The Staff of The Historic Village at Allaire: Hance M. Sitkus, Executive Director; Daryl O’Connell, Events & Marketing Coordinator; Ronnie B. Brown, Director of Historical Interpretation, Kathy Geiser, Office Manager; Timothy Brown, Village Manager; Angela Larcara, Group Tour Coordinator; Gina Palmisano, Volunteer & Intern Coordinator; Alyssa Paterno, Assistant to the Executive Director; Cory Cattanach, Assistant to the Village Manager.

The Board of Trustees: Patricia Lundervold, Chairperson; Linda Cafone, Vice Chair; Ray O’Grady, Treasurer; Charles A. Brisbane; Jason Bryant; Russ McIver; Tom Laverty, Secretary; Inga Gabliks; State Park Supt.; Sgt. Michelle Sharp, NJ State Park Police; Paul Taylor; Jenny Felton, Regional State Park Director.

Upcoming Events

FEBRUARY
9th – Saturday – 10am-2pm Workshops – Sewing, Cooking, Blacksmith skills. $35 per person/$25 members

MARCH
9th – Saturday – 8am-3pm Early Spring Flea Market - $2, under 12 yrs. Free. Vendor space $30 ($35 two days prior to the event.)

APRIL
6th – Saturday – 11am-4pm Opening Day 2019! Join us for the first day of the 2019 season.
- Visit “For Paws Sake”
- Evening Lantern Tours
- Village Open House
continued:

The Historic Village Welcomes Cory Cattanach
Allaire Village Inc. has added a new part-time staff member who will be working with Village Manager Tim Brown to help with event set-up and facility management throughout the year. Cory has a multi-faceted background in various trades. He has apprenticed with an electrician as well as taken classes in carpentry. He is a Civil War reenactor and assumes the role of a Howell Works village on occasion to help our militia or to support his favorite candidate on Election Day. An avid sports enthusiast he spends his spare time rooting for his favorite teams and playing basketball.

MAY
4th – Saturday – 11am-4pm HISTORY KIDS DAY! - Join us as we launch a new program for students 12 yrs. and under and have FUN learning about nature and history at Allaire. $5 - 13yrs. and up; $3 - 2-12yrs. (pre-registered.)
11th – Saturday – 8am-3pm Late Spring Flea Market - $2, under 12 yrs. Free. Vendor space $30 ($35 two days prior to the event.)
11th – Saturday – 10am-2pm Workshops – Woodcarving, Leatherworking, Blacksmithing. $35 per person/$25 members
18th – Saturday – 10am-4pm Craft Festival & Spring Auction $5 – 13 yrs. and up; $3 – 2-12 yrs. Vendor space $30.
27th – Monday – 11am – 4pm Historic Buildings Open for Memorial Day. Parking fee - $5

The Historic Village at Allaire
4263 Atlantic Avenue
Farmingdale, NJ 07727
www.allairevillage.org
732-919-3500

A Year to Remember – Reflecting on 2018

Before we jump head-long into the new year, and before memory fades, it is appropriate that we take a moment to reflect on the changes, challenges and successes of 2018,...
Work Clothing for Women in The 1830s
by Diane Lingch, Fiber Arts Guild Mistress

In order to interpret an 1830s industrial site realistically we must be dressed as those who worked, lived and played here. We are not always aware how impressive we are to the general public when they first glimpse a period dressed interpreter. One of the questions people have asked me when I share with them the fact that I work at Historic Allaire Village, and I quote: “Is that the place where the people dress up in costume?”

Our attempt at being “period correct” is of the utmost importance. Therefore, work clothes must be foremost in our interpretation. An occasional visitor may also be seen wearing a typical 1830s day dress, as she might be interpreting a visitor to the village, or someone who is going to board the weekly stage to travel daily village life.

There were dresses worn by women who were basic and simply made. It was easier not to have to sew buttons and buttonholes on their work garments.

There are historians who mention a possible religious connotation, as in Quaker clothing or Amish, who felt that buttons on clothing were ornamental, therefore they did not use them. These garments were worn daily with a petticoat, and women here would have sewn buttons on men’s pants and shirts, coats, waistcoats where they were necessary.

Manual labor was a factor in men’s clothing which basically necessitated the use of buttons. Making gussets on both men’s and women’s clothing at the stress points on shirts, bodices, etc. was another method to reduce wear on those garments. The work clothes worn by women were just basic and simply made. It was easier not to have to sew buttons and buttonholes on their work garments.

There are historians who mention a possible religious connotation, as in Quaker clothing or Amish, who felt that buttons on clothing were ornamental, therefore they did not use them. These garments were worn daily with a petticoat, and women here would have sewn buttons on men’s pants and shirts, coats, waistcoats where they were necessary.

(Reflections - from p.1)

Other media outlets, both print and broadcast, grew to include several visits from Channel 12 news, the front page of the Asbury Park Press and increased coverage in the Coast Star newspaper chain.

Special exhibitions were staged throughout the year in 2018, beginning with a photography show in January, a display of historical flags in July, an exhibition on the social history of the Howell Works in August, and a display of toys across the generations – featuring toy trains in November and December. A furnace “build” and iron smelting demonstration gave visitors an up-close understanding of a process at the heart of the village. The scale model build of a working blast furnace was fired up twice to great success in a unique educational experience for our visitors and volunteers alike.

Repairs and improvements to the Blacksmith shop resulted in 4 working forges and an increase in output and training opportunities. The face lift given to the Foremen’s Cottage, resulted in a new roof (a state funded project), a floor repair and new plaster and paint (courtesy of our volunteers and friends.) The Chapel had its back and side walls repaired and by refocusing the floor, the building has reclaimed its historical beauty. We also invite you to come and hear our refurbished Chickering Piano circa 1865.

We would be remiss to not mention at this point all of the wonderful people and organizations that have supported us throughout 2018. Grants from the Fairleigh S. Dickinson Jr. Foundation, The Provident Bank Foundation, Investor’s Foundation, the Manassas Bank Foundation and Ocean First Bank helped us to grow our educational and volunteer programming. The Monmouth County History grant program contributed to our GIS and our project to repair the stack of the Enameling Building. The added support of Shore Point Distributing Co., Durham School Services, 301st Legion, and DCH Ford of Eatontown made our special events even stronger. The newly formed partnership with Allaire Community Farm seems to be proving beneficial to both organizations, and our event with 4 Paws Take for the benefit of Rescue Ridge and the Village, was successful for all.

Mention must be made of the exceptional Christmas season (despite that rain again)!

The village looked beautiful thanks to contributions from the Village Auxiliary, The Flower Bar, Diane Lingch and Sherry Elliot. A special thanks goes out to Linda Sitkus whose generosity made it possible to decorate the Allaire Residence as a Victorian style showplace. The donation of new china and glassware will continue to lend an air of elegance to the home throughout the year.

2018 was an amazing whirlwind of new programs, new people and new ideas! We made it through with flying colors (some bumps of course) but 2019 is yet another opportunity to make The Historic Village at Allaire a true New Jersey gem!

NEW FOR 2019
St. Patrick’s Celebration Features Bill O’Neal
Bill is one of the founding members of the Ballycastle Band and a long time musician of Irish and Scottish traditional music. He will be appearing from noon – 2pm in the Allaire Village Chapel on March 16th. Joining Bill will be bandmate Andrew on fiddle and mandolin. Their traditional sounds will bring out the Irish in everyone!

Enjoy the music, dancing, cooking, crafting and “everything Irish” to celebrate the day and salute the many Irish workers who helped make the Howell Works of 1836 a success.

We’ll be calling all kids ages 5 to 12 years for the launch of our new program that gives students a chance for hands-on opportunities to experience lifestyles and crafting in the 19th century. This program, designed to meet once a month over the course of the year, will introduce the elements of 19th century living history to children, through nature, music, science, literature and arts & crafts.

Participants can earn badges for completing activities and work toward becoming an Allaire “History Kid” – ready to help other kids become adept and knowledgeable about life – at work and at play - in a village of the 1800’s.

ART IS “LOOMING”
We have been fortunate in the past year to attract some extremely talented volunteers to our ranks. One talent that has come to the fore is WEAVING! Since more and more of our volunteers are taking up this fiber art, we hope to form a Guild (or at the least a “weaving circle”) that will teach and preserve this art as one we can continue to demonstrate and grow as part of our educational program. Hopefully spinning will not be far behind!