

## Croydon Historical Society 2012

The ongoing work to enter the historic data in our possession into the computer software continues. Eventually this will be so helpful to the generations to come, but it is a huge task. We've appreciatively received items from the Gross family that are great contributions to our archives.

Some restorations were completed this year for the Museum possessions, including the portrait of Ruel Durkee and the Estey Organ. We had an afternoon performance on the organ in July. It has a soothing tone, and one can only imagine the families in the 1800's playing the organ for daily entertainment. Polly Durkee's portrait will be going for her restoration this year. Corbin Park history was the featured display, and the parlor was decorated for Christmas. Croydon Village School children toured the museum in September.



*Corbin Display* Park history



Mr. & Mrs. Morse?

Our collectible hand painted ornament design this year was the Forehand homestead on Ash Swamp Brook, home of Tom Howard today. It was beautifully painted and we've already nearly sold out. A couple may be available at the town office and past years too.. Our raffle of items donated by Verna James and Charlene Little went great and first prize went to Ed Roberts. (May have contributed to his fishing trip?)

The yard sale in June went nicely with the flat pavement of the parking lot to now utilize, and again will be scheduled in June 2013 along with the Grange having a book sale in the town hall that day as well. The tractor parade in August was well attended and hot dogs were enjoyed by all.

The oldest Croydon military veteran, Robert Nelson of Old Springfield Road, was honored again in November, at the annual dinner for the military families of Croydon. Again we were entertained by Croydon school children in 'inspirational' song, excellently coached by Amanda Leslie, and Newport scouts read the meaning of the American flag.



Patriotic vocalists!

Plans for our official 250<sup>th</sup> anniversary charter signing date of May 31st, 1763, will include the kick-off event this year with a Liberty tree planting on the museum lawn in May, probably inclusive of our annual meeting. The tree is a disease resistant elm, so common on New England lawns in years past. So, in 2013, Croydon will recognize our charter signing, but in 2016, we'll celebrate the settlement of Croydon's 250<sup>th</sup> anniversary – it's Sesqui-centennial. The writing of a historical update since the Bicentennial is underway, a big task with research, writing and compiling the significant events, people to recognize, changes the town has experienced. There's still a whole lot of work ahead of us and we would greatly accept any assistance or suggestions you may have.

We still seek help in the event planning for the celebration, some of you have probably considerable experience that will make things go smoothly, and have ideas of things to incorporate that the community will greatly enjoy participating in. Please contact us.

At the 2013 Community Day, we will be soliciting photos of town homes and families that reside here now, compiling a 2016 map. Please attend some of our programs and activities in 2013. Museum tours by appointment anytime.