



Home for the Holidays December, 2018

Ahhh... the Holidays! A season of tradition, sharing, giving and ugly sweaters. A time to connect with friends and family and reflect on the year gone by (but skipping over that incident, you know the one), and look forward to the new year ahead (hitting Mass Millions, check).

So, in the time-honored tradition of the “holiday letter”, we here at Preservation Massachusetts want to share just a bit of what our “family” has been up to during 2018.

Let's start with the “kids”. Circuit Riders Jeff and Stacia continue to travel all over the Commonwealth, racking up the miles on their vehicles. Jeff wanted a pony, but four-wheel drive is better. They are so busy it's like we never see them! Thank goodness for a good wireless and data plan. From Barnstable to Boston and Worcester to Lenox, their on-the-ground activities, mentoring, guiding and technical assistance helped over 110 communities and projects just in 2018! Hopefully we'll see them for the holidays, or at least get a text.



The home office has been busy as usual, and Jim certainly put his Political Science degree to work. The year began on a high note, with the Federal Historic Tax Credit being preserved in tax reform. And the good feelings kept going with the Massachusetts Historic Tax Credit annual cap being increased by \$5 million in May!

Erin's first-rate video production skills were on display once again at the 30th Annual Tsongas Awards Dinner honoring “The Next Generation” of emerging preservation leaders. She did it again for the Believe in Preservation event, highlighting the 11 properties listed on this year's Most Endangered Historic Resources list. She says it's her create outlet and we're very lucky she likes to do extra credit projects. Take a look when you visit our newly redesigned website, and YouTube channel. She's looking to expand her production company to other projects and clients (inquiries invited!)

Liz keeps our office humming along and our address books up to date because, who doesn't like getting invitations in the mail (or in-box)? She and Erin have been collaborating on communications, with informative e-newsletters and our inspirational Storyteller series. If you don't subscribe yet, give Liz a call and we'll sign you up.

Family gatherings are always fun! Our extended family came together this past October for a Preservation Summit, discussing the statewide preservation priorities that you voiced during Cruising the Commonwealth in 2017. The big picture topics of (surprise!) education and partnerships gave us a lot of food for thought, suggestions, goals and homework (joy!).





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Most quality “family time” is spent working on advocacy issues, big picture concepts and planning for what’s ahead. Stacia’s focused on educational and engagement opportunities: this year was all about windows; and Jeff has been busy with CPA questions, attending lots of late-night community meetings, and when he can, restoring his own historic wood windows. We will soon be reconnecting with another family member, our conference planner Julie, as we start conceptualizing the Massachusetts Preservation Conference for next fall and, maybe, a family game night. Pictionary anyone?



All of this (and more) takes time, team effort and (of course) funding. We are serious about our goal to hit Mass Millions but in the meantime please give to the 2018 annual appeal and make a direct impact on preservation efforts across the state?!

Every dollar counts toward keeping our staff in place, programs running, education opportunities available and the “open” sign on our office door. Maybe we should get one of those signs, we don’t get a lot of visitors so please stop by when you’re in Plymouth!

We are like a family here at PM and you are a central part. And just like family, we are here when you need us (but we won’t nag you to return phone calls or visit on Sundays).

Please make your tax-deductible gift to our 2018 annual appeal - and accept our thanks for your support!

Happy Holidays from our family to yours!

Preservation Massachusetts

Jim, Erin, Stacia, Jeff, Liz & Julie

