



1736 Josiah Dennis Manse Museum



1801 Jericho Historical Center



1876 WDGs/Maritime Museum

**2018 Annual Appeal**

December 2018

Dear Friend(s) of the Dennis Historical Society,

Your response to last year's Annual Appeal was so supportive and helpful to the mission of our three Museums, *Preserving, Promoting and Presenting the History of Dennis*, that your Board has unanimously agreed to make *wish lists items* the theme again this year. Here is an update from the museums as to their progress during the year.

**The 1736 Josiah Dennis Manse Museum...**Everything has been purchased and used for the Josiah Dennis mannequin/costume project. The linen shirt, wool breeches and wool waistcoat are finished. The outer coat is complete except for sewing on about 3 dozen hand covered buttons. Josiah will soon be ready. He will be unveiled to the public when the Manse reopens for 2019, on Saturday, June 22nd. The work on Phebe is underway with the mannequin and much of the materials already purchased.

**The 1801 Jericho Historical Center...**We installed UV shades in all the windows in the barn for the protection of our collections, and we have refitted some of our dress forms with funds from previous years. However, we have not yet used the funds from the 2017 campaign. Your donations for the children's garden have been set aside for raised beds, soil, flower and vegetable plants. Although anxious to start digging and planting historical garden beds at Jericho, we decided to pause and begin with a comprehensive site plan for the property. We are hoping to proceed in 2019!

**1876 West Dennis Graded School/Maritime Museum...**Received the gift of a schooner model from one of our members. It was given to the Museum to honor Phyllis Horton and her tireless efforts to preserve the maritime history of Dennis. Because of this gift, your contributions from last year's appeal will be earmarked for future projects, or acquisitions. With this museum adequately funded from last year, the Annual Appeal Committee has decided on a new category for this year, **The Curator's Discretionary Fund**. The Committee hopes that this choice meets with everyone's approval.

Here are this year's project/categories in need of funding. We ask you to please give to the *wish list item* of your choice.

**1736 Josiah Dennis Manse** request is funding for a DuraReader Interpretive Sign to serve both the Manse and the West School House. Similar to the signs of the Dennis Conservation Trust and the one planned for the South Dennis Railroad Depot, this weather proof sign would be placed at the accessible parking area. It would display a combination of photographs and historical information about both the Manse and the school. Incorporating a QRT code scannable by cell phones, it would link to video tours of both buildings. Not only would this expand our open season to year-round for many, it would greatly improve our handicap accessibility. The cost of this endeavor would be approximately \$2,000.

**The Captain Baker House and Barn Museum** is hoping for \$1,500 to have period costumes made by a local seamstress. Adding to the historic feel and authenticity of our events, these would include, dresses, aprons, and caps for women docents; hats, pants and aprons for barn hands.

**The Curator's Discretionary Fund** is intended to make it possible for our curator, Phyllis Horton, to act quickly to bid at auction, or to purchase items to add to the Society's collections. There are times when the opportunity to make an acquisition is momentary. Giving someone with Phyllis's expertise the ability to act quickly on such an occasion can be of great importance. We are seeking \$2,000 for this purpose.

Thank you, in advance, for considering our request. We have enclosed a return envelope for your convenience. Your contributions will enable us to continue to fulfill our mission, preserving, promoting and presenting the History of Dennis.

With best wishes for a Joyous Holiday Season,

The Board of Directors of the Dennis Historical Society



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