



THE WYMAN JOURNAL

Issue 34 A Publication of the Francis Wyman Association 2019

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Dear Family and Friends,

It's been a pretty quiet year but we continue to reach out to provide community access to the house and participate in community events. We've had a few families come for a visit but not as busy as last year. The 2018 annual meeting at the house was well attended and we had a beautiful day for it.



Fritz Clifford at the 2018 Annual Meeting

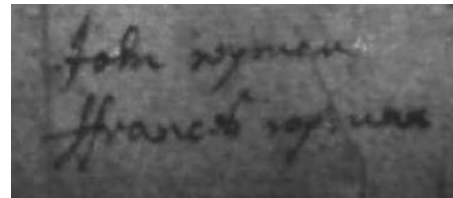


Part of the gathering at the 2018 annual meeting.

We continued our summer open houses on the second Saturday of the month and many families from the area stopped in to experience the history. Mike Tredeau from the Burlington Historical Commission provided tours for Francis

Wyman Elementary school and others on annual history day for third graders.

In August each year we participate in the Celebrate Burlington festivities on the common. We give kids (and adults) the opportunity to try writing with a quill pen and/or make clay marbles. Pam brought a copy of the 1640 Woburn Town Orders which includes signatures by John and Francis.



We had a great location this year and were swamped with probably 100 kids writing their names or drawing pictures.



Pam and Jon with quill pens at Celebrate Burlington

Our 2019 annual meeting will be at the Lowell Historical National Park. Our community outreach director Pam Meppelink used to work there and will show it off for us. We'll take our group picture in front of Wyman's Exchange.



Wyman's Exchange, Central St, Lowell MA

This historic building was built in Lowell in 1833 by an eccentric Captain William Wyman. He developed other properties in Lowell including a concert hall and a church. He was named Lowell's second Postmaster General in 1829 by his idol, President Andrew Jackson. His life is not without controversy. He was involved in a court case that went all the way to the Massachusetts Supreme Court. Good thing he could afford Daniel Webster as his lawyer who got him acquitted. Wondering what crime he committed and where all his money went? To find out, come to the Wyman Annual Meeting on September 21, 2019!

Thanks to Cathy Wyman Whooten of NH who has volunteered to help us improve our grounds. She provided this article about Colonial gardening.

Pioneer Gardening by Cathy Wyman Whooten

Francis and John Wyman were colonial pioneers who purchased the Wyman homestead property between 1655 and 1666. Francis married Abigail Reed and together they developed gardens with a purpose. Roses were grown for rose water used for medicinal purposes; edible purposes

and fragrant purposes. Flax for spinning into linen for clothing, as well as linseed oil for tanning. There were berries for juice, jellies and linen dyes. Grasses and hay were grown for the animals; corn, rye, barley and wheat would be grown for food; and animals too. We know from Francis' will that flax gardens existed as he left Abigail "one-third parte of ye produce and ye farme.....of ye hopps, of the hemp and flax.."



Flax Flowers

As we go forward in the development of "gardens" around the Wyman homestead, we'll keep them gardens of purpose, not necessarily gardens of design. At the last annual meeting, we discussed the development of a flax garden behind the barn as a new project in keeping with the spirit of pioneer gardening.

When making your decision to contribute to the Wyman Association, please consider as one of your reasons, the reconstruction of the Wyman gardens into "pioneer gardens of purpose", so the flax garden behind the barn can be developed, along with future gardens of roses, hopps and hemp on the property.

Anyone interested in helping with weeding, weed wacking, racking and pruning, please contact Cathy Whooten, phone # 603-867-0435.

Notice the new FWA ornament in the Shoppe below.

Our great historic architect, John Goff is retiring to embark on the next chapter of his life and will be moving out of Salem to summer in Maine and winter in Florida. John has provided dedicated, thoughtful and creative services to the FWA for over 20 years. He saved our beloved house from the ashes after the devastating fire and oversaw two significant preservation projects. He researched our history, planned the restoration approach and wrote successful applications obtaining Mass Historic Commission matching grants. Then he designed the repairs, led the selection of contractors and oversaw the work. The first project repaired the house structure and made it weather tight. The second project restored the stair hall and the kitchen floor making the house safe for tours again. He has continued to provide thoughtful preservation insights for our ongoing programs. John has been much more than our architect and become a member of the family. We thank him and wish him and his family all the best. Fair Winds and Following Seas...



John Goff at the house with his trusty camera.

Thanks for your Generous Donations!

\$500 & Over

New Hampshire Foundation
David A. Wyman
John Bryant Wyman
Wyman Family Trust
Norman Biggart

\$101 to \$499

Larry Wyman
Monica Chamberlain
Richard Cochran
George Morriss
Steven Parker
Lawrence C Poch
Karen Sanford
Jon C. Wyman
William H. Wyman of GA

Up to \$100

Mary F. Brown
John T. Dunkle
Kristen Keyes
Christine Kochem
Sonia Mallar
Howard & Sharon Poch
Cyndee Towsen
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Robert Wyman
Robert M. Wyman

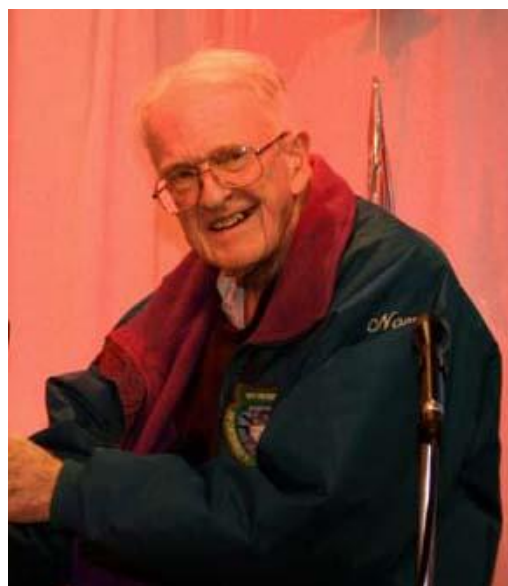
The number of donations are down compared to recent years. Only 23 this year compared to 51 last year. Please keep us in mind for your annual charitable contributions and keep us in mind for your will.

Donations can be sent to Ginny Mucciaccio at 14 Thompson St. Dedham, MA 02026-4911 or via the Paypal link on wymanassociation.org



Annual Meeting 2018

We lost a great friend and supporter in May. Norman Biggart was the chairman of the Burlington Historical commission when the fire threatened the house. He was very instrumental in garnering the town's monetary support for our restorations back in 1996. Norm passed away at the age of 97. His entire life was devoted to exploration, learning, and doing for others. He served as a photographer in India in the Army Air Corps during WWII. He went on to become an expert in experimental photography and worked on a team that photographed the first hydrogen bomb explosions in Nevada and the Pacific. He was also very involved in mineralogy and of course history and historic preservation. He left us a sizeable donation for which we are very grateful. We will miss his interesting observations and his steadfast support.



Norman Biggart 1922 to 2019

The Wyman Shoppe

Wyman Family Crest Lapel Pin \$20

Wyman History Book or CD \$15



Wyman Association Ornament \$25

Francis Wyman Kitchen Towel \$10

House Sketch or Coat of Arms \$10



Francis Wyman House Tile (6" x 6") \$25

Small House Tile \$10

Francis Wyman Coloring Book \$12

Francis Wyman Pot Holders \$4 or 2/\$7

House Shelf Decoration (Cat's Meow) \$25

Francis Wyman Association

a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization

Membership and Donation Form

Here is my tax-deductible contribution to help preserve the Francis Wyman homestead and to meet yearly operating expenses of the Association.

Donation Categories:

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$ 20 Settler | <input type="checkbox"/> \$ 100 Minuteman |
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$ 35 Colonial | <input type="checkbox"/> \$ 200 Patriot |
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$ 50 Pioneer | <input type="checkbox"/> \$ 250+ Washington |

Visit WymanAssociation.org to use PayPal for contributions or purchases from the FWA Shoppe (Due to international check fees, please Use PayPal from outside the US)

Name _____

Address _____

Town/State/Zip Code _____

Phone/E-Mail _____

Let us know if your company or organization provides a matching gift.

_____ (company, foundation, United Way, etc.).

Please make check payable to: **Francis Wyman Association.**

Mail to: **Treasurer Mrs. Virginia Mucciaccio, 14 Thompson St., Dedham MA 02026-4911**

Receive the newsletter *The Wyman Journal*, updates of the restoration projects, tours and events.



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SAVE THE DATE!

**Annual Meeting and Reunion - Saturday, September 21st at the
Lowell Historical National Park**

10:00 AM - Gather at the Visitor Center
11:00 AM - Trolley Ride and Tour Boott Mill
12:00 PM - Lunch at the Boott Mill
1:00 PM - Program about William Wyman of Lowell
1:30 PM - Annual meeting and sharing
2:30 PM - Tour Boott Mill Museum and Boarding House

Please RSVP to Pam at Pammepp@gmail.com if you're coming so we can plan the trolley ride and the food. Hope to see you there.

**Francis Wyman Association
14 Thompson Street
Dedham, MA 02026-4911**

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED