

REHOBOTH ANTIQUARIAN SOCIETY



CARPENTER MUSEUM
BLANDING LIBRARY
GOFF MEMORIAL HALL
ARTS IN THE VILLAGE

SPRING 2022

RAS NEWSLETTER

LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

According to its articles of incorporation, the purpose of the Rehoboth Antiquarian Society is "to collect and preserve ... whatever may serve to illustrate [the] history of this ancient town through the establishment and maintenance of an historical museum and a library for the benefit of the general public...."

I am reflecting on this today because I recently heard that an archive in Chernihiv, Ukraine had been bombed, and I wonder what has been lost that would have served to illustrate the history of that ancient city and the people who have lived there. As well as bringing death and devastation to humans and the environment, war also harms our ability to connect past, present, and future.

The records and artifacts that we hold here give us glimpses of the history of our town, from millennia-old stone tools to photographs from last year. Modern technology also allows us to offer access to far more information than was readily available when our Society was founded in 1884. Besides our own books and artifacts, we can borrow books from other libraries and use internet resources to explore a vast array of online records and to learn where to find records that are not online. Not everything is! Many records exist in only one copy in one place, and we owe it to the future to protect them. My sympathy goes to any of you trying to research Ukrainian roots.

I wish all our members a happy spring as we continue to play our parts in Rehoboth's history.

Rebecca H. Smith, President

RAS AND MUSEUM EVENTS

RAS Annual Membership Meeting
Wednesday, May 4th, 5:30PM
In person AND via Zoom

Hosted at Blanding Library
Presentation by Rehoboth Garden Club
followed by business meeting at 6:30PM

Docent and Volunteer Training
Thursday May 12th 10AM
Tuesday May 17 5PM

Interested in volunteering at the Carpenter Museum? Come learn how to give a tour or be a museum docent. RSVP for either date by emailing Assistant Director Chelsea at carpentermuseum@gmail.com

Passport to History Program
June 1st - September 1st

Stop by the Museum to get your passport, which serves as admission for one free visit to 15 participating museums in southeastern Mass.

Strawberry Festival
Sunday June 12th, 1-5PM

The Annual Strawberry Festival returns! Join us for activities in colonial history, genealogy, and enjoy a strawberry shortcake. Hosted at the Carpenter Museum and fun for every age.

FREE ENTRY

THE RETURN OF ARTS IN THE VILLAGE

Arts in the Village is excited to announce the resumption of its Chamber Music Series in Rehoboth with a concert on October 1, 2022.

For AIV's "reopening" we are pleased to present pianist Frederick Moyer, one of our favorite performers. His program will include both classical music and jazz. What could be more enjoyable, after this difficult time, than an evening of lovely music shared with friends and neighbors, right here in our own community? We look forward to welcoming back concert-goers and introducing new music lovers to our great venue, in Goff Hall. But, we need help:



Join the Committee

We are looking for volunteers to serve on the Arts in the Village Committee. This entails attendance at four to five meetings per year to plan the concerts, promote attendance, and execute concert preparation. The only qualifications needed are a love of music and a willingness to work with others to deliver great concerts for Rehoboth and the surrounding communities.

Help prepare for concerts

Maybe, you don't like meetings, but you want to help. Do you have a few hours to assist with mailings, help with setting up the hall on concert days, help at the box office on concert nights? We can put you to work.

Be our part-time coordinator

Finally, would you be interested in working for a modest stipend as the part-time coordinator of the concert series? To do this, you will need good "people" skills and administrative and computer capability. You would work from home under the supervision of the Arts in the Village Committee, and would also have to be present at the concerts. To express interest or learn more about any of these roles, please contact Arts in the Village by emailing shawnkendrick@comcast.net.

COME BACK REHOBOTH!

IT'S BEEN A LONG COLD LONELY WINTER

Are you interested in finding your ancestors?
Do you want to learn more about genealogy and your family?

The Rehoboth Genealogy Group is meeting LIVE once again at the Carpenter Museum every third **Wednesday at 7 pm**. This and the rest of the years' meetings will also be available online through ZOOM.

Our meetings offer perspective on any genealogy search. You are not required to have an ancestor from Rehoboth! Members often share their genealogical exploration. Meetings are usually informal and offer opportunities to discover techniques for research to find ancestors and learn more about their lives. The group also views

a variety of instructional workshops and videos suitable for all levels of interest.

Our members anticipate the 1950 census available this April 1 and have explored how to find, index, and utilize the 1950 census for our genealogy search. It has been an entertaining item we will be sure to visit again this year.

Below is a schedule for topics to be covered over the next few months

May 19: The Lisa Louise Cooke Website:

- A First Finding Resource "What she has and what you can find"
- How to find things in Historic Newspapers

June 15: Rhode Island Digital Newspaper Project

July 20: PowerPoint Presentation: How to Publish Your Family Genealogy

Let us know if you are interested in attending the Zoom meeting from your home, and we will email you the link. Otherwise, join our group in person! Wifi is available; bring your device! You can contact the Carpenter Museum at 508-252-4041 or send an email to Lende McMullen at genealogy1884@gmail.com



UPCOMING LIBRARY EVENTS

A Spring Story Walk Now - June 6th

Come walk and read page-by-page through our Story Walk around the library's front garden. This spring our featured story is *The Pajamas of My DREAMS* by Laurie Collins, illustrated by Margie Florini.

Story Time (Ages 0-4) Tuesdays 10:30AM

Children & caregivers are invited to join us in our hall for a fun, 30 minute interactive program of movement, books, music, games & more. Siblings welcome.

Dragon and Tiger Qigong Wednesdays 10-11AM

Qigong is a 1,500-year-old self-healing movement system based on acupuncture. It helps to develop balance, coordination between the left and right sides of the body and brain, benefits blood flow and nervous system connections, and gently stretches the soft tissues of the body.

Paperback Book Sale Saturday, May 21st 11AM-2PM

Hosted by The Friends of the Blanding Library. Donations of used paperbacks in good condition are appreciated.



rehobothantiquarian.org

REHOBOTH ANTIQUARIAN SOCIETY AWARDS SCHOLARSHIPS

The Rehoboth Antiquarian Society recently presented \$1,000 scholarships to two worthy students. Madison Khan, a Seekonk resident, and Tulane University sophomore is majoring in history with a minor in archaeology. Vanessa Calouro, a Swansea resident, is enrolled in a graduate program at San Jose State University. Vanessa's field of study is Library and Information Science. She is currently employed by the Bridgewater Public Library and has also worked part time at Rehoboth's Blanding Library. Both young women have demonstrated outstanding scholarship in their respective fields of study. This year the RAS received an anonymous donation which allowed us to offer two \$1,000 scholarships.

The RAS annually awards a second semester scholarship to one or more students accepted by, or enrolled in, a post-secondary or graduate program related to museum or library studies. History, archeology, anthropology, conservation, restoration, preservation, library science, and related fields are eligible for consideration. The award of up to \$1,000 is a one-time commitment by the RAS. Applications must be received by Wednesday, June 15, 2022. Candidates will be interviewed during the last two weeks of June. The successful candidate or candidates will be announced in August. We encourage all eligible students who live in the greater Rehoboth area to apply. Additional information and an application may be found at the RAS scholarship website:

www.rehobothantiquarian.org/ras-scholarship



MEMBERS ONLY EVENT

Book Binding for Beginners

This past month the Rehoboth Antiquarian Society hosted our annual Members' Only Event in Goff Memorial Hall. As the sun went down we came together to explore the history and craft of bookbinding. It was wonderful to see so many familiar faces, and find out what everyone has been up to!

As one visitor mentioned this was a chance, "to connect with other people over the wonders of how the way a book is built impacts the reading experience."

We got into a lively discussion that led into a demonstration of some of the techniques talked about. It was so much fun seeing our members pick up a needle and thread to sew their own book.

We appreciate your support.



A very Special
THANK YOU to the
CORVI FAMILY!

FOR TAKING CARE OF THE TREES IN
 OUR YARD THIS SPRING!
 VOLUNTEERS LIKE THE CORVI'S
 ARE WHAT MAKE CARPENTER
 MUSEUM GREAT.

RYAN CORVI CUTTING LOW BRANCHES

The Return of
**STRAWBERRY
FESTIVAL!**

Sunday June 12th
1-5PM at the Carpenter Museum

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

CALL THE MUSEUM (508)252-3031 OR EMAIL CARPENTERMUSEUM@GMAIL.COM

**JOIN THE CARPENTER MUSEUM FOR THE RETURN OF OUR
ANNUAL COLONIAL HISTORY FESTIVAL.
WE WILL HAVE ACTIVITIES FOR EVERY AGE! INCLUDING:**

Open Hearth Cooking Demonstrations

Corn Grinding

Carpentry Tools and Planing

Household Herb Use

Butter Making

Genealogy

Period Dress Up for Kids

Candle Making

And More!



**THIS EVENT IS FREE AND
OPEN TO ALL AGES
SUNDAY JUNE 12TH
1-5PM**

BLANDING LIBRARY HOURS:

Mon - Thurs 10 AM - 8 PM / Fri - Sat 10 AM - 4 PM

CARPENTER MUSEUM HOURS:

Tues & Thurs 1 - 4 PM / 1st Sat of the month 1 - 4 PM