To-day I shall try to look over accounts, count the cattle and sheep, see to the curing of the pork and hams, &c., and to-morrow try to get back to Boston...I have taken my last look of Marshfield for the season, and not without reluctance give it all up, for toilsome law, and wrangling politics. I am thankful for the past.

--Daniel Webster in a letter to a friend, 1845

The Orator

March 2014/Issue No. 16
Newsletter of the Daniel Webster Preservation Trust, Inc.

Dear Members and Friends,

As we begin a new year and assume the responsibilities that come with it, we of the Daniel Webster Preservation Trust (DWPT) always look over things, just as Mr. Webster once did (see his quotation at the top of this page). Of course, we don’t count the cattle and sheep or fixe to the curing of the pork and hams, but we do assess our accomplishments of the past year and consider our goals for the new one.

We are proud that our 2013 Seasonal and Generational Teas, Docent Tours, Third-Graders’ Field Trips, Family Fun Day, and Victorian Christmas Celebration were all well attended and provided our town and the communities beyond with historical, cultural, educational, and social enrichment. We pledge to make our 2014 events the best ever, but we can only do that with your help.

Like Daniel Webster, we are thankful for the past and are committed to preserving it in the very form of this historic estate. Our efforts, however, depend in large part on your memberships and donations, your volunteerism, and your event participation. You are important to us and really do keep us going and growing!

We invite you to join the DWPT this very day and let us welcome you into our community of members and friends. We promise to entertain you, inspire you, teach you, learn from you, and, with the greatest of gratitude, acknowledge your support whether large or small!

Best wishes in 2014,
Barbara Carney, DWPT President

The Daniel Webster Preservation Trust, Inc., an all-volunteer entity recognized by the IRS as a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization

Executive Board:
Barbara Carney, President
Carol Kiburis, Vice President
Jim Botelho, Treasurer
Cathy Maher, Secretary
Jim Cantwell, Chairman Ex Officio

Board Members:
Eileen Byrne, Otis Carney, Mickey Carr, Pat Cate, Gail Connolly, Gwen Frazier, Virginia Gaffey, R-lene Gilgan, Robert Gilgan, Sandra Hawes, Ann McAleer, Larry Nelson, Phyllis Nielsen, Jean Peck

Acquisitions Chairperson: Eileen Bryne
Newsletter Editor: Jean Peck

Estate Location:
238 Webster Street, Marshfield, MA 02050
Mailing Address:
Post Office Box 238, Green Harbor, MA 02041
Estate Telephone: 781-834-0548
Website: www.DanielWebsterEstate.org

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DWPT Wish List for 2014 (posted with our advance thanks!)

Increased Memberships Join the DWPT as a new or renewing member and receive discounted admission at qualified events. Simply choose the highest annual dues category you can afford each membership year (beginning April 1): Student/Senior $15, Individual $25, Family $50, Friend $75, Donor $100, Sponsor $250, Patron $500, Benefactor $1,000. Then mail your tax-exempt check to DWPT, P.O. Box 238, Green Harbor, MA 02041, or pay by credit card through PayPal on our website.

Extra Financial Support Give a monetary contribution of any amount to support our activities and responsibilities, or earmark your contribution for a specific purpose or project such as our “Paint the House” effort. (Use the mailing address above or donate via our website.)

New Acquisitions Donate Webster memorabilia, historical artifacts, and period antiques to the Estate. Call 781-834-7097 or 781-834-9867 to discuss the donation of your item(s).

More Trained Docents Help educate a public curious about Daniel Webster and his estate by serving as a docent (tour guide). Call 781-834-6241 for details on training and scheduling.

More Event Volunteers Share your expertise and special interests by organizing new events for us or give of your time and talent to assist in our ongoing events. Call 781-834-9867 or 781-837-2403 to find out how your ideas and skills can best be merged with our varied activities.

Increased Event Participation Attend our many interesting and fun-filled events—and bring your family and friends with you. Check for details on upcoming events in this newsletter and online at www.DanielWebsterEstate.org.

Don’t miss this opportunity to do something good for yourself and make our wish list come true!
**Speaking of the Daniel Webster Estate, Did You Know…**

- **January 18, 2014** marked Daniel Webster’s 232nd birthday. We remember him as one of the most influential men of the 19th century. His legacy has been commemorated by numerous means, including statues and paintings, literature and film, roads and buildings, ships and submarines, schools and colleges, postage stamps and historical sites. Upon his death, we are told his last words were “I still live.” Indeed he does.

- **Marshfield Historical Commission** records have revealed the provenance of the 30” bronze sculpture of Daniel Webster by Thomas Ball, Boston, 1853, that stands on a pedestal in the foyer of the Webster mansion. It was commissioned by Webster’s friend Francis Skinner, who kept it until his death in 1863. It was then purchased from Skinner’s estate by another friend, Ferguson Haines, who kept it until his death in 1917. The statue went to a library in Maine and was subsequently bought at auction in March of 2000 by Albert H. Gordon of New York City for the sole purpose of gifting it to Marshfield and designating that it “come home” to rest, in perpetuity, at the Daniel Webster Estate. And so it does.

- **Ann Boulton**, objects conservator at the Gilcrease Museum in Tulsa, Oklahoma, has been in communication with the DWPT regarding our Thomas Ball bronze figure of Daniel Webster. The Gilcrease Museum owns a similar statue. Ann has done extensive research on it and other sculptures of Webster and has written a lengthy article for the Gilcrease Journal (summer/fall Vol. 20 no. 1) entitled “The Dealer and Daniel Webster”—the dealer being George Ward Nichols, who obtained the models and the rights to reproduce Ball’s work and whose name is inscribed on each piece. A copy of Ann’s interesting article has been placed on the bookshelf in the mansion’s downstairs reading area for your perusal.

- **John Mikkola** of The Olde Woodwright Shop in Hampden, Massachusetts, reports that his restoration of Daniel Webster’s phaeton (horse-drawn carriage), which was acquired by the DWPT last year from Dartmouth College, is progressing splendidly. John’s work includes frame and wheel repairs, paint restoration, carriage re-upholstery, and fender and lamp installation. In the course of his work John found the axles to be manufactured by H. Ives, which suggests a link to the Mt. Carmel Axle Works, New Haven, Connecticut, established in 1833 by Frederic Ives. While he found no maker name on the carriage itself, John did find the number 11 on the body and irons. He suggests the most likely maker is Brewster & Company of New York, whose carriages were manufactured in New Haven. The DWPT is conducting further research via the Carriage Association of America.

- **The Webster Law Office**, now standing on the property of the Winslow House, will be moved back to the Webster Estate, where it will be repositioned on a new foundation. Site approval has been obtained, and this next phase of the project is expected to begin sometime in May or June. This structure has earned its place in history. After Webster’s death, his son Fletcher sold his own small house on the outskirts of the Webster estate and moved his family into his father’s larger residence, honoring Webster’s wish to preserve it. To pay off his father’s debts, Fletcher sold off outlying parcels of land that had been accumulated by Webster. In 1870, the huge barn on the property burned. Then, in February of 1878, fire broke out in the mansion house itself, consuming it and many of the treasures inside as well as all the outbuildings—all except the shed that Webster had used as a law office.

- **Adelaide Phillipps (1833-1882)**, English-born opera singer (a contralto), made her first appearance on stage at the Tremont Theatre in Boston at age 9 and debuted in Italy at age 20. She performed in opera, oratorio, and concerts all over Europe and eventually in most of the states of the Union. Of special interest to us is that she resided for many years here in Marshfield—on property that bordered the Webster Estate on the southern side—and was a neighbor of Fletcher and Caroline Webster. One of Adelaide’s treasures—a 3’ garden statue, Greek-goddess-like in form—was recently offered to us by the Historical Commission and will find a new home at the Webster Estate this spring. When you see it, just imagine “Signorina Fillippi” singing the part of Azucena in Verdi’s *Il Trovatore*…
Happenings at the Mansion

The Daniel Webster Estate

Victorian Christmas

Gala and Designer Show House 2013

“Berries, Baubles, and Bells”

The DWPT would like to extend sincere thanks to everyone who organized, participated in, and supported our 9th annual Victorian Christmas event:

INTERIOR DESIGNERS & FLORAL DESIGNERS
Gwen Frazier (Entrance); Seaside Gardeners of Marshfield (Foyer); Deb Dunphy, The Classic Interior, Duxbury (Parlor); Sandra Murphy of Classic Design, Duxbury; Cindy Castro, Cathy Mayo (Dining Room); Virginia Gaffey, Cathy Maher (Butler’s Pantry); Kerri Christie-Ahern, Nancy Christie (Kitchen); Kelly Dolloff, Artistic Blossoms, Marshfield (2nd Floor Hall); Barbara Keif, Anne Linde (Webster Study); Elizabeth Pittore, Bon Vignette Designs (Hall Bath, Blue Toile Room); Julie Mann, Nessralla Farm of Marshfield (Nursery); Will Haywood and Sue Shockley of Setting the Space, Plymouth; Janice Walker, ReDesign Home Staging (Caroline’s Powder Room); Y’ise Gardeners of Marshfield (Caroline’s Bedchamber); Jean Peck, Cathy Maher (Boudoir); Webster Decorators (Webster Museum Room).

SPONSORS
Mark & Dawn Warsofsky, Rand-Handy, Forti Landscaping, Peter & Roberta Fairbanks, ABC Equipment, David Price Automotive, Phil & Beverly Johnston, Ground Effects, Ray Amorosi & Margaret Tampone, M’Cwesney and Rici, McDonald Funeral Home, Gerard Farms, Betsy Hines Realtors, Brant Rock Fish Market, Harrington Tree Company, Business Center of Marshfield, Rockland Federal Credit Union.

GOOD FRIENDS
David & Pam Snell, ACTSmart, Inc.; American Computer Technologies, Pembroke; Ed Perry, WATD Radio, Marshfield; Marshfield High School Marshalaires; Karie O’Donnell, Fine Art/Graphic Designer, Marshfield (www.KarieODonnell.com); Paul McAleer; Roche Bros. and Shaw’s Supermarket, Marshfield; Newfield House, Plymouth.

WONDERFUL VOLUNTEERS, GALA GUESTS, & VISITORS
2014 marks our 10th Victorian Christmas and plans are in the works to make the event extra-extra-special, so please plan to celebrate with us!

First, a howling blizzard woke us. Then the rain came down to soak us,
And now before the eye can focus—Crocus! ~ Lilja Rogers
Spring has sprung, so we’re setting the tables at the Webster Estate with our finest china, crystal, and silver in preparation for our first seasonal tea of 2014. Our teas are very popular, and we expect our Spring Victorian Tea to sell out quickly, so don’t delay in making your reservations for April 6th! Check the Calendar section of this newsletter or online at www.DanielWebsterEstate.org for details.

Rent the gracious and historic Daniel Webster Estate & Heritage Center for your special happening!

Unforgettable Queen Anne-style mansion and lovely gardens showcased on fourteen acres of rolling lawns
Turn-of-the-century elegance with state-of-the-art kitchen and service area
Listed on the National Register of Historic Places and shared with the public through tours, lectures, and special events

Weddings ◇ Showers ◇ Special Occasions ◇ Reunions ◇ Holiday Parties ◇ Corporate Meetings and Events

Rental Information: www.DanielWebsterEstate.org  Contact: Virginia Gaffey, Function Manager, 781-837-2403
2014 Calendar of Upcoming Events

APRIL
6 Spring Victorian Tea ➢ Herald spring’s arrival and join us for our first seasonal tea of the year! 2:00 to 4:00 p.m. (seating at 2:00 p.m.), $15 admission (mansion tour included). Note that reservations are required! Reserve early by calling 781-837-2403 or 781-834-7818.
10 Docent Training and Scheduling ➢ Calling all docents (tour guides), former and future, to the Estate at 1:00 p.m. to review historical items of interest and to establish the 2014 schedule. The DWPT believes that each visitor to the Estate should be warmly welcomed and receive interesting information about the place and the great statesman we honor here. Our volunteer docents serve occasionally or repeatedly during the season as their time permits, and we are always looking to increase our staff. If you enjoy meeting people, are interested in local history, and can impart basic information to the public about Webster and his estate, we need you!
27 Volunteers’ Appreciation Tea ➢ Attention volunteers! The DWPT’s special tea in honor of our wonderful and dedicated volunteer staff is set for April 27th, 2:00 to 4:00 p.m. (seating at 2:00 p.m.), so watch for your invitation in the mail. RSVP 781-837-2403 or 781-834-7818.

MAY
4 Opening Day for Docent Tours ➢ Guided tours of the historically rich and beautifully appointed Webster mansion begin on the first Sunday in May from 1:00 to 4:00 p.m. They will be conducted during those hours on each first Sunday thereafter through November (except in September, when tours are held on the second Sunday) and will also run on every Thursday in July through September. One of our trained docents will accompany you as you wind your way from the gracious front hall through the elegant first-floor rooms and up the grand staircase to the second floor. Feel free to ask questions! Note that the mansion is air-conditioned for your comfort and that it is wheelchair accessible. Admission is free (but donations are gratefully accepted).

Third-Graders’ Field Trips ➢ In May and June (dates not yet set) students from Marshfield’s five elementary schools will tour the Webster Estate to learn about local history, Colonial life, and Victorian times—all of which are part of the state’s Grade 3 education standards. Teachers, retirees, parents, and anyone else interested in volunteering to help with these tours should contact Gail Connolly at 781-834-8457 for dates and details.

JUNE
22 Summer Victorian Tea ➢ Enjoy summer’s blooms and be refreshed at our second seasonal tea! 2:00 to 4:00 p.m. (seating at 2:00 p.m.), $15 admission (mansion tour included). Remember, reservations are a must! RSVP 781-837-2403 or 781-834-7818.

Save the Date
JULY 27
Family Fun Day
SEPTEMBER 28
GenerationaTea
OCTOBER 19
Fall Victorian Tea
DECEMBER 5
Victorian Christmas Evening Gala
DECEMBER 6-14
Victorian Christmas Designer Show House

Annual Membership Drive Is Underway

Monetary gifts enable us to operate our organization; communicate with our members, friends, and volunteers; provide programs and special events for our community and beyond; preserve, protect, and maintain this Estate; and ensure our stewardship into the future.

Join or renew your membership in the Daniel Webster Preservation Trust today!
Please mail your check to DWPT, P.O. Box 238, Green Harbor, MA 02041, or pay by credit card with PayPal on our website.

Every gift is important to us! Thank you for your support!

Webster birthplace, Salisbury (now Franklin), NH
Webster's home, Portsmouth, NH
Webster's original mansion, Marshfield, MA