

#### **ANNUAL REPORT**

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**MISSION**: Old Sturbridge Village, a museum and learning resource of New England life, invites each visitor to find meaning, pleasure, relevance, and inspiration through the exploration of history.





Jim Donahue President and CEO Old Sturbridge Village

Highly regarded in the nonprofit and education sectors as a collaborative visionary, Jim Donahue has led Old Sturbridge Village on a journey of transformation since taking over as President and CEO in 2007. Jim's commitment to innovation sets the tone for all Village initiatives and inspires our staff and generous community for which Jim is most grateful.



Thanks to our donors, members, volunteers and staff, Old Sturbridge Village took a giant step forward in 2019 to expand living history in New England - and we could not have done it without you.



With your support, we continued to draw hundreds of thousands of visitors to the

museum throughout the year - culminating with a record-breaking *Christmas by Candlelight* in December. We continued to develop innovative programs for the museum audience, for our interns and fellows and for the students at Old Sturbridge Academy. And we expanded our New England footprint by launching an innovative partnership with the Coggeshall Farm Museum in nearby Rhode Island.

Our vision for bringing history to life for so many people in so many different ways **is only made possible** by your generous support and that of the hundreds of people listed in this report. Thank you.

I never imagined I would be writing this letter in the midst of an historic pandemic. While the Village and our partner organizations are closed today to keep everyone safe, we await with confidence our reopening in the better days to come soon, and with anticipation and excitement for the many new ways that we will continue to bring history to life now, and in the years to come.

Thank you for your support in 2019 - and we look forward to returning to spend our 74th year of operation with you, our staff and our visitors - together - again soon.

Jim Donahue President and CEO



### BIGGER THAN A BUILDING - OUR NEW CABINETMAKING SHOP

For the first time in almost 50 years, a new building is being added to the Village Common.

This year, Old Sturbridge Village will break ground on a new Cabinetmaking Shop on the Village Common. This groundbreaking kicks off an exciting new chapter in a multi-year effort to bring cabinetmaking and woodworking back to Old Sturbridge Village. While the most visible sign of this effort will be the shop, which is slated to open in 2021, it is about so much more than a building. It is about inspiring a passion for woodworking, preserving traditional skills for future generations, and exciting visitors about the role of cabinetmaking in early New England life.

Sturbridge and the region were home to some of the foremost rural cabinetmakers of the early 19th century, including Nathan Lumbard and Oliver Wight. These men, as well as others like them, were integral parts of the story of rural communities. To ignore their story and that of their craft is equivalent to ignoring the story of the blacksmith, the farmer, or the dressmaker. "Few people realize the amount of high-quality beautiful furniture produced in rural New England in the 1800s," said Norm Abram, Old Sturbridge Village Trustee, and Master Carpenter for *This* 

Old House. "My connection to the Village has been influenced by woodworking, and this exciting venture will carry on this educational tradition for today's adults and children."

The Village will employ both historic and modern building methods in the construction of the new Cabinetmaking Shop, which is patterned after period structures operated by early 19th-century New England craftsmen. The building will include a wood-burning stove, as did many free-standing shops of the period, and a small external woodshed.

Costumed interpreters will construct the shop during the days that the Village is open; Campus Operations staff will continue the work on days when it is closed. Many elements of the final Cabinetmaking Shop will be created by craftsmen and interpretive staff working in the Winterthur Museum, Garden Village, including reproduction period tools, doors, shelves, and the box stove. The large timbers for the construction of the shop were even cut by the Village Sawmill.

While the new shop is being constructed, an interim space is being used to interpret a rural woodworking shop of



Scale model of the proposed cabinetmaking shop, built by Bob Roemer, Trustee 2018.

the period. This interim venue, which opened in May 2018, includes an exhibit of furniture and joinery, information about the new Cabinetmaking Shop, and some basic woodworking tools. Through a grant from the Americana Foundation, master cabinetmaker Chris Nassise was hired to work in the interim shop during the 2018 and 2019 seasons.

"The story of cabinetmaking in rural New England deserves to be told," said Brock Jobe, Old Sturbridge Village Trustee and Professor Emeritus of American Decorative Arts at the and Library. "And most importantly, the hundreds and thousands of visitors who come to Old Sturbridge Village every year deserve the opportunity to see, hear, and touch an activity that was central to life in America for centuries - the fine craft of woodworking."



## THANK YOU JANE AND DENNIS NESLUSAN for supporting the Cabinetmaking Shop

Jane and Dennis Neslusan

For Jane and Dennis Neslusan, Old Sturbridge Village is practically part of the family. Jane's parents, Muriel and Roger Schmidt went to the Village for their first date in 1948. At that time, what is now the Village Common was the entirety of the Village. Visitors paid \$1 per carload and could drive their car around the Common. Jane recalled her mother talking about visiting the Village with Roger in his shiny black Lincoln. Jane and Dennis both grew up in nearby Webster, Massachusetts and attended the same schools since fourth grade. They both visited Old Sturbridge Village themselves on a field trip, like so many local school children do. Because of her fond memories of her early courtship with Roger at the Village, Muriel often chaperoned those field trips.

As Jane and Dennis had their own children, they experienced the Village once again. They would bring their children to the Village on day trips and watch them explore and learn. Dennis had an appreciation for the men's crafts, such as the potter, blacksmith, and the shoemaker. Their son had an affinity for the bank. Their daughter participated in the summer experiences in costume; she now works in the

Los Angeles area as an actress and her parents see those early summers in costume at the Village as an opportunity that helped her grow and develop on her career track.

Jane and Dennis made

a leadership gift to the Cabinetmaking Shop in honor of Jane's mother, Muriel C. Schmidt, and in memory of her father, Roger Schmidt. Roger's love of early American history and woodworking has been a constant presence in the family's lives. Roger and Muriel owned a farm, complete with horses, where Roger restored horse-drawn carriages. He was known to take wood from his own property, have it hewn at a local sawmill, and then employ modern and hand tool techniques in his own woodworking. Roger once harvested a cherry tree from the property on which Jane grew up and then created custom fireplace mantels for Jane and Dennis, Jane's sister, and he and Muriel to feature in their homes. Upon their retirement, Roger and Muriel bought a second home in southern Vermont on the Green River where Roger continued his love of restoring antique horse-drawn carriages. On that property, he built an updated version of Old Sturbridge Village's own Fitch House

employing historic techniques and modern engineering.

In 2019, Jane and Dennis were honored as Federalists of the Year for their support of the Village. Today, Jane is an Overseer at Old Sturbridge Village. The family business, Schmidt Equipment, founded by Jane's father, has been a corporate supporter of the Village since the 1980s. Jane and Dennis continue to find a deep connection to and appreciation for the Village, particularly as they reflect on the ways in which it has been present and meaningful to their family for so many generations. They hope that their story serves as a model for others



Fitch replica built by Roger Schmidt.

who have multigenerational stories surrounding the Village to show their appreciation for the role the Village has played in their lives through their philanthropic support in whatever way they are capable.



## CHRISTMAS BY CANDLELIGHT SETS A NEW RECORD

More than 27,000 people visited Old Sturbridge Village this December for Christmas by Candlelight, a celebration of the season and New England Christmas traditions of the 19th century and today. This record-breaking attendance is a testament to the popularity of the program, which has quickly become a yearly tradition for many.

the Wish Bridge this season,

with more than 3,500 wishes

New to Christmas by
Candlelight this year, visitors
were invited to stroll the
Christmas Tree Trail featuring
50 sparkling trees. Tucked
away from the hustle and
bustle of the Common, the
trail welcomed wanderers in
with a roaring bonfire, cocoa
and cookies, and music. At the
end of the trail, visitors found



e made during opening
turing weekend alone.
ed
nd Also new to the event this year
the was a member cookie contest,

was a member cookie contest, encouraging Village members to submit recipes to be selected and showcased during a cookie sampling in the Parsonage. The winner of this first-time contest, held in November, was Debbie Dymek, a longtime OSV member who won for her "Yulelog" cookie recipe.

The event also included the annual, highly anticipated Gingerbread House Contest.

The 2019 winners were:
Adult Professional Winner:
Loren Standard
Adult Non-Professional Winner:
Denelle Cooke
Youth Winner: Melody Berreth

Family Winner: Culross Family

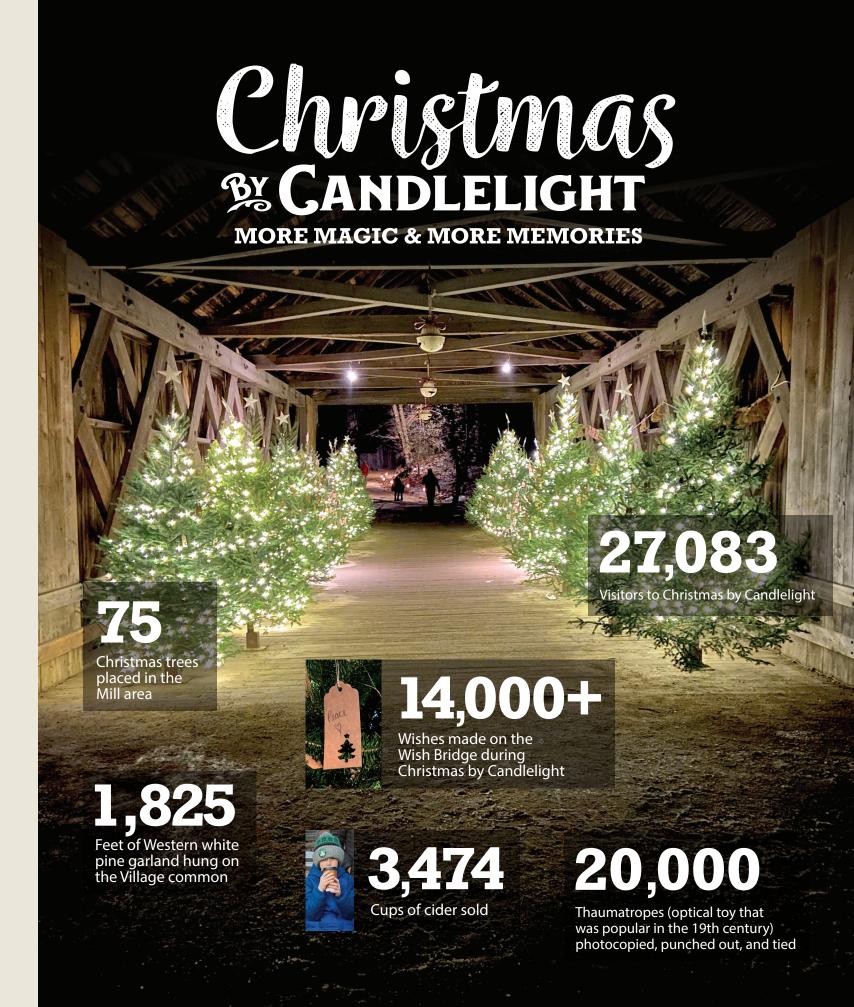
the Christmas Wish Bridge, where guests were invited to write their special wish for the holiday season. More than 14,000 wishes were made on Visitors to the popular annual event enjoyed live music in the Center Meetinghouse, joined Victorian carolers, and listened to readings of classic stories.

Salem Towne House featured Christmas décor from the 1830s, 1850s, and 1870s, while the Parsonage decorations were inspired by Charles Dickens' A *Christmas Carol*. The Friends Meeting House displayed a miniature nativity set, featuring over 500 individually carved and painted pieces. A nightly tree lighting ceremony, visits with Santa, sleigh and carriage rides around the Common, and demonstrations of holiday traditions like chestnut roasting rounded out the experience.

"Christmas absolutely is special here. This is what we do as a history museum and it's great to look out and see all the smiles.

And even when we have 20,000 people or more coming every year, when I'm doing my shows and I look up, I'm recognizing faces from years past. People have made us their tradition now, and that's an incredible feeling."

- Jim O'Brien, Director of Public Events and Performance



#### Old Sturbridge Village Staff Working Group



**Rhys Simmons** *Director of Interpretation* 



**Sarah B. Parks**, Coordinator of Special Projects



**Emily Dunnack** *Director of Education* 



Caitlin Emery Avenia

Curatorial Director



**Tom Kelleher**, Historian and Curator of Mechanical Arts

# An Junovative New Vision for Interpretation and Education

In 2018, Old Sturbridge Village received a \$75,000 grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities for Historic Places: Planning to develop a new Interpretation and Education Plan to mark the Village's 75th anniversary in 2021. By August 2019, the Interpretation and Education departments had completed their planning and were preparing to submit a \$500,000 request to fund their new plan.

The Village's Interpretation training and resource materials have not been comprehensively reviewed or significantly revised since the 1970s. Working with scholars, consultants, and partner institutions, OSV developed a new Interpretation and Education Plan that creates impactful visitor experiences, connects with a modern audience, and better reflects the diversity of our community, both past and present.

The multi-year plan, entitled Foundations of Interpretation, will allow the Village to update written interpretation guides; develop purposeful learning, emotional, and social targets for programs and exhibitions; expand training programs; and improve interpretation signage.

The proposal includes a threeyear partnership with the International Coalition of Sites of Conscience to focus on training in diversity, equity, accessibility, and inclusion work, as well as dialogue-based interpretation.

Written interpretation guides will be created for 37 spaces (households, horticulture, farms, trade shops, and civic/public buildings) in the Village. These guides form the basis of the Village's interpretation work.

The Village will develop purposeful learning and social-emotional targets for the 50+ interpretation spaces and exhibitions to drive the historical content being delivered and reflect current educational thinking and practices. These targets recognize the need for museums to not only deliver content, but also facilitate dialogue, necessitating a shift in our interpretation goals beyond purely educational objectives.

The plan also includes the first phase of an improved signage

plan for the Village. The Curatorial team will create approximately 38 signs for structures and locations throughout the Village to provide more information about the building or location. We will also create crossroad signs and campus maps to help visitors navigate the campus and replace existing deteriorated or out-of-date maps on campus.
Old Sturbridge Village is committed to this new Interpretation and Education

Plan. We await a funding decision from the National Endowment for the Humanities in August 2020, and will seek alternate funding, if necessary, to ensure that the new plan is able to move forward.

#### **Scholars and Partners**



Margaret Bruchac, *Associate Professor* of Anthropology, Coordinator of Native American and Indigenous Studies, University of Pennsylvania (specializing in northeastern Native American histories, museum anthropology, material culture. and cultural performance)



Shannon Burke, Christopher Clark, Principal, Department Head **Transformational** and Professor of Engagement History, University (specializing of Connecticut in creating (specializing in inclusive spaces the social history and compelling of economic narratives that life, the history of American connect the past to the present, capitalism, rural inspire brave societies and conversations, industrialization, build community, abolitionism, and encourage and utopian empathy and civic communities) engagement)



Linda Coombs,
Program Director
of the Aquinnah
Cultural Center,
Martha's Vineyard
(specializing
in history,
technology,
and arts of
Wampanoag
culture; and
colonial history
from a Native
American
perspective)



#### **Scholars and Partners, continued**

Our thanks to the scholars and partners who have helped Old Sturbridge Village create this Interpretation and Education Plan for our future and have committed to helping us ensure the plan is successful.







#### International **Coalition of Sites** of Conscience (With over 250 members in 65 countries, the Coalition builds the capacity of these vital institutions through grants, networking, training, transitional justice mechanisms, and advocacy.)



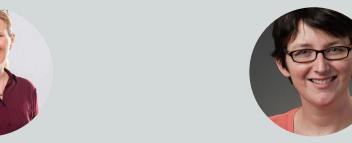
Lonnie Kaufman, Founder and Principal Researcher, **Evaluation for** Action (specializing in applied research and program evaluation services to school systems, non-profit organizations, cultural institutions, and state agencies throughout New England)



Joanne Pope Melish, Associate Professor Emerita, University of Kentucky (specializing in the history of slavery, emancipation, and the evolution of racial ideology in New England)



Marla Miller,
Associate Chair,
Director of the
Public History
Program, and
Professor of
History, University
of Massachusetts,
Amherst
(specializing in
U.S. women's
work before
industrialization,
public history, and
material culture)



Emily Pawley,
Assistant Professor
of History,
Dickinson College
(specializing in
environmental
history, history of
capitalism, history
of the body and
health, landscape
history, history
of food and food
production, and
history of science)



Cathy Stanton,
Senior Lecturer,
Department of
Anthropology,
Tufts University
(specializing in
anthropology,
farm history
and heritage,
foodways, public
history, and
museums)



**John Wood Sweet**, Associate *Professor, Assistant* Department **Chair of History** and Assistant Department Chair of Women's Studies, The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill (specializing in Early American History from the colonial period through the early 19th century; daily life, culture and identity in the northeast; history of gender and sexuality before the Civil War)

The NEH Planning Grant has launched an opportunity to examine our *interpretation plan with* an eye toward enhanced relevance with our expanding audiences. We bring history to life through highly-trained costumed historians across the many disciplines embedded in the Village experience. As we celebrate the success of our charter school and anticipate the excitement of our 75th Anniversary next year, the work outlined as part of this NEHsponsored initiative will be transformational for the millions of visitors we will serve in the next decade.

Jim DonahuePresident and CEOOld Sturbridge Village



## A GROUNDBREAKING NEW PARTNERSHIP

This year, Old Sturbridge Village and the Coggeshall Farm Museum in Bristol, R.I. launched a transformational partnership, which went into effect on January 1, 2020, intended to sustain and expand living history in New England.

For nearly fifty years, Coggeshall Farm has been interpreting life on a salt-marsh tenant farm in the 1790s. "Like many nonprofits, it is a small organization employing a handful of staff to execute a myriad of responsibilities from milking cows to plowing snow to writing grants to recording payroll. Organizations as small as Coggeshall often live very close to the edge of financial sustainability," said Jim Donahue, President and CEO at Old Sturbridge Village. In contrast, Old Sturbridge Village is a large museum that employs over 200 people in departments ranging from costumed interpretation and museum education to marketing and accounting. While Coggeshall sees ten thousand visitors annually, Old Sturbridge Village sees more than 260,000 in an average year.

Under the agreement, Old Sturbridge Village manages Coggeshall Farm Museum, handling all back-office functions like accounting, fundraising, marketing and human resources for a management fee that is

significantly less than what the Farm would have to pay to employ these functions individually. The Village has also put two full-time employees at the Farm yearround who are supervised and supported by Old Sturbridge Village staff. "They are working collaboratively to rebuild and revitalize the successful Interpretive and Educational programs for which the Farm is known and loved while also introducing new programs and experiences that have proven successful at Old Sturbridge Village," says Donahue.

This partnership provides a mutual benefit to the two museums, which are synergistic in both mission and organizational structure. In this partnership, Old Sturbridge Village will bring greater sustainability to Coggeshall Farm Museum and help better utilize financial resources. The Farm will benefit from the expertise of the professionals at Sturbridge, and members to both museums will benefit from admission reciprocity between the two museums. Jim Donahue will add the





role of Executive Director of Coggeshall to his duties.

Steve Lake, Coggeshall Farm Museum's Board President, tried to express the excitement of the Farm's board about this new partnership, saying, "We would like to thank Jim Donahue for his vision in forming this transformative partnership. CFM has long faced the challenge of sustainability shared by so many small nonprofits. This strategic alliance with OSV is a major step in securing Coggeshall's future."

But this partnership is about much more than the effective stewardship of financial



resources and organizational sustainability. It is about doubling down and investing in living history as a critical piece of our New England experience.

"When visitors come to
Coggeshall Farm Museum
and Old Sturbridge Village, we
want them to find meaning
and relevance in the stories of
the lives of New Englanders
who came before us," says
Donahue. "We want them to be
inspired to learn a craft, to raise
a garden, to farm, and to find
out more about the people who
lived in our community two
centuries ago. We hope that
our visitors become members
- and that our members find

their inner historians, curators, farmers, and crafters through experiences at both of our museums."

The first phase of the plan to revitalize the Farm centers around rebuilding the core elements of Coggeshall Farm Museum, including domestic craft, foodways, horticulture, and agriculture. Coggeshall's farm program has always anchored the educational experience and, this year, completing the construction of the new Tyska Barn is an amazing opportunity to bring back life to the Farm. The barn will support heritage breed livestock, heirloom field crops, and the rest of the agricultural program. Donahue says, "The essence of the Farm is what we're focused on this year."

Jim Donahue gave credit to the boards of both museums for having a vision for sustaining living history in the region through this partnership. "It's a bold step – a great experiment – and I give a lot of credit to the Coggeshall board for thinking outside the box and prioritizing sustainability. Leveraging synergies between the two, getting more people involved in the living history of New England, it lifts both institutions."

## **THANK YOU** Supporters of Coggeshall Farm Museum and Old Sturbridge Village

The following individuals and foundations have made gifts to Coggeshall Farm Museum in support of its partnership with Old Sturbridge Village. Coggeshall Farm and the Village are grateful for the support of these donors as we work together to strengthen living history across the region.

## TRUSTEES Coggeshall Farm Museum

Steve Lake, *President*Andy Tyska, *Treasurer*Wendy Mackie, *Secretary*Coy Bethune
Morgan Devlin
Robert Martin
Margaret Vendituoli Ferreira
Jim Yess

#### DONORS Coggeshall Farm Museum

Lennart H. and Mary A. Aberg Barbara A. Allen Martha Antaya Mary Jane Bohlen The Carter Charitable Trust Funds Carl Becker and Katherine Castree E. Peter and Margaret M. Church Stephen H. and Kim N. Clark John and Kim Connors Sandra C. Darling Michelle Denault Walter H. and Joan S. Greene Myrna A. Griffith Barbara Hail

Robert S. Hamel **Hibbitt Family Fund** Garry and Catharine Holmstrom Kevin Jordan James V. Kearney Stephen M. and Lauren M. Lake Pamela F. Lenehan Stewart and Adrienne C. Martin Clifford W. and Maria V. Morey **Bernard Oakley** Mark Palmer M. Jean and Richard Pearce Dale F. and Patricia Radka Rhode Island Foundation Andrea L. Rounds Nancy J. Szenher Dyan and John B. Vaughan **Emese Wood** Sandra S. Wyatt



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## COGGESHALL FARM MUSEUM in partnership with Old Sturbridge Village



## THANK YOU RHODE ISLAND FOUNDATION

Rhode Island Foundation, the largest funder of nonprofit organizations in Rhode Island, provided a \$50,000 grant to Coggeshall Farm Museum in support of its strategic alliance with Old Sturbridge Village. The one-time grant supports the salary of a Farm Coordinator through the Foundation's Responsive Grant Program. "Coggeshall Farm Museum is a resource to the state. It's been a resource since the '70s. We thought leveraging the expertise from the Village to increase the capacity, the attendance, the use, the longterm sustainability, had a lot of potential," said Ricky Bogert,

Grant Programs Officer. Responsive Grants at Rhode Island Foundation are awarded to respond to the expressed needs of the community across proposals that show the promise to be impactful for the state," said Ricky Bogert. "This particular grant was fairly unusual. We generally are hesitant to provide funding to hire staff, but we saw it as much more. It really was an investment in this partnership." Last year alone, the Rhode Island Foundation made more than 2,000 grants totaling \$56 million. Ricky noted that the Foundation sees requests from

many organizations like Coggeshall Farm: small nonprofits run by a dedicated and passionate staff who are stretched thin. With that in the nonprofit sector. "We look at mind, the Foundation sees their funding of Coggeshall Farm as much more than a one-time grant. "It's an investment in growing the partnership between the two organizations, and an experiment in building the capacity of small nonprofits that could be replicated across Rhode Island." He added, "We're confident in the expertise of both organizations that it can be successful."



Photo: Explore Bristol, Rhode Island



## THANK YOU HIBBIT FAMILY FUND

The Hibbitt family moved to Bristol, Rhode Island thirty years ago in search of a home near the water. At the time, they knew nothing about the richness of the Bristol community and had never heard of Coggeshall Farm. The family had originally moved to Rhode Island to allow David to pursue his PhD at Brown University and had only visited Bristol for its famed 4th of July Parade, something, Susan quipped, every Rhode Islander must do at least once. It was not long after they took up residence in Bristol, however, that Susan joined the Board of Coggeshall Farm Museum as Treasurer, a position she held for nearly a decade. "As our grandchildren came along, we visited the Farm," she said,

"and it's been a neighbor all these years."

As Treasurer of the Board, Susan had intimate knowledge of Coggeshall's struggle to survive as a small nonprofit. "The Farm's sustainability was always hanging in the balance," Susan recalled. That is exactly why Susan and her family have decided to support the Farm's partnership with Old Sturbridge Village through their donor advised fund, the Hibbitt Family Fund. "Now the Farm has the possibility of stability and a path forward to become a real asset to the community. A strong institution like Sturbridge being involved is very important."

Karen Hibbitt, who has a

Top photo, from left to right: Samantha Rockwell, Karen Hibbitt, Susan Hibbitt (back), Sophie Rockwell (front), Cate Hibbitt, David Hibbit

master's degree in Museum Studies from George Washington University, now works at the National Archives. With Karen's strong ties to the work of museums, the family's personal connection to Coggeshall Farm, and their commitment to investing where they live, the family decided this was a project they were excited to fund. "Our daughters are full partners in our investment decisions," Susan said. "Hopefully our granddaughters will come aboard, too."

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# 19TH-CENTURY MUSEUM BECOMES 21ST CENTURY COMMUNITY LEARNING CENTER

Old Sturbridge Village was the only museum in Massachusetts to be awarded a highly competitive 21st Century Community Learning Centers (21stCCLC) Grant through the Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education. This federal grant provides Old Sturbridge Village with \$175,000 each year for three years to create an extended day program that meets the needs of Old Sturbridge Academy students.

The Massachusetts Department of Education defines a 21st Century Community Learning Center as a program that "provides academic enrichment opportunities during nonschool hours for children... The program helps students meet state and local student standards in core academic subjects, such as reading and math; offers students a broad array of enrichment activities that can complement their regular academic programs; and offers literacy and other educational services to the families of participating children."

Old Sturbridge Academy (OSA) is a school-wide Title I School. Students arrive at OSA with very different backgrounds, many social emotional needs, and varying levels of school readiness. The 21stCCLC program at Old Sturbridge Village was devised to address these areas and to replace the

previous afterschool program in order to align with the Village and Academy's shared commitment to quality.

The 21stCCLC program brings the OSA mission statement's EL Education elements to the afterschool program: more time with hands-on, project-based learning with real-world applications, and a commitment to imagination, exploration, immersion, community, and quality work. The program also utilizes the Village and other partner resources. Families at OSA had expressed a desire for an affordable afterschool program that provided a safe environment with structured activities and a consistent homework component.

Old Sturbridge Village's Museum Education staff worked with Old Sturbridge Academy to devise the new afterschool program, which





launched in October 2019.
Students enroll for a minimum of two days each week, allowing for 100 hours of program time each year. Any child who qualifies for free or reduced-price lunch is enrolled in the program free of charge. Third, fourth, and fifth grade students enroll in a club which meets for 1 ½ hours, followed by a 30-minute homework club. Younger students enjoy shorter club sessions.

Students enrolled in the program choose from clubs such as Young Artists, Engineering, Woodworking, Pottery, Model Rocket Club, Young Chefs, Cartography, and Nature Club.



Photo: Dave Hruska, Coordinator of Agriculture, leads the Model Rocket Club during the 21stCCLC afterschool program

Jocelyn Bolduc, Extended Day Program Coordinator, said, "Each week the clubs are building upon what they learned before and working on a long-term project, so they have a finished project at the end. For example, Cartography Club learned about compasses, the different parts of maps, topography, and the process of map making. Then they made their own large continent maps. Each student made their own. They painted and put mountains and forests and deserts; they did the compass rose and a map key and labeled everything. They did the research for their maps and then put it all together. Each club opens up a world to them."

At the end of each semester, the students put on a showcase to display their final projects and show off all that they have learned to their friends, parents, and teachers.

We are grateful to our partners for their help in creating our 21st Century Community Learning Center, especially Madeline Smola, our 21stCCLC mentor, and the Quaboag Regional School District.

## THANK YOU MADELINE AND TODD SMOLA

for supporting the 21st Century Community Learning Center

Madeline Smola and her husband, Rep. Todd Smola of the 1st Hampden District, have long been supporters of Old Sturbridge Village. "Todd has known Jim [Donahue, Old Sturbridge Village President and CEO] since he became the CEO and has supported the Village legislatively for many years," she said. "When we got married, I joined him at the Village for special events. I fell in love with the Village. It reminded me of my days in college at Harvard, being around the historical buildings. I always felt comfortable at the Village. I was happy there and I wanted to do more."

For Madeline, a Village Overseer and the After-School and Outof-School Time Coordinator for Quaboag Regional School District, "doing more" took the form of helping design the Village's new 21st Century **Community Learning Center** (21stCCLC) and securing the federal funding for the first three years of this new afterschool program. "Jim Donahue and Emily Dunnack [Director of Museum Education] asked me to come in to talk about afterschool programming. We talked about what a high-quality program looked like, that it usually includes project-based learning and that it always has an educational component."The following year, when Madeline saw the federal grant application for 21stCCLC through the Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education she jumped at the chance to help the Village transform its afterschool programming. "I looked at the Academy's numbers and realized they were eligible for the grant. It was late in the process, so I contacted them and told them that if they were interested, I could help them write the grant."

Quaboag Regional School

District has been designated a Promising Exemplary 21stCCLC site. "One of our duties," Madeline explained, "is that we mentor other sites, schools, or community-based organizations interested in having a 21st Century program. I knew that within my role, I would be able to mentor and help the Academy. I told them who they had to speak to, where to get the information they needed. I worked with Jocelyn **Bolduc** [Extended Day Program Coordinator] to conduct an analysis of the afterschool program they currently had and how using 21stCCLC funding would change the program and bring it up to 21stCCLC standards."

Madeline's guidance was instrumental to the Village's ability to receive the competitive federal funding for the 21st Century Community



Madeline Smola and her husband, Representative Todd Smola

Learning Center, and she has remained a crucial mentor for the afterschool program.

Her passion for the Village and the Academy is evident. "Close your eyes and picture students being on that [Old Sturbridge Village] campus, being able to go out into the Village on Expeditionary Learning days," she said. "Who wouldn't love to go to school in that environment? It's such an exciting concept for a school."

A native of the small town of Granby, MA, Madeline remembers her first trip to the Village: "We went on a field trip once to the Village and I still remember it to this day. I was excited to bring change to buy rock candy," she laughed. "For a lot of people, that's going to be their only experience – going once, barely able to take in the whole Village in a day on a school field trip. But think about having that excitement every day. I'm particularly excited about the idea of the school expanding into middle school and older students being around that. They're going to be able to give back in a way the younger kids can't. It's going to be a part of their personal mission, I believe."

## NATIONAL PRESIDENT VISITS BETTER WORLD DAY

Scott Hartl, President and CEO of EL Education, joins our global celebration

Students at Old Sturbridge Academy participated in the second annual "Better World Day" on May 3. Contributing to a better world is the norm at Old Sturbridge Academy and at more than 160 EL Education schools across the country, where academics are joined to character and service. Each year on the first Friday in May, EL Education schools across the country celebrate Better World Day to shine a light on learning that contributes to a better world. One of the national themes for Better World Day 2020 was Environmental Stewardship; Old Sturbridge Academy's project in this theme was highlighted by the national organization.

This year, Old Sturbridge Academy was honored to host Scott Hartl, President and CEO of EL Education, as part of our celebration. "We were hand selected by Scott as his first-round draft pick," said Lisa DeTora, Principal of Old Sturbridge Academy. "It was such an honor for us to be chosen because we are such a new school." Old Sturbridge Academy was chosen, in part, because of its innovative partnership with Old Sturbridge Village. "The kids are expanding their audience beyond the classroom," Lisa said. "[This project] really exemplifies what our community can do. It's young, but powerful. That scope is so much bigger than I ever could have imagined, so much so that we're receiving national attention."

Scott Hartl, President and CEO of EL Education, said, "Now more than ever, doing work that matters is important for students, their communities, and the nation. The Better World Project

joins character and scholarship, spotlighting the work of students who are taking ownership of their learning and building bridges of understanding across differences."

Old Sturbridge Academy students started their celebration of the second annual Better World Day with a procession, grouped by their hometowns, ending in a morning ceremony on the Old Sturbridge Village common. Students led the opening ceremony with song and poetry.

Following the morning ceremony, Academy students fanned out to different locations in the Village where they prepared a field for a fall planting of American Chestnut trees, worked on a pollinator garden managed by the students, and built bat boxes to provide shelter for those creatures. After their day at the Village, students planted Yellow Birch trees on the town commons of each of the 13

communities that the school serves to honor the care and keeping of our common spaces.

The guiding question for the students this year was, "What do we have in common?" Lisa DeTora remarked on the multiple layers of meaning within the question. Not only were activities within the Village centered around the Village Common, but the theme of interconnectedness was emphasized throughout the day. "Scott remarked on the feeling of crew, the culture that we are building. He saw how the Village staff interacted with the Academy staff and we're one big crew. He gave a speech about how important it is for us to be doing this work because all across the country other schools were doing the same type of work; we're unique, but we're also part of this national network."

This theme of common ground and connectedness was echoed by the tree plantings at the



end of the day. "The Parent-Teacher-Scholar Association organized the tree plantings on the town commons in the sending districts," Lisa said. "They had ceremonies and it was symbolic, planting trees in these very public spaces to show we're all connected."

"The students of Old Sturbridge Academy are infused with the desire to improve their communities, because self-improvement is at the core of their learning experience. Better World Day is their chance to share and implement what they've learned with the broader community," said Jim Donahue.

#### What is EL Education?

Founded in the tradition of Outward Bound, EL Education enhances instructional practices and instills a positive school by emphasizing a rigorous and engaging curriculum; an active, inquirybased pedagogy; and a school culture that fosters compassion and collaboration. Learning Expeditions are the basis of EL Education's instructional model that features an 8-10 week multidisciplinary project that provides for deep, meaningful learning, and a multi-faceted experience that connects students to real-world issues and encourages critical thinking and problem solving. EL Education enables Old Sturbridge Academy and Old Sturbridge Village a pathway to fulfill our commitments of community, high-quality work, and real-world applications of *learning, imagination, exploration, and immersion.* 

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## INAUGURAL JOAN M. MCGRATH Memorial Dinner and Lecture

The inaugural Joan M. McGrath Memorial Dinner and Lecture featuring best-selling author and historian David McCullough as the speaker was held on October 24, 2019 at Old Sturbridge Village. Joan was a loyal and passionate supporter of the Village and our mission of interpretation, collections, education, and preservation. Her leadership launched a number of initiatives at the Village, including the Village's Distinguished Speaker Series.



Joan always wanted to convince the event raised more than David McCullough to visit Old Sturbridge Village. She passed away unexpectedly in 2018, but we were able to honor her dream and her memory with this event. There were 210 guests in attendance and

\$60,000 to support the Village. The Joan M. McGrath Memorial Dinner and Lecture was a wonderful illustration of the great love that our community has for Joan.



*Top photo: David McCullough.* Left photo: Bill McCullough, Richard McGrath, David McCullough and Jim Donahue. *Right photo: The McGrath* Family with David McCullough. A longtime Chairman of the Overseers and member of the Village Board of Trustees, Joan was instrumental in facilitating Old Sturbridge Village's partnership with the Historical Society for Early American Decoration. She chaired the Gala and encouraged Sturbridge residents to become members of the Village to support its future in the town. She and her husband, Rich, also supported

the Village through the family business, McGrath Insurance.

"I have the privilege of working with a lot of terrific people at the Village. Joan was one of the best," said Old Sturbridge Village President and CEO Jim Donahue. "Joan's enthusiasm for the Village, the community, her family, and friends is deeply missed by all of us."





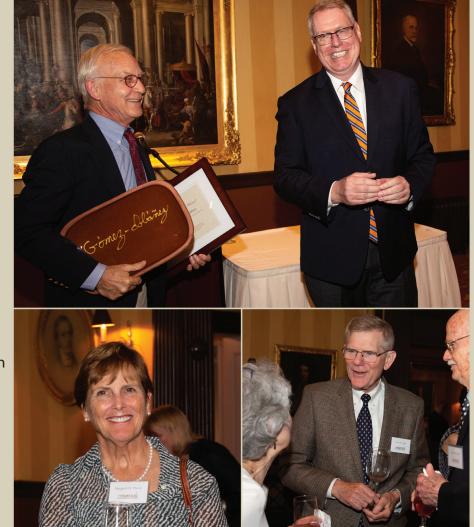


## PRESIDENT'S AWARD: MIGUEL GÓMEZ-JBÁÑEZ

Miguel Gómez-Ibáñez, President Emeritus of North Bennet Street School, was honored on June 20, 2019 with the Old Sturbridge Village President's Award at a reception at the Union Club of Boston. The Old Sturbridge Village President's Award honors those individuals whose work, like that of Old Sturbridge Village, brings meaning, relevance and inspiration to the public through the exploration of New England life and history, and whose scholarship has had a significant impact on the museum field.

Miguel Gómez-Ibáñez was the first graduate of the North Bennet Street School to serve as President. He combined a first career practicing architecture with his North Bennet Street School training as a cabinet maker to become a nationally recognized designer and maker of studio furniture. Throughout his career, Miguel has been a champion of education and fine craft. During his tenure as President, North Bennet Street School established partnerships with numerous cultural and educational institutions in the Boston area and expanded the school's full time and continuing education programs.

We welcomed 50 guests to Boston's Union Club to honor Miguel's career. Gifts made in his honor supported our Cabinetmaking Shop campaign.



Top photo: Miguel Gómez-Ibáñez and Jim Donahue. Bottom left photo: Margaret Pierce, OSV Board Chair. Right photo: Brock Jobe, OSV Trustee and former President's Award winner.

## THANK YOU CORNERSTONE BANK

for being a dedicated business partner



Cornerstone Bank and its foundational banks, SpencerBANK and Southbridge Savings Bank, have been corporate partners of Old Sturbridge Village for many years. Based in Worcester, Massachusetts, Cornerstone Bank operates a local branch in Sturbridge along with 12 additional branch locations throughout Central Massachusetts. It is a local, community bank that has placed relationships at the center of its operations, including a deep commitment to supporting causes that improve the quality of life for the residents of Central Massachusetts and Northern Connecticut.

Cornerstone Bank President & Treasurer Todd M. Tallman explained, "Everybody here really just wants to give back and be part of something bigger than themselves, whether it's through volunteering or financially giving back; it's pretty fulfilling. The ability to give back to people and volunteer your time, that's powerful. There isn't anybody here that doesn't feel that way. Overall, the top priority

for the Bank is community."
Cornerstone strives to prioritize charitable contributions to the local community, especially those that improve financial literacy, or assist children and individuals in need. "Old Sturbridge Village checks a lot of those boxes for us," stated Todd.

Todd also serves as an Old Sturbridge Village Overseer. "I was very fortunate that the **Executive Management Team** [of the Bank] was always very supportive professionally and personally of the Village, so they instilled that in me, too. It's been great to watch the organization grow under Jim [Donahue, President and CEO]'s leadership. You can't go anywhere that is more relaxing than the Village because the pace is very different; that part I love the most, and I'm pleased to see so much of what's been done to move things forward. Now when you go to the Village, there's so much happening and I always get enjoyment from visiting personally."

In 2019, Cornerstone Bank sponsored Old Sturbridge Village's Trick or Treat event,



Cornerstone mascot Moola at Old Sturbridge Village

stepping in when another sponsor had to bow out. Their \$2,500 donation ensured that the family-friendly evening program continued as planned. The Bank's Sturbridge branch also sent a team of volunteers to help distribute candy, which included their corporate mascot, Moola.

"The Village is an institution that provides hands-on learning that you can't get anywhere else,"Todd said. "From our [Cornerstone Bank's] perspective, it's a great philanthropic opportunity. I consider the Bank to be a very good neighbor within the community. It's something we pride ourselves on, and the Village has always been aligned with that. It has always made sense to partner with the Village and it's great to see another local institution thrive. Being a small part of that is all the better; it's what we're trying to do every day. Partnering with the Village is a chance to be a part of the educational experience for everyone who walks through those doors. That is important to us."

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## 12TH ANNUAL GALA — AUTUMN IN THE VILLAGE

Held on September 14, 2019 Old Sturbridge Village's 12th Annual Gala, Autumn in the Village, was held at the Oliver Wight Tavern and featured music by guitarist Dan Feeley and Four Guys in Tuxes. The Gala also included the debut of the 9th annual, limited-edition Vaillancourt Santa. Owned and operated by Overseer Gary Vaillancourt and his wife, Judy, Sutton-based Vaillancourt Folk Art crafts these hand-painted heirloom pieces using antique European molds. This year's Santa is holding a pumpkin in one hand and lantern to light his way in the other, with magnificent images from OSV incorporated into his robe. Our one-of-a-kind 2019 Autumn in the Village Santa truly captures the color and beauty of New England's beloved fall season.



Gala committee from left: Michael Villano, Paula Bowne, Kathy Harrington, Christina Predella, Rick Predella, Jennifer Bailey, Sandy LeMieux, Charlie Peters, Beckie Galonek. Missing from photo: Ann Marie Argitis, Sandy Carroll, Kathy and Ron Vairo.

This year's 1946 Circle Honorees were the Predella Family. Rick and Peg Predella have lived in Sturbridge for the last 32 years. A Village Overseer, Gala Co-Chair, and volunteer interpreter on the Freeman Farm, Rick grew up in the Quincy/Braintree area where he came to find his love for American history. Members of the Village's 1946 Circle and Federalist Society, Rick and Peg are fervent community

volunteers, having been active in youth baseball, softball, and soccer and the Hope for Holly awareness campaign for young adult meningitis. Christina Predella, a Village Overseer and Gala Co-Chair, and Christopher "Babe" Predella live in Brimfield with their young family. As members of the 1946 Circle and the Federalist Society, Christina and Babe have been passionate, generous, enthusiastic

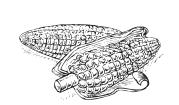
supporters of Old Sturbridge Village since they first attended the Gala some seven years ago.

The Gala Committee, aided by our generous Trustees and Overseers, put on an enjoyable and financially successful Gala, attended by more than 150 guests and raising over \$140,000 to support the Village.





Hands-on crafts and trades classes



Cultivation of heirloom plants

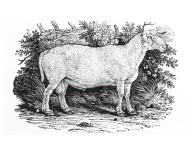
WHERE YOUR GIFT GOES



Training of interpretive staff



Acquiring new items for our collections



Care of our animals



Gardens (kitchen, ornamental, herb)



Youth education programs (homeschool, Scouts, 21st Century Community Learning Center, etc.)



Internship programs for high school and college students



Supplies for horticulture and agriculture programs



Care of our collections (mold remediation, proper housing and cataloging, etc.)



Curating new exhibits

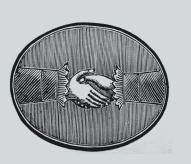


Maintenance of the grounds (salting in the winter, removing dead trees, etc.)



Preservation of our historic buildings (repairing roofs, painting and protecting buildings from the elements, etc.)





Blue Star Museum and NARM



Tools and supplies for the trades (blacksmith, tinsmith, cooper, potter, printer, etc.)





## FINANCIAL SUMMARY

Operating Support and Revenue:	2020 Unaudited	2019 Audited
Admissions	\$1,846,706	\$1,843,879
Memberships	\$526,730	\$560,508
Lodge Revenue	\$738,203	\$735,762
Food Service	\$2,219,133	\$2,487,817
Rents and Commissions	\$804,632	\$817,011
Special Events Programs	\$1,342,329	\$1,296,040
Contracted Services	\$270,751	\$217,841
Gifts, Grants, and Bequests	\$2,836,112	\$2,931,130
Appropriation for Spending	\$400,000	\$575,000
Other	\$78,669	\$41,317
Total Operating Support and Revenue:	\$11,063,266	\$11,506,305
Operating Expenses:	2020 Unaudited	2019 Audited
Education and Public Programs	\$4,054,818	\$3,762,582
Research, Curatorial, and Library	\$1,336,606	\$1,214,505
General and Administrative	\$1,598,835	\$1,569,925
Futowal Affairs	¢1 020 007	¢1 000 010

Operating Expenses:	2020 Unaudited	2019 Audited
Education and Public Programs	\$4,054,818	\$3,762,582
Research, Curatorial, and Library	\$1,336,606	\$1,214,505
General and Administrative	\$1,598,835	\$1,569,925
External Affairs	\$1,028,987	\$1,000,918
Merchandising	\$167,066	\$155,859
Food Service	\$2,638,222	\$2,890,649
Lodges Expenses	\$835,282	\$891,652
Total Operating Expenses:	\$11,659,816	\$11,486,090

Investment Income (loss), net	2020 Unaudited \$1,240,578	<b>2019 Audited</b> (\$254,384)
Contributions – Endowment	\$10,000	\$157,312
Contributions – Capital	\$168,800	- (\$154.602)
Change in Value of Split-Interest Agreemen		(\$154,692)
Appropriation for Spending	(\$400,000)	(\$575,000)
Total Non-Operating Revenue (Expenses	) \$1,141,167	(\$826,764)
Changes in Net Assets	\$544,617	(\$806,549)
Total Current Assets	\$869,426	\$938,595
Investments	\$9,289,580	\$8,444,494
Assets Held in Trust	\$3,109,073	\$2,894,315
Property and Equipment, net	\$6,023,759	\$5,979,352
Total Assets	\$19,291,838	\$18,256,756
Total Current Liabilities	\$3,303,734	\$2,808,235
Long-term Debt, net of current portion	\$6,128,306	\$6,217,416
Split-Interest Agreement Liabilities	\$2,797,362	\$2,713,286
Total Liabilities	\$12,229,402	\$11,738,937
Total Liabilities and Net Assets	\$19,291,838	\$18,256,756

## GEORGE WASHINGTON WELLS SOCIETY

Preserve the Past. Support the Future.

The George Washington Wells family established Old Sturbridge Village, one of the largest outdoor living history museums in the country. George's sons bequeathed to the Village their vast collections of artifacts of material culture from early 19th-century New England. These became the foundation for educational programs and year-round exhibits that tell the story of everyday life in a small New England town during the years 1790 – 1830.

Today, the George Washington Wells Society recognizes those individuals who name Old Sturbridge Village as a beneficiary in their estate plans. Friends who inform us of their intention to support Old Sturbridge Village with a bequest or planned gift demonstrate their understanding of the importance of leaving a legacy to preserve history.

A bequest in your will or trust to Old Sturbridge Village may consist of a percentage of your estate, a fixed dollar amount, or specific property. You may name OSV as a beneficiary of your retirement plan or IRA, entitling your estate to a charitable tax deduction, or have all or part of your life insurance proceeds paid to OSV. The Village is appreciative of bequests of any size, which together help ensure that our mission continues to serve future generations. We are grateful for the members of the George Washington Wells Society who have left a legacy through Old Sturbridge Village.

Anonymous
Norman L. Abram
Margaret Ahlbach (†)
Richard A. Altman
George B. Arnold Jr. (†)
Philip C. and Elaine W. Beals (†)
Nancy B. Beatty
LuAnn V. and Ronald L. Benoit
Nancy D. Berliner
Lydia Blacker

Ralph C. Bloom
George F. Booth II
Constance M. Boyle
Michael D. and
Mary Ann Brockelman
Marjorie V. Butcher (†)
Kathleen A. Cassel (†)
M. Lou Cataldo (†)
Dorothy K. Clemence (†)
Gwendolyn M. Clemence (†)

Maurice L. Clemence
Eva C. Cline (†)
G. Allan Dash
Georgia P. Dash
Donna DeCorleto
Nancy E. Dempze and
Dan Bailey
Dorothy B. Derick
J. Edward and Thora F. Dumont

Key

(†) Deceased(•) Monthly Donor(\*) Member

Every effort has been made

these lists. We apologize for

to ensure the accuracy of

any omissions or errors.

Shirley L. and Bradford F. Dunbar (†) Catherine M. Fennelly (†) Joan Ferguson (†) Marilyn Forke Nancy M. Hanslip Richard B. Hardy Sarah C. Hardy (†) Sandy Hennig and Jason Hennig Adelaide E. Jansen (†) Marianne J. Jeppson (†) Barbara P. Krashes **David Krashes** Lucille A. Langlois Crawford and Ann G. Lincoln Jackie Littlefield Mr. and Mrs.

Paul Damon Littlefield (†)

Elizabeth S. Luther (†)

Jane C. Lyman (†)

James B. Lyon

Mrs. Frances V. Marshall (†) Alfred L. McKee Jr. Ray A. Medley (†) Beatrice A. Miller Patricia Miller Nancy Norcross (†) Pliny Norcross (†) Jane C. and Richard Nylander Elisabeth Peden (†) Charles A. Peters Paul S. and Anne T. Rapo Arline W. Rayner (†) Gay Reddig Mayl C. Sumner Roberts Dorothy S. Roberts (†) Robert W. Reeder III Hannah and Robert Saltonstall (†) Ann Sargent

Richard G. Schulze

David R. Maack

Dudley R. Marsh (†)

Allan V. Scura
Miss. Harriet N. Smith (†)
Mr. William L. Smith (†)
Thurston Twigg-Smith
C. Malcolm Watkins (†)
Joan P. Watkins (†)
Mary Alice Waugh
L. Dana Wells (†) and Gina Wells
Linda M. Wilder-Curtis
Barbara H. Wuth
Mr. Herbert M. Wuth (†)

## Bequests Received in Fiscal Year 2020

Margaret S. Ahlbach
Catherine M. Fennelly
John and Marianne J. Jeppson

## THE POWER OF THE ENDOWMENT

The Old Sturbridge Village Endowment has an enduring impact on the Village and provides an essential source of support for the museum, long after the initial gifts are made. This type of stable, consistent revenue helps insulate the museum from attendance and other earned revenue fluctuations, as well as enables us to do a variety of things such as implement new programs, increase compensation, and address capital needs for restoration and preservation. Gifts to the Endowment provide for the museum's future and leave a legacy that will ensure the continuation of our mission.

THANK YOU EDWARD W. BETKE for your committment to our future.

# THANK YOU GEORGE F. BOOTH II AND PENNY DEWAR-BOOTH

George F. Booth II and Penny Dewar-Booth describe their relationship with Old Sturbridge Village as a "love affair." A long-time Village Trustee, Geof said, "I grew up in Worcester and was introduced to the Village on family day trips and school outings in the 1950's. It was part of my life and I loved it."

After college, with a major in history, and four years in the Navy, Geof pursued a career in the magazine business in New York City. In the 1980's he bought a small cottage on a lake in North Brookfield, Massachusetts and would have friends come up from New York for the weekend. "I'd take them to the Village and became enamored with the place once again. I realized how significant and important an institution it had become. I wanted to become part of it and became an Overseer, Trustee and ultimately Chairman of the Board. Importantly, I chaired OSV's first Capital Campaign in the 1990's that proved to be a great success."

Penny came to know Old Sturbridge Village through her husband. A former marketing executive in the hospitality industry and a native of Canada,

Penny began visiting the Village with Geof. "I fell in love with it myself," she said. "The first time Geof took me was in the winter and I was intrigued with the costumed lawyer. I thought it was such a wonderful experience to hear him talk about what the law was all about during the 1830's."

When asked why they have made Old Sturbridge Village a philanthropic priority, Geof responded immediately, "It's important. It's a stimulating environment to be a part of, but it's also important to continue the historical interpretation for young people who might not get the basics of our history at school. It's vital that the Village exist, along with other living history museums... Old Sturbridge Village is in my estate plans and I feel a commitment to give significantly on an annual basis."



George F. Booth II and Penny Dewar-Booth

"I come from an old New England family," Geof said. "My five-times grandfather fought at Bunker Hill. My greatgrandfather was a Civil War veteran who was born in the late 1830s. It [the Village] is a representation of our personal family history, too. In a way, it's part of me."

### **CORNERSTONE CIRCLE**

The Old Sturbridge Village Cornerstone Circle recognizes those individuals those gave \$2,500 or more this year.

Every effort has been made to ensure the accuracy of these lists. We apologize for any omissions or errors.

(†) Deceased (•) Monthly Donor (\*) Member

The word "cornerstone" indicates the first set of stones in a masonry foundation. All other stones are set in reference to this stone, determining the stability and position of the structure to come. Our Cornerstone Circle recognizes donors whose generosity has a profound impact on our mission.

Cornerstone Circle donors receive a complimentary membership and are invited to the annual Federalist Dinner.

## Visionaries (\$25,000 and greater)

Anonymous George F. Booth II and Penny Booth (\*) David and Vicki Croll (\*) Richard B. and Sarah C. (†) Hardy (\*) Keith and Elaine Knowlton (•) (\*) Marilyn K. Kucharski (\*) Lisa W. Markham (\*) Bill and Judy McClurg (\*) Richard A. McGrath (\*) Dennis and Jane Neslusan (\*) Robert W. Reeder III and Lorraine Reeder (\*) Allan V. Scura (\*) Edward A. and Diane Straker (\*) Helen A. Titus (\*) Susan S. and Robert A. Vincent (\*)

## Presidents Circle (\$10,000 - \$24,999)

Anonymous
Norman L. Abram (•) (\*)
Theodore and
Barbara Alfond (\*)
John J. Argitis (\*)

Kathryn A. and
Theodore R. Ashton (\*)
Michael D. and
Mary Ann Brockelman (\*)

Mary Ann Brockelman (\*) Kathleen and Philip Cambo (\*) Jack and Judy Currie (\*) James Dutton (\*)

Estate of Catherine M. Fennelly Karen L. Howat (\*)

Estate of John and
Marianne J. Jeppson (\*)

Frances W. Magee (\*)
Jack and Gay Mayl (\*)

The McDevitt Family (\*)

Bichop J. and Linda L. Nawrot (\*)

Jane C. and Richard Nylander (\*) Elizabeth H. and

Alan S. Peppel (\*) Margaret H. and

Jeffrey H. Pierce (\*) Richard G. Schulze (\*)

Michael and

Stephanie Villano (•) (\*)
Alexander J. Wall III and
Kathleen R. Wall (\*)
Joan Pearson Watkins
Revocable Trust (†)

#### Stewards (\$5,000 - \$9,999)

Anonymous
Joseph Clark (\*)
Ralph T. Clarke (\*)
Dorothy C. Fullam (\*)
James and Patricia Goode (\*)
David and Barbara P. Krashes (\*)
Forbes and Sara Maner (\*)
Cynthia B. and
David Michener (•) (\*)
Paul S. and Anne T. Rapo (\*)
Bob Shabot and
Christine Psathas (\*)
Jon J. Skillman and
Luanne Selk (\*)

## Historians (\$2,500 - \$4,999)

Anonymous
Dave and Lorraine Badrick (\*)
Edward W. Bettke (\*)
Connie and Jim Boyle (\*)
Barry M. Burriesci (\*)
Desiree Caldwell Armitage and
William Armitage (\*)
David and Vickie Cheney (\*)

#### Kev

- (†) Deceased
- (•) Monthly Donor
- (\*) Member

#### **Cornerstone Circle Continued**

Susan B. and Donald Collins (\*)
James Cottrell and
Harriet Otis (\*)
Mary A. Dresdow (\*)
James G. and
Elizabeth F. Fisher (\*)
Martha D. Hamilton (\*)
Don and Ann Hare (\*)
Martha E. Hurtig (\*)
Irma and Talbert E. Lauter (\*)

Christine Lee (\*)
James and Linda McLaughlin (\*)
Beatrice A. Miller (\*)
Charles R. and
Meredith L. Nyberg (\*)
Terence and Mary O'Coin (\*)
Charles A. Peters (\*)
Anthony C. and Sally Pini (\*)
Christopher and
Christina Predella (\*)

Frederick J. and
Bonnie M. Rich (\*)
Lee H. and Cecilia Sandwen (\*)
Karen and Joe Spiewak (\*)
Martha N. Sullivan (\*)
John and Nancy Whiton (\*)
Dr. and Mrs. Richard Zimon (\*)

### **OLD STURBRIDGE CIRCLE**

Old Sturbridge Circle recognizes those individuals that gave \$1,000 to \$2,499 this year. Old Sturbridge Circle donors provide a foundation of support that maintains and nurtures the Village. Our generous donors at this giving level receive a complimentary membership and are honored at the annual Federalist Dinner.

#### Benefactors (\$1,500 - \$2,499)

Anonymous Bryant and Elisabeth Andrews (\*) Ron and LuAnn Benoit (\*) Charlotte A. Bramley (\*) Rusty and Kate Corriveau (\*) Roger W. deBruyn and Deborah J. Howard (\*) David R. and Molly W. Dye (\*) Janet E. and Robert H. Garon (\*) Henry M. Haggerty (\*) Paul Houston (\*) Mr. and Mrs. H. T. Jensen Jr. (\*) Brock W. and Barbara Jobe (\*) D. Alden Johnson (\*) Edward R. King (•) (\*) William O. and Jane R. Low (\*)

Charles T. Skillings (\*)

Joseph Peter Spang III (\*)
Gary F. and
Judi C. Vaillancourt (\*)
Michael Valanzola (\*)
Elizabeth Wycoff (\*)

#### Sustainers (\$1,000 - \$1,499)

David C. Brough (\*)

Anonymous
Richard A. Altman (\*)
Mark and Linda Amadio (\*)
Ann Marie and
John G. Argitis (\*)
William T. Babcock (\*)
William and Jennifer Bailey (\*)
Steven G. and
Sheryl Bernhard (\*)
David and Jo-Ann Black (\*)

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FIELD OF FLAGS The Field of Flags campaign honors our active-duty military and veterans. Each year, we build a field of American flags in front of the museum's entrance from Memorial Day through Labor Day. Each flag provides complimentary admission to the Village for military families throughout the year. Last year serving nearly 5,000. The flags also serve as tangible reminders of their service and sacrifice, and a physical expression of our gratitude. The over 770 individuals and groups remembered for their service during the 2019 campaign were listed on honor boards displayed alongside the Field of Flags. They have not been listed individually in this report.

## THANK YOU LEIGH AND JEFFREY GIARDE

Speaking from her home in Redlands, California, Leigh Giarde recalled the first time she and her husband Jeffrey first visited Old Sturbridge Village. "We were in the Boston area for an extra week before we went on a 35-day cruise to Europe. We love history. My husband had researched and said there was this old interactive village, let's rent a car and go out. He's a photography buff as well and there's this section on a lake by a covered bridge [at the Village]; the minute he walked out on that bridge, he said it was like psychotherapy. It was a pastoral setting; it's quiet and historic and it was cool under the trees."



*Leigh and Jeffrey Giarde* 

Leigh and Jeffrey are both appreciative of the slower pace of the Village. "The first thing that ever pulled us in was the serenity of the place, the solitude. There are so many nice little areas that you can pause for a few minutes," she said. "For me, it's like going into a resort because I take a deep breath and it's so calm. We also love the ability to step back into history to be able to appreciate our past and better gain a perspective on all we have today. I'm fascinated by textiles. I spent 2 ½ hours talking to the gals who were dying the wool

and weaving with the wool. It's something we don't have in California. We don't have that kind of immersive experience. And it's so serene to just walk around. So, every time we've ever been to Boston or in that neck of the woods, my husband always diverts us to Old Sturbridge Village. We'll be 250 miles from the Village, so we'll take a side trip."

Despite living across the country, Leigh and Jeffrey keep Old Sturbridge Village close in their philanthropic giving. They make regular monthly gifts through an automatic credit card payment, as well as making gifts in response to special appeals. "We give both ways – monthly and gifts to appeals," Leigh said, "The monthly is so easy because we set it up and it charges right to my credit card. If you say, can you give \$600? That sounds like a lot of money. But if you say, can you do \$50 a month, that doesn't sound like a lot. It's so much easier when you set it

up that way." Leigh and Jeffrey also appreciate knowing the impact of their gift. "The Village is always specific about what [the donation] is for. It gives us a feeling of being a part of what you're doing."

Leigh and Jeffrey are both deeply proud of their families' record of military service, citing Old Sturbridge Village's commitment to the Field of Flags and our status as a Blue Star Museum as reasons why they choose to support the museum. "For me," Leigh said, "It was the Field of Flags and your honoring military veterans. Both of my parents served in World War II. My husband's father and grandfather and uncle all served in World War II. So that concept of honoring the veterans and contributing to the Field of Flags really appealed to us."

## **VILLAGER DONORS**

Old Sturbridge Village donors who make Annual Fund gifts of \$1 to \$999 are recognized at the Villager level. These donors support the Village through unrestricted gifts that may be applied where they are most needed and support ongoing and new projects and programs. We deeply appreciate our Annual Fund donors who allow the Village this flexibility and support our mission.

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Old Sturbridge Village with my boy today was an absolute dream. First of all, I love this place. It brings you to another place in time. Second of all, Johnny loves it too! He was thrilled with all the living history exhibits and way of life... OSV is definitely "more than a museum."

From a Home School Mom

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I think it's an awesome thing you do. My cousin was killed in action in 2005 during Operation *Iragi Freedom and we are* so excited to have a flag dedicated in his honor. We are members and love OSV and this makes us love it even more.

*Instagram name:* @mandeedandeedo Regarding Field of Flags

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On Father's Day, when the blacksmith noticed that the gentleman was using an ASL interpreter, the blacksmith became more animated and provided time between talking and having his words translated for the visitor to understand. I commend him on providing excellent service to visitors.

-Sylvia R.

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My military ID allowed free admission for myself and my son. I was thoroughly impressed by OSV. My son has repeatedly thanked me for taking him to such a 'neat place' and is asking when we can go again and take more of the family. That a 13 year old was so impressed by OSV is a major indicator of the quality of your museum/ village. Thank you for a wonderful, memory-making experience.

- Linda J.

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## PRESERVING OUR COLLECTIONS

The curatorial department is committed to improving environmental conditions across the Old Sturbridge Village campus.

Though mold most often manifests on objects, we are also concerned with the preservation and well-being of our historic buildings. Thanks to a grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities for Preservation Assistance, we hosted a consultant, Anne Marie Willer, from the Northeast **Document Conservation Center** 

(NEDCC) in March of 2019 for a half-day storage evaluation and a full day mold response workshop. We were also able to purchase equipment which will better enable us to monitor and respond to environmental issues as they arise in our collections and exhibition spaces. In particular, we purchased

better environmental monitoring devices and a new hepa vacuum. Together, this equipment will allow us to monitor the environment in spaces across campus, intervene before temperature and humidity factors become problematic, and treat objects with inactive mold present.





#### Improving visitor experience at Old Sturbridge Village

Gallery B was temporarily repurposed as a theater where visitors can view a new orientation film and exhibition. The 5-minute video, which plays continuously throughout the day, welcomes visitors to the Village, explains what the Village is and what visitors can expect when they leave the Visitor Center, provides a brief history of the Village's founding, and describes the Village's layout to help with wayfinding.

In addition to the video, a new exhibition highlights the evolution of the Village's Museum Collection and allows visitors to see objects which normally remain in storage.

### **FOUNDATION SUPPORT**

Charitable foundations provide resources for many of the Village's programs and activities. Through restricted and unrestricted grants and gifts, foundations have a significant impact on our ability to meet our mission. We are deeply grateful for the foundations who help us keep history relevant and accessible.

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A tribute gift is a meaningful way to memorialize a loved one, convey sympathy, commemorate a special occasion, or honor a person's life and accomplishments. Old Sturbridge Village is humbled to be the recipient of these tribute gifts.

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## **REDCOATS & REBELS**: Winning the Battle of a Nation and the Hearts of our Visitors

On the weekend of August 3, 2019, Old Sturbridge Village hosted the largest military re-enactment in New England with our 16th annual "Redcoats and Rebels" event. For two days, the Village transformed into a military camp from the time of the War for Independence, showcasing what it was really like for those who fought to win America's freedom – and for those they fought against.



Visitors witnessed and took part in a series of historic events, including mock battles and skirmishes, "School of the Soldier" training demonstrations, cannon demonstrations, and a "Service for the Troops." In camp, visitors were immersed in the daily lives and trades of 18th century soldiers after battle. New England as re-enactors demonstrated historic methods "Redcoats and Rebels is the of cooking, baking, and the making of common household items such as soap, brooms,

muskets, balls, buttons, and bowls. Families learned 18th century dances and kids took part in a drill with toy muskets. The battlefield hospital provided an opportunity for visitors to learn about smallpox inoculations and the treatment of wounded

largest reoccurring event in the Revolutionary War community, but the uniqueness is really in

the location," said Jim O'Brien, Director of Public Events and Performance at Old Sturbridge Village. "Most reenactments do not get the opportunity to occupy an actual 'village.' Ours is a favorite among members of the reenactment community and our guests because they are secluded from the 21st century and immersed in the experience. Old Sturbridge Village has become an institution in their annual calendars."

### 2019 GALA SUPPORTERS

We appreciate the dedication of the teams of people that help us produce the most enchanting evening of our season.

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## Victoria participates in Virtual Village from Old Sturbridge Village.



"How do I know this is recording Kitty?"

## THANK YOU DONNA DE ORLETO

Donna DeCorleto is a familiar face to many at Old Sturbridge Village. A
Trustee since the 1990s and former Chairman of the Board, Donna is deeply
dedicated to the mission of the Village, despite the nearly 400 miles of distance
between Sturbridge and her home in Alexandria, Virginia where she is an active
volunteer with WETA public broadcasting and the Smithsonian. A history buff,
Donna is an avid collector of maritime artifacts and figurines made by French
prisoners of war during the Napoleonic Wars.

Having grown up in nearby Connecticut, Donna recalls visiting the Village in its early years. "My first time at Sturbridge was not too many years after it first opened. I was 6 or 7 years old and my parents took me there," she recalled. "I just fell in love with it immediately. As a treat, once a year my mom would take me back." Though her career at the Federal Reserve took her away from the area, Donna found her way back to us. "I did get disconnected from Sturbridge for a number of years, and then I reacquainted myself in the late 1980s / early 1990s when I would go to Brimfield. I started making very, very modest donations and after several years of small donations, they called me and asked me to be on the Board. I came on because I loved Sturbridge."

Donna is proud of the time she has served as a Village Trustee. Her term as Chairman is credited with enhancing the familial atmosphere amongst the Village staff and Trustees

and leading the Village in the development of a multi-year strategic plan. She is especially excited by the momentum the museum has gained under Jim Donahue's leadership. "I hope he'll see this all as his legacy," she said. "What he's done with Coggeshall, what he's done with the Academy. Brad King [Senior Vice President] talked to me in 1996 about solar power for the museum and now Jim has gotten him a solar field. I think we can be a model for other museums, I really do. I'm very hopeful for what we're going to accomplish in the future."

As a member of the George Washington Wells Society, Donna has included Old Sturbridge Village in her estate plans. "I decided to do it because I want Sturbridge to continue. Sturbridge can give people a lot of hope for the future; fascinate them about the past, yes, but give them hope for the future. So, I wanted Sturbridge to have the money, to continue what it's doing and



Donna DeCorleto

make it even better. I think a lot of people think you've got to be a millionaire to leave money to an organization, and you don't have to be. Regular people like me can and should do it."

Tedd Levy

**Arthur Maginas** 

Thea Marcoux

Pamela I. Mahoney



# WELCOMING NEW AMERICAN CITIZENS ON INDEPENDENCE DAY

Independence Day celebrations at Old Sturbridge Village are always special, taking visitors back to our nation's roots with the opportunity to participate in a citizens' parade, play 19th century style baseball, march alongside militia, make a tricornered hat, and sign their own "John Hancock" on a giant copy of the Declaration of Independence. Six costumed interpreters rendered the

words of the Declaration line by line, assisted by a narrator who set the context to its meaning and challenged the audience to consider the impact in modern day. Visitors also enjoyed the firing of our working model "Heavy 3-Pounder" cannon.

The most meaningful event of the celebration, however, was the hosting of an on-site Citizen

Naturalization Ceremony. The U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) presented candidates to the **United States District Court for** the District of Massachusetts. Those taking part in the ceremony pledged their Oath of Allegiance to the United States for the very first time – a moment shared in a place with so much U.S. History, on the day of the nation's birth. Old Sturbridge Village singers complemented the ceremony with the performance of patriotic songs.

#### **ANNUAL REPORT**

#### CONTRIBUTORS

Special thanks to our team of experts that contributed to the accuracy of this report.

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and Membership

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Eleanor Langham, Program Coordinator,

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**Chris Tieri**, Chief Marketing Officer

Cara Massey, Director of Annual Fund

**Brad King**, Senior Vice President

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Maryann Gubala, Community and Content
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**Victoria Haynes**, Coordinator of Households and Foodways

Michael Heenan, Executive Chef

Derek Heidemann, Coordinator of Historic
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Join us on Facebook, Instagram and YouTube for Virtual Village – where we will be bringing Old Sturbridge Village into your home. Our interpreters will be sharing fun facts, activities, recipes and more, while our farmers have promised to update us with photos and videos of our animals. We hope our Virtual Village will provide a bright spot in your day – and keep your whole family entertained and engaged.