



NOW & THEN

at the
LOCAL HISTORY MUSEUM & ARCHIVES
(Downstairs at the STOCKBRIDGE LIBRARY)

ISSUE #16

SEPTEMBER 2011

TO SUBSCRIBE TO
"NOW & THEN"
e-newsletter
contact

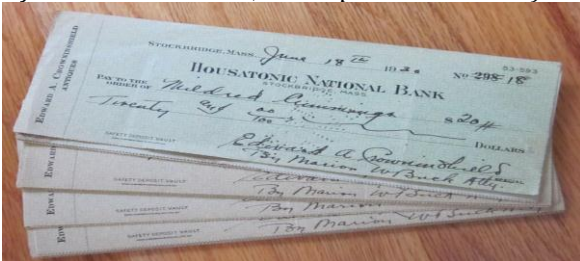
simanl@roadrunner.com

Maria L. Carr, Editor

Past issues may be accessed
at the Library website
stockbridgelibrary.org

Recent Donation

A group of checks made out in the 1930's on the Housatonic National Bank from Edward A. Crowninshield who ran an antique shop, "Antique Goods", on Main Street (according to the 1935-1937 Central Berkshire Directory) were donated to the Museum & Archives by Edward Johnston. Edward Crowninshield, the older brother of the rather well known Frank Crowninshield, had his antique shop at 48 Main St. (Corner House). He dealt mostly in china, ceramics and Chinese items. Most of the checks were made out by Marion W. Buck, Atty. who worked for him in the shop. Unfortunately, there is very little known about Edward who died in 1938. (Barbara would like to hear from anyone with information about him, his shop or Marion Buck)



OUR EXHIBIT CASES ARE EMPTY!

The Museum and Archives has acquired additional display cases for the downstairs lobby area. This broadens the display opportunities available for that area considerably.

Barbara would like to hear from anyone who has a collection that they would like to "show off to the public" in a secure display case. The opportunities are endless. The only criteria is that the collection needs a Stockbridge connection – meaning either a collection of someone from Stockbridge or a collection pertaining to Stockbridge in some regards.

Please contact Barbara at ballen@cwmar.org or 298-5501.

SHADES PRESENTATION

October 1st from 6 – 8 pm
Stop by and enjoy some light conversation with ghosts of Stockbridge's past or just sit and listen to a bit of history unfold.



Farms in Stockbridge That Bottled Their Own Milk

(Follow-up on article in our July 2011 issue)

Ed Cooper bottled milk at his farm on Castle Hill Road in Glendale per John Miller. Harold French let us know that Naumkeag bottled their own milk and sent it down to New York City along with eggs and veggies; and that Cherry Hill Farm (Swann) also bottled milk. Sue Bonak let us know that her husband's parents, Stanley & Anna Banach, had a dairy farm on Route 183 from 1924-1943 which was run by Peter Adams before them. Their home was 52 Glendale Rd. and the barn and cows were across the road. They delivered milk and cheese; but when pasteurization of milk became a law, it was too expensive to keep the farm running.

EDDIE TRUCHERO

A recent donation to the Museum and Archives came in the form of several uniform pieces. These were not military in nature; but were worn by Eddie Truchero who worked at Heaton Hall and the Red Lion Inn for over 50 years.

Heriberto Truchero (Eddie) was born March 15, 1893 in Spain. He was the seventh of eight children born to Nazario and Eugenia (Castellanos) Truchero. He received a normal education; but as he neared his later teen years the reality that he would be conscripted into the Spanish army became clear to him. Not wanting to join the military, he left Spain for the United States arriving in New York City in October of 1911. He settled down in the city, adopted the name Edward or Eddie and found work as a waiter at various restaurants.

In the spring of 1924 a friend asked him if he wanted to follow him to the Berkshires to work. Whatever the enticement may have been, a change of scenery or possibly better pay, Eddie decided to go and found work at Heaton Hall in Stockbridge working for the Treadway family. At that time the hotels were only seasonal; and that winter he followed the Treadways to Florida and found work there, returning to Stockbridge the following summer.

Eddie continued to work at Heaton Hall and the Red Lion Inn during the summer and head south for the winter to work. For a time in the late 1920's and early 1930's he also worked for Owen Johnson, author of popular youth books, at his Ingleside estate on Glendale Middle Road. All this changed in 1932 however. That year he met a young girl who lived on High Lawn Farm named Victoria Salcedo. She had come from Spain with her parents in the early part of the century. They quickly fell in love with each other and were married on November 4, 1933 at St. Mary's Church in Lee. As the hotel business was still seasonal, he still traveled to Florida; but now he took his family with him to escape the northern winters.

Eddie and Vicki lived on High Lawn Farm with Vicki's parents for a time; but eventually moved to Golden Hill Road in Lee. They had two children, Lawrence and Avelina. Eddie continued to work for the Treadways. The uniform at the Red Lion Inn consisted of a white shirt, black bow tie, red jacket and black trousers and cummerbund unless working in the kitchen in which case the cover jacket would be white. From time to time though, Eddie wore a distinctive tie and vest that his daughter had made of red with the outline of a lion in white. Avelina recounts that her father one day came home with a cat whose name was Koussevitzky. The Treadways had given it to him to take home because it kept knocking everything off the shelves. She also shared that her father used to sell chickens to the summer residents who lived along Stockbridge Bowl.

While working at the Red Lion Inn, Eddie decided to have a go at his own business. He purchased



Eddie Truchero at left working at the Red Lion

a small diner off Stockbridge's Main Street in January of 1965 and called it "Eddie's Restaurant". By March of 1966 he decided that it was one thing to tend bar and serve food; but quite another to run a restaurant. He sold the business to a young woman who had recently come to town. Her name was Alice Brock and the restaurant became Alice's Restaurant.

In the summer of 1971 Eddie celebrated 50 years of working for the Red Lion Inn. There was a celebration including an article in the Berkshire Eagle. Not long after, Eddie decided it was time for him to retire. He was nearing 80 years old and he wanted to take some time off to be with his family and to spend more time fishing at Hampton Beach. Eddie died on March 8, 1974 at his home in Lee.

The Museum and Archives is thrilled that his daughter, has donated parts of his uniform to the collection showing a different side of the Red Lion Inn.

By Joshua Hall, Museum & Archives Staff

RECENT DONATION

A scrapbook compiled by Charlotte Davis who was a companion to Mrs. Treadway has been donated to the Collection by



Lorna Walsh. It contains a wide range of information about the Treadway family including family and personal items as well as political. (Allen Treadway owned both Heaton Hall and the Red Lion Inn in Stockbridge. He was Moderator for the town as well as serving on the State Legislature and State Senate in the early 1900's.)

Rangemore Hall Follow-up (refer to the 2 previous issues)

We previously expounded on a large Hotel complex including golf, tennis & handball courts and swimming pool that was planned to be built in Stockbridge just north of the Housatonic town line. Sue Bonak informed us that the planned site was behind the home of Eugene Talbots (3 Pixley Hill Rd.); and that there is still a mound of dirt there where it was going to be built. Some of the people planning the complex stayed in the Bonak's house as boarders.

BOOTH FOLLOW UP

More information has been uncovered about the Booth family on Dugway Road which was in our last issue of the newsletter. Just to recap so you know who is who – William Henry Booth (referred to as Henry) married Alice Hawkins and they had a daughter Alice Booth. There was also Charlotte, who was probably Alice's daughter.

Josh Hall was able to locate some Booth graves in the cemetery in the "Potter's Field" area which is on the northwest side. As there are no headstones, it is still a mystery who is buried where. Also it was not Henry Booth who died in 1928 at the Gardner State Colony for the Insane as we had stated but his wife Alice (Hawkins) Booth. She had been sent to a mental hospital in Northampton in 1890 and from there transferred to Gardner State where she died at age 84. The town of Stockbridge paid \$127.67 in 1890 and then \$169.46 annually for her care/expenses.

According to one source, Charlotte Booth was the daughter of Alice Booth. Evidently Alice Booth worked in the Monument Mills in Housatonic and one of the foremen/managers had taken advantage of her. It is interesting that Alice's reclusiveness began around that same time.

Prior to Elm Street Market delivering groceries, the Booths shopped at the Glendale Store. Albert Adams would take the order and then deliver it to the house. If they needed something extra or something was forgotten then Charlotte would walk up to the store to get it. During the period when the Elm Street Market handled the groceries, William Hall remembers making the deliveries when he was a teenager. He writes "Mrs. Grey would send a list of supplies that Miss Booth needed and I would take them to her. I had to approach the house and call her name and then tell her that I had her food. She would then open the door and tell me to enter, the room was dark and she would be standing in the shadow, all you could see was her hat, long dress and her shotgun. She would point to the table to place the box of food and there would be a glass jar with a list for Mrs. Grey. The only piece of furniture that was in the room was an old lounge chair with a horse blanket and what looked like a buffalo robe on it for her bed."

Sue Bonak let us know that when a young girl, she and her friends would play a game to see who was daring enough to get as close to the "Witch" as possible without being afraid. She remembers Charlotte who was bent over when she walked using a walking stick and dressed in a black dress and hat or in the winter time a long coat, gloves and a scarf. The kids would sneak across the wooden bridge trying to be quiet; but always someone would start to giggle and they would turn and run back to the road. When she was older and wiser and less afraid she would leave a bag with cookies and candy on the bridge for Miss Booth which would always be gone the next day. Sue was working as a nurse at Fairview Hospital in 1982 when Charlotte was brought in. Her hair being very long and unclean, they had to cut it off while cleaning her up. Charlotte was very unhappy about her hair.

MUSEUM & ARCHIVES HOURS

Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday 9-5, Thursdays 9-1 and Saturdays 9-2

If you plan to spend time researching, it is always a good idea to call (298-5501) to check for availability.