

PICKERING HOUSE NEWSLETTER



Issue #22

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October 2017

**The Pickering House
Newsletter**
is published by

**The Pickering
Foundation**
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EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S LETTER

2017 has been an extraordinary year for the Pickering House!

- We are delighted to have won a Preservation Award from Historic Salem, Inc., and for being nominated for a Trailblazer's Award by the Essex National Heritage Area.
- We hosted events for the City of Salem's Beautification Committee, DAR, Essex National Heritage Area, Historic Salem, Seaman's Widows and Orphans, Salem Food Tours, a cookbook club, and several ladies' functions.
- We enjoyed enthusiastic audiences for our Second Sunday Chowder & Lecture Series and our new feature, Fireside Chats — member lectures, with no chowder but lots of warmth.
- We participated in the popular Trails & Sails Program in September and were part of the Leslie's Retreat *Resistance!* activities in February.
- We hosted two weddings, two baby showers, a Bar Mitzvah, a birthday party, and a Blues Jam.
- We engaged the services of Elizabeth Lahikainen to undertake a restoration of Mary Pickering Leavitt's superb pastoral needlepoint, which hangs in the library. Betsy did that and so much more, reframing our 18th C. sampler and working with the PEM to provide museum-grade hanging for both pieces. Thanks to her, as well as to Mr. and Mrs. R.T. Paine Metcalf and Mr. and Mrs. Andrew Borggaard for their generous donations to make this happen.



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Most important this year is that we continued with the efforts begun in 2016 with our Membership and Board Surveys. Using the information that you so generously provided, we worked with a non-profit consultant, Ann Hopkins, to draft a Strategic Plan and Work Plans which will keep us on track for the next three-to-five years. Our Mission Statement has been revised and expanded (see back cover) to broaden the focus of the organization, and you'll be seeing programming and initiatives that speak to our new energy.

I invite you to look at our calendar of events, and to follow us on Facebook so you can stay up-to-date as we add new programs. The highlight of our 2017-2018 calendar is surely the return visit by Ambassador Emeritus Thomas R. Pickering, to be held on Thursday, November 9. Look inside for details — you won't want to miss this timely talk from one of the most relevant voices of the American diplomatic corps.

Finally, we are working tirelessly to become an important resource in the community for history, education, and preservation. If you have any suggestions about how we can serve you better, please don't hesitate to be in touch.

Respectfully,

Linda Dini Jenkins

ANNOUNCING A GREAT ARRAY OF SPEAKERS FOR OUR 2017-2018 SEASON!

From our special event with Ambassador Emeritus Thomas R. Pickering, to our Fifth Season of Second Sunday Chowder Lectures, to our more casual Sunday afternoon Fireside Chats...
Join us for fellowship and learning in our beautiful 1660 home.

Reservations are a must! RSVP: pickeringhouse1@gmail.com

NOVEMBER 9

Special Lecture

Ambassador Emeritus

Thomas R. Pickering

Russia and the United States: Marriage, Separation, Divorce?

Thursday @ 7:00 p.m.

First Church in Salem

315 Essex Street

\$25 members, \$35 non-members



Pre-lecture cocktails with the Ambassador @ 5:30 p.m.

Pickering House, 18 Broad Street

Ticket price: \$75 per person, \$125 per couple
(includes lecture)

Space is limited, so reserve early!

Churchill once famously said that the Soviet Union was a riddle wrapped in an enigma inside a puzzle—or words to that effect! Present-day Russia still has some of those characteristics. Understanding it is a challenge; knowing how to work with Russia and when that is possible is even more of a dilemma. This talk will address the present and the future of our relationship with the only other nuclear power capable of exterminating us (and themselves at the same time) from the earth—against the backdrop of some salient history—and along with that—some idea of how we can, as a result manage better this critical relationship

Ambassador Pickering served as the U.S. Ambassador and Representative to the United Nations in New York under President George H.W. Bush. He led the U.S. effort to build a global coalition in the UN Security Council during and after the first Gulf War. He also served as the U.S. Under Secretary of State for Political Affairs under President Bill Clinton. He holds the personal rank of Career Ambassador, the highest in the U.S. Foreign Service.

In a diplomatic career spanning five decades, he was U.S. ambassador to the Russian Federation, India, Israel, El Salvador, Nigeria, and the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan. He also served on assignments in Zanzibar and Dar es Salaam, Tanzania. In Washington, Tom was Assistant Secretary of State for the Bureau of Oceans, Environmental and Scientific Affairs, Executive Secretary of the Department of State, and Special Assistant to Secretaries of State William P. Rogers and Henry A. Kissinger. Tom serves as a Distinguished Senior Fellow at

the Brookings Institution and is presently Vice Chair of the international consulting firm, Hills & Company.

JANUARY 14

Prof. Dane Morrison

Timothy Pickering, Alexander Hamilton, and the Federalist Vision of the New Nation

Sunday @ 12:30 p.m.

Second Sunday Chowder Lecture

\$ 20 members, \$ 25 non-members



Two of the early republic's most influential leaders were also two of its unpopular fellows. Timothy Pickering and Alexander Hamilton shared a vision of the new nation that they believed was "Correct in...morals and notions of Government." But, as titular leader of the Federalists, retired Secretary of State Hamilton made statements that could be seen as provocatively dangerous, even subversive. To defend his colleague and their national vision, Pickering sought to connect Hamilton to influential publishers and to interpret his meaning. This talk will examine the relationship between Pickering and Hamilton and explore Pickering's efforts to shape the republic.

Dane Morrison is professor of early American history at Salem State University. He is the author of *A Praying People* and *True Yankees: The South Seas and the Discovery of American Identity*, acclaimed as an "immensely significant work." He has edited four other works, including the award-winning *Salem: Place, Myth and Memory*, and has served as president of the New England Historical Association and New England Regional World History Association.

JANUARY 28

Louis Sirianni, FAIA Emeritus

Beautiful Brick

Sunday @ 3:00 p.m.

Fireside Chat

\$ 10 members, \$15 non-members



In this talk, Louis will present:

- examples of ancient uses of brick
- a history of brick manufacturing
- examples of contemporary brick construction
- a history of brick uses in Salem
- the state of Salem's brick sidewalks

Lou Sirianni has been a registered architect since 1973 with a Master's Degree in Architecture and Urban Design from Harvard University. He was inducted into the College of Fellows of the American Institute of Architects in 2013.

He has had a long career in the design of museums, with ten major museums completed across the country.

Of note are two historic projects involving the renovation and addition for the Carnegie Museum of Natural History in Pittsburgh and the preservation and renovation of Franklin Hall in Philadelphia, a National Memorial. Both projects received prestigious Historic Preservation awards.

Closer to home, he and other Salem residents have advocated for the preservation and restoration of the historic brick sidewalks in the McIntire District.

FEBRUARY 11

Karen Scalia

17th and 18th Century Food and Cookery, with Salem Food Tours

Sunday @ 12:30 p.m.

Second Sunday Chowder Lecture

\$ 20 members, \$ 25 non-members



What would the Pickerings and their contemporaries have been eating back then? How would it have been cooked? What about spices? Utensils? Where did they get their ingredients? How dangerous was standing over a fire? What about our friend, the Rumford Roaster? Join Karen Scalia of Salem Food Tours as we step back in time and learn about 17th and 18th Century Food and Cookery. The lecture includes a mini spice tasting.

Karen Scalia is the founder and owner of Salem Food Tours and the Salem Spirit Trolley. Her five-star rated tours have been featured on Chronicle, NY1, Fox CT DayTrippers, as well as in the *Boston Globe*, *Northshore Magazine*, *Vegetarian Times*, *Huffington Post*, *Sunday Business Post*, and more. Karen hosts culinary events, such as emceeing the Giada De Laurentiis cookbook tour appearance at Northshore Music Theater and most recently hosted a talk at The Salem Literary Festival with two regional authors about their culinary themed novels. Her background includes corporate event and food planning in Boston and NYC. Karen is an active actor and voiceover artist, and currently sits on the New England Board of SAG-AFTRA as well as Destination Salem.

MARCH 11

Prof. Donna Seger

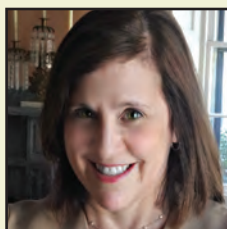
Relics of the Olden Time: Perceptions of 17th Century Houses in Turn-of-the-Century Salem

Sunday @ 12:30

Second Sunday Chowder Lecture

\$ 20 members, \$ 25 non-members

The talk will examine the early preservation movement in Salem in the later nineteenth and early twentieth centuries, with respect to the public discourse about lost, endangered,



and surviving First Period houses, and consider the question as to why some seventeenth-century Salem houses became "landmarks" and others were razed without much resistance.

Donna Seger is Chair of the History Department at Salem State University, with a specialty in late medieval and Early Modern Europe. She blogs at streetsofsalem.com.

MARCH 25

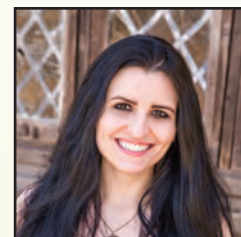
Alyssa Conary

Behind the Devil's Shield: Counter-Magic in Early New England

Sunday @ 3:00 p.m.

Fireside Chat

\$ 10 members, \$15 non-members



"Now to use a Charm against a Charm, or to use a Devils Shield against a Devils Sword, Who can with a good conscience try?"—Cotton Mather

Early New England ministers took a hard line against the practice of magic. All magic, whether harmful or beneficial in intention, was believed to be demonic. The archaeological, architectural and archaeological records show us that things weren't so black and white for their congregations. This lecture will explore evidence for the practice of protective counter-magic in 17th and 18th century New England, including witch bottles, deliberate concealments, and ritual marks on historic timber, a few right here in Salem, Massachusetts!

Alyssa G. A. Conary is a burgeoning historian and writer, a museum professional, and a candidate for the MA in History at Salem State University. In 2015, she co-founded the Salem Historical Society with a group of museum colleagues and is currently serving as the President of the organization's Board of Trustees. Alyssa's main areas of historical interest are witchcraft and apotropaia, medieval and early modern England, and colonial New England. She lives in Salem with her husband and their three cats and enjoys traveling and singing jazz.

APRIL 8

A Celebration of National Poetry Month

Sunday @ 12:30

\$20 members, \$25 non-members

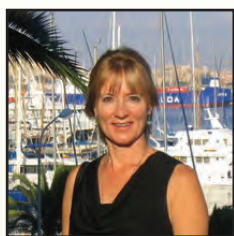
Hosted by Linda Dini Jenkins

Professors Kristine Doll and J.D. Scrimgeour from Salem State University join Linda for a reading during this celebration of National Poetry Month. Then it's your turn! Bring a poem to read – one of yours, or one from a poet you admire.

J.D. Scrimgeour is the author of the poetry collections *The Last Miles* and *Territories*, and he won the AWP Award for Nonfiction for *Themes For English B: A Professor's Education In & Out of Class*. With musician Philip Swanson he released *Ogunquit & Other Works*, a CD blending music



and poetry. His third poetry collection, *Lifting the Turtle* (Turning Point), appeared in November 2017.



Kristine Doll is the author of the poetry collection *Speak to Me Again*; "My Friends" from this book was nominated for the Pushcart Prize in Poetry. She is also a translator of Catalan poetry, including her translations into English of Joan Alcover's *Elegies* and the poetry of the contemporary Catalan writers,

August Bover and Teresa D'Arenys. Her translations and her own poetry have been published internationally in such venues as *The Seventh Quarry*, *Cross-Cultural Communications Art & Poetry Series Broadides*, *The Paterson Literary Review*, *Gargoyle* and *Imagine i Poesia*.

Linda Dini Jenkins, in addition to being Executive Director of the Pickering Foundation, is also a published poet. She is the author of two collections of essays and poetry, *Journey of a Returning Christian: Writing Into God* and *Up at the Villa: Travels with my Husband*. Her next collection, *Becoming Italian: Chapter and Verse from an Italian-American Girl*, will be released in 2018, God willing.



APRIL 29

Gary Kinley

The Continent I Never Thought I'd See

Sunday @ 3:00

Fireside Chat

\$ 10 members, \$15 non-members



Take a journey to the last continent.

View Antarctica from the eyes of a recent traveler...

penguins, seals, icebergs, whales, the bluest skies you will ever see, and, oh, did we mention penguins? Learn about the myths and reality of the continent most travelers will never experience.

SPECIAL CHILDREN'S EVENT SATURDAY, MARCH 31, 2018

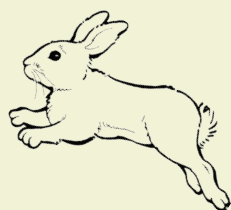
Saturday March 31 @ 10:00 a.m.

Rain date:

Easter Sunday, April 1 @ 9:00 a.m.

Kids! Join us for an Easter Egg Hunt on the lawn of the Pickering House!

Hymn sing immediately following.



PASTORAL NEEDLEPOINT RETURNED!

Thanks to gifts from Mr. and Mrs. R.T. Paine Metcalf and Mr. and Mrs. Andrew Borggaard, our 18th century pastoral needlepoint was restored in 2017. With careful conservation work from textile expert Elizabeth Lahikainen, the piece was cleaned, de-bugged, reshaped and properly mounted on acid-free materials. Then it was hung using the latest museum-quality hangers, thanks to the PEM. Here are a few "back" and "front" photos from before the restoration, showing just how bold the colors still are!



Back, with still vibrant colors.



Front, newly conserved.

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PICKERING HOUSE EVENTS AT-A-GLANCE FALL 2017 – SPRING 2018

NOVEMBER 2017

- 9 Ambassador Emeritus Thomas R. Pickering Lecture: *Russia and the United States: Marriage, Separation, Divorce?*

JANUARY 2018

- 14 Professor Dane Morrison Second Sunday Chowder & Lecture: *Pickering & Hamilton*
28 Louis Sirianni Fireside Chat: *Beautiful Brick*

FEBRUARY 2018

- 11 Karen Scalia Second Sunday Chowder & Lecture: *17th and 18th Century Food and Cookery*, with Salem Food Tours

MARCH 2018

- 11 Professor Donna Seger Second Sunday Chowder & Lecture: *Relics of the Olden Time: Perceptions of 17th Century Houses in Turn-of-the-Century Salem*
25 Alyssa Conary Fireside Chat: *Behind the Devil's Shield: Counter-Magic in Early New England*
31 Easter Egg Hunt & Hymn Sing

APRIL 2018

- 8 Professors Kristine Doll and J.D. Scrimgeour Second Sunday Chowder Event: *A Celebration of National Poetry Month* hosted by Linda Dini Jenkins
29 Gary Kinley, Fireside Chat: *The Continent I Never Thought I'd See*

JUNE 2018

- 10 Annual Meeting & Garden Party



BOARD NEWS

At our September board meeting, Ben Pickering — who served for many years on the board, and for the past ten years as our able President — tendered his resignation, to make way for the new strategic planning work the board is embarking upon and to spend more time in Maine. There are no words to express our gratitude for his strong leadership, hard work, humor, and grace during this time. Also at that meeting, Richard (Dickon) Armstrong resigned as Vice President, a position he has held for as long as anyone can remember. Dickon will remain on the board and will ensure that Ben doesn't stray too far from the happenings at 18 Broad Street.

Congratulations are given to Timothy Pickering, Jr., our new President and Carol Pickering, our new Vice President. We look forward to making great strides under their leadership.

We lost long-time board member Nathalie Binney, who stepped down after more than 10 years of service. Her humor and hands-on participation will be sorely missed. And Liz Taft submitted her resignation recently, citing family and school pressures. We'll miss her smile and fantastic cookies at our lecture series!

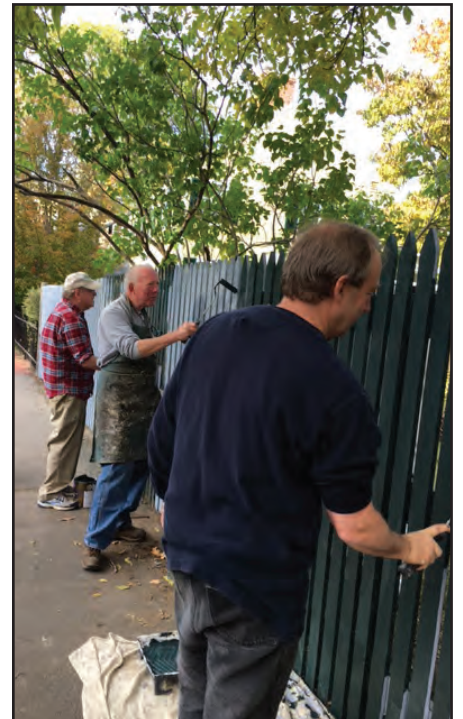
On the plus side, we welcome Salem historian and educator Charlie Newhall, and family member and educator Rich Pickering to the board, and look forward to their fresh ideas!



CONGRATULATIONS AMANDA JIMENEZ!

2017 Sarah C. Pickering
Scholarship recipient

BUILDING & GROUNDS



Board members and friends were busy this year, replacing and painting the fence and front balustrade and making a temporary fix to the back patio. Thanks to Ben, Racket, Campbell, Jon, Tim, Bob, and everybody else who dropped by to help!

ANNUAL MEETING AND GARDEN PARTY



A BIT OF PICKERING HISTORY – PICKERING TREATY DAY

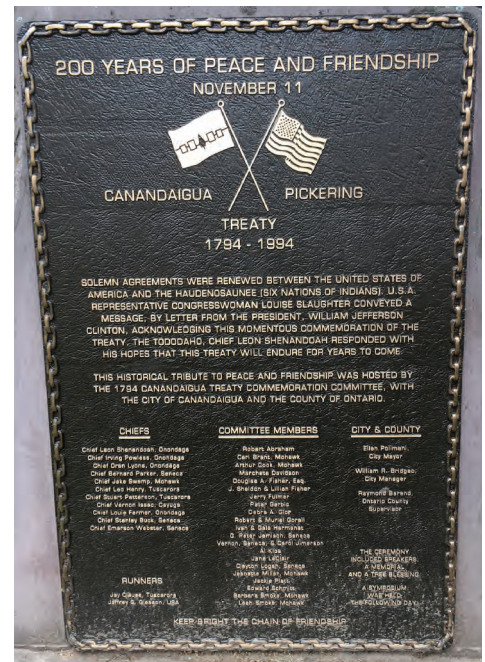
Colonel Timothy Pickering's 1794 success in negotiating with the Iroquois Confederacy is often overshadowed by his contributions during the Revolution and Administrations of Presidents Washington and Adams. However, for the Six Nations of the Iroquois, the Colonel's work has never been forgotten.

In April 2016, Salem historian John Goff gave a terrific Sunday lecture at the Pickering House on the Treaty of Canandaigua. John inspired Board members Katharine Pickering and Tim Jenkins to conduct additional research. Three aspects of the Treaty are particularly noteworthy:

- 1) In correspondence with President Washington during his negotiations, Colonel Timothy forcefully demanded the authority to commit the United States to binding terms and conditions;
- 2) The Treaty is the longest surviving agreement between the United States and Native Americans, establishing "a federal responsibility to protect Native interests and sovereignty from state and individual ambitions"; and,
- 3) Representatives of the Iroquois gather on November 11 every year to commemorate the Treaty and affirm their commitment to it.

On November 11, 2016, Board members Carol Pickering (with son Henry) and I traveled to Canandaigua, NY for the Treaty's 222nd anniversary. We gathered at the local elementary school, which had a range of exhibits and homemade crafts for sale. At 1 p.m. we moved outside and began a silent procession to the County Courthouse. Three elders led us, holding Peace belts, including a reproduction of the spectacular 15-rows wide, 6' long belt that Colonel Timothy commissioned for President Washington to give to an Iroquois delegation visiting Philadelphia in 1792.

At the Ontario County Courthouse, the belts were ceremoniously draped across a large rock holding a commemorative plaque placed in 1902 (pictured). After a brief introduction in English,



we were asked to turn off our phones and cameras and simply listen to a blessing given in Seneca. The language was beautiful,



sounding more like a chant or a poem than spoken word. At moments during the blessing the speaker asked for affirmation from the crowd, and it was a powerful surprise to realize everyone around us could understand what was being said. At the end, the blessing was roughly translated; what I recall most was a deep reverence for Mother Earth, gratitude for all she provides us, and recognition of our responsibility to protect her.

The leader of the Ceremony then invited any Pickerings to speak! Carol went to the microphone and said how grateful she and I were to be there, that we came as representatives of Colonel Timothy's family and that there is a house in Salem we would love each of them to visit.

I will return this Veteran's Day for the 223rd anniversary and encourage all Foundation members to join me. In 2019, the Board intends to send a full delegation for the 225th anniversary.

Timothy Pickering, Jr.

PICKERING HOUSE For Sale!

We're taking bids of \$20 each (plus postage, if mailed) for these fabulous Cat's Meow replicas of the Pickering House.



They're high quality, full color, made of wood, and measure 4 1/2" H x 7 1/2" W. A great piece of memorabilia from your visit or just of a historic place that's near and dear to your heart. Plus, they make great holiday gifts!

Send requests to Linda Jenkins at pickeringhouse1@gmail.com.

The Pickering House strives to be a vital community educational resource where history, preservation, and the Pickering family's story come to life, so that visitors can appreciate and connect with their own American experience and the values of public service and democracy.

MISSION

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 _____

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Send to: 18 Broad Street, Salem, Massachusetts, 01970

We now take **PayPal** for donations and membership dues
www.pickeringhouse.org