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Greetings from the Westford Museum & Historical Society!

We in New England can always look forward to April. Along with the promise of warm spring weather, we are reminded of our region's rich history relating to the start of the American Revolution. As an organization dedicated to interpreting our town's history, it's our job to show how our community fit within those larger events. Toward that goal, this month features several events and programs to get you in the right frame of mind.

Early in the month I'll be presenting *Revolutionary Westford*, a program centering on Westford's role during the Revolution. Patriot's Day will give everyone a chance to experience the route traveled by the Westford Minutemen and militia by participating in the annual Col. John Robinson Trail March to Concord's North Bridge, hosted by the Westford Colonial Minutemen (see www.westford1775.org for details). And finally, be sure to watch our latest edition of Museum Musings on Community Access Television (channel 8), which documents last year's march and the motivation behind it.

Happy Spring!

Dan Lacroix
President

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The Westford Museum & Historical Society
Preserving History
since 1958
Museum hours:
most Sundays 2-4
Office hours:

Dear Member,

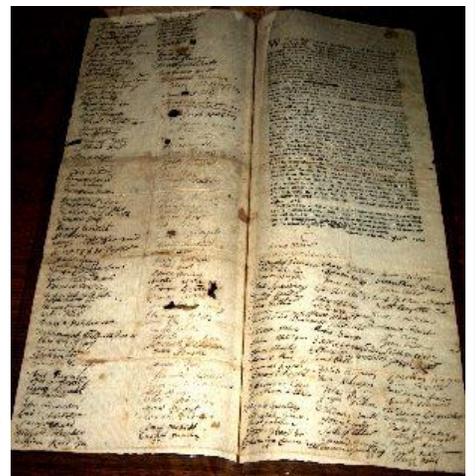
It was great to see so many new faces at our events in March! John and Abigail Adams let us in on the real story behind the British occupation of Boston in the early years of the American Revolution. Then last weekend, we carted the Boat Stone over from the library for David Brody's book signing, and Wolf's Den Antiques lent us a suit of armor for the day! A special display on the Westford Knight, the Boat Stone and the Newport Tower will be upstairs in the Museum through April. Stop by and check it out some Sunday afternoon.

May is going to be Train Month at the museum. Check our website for details on the [student photo contest](#) and other events.
- Penny

Revolutionary Westford

On Thursday 9 April at 7:30 p.m., Dan Lacroix will present a slide show about Westford's involvement in the American War for Independence.

How significant was Westford's participation in the Revolutionary War? How did Westford's residents respond to the pre-war unrest in Boston? How did they answer the call to arms and how were their lives shaped by post-war New England? From Battle Road to Yorktown, Westford men served throughout the 6+ years of the Revolutionary War, some from beginning to end. By looking at the stories behind their participation you'll learn the answers to these questions and about the many contributions made by this small Massachusetts farming community.



Dan Lacroix is President of the Westford Historical Society and Lt. Col. of the Westford Colonial Minutemen. He has been researching Westford's Revolutionary history for over 12 years and is presently collaborating with George Quintal, Jr. on a book about Westford's Revolutionary War participants. He has also made many Westford related revolutionary period documents available on his website, www.westford1775.org.

Admission is free. Refreshments will be served. *Photo courtesy JV Fletcher library.*

**Music at the Museum
Flowing Tide
featuring Sandy Davis**

Friday 10 April 2009

The lively musical arrangements of Flowing Tide incorporate varying combinations of fiddles, guitar, mandolin, tenor banjo, 5-string banjo, English concertinas, penny whistles, saxophone, piano, spoons, and bodhran (Irish drum). They enjoy weaving tapestries of jigs, reels, waltzes, and other zesty dance tunes that will keep your feet tapping and your heart smiling. [Click here](#) for ticket information. Reservations are recommended.

The Westford Academy Revere Bell; the whole story

Mon, Wed & Fri 9-1

Thanks to George Murray for contributing this article, originally published in the *Westford Eagle* in April 2001.

When the Westford Academy expansion and renovation was nearing completion, and the "Revere Bell" was placed in the lobby of the new Performing Arts Center, the mismatch between the Pine bell platform and the Maple trim in the bell lobby became apparent. I agreed to serve as a sub-committee of the School Building Committee to replace the bell platform, and prepare a suitable plaque for it. The new platform is complete, and the plaque has been ordered. What an interesting journey has resulted from a seemingly simple project!



In taking measurements of the existing platform, I noticed that the name on the bell was "Henry N. Hooper, Boston - 1855." How then could this be a Paul Revere bell, as has been reported for years? That began a library search that answered that question, and several others about the Academy bell. Here's what I've been able to learn. [more...](#)

New in the Museum Shop ***Westford Academy pictures*** ***and notecards***

In 1896, May Balch painted a picture of the original Westford Academy building, now the Westford Museum. The original oil painting is owned by the Westford Historical Society and is on display in the Westford Museum.

Matted 8" x 10" color prints of the painting and notecards are now available for purchase in the Museum Shop. Stop by and see the original!

Matted print: \$25.00
Notecards: \$2.50 or 5 for \$10.00



Dear Westford Historical Society Members,

How would you like to receive a full color version of this newsletter in your email inbox rather than a paper copy in your US mailbox? In an effort to serve our members more efficiently, the Westford Historical Society is offering an e-delivery option. To take advantage of this, please go to our website, www.westford.com/museum, and click on the link to sign up. As always, your privacy is important to us, and we will not share or sell your information to any other organizations. You will receive monthly newsletters and occasional event reminders via Constant Contact, our email marketing provider.

If you prefer to continue to receive a paper copy, you do not need to do anything as long as you remain a member of the Westford Historical Society. We value your interest in our common history!

Best regards,
The Westford Historical Society Board of Directors

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