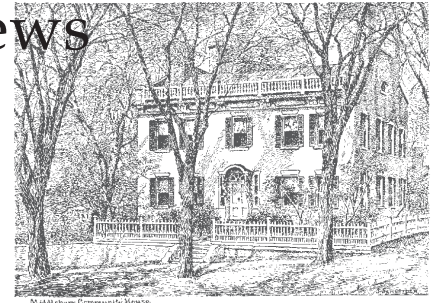


Middlebury Community House News

Main Street . Middlebury, Vermont 05753

Spring/Summer 2011



Early sketch of the house Horatio Seymour built in 1816

Mission Statement:

Partners for The Middlebury Community House was formed to promote financial support to assist with responsible caretaking and maintenance of the historic home belonging to the citizens of Middlebury.

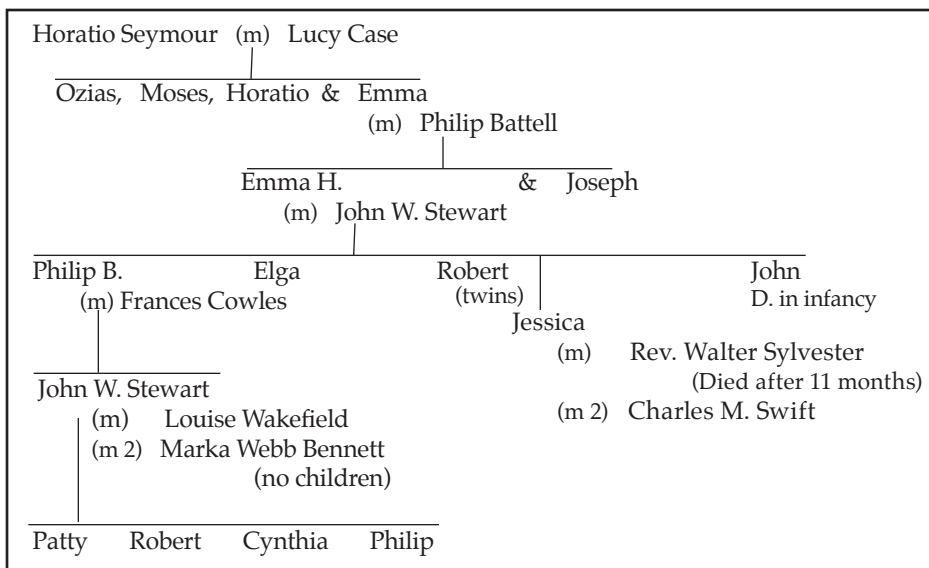
Reservations:

The Middlebury Community House is available for meetings, receptions and private parties. Call Pat @ 388-2071 to discuss your needs.

See us on the web: www.middleburycommunityhouse.org

The House - Yesterday & Today

In previous newsletters we have provided history about Horatio Seymour, his daughter Emma and husband Philip Battell, their son Joseph Battell and son-in-law John W. Stewart, John and Emma Stewart's daughter Jessica Swift. All of whom have resided in the family home now known as the Middlebury Community House. *Here is a look at the Family Tree.*



Pictured is Jessica Swift, her nephew John W. Stewart II and his wife Louise. John is the son of Philip B. Stewart. Philip and Jessica gave their family home to the people of Middlebury and vicinity. This picture was taken in 1964 when a plaque was dedicated. The first four generations from this family tree lived in the house Mr. Seymour built in 1816.

2011 Grant Awards

Middlebury Community House is honored to have received two grant awards for 2011. Vermont Community Foundation awarded the House a \$1,000 grant for operational expenses. We are so grateful for the trust and interest they have put into our organization. The Vermont Community Foundation received 209 requests totaling \$1,850,000 with only \$200,000 available for this grant giving. We are honored by this award.

Secondly, we received a \$15,000 match grant from State of Vermont Historic Preservation. Last year we commissioned two reports, one a structure report and the other an energy audit. These two reports have given us direction to apply for grants. The grant award from Vermont Historic Preservation is for Roof work as well as work in the Original Kitchen in the basement. On the roof we will be repairing and painting the balustrade, reconstructing the parapet caps between our chimneys and improving the water removal system. These jobs when completed will assist in preparing the house for a future exterior paint project.

Foundation repair in the original kitchen will include repointing the cook front, removing and salvaging kitchen floor planks, installing a vapor barrier over the dirt floor, adding a vapor exhaust under the barrier and reinstalling the salvaged floor. Since this is a match grant we are also pricing work in the adjoining room as well as making the current bathroom handicapped accessible. When the work in the basement is completed the two rooms will make efficient meeting space with its own entrance.

This is the first grant award we have earned from the State of Vermont Historic Preservation, the competition was extreme. We aim to prove the grant committee has made the correct choice in supporting us and we thank them.

The Partners for the Middlebury Community House have earned our sincere thanks for their membership support. Your current and past donations are being used to help meet our match portion of this grant.

Look What's Happening at The House • Gaining Recognition

In November Board Members conducted a five question canvas to find out what "the man on the street" knows about M.C.H. We learned how much more work needs to be done to build awareness about the Community House. Many people didn't know where the house was, some thought it was the Community Cottage on Seymour Street. Several have never visited and in some cases didn't know how the house is currently being used or that it is available for them to use. This study was eye opening!



Thanks to a donation from Whitney and Barbara Blodgett we have a new sign to define our building. Gary and Donna Whitman of Mountain Sign, in Ripton, donated the installation of the sign. We are posting an information series regarding the history of the Middlebury Community House in our newly renovated Community Bulletin Board, and we are making a special effort to reach out to the community through invitations, news releases and participation whenever possible. Please stop for a visit whenever you see our flag flying at our Main Street entrance.

In April we hosted Elderly Services, the Lodge at Otter Creek and our Annual Teddy Bear Tea held in conjunction with Ilsley Library. Beginning in May, the second Friday of the month (until October) the Middlebury Arts Walk will again offer artist exhibits at many venues around Middlebury. The Community House will again participate. We got very nice exposure last year and are looking forward to opening to the public from 5 - 7:00 P.M. The artists were well received, fun to work with and enjoyed having their talents displayed in our unique setting. Besides the Arts Walk we continue to be open for meetings, showers, dinners and other events scheduled by area residents and businesses. Make your plans soon!



Partners for Middlebury Community House is looking for your support.

Partners for Middlebury Community House membership support has taken on a very important role this year. We received a \$15,000 match grant from State of Vermont Historic Preservation, Inc. to be used this calendar year. (See article on other side.) We are very excited because your donation to Partners will go twice as far with this grant award. As you know from past newsletters, Partners membership donations go directly towards a renovation project for the House.

Trustees recognize interested Partners may want to contribute amounts above the \$20 donation requested in the past. We have established the following donation suggestions with various benefit levels for your consideration. Please join at the level that fits best with your giving plan.

Benefits are as follows:

\$20 Stone Terrace Foundation

donation yields two newsletters a year with information about how the house is used today, history of the founding families, and how your support is benefiting the house.

\$50 Ogival Hood Entrance

donation offers above newsletters plus an invitation to join other Partners for a cocktail reception.

\$100 Long & Short Picket Fence

contribution offers the above and 10% off suggested fee when you schedule use of the house for your function.

\$250 White Roof Balustrade

donation provides all of the above plus a dinner with the Board Members and a program presented by a guest speaker.

Join the Partners

I/We wish to become a Partner for the Middlebury Community House for 2011. New Renewal

- Stone Terrace Foundation \$20 _____
- Ogival Hood Entrance \$50 _____
- Long & Short Picket Fence \$100 _____
- White Roof Balustrade \$250 _____

Donation levels are named after architectural details of the House, many design details were not used after 1820.

Name _____

Address _____

Telephone _____

Email _____

Make checks payable to: Middlebury Community House Partners
Mail to: 6 Main Street, Middlebury, VT 05753

Member Board 2011

Barbara Blodgett <i>Member at Large</i>	G. Kenneth Perine, Finance <i>President National Bank of Middlebury *</i>
Ray Churchill <i>Honorary Member at Large</i>	Lynda Rheame, President <i>DAR Representative *</i>
Phyllis Cunningham <i>Honorary Regent, DAR</i>	James Swift, Esq. <i>Rep. Swift/Stewart Family *</i>
Donna Donahue <i>Member at Large</i>	Staff:
Richard Emilo, Clerk <i>Member at Large *</i>	Patricia Hornbeck <i>House Director</i>
Jessica Liebowitz <i>Rep. President Middlebury College</i>	Jamison Kimberly <i>Treasurer</i>
John MacIntyre <i>Member at Large</i>	Elizabeth Quesnel <i>Housekeeper</i>
Nancy Merolle <i>Rep. President Woman's Club</i>	Norm Grenier <i>Maintenance</i>
Kevin Newton, Bldg. / Gds. <i>Member at Large *</i>	<i>* Trustees</i>