**Dorr Rebellion Gala & Silent Auction — April 30**

**To benefit the Dorr Rebellion Museum**

**Wednesday April 30, 2008**

**Crystal Lake Golf Club**

**100 Bronco Highway**

**Burrillville, Rhode Island**

RSVP by April 23, 2008

Register online at glocesterheritagesociety.com or make check payable to Gloucester Heritage Society, P.O. Box 269, Chepachet, RI 02814

- **Memorial Day — Monday, May 26 — 10am**
  
  Gloucester Light Infantry extends a cordial invitation to GHS members to march in the parade. Please sign in before the parade at GLI Armory, corner of Dorr Drive and Douglas Hook Road or call 714-1708 A.S.A.P. Parade sets out from the Baptist Church - 1213 Putnam Pike at 10am.

- **Dorr Rebellion Days — June 20/21**
  
  We are encouraged by public acclamation toward our efforts through the years to heighten awareness of the importance of Dorr’s Rebellion which culminated at Chepachet. Dorr’s struggle for the fairness of voting rights extends to our rights today. This year Gloucester Light Infantry will host the State Militias’ Encampment. They plan a spectacular “NIGHT CANNON-FIRE” Friday evening June 20th. Saturday activities include re-enactments, marching drills, demonstrations. Public invited to visit encampment — Saturday 3-5. Watch for details in the Observer or on our website.

- **GHS Bake Sale is scheduled for Saturday, June 21, 10-2**
  
  at our headquarters at Job Armstrong’s Store.

Co-chairman: Glennis Beltram & Pauline Anderson.

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**Schedule of Events**

- **April 21**
  - Monday, 7pm General Meeting: Program “7th RI Infantry in the Civil War”

- **April 30**
  - Wednesday, 6pm Dorr Rebellion GALA & Silent Auction at Crystal Lake, Rt 102, Harrisville

- **May 19**
  - Monday, 7pm General Meeting

- **May 26**
  - Monday, 10am Memorial Day Parade

- **June 16**
  - Monday, 7pm General Meeting

- **June 20/21**
  - Friday/Saturday Dorr Rebellion Days in Chepachet

- **June 21**
  - Saturday, 10-2pm Bake Sale at Job Armstrong Store 1181 Putnam Pike
Thank You!

Jill & Frank Stevenson for their continuing support, keeping our website current.

Memo
Please save your DINO’S or BRIDGD’S grocery slips. They help with our overhead expenses. Bring them to meetings or send to P.O. Box 269, Chepachet.

Wanted
- Recording Secretary - to take notes at meetings, type them for permanent record and read them at the next meeting.
- Filing Clerk - to file reports in our office Thursdays or Saturdays.
- Treasurer - Our most dedicated Treasurer, Andy Andrews has handed in his resignation due to ill health. We were missing his professional knowledge already as he deposited his five boxes of files in the president’s living room. It is a vital position that we sincerely hope can be filled soon.

From an unpublished text by Gardis Thayer

“Dorr Rebellion...”
Charles Slocum was one of the Dorrites. (his wife) Lydia Olney Slocum was heart & soul with him and proof of her loyalty, named her baby daughter born that time – CANDACE DORR WILSON SLOCUM” (The Lydia Slocum house is now “The Town Trader”)

Historian’s note: Since deeds do not reveal a land transition during the 18th Century it is likely that the building was passed down in the Olney family to Lydia who married Charles Slocum in 1833, Lydia’s great-grandfather was Capt. Joseph Olney whose daughter, Dorcas married Dr. Reuben Mason. When Dorcas died, Dr. Mason’s and Dorcas’ only son James came to live with Capt. Joseph Olney and Esther (Smith) Olney, in the house now known as the Town Trader.

Hats off!
Along the street there comes
A blare of bugles,
a ruffle of drums,
A flash of color
beneath the sky,

Hats off!
The flag is passing by!
Blue and crimson
and white it shines,
Over the steel-tipped, ordered lines.

Hats off!
The colors before us fly,
But more than the flag is passing by.

Henry Holcomb Bennett

Memorial Contributions may be made to G.H.S. Endowment Fund. Your donations are tax deductible.

Earth Day - April 22
Make every day Earth (Day)!

Excerpts of a —
Letter from Elizabeth Mullins

1981 (Owner of a gristmill in West Gloucester)

I would have liked to have seen Nelson Platts gristmill restored... its first location was in Pascoag. I was told by Everett Burleigh that his father bought it from, I believe, Frank Sights and moved it to the Burleigh place. Neighbors... helped him reassemble it. Burleigh Reservoir was its source of power... an up-and-down swmill [was] there...

In 1936 I bought the Eddy Pray farm, formerly owned by S.S. Sweet on Old Gristmill Road, West Gloucester. The original house was gone, but gristmill & carriage shop, barn still survived.

1870 Atlas (shows 6 gristmills); John Stearns, A. Hawley & Son, T. Pitcham, S.M. Faine, Nelson Platts and mine.

Nelson had a stand on Rt 44 at the road to his place. We bought honey, jelly, blueberries, vegetables and cream from him...

On one visit to the mill the cobs were covered with a green... powder... (He was) grinding alfalfa for a doctor in Riverside who made alfalfa tablets for his patient.

The state of Rhode Island purchased the property to preserve it. However, the buildings presented a liability and all were destroyed.

First person historical information like this expands the knowledge of the town’s history.

Perhaps you, too, have a memory of a person, place or event that — without your written testimony, will never be a part of Gloucester’s history. Write it – please – so it can be added to our archives.

Earthy Day - April 22
Make every day Earth (Day)!

Pettingell/Mason House Update

The RFP (request for proposals) (Phase I) for an architect to design house interior is now being reviewed by Roberta Randall at RI Historical & Preservation Commission. Installation of “mechanicals (ie-electric, plumbing, heating, etc) may begin in the Fall with funds already granted to us from the Champlin Foundation. “Good things come to those who wait”

“Behind the Scenes”
Our February meeting was a banner evening with Dr. Clifford Brown, political science professor at Union College, Schenectady, N.Y., who held us spellbound with “Behind the Scenes” – President Tyler’s role in controlling the 1842 Dorr Rebellion. Several LaSalle students jotted notes for their history reports, and participation from the audience elicited even more fascinating facts in a Q&A session at the end. The room hummed with inspired discussion well after the program was finished. Refreshments were served by our ever - congenial hostess, Glennis Beltram.

Trees
The mighty elm will be staging a comeback thanks to the Gloucester Conservation Commission’s G.H.S. member Roy Najecki who announced the offer of free elms to be planted at the Pettingell/Mason house. Others may be planted along Main Street (where allowed).