National Honor Society and Tri-M Honor Society. Emma currently ranks first in the class of 2015.

## What are our past scholars up to?



### 2012 Recipient, Jaclyn Jermyn:

Currently I'm finishing my second full month of college at Columbia College Chicago. I've already started an internship as part of the media team with a local non-profit group called, Dear Music Love Music, which aims to create events to benefit the music education of local students.



### 2011 Recipient, Sabrina Bazile:

I just came back from studying abroad in Madrid in May. Currently, I am a second-semester junior at Suffolk University in Boston in the Sawyer Business School's honor program. I am in the process of internship hunting in the social media marketing field and hope to get a Spring 2014 internship.

## HOUSE ORCHARD

Thanks to our wonderful neighbor Louis Sirianni, the Pickering House orchard is now home to a fine fig tree. Lou's fig trees are members of his family. He cares for them deeply. Our tree is safely wrapped in hay bales to make it through the winter. Lou also helped remove massive quantities of wisteria that were choking out our garden. Thank you Lou! Your efforts are an inspiration.



Please let us know if you would like to sponsor a tree planting. We mourn the loss of our noble pear tree. We are doing our best to prune our ancient apple trees back to health. We have also made great strides eliminating invasive plants, pruning back and shaping the lovely trees, shrubs and beds in the garden. An arborist will be tackling bigger jobs soon. Sadly, we have a number diseased trees that will need to be removed. We'll keep you posted and encourage you to join us and enjoy the garden.

- Tim Jenkins, House and Grounds Committee

## DOCENT'S CORNER

Things have not been quiet at the Pickering House. With Tim and Linda Jenkins moved in, tours have resumed with great interest from the community. Even with a shortened tour season, we have already had dozens more visitors than all of 2012! This August, I was privileged to be able to speak at the Salem Athenæum as part of their Summer Salon Lecture Series (see photos). Speaking about “The Pickering House You Never Knew”, the lecture received the best turnout ever for a Summer Salon with more than 75 people in attendance. Many who attended the lecture have since come for a tour during our Sunday hours.



On another note, I have taken an Archiving Class, run by Gordon College, to learn skills and techniques to better preserve the Pickering collection. This winter, we hope to begin organizing and rehousing many of the letters and documents that are owned by the Pickering Foundation. The ultimate goal is to make this wealth of historical information available to the public via the internet. This year has also seen many more Pickering descendants returning to their ancestral home than in years past. If you see any unfamiliar faces at our events—introduce yourself! You may have just met a long lost cousin!

- Jeff Swartz, Docent - 5 -

## PICKERINGS RETURN “HOME”

These days the Pickering House is host to many Pickerings who are returning “home” as the result of work on their genealogies. Henry Pickering Walker, Jr. is one such Pickering descendant. His father was Henry Pickering Walker, as was his grandfather, the son of Rebecca Pickering and Admiral John Grimes Walker. Henry, along with his sister (Joan Walker Grimes) and brother (John Grimes Walker) came from Nevada, Texas and Colorado to visit the Pickering House on May 1st. The house was in the midst of renovations, but Jeff Swartz, our docent, was able to give the family an abbreviated tour.

Henry Walker had recently been going through his father’s papers, family heirlooms, and a published manuscript that his father was working on at the time of his death in 1984. Among his papers there were letters that were exchanged in 1974 and 1977 with John Pickering, Jr.

Henry Walker and his siblings brought with them a silver tray that had been in their family for many years. The tray was given to Henry White Pickering upon his retirement in 1852 as President of the Boston Stock and Exchange Board. The tray was donated to the Pickering Foundation on behalf of Henry Walker’s father (Henry Pickering Walker) and mother (Joan Dziecioloski Walker).



*“Presented by  
the members of  
the Boston Stock  
& Exchange  
Board to their  
Late President  
- Henry W.  
Pickering 1852”*

Although the family was unable to attend the Annual Meeting/ Garden Party on June 16th the silver tray has found a place of honor in the family dining room.

Henry Walker has become one of the newest members of the Pickering Foundation. We welcome him and are grateful for his family’s donation of the silver tray.

- ElizaBeth Emery, Administrative Assistant



*Bob Booth, Jono Armstrong,  
Pat Pickering*



*Alden Pickering, Wendy Pickering,  
Lincoln Pickering*



*Wendy Pickering & member of  
the Glover Regiment*



*Tim & Emily Pickering &  
Lillie Johnson*



*Linda Jenkins, Dickon Armstrong,  
Ben Pickering, Dick Pickering,  
Tina Pickering, Tim Jenkins*



*Kip & Sarah Weese*



*Cindy Williams, Darrow Lebovici,  
and Helen Sides*



*Visitors from Australia along with the  
Glover Regiment and other Pickerings*



*Henry & Holden Weese,  
Dickon Armstrong*

## FRIENDS OF THE PICKERING FOUNDATION\*

\*2013 members and donors as of November 15, 2013

Mr. James T. Abts  
 Mr. & Mrs. William and Priscilla Ambrose  
 Mr. Harry Andersen  
 Ms. Annabel Armstrong  
 Mr. Richard C. Armstrong  
 Ms. Edith Armstrong & Mr. Gary Lehy  
 Mr. & Mrs. Jonathan and Janne Armstrong  
 Mr. John C. Armstrong  
 Ms. Milicent Armstrong  
 Mr. & Mrs. Mark and Tara Audette  
 Mr. & Mrs. James and Claire Bailey  
 Ms. Susan Ballou Carter  
 Mr. & Mrs. Randolph P. Barton  
 Ms. Nathalie S. Binney  
 Mr. & Mrs. Robert and Vicki Booth, Jr.  
 Mr. Ronald Bourgeault  
 Mr. & Mrs. Stephen Bourque  
 Ms. Abby L. Burns  
 Mr. Robert Bushway  
 Ms. Ellen Cabot  
 Mrs. Mary Cady  
 Mr. C. Meade Camenga  
 Mr. & Mrs. John and Ellen Carpenter  
 Mr. & Mrs. Forrester and Jennifer Clark, Jr.  
 Mr. & Mrs. Walter and Ann Cook  
 Mr. & Mrs. Woodward and Betsey Corkran, Jr.  
 Mr. & Mrs. Rafael and Jann Crespo  
 Mr. Edward B. Cushing  
 Ms. Philio W. Cushing  
 Mr. & Mrs. Robert and Michelle Davis  
 Mr. & Mrs. Sandy and Betsy Dickson  
 Mr. & Mrs. Dominic and Cindy DiSalvo  
 Mrs. Shirley A. Douglas  
 Mr. Henry J. DuLaurence III  
 Mr. & Mrs. Gary and Patricia Eaton  
 Mrs. Barbara A. Emery  
 Mrs. Ruth S. Felton  
 Mr. John F. Fifield  
 Mr. Charles Fleischman  
 Mr. Bruce W. Fleming  
 Ms. Lynn Frothingham  
 Ms. Sarah H. Godfrey  
 Mr. Albert Goodhue III  
 Mr. & Mrs. Barry and Linda Gougeon  
 Mr. David M. Hart & Ms. Barbara A. Cleary  
 Ms. Lois Harvey  
 Mrs. Margaret C. Howe  
 Mr. & Mrs. Llewellyn and Jessie Howland III  
 Mr. & Mrs. Timothy and Joan Ingraham  
 Ms. Deborah Jackson  
 Ms. Leila Jahncke  
 Mrs. Lisa Jenkins  
 Mr. & Mrs. Timothy and Linda Jenkins

Mr. & Mrs. Edward and Elizabeth Johnson III  
 Mrs. Patricia Karakashian  
 Mr. & Mrs. Wilmot H. Kidd III  
 Mr. William E. Kiley  
 Mr. & Mrs. Dean and Betsy Lahikainen  
 Mrs. Selina F. Little  
 Mrs. Agnes W. Loring  
 Mr. & Mrs. Caleb Loring, Jr.  
 Ms. Nancy J. Ludwig  
 Mr. & Mrs. Charles Mack  
 Mass Society of Cincinnati  
 Mr. & Mrs. James I. McKinley, Jr.  
 Ms. Darleen Melis & Dr. Irving Ingraham, Jr.  
 Mr. & Mrs. Peter and Betsy Merry  
 Ms. Kathy Miles  
 Dr. Georgia Montouris  
 Mr. & Mrs. Lane and Kathryn Nielsen  
 Mr. & Mrs. Michael J. O'Connell  
 Mr. & Mrs. Edward H. Osgood  
 Mr. & Mrs. Foxhall and Helen Parker  
 Mrs. Anne Parker-Pollack  
 Ms. Ann Parson  
 Mr. & Mrs. Stephen and Lea Parson  
 Mrs. R. Forbes Perkins  
 Mr. & Mrs. Gary Peterson  
 Ms. Mary L. Phillips  
 Mr. Alden Pickering  
 Ms. Carol Pickering & Mr. Sean Donahue  
 Mr. & Mrs. Charles and Dorothy Pickering  
 Ms. Christina Pickering  
 Mr. & Mrs. David and Jennifer Pickering  
 Mr. & Mrs. H. Benson and Pat Pickering, Jr.  
 Ms. Katharine Pickering & Mr. Richard O'Dwyer  
 Mr. John Pickering  
 Mr. John F. Pickering  
 Mr. & Mrs. John and Emily Pickering XI  
 Ms. Judith S. Pickering  
 Ms. Judith Pickering & Mr. Brian Wormwood  
 Ms. Kimberly Pickering  
 Mr. Lincoln Pickering  
 Mrs. Lulu Pickering & Mr. Frederick Pickering  
 Ms. Marya K. Pickering  
 Miss Rebecca A. Pickering  
 Mr. & Mrs. Richard and Jane Pickering  
 Mr. & Mrs. Richard and Karen Pickering  
 Mr. Richard L. Pickering, Jr. & Dr. Meg Pickering  
 Mr. & Mrs. Timothy and Wendy Pickering, Jr.  
 Mr. Thomas R. Pickering  
 Dr. Willa Pickering  
 Mr. & Mrs. William and Jane Pickering  
 Ms. Nina Pickering Cook & Mr. Glenn Cook  
 Mrs. Marie-Louis Pickering Grose  
 Mr. Edward Peirson

Dr. Judith Pilla  
 Ms. Anne P. Pollack  
 Mr. Constantine Poutous  
 Ms. Rebecca Putnam  
 Mr. & Mrs. Joseph and Lynda Pyfrin  
 Mr. Jonathan A. Reardon  
 Mr. & Mrs. Norval and Ann Reece  
 Mr. & Mrs. Richard and Mary Riethmiller  
 Ms. Kelly Robbins  
 Ms. Marie C. Roberts  
 Ms. Georgina L. Ropes  
 Mr. William C. Sano  
 Mrs. Anne L. Seamans  
 Mr. & Mrs. Campbell and Dale Seamans  
 Mr. Donald C. Seamans  
 Mr. Robert C. Seamans II  
 Mr. Benjamin D. Shreve  
 Mr. & Mrs. Racket and Martha Shreve  
 Ms. Helen Sides  
 Mr. & Mrs. Louis and Victoria Sirianni  
 Mrs. Fairchild B. Smith  
 Mr. H. Hollingsworth Smith  
 Mr. & Mrs. Stanley and Jody Smith  
 Mr. & Mrs. Walter and Diane Soule  
 Mr. Marshall Strauss & Ms. Elaine Gerdine  
 Ms. Liz Taft & Mr. Buddy Taft  
 Mrs. Beatrice S. Thenault  
 Mrs. Margaret K.S. Twohey & Mr. Darrow A. Lebovici  
 Mr. & Mrs. Henry and Betsy Walker  
 Dr. & Mrs. Raymond and Joan Walther  
 Mr. James R. Wardrop  
 Mr. & Mrs. William and Barbara Weese  
 Mr. & Mrs. William and Sarah Weese  
 Mr. & Mrs. David and Susan Wheatland  
 Mr. Henry B. Whitmore & Ms. Marian B. Dennis  
 Ms. Cynthia Williams  
 Mr. & Mrs. Geoff and Barbara Worton  
 Mr. & Mrs. James and Janet Wright  
 Mr. Samuel N. Zemurray III

**THE BOARD OF  
 TRUSTEES IS GRATEFUL  
 TO OUR MEMBERS AND  
 DONORS FOR THEIR  
 CONTINUED SUPPORT.**

*Thank you!*

*The Pickering Foundation  
cultivates an appreciation  
of one family's role in the  
American experience,  
which is manifested in the  
preservation of the historic  
home for the enrichment  
and enjoyment of the  
community.*

MISSION

[www.pickeringhouse.org](http://www.pickeringhouse.org)

18 BROAD STREET • SALEM, MASS. 01970

PICKERING HOUSE



If you are not currently a member,

please consider joining by choosing membership in one of the following categories:

( ) \$500 Patron

( ) \$250 Sustaining

( ) \$100 Family

( ) \$50 Individual

Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

The Pickering Foundation

18 Broad Street

Salem, MA 01970

We now we take **PayPal**™ for donations, membership dues

[www.pickeringhouse.org](http://www.pickeringhouse.org)