



The Historic Village at Allaire

The Village Star

	Fall 2023	
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**THERE IS NOTHING COZIER THAN A WARM FIRE
ON A CHILLY AUTUMN DAY.**

**“Her pleasure in the walk must arise from the exercise and the day,
from the view of the last smiles of the year upon the tawny leaves
and withered hedges, and from repeating to herself some few of the
thousand poetical descriptions extant of autumn—that season of
peculiar and inexhaustible influence on the mind of taste and
tenderness—that season which has drawn from every poet worthy of
being read some attempt at description, or some lines of feeling.”**

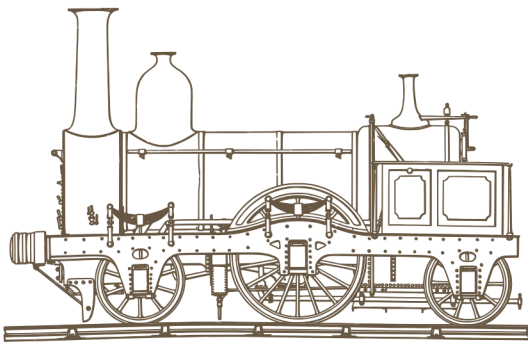
— Jane Austen, Persuasion



The Village Star

Contents:

- Letter from the Executive Director
- Announcements
- Fall and Winter Events
- "The Panic of 1837"
- "Working and Volunteering at Allaire"
- Villager Spotlight
- Gerald Charles Dickens At The Vogel



Be Sure to Pick up a Flat James P. Allaire
and take him on all your adventures!

Tag us @thehistoricvillageatallaire on
Facebook and Instagram and use the
hashtag #flatjames to share all your
awesome photos! You could be featured on
our social media or in the next issue of the
Village Star!





The Historic Village at Allaire

Letter from the Executive Director

This summer was an incredible season for the Historic Village at Allaire. Based on a high number of visitors to the Museum's grounds throughout the season, it's clear that Allaire is keeping history alive and presenting some really memorable programming experiences. Our village life tour program was well attended by adults and children. Over 5,500 students came through the historic village on group tours so far this year. For a second season in a row, we kept the village fully staffed Wednesday to Sunday, 11 am to 4 pm. A big thank you to all of our volunteers, craftspeople, tour guides, Auxiliary, and historical interpreters for a job well done. Nothing is more pleasing than seeing a visitor walk out with a glowing review, smile on their face, and the desire to want to come back. Our "History Kids Program" and "Behind the Counter Program" are becoming VERY popular. They continue monthly till December, so be sure to get your tickets early as they often sell out quickly!

And now for my favorite season of the year! The crisp air of Fall and early Winter seasons are always a magical place for Allaire, where many family memories and traditions take place. Whether it's gathering around the hearth in the Manager's House kitchen to take in the sights and smells of seasonal specialties, buying a Cheerful Giver juicy apple candle jar (made in NJ!) at the General Store, listening to the site's history and lore at the Enameling Building, or visiting to Mr. Allaire's House to take in the French décor of Christmas. From The Fall Apple Festival to the Christmas Lantern Tours, there's a magical experience waiting for you to explore at every turn.

The village grounds and our historic buildings will be open Friday to Sunday, 11 am to 4 pm throughout the rest of the year (special events only in December). At the Chapel, we will have the Legend of Sleepy Hollow and also An Evening with Edgar Allan Poe. It's always a picturesque autumn evening and a great literary experience. Fall Craft Show and Flea Markets are always well patronized, and then it's four evenings of Night of Frights and the historical day program of All Hallow's Eve and Village Trick-or-Treating. Tickets to all upcoming events are NOW available on our website and Eventbrite! The village takes on a beautiful Fall picturesque backdrop and then eases into a spooktacular scene by late October. As October comes to a close, it's a quick transition to the Holiday countdown! In November we have our 19th Century Thanksgiving Giving program – "Day of Thanks" – while our village craftspeople will be busy making items for the season our Blacksmith Shop, Carpenter Shop, and other craft buildings that will be for sale at the General Store and at the Auxiliary's Annual Stocking Stuffer.



The Historic Village at Allaire

Letter from the executive director

Last year the village was decorated to the nines for a classic mid-19th Century Christmas. A new old world Christmas theme has been selected for this year and without a doubt, it will be a show-stopper. Join us for our classic lantern tours, with streets a glow with lanterns and candles. Gather around the hearth at the Manager's House for the day-time Christmas at Allaire program, and be sure to come back for our second annual Holiday Stroll. These events will be limited this year to just two of each, so be sure to get your tickets ahead of time!

Have you heard? James P. Allaire has brought his friend from England, Charles Dickens, for a special visit! WAIT! That can't be... But it is! A little bit of a twist... It's Charles Dickens' great-great grandson, Gerald Charles Dickens! He will be performing on December 4, 2023 at The Vogel (Count Basie Center for the Arts). This one-man show of "A Christmas Carol" is a SPECIAL fundraiser for our museum organization. There are only a limited number of seats available for the two shows scheduled, so be sure to get your tickets today through Ticketmaster.com. Make The Historic Village at Allaire your family's seasonal and holiday tradition! Memorial benches now line our pathways for a quick rest as needed, and new barrel tables – with stools – allow you to enjoy your Bakery treats and sweets on the patio of the Mill Pond.

Proceeds from all our historical and fundraising events support ongoing preservation and education efforts. If you haven't already done so, I encourage you to buy your tickets in advance – to get the best ticket rate and ensure your place in history, as some events sell out! Thanks to your continued support of the Museum and its many events and programs, the Historic Village continues to be a popular and vibrant destination for so many. I look forward to thanking you in person at an upcoming event.

-Hance M. Sitkus, CPA
Executive Director





The Historic Village at Allaire

A note from the Editor

In the Spring/Summer 2023 issue of The Village Star, there was an article titled "Volunteers Learn New Skills in Training Program". In this article, Regine Tollefsen's last name was misspelled. I would like to take the time to offer my sincere apologies to Regine. Thank you for reaching out to me and for all your hard work.

**SCOUT PATCH
PROGRAM
AVAILABLE!
REACH OUT TO
(732) 919-3500
EXT 14**

More than just Weddings.

**The Allaire Chapel is open for
all ceremonies, memorials, and
events. Book your family
reunion or corporate retreat at
The Historic Village at Allaire.
(732) 919-3500 ext 16**



Who's that at Allaire?

It's a baby turtle! (species unknown)

Thank you to all of our interpreters, staff,
and volunteers! It was a great summer
season and we all hope you enjoyed the
Allaire Appreciation Picnic!

Volunteer Award Recipients 2023

Volunteer – Angela Camack

Spirit of Allaire – Kevin O'Brien

Youth Volunteer – Ben Moshello-Beebe

Guild Master – Denise Warren

Auxiliary – Jean Wolf and Linda Cafone





The Historic Village at Allaire

Summer Highlights



**Apparel Shop
Now Open:**



Relax and Soak in Art and History

Need a break from the hustle and bustle of the village? Our Lounge in the Enameling building provides a quiet area to sit and relax before venturing back out into the exciting history. Now Open "Industry and Nature" an amateur photography contest exhibition. Awards and Reception will be on Saturday, November 18th!



The Ducky Derby Returned with a Splash!
Thank you everyone who braved the thunder to be there!



**There's now a playground located
by the Picnic Pavillion right outside
the village! Finally!**

Select Events at Allaire

Autumn Events

This is just a small sampling of our upcoming events. See our website for more!

Saturday, September 23rd:

FALL APPLE FESTIVAL

Day of Tickets \$10 Adult, \$5 Child (4-12)

Saturday, September 30th:

FALL CRAFT SHOW

Day of Tickets \$5 Ages 6 and up, Raindate Oct. 1st.

Friday, October 6th:

LEGEND OF SLEEPY HOLLOW

Performed by Neill Hartley. \$25 a person.
Advanced tickets required.

Saturday, October 7th:

FLEA MARKET

Day of Tickets \$5 Ages 12 and up. Includes entry into village.

Saturday, October 7th:

AN EVENING WITH EDGAR ALLAN POE

Performed by Helen McKenna-Uff. \$25 a person.
Advanced tickets required.

**Friday and Saturday, October
13th, 14th, 20th, 21st:**

NIGHT OF FRIGHTS

\$18 Adult, \$12 Child (12-18), Free under 12.
Advanced tickets Required.

Saturday, October 28th:

ALL HALLOWS' EVE TRICK-OR-TREATING

Day of Tickets \$10 Adult, \$5 Child (4-12). Raindate October 29th.

**Friday, Saturday, Sunday,
November 3rd, 4th, 5th:**

STOCKING STUFFER

Sponsored by Allaire Village Auxiliary

Saturday, November 4th:

FLEA MARKET

Day of Tickets \$5 Ages 12 and up. Includes entry into village.

Saturday, November 11th:

HOLIDAY CRAFT SHOW

Day of Tickets \$5 Ages 6 and up, Raindate Nov. 12th.

Sunday, November 19th:

DAY OF THANKS

Day of Tickets \$5 Ages 3 and Up



*For tickets and more information, check out our Allaire Village Eventbrite Page!
Scan our QR code to see more!*

Select Events at Allaire

Winter Events

This is just a small sampling of our upcoming events. See our website for more!

Monday, December 4th:

A CHRISTMAS CAROL

At The Vogel in Red Bank. Showtimes 3 pm and 7 pm. Tickets must be purchased on [ticketmaster.com](https://www.ticketmaster.com)

Saturday, December 9th, 16th:

CHRISTMAS LANTERN TOURS

\$30 per person. \$45 VIP tickets. Advanced tickets required. This event is not recommended for children.

Sunday, December 10th, 17th:

CHRISTMAS AT ALLAIRE

Day of Tickets \$10 Ages 3 and up

**Friday, December 15th and
Saturday December 23rd:**

HOLIDAY STROLL

Day of Tickets \$10 Ages 3 and up

Workshops and More

Beyond the Counter:

**CRAFT AND LECTURE-BASED WORKSHOPS
FOR ADULTS**

History Kids Club:

HANDS-ON LEARNING FOR AGES 5 to 12

**Exhibits in The Enameling
Building:**

**CURRENT AND UPCOMING EXHIBITS
"INDUSTRY AND NATURE PHOTO CONTEST"
CHRISTMAS CARDS AND DOLLS EXHIBIT**

**We will be closed for the Season Starting Monday,
December 24th**

**Thank You for another wonderful year filled with events,
workshops, and fun!**

**We hope to see everyone next year!! Until then have a happy holiday
season and a whimsical winter.**



***For tickets and more information, check out our Allaire Village Eventbrite Page!
Scan our QR code to see more!***

The Village Star

THE PANIC OF 1837 AND ITS IMPACT ON THE HOWELL IRONWORKS

By James Beaver

What is the Panic of 1837?

The Panic of 1837 is one of a number of depressions that have occurred in US history. A depression is a period of severe economic downturn that can lead to people losing their jobs, the value of money decreasing, etc. The depression began shortly after Martin Van Buren's inauguration as the 8th US president. This event would cause a chain reaction across the country. Hundreds of thousands of people would lose their jobs as a result. The value of land dropped dramatically and many banks closed their doors. Many companies across the country would take hits as well, one of them being the Howell Iron Works.

How was the Howell Iron Works Impacted?

James P. Allaire, the owner of the New York-based Allaire Works, purchased the land that would eventually develop into the self-sustaining community of Allaire. The community had a population of about 400 people. Allaire would then create The Howell Iron Works, a separate company from Allaire Works. One of its primary focuses was to produce iron, specifically, pig iron, to supply Allaire Works. At this time, Allaire Works was one of the main manufacturers of Marine steam engines.

The Allaire community had many other professional buildings which included occupations such as the blacksmith. The blacksmith who worked the blast furnace made a significant contribution to the Howell Iron Works. The company reached its peak of success by 1836, however, it would suffer as a result of the depression, which caused the demand for products from the Howell Iron Works to decline. It didn't help that the furnace blew out shortly afterward.

After this event, the Howell Iron Works would never be the same. It was declared bankrupt and would stop production in the late 1840s. The village was then left abandoned and would sit for many years as the rest of New Jersey evolved and developed around it. Even though Allaire's 26-year period of prosperity is just a memory today, it recalls its contribution to the early industrial production that would help America grow into the nation that it has become today.

Sources:

<https://1.cdn.edl.io/4JQEPEH7QGtqO1qUrxdkRLzrOCWC5WQRHHPHk4boIMH3faTn.pdf>

<https://allairevillage.org/history/>

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Howell_Work_s



Mr. Allaire's Portrait Wall of Announcements

ALLAIRE WISH LIST

- Cricut Machine
- Portable Projector
- Cardstock all colors
- Laminator
- Battery Operated Candles
- Amazon Giftcards for supplies

**Please call (732) 919-3500, Ext. 13
if you would like to donate to
our wish list.**

Volunteer Workshops!

Are you interested in learning a new skill? Our Volunteer Workshops are just one of the many perks of Volunteering at Allaire. From Candle Making to Dancing there's something for everyone!

If you are interested in hosting a workshop or signing up for one
Please call (732) 919-3500, ext. 14

Interested in Volunteering?

Do you have a passion for history and a love for education? A desire to help in your local community museum? If so, please join us as a volunteer! We always have volunteer opportunities available. Our volunteers can learn a new trade or skill, teach the public the history of our site and our trades, or help behind the scenes.

Please contact Linnea Kuglitsch,
(732) 919-3500, ext. 12, to schedule a
volunteer orientation!

Join as a Member!

Join us as a member of Allaire Village to help preserve our site, and receive some exclusive perks to match! These include:

- Complimentary admission to the Village on General Admission days
 - A 10% discount at all Village retail shops, including the online general store
 - Free admission to our Flea Markets and Craft Shows
 - Invitations to exclusive members-only events
- Interested? Reach out to us at
info@allairevillage.org, (732) 919-3500, ext. 13
to learn more!



The Village Star

Working and Volunteering at Allaire: Why We Do What We Do By Angela Camack

I ran into a former co-worker a few weeks ago. She asked me what I'd been up to after retirement, and I mentioned volunteering at Allaire. She then asked, "You want to do that?" as if someone held a gun to my temple and ordered me to wear a 19th century dress. The conversation reminded me of why we are here. Keeping history alive is particularly important now, when history is often given decreasing focus in schools and when events from our past connect to current circumstances. Exploring the structure of the village and the lives of its residents acknowledges the link to past and present issues of gender, class, diversity and technology.



Looking at the lives of women, we see that gender roles were strictly divided. Men worked in the iron works or other businesses and women worked in the home. Some women were able to apprentice and learn trades, but usually did not work once they married. Even considering the attitudes about gender at the time, the lives of most women did not give them time to think about changing them. If a young woman entertained the idea of education, until the Common School movement of the 1840's and 1850's, women did not go to school unless they had access to dame schools, small private schools where girls learned the alphabet, readings from the Old Testament and household chores. As for higher education, by the mid-19th century could attend coeducational colleges like Oberlin or women's colleges such as Wesleyan. However, many people felt that higher education for women was unnecessary or suspect, and women admitted to coeducational colleges did not have the freedom given to male students. Looking at the lives of the men and women at Allaire, we are reminded of the distance women have come and the persistence of such attitudes today, such as the difficulty women have entering stem cell research. We can understand how progressive James Allaire was in offering an education to all children living at the Howell Iron Works.

The Village Star

A few years ago, a visitor and I were talking about the various residences available at the Howell works (row house, Foreman's Cottage, Manager's house and the Big House). She mentioned that there was no mistaking how strictly class lines were drawn. With rare exceptions, people were born in an economic class and stayed there. The pattern began to change in the 1850's, when Westward expansion and technological advancements created new opportunities. James Allaire was one of those exceptions, and realizing how difficult upward mobility was during the 1800's makes his achievements memorable. Part of Allaire's desire to provide education to the children may have been the desire to provide skills that would enable them to better navigate a restrictive society. We can better appreciate how things stand today. The family living in a pricey neighborhood may be headed by someone who has generations of inherited wealth or someone who invented innovative technologies.

Where are people of color at Allaire? They are notable by their absence. Although there were people of color who had skills that would enable them to work at the Iron Works, their employment at Allaire was limited to working on nearby farms or as housekeepers or maintenance workers. James Allaire was progressive in so many ways, from educating children to hiring immigrants from several European countries.

Why did his progressiveness not extend to include people of non-European descent? Perhaps because of the racism so embedded in American society. For all the progress made toward diversity there are still times when racism prevents full access to equal, peaceful participation in American society. The difference between who Mr. Allaire accepted and who he did not illustrates how deeply rooted racism was in American society and why it persists today.

The last century has seen incredible technological advances. Advances in computers, transportation, communication and medicine have created tremendous opportunities for career advances and entrepreneurship. However, technology changes so rapidly that once was seen as the state of the art is overturned by newer developments. This was true even in the 1800's, as the Howell Iron Works, once seen as a secure business that supported a village, declined as deposits of coal and iron in Pennsylvania led to resources that developed more quickly and less expensively.

So this is why we work and volunteer at Allaire, with enthusiasm and not at gunpoint. We are offering visitors the chance to understand how history was in 1836 and how different, and alike things are today.

The Village Star

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Vansledright, Bruce, et. al. "The End of History Education in Elementary School?" *Perspectives on History*, 1 May 2012. Accessed 20 July 2023.

Wexler, Natalie. "Why Kids Know Even Less About History and Why it Matters." *Forbes*, 24 April 2020. Accessed 20 July 2023.



The Village Star



Villager Spotlight: Shelby Register

Shelby began working at Allaire in April 2023 after graduating from Rider University with a degree in History.

Her favorite place to interpret is the Manager's Building. You can find Shelby making hearts in the Blacksmith Shop or Knitting in one of the homes. She loves to be able to teach people about history and make friends with other interpreters, staff, and volunteers.

When not at Allaire Shelby likes to travel, especially to other historic places and being outdoors!



The Historic Village at Allaire announces its first-ever, off-site Theatrical Fundraiser for the 501c3 non-profit organization.



The Historic Village at Allaire has some exciting news!

Gerald Charles Dickens, (the great, great grandson of literary icon, Charles Dickens), will be performing a one-man show of A Christmas Carol for Allaire Village in December at The Vogel (Count Basie Center for the Arts). There are only a limited number of seats available for the 2 shows scheduled.

Gerald, an actor and producer from Oxford, England, will be performing his captivating rendition of this heartwarming holiday tale. Gerald bears more than a passing resemblance to his famous ancestor, who originally toured the U.S. in 1867 reading his literary works before spellbound audiences. The historians report that A Christmas Carol was his favorite piece to perform. According to Gerald, his great-great grandfather adored theater and initially wanted to be an actor but pursued writing as a career for practical purposes. For many years Gerald says that he himself "avoided anything to do with Dickens like the plague."

The Village Star

But in 1993 when a friend asked him to do a reading of A Christmas Carol on its 150th anniversary of publication to help raise money for a historical restoration project, he couldn't turn him down. To his surprise, he enjoyed doing it and has been delighting audiences around the world with his rendition ever since. During his energetic one-man show, Gerald Dickens leaps, sobs, and laughs all 26 characters of the classic tale as they are brought vividly to life. Gerald has created different postures and voices for each character, achieving this so adeptly that the audience has no doubt about "who is who," so to speak. Gerald has not performed in this area for many years and this is a chance to experience history first hand along with the magic of Christmas.

Hance M. Sitkus, Executive Director of Allaire Village states, "We are so honored to have Gerald Charles Dickens perform for Allaire Village in Monmouth County. He has not been in this area performing for over 20 years. It's a magical show and reflects perfectly the time period when Allaire Village existed in the 1800s!"



Gerald Charles Dickens Event, A Christmas Carol

Mon., December 4th, 2023 The Vogel -
Part of the Count Basie Center for the Arts,
Red Bank, NJ

Performances: 3pm & 7pm

Tickets can be purchased by going to
[Ticketmaster.com](https://www.ticketmaster.com).

Type in **Gerald Charles Dickens** in the
Search Bar

The first 3 rows in each performance will
receive an autographed copy of A
Christmas Carol by Gerald Charles Dickens.





The Village Star

A Thank You To Our Annual Sponsors & Grantors



Allaire Village Inc. received a Monmouth County American Rescue Plan (ARPA) Covid19 Community Recovery Grant from the Monmouth County Commissioners.

Allaire Village Inc. received an operating support grant from the New Jersey Historical Commission, a division of the Department of State.

**Allaire Village Inc. received a grant from :
Ocean First Foundation
Manasquan Bank Foundation
New Jersey Council for the Humanities
New Jersey Arts and Culture Recovery Fund
Brisbane Associates
Estate of Evelyn Frostick Kessler Morton
Sandpipers
Questers
Americana Corner**

The Historic Village at Allaire

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(732) 919-3500

allairevillage.org

Check out our Facebook and Instagram!
[@TheHistoricVillageAtAllaire](#)

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