



# THE WYMAN JOURNAL

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Dear Family and Friends,



Happy New Year! 2016 was a great year celebrating our 350<sup>th</sup> anniversary. We held open houses on the second Saturdays of the month from May until September. The Town of Burlington issued a Proclamation designating June 11<sup>th</sup> as Francis Wyman House day. The open house that day was attended by over 100 people! The Francis Wyman House certainly has a special place in the hearts of the people of Burlington. In July we hosted a special thank you for the Burlington Fire department. Many of the fire fighters who fought the fire back in '96 stopped by the house that day. There were some touching stories that Mike Tredeau captured in videotaped interviews.

Our annual meeting was held on October 1st. We splurged for a tent and Rob Smith treated us to a cookout. The tent came in handy for the damp day. The camaraderie and connections kept us warm and engaged in the events. We had visitors from the Kenagy clan from as far away as New Zealand. A Wyman couple from England happened to visit our website and noticed the annual meeting so they stopped by. Wyman descendent John Zafiris led a musket salute by The Massachusetts Society of The Sons of The American Revolution Col. Henry Knox Regimental Color Guard. It was





very impressive and much appreciated. Our historic architect, John Goff of Preservation Design, gave a presentation about the history and construction of the house. After a cool day's activities, we adjourned to the Macaroni Grill for a nice dinner by a fire which warmed us all up.



At the annual meeting Karen Saucier donated beautiful carvings of Hezekiah Wyman and a Middlesex trooper with display case and table. Her father carved the pieces and wants them preserved in the house. Karen and her family are pictured here with the display in the front parlor.

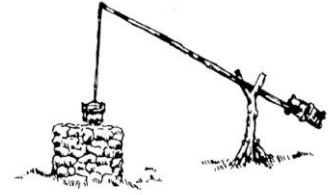


On Friday October 28th, New England Antiquities Research Association (NEARA) members visited the house and particularly our stone chamber as part of their annual meeting in Billerica. They were very motivated to learn all they could and study attributes of the chamber. Mike Tredeau of the Burlington Historical Commission shared his observations and theories. In particular, he pointed out the celestial alignments of the collapsed chamber, another manitou stone in the wall that alignment. The NEARA experts seemed to be that the group pointed out other interesting stones in the wall. The consensus of this group seemed to be that the chamber was built by Native Americans prior to European contact, probably for ceremonial purposes. They also came in out of the cold and rain to tour the house and were equally fascinated by our venerable, historical treasure.





We finally removed the 20-year-old “temporary” electrical service that was installed after the fire. The new service is underground preserving the early American appearance of the house. This makes way for the installation of the well sweep. Hopefully 2017 will be the year we complete this project. It will take a coordinated attack to locate the exact layout, perform an archeological dig for the main pole and then erect the well sweep.



Financially, we have almost \$50,000 in the bank. Our annual expenses are about \$5,000 per year. Our long-term wish list includes projects that would cost about \$500,000 or more, so keep those cards, checks and PayPal donations coming. Keep us in mind for your will, memorial donation, trust or other estate planning tools to ensure our future preservation and management of the property and the association.

We can always use more help on the board and are especially interested in people who live close to the house who can help with checking in on the house and giving tours to interested Wyman and others. We can also use some IT help with the website, internet/e-mail/PayPal business as well as advice on appropriate social media strategy to improve our two-way communication. Please e-mail me at [jon@wymanassociation.org](mailto:jon@wymanassociation.org) or any of the other board members shown on the web site.

**Francis Wyman Association wishes to thank the following Patriot and Minuteman donors:**

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Kenagys from Washington State, Nebraska, Boston and New Zealand!



Christie Agatha Wyman celebrate Gloria's 91<sup>st</sup>!



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