



Festival Media Kit July 2009

For more information,
call 603-772-2622
or email Julie Tiebout at
jtiebout@independencemuseum.org



New for 2009!

- ★ **Horseback rider**, in colonial costume, will ride into town carrying Exeter's copy of the Dunlap Broadside of the Declaration of Independence, re-creating a scene from July 16, 1776. The rider will come into town from Main Street to Water Street at approximately 10:15 a.m. and will deliver the document to John Taylor Gilman who will read it aloud to the townspeople of Exeter.
- ★ **The Battle is Back!** By popular demand, a re-enactment of a Revolutionary War battle between the British and Colonial troops will take place on Swasey Parkway. The portrayal will be at 2 p.m. **ONLY**. Note: No battle took place in Exeter; this is a re-enactment to demonstrate the strategies, techniques, and maneuvers of the troops.
- ★ More children's entertainment, with an **Original Puppet Show** by Nancy Sander of Roaring Duck Puppets. Nancy has created new puppets and written several stories about Revolutionary-era personalities. Wonderful for all ages!
- ★ **Lots of music** with the Sea Chantey Singers, the Lincoln Fife and Drum, Alan Batchelder and his hammer dulcimer and a performance on Swasey Parkway before the fireworks by the local favorite, Truffle.



Key Festival Points-2009

- American Independence Festival on Saturday, July 18, 2009, is an annual celebration of our freedom and the founding of our nation. It is coordinated and hosted by the American Independence Museum. This is the 19th year. The festival was known as “Revolutionary War Festival” years ago.
- Event runs from 10am – 5pm and is held rain or shine. Town festivities continue on Swasey Parkway with live music as well as fireworks. For a complete itinerary and directions, visit www.independencemuseum.org/festival
- We are bringing back (by popular demand) a battle re-enactment between the Colonials and British troops. This is being planned for 2 p.m. ONLY. No battles were fought in New Hampshire, but this re-enactment will demonstrate tactics and maneuvers.
- Two themes for the 19th Annual American Independence Festival:
 1. The Sounds of the Revolution. Visitors will hear the clang of the blacksmith’s hammer, the voices of the Sea Chantey Singers, the whirring of the spinning wheel, the jaunty music of the fife and drum, and the boom of cannon fire, to name a few sounds.
 2. Make the Connection which will encourage visitors to observe and try the techniques of traditional artisans (spinning, weaving, leatherwork, carpentry, hammer dulcimer and blacksmithing) and then locate examples of items in the museum’s collection which were created with those techniques.
- The festival is a collaboration between the American Independence Museum, the Town of Exeter, the Exeter Area Chamber of Commerce, as well as other local non-profits. The downtown merchants will be holding Sidewalk Sales and the Women’s Club will have a juried Crafts Fair at the Town Hall.



Fast Facts

- American Independence Museum is located at One Governors Lane in Exeter, NH. Our website is www.independencemuseum.org.
- The campus is comprised of the Ladd-Gilman House and the Folsom Tavern
- Museum was founded in 1991
- Ladd-Gilman House built 1721 by Capt. Nathaniel Ladd
- Nicholas Gilman Sr. inherits house; has active life of public service including as Treasurer of the State of New Hampshire
- Eldest son John Taylor Gilman read the Declaration of Independence to the townspeople of Exeter at age 22; served as New Hampshire's Governor for 14 years
- Nicholas Gilman Jr. served on Washington's staff during the Revolution and later worked on and signed the United States Constitution
- The New Hampshire chapter of the Society of the Cincinnati, our nation's first veteran's group created by George Washington and General Henry Knox, acquired the Ladd-Gilman property in 1902. The chapter was created in the Folsom Tavern.
- President George Washington visited the Folsom Tavern and had a light breakfast with the Folsoms. He stopped there to honor the connection to the Society.
- In 1985, an electrician found the Dunlap Broadside of the Declaration of Independence in the attic of the Ladd-Gilman House. This rare founding document is one of 25 remaining copies known to exist. In 2000, Norman Lear and a partner purchased another copy at auction for \$8.14 million. That copy now tours the country with an organization "We the People".
- The Folsom Tavern, originally located at the intersection of Water and Front Streets, was moved to Spring Street in 1929. John Scammon gave it to the Society of the Cincinnati. In 2004, the building was moved forward to Water Street and completely restored by the American Independence Museum. It opened to the public in July 2007 and is used for our Educational Programs.
- The American Independence Festival, the museum's signature event, is held each July to celebrate Exeter's role in the founding of our nation.

Contacts for AIF 2009

	A	B	C	D	E
1	Role Players	Name	Phone	Email	Cell #
2	George Washington	George Moore	603-382-7447	(Newton, NH)	560-5344
3	John Taylor Gilman	Bob Kilham	603-463-3046		
4	Elizabeth Folsom	Carolyn Chase	603-522-8720		
5	Washington's escort	Bill Moss	508-481-8958		
6	Entertainment				
7	Puppeteer/Storyteller	Nancy Sander	978-462-2914		
8	Sea Chantey Singers	Dari Ward	603-749-1565	dari.ward@unh.edu	
9	Artisans				
10	Blacksmith	Jack Paige	603-927-4765	jm_paige@conknet.com	
11	Leatherworker	Diane Louise Paul	603-964-8821	dipleather@aol.com	
12	Sheep to Shawl (spinning)	Joyce Heck	603-736-8141	heckcats@netscape.com	
13	Spinning & weaving	Rebecca Field	603-219-0396	rfield@valley.net	
14	Spinning & weaving	Becky Hanson	603-485-3863	beckyhanson@juno.com	
15	Weaving	Marcella Bobinsky	603-495-1250	mbobinsky@gsinet.net	
16	Windsor Chair craftsmen	Chuck Mower	603-424-1200	charles.mower@myfairpoint.net	
17	Wheel Lathe woodturning	Tom & Barb Bolko	603-436-6294	bolkonh@comcast.net	
18	Hammer Dulcimer	Alan Batchelder	603-502-0566		
19	Regiments				
20	Royal Irish Artillery	Ed Kreutz	978-618-5381	edkreutz@comcast.net	British
21	10th British Regiment	Paul O'Shaughnessy		frommage@comcast.net	British
22	Lexington Minutemen	Mike Daru	781-862-9781	mdaru80@yahoo.com	Colonial
23	Lincoln Minutemen Fife & Drum	Donald Hafner	617-489-2539	hafner@bc.edu	Colonial
24	King's Rangers	Neil Sorenson after 3:30	603-893-1495	kingsrangers@comcast.net	British
25	Danvers Alarm List Co.	Henry Rutkowski		henry_rutkowski@pem.org	Colonial
26	4th Regiment of Foot	Joseph Hummel	603-758-1410 x2		British
27	Museum Staff Contacts				
28	Festival Coordinator	Stephanie Rohwer	603-772-2622	education@independencemuseum.org	
29	Executive Director	Gail Colglazier	603-772-2622	gcolglazier@independencemuseum.org	
30	Marketing & Development Dir.	Julie Tiebout	603-772-2622	jtiebout@independencemuseum.org	603-767-0234
31	Sponsors (Recognition)				
32	NH State Council on the Arts	Unitil		Donahue, Tucker & Ciandella	
33	Liberty Mutual	Water Street Books		Seacoast Media Group	
34	FPL Energy-Seabrook Station	BAE Systems		Northside Carting	
35	Ocean Bank	WOKQ 97.5		Town of Exeter	



The American Independence Museum
has been recognized this year for our efforts to
“Connect America’s Revolutionary Past with the Present”



Best Revolutionary War Experience!



Business of the Year
“Tourism & Hospitality” category



1. Go to address: <http://tinyurl.com/lumszb>
2. You may log in with email address jtiebout@independencemuseum.org; password is "freedom"
3. Click on "Festival Photos" album
4. Select a photo; right click and Save As in your own file.
5. These photos are from different years, but all were taken by professional photographer Ralph Morang. Please be sure to credit him. If you need names or specifics, email me at jtiebout@independencemuseum.org. Permission has been granted for the use of all photos.



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