



B.M.C. Durfee High School, Fall River, Mass.
DEDICATED JUNE 9, 1887

DURFEE Chimes

Vol. 37 No. 1 Season 2017

A publication of the B.M.C. Durfee High School Alumni Association

Distinguished Alumna Zelma Vincent Braga



Zelma is a native of Fall River and a graduate of B.M.C. Durfee High School, class of 1952. She retired in 2000 from BayCoast Bank (formerly Citizens Union Savings Bank) as the bank's Senior Vice President and Senior Trust officer. Her banking career spanned 40 years and began at the B.M.C. Durfee Trust Co. She continued her career in the Trust division of Fall River National Bank and Bank of New England, joining Citizens Union in 1986.

She attributes her success in her career to the teachers at Durfee who prepared her well. It was there that her work ethic was cultivated. In her high school years she participated in basketball and was head typist for the year book. In those formative years, by volunteering, she learned the rewards of giving to the less fortunate.

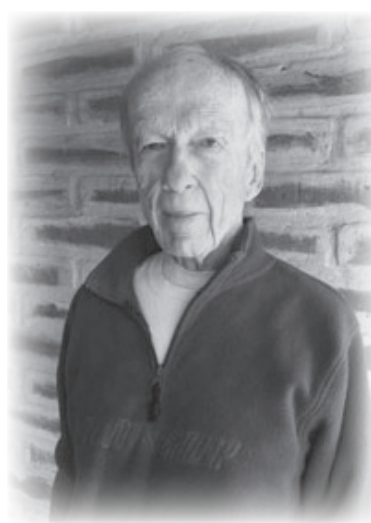
A commitment to public service within the greater Fall River area has always been an important part of Zelma's life. For that reason, she has played a prominent role in many local organizations.

She served for 15 years as a member of the Board of Directors of the United Way of Greater Fall River and was Campaign Chair in 1991. As a long term director and former assistant treasurer of the Marine Museum of Fall River, she was instrumental in the development of the Museum's membership base as well as creating its Endowment Fund. She also served on the Board of Directors of the Fall River Historical Society for several years.

Among other activities was 12 years on the Board of Directors of the Bristol Community College Foundation, acting as Foundation Chair from 1997-1999. She was a member of the Board of Trustees from 2001-2011.

Other community involvement includes being on the Board of Trustees for St Anne's Hospital, the Family Service Association of Greater Fall River and is a current and active member of the Fall River Rotary Club.

Distinguished Alumnus Charles D. Smith, Ph.D.



Charles D. Smith, '54, is professor emeritus of Middle East history in the School of Middle East and North African Studies at the University of Arizona where he served as department head and director of graduate studies. Known as 'Carl' to his Durfee classmates where he played football, he grew up in Somerset but attended Fall River schools. His father taught at Durfee for many years and retired as a vice-principal. His brother David '55 (deceased 2010) was president of his class for two years.

A graduate of Williams College, Dr. Smith received his M.A. in Middle East Studies from Harvard and his Ph.D. in history from the University of Michigan. Formerly a member of the history faculty at San Diego State University and head of the Near Eastern/Asian Studies Department at Wayne State University, he held visiting appointments at the University of Virginia, George Mason University, Virginia Military Institute, and was the National Endowment for the Humanities Visiting Professor of Middle East history at Virginia Commonwealth University in 1993.

A former Fulbright Scholar to Egypt, he was a research fellow at the Institute for Advanced Study at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem in 1982. He is the former president of the American Research Center in Egypt, 1996-1999, having previously served on its executive board and as vice-president, from 1993-1996. In addition to Israel, he lived for several years in Cairo in the 1960s and early 1970s and has spent much time in Tunisia, the focus of his wife's research.

Professor Smith is the author of *Islam and the Search for Social Order in Modern Egypt* (1983), *Palestine and the Arab-Israeli Conflict* (1988), 9th edition 2016, and with co-author Julia Clancy-Smith, *The Modern Middle East and North Africa: A History in Documents* (2013). His book on the Arab-Israeli conflict was the

Charles D. Smith cont. on page 2

Annual Meeting ~ May 26, 2017 ~ 7:30 PM ~ Nagle Auditorium ~ Refreshments 6:30 to 7:30 PM

Durfee Chimes

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B.M.C. Durfee
High School Alumni
Association**

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Letter from the President

Dear Fellow Alumni,

Sending the Chimes out every spring is our annual Electronic Reunion. And welcome to it, all of you! There are Durfee Alumni all over the world, and in every state in the nation. And of those who actively support the Alumni Association in its attempts to keep the history and traditions of our city's public high school by joining the Red and Black, we have members in at least 37 states and the District of Columbia. B. M. C. Durfee High, graduating well-read and knowledgeable citizens of the world since 1887!

Durfee is still one of the largest public high schools in the state, serving over 2200 students when the average for public high schools in Massachusetts is 730. State statistics say that seventy percent of Durfee students are economically disadvantaged', but still the graduation rate is close to eighty percent. Officially, the Durfee community is "dedicated to providing a safe, rigorous learning environment that is equitable, inclusive, and collaborative, empowering students to explore diverse paths and succeed in the 21st Century." The work the Alumni Association does in providing scholarships to those often economically-disadvantaged graduates so they can attend college is a part of that empowerment.

Though we were all born in the previous century (something about to change!), the Alumni Association also attempts to be a part of the 21st Century. As you will note on the forms in this publication, you can now pay your alumni association dues and join the Red and Black Club electronically by using PayPal. We also have a website and a facebook page, where we would be delighted to see and hear from you. The nomination form for the Distinguished Alumni Awards, which are given out at our Annual Meeting on the last Friday in May, is available in this publication or on the website. Nominations are due by the end of September for next year's awards.

Finally, I would like to congratulate the 2017 graduates of Durfee. Welcome to our association. We wish you the best in your journey out into the world. Enjoy it and contribute to it. We hope you will always look back with pride on your time at Durfee, and feel supported by the ranks of alumni who have gone before you and the traditions of our school.

Sincerely,

Judith Conrad 1970, President
B. M. C. Durfee Alumni Association

Charles D. Smith continued

first one-volume study to present the topic from the later 19th century onward rather than beginning treatment from World War II. He has published articles in the areas of modern Egypt, nationalism and theories of nationalism, Anglo-French imperialism and the Middle East in World War I, on Palestinian and Arab-Israeli affairs, and has just completed a bibliographic essay on publications on World War I and the Arab lands from 1918 to the present for 1914-1918, an online forum based in Berlin. He has been frequently consulted for his views by press and media, often overseas and was interviewed on ABC World News in 2003.

His most recent journal/book chapter publication are "The United States and the 1967 War" in *The 1967 Arab-Israeli War: Origins and Consequences*, Wm Roger Louis and Avi Shlaim eds, (Cambridge University Press, 2012), "The Arab-Israeli Conflict" in Louise Fawcett, editor, *International Relations of the Middle East*, 4th ed (Oxford University Press, 2016), and "The Arab Spring: First Takes and Later Reflections," *Middle East Journal* (Fall 2013). Professor Smith served as commentator for the panel on the Israeli attack on the U.S.S. Liberty at the conference on the 1967 War hosted by the US State Department in Washington in January 2004. He was honored at the 2012 Middle East Studies Association of North America [MESA] meeting as the recipient of the Mentor Award for his work in advising and guiding students at the graduate and undergraduate levels; and at the 2013 MESA meeting, his co-authored book with Julia Clancy-Smith received the award for the best book on undergraduate education. He is now working on a book on World War I and British diplomacy in the Middle East.

INTERESTING ALUMNI INFORMATION - We are always looking for news that would be of interest to our Alumni. You are encouraged to send anything newsworthy for publication in the "CHIMES". Be sure to include who is sending the information and how you may be contacted.
Send your stories to: Durfee "Chimes" Alumni Association - P O Box 9656 - Fall River, MA 02720-0011

2016 Scholarship Recipient List

"Dorothy Ellen Wolstenholme Memorial Scholarship" To.....	Brandon G. Areias
"Cardinal Humberto S. Medeiros - Class of 1937" & "Caesar Nobrego Memorial Scholarship" & "Armand D'Allaire" to.....	Mia R. Arruda
"Israel & Ethel C. Brayton Scholarship" to.....	Brittany Lynn Baker
"Anne and Philip Potash Memorial Scholarship" & "Alumni" to.....	Sierra L. Costa
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"Ernest Baroody Memorial Scholarship" & "B.M.C. Durfee Athletic Association - Robert J. Nagle" & "Alumni" to.....	Kendra Lyn DaSilva
"John J. and Elizabeth C. Harrington Memorial Scholarship" to.....	Katrina M. Ferreira
"John J. and Elizabeth C. Harrington Memorial Scholarship" to.....	Nicole E. Ferreira
"Domka Maslanka Stys, Class of 1941 Scholarship" to.....	Meredith M. Forcier
"Frank S. Feitelberg Scholarship" & "Tom Wong Scholarship" to.....	Cheyenna Forsee
"Helen A. Maslanka, Col. USAF Class of 1945 Scholarship" to.....	Laura M. Gaudette*
"Carlton M. Viveiros" to.....	Leah J.M. Grannum *
"Jeanne E. Violette Scholarship" to.....	Alexa Isabel *
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"Deborah Eckersley" & "Bruce O. Hawes in memory of Richard K. Hawes, Sr." to.....	Abhishek Mahaseth
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"Harold R. Bannister in memory of James Edward Bannister and Catherine Manning Bannister" to.....	Elaina M. Pevide
"John N. Peters '60 & Arthur Poulis '46 Memorial Scholarship" & "Class of 1958" to.....	Angela N. Reed
"Margaret Chace Memorial Scholarship" to.....	Leann Teodoro
"Francis L. & Charlotte G. Gragnani" & "Helen G. and John M. Lawlor" to.....	Hannah R. Torres
"Rev. James H. Hornsby and Dr. Joan R. Hornsby Scholarship" & "James S. Panos Scholarship" to.....	Kai Uehara
"Cora E., Irene C. & Mildred F. Wilde" & "Alvin E. Hardy ('35) and Dorothy Boyer Hardy ('36)" to.....	Tiffany W. Vincente*
"S. Peter Khoury and Rose Khoury Scholarship" to.....	Maddison M. Zenni

*Grimshaw-Gudewicz Charitable Foundation Grant

Respectfully submitted,

Peter G. Collias, President - Claudine A. Cloutier, Treasurer - Trustees of the Fall River High School - Alumni Scholarships

Previous Distinguished Alumni Recipients

1961 Malcolm P. Aldrich..... '18	1987 Thomas J. Brown..... '42	2005 Lucille Roussell Hadley..... '36
1962 Bishop James L. Connolly..... '13	1988 Frank S. Feitelberg..... '24	2005 Daniel Bogan..... '51
1963 Harold S.R. Buffington, Esq..... '05	1989 James Dean..... '50	2006 Hon. William C. Carey..... '42
1964 Edward B. Hanify, Esq..... '29	1990 William H. Gaudreau..... '46	2006 John Moriarty..... '48
1965 Dr. John C. Corrigan..... '21	1991 Marcel P. Joseph..... '53	2007 Arthur A. Teixeira..... '62
1966 Myer N. Sobilloff..... '24	1992 William K. Reilly..... '58	2007 George Duclos..... '52
1967 Essis Gifford..... '02	1993 Brig. Gen. John J. Liset, USAF..... '38	2008 Col. David W. Gavigan..... '57
1968 Jerome Namias..... '28	1994 Hon. Milton R. Silva..... '40	2008 Dr. William D. Tompkins..... '39
1969 Helen Winward Brown..... '03	1994 William F. Powers..... '48	2009 Dr. R. Judson Carberg..... '58
1970 Thomas Rodgers, Jr..... '30	1995 Hon. Edward F. Harrington..... '51	2009 Thomas J. Curry..... '60
1971 John B. Cummings, Esq..... '08	1995 Joseph E. Mullaney, Esq..... '51	2010 Betty M. Welch..... '45
1972 Humberto Cardnial Medeiros..... '37	1996 Michele Kaufman Rallis..... '58	2010 Louise Durfee..... '48
1973 Ambassador William J. Porter..... '30	1997 Peter G. Collias, Esq..... '49	2011 James J. Karam..... '65
1974 Hon. James P. McGuire..... '31	1998 Mel B. Yoken..... '56	2012 Irving H. Picard..... '59
1975 James A. Nannery..... '31	1998 Faust D. Fiore..... '39	2012 Joseph F. Sabik, MD..... '79
1976 Hon. Beatrice Hancock Mullaney..... '23	1999 John J. McAvoy..... '37	2013 John J. Fletcher, MD..... '53
1977 Gen. Melvin Zais..... '33	1999 Dr. John T. Harrington..... '54	2013 Reena Deutsch, PhD..... '68
1978 Francis L. Gragnani..... '36	2000 William F. Long, Jr..... '44	2014 Ruth Moss..... '50
1979 Robert J. Nagle..... '28	2000 Edgar C. Knowlton, Jr..... '38	2014 Robert J. Dupere..... '48
1980 Hon. Mary J. Fonseca..... '32	2001 Lester W. Cory..... '56	2015 Joseph A. Conforti, PhD..... '63
1981 Dr. Roger N. Violette..... '25	2001 James Chace..... '49	2015 Ronald A. Schwartz, MD..... '52
1982 Florence C. Brigham..... '17	2002 Kenneth L. Nathanson..... '42	2016 Anthony F. Cordeiro..... '80
1982 M. Norman Zalkind..... '31	2002 James H. Smith..... '47	2016 Hon. E. Susan Speier Garsh..... '65
1983 Bayless Manning..... '40	2003 Morton Dean Dubitsky..... '53	
1984 Phillip Sacknoff..... '35	2003 James F. O'Hearn..... '53	
1985 James J. Hammond..... '26	2004 Rev. Shirley Scholes Andrews..... '54	
1986 Richard M. Rosenberg..... '48	2004 Ernest Moniz..... '62	

To nominate a Durfee Graduate for the Distinguished Alumni Award, please fill out and return the form on Page 11.

Memories of The Tech Auditorium

Those of us who graduated from Durfee High School, especially from the original building take great pride in the role our Alma Mater played in the history of Fall River. One of the areas of special note is the sometimes forgotten pictorial history of Fall River, displayed in the Murals that surround the walls of the Tech building auditorium. If you graduated from Durfee but did not attend the school on Rock Street, this piece of Durfee's history should be of interest to you. A total of twenty one panels representing a time period from roughly 1511 to the early 1900s, capture Fall River and its historical contribution to that period.

As we learned from the CHIMES of 2016, the original Tech building served the city for fourteen years before burning down in April of 1926. The present building was opened to students in the Fall of 1930. Graduates will remember the spacious auditorium where assemblies were held. Despite its beauty, shortly after it opened, the School Committee decided that the windowless space could use a decorative touch. Thus was born the idea of creating the history of our city in murals.

Work began in 1935 by artist John Mann who was employed by the Emergency Relief Administration which was the forerunner of the Massachusetts Works Progress Administration (WPA). Superintendent of Schools, Hector Belisle authorized a request to have the project subsidized by the WPA and the undertaking was thus funded. The murals are divided into three sets, the first depicting the area's Indian Heritage, the second the Growth of Commerce in the nation's early years and the third the Industrial Age and the growth of the textile mills. The series of painting is arranged where one side of the auditorium is devoted to the period preceding and including the Indian occupation of this region, whereas the opposite side is concerned with Revolutionary and post Revolutionary period.

To further the artist's desire for historical accuracy, all figures in the paintings were posed for by a live model. In addition, the clothing of the respective era was also authentic. Families went searching through old storage closets to provide dress depicting the time period.

After the original dedication of the Murals in 1940 the school held yearly assemblies in which the artist, John Mann was invited and re-thanked for his work. The house lights were lowered, and a spotlight focused on each painting as a narrator told the history of Fall River as depicted in the paintings. Unfortunately, as time went on, this practice became of less importance and by 1970 when Mr Mann passed away at age 67, the ritual had already ceased.

The following represents a trip down memory

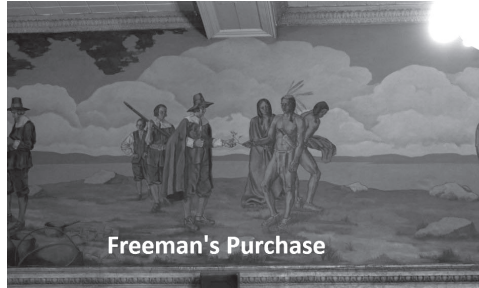
lane with a review of some highlights of this undertaking.

FALL RIVER'S INDIAN HERITAGE

Corte-Real at Dighton Rock

The first pictorial shows that Miguel Corte-Real, a Portuguese explorer, landed here in 1511 and historical data reveals that while in search of fresh water he had proof of his visit chiseled on Dighton Rock. Professor Edmund B Delabarre of Brown University, deciphered the hieroglyphics on the stone verifying the visit.

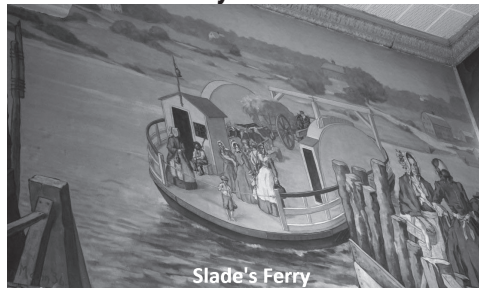
Freeman's Purchase



The famous Freeman's Purchase by exchange of "turf and twig" in 1659 is an important rendering. The purchase was made by the General Court of Plymouth from Wamsutta, son of Massasoit. The land purchase extended from what is now Bedford street, to Freetown and was obtained for some household implements and some pieces of cloth. The Indians sealed the pact with a presentation of "turf" representing the water included in the purchase, and a "twig" denoting the land and all that was on it. A lone Indian can be seen on the right, showing Philip, son of Massasoit, who did not favor the pact and refused to be a party to it. Later, his distaste of the white mans' usurping his lands caused "King Philip's War".

THE GROWTH OF COMMERCE ERA

Slade's Horse Ferry



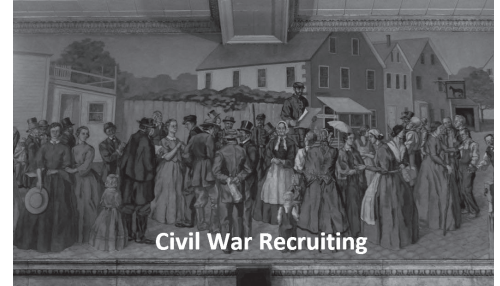
In the 100 years between "King Philip's War" and the American Revolution, Fall River rapidly became prosperous town. In order to expand commerce a dependable means of transportation across the Taunton river was needed. In 1869, William Slade of Somerset established the first ferry and Slade's Horse Ferry" was born. Horses were used to supply the power.

The Battle of Fall River



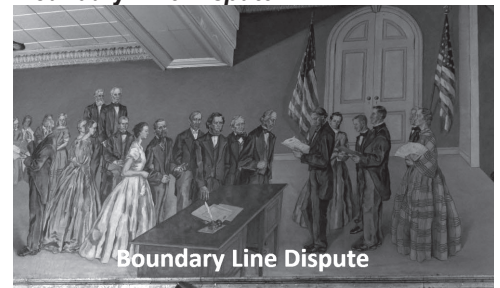
The part that Fall River played in the American Revolution gets little or no coverage in history books but it is quite interesting. The battle of Fall River took place in 1777 on the hill which is now Pocasset street. History tells us that the British rode up Mt Hope Bay in boats and stormed Fall River. The city was poorly protected but due to the stamina of a few volunteers the 150 British soldiers were beaten back. The burning house in the background was the residence of Thomas Borden which was newly built. As the British fled they set fire to the home of Richard Borden but the volunteers quickly extinguished it.

Civil War Recruiting



Most Fall River historians are aware of the major role the city played in the Civil War with regard to the freeing of the slaves through the "Underground Railroad". The panel entitled "Recruiting for the Civil War" shows how men enlisted. In 1862, President Lincoln issued a call for 300,000 additional men. A public meeting was held and the men signed up in the streets or wherever the recruiting officer was stationed. The artist research indicates that this scene is where Bedford street is currently located.

Boundary Line Dispute



This panel "Presenting of the Deeds and Records, of Fall River, Rhode Island to the City of Fall River, Massachusetts" has some mystery attached to it concerning what it

Memories of The Tech Auditorium continued

actually represents. It actually depicts the finish of one of the most exciting boundary disputes in the vicinity. The original charter grant made by the King of England in 1629 had no definite boundary restrictions. Trouble arose when Massachusetts discovered that Rhode Island had infringed upon her territory when the Tiverton boundary was established. No agreement could be reached by the states at that time or again when the issue was revisited in 1844.

Finally in 1860 the controversy was presented to the Legislature. An act of Congress established a line between the states. To further complicate the issue, a disagreement among some Freetown residents led to a part of that town splitting and becoming Freetown, Rhode Island. Finally in 1862, the United States Supreme Court settled the dispute and the entire town of Fall River, Rhode Island, became a part of Fall River, Massachusetts.

This mural represents the meeting in which deeds and records of the town with a population of 3,593 and an area of nine square miles were officially presented to Fall River.

Skeleton in Armor



Skeleton in Armor

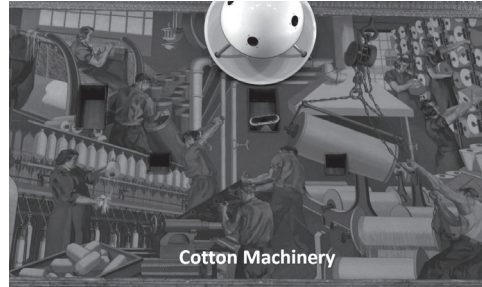
While Mr Mann has skillfully portrayed the actual history of Fall River, he did not forget the famous legend, that of The Skeleton in Armor. This ancient relic was found near the Gas Company which is now Fifth street. There are many theories concerning the origin of he relic. Historians have generally agreed that it was most likely the skeleton of an adventurous Norseman who visited these shores almost 1000 years ago.

This legend was romantized by the great poet, Henry Wadsworth Longfellow with the writing of the famous poem, "The Skeleton in Armor". Years ago it was required that every Fall River school child memorize the first stanza in which the poets, urged the skeleton to:

"Speak speak! thou fearful guest!
Who with thy hollow breast
Still in rude armor drest,
Comest to daunt me!
Wrapt not in Eastern balms
But with the fleshless arms,
Why does thou haunt me?"

INDUSTRIAL AGE AND THE GROWTH OF THE TEXTILE INDUSTRY

Evolution of Cotton Cloth



Fall River was long recognized as one of the leading textiles cities in the world. With easily accessible water facilities, it was a natural evolution for mills and factories to take root. Originally the work force was of American origin, but beginning about 1850 European immigrants started to arrive and that phenomnom accelerated the growth of

the industry in Fall River.

Sadly time has passed. Modern day life has dulled our memories and new residents of Fall River have no knowledge of attending what we affectionally call the old or original Durfee. Since the opening of the current high school in 1978, the Tech building has served as a Middle School and currently houses the Durfee Resiliency Preparatory School.

One of the unfortunate results is the lack of resources to maintain the structure. Leaks are developing in the roof and damage is slowly working its way into the Auditorium. Luckily to date, none of the murals have been damaged, but if this condition is allowed to continue, we risk losing a significant piece of Durfee and Fall River History.

At the time of this writing, representatives of the Alumni are working to access grant money from the Community Preservation Act (CPA) to begin to correct this condition. To date efforts are unsuccessful. Initial estimates put the cost of fixing the damage at approximately \$250,000. The City of Fall River owns the building but the School Department is responsible for it maintenance. Efforts for a satisfactory solution are and will be ongoing.

See the article, Saving The Mann Murals, for a current explanation regarding the progress being made to salvage this treasure.

DURFEE ALUMNI ASSOCIATION CLAM BOIL

*Fundraiser to benefit the
Alumni Association Scholarship Fund
Monday, May 22, 2017
4:00PM - 8:00PM
Lepage's Seafood & Grill
439 Martine St, Fall River, MA 02723
Eat in or Take Out
\$25:00 per person*



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John Mann, Artist and Historian

When the Fall River School Committee decided that the windowless Tech Auditorium needed an upgrade, John Mann was one of the few artists fortunate enough to be employed in 1935 by the Emergency Relief Administration. Mr. Mann was approached with a proposal to ornament the auditorium. The project soon became under the auspices of the Massachusetts Works Progress Administration and for the next five years, Mann was devoted to the creation of the Murals.

Born in Centerville, Massachusetts Mann was already a highly respected artist. He had begun his study of painting at age 13 in Provincetown, and after high school attended the Boston Museum of Fine Arts for three years. Next came study in New York at the National Academy School.

In the 1920s, life was good for the young artist and his wife Henrietta Cook. She, a graduate of the Rhode Island School of Design, designed motifs for jewelry and his paintings were selling well. But times turned with the arrival of the Great Depression and those working in the Arts suffered. His being commissioned to paint the murals came at a very opportune moment.

He took great pride in his work and had a penchant for perfection. He spent months researching for the project visiting with

historians, the Historical Society and went anywhere and spoke with anyone to accurately find out what actually took place. The truth was uppermost in his mind.



His depiction of "The Death of Weetamoe" is one painting where being a man of principle and a man of accuracy collided. Legend says that the Indian Queen was killed by settlers during the Indian Wars, and her nude and beheaded body found by her tribesman on the shores of the Taunton river. Fearing the grisly scene was unsuitable for school children, he did the painting with the body intact. However, the School Committee, upon seeing the nude body demanded the painting be redone. Upset that he had already altered the facts, he was reluctant to agree to this request. Finally after much soul searching the compromise was a semi draped Weetamoe.

Aside from this one diversion from the facts, Mann stuck to his principles. Over 200 Fall River residents served as models for his work. Authentic costumes were made for many of the scenes. John was proud of his work appreciative of the positive response he received from the public. Not necessarily fond of the limelight, he did enjoy the yearly school assemblies and was glad to be treated as a dignitary.

Upon completion in 1940, the murals were valued at \$40,000, an enormous amount at that time. It would be hard to place a current day value on his work although many refer to it as priceless.

When he began working in 1935, he earned a high of \$95 a month. In 1937 his compensation was changed to \$1.47 an hour. There is no record of how many hours he logged or whether he was actually paid for all his time.

ANNUAL MEETING

Friday, May 26, 2017

7:30 PM

Nagle Auditorium

Refreshments

6:30 to 7:30 PM

SAVING THE MANN MURALS

by: **Joyce B. Rodrigues, '62**
Steven A. Camara, '65

Present condition the Tech Bldg. auditorium: On 13 August 2015, the Lower Highlands/Historic Downtown Neighborhood Association presented a group tour to view the Mann Murals. Those present were eager to view the murals, since many had not visited the Auditorium since graduating from Durfee. The narrator of the tour was Steven A. Camara, the president of the association and a Durfee grad, Class of 1965.

We regret to report that while the murals have survived these many years, they were dangerously close to permanent damage. The roof of the auditorium had a number of gaping holes primarily located in the area of the skylights that routinely leaked during rain storms.

Water damage from interior pipes was precariously close to the murals. It was sheer luck that permanent damage had not already taken place.

To assess the condition of the roof and ceiling of the auditorium, a meeting was arranged with Mr. Thomas Coogan, Chief Operating Officer of the Fall River Public Schools, on August 20, 2015.

Cleaning and restoration of the murals was not considered at that time. For if repairs to the exterior of the auditorium were not imminent, there would be no murals left to restore, and Fall River will have lost an historically significant art collection and an irreplaceable memory of its past.

Present status of conversations with the CPC and School Department:

As a result of this meeting, an effort to secure grant money from the Community Preservation Act (CPA) to address the conditions that we saw in the auditorium was initiated.

The application to the Community Preservation Committee (CPC) started out with a proposal to replace the damaged ceiling and the failing roof in the auditorium.

The discussion moved on to the future of the murals since the auditorium is not in use and is closed to the public.

Application #2017-0023 was submitted to the CPC for the 2017 grant year and recommended hiring a conservator to assess the value and condition of the murals.

At the November 2016 meeting, the School Committee approved the recommendation in a unanimous roll call vote.

An assessment by an art professional will give Mayor Jasiel F. Correia, Superintendent of Schools Matt Malone, and the School Committee necessary information as they consider long-range plans for the future use of the Tech Bldg. and the disposition of the murals.

The next step:

The next step is to complete the funding and bid application by 1 Feb 2017. With funding from the CPC, a conservator should begin working in the auditorium by the summer of 2017.

The good news is that there is community-wide support for this project. We have received numerous letters of support from the community at large and from non-profit organizations such as the Greater Fall River Art Association, the Fall River Preservation Society, the Fall River Historical Commission, and our Massachusetts representatives and senate leadership.

We're on our way and will keep our classmates informed as this project progresses.

For further information email Joyce B. Rodrigues at: jrod254@verizon.net or email the Durfee Alumni Association at: durfeealumniassociation@gmail.com.

THE DURFEE BELLS - WE'RE ALMOST THERE

by: Les Cory '56

The Durfee Bells are all installed and ringing but there is still work left to be done. Next on the "to-do" list is the installation of the clavier shown in the photo to enable the playing of the bells by hand as they were played in the old Durfee High belfry for nearly 100 years. Now, the bells are played by means of external strikers that are controlled by a computer. With the installation of the clavier, the bells can be rung by pressing on the batons and musicians will be able to play musical selections. The last time the bells were played by Durfee High students was in 1978.

The clavier in the photo was made about 1900 for a 13 bell chime at a church in Kentucky. It was found in the hands of a vintage bell dealer in Brooklyn Michigan and shipped here two years ago. Since then, it has been restored by a local millwright and a 14th baton (one for each of our 14 bells) has been added. To complete the installation, each bell must be fitted with an internal clapper. The original cast iron clappers were lost or destroyed when the bells were moved about 1995. Cables will be tied to the new clappers and run over pulleys to steel rods connected to the batons. Pressing a baton

will pull the clapper against the inside of the corresponding bell causing it to ring. Installation of the clavier including the casting of new clappers is estimated to cost between 25 and 30 thousand dollars.

A second clavier for practice is being fabricated by a team of engineering students at UMass Dartmouth. This practice clavier will have the look and feel of the real one but it is designed for classroom use and its bells will be simulated rather than real. Music played on the practice clavier can be recorded on a flash drive that can be loaded on the computer that controls the real bells. Music originating in the classroom can be programmed to play the real bells at any day and time selected by the chime master.

The student project also includes the design and installation of a radio link between the announcer's booth at the football field and the striker on the 3,000 pound tenor bell. A Durfee touchdown or other athletic achievement will be able to be celebrated by the ringing of the biggest bell once the project is complete.

The last items on the "to-do" list are waterproofing of the tower at the clavier level, installation of additional tower lighting at the bell level and design and fabrication of decorative surrounds at the clock level.

42 engraved bricks honoring Durfee graduates and friends were recently installed in the memorial circle near the bell tower. Orders are being accepted for the next row of bricks that will be placed this fall.

Donations to help in these final stages of the bell project would be much appreciated. Checks payable to "Durfee Bells" may be sent to PO Box 9235, Fall River, MA 02720. For more information, please contact Les Cory LCory@Umassd.edu or any member of the Bells Committee.



Meet Fall River's New School Superintendent



AT the beginning of the 2016 school year, Fall River welcomed its new Superintendent of Schools. Dr Matthew H. Malone, PH.D.

was selected from a number of outstanding candidates to lead the Fall River schools.

Dr Malone brings a very impressive resume to his new assignment. His most recent position was to serve as Secretary of Education for the state of Massachusetts. This position made him responsible for early education, K-12, and higher education including the University of Massachusetts system. As the Governor's top advisor he helped to shape the Commonwealth's continuous reform agenda.

Prior to being Secretary of Education, Dr Malone served as Superintendent of Schools in Brockton, Massachusetts, the fourth largest school district in the state. His successes there included increased student achievement and the narrowing of achievement gaps among students.

Prior to Brockton he was Superintendent of Schools in Swampscott, Massachusetts where

he led a small urban system of 2,400 students. While there, student achievement results increased in nearly all measurable categories.

Along with serving as a Special Assistant to the Superintendent/Instruction leader in San Diego, being a Middle School Assistant Principal, and being a Persian gulf veteran, Dr Malone certainly brings a vast background of experience to Fall River.

His goals include building a partnership with local higher education institutions, engaging parents in surveying school needs and developing short and long term master facilities plans.

He has already received accolades for his work ethic. The Alumni wishes him well. His success will only lead to student success which is the ultimate goal of any good school system.

CLASS OF 1954 - 63rd Year Reunion

Thursday, August 3, 2017

12:00PM-3:00PM

The Cove Restaurant and Marina

392 Davol St, Fall River

Contact: Steve Nawrocki 508-673-7473 or

Class of 1954@aol.com

CLASS OF 1957 - 60th Year Reunion

Sunday, September 10, 2017

12:00PM - 4:00PM

Fall River Country Club

4232 North Main Street 02720

Contact: Margaret Mary Sullivan

508-674-4586

CLASS OF 1982 - 35th Year Reunion

Saturday, July 29, 2017

The Cove Restaurant and Marina

392 Davol St, Fall River

Contact: Leslie Benevides Loughlin 774-270-0564 or

DurfeeHS1982@gmail.com or

Facebook page, Durfee Class of 1982

DURFEE HALL OF FAME-2016by: **Greg Sullivan****Herald News Staff Reporter**

The Durfee High School Athletic Hall of Fame, Class of 2016 includes the battery from the school's state championship softball team, a pair of three sport athletes, a golfer-hockey player, a slugging baseball player, and the school's long time athletic trainer. The induction ceremony was held on Friday September 30th at White's of Westport.

DENEEN CLOUTIER, Class of 1983

She didn't just excel in sports, she dazzled coaches, fans and foes with her grace and athleticism. For four years, she was a diver in the fall and a gymnast in the winter. Cloutier also competed in outdoor track and field her senior year. She was a two-time team MVP in gymnastics, won the gymnastics coach's award in 1983, and also was selected winner of the Lillian Darmody Award, Karen A. Jarabek Memorial Award, and the WALE Spirit Award. In diving, she qualified for the state meet three times before budget cuts following the passage of Proposition 2 1/2 eliminated the states her senior year. In gymnastics, she was a three-time league all-star, two-time team leading point scorer, and two-time state meet qualifier. In her one season of track and field, Cloutier set four school records, led the team in scoring, was a league all star, and competed in the sectionals. At Clark University as a diver (1 meter and 3 meter), she became, as a freshman, the first diver in school history to qualify for nationals. She finished as high as 13th place nationally.

JULIE CARON, Class of 1996

An athlete for all seasons, and a very good one, Caron played four years of varsity softball, three years of varsity basketball, and two years of varsity volleyball, captaining all three sports her senior year and earning Herald News all-star honors in all three her junior and senior years. A four-year starter in softball, she batted .361 with a pair of triples as a junior after helping the Hilltoppers to the Division 1 South final one season earlier. In basketball, she started two years and, as a senior, averaged 13 points and 10 rebounds per game while shooting 75 percent from the foul line. Caron was named team MVP in all three sports her senior year. She followed with a spectacular college career at Pine Manor

College, playing 12 varsity seasons. She was named the GNAC Athlete of the Year in 2000 and is in the Pine Manor Hall of Fame.

STEPHEN KERN, Class of 1985

One of the lethal hitters in Durfee's rich baseball history, Kern led the Hilltoppers in batting (.417 both seasons) during his two varsity seasons, and he did it with power. In 1984, he belted two home runs and knocked in a team-high 15 runs. Opposing pitchers truly suffered in 1985 when Kern, a righthanded batter with frightening power to all fields, hit five home runs, four triples, and seven doubles, had seven multi-hit games and put together a 10-game hitting streak in helping Durfee to the Southeastern Massachusetts Conference Division 1 title. Teammates, coaches and fans who witnessed his mammoth home run in a dramatic second-round playoff loss at Boston College High still speak of the blast in awe. The SMC player of the year in '85, Kern was drafted by the Detroit Tigers but opted to accept a scholarship to play at Division 1 UMass Amherst.

RICKY COLEMAN, Class of 1983

One of Durfee hockey's first prolific scorers in hockey, Coleman was also a standout on the golf links. He played three years of varsity in both sports. In hockey, he finished with 96 career points, a late-season injury costing him the chance to reach 100. With Durfee competing in the Southeastern Massachusetts against hockey powers like Barnstable and Falmouth, Coleman in his senior year led the SMC with 22 goals and 24 assists. He remains Durfee's only "Hockey Night in Boston" all scholastic selection. "Rick was a very unselfish player," his hockey coach Jack Carey said. "Always a two-way player and was extremely coachable." On the golf course, Coleman was team captain and MVP his senior year and named an SMC all star. Former Durfee golf coach Rick Roy rates Coleman in the top 10 percent of players in Roy's 30 years. Coleman is a PGA Professional at New Seabury Country Club and Resorts in Mashpee.

KELLY ORTON, Class of 2000

The fiery Orton may be best described as an impact player. A four-year varsity pitcher in a very good softball program, she enjoyed remarkable success in the circle. During her career, Durfee won three Big 3 Conference championships, two South

Sectional championships, and in 1998 the Massachusetts Division 1 championship. A multiple Herald News all-star, Orton, a righthander, was honored as a Boston Globe all-star in 1999. Orton also helped the Hilltoppers to the South Sectional final in 2000. In her senior year, she posted a 16-6 record with a 0.98 ERA while batting .405. For her career, she was 78-16 with a 1.53 ERA and 671 strikeouts and just 151 walks. The 1998 state championship was the first softball state title in school history.

JESSICA BIGOS, Class of 2000

The other half of Durfee's softball's great four-year battery, Bigos is fittingly remembered as one of the best catchers in school history. She was also a fine winter track and field athlete. On the softball diamond, she was a crucial part of the 1998 state championship and in 2000, her senior year, Bigos was named one of the Boston Globe's Players of the Year after batting a Big 3 Conference-leading .536 with two home runs and 27 runs batted in. She earned a softball scholarship to the University of Connecticut. In winter track, Bigos ran relays and the 600 and threw the shot put and, in 1999, helped the Hilltoppers to their first Big 3 Conference championship.

PAUL PELOQUIN, Athletic Trainer

A member of Durfee's 1971 state championship baseball team as well as a soccer goalkeeper in high school, Peloquin returned to his alma mater as a teacher and athletic trainer. A man for all seasons, and even offseasons when necessary, Peloquin oversaw the treatment of all sports injuries and the athlete's rehabilitation and student athletes were always treated with the utmost respect and dignity as they progressed through their athletic seasons. His resume also includes stints as athletic trainer for Fall River Falcons Pop Warner Football and the Boston Breakers professional football team. The U.S. Olympic Committee selected him as a trainer for the 1983 Pan Am Games in Caracas, Venezuela and he was a trainer at for the National Sports Festival in Indianapolis. In 1980, he was awarded the American Red Cross Certificate of Merit for Saving a Life, the life of high school umpire who, at a Durfee baseball game, was struck in the throat with a pitch, causing his chew tobacco to block his breathing. The athletics training facility at Durfee is dedicated to Peloquin and Hall of Famer Dr. James Coleman.

DURFEE ALUMNI ASSOCIATION - CLAM BOIL

Fundraiser to benefit the Alumni Association Scholarship Fund

Monday, May 22, 2017 - 4:00PM - 8:00PM • Lepage's Seafood & Grill - 439 Martine St, Fall River, MA 02723
(Eat in or Take Out) - \$25:00 per person

2017 - 2018 The Durfee Alumni Association

The Durfee Alumni Association needs to hear from you if you wish to continue to receive The Chimes if you have not already done so.

_____ Please continue to mail me the Chimes at this address* _____ \$5.00 Dues Enclosed _____ Other

_____ Please email the Chimes to me at this email address _____

*Your Name _____ Maiden Name (if applicable): _____

Year of Graduation: _____ if spouse is a graduate - Year of Graduation: _____

Full Street Address: _____ City: _____

State: _____ Zip: _____ email Address: _____

Red and-Black Club Dues Min. _____ \$25.00 _____ \$50.00 _____ Other _____ Do not publish my information

*Please make checks payable to Durfee Alumni Association, P.O. Box 9656, Fall River, MA 02720-0011
* For inclusion in the spring 2018 issue of the Chimes, Please return no later than December 31, 2017.*

2017 - 2018 Alumni Nomination Form

Thank you for taking the time to consider a nominee for the Distinguished Alumni Award. Please attach a resume, bio, any newspaper or magazine articles and any other information to the Nomination form. This information is needed to assist the committee. Nominations remain current for a five year period and should be submitted no later than September 30th, 2017 to be considered by the 2017 Selection Board.

Name of Nominee: _____ Year of Graduation (1992 or earlier): _____

Address: _____

Telephone Number: _____ email address: _____

Name of Person Making the nomination: _____

Address: _____

Telephone Number: _____ email address: _____

Are you a member of the Association? _____ Is the Nominee a Member? _____

Please mail to: **Durfee Alumni Association, P.O. Box 9656, Fall River, MA 02720-0011**

Contact us at ...

Our official Alumni website at:
<http://www.durfeealumniassociation.com/contact>

By email at:
durfeealumniassociation@gmail.com

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Mailing address:
Durfee Alumni Association
P.O. Box 9656
Fall River, MA 02720-0011

Visit the new official Alumni website at
<http://www.durfeealumniassociation.com/> to...

- Join the Red & Black – the official Club of Durfee Alumni
- Pay annual Red & Black membership dues
- Make a donation
- Submit Alumni contact information
- Request the annual Chimes Newsletter - mail or email distribution
- Check out upcoming reunions
- Nominate a distinguished alumni
- Share your reunion photos

*Anyone interested in becoming a member of our Red & Black Club, may send a donation of \$25.00 to:
B.M.C. Durfee High School Alumni Association
P.O. Box 9656,
Fall River, MA 02720-0011 or at,
durfeealumniassociation.com
to use Pay Pal.*



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Raise our praises high to Durfee,
Alma Mater dear.
Tow'ring high beside the river,
Radiant beacon clear.

God preserve for Alma Mater,
Standards staunch and true.
High aloft we'll lift her banner
Bright with Durfee's hue.

Love and praise we render ever,
Voices raised on high.
Loud we sing of Durfee's glory,
To the earth and sky.

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