



# The Historian

*A Man's Life – A Nation's History*

*A Newsletter for Friends of the Sanderson*

*March 2013 Issue 5*

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## NEWS FROM THE PRESIDENT –

Sue Minarchi

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Welcome to the beginning of the 2013 Season at the Christian C. Sanderson Museum in Chadds Ford, Pennsylvania. There are going to be some wonderful things going on at the museum this year, so hold on to your seats!

Be sure to put the immensely enjoyable Sanderson Sundays on your calendar. These are great ways for you and your family to spend a Sunday afternoon listening to a great lecture or some great music at on the side porch of the “Little Grey House”. Details on these exciting events will be available soon.

If you are a member, and I hope that you are, watch for news about our Members Only Event. This fun-filled evening features great food, drink, music and camaraderie for all Sanderson Museum members. If you're not a member, please consider becoming one ... this event is for Members Only.

We are very pleased to announce that we will have our first Special Exhibit of artifacts at the museum this year. To commemorate the 150th Anniversary of the Civil War, we will first co-sponsor an exhibit with the Chadds Ford Historical Society at their location which is always very exciting for us. The artifacts will then travel back to the Sanderson Museum for a special celebration and expanded display in our Entry Room. What a great way to honor this important event!

While you're at the museum, be sure to take advantage of the new Audio Tour. There will be one available for adults and one for children. What a great way to tour the museum and ensure that you see the most significant artifacts in each room.

After seeing the art, historic artifacts and other memorabilia, I hope you'll want to become more involved with this unique museum. There is an opportunity for everyone. Contact Mary Hewes, Executive Director, at 610.388.6545 or by email at [executivedirector@sandersonmuseum.org](mailto:executivedirector@sandersonmuseum.org), and she'll tell you all about them. Become a member of the Sanderson Museum volunteer family!

There is lots going on ... Sanderson Sundays, our Members Only Event, Special Exhibits and a new Audio Tour. So come by for a visit or to spend an afternoon. You'll want to bring a friend or family member with you so that they can see Chris' wonderful collection. There's so much to enjoy at the Sanderson Museum!

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## ASK TO SEE – Chuck Ulmann, Curator

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I happened to be listening to the radio recently and I heard an announcement about a new exhibit at the Brandywine River Museum, our neighbor across Baltimore Pike. It's called the "Ides of March" and is a study of the development of the painting by Andrew Wyeth. Many of the preliminary sketches done by Wyeth are on display.

The Sanderson Museum is proud to have several Wyeth drawings and paintings. In the Brandywine Room, there is a series of preliminary drawings or studies that eventually were refined and used for the illustrations in the book, "The Brandywine", written by Henry S. Canby. The drawings were probably created in the 1940–1941 timeframe as the book was published in 1941. It is part of a famous series called 'Rivers of America' that was conceived by the author, Carl Carmer. Carl wrote the first book, "The Hudson" in 1937 and it was the starting point for a 60-book series that was completed in the 1970's.

The Brandywine Room also contains one of the museum's most important works, "The Country Schoolmaster". Chris was the model for this painting which was done in 1939. I believe the head and shoulders of this painting may have been used for one of the drawings in "The Brandywine" book. To the left of the painting are two studies used to create the final version of the skating scene on the Brandywine River that became one of the two-page black and white illustrations (Canby, pp 90-91) in the book.



There are other studies used for "The Brandywine" in the room including the map, which was done with Chris' input, and the ice skate sketch by N. C. Wyeth that helped Andrew draw it correctly in the skating scene.

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Ask to See from page 2

Andrew Wyeth gave Chris a square dance sketch (right) that was not used in the book. At the bottom of this



small drawing is the comment, "To Sandy to remember the days working on this Brandywine book." There was a limited quantity of Andrew Wyeth signed and numbered copies of this 4.5" by 6" drawing and several have recently been for sale.

So next time you are at the museum, "Ask To See" the Andrew Wyeth drawings and the Canby book, "The Brandywine", to see the progression from an idea to a final version of Andrew Wyeth's work which Chris Sanderson helped develop and modeled for one of the drawings!

## VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

The Sanderson Museum is run by volunteers just like you! We are people who are interested in history, delight in talking to other people, have a bit of the "pack rat" in them, and want to touch a moment in time. If you are interested in volunteering your time and/or talents, call 610.388.6545 or email [info@sandersonmuseum.org](mailto:info@sandersonmuseum.org) to join our volunteer family.

## WHO WAS BAYARD TAYLOR?

The following is an excerpt from our volunteer training provided by Board Member & Guide, Gene Pisasale.

Bayard Taylor was born January 11, 1825 in Kennett Square, Pennsylvania. Taylor was influenced by Rufus Griswold, the editor of Graham's Magazine at the age of 17 to start writing poetry. His first work was 'Ximena, or the Battle of Sierra Morena and other Poems'. Although it generated little income, the poem and the connection with Griswold indirectly were stepping stones to future work at The New York Tribune newspaper, which was edited by Horace Greeley.

In 1844, Bayard's cousin tried to persuade him to travel around Europe, but without much money, the trip appeared to be an impossibility. Using his newfound link with the publishing world, he contacted The New York Tribune, The Saturday Evening Post and other media outlets and persuaded them to partially fund his trip, offering to send back articles describing his travels.

After his return in 1846, he published 'Views Afoot, or Europe Seen with Knapsack and Staff' which brought him recognition as an author.



In 1848, Greeley agreed to place Taylor on his staff at The Tribune, which was Taylor's big break. His first assignment was to travel to California to cover the Gold Rush. After his return, in 1850 he published 'Eldorado, or Adventures in the Path of Empire'.

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*Bayard Taylor* from page 3

A longing for love caused Taylor to rekindle ties with his childhood sweetheart Mary Agnew in Kennett Square despite the objections of her parents, who thought he didn't hold a responsible job to provide for their daughter. The two remained very close and his devotion to her grew even though her health was very fragile. On returning from one of his trips, the two were married in October 1850. She died two months later.

Nearly overcome with despondence from her death, Taylor needed something to rejuvenate him, so in 1851 he journeyed to London with his brother William and later to Egypt, Palestine and the Mediterranean countries. He later sailed for Calcutta and later to China, receiving an appointment as a Master's Mate in the U.S. Navy in order to join up with the historic expedition of Commodore Matthew Perry to Japan. On his return to the United States, Taylor began touring as a public speaker and enjoyed much success, going across the country from Maine to Wisconsin. His books *'A Journey to Central Africa, or Life and Landscapes from Egypt to the Negro Kingdoms of the White Nile'* (1854), *'The Lands of Saracen, or Pictures of Palestine, Asia Minor, Sicily and Spain'* (1854) and *'A Visit to India, China and Japan in the Year 1853'* (1855) chronicled his many adventures abroad.

It seemed nothing could quench his desire to go to foreign lands and learn the ways of other cultures. In 1855, he left on a trip to northern Europe where he experienced Sweden and the land of the arctic. He then visited Germany and later England, where he met up with Alfred Lord Tennyson, enjoying long conversations discussing poetry, religion, politics and even geology. Afterwards, he stopped in Norway to see his friend August Buleb, with

whom he spent the summer. This venture inspired his long narrative poem 'Lars' in addition to 'Swedish Letters to the Tribune', later republished under the title 'Northern Travel: Summer and Winter Pictures'.

Bayard Taylor's trip to Norway gave him the second love of his life, Buleb's niece Marie Hansen. The two were engaged in June 1857 and married four months later. Marie became pregnant with their first child and the couple traveled to America in 1858, where they settled in Taylor's home town of Kennett Square. Taylor started a lecture tour to raise money to build his nearby estate- named Cedarcroft- which was completed in the summer of 1860. The home was dedicated with much fanfare on August 18, 1860 with a celebration of a comedy titled 'Love at a Hotel' written by Taylor and his friend Richard Henry Stoddard. In attendance at the event were several literary luminaries- Ralph Waldo Emerson, John Greenleaf Whittier, James Russell Lowell and Horace Greely.

Due to his talent in writing and public speaking- along with the friendship of some famous authors- Bayard Taylor was much in demand for lectures around the country. He accepted an appointment as the charge d'affaires for the Russian legation in St. Petersburg which broadened his knowledge of the European continent. In December 1863, he agreed to give a series of three lectures on the subject of Russia in Washington, D.C.; President Abraham Lincoln was in attendance. Lincoln was so impressed with his performance; he wrote him a letter of admiration. A few years later, Taylor published *'Ballad of Abraham Lincoln'*, a poem of our 16th President.

Up until the 1860's, most of Taylor's works were non-fiction. He wrote his first novel *'Hannah*

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*Bayard Taylor* from page 4

*Thurston: A Story of American Life* in 1863. This and a follow-up work both became popular, even generating praise in a letter from Nathaniel Hawthorne. In 1866 he published *The Story of Kennett*, a historical novel of the southern Chester County region set in the late 1700's- early 1800's. He later published a definitive translation of Goethe's *Faust* which is considered one of the best versions of the classic work.

There are many ways to discover Bayard Taylor at the Sanderson Museum. The cabinet in the Chadds Ford Room displays many articles remembering his life. The lap writing desk he used when writing *The Story of Kennett* is there, its dark brown wood rimmed by brass-plated corners. Chris Sanderson noted that Taylor used this desk when writing *The Story of Kennett*. Multiple copies of the book are there in the display.



Chris Sanderson owned a first edition of the novel and he made several notations inside the front cover indicating his familiarity with the actual characters mentioned in the book, including Sally Fairthorn. A photograph of Sally Fairthorn is on the second shelf of the cabinet.

Below, a piece of linen spun by her is on the third shelf of the display. Nearby, a pair of wire-rimmed

glasses and case sit, the notation by Chris that they were glasses "...once owned by Father Fairthorn of Story of Kennett fame".

The cabinet highlights numerous items of the period, including a butter mold, a pewter plate, old photographs of Taylor's parents, postcards, commemorative ribbons and ceramic tiles along with pieces of paper from the original manuscript of *The Story of Kennett*. In pursuing his love of reading, he broadened the horizons of his imagination which later inspired him to become one of the best-traveled persons of his day.

Many of Taylor's other books are in the cabinet, including *Views Afoot* and *Eldorado*. A ceramic plate titled *'Cedarcroft- Home of Bayard Taylor, Kennett Square, Pa.'* stands nearby, its simple design a fitting tribute to the man who tried to portray the world as it was back then.

*Not a member? Join Today!*

The Sanderson Museum is a private, non-profit organization founded in 1967. Your membership will help to support the rich heritage of Chris Sanderson's country home filled with artifacts representing over 200 years of American history. Membership provides free admission to the museum, a free gift, a subscription to our quarterly newsletter and invitation to special events.

Visit [www.sandersonmuseum.org](http://www.sandersonmuseum.org) for more information or contact us at 610.388.6545.

*Don't forget to renew your membership!*

## MUSEUM AUDIO TOURS

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We are excited to introduce two new audio tours available to museum visitors, an adult tour and a children's tour. Each tour provides the visitor with a guided tour of the eight rooms highlighting some of the "must see" artifacts.

Have you seen:

- the picture made from butterfly wings,
- Jennie Wade's Purse,
- a ticket from the 1915 World Series,
- original paintings and sketches by Andrew Wyeth, or
- Franklin Roosevelt's autograph?

Take the tour and you will see them all!

Children will benefit from the tour as interesting artifacts will be pointed out them, such as,

- a "bucket a day" stove,
- arrowheads and cannonballs,
- an old school room desk and slate,
- magic lantern slides,
- autographs of presidents and famous inventors, and
- an Edison home phonograph.

Audio tours are available for \$3 and headphones are provided. Be sure to take the tour on your next visit!

## PRIVATE TOURS AVAILABLE

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Do you know a group that would like to tour the museum but doesn't meet on weekends or requires special assistance? The Sanderson Museum will gladly host your party and give them a private showing of the museum. Private tours will be arranged outside of normal museum hours which are every Saturday and Sunday from 12 p.m.-4 p.m. from March through November.

Although there is no additional charge for private tours, donations are greatly appreciated. To schedule a tour, contact the museum at 610.388.6545 and please allow two weeks advanced notice.

## PROJECT MANAGER NEEDED for "Hanna Carmack Sanderson Memorial Garden"

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The Board of Directors is seeking a person with a green thumb. We have plans to build a lovely garden at the museum. This has been a long-term goal to design a garden of native plants for the enjoyment of the public, as well as for the shelter and nourishment of birds and small animals. We have the plans and are looking for someone to lead this project. If you are interested or would like more information, please email Sue Minarchi at [president@sandersonmuseum.org](mailto:president@sandersonmuseum.org).

## GO GREEN!

The Historian is available electronically!

Help us reduce our postage and printing cost. Sign up to receive The Historian through email.

To enroll, please email Mary Hewes at [executivedirector@sandersonmuseum.org](mailto:executivedirector@sandersonmuseum.org) and begin to receive your issue electronically.

**Thank you!!**

## BOARD MEMBERS

The museum is fortunate to have board members who support the mission of the museum which is to interpret our nation’s history through one man’s life and through his collection, by providing a captivating and personal museum experience in an historic 19th century home, for families, students, historians and educators. Current board members are:

- Susan Minarchi, President
- Sally Jane Denk Hoey, Vice President
- Stephen Marvin, Secretary
- John T. Nicholson, Esq., Attorney
- John Aaron
- Dean Camp
- Rena Cuno
- Hollie Gorman
- Carol Little
- Barbara Moore
- Gene Pisasale

## MUSEUM GUIDES, CURATORS, AND MORE

Without our many volunteers, the museum would cease to exist. We are extremely thankful to have an active group of volunteers.

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|----------------|-----------------------|
| John Aaron     | Richard McLellan,     |
| Jean Baiardi   | President Emeritus    |
| Linda Banks    | Andy Moynihan         |
| Sandy Bardell  | Karen Moynihan        |
| Tom Baldwin    | B. Renee Phillips     |
| Missie Bauman  | Dan Reider            |
| Joanne Kinsey  | Tina Shaplin          |
| Walt Kinsey    | Chuck Ulmann, Curator |
| Elise Klingler | Tommy Thompson,       |
| Chip Lohmann   | Founding Curator      |
| Norma Mansur   | Linda Tulloch         |
|                | Tom Walsh             |

If you are interested in volunteering your time and/or talents, call 610.388.6545 or email [info@sandersonmuseum.org](mailto:info@sandersonmuseum.org) to join our volunteer family.

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## SUPPORT THE MUSEUM

The Sanderson Museum is a private, non-profit 501(c)3 organization founded in 1967. Please consider becoming a member or making a contribution to keep this unique museum open for the enjoyment of future generations. You can mail your tax-deductible donation or membership application to Sanderson Museum, P.O. Box 153, Chadds Ford, PA 19317. Membership and donations can also be made online at [sandersonmuseum.org](http://sandersonmuseum.org).

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

I am enclosing my tax deductible gift of:

- \$1,000
- \$500
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- \$100
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- My gift is: \_\_\_\_\_

I would like to join the Sanderson Museum:

- Individual \$20
- Family \$30
- Patron \$100
- Benefactor \$500

Christian C. Sanderson Museum  
PO Box 153  
Chadds Ford, PA 19317



*Go Green and receive The Historian via email. Send your email address to [executivedirector@sandersonmuseum.org](mailto:executivedirector@sandersonmuseum.org). Thank you!*



The Christian C. Sanderson Museum - A Man's Life, A Nation's History. An eclectic array of art, military memorabilia, presidential artifacts, local history and collectibles. History like you've never seen it before! Open March through November, Saturday and Sunday, 12pm to 4pm or by appointment.

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