

# The Susan B. Anthony Birthplace Museum

# BIRTHPLACE BANNER

## SUMMER 2014

WWW.SUSANBANTHONYBIRTHPLACE.ORG

## UPCOMING EVENTS

**JUNE 25, 2014**

### **Exhibit Opening: Artifacts from Anthropological Dig**

Artifacts from a 2013 excavation at the Read family homestead, on Stewart White road in Cheshire, Mass., will be displayed in an outdoor exhibit at the Birthplace Museum. We gratefully acknowledge Ed Clairmont and his family for their contribution to this exhibit. Included in the price of museum admission. Location: Susan B. Anthony Birthplace Museum.

**JULY 26, 2014 | 3:00 PM**

### **James White, Temperance Reformer - Dramatic Reenactment**

This reenactment looks at the temperance movement and its objections to alcohol's destructive effects on individuals, communities, and the nation as a whole. This reenactment is presented by Mr. Denis Farley, and will kick off the week-long celebration of Susan B. Anthony Days in Adams, MA. Location: Adams Visitors Center.

**AUGUST 16, 2014 | 3:00 PM**

### **The Underground Railroad In Massachusetts, Steve Strimer**

"The Underground Railroad In Massachusetts" will be presented by Steve Strimer, the executive director of the David Ruggles Center. Strimer shares the rich history of the abolitionists in Massachusetts, and the role they played in saving lives by smuggling the slaves to freedom. Strimer will also provide information about the David Ruggles Center during the reception. Location: Susan B. Anthony Birthplace Museum.

**OCTOBER 28-29, 2014**

### **Calling all Quilters!**

Travel to Rochester, New York, to view Susan's original quilt and visit the Susan B. Anthony House in Rochester and the Frederick Douglas Center. More details about this trip to come.

For more information about any of these events or programs, call the Birthplace Museum, 413-743-7121, or visit our website [www.susanbanthonybirthplace.org](http://www.susanbanthonybirthplace.org)



## MUSEUM HOURS - SPRING / SUMMER

10:00 am - 4:00 pm, Friday, Saturday, and Monday  
11:30 pm - 4:00 pm Sundays

Adults: \$6 Seniors: \$4 & Students: \$4. Children 6 & Under: Free  
Call to arrange private tours: 413-743-7121



Jeanne Gehret, as Susan B. Anthony, with Richard Mann Elementary students.

## ANTHONY GOES TO SCHOOL

Jeanne Gehret, author of the biography *Susan B. Anthony: And Justice for All*, arrived dressed as Susan to share her life experiences with 5th Grade students from Richard Mann Elementary School in Walworth, NY. Her presentation, "Failure is Impossible", made Anthony's trials and triumphs come to life in a personal way.

With a backdrop of historic photos on the screen, "Susan" told her audience about growing up as a Quaker, working with Frederick Douglass to abolish slavery and helping with the campaign for access to jobs and education for women during the 19th century.



Museum Executive Director Colleen Janz (center) with members of TrekSolver.

## ADVENTURE AHEAD

Birthplace Museum Executive Director Colleen Janz was a winner at the New England Museum (NEMA) annual conference last November. The grand prize was a MuseumTrek by TrekSolver, valued at \$2,500. MuseumTrek allows visitors to search for clues through a museum's exhibits and actively engage in a Trek using an app on their smart phone.

Each Trek is unique and highlights museum-specific exhibits. Those with the smartphone app can locate museums that participate. This scavenger activity, likened to geo-caching, will offer yet another reason to visit the Birthplace Museum.

The Birthplace Museum is among the first Berkshire institution to participate in this innovative program, and looks forward to sharing this educational and fun opportunity with our visitors and community.



Interns: (L to R) Amaris Gonzales, Katarina Hyatt, Melissa Sheridan, Kenneth Mick, III, Hannah McClearnen, and Rachel Peller

## INTERN HIGHLIGHTS

The Birthplace Museum had a wonderful group of interns in 2013. These college students assisted with research, programming, the gift shop and tours and represented a variety of higher institutions, including Massachusetts College of Liberal Arts, the University of Massachusetts, Iowa State University and Mount Holyoke College.

### AMARIS GONZALES

**University of Massachusetts Amherst**

*Area of Study* Anthropology major, history minor.

*Aspiration* Become an archaeologist

### KATARINA HYATT

**Mount Holyoke College**

*Area of Study* International relations & women's studies, with a concentration in gender violence.

*Aspiration* Attend law school

### MELISSA SHERIDAN

**College of the Holy Cross**

*Area of Study* History major, French minor.

*Aspiration* Attend Law School or Business School

### KENNETH MICK III

**University Of Massachusetts, Amherst**

*Area of Study* History

*Aspiration* Theology studies, ministering to the poor in third-world countries.

### HANNAH MCCLEARNEN

**Massachusetts College of Liberal Arts**

*Area of Study* History

*Aspiration* To attend graduate school and have a career focusing on women in the Civil War era.

### RACHEL PELLER

**Iowa State University**

*Area of Study* Women's & gender studies, history minor

*Aspiration* To obtain a master's degree in public administration and to continue living a life inspired by early feminist activists.

Internships at the Birthplace Museum are available year-round to college and high school students. College credit and stipends may be available. Please contact our office, or website, for more information.

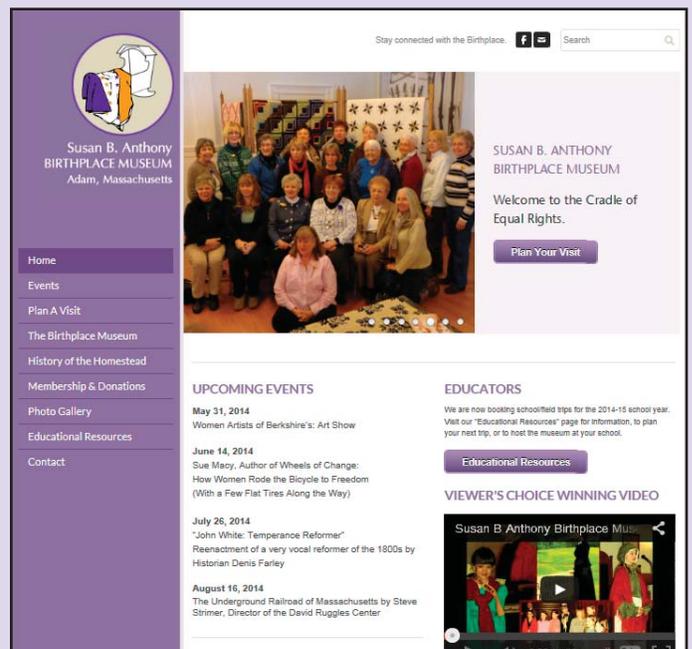
## NEW WEBSITE

The Birthplace Museum has revamped its website in an effort to better serve the community.

The new features include:

- A new mobile website, designed to be user friendly for those with smart phones.
- A site-wide search engine, which allow users to find content quickly and by order of relevancy.
- Social media links to connect with the SBABM and be alerted to upcoming events in the community.
- A fully integrated photo gallery and slideshows.
- On-line form submissions, no email necessary!
- Improved online payment applications for your security and convenience.
- Online gift shop sales to be offered late 2014.

Do you have a suggestion for our website? E-mail Lynn at [Lynn@susanbanthonybirthplace.org](mailto:Lynn@susanbanthonybirthplace.org).



## BIRTHDAY & QUILT UNVEILING

A replica quilt made by Susan B. Anthony when she was 15 years old was unveiled at Anthony's annual birthday celebration in February at the Adams Free Library.

Marjorie Childers, who co-authored *Massachusetts Quilts: Our Common Wealth*, spoke to a capacity crowd. Sixty-four area quilters pieced the LeMoyné Star top. "It was 'a scrappy' quilt," said Gail Miller, coordinator of the project. "Perhaps the fabrics Anthony used came from her father's mill here in Adams."

The hand-stitched quilt top replica traveled to Lenexa, Kansas, where a second group of quilters joined it to its backing and batting (lining). Kansas was selected for the finishing phase of the quilt because Susan's brothers were leaders in Kansas antislavery activities there.

The Birthplace quilt project was part of the 100th anniversary of Kansas passing women suffrage in November 2013.

Connie Logan, a Berkshire quilt historian and juried quilter, hosted a hand-stitching tutorial at the Ralph Florio Senior Citizen Center in Pittsfield, Mass. Logan also oversaw the technical assembly of the 1,500 pieces.

"At such an early age, Susan displayed the patience, diligence, and hard work that she later applied to her quest for women's suffrage," Logan said. "We were pleased to work on this project. In a way, it was to repay Susan for what she did for us."

The original 1835 quilt is fragile and in archival storage at the Rochester Museum and Science Center in Rochester, New York.



Above: Berkshire quilt historian, Connie Logan, with Museum board president, Carol Crossed.

Left: Berkshire quilters pose with the Anthony replica quilt that they helped to create, which was unveiled at the annual Susan B. Anthony Birthday event.

## ON THE TRAIL

Keep your eyes out for the Mowhawk Trail Association's (MTA) newest advertising campaign promoting (and featuring) area attractions.

MASS MoCa, The Clark, the Quaker Meeting House, Williams College Museum of Art, Historic Deerfield, and the Susan B. Anthony Birthplace Museum are a few of the community venues that were selected to be featured. A backlit advertisement board at Boston Logan International Airport will also feature these attractions for the next year.

## MEMBERSHIP BENEFITS EXPANDED

Summer is here. Make the most of your museum membership benefits - especially free admission to reciprocal museums.

The North American Reciprocal Museum (NARM) and Reciprocal Organizations of Associated Museums (ROAM) extend the standard set of membership benefits to a network of over 400 other museums in the U.S. and Canada. A member in any participating museum gains the free admission and store discount of a museum member at that institution.

Signing up has never been easier. You can now visit our website to purchase your individual (\$25), family (\$50) or sustainer (\$125) membership and sign up today:

[www.susanbathonybirthplace.com/membership--donations.html](http://www.susanbathonybirthplace.com/membership--donations.html)

## KIOSK DEVELOPMENT

We are pleased to announce that multiple grants have been awarded to the Birthplace Museum for an educational kiosk. The secondary development phase is underway now that the initial fundraising and planning phase is complete.

The kiosk will provide access to the museum's collection of Susan B. Anthony's newspaper, *The Revolution*, while also indexing the periodical by topic. Many articles, letters and editorials in Anthony's newspaper deal with human rights, such as animal rights, opposition to abortion, dress reform, anti-death penalty, among other issues important to suffragists.

This private collection, the largest of its kind, will provide an opportunity for visitors and scholars to access the historic newspaper along with copies of relevant ephemera.

## POETRY CONTEST WINNER

The Birthplace Museum is proud to announce that our very own board member, Colleen Spelley, was the winner of the Women's Rights National Historical Park's Poetry Contest in New York, April 2013.

### **Susan B.**

*Almost the measure two centuries ago  
In a Massachusetts town,  
Was born the soul of women's rights  
A girl of great renown.*

*Birthered in the shadow of Mt. Greylock  
A spirit of fortitude grew.  
And virtues of justice and diligence  
Blossomed within her too.*

*Even in Battenville, now in New York  
Susan, so eager to learn  
Demanded to solve arithmetic  
Once only a boy's concern.*



Visit our website to read Spelley's complete award-winning poem.  
[www.susanbanthonbirthplace.org](http://www.susanbanthonbirthplace.org)

## VOLUNTEERS, OUR GREATEST ASSET

2 hours. That is the time it takes to watch a movie or sit at home in front of your computer viewing funny videos of kittens or babies. Perhaps you have a couple of free hours now that your children are in school or off to college. Maybe you are searching for a golden opportunity to serve during your "golden years."

The Birthplace Museum almost entirely relies on volunteers and we need your help! We are currently seeking docents, maintenance workers, gift shop workers and everything in between. Volunteer positions can be seasonal or ongoing, based on your preference.

This is the perfect time to make a commitment to your community. Please call our executive director Colleen Janz, 413-743-7121, to discuss the benefits of volunteering today!

## THE SUSAN B. ANTHONY BIRTHPLACE MUSEUM

In 2006, Birthplace Museum founders took on the task of restoring the house, which had been vacant for 11 years and formally privately owned. The Birthplace Museum opened in the spring of 2010.

This rural, Federal-style home, now listed in the National Register, contains a portrait gallery, legacy room, and birthing room — depicting family and work life in the early 1800s—as well as authentic period pieces, ephemera, and a detailed timeline.



## VISIT US

SUSAN B. ANTHONY  
BIRTHPLACE MUSEUM  
67 East Road  
Adams, MA 01220  
413.743.7121

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

ADAMS, MA 01220  
P.O. BOX 244 - 67 EAST ROAD

SUSAN B. ANTHONY BIRTHPLACE MUSEUM

