

The Historical Society of Smithfield, Inc.
Smith-Appleby House Museum
220 Stillwater Road, Smithfield, Rhode Island 02917 (401) 231-7363

June 2012 Newsletter

Dear Friends and Fellow Members:

The museum has been very busy over the last few months, with open houses, school programs, rentals and yard work. A great deal of brush was removed along the stonewall in front of the museum, and eventually burnt when a fire permit was granted. This work, as well as the planting of the kitchen garden, and lower garden were all accomplished by June and Peter Giammarco. For those of you have read recent newsletters you will remember me telling you about Sassy, the large Doberman – companion of June and Peter, who has graced the Smith-Appleby property with her presence the last few years. There is something to be said about an old dog. Perhaps it's the faithfulness reflected in dimming, knowing old eyes. Or the comfort they bring in their nearness, when following wherever we go about our daily routines. On April 4, in the 13th year of her age, Sassy has gone to the place where only in our memories will she lie in the sun, and joyfully bark hello, and good-bye to everyone. We will miss you, Sassy.

Regarding other projects on the property, we are working with several Boy Scouts on their Eagle projects. Jeffrey Dumouchel completed a number of wooden pedestals, Matt Laliberte is creating a portion of railroad tracks alongside the Flag Station, and Kyle Hannon is beginning work on an information kiosk to be placed on the end of the barn, which will provide information about the museum.

Our May Breakfast was sold out, and many thanks go out to the lumpers & servers, bakers & organizers, dish & laundry washers who helped make the event successful. Remember that line "it takes a village to raise a child," well I guess it takes a Historical Society to host a May Breakfast! Next year is the 40th Annual May Breakfast, and I'd like to ask any and all Historical Society Members if they have a story about a May Breakfast that they would like to share, I'll publish the stories for the guests to enjoy! This year we offered complementary one-year memberships to our May Breakfast guests and with this newsletter welcome you one and all to the Historical Society. If you haven't already sent me your email, please do so, smithappleby@aol.com.

We have some upcoming events, call the museum 401 231-7363, and leave a message if you would like to help with tours, or with crafts in the barn: July 28, 1-4, Aug. 18, 7pm to 11pm, Oct. 6 & 7, 10am – 4pm, Sept. 15, 1-4 and Sept. 29, 1 – 5. Regarding membership, a red dot on your envelope indicates your dues are in arrears.

Dorothy Reynolds, one of our members recently sent me the luncheon menu on the reverse of this letter. Being a 1952 vintage person, I enjoyed seeing the 1943 prices. As Dorothy wrote, "at these prices I could take all the members of the Historical Society to lunch and still have enough left over for a tip." I'm not sure where "Gibsons" was, but I imagine a fair representation of the prices of the time!

Very Best Wishes

Maggie Botelho
Treasurer