



# THE WYMAN JOURNAL

Issue 33 A Publication of the Francis Wyman Association 2018

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## Dear Family and Friends,

The headlines this year are about a vintage table donation and the repair of our chimney. Several years ago we came into possession of a sampler made by Lucy Bond Wyman in 1810 when she was 10 years old. Young girls would make needlepoint samplers to demonstrate their homemaking skills. The donor, Joanne Freed from Delaware reconnected with us again this year to donate a beautiful side table owned by Lucy. We finally made the handoff at a gas station off I-495 and it now completes the display dedicated to Lucy in the front parlor.



*Jon Wyman and Lucy Bond Wyman table donated by Joanne Freed.*

During a Nor'easter in January, the cap blew off the chimney taking several bricks with it. We hired Celtic Masonry to make the repair. The plan was to replace the chimney from the roof line up to the top, reusing the old bricks. When he removed the bricks he found that the mortar in the flues had mostly turned to sand and there wasn't any structural integrity to the flues. He rebuilt the flues as well so the whole top ties together nicely. I thought it was interesting that there are 7 flues for 6 fireplaces. We put a line down each flue to determine which ones go which fireplaces. We think the "extra" flue is for the bee hive oven in the kitchen.



*Chimney prior to repair.*

2018 has been fairly busy with continued open houses on the second Saturday of the month during the summer and many families coming from all over the US to tour the house. Mike Tredeau from the Burlington Historical Commission provided tours for Francis Wyman Elementary school children last fall and again in the spring.



*Lucy Bond Wyman and the sampler she created in 1810 when she was 10 years old.*

The annual meeting will be on Saturday, September 15<sup>th</sup>. We'll have the tent set up so we can be at the house rain or shine. We'll gather at 10:00 and have house tours until 11:00. Meeting at 11:00. Group picture at 12:00 noon followed by lunch Lester's BBQ. At 1:00 we'll have a program about colonial gardening and time to share our Wyman experiences. If enough are interested, I could arrange for a dinner in Woburn. Please let us know if you are interested in dinner. Hope you saw our save the date notice on Facebook or from Ginny's e-mail and have made plans to join us. Hope we see you there.

Thanks to our generous donors. We have a comfortable balance that's enough to get us going on the well-sweep. I just need some time to get some revised proposals and someone to oversee the job. We'll have to do repairs on our 117 year old shed soon which is listing to the west somewhat. When we were working on the chimney, I noticed that the house roof is looking pretty rough. We have our annual expenses for insurance, electricity, newsletter and other "routine" maintenance items. Please keep those annual donations coming. Consider remembering us in your will. It would be nice to have an endowment to help us keep the house alive for the next 350 years.

We have a need for board members and volunteers in the Burlington area to give house tours, provide maintenance and support the various community events. We can also use volunteers from anywhere to fundraise, chronicle Wyman genealogies and histories.

Thank you for your continued interest and contributions. Remember to involve the next generations.

Donations can be sent to Ginny Mucciaccio at: 14 Thompson St. Dedham, MA 02026-4911

If you are receiving this by US Mail, please send your e-mail address to Ginny at: [ginnymooch30@gmail.com](mailto:ginnymooch30@gmail.com)





*Sarah Wyman Whitman, 1842-1904*



*Pam and Cathy replanted the kitchen garden in July and will be relocating some day lillies in August.*



*Karen Gee and Family visiting in June. She's a Wyman-Richardson descendent from the Houston area.*

#### **A Wyman you should know . . . By Pam Meppelink**

Sarah Wyman Whitman, 1842-1904, was one of the first female painters, stain-glass artists, and book cover designers in America. She was the daughter of a wealthy banker, William Wyman, and the wife of Henry Whitman, wealthy wool manufacturer. She took her social position and financial stability and broke down gender barriers within the art community of the 1800's. Due to her father's banking scandal, trial and eventual acquittal, Sarah spent her early childhood in Baltimore, MD. At age 11 she moved back to Lowell, MA where she lived until her marriage to Henry Whitman. The young couple moved to Beacon Hill shortly after they tied the knot. There Sarah enrolled in William Morris Hunt's painting classes. He allowed only one class for women; artists were mainly male back in the late 1800s. She was successful and had several gallery showings in Boston and NYC. At one opening, a young Isabella Gardner bought a painting, and they became close friends. Sarah designed the front entrance to Isabella's new home, now a museum. George Santayana describes these two women as "Boston's two leading ladies at the beginning of the twentieth century." Isabella brought art to Boston from around the world while Sarah promoted artwork from a local artist in the city. She lived, worked and was part of Boston's high society during the Golden Age. Institutions like The Boston Symphony Orchestra, Boston Public Library, Museum of Fine Arts (MFA), and the Boston Horticultural Society were all established in the late 1800's. Sarah helped established Radcliff College for women, the Boston's Art School at the MFA which is now a part of Tufts University, and she was a founding member of the Boston's Arts and Craft Society, which is still in existence. Most notable she started the Lily Glass Work, one of the first art studios owned and operated by a woman. She employed both men and women alike. Her stained glass windows dot the New England coastline in various colleges and churches, including Harvard's Memorial Hall, Radcliff's Schlesinger Library, and Brooke's Memorial Chapel at Trinity Church in Copley Square. She was also the first female artist hired by book publisher Houghton Mifflin to design book covers. A large portion of her estate went to Tuskegee University, an all-black college. For more information about Sarah Wyman Whitman contact Pam Meppelink at [pammepp@gamil.com](mailto:pammepp@gamil.com).

The house got a good workout in February when several of the dens of Cub Scout Pack 105 toured the house as part of a Burlington town wide historical scavenger hunt. When there were less than 5 at a time, it was pretty orderly. Towards the end when there were three dens at once it got quite exciting. We were honored to be part of their town history lesson and they were generally impressed by the age of the house and hearing about the beginnings of settlement of the area.





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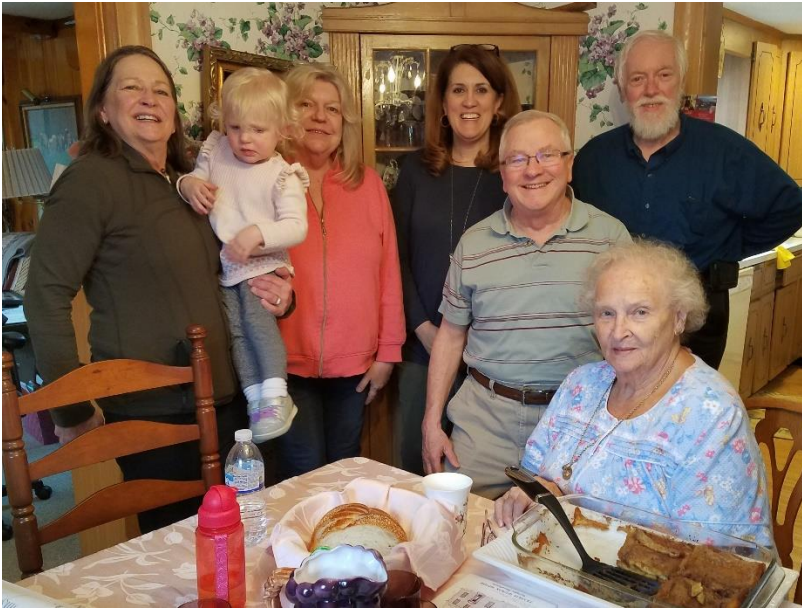


*Weisenhorn – Wyman clan visiting in July.*

Charlotte Weisenhorn from West Des Moines, IA orchestrated her family's visit to the house. Her children traveled from Woodbury, MN; Washington, DC and Farmington, CT for a tour following a wedding out in Holyoke, MA. They were able to schedule with the Woburn cemetery to see Francis' 1699 Grave as well. One of the boys, Andrew Wyman Bekke was duly impressed with his Wyman heritage and they all had a great day.



During a fairly wet and cool May open house, the visitors were in scarce and time was abundant. Pam and Mike fired up their laptops to do some research about Hezekiah. Pam had just come from visiting the Wyman House at Yale where there is a Revolutionary era musket like Hezekiah may have used. The Princeton Wyman connects through Beverly MA and so we hoped the musket might be significant.



*Board meeting at Ginny's in February: Jonell, Rosemary, Cathy, Pam, Jon, Mike and Ginny*

**UP TO \$100**

Beverly Mutrie  
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Greg Wyman of Maine  
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William Wyman of  
Canada  
William Wyman of Conn.





*Annual Meeting 2017*



*Fun in the Stone Chamber*



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## SAVE THE DATE!

Annual Meeting and Reunion - Saturday, September 15<sup>th</sup> at the house.

10:00 AM - Gathering and house tours

11:00 AM - Annual Meeting

12:00 PM - Group picture

1:00 PM - Program and sharing

Please send Donations to Ginny Mucciaccio at : 14 Thompson St, Dedham, MA 02026-4911

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ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED