



Winter/Spring 2019

~2351 Durham Road, Guilford, CT • 203.457.0770 • www.dudleyfarm.com~

Mission Statement

“To preserve, restore, and operate the farm as an historical, educational, and recreational resource for the public.”

President’s Corner

A Message from Bill Black

In my last President's message, I emphasized the importance of volunteers to the success of the Farm. Well in December The Dudley Farm lost an important and dedicated volunteer, Caryl

Anderson. Caryl lost her battle with cancer as so many have before her. She was the Treasurer of the Farm and a personal friend of mine for over thirty years. Caryl loved to volunteer and the enthusiasm she showed with any assignment given her was readily evident.

Here are just a few organizations she volunteered for during her life. For many years Caryl was on the Board of Directors of the Shoreline Outdoor Education Center in North Guilford, adding direction as well as helping at special events. The First Congregational Church of Madison was close to her heart and she worked many hours volunteering in a variety of positions throughout the years. In the summer the Community Garden in Clinton, which supplied fresh vegetables to the Shoreline Food Bank.

Caryl was also a member of The Shoreline Chorale, lending her voice to their annual

concerts. And the Ivoryton Playhouse saw her doing usher duty throughout the theater season. I'm sure I'm missing some of her numerous volunteer efforts, but there is one I will never forget.

For many years, when we were all younger, Caryl volunteered to help the Rusconi family during haying season. As we baled hay and dragged a hay wagon behind the baler, I'll always remember Caryl sprawled up on the top of the hay wagon hanging on for dear life to the railing as we drove over the rough and uneven field. When I tossed a bale up to her she would reach down and grab it with her free hand, like a grappling hook—she never dropped a bale. We affectionately called her 'the hook'.

As I sit and write this message, I am very grateful for all the work the Farm's volunteers do for us. Despite the major loss we've suffered I know we'll shed a tear, remember our good friend Caryl and move

forward, as she would want us to.

Rest in peace, Caryl.



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The Dudley Foundation is a 501 (c)(3) non-profit organization and contributions are tax deductible.

Volunteer Spotlight

Beth Payne

Restoring and Marketing with the Knopfs

If you've ever bought items from "Treasures from The Dudley Farm Attic", you've probably met Bridget and Bob Knopf. This energetic,



older couple has been a mainstay at that sale table for the last few years, pricing – and successfully selling – everything from old newspapers and early 20th century records to crocks and chairs. Their efforts have resulted in hundreds of dollars added to the Foundation's coffers while creating much-needed space in our various buildings. With a blend of flirtatiousness and humor from Bob ("My hearing, unlike wine, is not improving with age!") and German common sense from Bridget ("*Was Hänschen nicht lernt, lernt Hans nimmermehr*"; What little Johnny can't learn, old John will never learn!)

The couple has often been seen at the Dudley Farmhouse returning items lovingly restored for display: a beautiful Victorian, convertible high chair for the parlor; an early cast iron sadiron to display in the kitchen, or one of many lanterns which would have burned brightly in the barn.

In recent months health issues, including falls, have limited the Knopfs' ability to help out, and they are looking to downsize – and perhaps move to Germany. Bob and Bridget, The Dudley Foundation will surely miss you no matter where you are.

And we will toast you with a glass of good wine and share with you in spirit crackers and brie. Thank you for all you have done.

Buster's Musings

Buster Scranton

Rocks



Rocks are a fact of life in North Guilford, for better or for worse. We are awash in them- all sizes, shapes, and composition. Because North Guilford is one of the more geologically interesting areas of Connecticut; there is a lot to be told. The Eastern Border Fault, pretty much inactive, splits North Guilford in half as it follows the West River and Lake Quonnipaug on its way from Lighthouse Point in New Haven to Turners Falls in Massachusetts. On its west side you will find sandstone and basalt (“trap rock”), the parent material of Bluff Head. To the east, white outcroppings, flecked with mica, tower above Kelsey Lake on Hoop Pole Road, and a ways back from Rt. 77 in the Bluff

Head area. The glaciers also added to the mix, bringing in unusual rocks and dumping them. The bigger ones (“erratics”) can be found randomly situated, and their size can be daunting. As noted in *Voices from North Guilford*, several local youngsters spent a bit of time on an early 20th century Sunday afternoon leveraging a 3- to 4-foot rock perched on the feldspar outcropping behind Kelsey Lake until it rolled down into the water with a big “Splat”! Cheap entertainment.

In earlier times, the folks of North Guilford dealt with rocks on a regular basis, picking them out of fields so they wouldn't interfere with farm equipment. I've done my share of it, and it has no end. Dig a few potatoes, or try to grow some straight carrots, and you will curse them. A new stony crop grows every year. If we could only stop them from reproducing! There's always an ample supply for filling in mud holes in farm roads, and they could be added to concrete as

filler. And then there are the stone walls, of which there are a couple of examples at The Dudley Farm. The one near the blacksmith shop is pretty well structured, probably due to more suitable stones being used, whereas the one in front of the parking lot is more of a jumble. On a visit to find “Selectman’s Stones” (placed to mark the town’s borders; see more in *Voices from North Guilford*) at the northwest edge of town a few years ago, we came across a stone wall through which one can see to the other side due to the stackable nature of the stones used. There are some newer stone walls in North Guilford built as landscaping features. They look fine to the casual eye, but a purist will note that they are too perfect to be from earlier times.

It's no accident that the portion of County Road leading to North Madison became known as Rockland Road. Stone foundations abound. The road is basically impassable due to rocks and the occasional

mudhole. It is surrounded by beautiful, undeveloped land best suited to its present use as watershed. Signs of civilization still exist, but with rocks of all sizes littering the ground it is hard to imagine eking out a living there.

What to do with rocks? I have noticed an innovative use for them at the western end of Beaver Head Road, where small stones are stacked on top of each other, defying gravity by not tipping over. I imagine gnomes doing this work at night at what I call Stonehenge. In the 1930s, many bridge abutments were built in North Guilford with stones sourced locally; many are still standing. The steps of the North Guilford Congregational Church, as well as foundations of older buildings, are made of sandstone quarried locally. Hand dug wells were lined with stone. The dam at Lake Quonnipaug is made of- what else?

At The Dudley Farm, we find

uses for North Guilford's bounty. The well for the Munger Barn is now protected from vehicular damage by a strategically placed boulder- we learned the hard way. The herb garden behind the museum has many rocks which enhance its beauty while retaining the soil. And, you really should check out the attractive and functional use of stone in our building projects, especially the new work at the newly rebuilt timber frame milk house in front of the big barn.

The 19th Century Wordsmith

Beth Payne



“Words are, of course,
the most powerful drug used
by mankind.”

— Rudyard Kipling

The Nineteenth Century
Wordsmith enjoys reading 19th
century American literature –
even though it was resisted (or
avoided) when required reading

during middle and high school.
Poe, Hawthorne, Melville,
Twain (of course!), Stowe.
We’ve all read at least some of
these authors. But what is it
with sentence length? Book
titles, even book titles dealing
with grammatical correctness,
could fill half a page. Just look
at this title: *Composition and
Punctuation, Familiarly
Explained for Those Who Have
Neglected the Study of
Grammar, and Wherein
Foreigners Who May Be
Learning English Will Also Find
Information Calculated to
Facilitate Their Progress in the
Understanding of the
Language* (sixth edition;
London: E. Wilson, 1849), by
Justin Brenan.

Somehow, I don’t think that
would have clarified things for
me.

Or Daniel Defoe’s *The Life and
Strange Surprizing Adventures
of Robinson Crusoe, Of York,
Mariner: Who lived Eight and
Twenty Years, all alone in an
un-inhabited Island on the
Coast of America, near the
Mouth of the Great River of
Oroonoque; Having been cast on*

Shore by Shipwreck, wherein all the Men perished but himself. With An Account how he was at last as strangely deliver'd by Pyrates.

The long title combined with seemingly random capitalization and punctuation may well cause the modern reader to put this fascinating book aside.

But have published sentences become shorter over the last couple of centuries? According to *Opening Windows on Texts and Discourses of the Past* by Skaffari, 2005, average sentence length has indeed decreased over time. The average printed sentence length in the 18th century was 48 words; 34 words during the 19th century, and just 20 words during the first half of the 20th century.

The first prize for extreme sentence length goes to Oliver Wendell Holmes in *My Hunt After the Captain* (1862) which tells of his search for his son who had been wounded in the

battle of Antietam. Near the beginning of this work first published in the *Atlantic Monthly*, Holmes recalls his train ride down from New England. It must have been a long trip, because the sentence contains 198 words.

Nineteenth century literature can also challenge us with unfamiliar words or phrases that may drive us to Google or Merriam-Webster. Here are a few that you may consider:

1. Absquatulate – to take leave, to disappear.
2. Adventuress – euphemism for a prostitute or wild woman.
3. Big bugs – bigwigs; important people,
4. Catch a weasel asleep – to surprise someone who is normally alert, shrewd, or on guard.
5. Cutting a shine – pulling a prank or fast one; joking,
6. Didoes – to cut up didoes was to get into mischief.
7. Huckleberry above a persimmon – a cut above.

8. Humbug – to swindle or con; an impostor.
9. Shut pan – shut up; shut your mouth.

Hmm. Maybe we can get some of the big bugs to absquatulate. But then again, you can never catch a weasel asleep.

Today's punctuation marks and the rules we have now about how to use them, took centuries to be developed and adopted. Along the way, some marks didn't make it and some rules got thrown out. Until 1970 there wasn't even a key on the keyboard for the exclamation mark. My, my, how things have changed.

Most writers have a love-hate relationship with the exclamation point. Herman Melville and Nathaniel Hawthorne used it freely. But by the late 19th century, it was associated with lurid novels and the sensational yellow press; printers called it a screamer, a shriek or a bang.

Self-respecting authors viewed the common use of exclamation points as a sign of ignorance that was also slightly vulgar and avoided it at all costs. F. Scott Fitzgerald said that it was like laughing at your own joke. Now exclamation marks are commonplace and no longer carry much of a punch, with some writers, apparently in the belief that the punch can be revived with replication, using several in a row. Just look at Facebook postings and text messages. It appears that some people fear their emails will be considered cold and unfriendly if they don't stick at least one on the end of nearly every sentence.

Then there are quotes and quotation marks. Should commas and periods be inside or outside the closing quotation mark? Before the 1800's, commas and periods were outside closing quotation marks. Typesetters had to hand place each tiny lead character into the printing plates, and commas and

periods had a tendency to drop off the plates, roll around on the floor, and get lost. So the typesetters lobbied hard, and a fundamental change in American punctuation took place—commas and periods officially moved to inside ending quotation marks to protect them. Who knew?

The Dudley Farm Museum Wish List

Calling all Volunteers!

Buildings and

Grounds: Volunteers are needed to help with upkeep and improvement of our buildings and their grounds. Lend us your green thumb and get involved!

Publicity: The Dudley Farm Museum needs volunteers with writing and graphic design experience to create flyers, ads, postcards, and press releases. Other volunteers may help us prepare mailings or distribute publicity materials as needed to promote upcoming events. Help us get the word out!

Event Planning: Our celebrations and programs require the help of many people. Do you have event planning experience? Are you good at managing special projects? We could use committee members and assistants with any of our upcoming events. Another spare pair of hands makes it all easier!

Housekeeping 101: The Farmhouse is always in need of a good dusting or vacuuming. Get up close and personal with our many artifacts.

History Nuts: Want to learn more about The Dudley Farm? Like to tell others all about it? Then you might be the perfect docent! We'll provide you with all the information you need, and you will be among the first to use our new interpretive plan to share that information.

If interested, please email director@dudleyfarm.com with your contact information. And we hope to see YOU down on the farm!

From Amy's Recipe Box

Beth Payne

*A History of
Fine Dining in
North Guilford*

While Amy

Dudley may not have visited any of these local hot spots, she would have known about all of them. For those of us of a certain age, The Iron Hinge located at the end of Harrison's Point (the east side of the Lake) was *the* place to go for a romantic dinner out. Overlooking Lake Quonnipaug, the Hinge featured a large fireplace, soft background music, and ambiance galore. Wedding receptions and banquets were frequently held in the restaurant, which was hailed by *The Hartford Times*, Meriden's *Morning Record*, and of course the *Shore Line Times*. The Dudley Foundation is fortunate to have the scrapbook kept by Charles Thomas, one of the teachers-turned restaurateurs, complete with an original menu shaped like – what else? – an iron hinge. Appetizers included baked stuffed clams for \$1.00 and



shrimp cocktail for \$1.25. A 1½ pound broiled lobster with shrimp dressing - \$4.85 – and filet mignon for \$5.25. The restaurant opened July 15, 1961, only to be destroyed by fire September 26, 1962. Although rebuilt in Northford, it never again could boast the wonderful lake views.

The north end of the lake was home to a number of dining areas during the early 20th century, including The Smith Hotel. Built during the early 1900's it provided lodging and a venue for what the *Shore Line Times* states “as the scene of many a jolly party.” Unfortunately, it also burned to the ground in August 1914. Rustic Inn was located on the north end of lake, and was owned by Casper and Mildred Cummings. According to the late John Haggarty, who must have visited often enough to know, you could find “hooch” under the third floorboard from the fireplace during Prohibition. It suffered the same fate as those mentioned above, burning down March 30, 1945. Lest you think dining in North Guilford was tantamount to inviting the Fire Company to dinner, the Woodcrest Inn in 1918, also on the north end of the lake, featured two stories with multiple roofed decks providing rather spectacular

lake views. And Quono Park or Quono Club, located where the present New Haven Sportsman's Club is, provided visitors with a concession stand, gas pumps, "rustic-style" chicken dinners, outings, banquets, picnics, and hosted ball games.

The Hunter's Resort – 1909 – was a very rustic log cabin on Fire Tower Road where you were encouraged to hunt for your dinner.

Finally, by 1936, electricity was available in the area, and the Loveday's developed Loveday's Lake Resort, complete with cabins for your weekend (or week-long) retreat. Square dances were held Wednesdays and Saturdays to the delight of many near and far, and Lydia Loveday's pies were sold during the breaks. The beach is now owned by the Town of Guilford and is also the site for Guilford High School crew.

Lake Quonnipaug was a hub of activity during the early 20th Century, and once again it is being extensively used. If only we could have a restaurant to provide us with a fine dining experience - - -

The Quilters' Corner

Jerri Guadagno



Well, another year has gone by and our holiday season has ended. We

want to thank everyone who purchased items from our Dudley Farm Gift Shop and others who attended the Farmers' Market and made purchases.

We had a wonderful year and our quilters were kept busy sewing and knitting all year long. Our gift shop at the Holiday Market sold so many things, especially our ornaments; it seemed that the public just loved them and after the three-day market we almost sold out. So now we know that next year's Holiday Open House we will again plan to have a wide selection of ornaments as well as the many items usually found in the gift shop.

Now I will tell you about

Thank you to all who purchased a ticket for our Queen-Sized Raffle Quilt, "MIDNIGHT DIAMONDS".

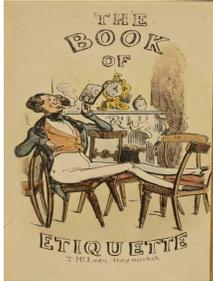
Our raffle quilt is a fund raiser for the Dudley Farm Museum and a big part of our farmers' market. Ticket sales went very well and we held our drawing on Saturday December 8th. The winner of this year's quilt was Karen Cook from Old Saybrook, Ct., who was thrilled. Our quilters have already started sewing our new raffle quilt for 2019.

The Board of Directors wants to thank all of the women who sew and knit all of our items for the Dudley Farm Gift Shop as well as our raffle quilt. Thank you to:

Sue Torre, Yvonne Murray, Doris Anderson, Jean Hill, June Jewell, and Jerri Guadagno.

Miss Manners for the 19th Century

Beth Payne



Throughout the nineteenth century an elegant but unforced letter writing style remained a social necessity, and letter writing manuals continued to do a brisk trade. It also became the vogue for books on social etiquette in general, which swelled in popularity in the late nineteenth century, to contain sections on the etiquette of writing letters. A popular volume, *Youth's Educator for Home and Society*, 1896 opened with the injunction, “The man or woman who can talk well, can write a letter equally well.” It then proceeded to instruct the reader in the proper materials to use, the proper writing method to employ (“Crossing your pages [writing on the back of sheets of paper so that the

ink bleeds through] is positively an insult”), and, of course, the choice of proper correspondents. “Young girls often thoughtlessly begin a correspondence with strangers,” admonished Mrs. Anna R. White, the book’s author. “A romantic girl whose training has been neglected may begin this dangerous amusement. But it had best be discontinued at once. A young man who writes thus to a young girl is usually lacking in lady friends, and a young lady must be wanting in self-respect to permit such a breach of propriety.”

Nowadays letter-writing appeals to our more romantic sensibilities. It is quaint, old-fashioned, and decidedly slower than sending off a winking emoji with barely half a thought. But it wasn’t even that long ago that letter-writing dominated and served as a practical means of communication. Writing letters was, at one time, the only way to bridge gaps between individuals, forge bonds, and

express thoughts. While we may have an idealized view of letter-writing now, much of the gritty day-to-day details of relying on this form of communication go unconsidered today

Advice books, and indeed all books in the 19th century, had awfully long titles. Take, for example, the subject of this article, *The fashionable American letter writer; or, The art of polite correspondence. Containing a variety of plain and elegant letters on business, love, courtship, marriage, relationship, friendship, &c. With forms of complimentary cards. To the whole is prefixed, directions for letter writing, and rules for composition.* So find a good pen (or sharpen your quill) and take the time to write a good old-fashioned letter. The recipient will be glad you did.

Upcoming Activities at The Dudley Farm

The darkest days of winter are now behind us, the last of the fallen pine needles has been swept out from under the furniture and off the mantles,

and the second floor of the museum has been freshly painted and reorganized. Time for us to come out of our short-lived hibernation and greet each other at The Dudley Farm.

February sees not only the return of our popular Winter Farmers' Market (see Martha's article for more details,) but also the return of our small but mighty crew of maple syrup producers. While dependent upon the weather, we hope to be making syrup weekends in February and maybe into March. Keep an eye on our webpage and Facebook pages for the most up-to-date information. It's a great way to see how syrup was made 100 or more years ago, and to get outside for some family fun.

March will be particularly busy for The Dudley Farm Museum. We have been asked to host the regional conference of the Association of Living History, Farm and Agricultural Museums. There will be museum representatives from all over New England March 8, 9, and 10, to not only see our Museum, but also the other four historic museums in Guilford. Programs and skill workshops are planned on such diverse topics and skills as lace making; historic New England barns; genealogy; local Native American history,

and cooking with a 19th century stove. What a great event to help showcase our Museum.



The weekend of March 23/24th will feature Michele Micarelli, an

internationally known instructor of traditional rug hooking from New Haven (michelemicarelli.com.) This 2-day workshop will be full of color, creativity, discussions on dyeing and lots of fun. All levels welcome. There is a \$65 a day fee which includes lunch. Registration is limited. Rug hooking is probably a native New England craft. Originally a craft of poverty, floor coverings became popular after 1830, when factories produced machine-made carpets for the rich. Poor women began looking through their scrap bags for materials to employ in creating their own home-made floor coverings. It was considered a “country” craft in the days when the word “country”, used in this context, was derogatory. Today rug hooking is considered to be a fine art.

April: Spring cleaning April 13, 9 AM. Help to chase the cobwebs and winter grime

away with our annual Spring Clean-Up. As usual, coffee and donuts provided. Please remember your gloves and rakes, and help us make the museum grounds ready for our Annual Tag Sale, April 27th. (Rain date: May 4th) Jerri Guadagno will again be the contact person for this very popular event. As before, there will also be Treasures from The Dudley Farm Attic (and barns!) sold. Want to help? We need you!

May: Sunday, May 19th will be the 5th Annual Brunch at the Barn: Now Celebrating 25 Years of The Dudley Farm Museum! This is a favorite event for North Guilford, and we have so much to celebrate. The dreams of 25 years ago are reaching fruition, as our museum ably depicts farm life in 19th century North Guilford. Please come join us for this anniversary party, which will continue with events right through Harvest Day in October. More details will be available on our website and Facebook page.

June 1: Our Museum officially reopens for the season. Come see how we’ve grown and changed. We always look forward to seeing you “down on the Farm.”

We hope to see you for all these activities. Updates will be posted on Facebook, our

Webpage, and in *Dudley Farm Doings*.

And We Thank you -

We are so thankful to the many cookie-bakers who helped to make our Holiday Open House such a success. There were at least 200 visitors to the farm house sharing cookies and cider while listening to Judy Castellano play Christmas songs on her dulcimer. We even had a impromptu performance of “Have a Holly Jolly Christmas” on our 1856 melodion played by one of our young visitors! Martyn Banks ably portrayed “Father Christmas”, while Janet Dudley and Michael Russo provided beautiful floral centerpieces to be enjoyed by all. VanWilgen’s Nursery gifted us with the large wreath which we hung on the barn. And of course, thanks to all who helped decorate the house. It was lovely. By the way, if you donated cookies – and need your containers -come and get them!

We also thank the Summer Hill Foundation for providing funding which has allowed the Big Barn Project to be completed. It was a wonderful surprise to receive additional funding at the end of 2018, to be used for the many small – but expensive – projects at the farm; the windmill will see its restoration; public restrooms will be completed; the milk house will be sided and will be ready to accept displays. Finally, the woodshed/laundry will become stabilized.

Thank you to all our sung – and unsung -Dudley Farm Heroes.

Sleigh Bells and Jingle Bells Beth Payne

Ornaments and bells have adorned horses around the world for more than 3000 years. Horse bells were believed to attract good luck, protect against disease, injury and evil, and allowed the owner to flaunt his wealth and status. As a practical matter, they served to warn pedestrians and other drivers of the approach of oncoming vehicles and alert

potential customers that street vendors and delivery wagons were in the neighborhood. Our strap of 19 graduated sleigh bells was donated by George and Marion Bradley, and were made in East Hampton's "Belltown", or "Jingletown." In 1808 William Barton moved to East Hampton and began making hand and crotal (sleigh) bells. His main achievement was to rediscover a sand-core casting process for a one-piece bronze bell with the pellet (rattle) inside instead of using a well-known two-piece soldering method that took more time to complete. His willingness to teach the trade to others (including apprentices William and Abner Bevin, who were indentured to Barton in the late 1820s,) soon led to East Hampton earning worldwide fame as "Belltown" or "Jingletown."

Shortly thereafter "Jingle Bells" was published. It remains one of the best-known and commonly sung American songs in the world. James Lord Pierpont (1822–1893), the son of an abolitionist Unitarian minister, wrote and published the piece under the title "One Horse Open Sleigh" in the autumn of 1857. When it was reissued two years later, the song had the more familiar title of "Jingle Bells."

Although "Jingle Bells" is now a Yuletide staple, there is no mention of Christmas or any other holiday in the song. Some historical accounts report that the tune was first performed for a Thanksgiving service at the church of either Pierpont's father or brother, but the lyrics might have been too risqué for an ecclesiastical audience. Given the songwriter's rebellious nature, it shouldn't be surprising that "Jingle Bells" has a bit of a rebel-without-a-cause attitude. The less-known verses of the song describe picking up girls, drag-racing on snow and a high-speed crash.



Title page of "One Horse Open Sleigh."
(Credit: Public Domain)

When "One Horse Open Sleigh" (Jinglebells) was first printed it was dedicated to John Ordway, a Boston doctor, composer and organizer of a troupe of white men performing in blackface called "Ordway's Aeolians."

After his failed efforts as a Gold Rush prospector, Pierpont wrote one of his first songs, "The Returned Californian," in 1852 to be performed by Ordway's minstrels, and it appears the same was the case for about a dozen of his subsequent songs, including "Jingle Bells."

So when did this universally known song become associated with Christmas? Not until phonograph records (invented in 1877) and later radio allowed the song to be heard by a nationwide audience did "Jingle Bells" become a favorite holiday song sung (and parodied!) by young and old every winter.

Dashing through the snow
In a one-horse sloping sleigh
Joker's on the go,
laughing all the way
The bells on Penguins ring
Make Riddler wanna fight
Two-Face wants to flip a coin
And sing this song tonight
Jingle bells, Batman smells
Robin laid an egg

Batmobile lost a wheel
And Joker got away.

The Dudley Farm Farmers' Market

Martha Haeseler, Market Master

Photo by Barbara Hanson



The Holidays have passed, the days are getting longer, and the

vendors for the Farmers' Market have already ordered the seeds for the vegetables and flowers that will dazzle you this summer, and are dreaming up new ways to use their artistry in both time-honored and new crafts. Thanks to our customers, we had a successful Holiday Market, and are inspired to reach for new heights.

Our Winter Market will open soon, February 2nd, with many of your favorite vendors and a few new ones. We will again be offering free needle felting lessons during the Market, and several vendors will demonstrate needle felting.

The Winter Market meets in the Munger Barn lower level and is the first Saturday of the month, February through May, 9-12:30. Mark your calendar: on April 6 we will be having an Easter egg scavenger hunt for children, using eco-eggs, which are made from corn starch.

As I complete my first year managing the Farmers' Market, I am thankful for the farmer vendors, who, despite the additional costs, produce organic and naturally managed, local food and body products so we can stay healthy and help save the planet; to the crafts people who bring creativity to many of the ancient arts and inspire us with their use of natural and recycled materials; to the volunteers who helped us with the Children's Corner and the special events; to The Dudley Foundation for giving us a historic and scenic home; and, most importantly, to our customers for supporting us, despite the many rainy Saturdays we had last summer. There is a beehive of

activity Saturday mornings on the beautiful Dudley Farm, and our devoted customers are the ones who keep us going.

Please let us know if there is anything we can do to make the market serve your needs any better, or if you would like to be involved in any way. You can check out our latest activities on our Dudley Farm Farmers' Market Facebook page or email me at market@dudleyfarm.com.

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**BIG BARN PROJECT (BBP)
UPDATE**

Bill Black

Well, we finally got what we were looking for-- Phase III of the Big Barn Project has begun. East Guilford Construction is hard at work turning our newest museum space into a great showcase for our vast agriculture collection.

As we begin planning the layout of our exhibits the Big Barn has also contributed by giving us two more items for display. Recently when the

barn was being cleaned out an interesting looking coat was found hanging on the wall completely covered by other items. It's a coat which we believe belonged to a Civil War Union soldier. In those times when soldiers returned from war, they took their issued clothing with them. We believe that the coat was probably used as a 'barn' coat ever since. Further research is needed, but wouldn't it be great if we can find an old picture of one of the Dudleys wearing it?

The other 'barn' find is a hammer portion of a musket rifle. It was used as a bracket to secure a barn window from moving. We're not sure of its history, so you'll just have to use your imagination to figure it out.

By the end of May when Phase III is completed it will join with the other two barn sections which currently house our animals and some exhibits. At this point structural repairs to the Big Barn will be completed.

Stop by and see what your donations have been used for. Thank you for making our dream come true.

Curing What Ails You

Karlyn Marcantonio, Intern

At a time when household funds and professional health care were limited, home remedies were the more available affordable fix to whatever might ail the body. The Dudley family clipped many “recipes” from their papers and magazines to treat everything from a cold (Turpentine and lard rubbed on the chest) to the horse’s bad cough (Place one handful of dry coltsfoots in the feed twice a day.) At the 1876 Centennial Exhibition, the Philadelphia pharmacist Charles Hires (1851–1937) advertised his health drink, Hires Root Beer, which allegedly soothed the nerves and revitalized the blood. Patent medicine was not only very costly but it did not always treat the illness as

promised. Herbals and food as medicine were very popular as home remedies, but non-food chemicals were often used as well. These chemicals, such as turpentine and ammonia, often had other uses within the home. As time went on advances in medicine replaced these items, many which were proven ineffective and even harmful to the human body.

Borax is commonly used as a cleaning ingredient today, and historically it was used to glaze pottery and making glass. When used as a medicine gargling borax was believed to help inflamed throats. It was also used to cure cradle cap when applied to the baby's head with a sweet oil or lard as a paste. Borax did not rise in popularity until it was discovered in the Nevada desert in the 1870s. Borax is still used as a homeopathic medicine today, but can come with health risks (including kidney dysfunction) and is banned in food production by the FDA.

With the promise of clearing acne and whitening teeth charcoal is again growing in popularity in the health and beauty fields today. Historically it was used to treat dyspepsia, and to diminish symptoms of dysentery and persistent constipation. It was also used to treat a large number of pulmonary and hepatic diseases after other treatments were proven to be ineffective. It was also believed to be a powerful antiseptic, and was often applied to ulcers. A word of caution – charcoal may also be a powerful carcinogenic and should not be used to whiten teeth.

Today the World Health Organization regards mercury unsafe at any level of exposure, but in years gone by mercury was often used as a medicine. Calomel, also known as mercury chloride, was a commonly ingested medicine used as a cathartic and emetic. It was used to treat chronic dysentery, jaundice, coughs, promote sputum secretion, increase urination, cure fevers

which were accompanied by
d biliousness,
is in the body.



or mercury
ringworm,
, and herpes,
mercury
nonly used as
philis.

The New/Old Milk House

Doug Williamson

Some spring in the 1940's the frost finally took its toll on the foundation of the original milk house. The building had served its purpose well for over 75 years, storing and keeping cool the milk produced on the farm. Inside the building, sat a tank filled with cool water circulated from the well under the windmill. Each day in late morning a truck would arrive and the milk cans would be lifted out of the cool tank and taken out to the waiting truck where the milk would be poured by hand into the truck's tank. Henry Tichy, a founding member of The Dudley Foundation described

this process as a young worker on the farm.

This daily ritual began in the 1870's when the dairying operation was initiated by Nathaniel Dudley. Early on of course, it was a wagon that showed up to distribute the milk locally. Years later, wholesalers would begin buying milk from farms like The Dudley Farm for bottling and wider distribution.

One spring in the forty's had been particularly cold and was all that was needed to severely damage the foundation. Nathan Dudley dismantled the leaning building salvaging parts which he stored in the big barn. Some of those saved parts were recently discovered while cleaning in preparation for repairs to the larger dairy and hay barn (The Big Barn Project.)

Early in 2018 The Farm received a call from John Mills and Ryan Hough, neighbors a mile to the north. They were calling to offer their

considerable talents in the rebuild of the milk house itself. John and Ryan donated all materials and labor for the wonderful structure which they raised in September. It is an exact replica of the original milk house missing for so long.

After 70 years the long awaited rebuild of the stone wall on which the milk house sat began in December. Talk with seven masons took place before The Farm contracted with Tony's Masonry of Branford to reconstruct the wall using techniques similar to those in the original wall. The new wall is backed up by concrete as required by modern building codes. We are grateful for Tony's skills and the skill of his men and especially so for the generous donation by John and Ryan. Plans are underway to side the building in the next few weeks in preparation for the spring activities at The Farm.

Rocking in a Stick and Ball Chair Made by "Adirondack

Murray"

Beth Payne

Sitting in a corner of the Farm house is an unobtrusive but comfortable stick and ball rocking chair attributed to "Adirondack" Murray, a 19th century character born in East Guilford (now Madison) credited with convincing Americans that camping in the woods of the Adirondacks, hunting, fishing and canoeing, would restore the embattled souls of the war-weary populace. And so began the "Murray's Rush" to the Adirondacks in 1869.

William Henry Harrison Murray was born in 1840 to a family whose ancestors had been among the first settlers of Guilford. His boyhood was a mixture of study, farm work, and outdoor recreation, and "Bill," learned to shoot, hunt, and fish while developing a voracious reading habit and a taste for literature. After completing school at The Guilford Institute, Murray entered Yale College in 1858 dressed in handmade clothing and carrying \$4.68.

Determined to become a minister, Murray entered the Congregationalist East Windsor Seminary near Hartford, and finished theological studies in 1864. He then served in a succession of increasingly prosperous and prestigious churches in Connecticut and Massachusetts, most famously at the Park Street Church in Boston. Murray, who was described as powerfully built and ruggedly handsome, earned a reputation as both a church leader and an eloquent, engaging speaker. But his passion for the outdoors often raised eyebrows among New England congregations he served: on one occasion, he arrived to give a sermon while still wearing his shooting jacket and hunting breeches, and leaned his rifle against the pulpit.

Then in 1869 William H.H. Murray published one of the first guidebooks to a wilderness area - The Adirondack Mountains - a 9,000-square-mile expanse of lakes, forests and rivers in

upstate New York. *Adventures in the Wilderness*; or, *Camp-Life in the Adirondacks*, suggested that hiking, canoeing and fishing were the ultimate health tonic for harried city dwellers whose constitutions had been weakened by the demands of civilized life. In four months, his book ran ten editions!

By 1875, some 200 hotels and camps were operating in the Adirondack mountains, with new stagecoach services rattling from the train stations and steamboats plying the lakes. By 1900, the Adirondacks' summer population had risen to around 25,000 from 3,000 in 1869.

With his once-empty pockets now full, Murray returned to Guilford to buy the family homestead, and purchase several fine Morgan horses – which unfortunately were his financial undoing. *The New York Times* printed the following headline August 2, 1879: *The Rev. Mr. Murray fails; all his property attached by creditors. Sheriff's officers*

invading his stock farm at Guilford, Conn. Lavish expenditures there the cause of trouble--the clergyman now in the Adirondacks.

Twenty-four years later The New York Times published his obituary, which stated, in part, "ADIRONDACK MURRAY" DEAD.

Eccentric Clergyman and Writer Passes Away, Aged Sixty-four.

GUILFORD, Conn., March 3.—The Rev. William Henry Harrison Murray, better known as "Adirondack Murray" died at his home here to-day. He was sixty-four years old.

William H. H. Murray, preacher, author, and lover of good horses, was born in Guilford, Conn.

Garden News

Judy Stone, Garden Committee Coordinator

Every year when we reflect on our gardens, we usually say something like "This was a different year." And it definitely was. The unusual

periods of heat and record rain made for a challenging summer season, where some things thrived, and others struggled. The Dudley Farm was no exception--some local farm stands did not have enough produce to make it worthwhile. Nonetheless, after seeing the raging fires in California, we have a lot to be grateful for.

One thing we did have this year was an abundance of help with the gardens. Volunteers helped rehabilitate and care for the Heritage Garden area and Community Gardeners continued to take care of the area the garden is in. We had a very generous donation from the Guilford Garden Club, wood chips from Family Tree Service, and a significant donation of tools and fencing from farm member Rob Muller.

The Herb Garden, however really needs more attention. We have an excellent plan provided by Jean Horner, but so far, we do not have anyone who is knowledgeable and able to devote the time to

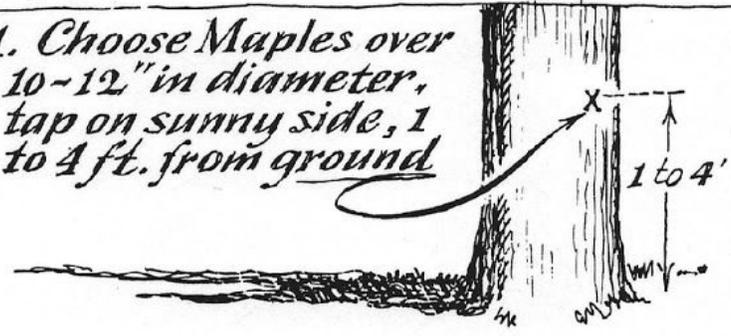
implementing it. If you do, or have a friend who does, please let me know. If you are inquiring about a Community Garden plot, or garden volunteer opportunities, please contact me at gardens@dudleyfarm.com. At the time of this writing it is unclear about the availability of plots, but this can change.

The Season for Sugar

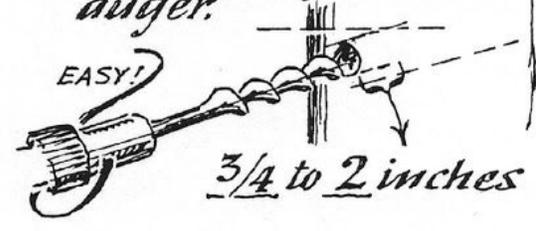
When the heat of the day exactly balances the frost of night.

<p>Day</p> <p>THAW</p> <p>32° to 40°</p>	<p>Night</p> <p>FREEZE</p> <p>32° to 24°</p>
<p>Ground steadily cool.</p>	

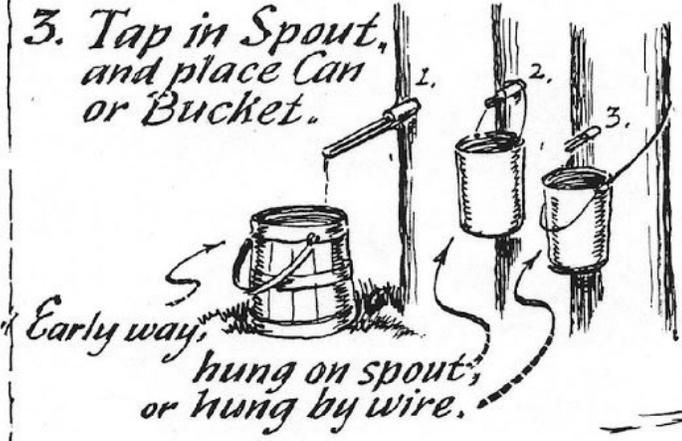
1. Choose Maples over 10-12" in diameter, tap on sunny side, 1 to 4 ft. from ground



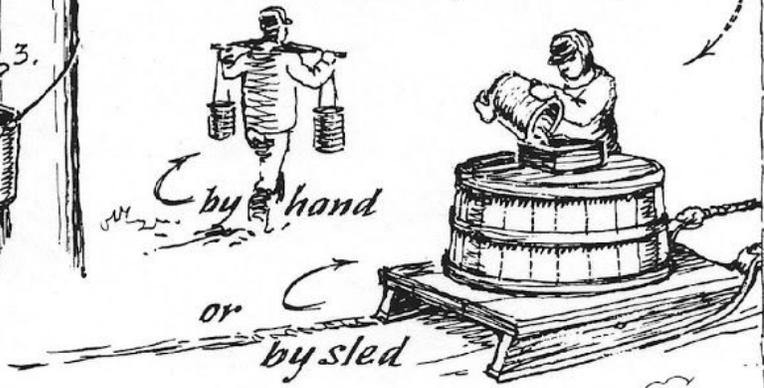
2. Bore slightly upward, using 1/2 inch auger.



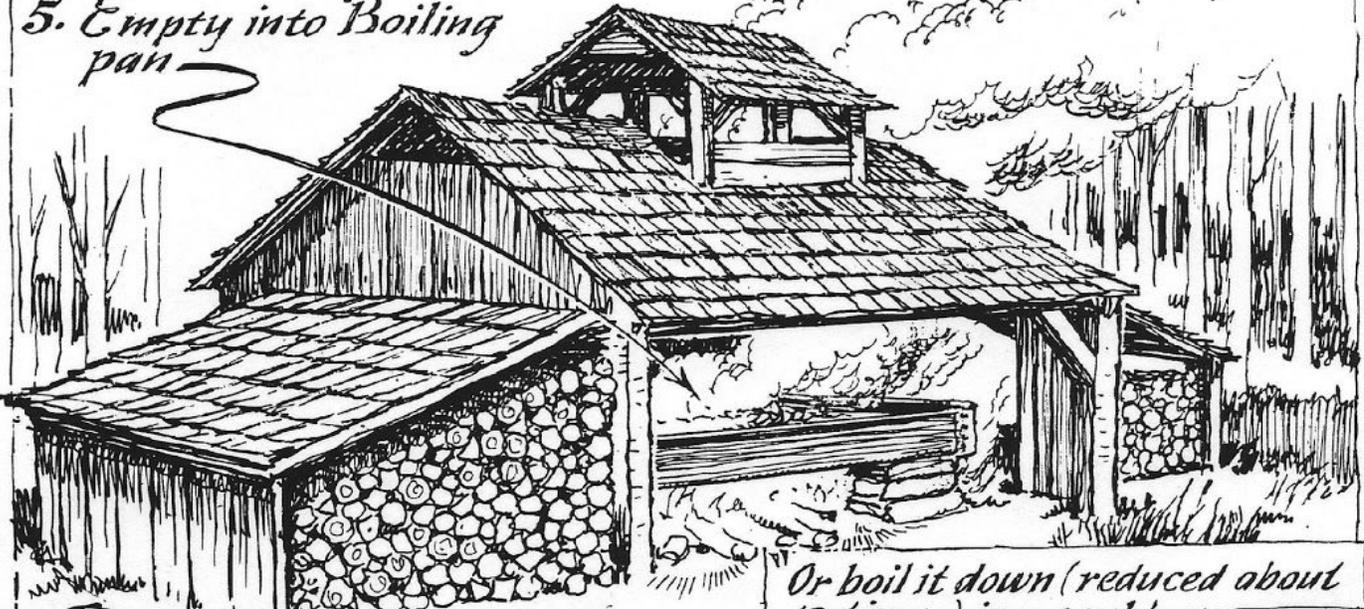
3. Tap in Spout, and place Can or Bucket.



4. Collect sap in reservoir



5. Empty into Boiling pan



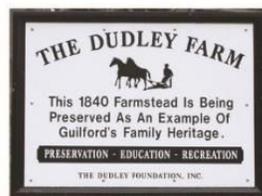
The Sugar House

Or boil it down (reduced about 12 times) in a cauldron, allow to settle and clarify with milk or white of egg." JOHN BURROUGHS

The Dudley Farm Museum
2351 Durham Road, Guilford, CT 06437
www.dudleyfarm.com 203-457-0770



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The Dudley Farm Winter Farmers' Market

First Saturday of the Month
9AM to 12:30 PM Feb., Mar., Apr., May

ALHFAM Regional Conference

March 8,9,10

Traditional Rug Hooking Workshop

March 23/24

Spring Clean-Up April 13 9AM

Annual Tag Sale April 27;

Rain date May 4

5th Annual Brunch "Celebrating 25 Years" Sunday May 19th, 11AM to 2PM

Museum Opens for the Season

June 1 **First Summer**

Farmers' Market Saturday June 1

For more information:

www.dudleyfarm.com

Ph. 203-457-0770 or email:

Info@dudleyfarm.com

