

# Newsletter

(508) 358-7959

<http://www.waylandhistoricalsociety.org/>

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Founded in 1954

John Heckscher, Editor

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The Grout-Heard House is open to the public on Tuesdays and Fridays, 9:30 – Noon

## WHAT I'M THANKFUL FOR

As we approach the Holiday Season, I would like to recognize the wonderful Historical Society members who make my job a joy. To our dynamite curatorial staff, headed by Lois Davis and Joanne Davis, I propose a toast. Their knowledge and skill in caring for our priceless artifacts always amazes and delights me. Recently I was preparing to go off to Peterboro, New York to give a talk on Lydia Maria Child at the National Abolition Hall of Fame and needed some help with visuals; all I had to do was ask Lois and Joanne and visuals magically appeared! I would also like to thank my friend, former curator Jo Goeselt, for all her help. Her memory and memories are second to none. Although Gloria Backman likes to labor behind the scenes, her care of our clothing collection adds immeasurably to our re-creations of the past. I thank Roger Backman for his loving care of our primary treasure, the Grout-Heard House. Anyone who knows about house maintenance can appreciate the enormous amount of work he always does and has done for over twenty-five years. We simply would not have a home without you, Roger.

George Ives, our treasurer, and Margery Baston, our secretary, are fabulous. Their attention to detail and innate wisdom make my job a snap. While I never have to give them a thought because their work is flawless, I appreciate them more than I can express. Both Margery and George are also members of the Wayland Historic District Commission and keep us informed about developments in the Historic District, as does Roger, chair of the Conservation Commission.

Board members Tilly Close, Aida Gennis, Kate Jenney and Mike Short are truly inspiring. They are always there to step in when the need arises and offer their expertise on a variety of issues. I am so glad to have you on the team.

Our education programs are beyond compare thanks to Marney Ives and Kathy Heckscher and their incredible team of former teachers. Nothing shows the excellence of a Historical Society to the public more than educational offerings and ours are very highly regarded and sought after.

John Heckscher, who will read this first, is terrific to work with. He not only puts together the newsletter, he also serves as photographer as needed and takes care of all the labeling and mailing chores. This used to be a job for a committee, but now John and Kathy do it.

Last but not least, I want to thank Dick Hoyt, my inspiration. I have missed you since your surgery. Hurry back.

Best wishes and Happy Holidays,  
Jane

**\*\*\*\*\* DATE FOR LYDIA MARIE CHILD TALK CHANGED \*\*\*\*\***

Because of a conflict with a major event planned by the Wayland Public Library, Jane Sciacca has moved the date of her talk from Sunday, March 15<sup>th</sup>, the original date in the Program Booklet, to Sunday, March 8<sup>th</sup>. The time and locale remain unchanged: 2:00 p.m. at the Grout-Heard House.

**\*\*\*\*\* DATE FOR LYDIA MARIE CHILD TALK CHANGED \*\*\*\*\***

**HOLIDAY OPEN HOUSE**

The Holiday Open House is scheduled for Sunday, December 7<sup>th</sup>, and many people have been hard at work preparing for it for some weeks now. The event will run from 2:00 – 5:00 p.m. at the Grout-Heard House.

Co-chairs Leslie Karp and Kay Patterson are planning decorations appropriate to the Colonial era Campbell Room and Stone Room with Wayland Garden Club members. Sandy Coy and her committee from the Woodridge Garden Club are making preparations to decorate the early nineteenth century Draper Room and the Victorian-era Heard Room. The Friday before the Open House, more than thirty Garden Club members will come through the Grout-Heard House doors carrying greens and arrangements. They will work intently much of the day transforming the Grout-Heard House rooms

Welcoming you to each of these festive rooms on December 7<sup>th</sup> will be many gracious docents. Aida Gennis, event co-chairman, will be recruiting some twenty volunteers.

Homemade Christmas cookies, tea and punch will be provided by Molly Adams, event co-chairman, assisted by Deborah Stubeda and a small army of cookie bakers, dishwashers and servers.

Girl Scout troops from all over town will be making ornaments to decorate the Stone Room alcove. This year's theme is "Scouting around the World." Each troop has chosen a country, making decorations that suggest that place. Nancy Gould is heading up the Girl Scout Committee.

Early in the afternoon string players Magdalena Buczek, June Kim and Garrett Levey will entertain guests in the Campbell Room. Later that afternoon the dozen Wayland High School Madrigal singers will perform in the Stone Room.

Elsewhere in Wayland Center, the Depot will host an open house and have an array of holiday gifts for sale. At three o'clock, the Library will introduce award-winning musician David Polansky who will lead a family sing-along with winter holiday songs.

Circle December 7<sup>th</sup> on your calendar and look forward to welcoming in the holiday season in a festive mood!

## **THANK YOU TO CHRIS AND JOAN HAGGER**

Gracious host and hostess, wonderful storytellers, and knowledgeable docents Chris and Joan opened “Kirkside” to WHS members on a brisk, bright Sunday afternoon. WHS members attended in substantial numbers to view the interior of “this old house”. Many, many thanks!

## **PROPOSED ROAD CHANGES IN THE WAYLAND HISTORIC DISTRICT**

On Oct. 28, 2008 Wayland’s Board of Road Commissioners held a hearing on road changes in the Historic District proposed by the new town center developers. George Ives, our Treasurer and Margery Baston, our Secretary are also members of the Wayland Historic District Commission and attended the hearing. George provides the following details of the proposed changes:

Rte. 27 will be widened to accommodate a northbound left turn lane into the project. The widening will be taken on the West side of the road and extend approximately 200 feet both north and south of the present entrance. The developer does not propose a traffic light at the entrance, but will install conduit so that a light could be added in the future. The developer will not build a sidewalk along Rte. 27.

The developer proposes widening Rte. 27 for a southbound left hand turn lane onto Route 126. The widening would extend from about 100 feet north of Library Lane down to the 126 intersection and would remove many trees on the Parrington property.

The developer proposes adding a green space bump to the east side of Route 126 beginning at the MTA/Boston Edison easement; extending approximately 18 feet from the present curb at the widest and blending back to the present curb just past the Heard House driveway. The intent of this curve is to slow down northbound Rte. 126 traffic

The section of Rte. 27/126 from the Heard house to Millbrook will be 4 lanes. Northbound there will be a lane for 126 and a lane for 27. Southbound there will be the thru and left hand turn lanes. The developer has made assurances the granite hitching posts will not be affected. The parking on the west side of the road will be changed to parallel parking which will provide room and improve safety conditions.

The developer proposes adding traffic lights at the Rte 126 and Rte. 27 intersection. The light will consist of three overhead units and one pole mounted unit.

The developer proposes widening Rte. 126/27 in order to extend the existing northbound left turn lane at Rte. 20. The left turn lane would be extended to approximately the backside of the First Parish Sunday school and office building. The widening would begin middle of the yard in front of the church. The widening would be 7-1/2 to 10 feet at the middle of the church building and then blend back to the existing curb at the Zachman property. The widening would require the fence to be moved. The developer states that no trees would be affected.

2008-9 DATES TO REMEMBER

Date-Time-Place	Event
Sunday, December 7 <sup>th</sup> , 2:00 – 5:00 p.m. Grout-Heard House, Wayland Center	Holiday Open House
Friday, February 20 <sup>th</sup> , 8:00 p.m. First Parish Church, Wayland Center	Bach and his Legacy Musicians of the Old Post Road
Sunday, March 8 <sup>th</sup> , 2:00 p.m. <b><u>NEW DATE</u></b> Grout-Heard House, Wayland Center	Lydia Marie Child and the Triumph of Humanitarian Spirit – Jane Sciacca
Sunday, April 19 <sup>th</sup> , 2:00 – 3:00 p.m. Isaac Damon House, 357 Commonwealth Road	Cochituate House Tour/Exhibit/Talk Pauline DiCesare
Tuesday, May 12 <sup>th</sup> , 7:30 p.m. Grout-Heard House, Wayland Center	ANNUAL MEETING plus Exhibit: History of the Wayland Public Library

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