



THE WYMAN JOURNAL

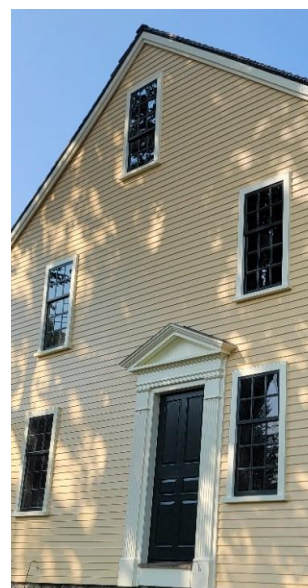
Issue 40 A Publication of the Francis Wyman Association 2025

Visit us at www.WymanAssociation.org

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Dear Family and Friends,

Our major accomplishment for last year was completing the exterior repairs and painting. We received a large donation early last summer and were lucky to find a detail-oriented contractor who was available in August. They set the old nails, treated them with Rust-Oleum, puttied over the nails and primed and painted everything. Rotting wood siding, quoins and window trim were also removed and replaced. The results are impressive. Our 360-year-old house almost looks shiny and new.



Francis Wyman House - freshly repaired and painted in August 2024.

In the Fall, we corrected the extension cord mess in the basement by installing hard-wired LED lights. The difference in lighting is impressive ... much brighter and safer. At the annual meeting we unveiled the new National Register of Historic Places plaque. We received the designation in 1975 so on the 50th anniversary year we finally mounted the plaque. More recently, we have replaced the fire alarm panel and reactivated the smoke and heat detector system and will complete some stonework repairs later this summer.

On the administrative front, Ken Wyman has updated the Wymanassociation.org web site. Check it out. Pam and I have established QR codes to facilitate donations through Paypal or Venmo. See the donation form at the end. We'll also be able to take cashless donations at the house.

2025 Annual Meeting Saturday, September 20th

We'll have coffee and munchkins for the morning and sandwiches, chips and drinks for lunch. Please RSVP to me at jonwy@comcast.net or with a note in your donation to Pam, so we can plan the logistics. We're looking forward to a big turnout!

250th anniversary of the start of the Revolutionary War



Phil Wright, in officer uniform, sets wreath at Amos Wyman homestead monument in Billerica.

250 years ago Paul Revere made his famous ride warning the countryside of the British intent to march to Lexington and Concord. “The Regulars are coming!” The Wymans were in the midst of it. John Hancock and Sam Adams were warned to retreat into the countryside and eventually were led by a slave named Cuff Trot to the house of Amos Wyman in Billerica. Since Amos was off with the Minutemen, his wife, Kezia, gave them refuge and served them a simple meal of cold boiled salt pork, cold boiled potatoes and brown bread. Wyman descendent Philip G. Wright from Florida took the initiative to recreate the walk through the woods to the Amos Wyman cellar hole and monument.

Dressed in period clothing, Philip made some remarks and placed wreaths at the Francis Wyman House and at the Hancock-Adams monument. On a pretty hot 19th of April this year, about 20 of us walked through the woods to commemorate the event of 250 years ago. Phil’s great-niece brought a toy cow in remembrance of John Hancock’s gift for the Wyman’s hospitality.



Participants in the walk to Amos Wyman’s homestead on the 19th of April 2025

On April 19th 1775, the British General Gage sent 700 troops to Lexington and Concord in search of the rebels’ armaments and ammunition. When they reached Lexington, James Wyman and Nathaniel Wyman were among the militia that met them on the green. No one knows who fired the first shots but the British killed 8 and wounded 10 patriots at this initial contact. The British continued to Concord where the minutemen and militia of several towns returned fire at the Old North Bridge. As Patriot reinforcements poured in from several more towns, the British decided to retreat to Boston. Along the way they were fired upon and harassed by colonial troops.



First official flag, known as the "Continental Colors" flown until 1777.

By the end of that day, 273 British Soldiers and 95 Minutemen, Militia and colonial civilians were killed, wounded, or missing. The "Shot heard Around the World" had been fired and the American fight for freedom and independence had begun. As many as 33 Wymans were involved from Lexington and Concord as well as Bunker Hill, Saratoga and other places. We have a great heritage to be proud of!

Thanks for your Generous Donations!

FWA DONORS over \$500.00

David Wyman
New Hampshire Charitable Trust
Wyman Youth Trust
Steven Bousquet
Michael B. Wyman
Kenneth R. Wyman

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Bruce Newell MacWilliams
Ruth Kieffer
Gregory Willis Homer
Nancy Poch Guptill
Sandy Brown Fasano

The 2024 Annual Meeting

2024 Annual Meeting was pretty well attended despite some gloomy weather. Much thanks to Fritz and David for their help in setting up the canopy. The wind almost blew us away, but we persevered.



Annual Meeting Family Picture taken in the barn due to the inclement weather.



Fritz Clifford and David Wyman.



National Register plaque



John Kenegy and annual meeting in the barn.

Please keep us in mind for your **annual charitable contributions** and consider FWA for your will or memorial donations. Please send donations to Pam Meppelink, 108 Highland Ave, Arlington, MA 02476-7848 in the enclosed envelope or with credit card, PayPal, or Venmo at www.wymanassociation.org

If you are older than 70 ½ years young, FWA is eligible for Qualified Charitable Distributions (QCD) from your IRA. It can count as all or part of your required minimum distribution when the time comes. There is a limit of \$108,000 for singles or \$216,000 for married couples. You don't pay tax on the QCD. Talk to your financial planner or investment company on this method of reducing taxes on your retirement income.

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.

Please select your level of support:

☐ \$ 30 ☐ \$ 50 ☐ \$ 100
☐ \$ 200 ☐ \$ 500 ☐ \$ 1000 ☐ Other \$ _____

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 checks payable to: **Francis Wyman Association.**

Mail to: **Pam Meppelink, 108 Highland Ave, Arlington, MA 02476-7848**

Members receive *The Wyman Journal* and newsletter updates of the restoration projects, news, history, events and can request house tours.

Donations can also be made through PayPal and Venmo.





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SAVE THE DATE!

Annual Meeting and Reunion: Saturday, September 20th, 2025

Join us at the Francis Wyman House – 56 Francis Wyman Road, Burlington, MA 01803

Bring your family to re-engage with Wymans you know and make new Wyman connections. Extend your stay and visit nearby historic New England.

10:00 AM - 12:00 PM Open house and tours

12:00 PM - 1:00 PM Group Picture and Lunch – Coffee, Sandwiches, cold drinks, etc. will be provided. Please let us know if you will attend.

1:00 PM - 2:00 PM FWA Annual Meeting followed by Open Discussion

Please let us know if you will be coming.

Francis Wyman Association
C/O Pam Meppelink
108 Highland Ave
Arlington, MA 02476-7848

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED