



January 2026

Dear Members and Friends,

On behalf of the Danvers Historical Society, I wish you a Happy New Year. In 2026, the Society celebrates 137 years of dedication to preservation, education, and memories. Since 1889, the Society has stood as the steward and guardian of eight important historic buildings on nearly 20 acres, including the arboretum and incredible floral displays of Glen Magna Farms. Our organization has blossomed to more than 400 members led by a committed, diverse Board of Trustees, a talented professional staff and a small army of volunteers, all devoted to fulfilling our mission to educate and preserve the rich history of Danvers, Salem Village, and this land once known as Wahquainesehcok and Wahgnack. The Society works to remain the repository of the memories of the many people who have lived amid and loved these hills and valleys for thousands of years. And thanks to your ongoing support, we can continue the strides we've made in the past year.

Funded by grants, generous personal donations, and our events, we have accomplished:

Capital Improvements

- A newly restored Peabody Gazebo at Glen Magna Farms
- Removed outmoded knob and tube wiring at Page House, with insulation added to the exterior walls
- Re-shingled the attic/third floor of the Mansion at Glen Magna Farms, and the addition of a new roof hatch
- Replaced the majority of the Mansion's veranda decking, with repairs to beams, joists, and column bases

Educational Programming

- The continuation of our expanded History Week Program for every 3rd grade student in Danvers public schools, facilitated by Danvers High School students
- Continued to teach horticulture, administrative, curatorial and business skills to special needs students in our "Come Grow With Us" program
- Brought noted authors and historians to our monthly Speaker Series
- Continued partnerships with Essex North Shore Agricultural & Technical High School and Danvers High School to create community service opportunities

Community Outreach, Events and Volunteer Efforts

- Awarded scholarships to two Danvers High School seniors
- Presented the original play, *Revolutionary Tea on a Gambrel Roof*, at Tapley Memorial Hall
- Hosted monthly History Film and Porch Swing music gatherings
- Held the annual Spring Plant Sale to benefit the Lord & Burnham Greenhouse
- Hosted the "Come Grow the Greenhouse" fundraiser to restore the Lord & Burnham Greenhouse
- Presented our popular Summer Beer Garden Music Series fundraiser
- Welcomed the community to our 17th Annual Parade of Trees to benefit our education/preservation programs
- Presented lectures, events and tours on archaeology, Indigenous Peoples, REV250 and Women's history

Looking ahead, the Danvers Historical Society is planning new events to commemorate the upcoming 250th Anniversary of the War of Independence while concurrently honoring the presence and long history of the Indigenous Peoples who have already inhabited these shores for 10,000 years or more.

We will work to:

- Bring the Mansion up to code with sprinklers and other improvements, to enhance its access and use
- Restore the 1930's Lord & Burnham greenhouse to sustain our historic gardens and horticultural programming
- Remain committed to our mission of promoting the rich history of the original Salem Village and the Town of Danvers through preservation and the creation of engaging programs

You can continue to be a partner in our success by:

- [Renewing/upgrading your membership; see our member benefits for 2026](#)
- Joining the Preservation Builders Club to make monthly contributions
- Remembering the Society in your will, Planned Giving and/or Donor Advised Fund
- Attending Society programs, fundraisers and volunteering in the areas listed on the application
- Recording your family memories, so the stories of how Danversites lived, loved, worked and played will be preserved for future generations

With your membership, you can share in the pride of knowing you have contributed to preserving our heritage and educating our community about our living history. Thank you!

-Very respectfully,

Louis J. George, President