



GCIHS
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**Great Cranberry Island Historical Society Announces
Home, Art and Garden Tour Wednesday, August 11, 2010**

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Great Cranberry Island, ME (June 1, 2010)—The Great Cranberry Island Historical Society (GCIHS) announced today that it will be hosting the first annual Home, Art & Garden Tour (HAGT), to be conducted on Wednesday, August 11, 2010. Among the features of the tour will be:

- A nineteenth century sea captain's home
- A garden that is part of the Archives of American Gardens of the Smithsonian Institute
- GCIHS's Preble-Marr Museum
- The Heliker-LaHotan Foundation, a beautiful compound of buildings that offers an artist residency program
- Musical events throughout the day
- An art show at Cranberry House
- A mile-long hiking trail leading to Cranberry Island's magnificent back-shore
- Lunch available at the café at Cranberry House

The Historical Society was founded in 1993 when a small group of islanders came together to preserve a disappearing heritage. Long-time residents had documents, photographs and most importantly the knowledge of a proud island heritage since the island's settlement in 1760. From its modest beginnings the Society has been successful in attracting hundreds of members and has re-purposed an historic building, the former Mountain View Inn, to house its expanding collection of photographs, documents, antique furniture, fishing gear and scale models of fishing vessels.

"We want our Home, Art and Garden Tour to introduce summer visitors to the beauty of the Cranberry Isles as well as the fascinating history of this island which was settled before the Declaration of Independence," said Phil Whitney, GCIHS President. "The tour provides an opportunity to tour some of our most interesting homes and gardens."

Tour Schedule

The Historical Society has chartered ferry boats from both Northeast Harbor and Southwest Harbor, ME. The first departing boat will be at 9:45 a.m. from Northeast Harbor and 10:30 a.m. from Southwest Harbor, while the last departing boats will be at 4:30 and 4:45, respectively. Once on the island, tour participants will be provided with a map and brochure describing each of the stops. While visitors can easily hike between stops on the tour, transportation will be provided as well. Box lunches, as well as its customary menu, will be available at the Historical Society's Café.

Costs

The Historical Society is offering the tour at a cost of \$20 per person in advance. On the day of the event, tickets will cost \$25. In addition, the Historical Society has arranged for discounted ferryboat passes. They will be available for \$15 in advance, but increase to the full fare of \$24 on the day of the Tour. "Visitors to the Home, Art and Garden Tour will have the opportunity to view some of Cranberry's loveliest gardens and homes, artwork by local artists and hear live music in a charming setting," said Wini Smart, former GCIHS President and current Treasurer. "We hope our tour will motivate people who have always wanted to visit Cranberry Island." Tickets will be sold in both Northeast Harbor and Southwest Harbor starting two weeks before the event and at the docks of both Harbors on the day of the event. In addition, tickets may be purchased over the internet by visiting www.gcihs.org

For More information

A copy of this news release, frequently asked questions, the boat schedule and a pdf file of the tour brochure will be available at the GCIHS website, www.gcihs.org