Field Trips at OSV!

Old Sturbridge Academy

2017 Calendar of Events

Building Up the Allen Piggery

Reflecting on 10 Years at Old Sturbridge Village

a member magazine that keeps you coming back
Reflecting on 10 Years at Old Sturbridge Village

Jim Donahue, President and CEO

As I look back on ten years as President and CEO of Old Sturbridge Village, I am amazed at the journey we have taken to reach this point. While there have been some challenges, there have been many more wins during the last decade. I am honored to have been part of the Village during such an exciting period; we have grown as a museum and as a family around a shared love for one of New England’s beloved cultural institutions.

I am pleased to announce that the Village continues to grow. This year we will begin reconstructing the first building to be added to the campus since the Small House was built more than a decade ago. The John Partridge Allen Piggery is a perfect addition to the Village — it is from Sturbridge and was located across the street from the original site of the Freeman Farm. We are thrilled to be able to reconstruct the Piggery using historically appropriate methods thanks to the generosity of Overseer Gary Galonek and his family, who donated the building. Work will begin later this spring, and I encourage you to visit and see the progress.

We are also investing in the future — in exhibits and buildings, in reducing our carbon footprint, and in continuing to strengthen the Village’s finances. I am often surprised at the cost of our energy bills. For a Village where most of the buildings do not have electric lights, the museum’s electric bill is a significant portion of our expenses each year. That is why I am excited to share that in December 2016 a ten acre solar array was installed in a field hidden behind the Village that will generate more than half of our annual electricity needs. It will be up and running by the summer.

Education continues to be a top priority at the Village. We serve more than 55,000 students each year, and this spring marks the launch of a new set of programs for students and teachers. As you will read in this issue, those programs combined with the opening of our own public school, the Old Sturbridge Academy Charter Public School, will transform education at the Village and in the region.

Time marches on, and with it comes the loss of family and friends. The past year saw a number of current and former employees, members, and friends pass away. Each had a significant impact on the Village in his or her own way. In this issue, we particularly remember the generosity of Marjorie Butcher, who passed away last April. Marjorie was a longtime member, beloved Overseer, and good friend who truly loved the Village. Marjorie and her late husband, Robert, generously provided for the Village in their will, creating a significant Endowment Fund that will support the Village for many years to come.

I am looking forward to the Village’s exciting future, and I hope that the pages of this issue of the Visitor will inspire you to visit and take advantage of all of your member benefits, as well as experience new events scheduled throughout the season. From Family Farm Fest in April to the beloved Redcoats and Rebels in August, as well as an expanded transportation festival in June, there is a lot to see and do at Old Sturbridge Village. I hope to see you in the Village soon!

Sincerely,

Jim Donahue
OSV President and CEO
Welcome to the SPRING/SUMMER edition of our VISITOR magazine. We hope that you will learn new things and visit the Village soon.

In This Issue:

2 Reflecting on 10 Years at Old Sturbridge Village
4 Field Trips at OSV!
6 “Stories of my Childhood”: Early 19th Century Children’s Books
8 Building Up the Allen Piggery
11 Family Farm Fest
12 2017 Calendar of Events
14 Old Sturbridge Academy: New opportunities in education
16 10th Annual Gala
17 Marjorie Butcher’s Lasting Legacy
18 A Solar Success Story
20 A Legacy in Ironwork: Rob Lyon
22 2016 Year in Review: Acquisitions
FIELD TRIPS AT OSV!

Emily Dunnack, Director of Education

Old Sturbridge Village field trips and education programs have been one of the greatest traditions among schools throughout Massachusetts and beyond for generations. Last year, we served approximately 55,000 students through our museum education programs. The majority of school groups come from Massachusetts and Connecticut, but we also see substantial numbers from other New England states, New York, and a few groups travelling from further away (Pennsylvania! Ohio! California!) during special weeklong trips around New England.

Not only do students have fun exploring the historic rural New England village, but the dynamic, hands-on lessons they receive in history, agriculture, and sciences stay with them long after they return to the classroom. Field trips can increase student knowledge and understanding of a subject, add realism to the topic of study, and provide an opportunity to develop and enhance students’ socialization and citizenship skills.

The Village continues to be a leader in non-traditional learning experiences, and our newest step in achieving that goal is piloting an improved and restructured educational program for students. Since I came to the Village last year, we have introduced some changes to our existing education experience to provide even more options for teachers and students.

I have been working with interpretive and education staff to restructure our current field trip program, which we piloted in September. Our new educational offerings include self-guided exploration, focused civic interactive programs, immersive hands-on activities, and learning laboratories that connect science, engineering, and social studies through the Village’s unique 1830s historical perspective.

Thanks to a grant from The Scripps Family Fund for Education and the Arts, we have been able to more fully develop one of our new programs, Connect + Explore. The Fund’s grant assisted with curriculum development and materials costs for the program, and we greatly appreciate its support of education at Old Sturbridge Village.

Under the new structure, our field trip options are broken up into five categories, which offer teachers the ability to choose the best fit for their classroom. Teachers and students have been thrilled with the new programs, and we are excited to begin the next season of field trips and continue improving and refining education programs for visiting schools.

Each educational option offers different levels of activities and subject matters, ensuring that teachers can work with museum staff and adapt the experience to the needs of their students and curriculum. Many of these programs are enhanced or redesigned versions of previously offered programs, such as the “Make + Explore” experience that builds upon our existing hands-on crafts workshops.

We are very excited to welcome students and teachers to the Village for these new field trip programs as we continue to build our educational offerings. Thank you again to all our supporters who make these programs possible.

OPTION 1: EXPLORE

School, scout, and youth groups are invited to explore Old Sturbridge Village’s 200 acres and discover New England history. Whether a group is visiting for three hours or all day, they can curate their experience on this self-guided visit. New this past fall, 3rd-8th grade groups have the option to use our themed Make History Guides to explore the Village. Themes include “Cooking Curiosities,” “Amazing Agriculture,” and “Making It.”

Upon arrival at the museum, educators can pick up free Make History Guides and pencils for each youth.
OPTION 2: MAKE + EXPLORE

In addition to exploring Old Sturbridge Village, students can participate in hands-on workshops in our Museum Education Center. Students work in small groups with a museum educator for a 50-minute, hands-on experience that allows them to try some of the activities they’ll see costumed historians doing in the Village—such as hearth cooking, farming, working with textiles, and printing. Through inquiry and analysis, students make connections and comparisons to life today. All students will make something to take home as a memento of their trip.

OPTION 3: CONNECT + EXPLORE

New this year, groups are invited to a 30-minute experience in our theater led jointly by a costumed historian and a museum educator. These innovative sessions connect 19th-century science, engineering, and social studies to today. Part show-and-tell and part learning laboratory, these interactive, themed discussions include multi-media displays, artifacts from the museum’s collection, demonstrations, and a whole lot of fun!

April and May 2017 – Food for Keeps: Delve into the science of historic food preservation, including salting, drying, brining, and smoking. Students will learn about the intersections of chemistry and preserving food both today and in the past.

May and June 2017 – Energy Exploration: Compare how people in the 1830s and today harness the Earth’s natural resources to generate power. From water-powered mills and wood-burning hearths to solar energy and wind farms, students will learn about the changing landscape of generating energy.

OPTION 4: PARTICIPATE + EXPLORE

Students can participate in My Voice, My Vote—a mock town meeting where they learn how local government functions. Classes will explore the essential question “How should our town care for its poorest citizens?” Throughout the museum, students interview Villagers to gather different points of view and then join a costumed moderator at the Center Meetinghouse to debate and vote on the issue. This interactive program encourages students to think critically, form arguments, and back up their opinions using historical information.

OPTION 5: IMMERSE + EXPLORE

Cooking a 19th-Century Meal

Students work as a team to prepare a hearth-cooked meal using 19th-century methods and utensils. As they eat together, students compare historic dining customs and etiquette with modern meals.

History Immersion

Recommended for 2nd through 12th grades, Old Sturbridge Village offers schools and youth programs multi-day, immersive educational experiences that are customized based on the group’s goals. Experiences may include dressing in 19th-century costume, roleplaying and performing, cooking over an open hearth, or apprenticing in a trade shop. These hands-on, content-rich experiences provide a stimulating, multi-sensory immersion into the past.

For more information, email osved@osv.org
Children’s books have always had the power to amuse, delight, and instruct, whether they are 20th-century classics like *Charlotte’s Web*, *Goodnight Moon*, and *A Little Princess* or newer favorites like the quirky *Pete the Cat* or *Captain Underpants*. While the bright colors and silly stories of modern children’s literature vary from the black and white pictures and lengthy text of early 19th-century children’s books, there are also marked similarities. Parents of both eras recognized that books could be powerful teaching tools – instructing children in their ABCs while reinforcing proper behavior and other desirable character traits.

While *Pete the Cat* (Eric Litwin, 2008) may seem like a silly story about a goofy cat, the theme of optimism and good behavior in the face of misfortune mirrors many of the 19th-century children’s tales designed to encourage good behavior even in the face of adversity.

An increasing awareness of childhood as a crucial developmental period pervaded early 19th-century advice literature on childrearing. Popular advice authors from Lydia Maria Child to William Alcott underscored the importance of early education at home – especially in teaching children religious ideals and social norms. They advised that proper moral instruction at home could help mold children to society’s expectations of obedience, respect, piety, and civic duty, and encouraged the use of children’s books to help teach these lessons.

Increasing affluence and consumerism in early 19th-century New England meant that more parents had the means to purchase small books for their children. These small “toy” books were often given as presents and would have certainly been cherished by the recipient. Many of these books were composed of simple black and white pictures (although hand-colored books could be purchased) and challenging vocabulary – vastly different from the colorful and simply-worded children’s books of today. Some of the smallest books measured 2 inches by 3 inches and contained only a handful of pages. Larger, elaborate, bound volumes of collected stories and poems were also available for young readers.

These early books offer an interesting assortment of tales. Some are silly and comical like the tales of Dame Trot and her cat. Others are more serious, dramatic, and even sinister – like the early 19th-century book *Children in the Wood*, which tells the story of two children adopted by an evil uncle and left to die in the woods. Some books exposed children to exotic cultures and animals through pictures and brief stories. Imagine a child in the early 19th century, not jaded by television, movies, and the internet, reading about lions and leopards or trying to imagine people from the far corners of the globe like Persia and China. No doubt children were fascinated by images of ferocious animals or distant places that they had never seen and likely would never see.

Books of games and childhood pastimes like *Youthful Recreations* (1810) encouraged children in active but appropriate play like battledore and shuttlecock (what we would call badminton) or blind man’s bluff. Other books reinforced gender roles and responsibilities, like *The Girl’s Picture Book* (1843), which idealized images of...
proper nurturing female behavior and symbols of domesticity including rocking a baby in a cradle, using a teakettle, and running a spinning wheel. Many books encouraged respect and love for nature through gardening or observing and studying plants and animals. Yet more books, especially the numerous books published by the American Sunday School Union, sought to instill religious sensibilities into their young readers.

Whether overt or subtle, nearly all of these little books had a moral lesson to impart to mold and shape a child’s character. Some books were obvious appeals to children to behave well, like *The Good Little Boy’s Book* (1843). In the introduction, the author admits that he “did write a book to give them a hint of their several errors and failings; but it was all done in a good natured way, with no other view than to render them more amiable and beloved.” The short stories have titles such as “The Good Little Boy,” “The Covetous Little Boy,” and “The Quarrelsome Little Boy.” Needless to say, the quarrelsome youth, Anthony Crabbe, ends up shunned by the other little boys because of his bad behavior. The good little boy, Richard Best, ends up beloved and respected by all.

The small volume *The Wonderful History of an Enchanted Castle* (1810) tells of a giant king who is beloved and treats his subjects equally and, as a result, his subjects are equally polite and well-mannered. The story quickly develops into a simple morality lesson as children are brought before the king and are asked to recite an alphabet poem with verses such as “Y is a youth who lov’d reading and writing/ Which he found was far better than swearing and fighting.” If the child passes the wise king’s test, he is taken to meet the king’s family – Lady Good Example and her daughters, Miss Piety, Miss Charity, Miss Patience, Miss Prudence, and Miss Sobriety.

These tales are often heavy-handed in their message. Even the characters’ names are a blatant message to the readers, such as with the cautionary tales of *Jack Hasty, John White and His Lottery Ticket,* and *Lazy Lawrence.* Jack Hasty warns of the wrongs of impatience and anger. John White, against his wife’s sage advice, buys a lottery ticket. When he draws a blank (i.e. gets a losing ticket), he is tempted to buy another, and soon falls into heavy drinking and abandons his family. The story ends with John dying horribly, mangled in a ditch. *Lazy Lawrence,* by contrast, shows the possibility of redemption: Lawrence is brought up in idleness by a drunken father and succumbs to gambling and theft. He attempts to steal money from the industrious and virtuous little boy Jem Preston, but when he is caught Jem speaks up for Lawrence and helps him become an industrious and upstanding youth by the end of the story.

Time and time again, 19th-century children’s books reinforced appropriate behavior by rewarding good characters with contentment and good luck for being obedient, respectful, virtuous, and above all pious. Wicked characters given to the vices of intemperance, thievery, idleness, and cruelty invariably receive their just desserts or are redeemed by benefactors who show them the error of their ways. No flawed heroes here!

Whether in early New England or today, children treasured their favorite books not only for the merits of the books themselves but for people who gave or were associated with them. Authors and parents alike realized the power of books to entertain and excite the imagination, to instruct and provide knowledge, and to shape and mold young minds and characters. One wonders what future readers will think of our beloved childhood books and stories.
When Pliny Freeman and his family lived in what is now our Freeman Farmhouse from 1828 to 1851, it sat a little less than two miles south of Old Sturbridge Village, facing the road that runs from the center of Sturbridge to Union, Connecticut. Today it is called Haynes Street as it leaves the center of town, then becomes “Old Route 15” by the time it reaches the original location of the Freeman house, parallel with Route 84. When Freeman looked out his front door across that road, he saw his neighbor John Partridge Allen’s farm. A lane, now called Kelly Road, ran off to the east towards Allen’s house and barn. Pliny knew Allen’s farm well. Not only had Allen been a neighbor since the Freemans moved in, but Allen’s land had once briefly belonged to Pliny’s brother Samuel, and before that to their father, Comfort Freeman.

Like many farm families in Sturbridge, the Allens were caught up in the commercial revolution of the early 1800s. To make the money needed to buy a growing list of luxuries-turned-necessities, the Allens produced butter and cheese for sale, and raised sheep so that they could sell wool to area textile mills. Besides farming, the Allen household also made and sold cloth. John Partridge Allen also made shoes for distant markets, attaching soles and heels to pre-sewn uppers. He was one of fifty Sturbridge residents who did so in the 1830s. Since no outbuildings on his own property had sufficient light for such work, quite likely Allen made those shoes in a workshop on Freeman’s farm, alongside Pliny’s son-in-law John May, who had married Pliny’s daughter Delia in 1833.

In 1831 John Partridge Allen added a large woodshed near his house, with shelter for pigs below it. That was not an uncommon arrangement for farmers in this area. Deed records indicate an earlier woodshed on the farm had also served such a dual purpose.

Keeping pigs was an important activity on most early New England farms. Even some families that did not farm kept a pig or two. Swine are efficient meat producers, growing from a few pounds to a few hundred pounds in less than a year. Pigs are also relatively easy to keep. They could be cheaply fed on farm and household waste, especially “dairy wash:” the whey, skim-milk and butter-milk left over from the making of butter and cheese, important products of most early 19th-century New England farms. As a result, pork was the most common meat in the Yankee diet.

In the 1700s, most New England farmers let their pigs forage freely in the forests and roadways. These were raw-boned, lank-sided, and long-snouted creatures, able to fend for themselves. Indeed, even into the 1830s and beyond most American cities outside of New England, including New York and Cincinnati, allowed pigs to roam the streets at will.

From about the 1790s, growing demand for pork led to the popularity of improved porcine breeds with small bones and short legs. These included the Chinese, Leicestershire, Byfield, Russia, Bedford, and Irish Grazier breeds. Some farmers in Sturbridge favored a Grass-fed and Leicestershire cross called the Rose, a white pig with a blaze on the back. The most popular new breed in the 1830s was the Berkshire (from Berkshire, England), a reddish-brown pig with black spots (or sometimes black with white points). The Berkshires were so fat that they could not be driven on the hoof to urban markets, as was the common practice.
with most livestock in the early 1800s, but had to be butchered on site and the pork shipped in barrels.

We do not know what specific type of pigs Allen, Freeman, or most Sturbridge farmers kept, but by the 1820s most towns in this area had banned pigs from running at large. Roaming pigs too often damaged crops, and so were instead kept in pens. Increased dairy production and the resulting surplus of whey, skim and butter-milk as pig-feed further facilitated the penning of swine. Keeping pigs confined also allowed valuable manure to be saved for fertilizing farm fields.

Most early New England farmers did not breed their own pigs but bought a couple of piglets each spring, and in the fall butchered what had grown into a couple of fat hogs weighing between 200 and 400 pounds apiece. Pigs not needed for family consumption were sold in the fall to drovers, who walked them to urban markets. However, some farmers had to keep an adult boar and a few sows as breeders to supply their neighbors with feeder piglets come April.

One of the relatively few Sturbridge farmers who bred pigs was John Partridge Allen. He was usually taxed for more pigs than most, although precisely how many swine any farmer had is impossible to know, because only animals over six months old were subject to tax. In 1837 or 1838, Allen added one more structure to his farm to make the raising of pigs easier and more efficient: a two-bay, 14’ x 15’ timber-framed piggery, built into a slope just south of his house and barn. Perhaps Allen hired his neighbor Pliny Freeman, a carpenter, to build it for him. But because Allen’s and Freeman’s account books have not survived, we can never know for sure who built Allen’s piggery.

Allen’s new farm building was the “state of the art” in porcine accommodations. It incorporated most of the features recommended in early 19th-century agricultural periodicals like Thomas G. Fessenden’s popular weekly, *The New England Farmer*, along with English advice books like Robert Henderson’s *Treatise of the Breeding of Swine*. Such publications combined advice along with anecdotal examples and testimonials of other farmers.

What was the piggery like? A stone-lined well for ready access to fresh water was just outside the door into the Allen Piggery. Inside the door was a brick hearth to support a large cast-iron set-kettle. Period advice literature recommended cooked grains, potatoes, pumpkins, and various root vegetables such as carrots, turnips, and mangelwurzels – either boiled or steamed – for fattening swine in the fall. The floor of that first bay was paved with flat, dry-laid stones around the hearth. Against the interior wooden wall dividing the two bays were two chutes to convey slop to hungry porkers below. Stairs against that wall led a few steps up into the second bay. That upper level held a granary with wooden bins for storing dry feed. Enclosed shelter for pigs was located below the granary, with two sliding exterior doors opening vertically to allow access to the sty.

John Partridge Allen suffered a fatal stroke in 1843. His farm was sold to pay his debts, and it passed through many hands over the years. In the early 1990s OSV researchers extensively studied and documented the Allen house, barn, and piggery. The piggery is one of a very few of its type in New England that has survived, albeit with some replaced elements and significant decay. In 2014 the piggery was generously donated to Old Sturbridge Village by local businessman and OSV Overseer Gary Galonek and his wife, Beckie.
The Galoneks donated the building in memory of longtime Sturbridge teacher Alice Kelly, who taught at the Center School and was the last person to live in the Kelly Road farmhouse. Carpenters from the Village Maintenance department carefully disassembled the piggery to save it from the further depredations of nature and vandals, labeling each beam and brace as they went.

We will soon begin to restore and re-erect the Allen Piggery here at Old Sturbridge Village and return it to its original purpose. Appropriately it will become part of our Pliny Freeman farm, built into the slope off the road between the Freeman kitchen garden and the Brooks pottery shop. Some of its decayed oak and pine timbers will have to be copied and replaced, although we will retain as many original beams as possible. Replacements will either be cut at our water-powered sawmill or hand-hewn by costumed historians, as appropriate to each timber. Our historically costumed carpenters will then cut the mortise and tenon joints to fasten pieces together before the frame is raised back up on a new foundation. The original siding and roofing on the piggery were replaced sometime in the 20th century, so boards cut in our “up and down” sawmill will be used to side and roof the structure. Cedar shingles will then be applied to the roof.

Restoring a historic structure is a more involved process than building a new one. Some concessions will have to be made to 21st-century rules and regulations, as well as in a few practical matters. Still, we hope to make the project as educational as possible. Since each step along the way will be part of a public demonstration, things will not go quickly. Our costumed carpenters will not refuse to answer visitors’ questions in order to meet a deadline!

When the Allen Piggery is finally completed, it will welcome new porcine residents to what would have been very agriculturally progressive living quarters for the 1830s. We are not yet sure if we will resume breeding our own pigs, but the Allen Piggery can accommodate more animals than our current simple pig shed and sty. The new building could very well supply pork for our historic foodways programming and be incorporated along with the other animals tended at the Village. We hope that John Partridge Allen and his neighbor Pliny Freeman, as well as their pigs, would be pleased. We know our visitors will be!
Meeting newborn lambs at Old Sturbridge Village is a sure sign of spring and has become an annual tradition for thousands of families during Family Farm Fest, now in its third year. This year’s little lambs will be joined by calves, goats, alpacas, donkeys, and turkeys. Family Farm Fest takes place during Massachusetts spring school vacation week, April 15-23. Highlights include hay rides, plowing with the Village oxen, youth “Barnyard Games,” and portrayals of famed Little House on the Prairie author Laura Ingalls Wilder by historian Melanie Stringer.

The centerpiece of Family Farm Fest is an animal nursery where young and old can meet the Village’s own newborn farm animals and visiting “guests” from area farms. In the Center Meetinghouse on Saturdays and Sundays, early American music concerts will fill the air with the happy sounds of spring.

Springtime was a season of hard work for farmers in early New England. During Family Farm Fest, Old Sturbridge Village historians will demonstrate the many tasks involved in spring planting – plowing with the oxen, harrowing, spreading manure on the fields, digging and prepping garden beds, fence-making, composting, and planting.

On the weekends, teams of oxen from throughout New England will tour the Village. These working animals were essential to completing farm work, and visitors have been fascinated by the strength of these animals, the training required for their success, and the many different breeds represented at the event.

The Village’s horticulture staff will present daily talks and tours about gardening, with special emphasis on the Parsonage Garden and Freeman Farm, and offer instruction on creating and using a “hot frame” for tender fruit and vegetable seedlings. Costumed farm interpreters will give daily talks about the antique instruments on display in the Fitch Barn and other topics. Families and couples will also enjoy a hay wagon ride through the Village.

Every day during the event, historical re-enactor Melanie Stringer will portray author Laura Ingalls Wilder, of Little House on the Prairie fame. Stringer will enthral audiences with Wilder’s stories about growing up on the frontier, and what it was like for a young woman to raise a family and have a career in the 19th century. Stringer provides research-based, factual information about Laura, her husband, Almanzo, daughter Rose, and their family and friends. Her in-character answers to questions from the audience will reflect Wilder’s known activities, tastes, opinions, experiences, beliefs, and manners.

For more details, visit the event page on our website: www.osv.org.
Old Sturbridge Village
2017 Calendar
OF EVENTS

April

**Family Farm Fest, Great Easter Egg Hunt and Patriots’ Day** School Vacation Week | April 15 – 23
Celebrate spring and the arrival of the Village’s baby animals. This year meet dozens of baby farm animals including lambs, piglets, calves, chicks, kids and ducklings. Throughout *Family Farm Fest*, guests can see timber-framing demonstrations, meet an interpreter portraying Laura Ingalls Wilder, participate in farm yard games, and learn about 19th-century agriculture. On weekends, teams of oxen will work the Village’s fields and roots musician Hannah Rose Baker and Friends (April 15 & 16) and legendary folk musician Jeff Warner (April 22 & 23) will perform in the historic Center Meetinghouse.

Kids are invited to the Village’s *Great Easter Egg Hunt* on Sunday, April 16, and special Patriots’ Day activities will take place on Monday, April 17.

May

**Mother’s Day** | May 14
Sponsored by Harvard Pilgrim Health Care, mothers and grandmothers receive free admission to Old Sturbridge Village to commemorate Mother’s Day. Family events are planned throughout the day, including demonstrations of cooking for moms and children, hands-on crafts, and live performances. Regular exhibits, such as the tinsmith, potter and blacksmith, will focus on items for families and children.

**Wool Days** | May 27 – 29
Guests are invited to watch Village farmers shear our heritage-breed sheep, as well as watch costumed historians demonstrate the entire wool textile process – from cleaning and carding the wool, to spinning yarn and knitting. Guests can also meet visiting alpacas and llamas, and experience craft demonstrations by New England artisans.

June

**Movin’ Through History: A Celebration of Transportation** | June 10 & 11
This year Old Sturbridge Village is saluting the history of transportation in New England. Beginning with the Village’s annual antique car rally, more than 100 automobiles from 1946 and earlier will be displayed on the Village’s common. In addition, two dozen historical bicycles and their riders will travel through the Village, along with horse-drawn carriages. Throughout the weekend, guests can purchase wagon, boat and pony rides.
June

**Father’s Day** | June 10
Free admission for all fathers and grandfathers on this special day, with talks and tours related to fatherhood in the 19th century, as well as grilled foods available for purchase.

July

**Independence: 4th of July** | July 1 – 4
There is only one place in New England where families can experience an old-fashioned, quintessential 4th of July, and that’s at Old Sturbridge Village. In fact, the Village’s Independence Day celebration is so packed full of fun that we are celebrating for four days!

Each day families are invited to take part in the citizens’ parade, march with the militia, play 19th-century baseball or farm yard games, and create red white and blue crafts. New this year, guests can enjoy a theatrical performance about the Declaration of Independence, a musical patriotic concert in the historic Center Meetinghouse, and on July 4th, the moving Naturalization Ceremony. Also this year, guests can purchase a picnic lunch that can be enjoyed on the tranquil Village Common or at an outdoor musical stage.

**Craft Beer & Roots Music Festival** | July 23 | 11 am – 7 pm
This year Old Sturbridge Village is expanding its craft beer festival to include more brews, bands and bites than ever before! More than 30 craft breweries from across New England will be represented – providing visitors an opportunity to sample and purchase some of the region’s top beers, ciders and ales, as well as farm-to-table fare. At five indoor and outdoor stages, 15 musical artists and bands will bring the sounds of Americana, bluegrass, country, folk and roots music to Old Sturbridge Village. The day will conclude with a special concert by a to-be-announced headliner.

August

**Redcoats and Rebels** | August 5 & 6
Experience New England’s largest military re-enactment with more than 1,000 reenactors portraying Colonial, British, Irish, Spanish, Scottish and French troops. This must-see event transforms Old Sturbridge Village into a Revolutionary War military encampment filled with period tents and cook sites. Both days feature mock battles, cannon and cavalry demonstrations, and fife-and-drum performances.

New this year is a *Redcoats and Rebels* VIP Experience on Saturday that will include admission to Redcoats, complimentary refreshments, an immersive tour of a campsite, a period-inspired dinner, access to Twilight Encampment, and a commemorative T-shirt.
excitement is in the air! Here at Old Sturbridge Village you can almost taste the anticipation that is building. After years of planning, preparation, and a rigorous application process, Old Sturbridge Academy Charter Public School was granted a charter on February 27 by the Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education. The vision of Jim Donahue and the Old Sturbridge Village Board of Trustees is finally becoming a reality.

Old Sturbridge Academy will be a school where children with differing learning styles and abilities can succeed, and teachers and students alike will model the values of OSV: authenticity, integrity, quality, compassion, and kindness. This vision will become reality in August when Old Sturbridge Academy opens its doors to 160 students from the towns of Brimfield, Brookfield, East Brookfield, Holland, Monson, North Brookfield, Palmer, Southbridge, Spencer, Sturbridge, Wales, and Webster. Students chosen by lottery on March 4 make up the first classes from kindergarten to third grade. Planning for a slow, manageable growth, the school will add a new grade level each year as the children grow until it reaches its full capacity of 360 students in grades K–8.

A school at OSV is not a new idea. From 1950 to 1951 OSV ran a small school in a building on the Common where the Asa Knight Store now stands. In addition to the regular curriculum, the school emphasized craft instruction. While that school only lasted a year, it began a long tradition of immersive education. For over 70 years, OSV has been providing educational programs and experiences to students, teachers, and families through self-guided visits, camps, internships, craft workshops, and special programs such as Dinner in a Country Village. Old Sturbridge Academy is a natural extension of the Village’s mission and long tradition of hands-on learning.

The Village offers a plethora of unique resources for educational programs: more than 200 acres of landscape that includes pastures, woods, waterways, gardens and a vernal pool, working farms, craft shops and behind-the-scenes spaces such as a greenhouse, research library, and a collection of over 60,000 artifacts. OSV has the ability to provide a distinctive extension to the classroom, and Old Sturbridge Academy students and their teachers will have...
unparalleled daily access to all of these rich resources.

Most important, they will have access to the Village’s biggest asset: a skilled and knowledgeable staff ready to support curriculum, instruction, and high student achievement. The school’s teachers will work with OSV’s diverse and talented interpreters and education staff on projects that tie modern school curriculum to the historic lessons throughout the Village. They might spend a biology unit working behind the scenes in the greenhouse with our staff horticulturist, a physics unit exploring water power at the historic sawmill, or learn about simple chemical reactions like saponification by making soap with the historians at the Freeman Farmhouse.

In order to accomplish the vision and ensure the success of Old Sturbridge Academy, the Village has partnered with EL Education (formerly Expeditionary Learning), founded in 1991 as a collaboration of Outward Bound and the Harvard Graduate School of Education. EL Education, a network of over 160 schools nationwide, provides curriculum frameworks and support of educational resources for school staff.

The vision of the founders of Old Sturbridge Village and the founders of EL Education, although over 50 years apart, closely align. Documents in the OSV archives state that the Wells family’s vision was “a particularly American notion – that of learning by doing and direct experience – a belief that activity, engagement, sensory stimulation, and participation were vital parts of education.” Compare this philosophy to that of EL Education: “Our approach connects students to real-world issues and needs. Project-based learning, case studies, fieldwork, and service learning inspire students to think and work as professionals, contributing high-quality work to authentic audiences beyond the classroom. Classrooms are alive with discovery, inquiry, critical thinking, problem solving, and collaboration.”

EL Education’s philosophy, like that of the Wells family, is “Learning by Doing.” Instead of teaching children to be quiet and sit still while the teacher lectures, EL Education encourages teachers to make students active participants in each lesson — which is especially important for engaging students of different learning abilities. EL Education combines challenging work with the joy of discovery and pride in mastery to provide an education that prepares students to become citizens who possess the skills and the character necessary for success in work and life.

To simply refer to Old Sturbridge Academy as “unique” is truly an understatement! Old Sturbridge Academy boasts a series of “firsts.” It is the first charter school in New England founded and managed by a museum, and only the second in the country. The only other charter school founded and managed by a museum is the Henry Ford Academy in Dearborn, MI, opened in 1997. Old Sturbridge Academy is also the first charter school and the first EL Education school in southern Worcester County.

The school has several distinctive features that make it a pioneer in the field of museum-driven education. Old Sturbridge Academy will gather the entire school together daily for Morning Meeting, a time to develop school culture. Wednesdays will feature a weekly Town Meeting with a focus on nonacademic goals followed by an afternoon of Discovery Experiences in the Village. Traditional parent/teacher conferences will be student-led, where the students facilitate the discussion of their progress and set goals for the upcoming semester. Every semester families will attend Celebrations of Learning, events that provide a forum for students to share their work with families, friends, and classmates. Capstone projects for 8th graders are designed to provide an opportunity to deeply explore a specified interest developed over their time at Old Sturbridge Academy and accumulate work experience, learning about job and career prospects.

Imagine a school day where students are encouraged to delve deeper into a subject and get their hands dirty doing it. Learning Expeditions are
the hallmark of EL Education’s instructional model. Learning Expeditions are composed of eight- to ten-week interdisciplinary projects that encourage critical thinking and problem solving through imagination, exploration, and immersion. These projects ensure that the historic village is an extension of the classroom – including all of OSV’s heritage breed animals, heirloom plants, and ancient trades.

During a kindergarten unit on Native American culture, students will visit the Freeman Farm garden to understand the plants that Native Americans introduced to the early European settlers and help plant the three sisters: beans, squash, and corn. Later, they will expand upon the history lesson by learning to cook samp (corn porridge) over an open hearth. Fourth grade students will spend several weeks in a physics and agriculture unit learning about simple machines such as plows, pulleys, spinning wheels, and wheelbarrows, and how they fit into farm work in the 1830s and today. Throughout the school year the students will “learn by doing,” whether individually, in small groups, or as a whole school. From tapping trees for maple sugaring to processing newly sheared wool, Old Sturbridge Academy students will become experts by delving deeper into many subjects.

Old Sturbridge Academy will be a school in which all students can learn, regardless of ethnicity, socioeconomic status, family background, race, disability, or state of health. Values of empathy, integrity, respect, and compassion will be prized along with initiative, responsibility, perseverance, and collaboration. It will be not only a school, but also a community where families come together to celebrate learning and student achievements through performances, picnics, games nights, potlucks, and holiday festivals. This is the vision for Old Sturbridge Academy, a vision that is about to become a dream come true for so many students.

SAVE the DATE

10th Annual Old Sturbridge Village Gala
Saturday, September 16, 2017
Oliver Wight Tavern • Old Sturbridge Village
Sturbridge, Massachusetts

Susan Wornick, former WCVB anchor
Gala Master of Ceremonies

To purchase tickets or for further information contact us at 508-347-0210 or gala@osv.org
ne Saturday in the fall of 2012, I had the opportunity to accompany an Overseer to and from the annual Overseers’ Meeting. At the appointed hour, and unsure what to expect, I arrived at a small, neat house in West Hartford, Connecticut, where I met Marjorie Butcher. In her early eighties, she felt that making the drive to the Village was a bit too much for her. But the drive was not just about bringing her to the Village, it was a privilege to have Marjorie’s undivided attention for an hour or two. She offered advice and stories about her life, while also asking knowledgeable questions about the Village and its staff.

During that drive and the day that followed, Marjorie’s two loves were at the forefront of the conversation: Old Sturbridge Village and Trinity College. Marjorie and her husband, the late Robert Butcher, were both applied mathematicians. He spent many years as an actuary for Traveler’s Insurance, and she was Trinity College’s first female faculty member and beloved by the mathematics department.

On weekends and holidays, the Butchers visited the Village and came to love the beauty and history of the museum. They first became members in 1960, and Marjorie celebrated her 50th anniversary as a member in 2010 with President and CEO Jim Donahue.

After the 2012 Overseers’ Meeting and a lovely lunch with friend and fellow Overseer Dorothy Fullam, Marjorie insisted that she and I make the walk from the Visitor Center to the Freeman Farm and back—she wanted to see the whole Village that day! We walked and talked, and I count myself lucky to have spent the day in her company.

Throughout the years, Marjorie’s fondness for Old Sturbridge Village was clear. She cared deeply for the museum and appreciated everything that went into sustaining it. In addition to her membership, Marjorie was a regular Annual Fund supporter, and often wrote long notes and letters suggesting people to invite to the Village, potential interns, and general wisdom gained over five decades of teaching.

Sadly, Marjorie passed away in the spring of 2016 at the age of 90, and many of us at the Village will miss her. However, her influence on the Village will be lasting. Although she had indicated that Old Sturbridge Village would be a beneficiary of her estate, everyone was humbled and surprised when the formal letter arrived late in 2016 announcing the creation of the $1.5 million Robert W. and Marjorie V. Butcher Endowment Fund. The Fund will sustain the Village’s operations in perpetuity, and the Butchers’ generosity will support a place they loved and admired.

Please contact Anne McBride, Director of Development (amcbride@osv.org or 508-347-0300), if you have included, or are interested in including, Old Sturbridge Village in your estate plans.
Solar technology is not new. As early as the 7th century B.C., people attempted to harness the power of the sun, and tales of solar energy permeate history. Legend would have it that the Greek scientist Archimedes employed the reflective properties of bronze shields to focus sunlight and to set fire to enemy ships of the Roman Empire as they besieged Syracuse. In 1767 a Swiss scientist Horace de Saussure designed and fabricated the world’s first solar oven. In the 19th century, inventor Clarence Kemp patented the first commercial solar water heater.

Over the past one hundred years the industry of solar power has grown exponentially, with advancements in the production and efficiency of solar-powered devices. Today solar power is available for consumer purchase and many people have embraced this environmentally-friendly method of powering our homes, appliances, and transportation.

So how does the modern success of solar energy relate to Old Sturbridge Village? You may have heard that the Village has just finished installing a solar farm to power our Museum’s electrical needs, located out past the Museum Education Center. We estimate that this large solar complex will generate up to three quarters of our electrical energy needs and dramatically lower the Village’s carbon footprint. The energy generated will power our computers, lights, HVAC systems, vacuums, drills, saws, refrigerators, coffee makers, space heaters, and endless other equipment used every day.

And the reach of electricity does not end with the Village’s administration and restaurant facilities. Modern technology is required to preserve our many historic buildings and collections items. The Curatorial and Maintenance Departments balance historic and modern elements to ensure that buildings are heated and secure, collections pieces are not exposed to the cold or wet New England weather, and there is adequate lighting and communication in case of emergencies. Most roads, buildings, and homes at the Village are powered and protected by a hidden infrastructure of electricity.

A prime example is the electric heat cable in the plaster ceiling at the Parsonage House. This radiant heating system is hidden from view and keeps the Parsonage – and the historic tables, dressers, chairs, fabrics, and household items – warm and protected throughout the year. Outside the building are miles of electrical cables buried under the grass of the Village Common that connect to security devices and telephones within the buildings, and up in the trees are hidden lights to ensure safe nighttime travel for security and evening events. It takes a massive amount of energy to create and protect the historic environment that guests have come to love.

Installing a solar field is not easy, especially a field large enough to power an organization the size of the Village. It has required years of planning and the collaboration of many people to achieve the field you see today. When I first pitched the idea to President and CEO Jim Donahue, his eyes lit up. In the next months, the conference room table was buried in planning documents and contracts for the project.

After interviewing multiple solar contractors, we decided to hire Solect Energy to build and operate the field. Next, we began the long process of negotiations in an ever-changing electrical industry, along with...
facilitating the intense regulatory process. Federal, state, and municipal agencies, along with National Grid, required endless engineering studies and paperwork. And after careful evaluation we selected a location beyond the Village’s Museum Education Building, for environmental, aesthetic, and legal factors.

Thanks to the perseverance of museum management, along with the support of the OSV Board of Trustees and the Town of Sturbridge, the solar field was successfully installed in the fall and winter of 2016-17.

While we wait for National Grid to tie our solar plant into their electrical grid, our Operations Department is already thinking about other energy-saving technology. No doubt there will be advances in technology that the Village can consider to improve our energy consumption and preserve the valued history we portray. Until then, you can take a look at the new solar field along Old Sturbridge Village Road.
It’s fair to say that Rob Lyon is one of the most recognizable and beloved members of Old Sturbridge Village’s costumed staff whether he was forging away in the blacksmith shop, entertaining folks with lively 19th-century music, or feeding cookies to “Carl” the rooster on the porch of the Miner Grant store. Staff and visitors alike could always count on his enthusiastic presence in our Village. After more than four decades of service to the museum, Rob decided to retire at the close of our 2016 Christmas by Candlelight program. Rob has been a mentor of mine since I first began working in the Blacksmith Shop with him at the age of 14 in 2001. Now that he’s setting out on the next great chapter in his life, I wanted to sit down with him to ask him a few questions about his life here at OSV.

DH: How did you start here at the museum?
RL: I came in here the spring of 1972 as a visitor. I toured around and visited the blacksmith and the potter, and I thought it was a neat place. I don’t know if it was that day or if I came back, but I came up and put an application in that spring. I got a call and they said that they didn’t have any openings in the Men’s Crafts…but they had an opening in their merchandising department in the Miner Grant Store. So I showed up and got my costume and started working that first summer in the Miner Grant Store.

DH: How did blacksmithing become your focus?
RL: On my breaks I’d visit the houses and the craft shops and kept going back to pottery, because I just loved to see the potter turn a lump of this mud into an object. I asked the potter, “How do you do this and what does it cost?” He said, “Well, you get a wheel, which isn’t too much money, and you get some clay.” And I said “What about the kiln? How much is that?” He said “Oh, about $3,000.” I said “WOAH! I don’t think I’m going to do that as a hobby.”

That same summer, a young man named Jeff Miller, who became a very good friend, was working in the Blacksmith Shop and he came into the store and said, “Look what I just made.” And he showed me a
knife. The more I looked at it, the more I thought that blacksmithing seemed like a really neat thing. I had no idea I’d make it a career, I just thought it would be kind of fun to do as a hobby. Sure enough, that following year I got myself an anvil and a forge, but I had no way to teach myself. So I went to Frank Grapes, who was the Master Blacksmith in his 80s, and asked him if he’d be willing to given me private lessons. He said yes. So I’d drive up every Monday to his shop in West Brookfield and take lessons. In the spring of 1973, Old Sturbridge Village asked Frank if he knew of anybody who’d want to work as a blacksmith. He said he had a young man that he’d been teaching. I started as a blacksmith in the Moses Wilder Blacksmith Shop in the spring of 1973. I worked with Frank Grapes and a few other guys who were really good mentors, and started my 43 years of blacksmithing. I’ve never regretted it.

**DH:** Many visitors know you for your musical abilities. How did you get your start with music?

**RL:** I started with music in about the 3rd grade with the alto saxophone. When I started Civil War reenacting, I picked up a fife and learned how to play fife. One of the blacksmiths here was a flute player, and he would play flute over in the gazebo at the Salem Towne house while one of the female costumed staff members sang. I’d go over and listen and say “Wow! That’s so neat.” I thought, if can I play fife, a flute is pretty close. I can’t remember exactly when I got my flute (an original for the 1820s), but I remember trading blacksmithing lessons to a woman whose parents ran an antique shop for it. There was a lot of impromptu music at the museum in those days. I would go into a house or shop and play some music, and visitors loved that. They loved coming into something that they didn’t expect that was a slice of life as it would have been. I always remembered the female singer and the flute player and that’s really always what I wanted to do. One of the last nights of the Christmas program I was doing music in the Salem Towne house and I was listening to this woman singing Christmas carols and I said, “That’s a beautiful voice you have there. Would you mind singing a song while I play the music?” She said, “Sure!” and started singing in German, so I was getting my dream come true, accompanying a female singer.

**DH:** What are some of your most memorable experiences at the Village?

**RL:** I helped to institute a crafts day for our staff where we’d put the focus on our crafts people. I went to all the heads of the shops and houses and asked them to come up with projects that were out of the ordinary and demanded some skill and attention, and everyone was really excited about it. We had an axe being made in the blacksmith shop, the guys at the cooper shop were firing a barrel. Everyone jumped on the bandwagon. I was so impressed, and the visitors loved it too.

The organization of the militia program is also a memory that will stay with me forever. The equipment was top-notch. Fourth of July 1976, the militia stepped out. We had a whole crew of people, and those militia events were the most fun part of my year.

**DH:** What are you going to do with your time now that you’ve retired?

**RL:** I’ve still got my blacksmith shop, and I’ll be working on custom orders. I hope to be a speaker and go out to do some of my programs to other audiences, and I’ve also been called by Old Sturbridge Village to do some upcoming programs. I also want to write some articles since I’m still interested in military history. I might try to put something together about my life at the Village too.

Rob is definitely going to be missed, but he leaves quite a legacy behind in ironwork and enduring programming. I think it’s fair to say that we haven’t seen the last of Rob Lyon around the museum, but we wish him well in retirement and thank him for all his years of service and dedication.
Captain’s Commission for the Sturbridge Artillery
Massachusetts, 1837 | Museum Purchase

Historians have suspected for quite some time that Sturbridge had an artillery company during the Village period. In his *A Historical Sketch of Sturbridge and Southbridge* (1856), George Davis states that when the Marquis de Lafayette passed through Sturbridge in 1824 he was “announced by the artillery.” There are also election returns referencing the Sturbridge Artillery until the mid-1830s at the National Guard Archives, but the main dispute has been whether this was an enrolled company that just happened to have its own cannon, or whether it was a volunteer company, which would have been uniformed privately, but provided two cannons by the state. This commission proves that a volunteer artillery company existed in Sturbridge. The document notes that Jonathan Lyon was elected Captain of a company within the Battalion of Artillery organized by the state.

Manuscript Arithmetic Book
William Arnold, Probably Rhode Island, circa 1802 | Gift

This manuscript arithmetic book contains handwritten arithmetic problems and rules. The front page is signed by William Arnold— one side is dated 1801 and the reverse, also bearing his name, is dated 1817 in a different ink. While most pages have mathematical problems and rules (some written in very elegant script), a few of the pages contain small pictures or doodles in pen and ink and watercolor, including a figure of a man, a ship, and a mariner’s compass. Tucked into the pages are a few pages from another arithmetic book, belonging to Abigail Gardner. According to notes in the margins of this second book, Abigail Gardner married William Arnold in June 1806.

Mitchell’s National Map of the American Republic
Philadelphia, PA, 1844
Published by S. Augustus Mitchell | Gift

The S. A. Mitchell firm published the “National Map of the American Republic” annually from 1843 to 1850 (except 1849), in two formats, as folding maps and as wall maps. The map shows the states and territories, stretching from the east coast to the plains, with cities, towns, roads, railroads, and canals. Indian Territories to the west are labeled with the names of the tribes. Thirty-two inset maps of the vicinities of leading cities, including Boston and Lowell, border the edges.

Other insets list various statistics, including the population of each county in the states and territories in 1840; the extent of population of the settled part of the United States; the population of 120 of the principal cities and towns in the United States in 1840.
Tilly Mead and Caroline Hathaway Mead  
*John Ritto Penniman, Hardwick, MA, 1831 | Museum Purchase*

Tilly Mead was born in Petersham, Mass., and worked in Hardwick, Mass. His estate inventory shows “unfinished furniture, a veneering plane, a turning lathe, a shop stove and pipe, and furniture patterns.” His wife, Caroline, was the daughter of Captain Abraham Hathaway of Ranham (now Raynham), Massachusetts. John Ritto Penniman is best known for his decorative painting on clock faces, furniture, and boxes; he was also an illustrator and portraitist in greater Boston and central Massachusetts.

**Invoice or receipt**  
*Ethan Allen (debtor) and Joel Knight*  
*Dummerston, VT, 1824 | Gift*

Joel Knight was a member of Ethan Allen’s Green Mountain Boys. The invoice lists a variety of services and goods, including meat, cash, rye, cloth, board, a penknife, and cash to other people’s accounts.

**Cradle**  
*Possibly Connecticut, circa 1820-1840 | Gift*

This early 19th-century cradle has an original feather-painted and faux-grained exterior and a Prussian blue interior.

**Landscape Painting, pre-1850**  
*Attributed to Edmund Baylies (1787-1878)*  
*Dighton, MA | Gift*

An oil-on-board landscape painting attributed to Edmund Baylies (1787-1878) depicts the view from the Baylies homestead in Dighton, MA. Though it is undated, the extent of deforestation and depiction of farmland, indicate that it was likely painted before 1850.

According to a note on the reverse of the painting, “[t]wo years before Edmund Baylies (1787-1878), who drew this picture, was born, his father, Hodijah Baylies, bought the land and house in Dighton, MA, which before that time was used as a tavern. Hodijah was a rather illustrious person....He had a large dog which he took with him to meeting (church services) every Sunday; but if the family did not go to meeting, the dog went just the same, and the sexton who knew the dog well, would open the door of the family pew for him, and the dog would remain in the pew throughout the service. Hodijah died there in 1843, aged 86 years....The old homestead, which had been sold....in 1878, was re-purchased by Walter C. Baylies in 1923....and given to the church for a parsonage....it still stands on Elm Street....”
2017
HOURS OF OPERATION

March – April
Open Wed. – Sun. 9:30 am – 4:00 pm

Also Open
April 15 – 23 (school vacation week)
Open 9:30 am – 4:00 pm

May – October
Open Wed. – Sun.
9:30 am – 5:00 pm

Also Open | 9:30 am – 5:00 pm
May 29 (Memorial Day)
July 3 & 4 (Independence Days)
Sept. 4 (Labor Day)
Oct. 9 (Columbus Day)

Live Outdoor Musical at Old Sturbridge Village
June 14 – July 9, 2017

Advance tickets for Members go on sale this spring!
Visit www.bigriverosv.org