



LONGYEAR MUSEUM



“Welcome home! To your home in my heart!”

— Mary Baker Eddy

REPORT TO MEMBERS

SPRING/SUMMER 2017

New Portrait Gallery exhibit opens its doors • From a Resident Overseer

A Message from the President

Dear Friends,

We're so happy to be able to share our new exhibit, "*Love, loyalty, and good works*" — *The Pleasant View Years*, with you through this issue of *Report to Members*. Cheryl Moneyhun's article takes you on a virtual tour of the gallery's highlights, from Mrs. Eddy's significant accomplishments while she was living at Pleasant View, her beloved home in Concord, New Hampshire, to the contributions of her faithful household staff and other workers in the field. We are especially pleased that the exhibit features several artifacts donated last year by The Mother Church, including a desk and chair used by Mrs. Eddy in her Pleasant View study, and the St. Lawrence skiff used on the Pleasant View pond.

This winter, Heather Vogel Frederick traveled to Colorado to participate in DiscoveryBound's National Leadership Council (NLC) All Class Retreat. To help the students gain a clearer sense of Mrs. Eddy's leadership, Heather developed a "reader's theater" activity based on Julia Bartlett's reminiscence in *We Knew Mary Baker Eddy*. The high school sophomores who participated had been reading *A World More Bright: The Life of Mary Baker Eddy*, the latest biography from the Christian Science Publishing Society, which Heather co-authored, as part of their curriculum.



With warm regards,

Sandra J. Houston

Sandra J. Houston, President

Cover image: On a carriage ride in late 1891, Mrs. Eddy came upon a farmhouse on the outskirts of Concord, New Hampshire — a pastoral setting with a view to the hills of her childhood home in Bow. After purchasing and remodeling the house, she moved into "Pleasant View" in June 1892, living there for over 15 years. Hand-tinted photograph, P6143, Longyear Museum collection.

Cover quote: *The First Church of Christ, Scientist, and Miscellany*, 170



Above: Guests enjoy the Portrait Gallery exhibit opening. Left: NLC students bring history to life.

In March, we welcomed 18 Principia College students for two days of programming at the Museum and the Swampscott, Lynn, and Chestnut Hill houses. And later this month, 70 Principia Upper School juniors and their chaperones will spend a week with us, visiting Mary Baker Eddy historic sites in New Hampshire and Massachusetts.

If you happen to be coming to Boston for the Annual Meeting of The Mother Church, we'd love to invite you to stop by and see us. We'll be offering special activities related to the new Portrait Gallery exhibit, and we'll have transportation available to three of the historic houses in Massachusetts. A detailed schedule of events is posted on our website, www.longyear.org.

Behind the Scenes at the new Portrait Gallery exhibit

by Cheryl P. Moneyhun

Recently, we've seen increased interest in the Longyear Portrait Gallery as a gathering place — for civic groups, for families attending recitals for young musicians, and for Christian Science camp shows, among other events. What an opportunity this gives Longyear when planning exhibits for this gallery! As we think about these various audiences, we ask ourselves what we can share about Mrs. Eddy's life experience and legacy that visitors can begin to grasp in their short outings to the Museum — outings that may not allow for time in the permanent galleries.

The planning process for the new exhibit spanned many months, and the team was well into the development of potential topics when something very special happened: Longyear was offered two of Mrs. Eddy's carriages and a boat — a St. Lawrence skiff — from The First Church of Christ, Scientist, in Boston, Massachusetts. We were delighted by this generous gift, and immediately placed the restored Brougham carriage on exhibit in the Museum's lobby, and moved the Victoria to the 400 Beacon Street Carriage House. The team then began thinking about the boat, and whether or not we could design an exhibit that included this beautiful — and very large — artifact. Since the boat was a gift to Mrs. Eddy to be used on the pond at Pleasant View, the team turned to her article "Pond and Purpose" in *Miscellaneous Writings*, which opens with a reference to the Pleasant View pond. Soon, ideas began to flow.

"Love, loyalty, and good works" (the title is taken from "Pond and Purpose") opens a fresh new window on a remarkably productive period for Mary Baker Eddy, while also introducing her to the newcomer. We have used her 15-plus years at Pleasant View as a backdrop for her emergence into recognition as Discoverer, Founder, and Leader of what was then becoming a world-wide religious movement. This is a story that can be told and retold in many ways.



Clockwise from top left: Longyear staff members move Mary Baker Eddy's skiff into the Museum; the Portrait Gallery's quote wall is installed; the Pleasant View scale model is carefully cleaned and restored.

Nearly the entire staff was engaged in some way in moving the exhibit from concept to design, from fabrication to installation, and finally to an opening night program that gave our guests a taste of the times in which Mrs. Eddy and her students lived and worked. We hope the following pages will give all of you a glimpse of the new exhibit as well — and of course, the doors are always open should you ever be in the Boston area!

“Love, loyalty, and good works” The Pleasant View Years

A new exhibit in
the Longyear
Portrait Gallery

by Cheryl P. Moneyhun

When speaking of “love, loyalty, and good works,” Mary Baker Eddy was addressing students who had given her a beautiful pond on the grounds of her new home, Pleasant View, in Concord, New Hampshire.

To her, the pond was a metaphor for spiritual baptism — a purification leading to spiritual growth and a higher sense of service. She had prepared her students to help bring her discovery of hope and healing to the world, and under her continuing direction from Concord, they were working on many fronts to do just that.

This new exhibit, which opened in November 2016, considers Mrs. Eddy’s work while living at Pleasant View, 1892–1908, and introduces some of the students who supported her at home and further afield as she led her followers through landmark steps in the Christian Science movement.





“From my tower window,
as I look on this smile of
Christian Science, this gift
from my students and their
students, it will always
mirror their love, loyalty,
and good works.”

— *Miscellaneous Writings 1883–1896*, “Pond and Purpose,” 203

Left: Mary Baker Eddy. Portrait by Alice Barbour, 2012.012.0001, Longyear Museum collection.

Below: Mrs. Eddy's St. Lawrence skiff and furniture from her Pleasant View study create a striking focal point for the exhibit.



“All God’s servants are minute men and women.”

— *Miscellaneous Writings*, 158

Pleasant View was also home to a small band of devoted workers — students who performed domestic and secretarial duties, and provided prayerful support. Their faithful service enabled Mary Baker Eddy to focus on leading a growing

religious movement. Over the course of the 15½ years that Mrs. Eddy lived at Pleasant View, some seven dozen or so workers served in the household, some for short periods, others longer.



Above left: John Salchow. Photograph, P1188, Longyear Museum collection.

Above right: Garden shears from Pleasant View, AF0070, Longyear Museum collection.

“Faithful John,”¹ as Mrs. Eddy called him, was from Kansas. He heard of Christian Science in the 1880s through Joseph Mann, one of Mrs. Eddy’s students. Besides working as a handyman, John also tended the gardens, cows, and pigs, groomed the horses, and ran errands. He served in Mary Baker Eddy’s household for nine years, 1901–1910, at Pleasant View and later at Chestnut Hill.





Left: Visitors assemble on the back lawn at Pleasant View in June 1903. Photograph, P3007, Longyear Museum collection.

As leader of what was becoming an international religious movement, Mrs. Eddy occasionally broke from the intensity of her work to welcome groups of followers to her home. A reporter for the *Boston Evening News* said of one particularly large gathering of 10,000 in June 1903:

It is the feeling of sincere gratitude which sends the Christian Scientist to Concord...it is a matter of great personal gratification to see Mrs. Eddy and to hear her speak. This is not worship, but it is unusual evidence of strong affection and loyalty.

— *Boston Evening News*

Clockwise at left: The Mann Family — Joseph, Pauline, August, and Amanda Mann. Photographs, P0947, P0948, P0941, P0940, Longyear Museum collection.

The Mann family, from Connecticut, had their introduction to Christian Science when young Joseph was accidentally shot in the heart during target practice. His injury was pronounced fatal by physicians. However, a Christian Scientist visiting the area offered prayerful treatment as Joseph lay dying, resulting in a quick and complete recovery. Joseph had classes with Mary Baker Eddy, took up the public practice of Christian Science, and became a teacher. His deep desire to serve Mrs. Eddy and the Cause of Christian Science in whatever way was needed brought him, sister Pauline, brother August, and August's wife, Amanda, into service at Pleasant View with a common bond of gratitude to Mrs. Eddy.



Laura Sargent. Portrait by Carol Aus, AW0233, Longyear Museum collection.

Laura Sargent, of Oconto, Wisconsin, found healing in 1883 when Christian Science was recommended by a friend, and took her first class with Mary Baker Eddy in 1884.

Capable, warm, and trustworthy, she was a key figure in the management of Mrs. Eddy's household for some 20 years (1890-1910). A few months after Laura arrived, Mrs. Eddy wrote Laura's sister Victoria: "What should I have done without your dear sister? She is the best, the kindest and dearest girl in all the world to me...."²

“They build for time and eternity”

Miscellaneous Writings, 264



Mary Baker Eddy reorganized The First Church of Christ, Scientist, in 1892, to the form known today. Other forward steps were taken in 1898, when she established the Christian Science Publishing Society, the Christian Science Board of Lectureship, the Board of Education, and the Committee on Publication. Under her close direction and guidance from Pleasant View, students and followers from many locations carried out these and other significant advancements in the Cause of Christian Science, including the building of a church edifice in Boston in 1894, with an Extension added in 1906.



The Mother Church Original Edifice and Extension. Photograph, P1843, Longyear Museum collection.



Joseph Armstrong. Portrait by John Young Hunter, AW022, Longyear Museum collection.

Joseph, a Kansas banker, took instruction from Mrs. Eddy after his wife, Mary's, healing of invalidism in 1886. He left his business to practice Christian Science, and at Mrs. Eddy's request the Armstrongs moved to Boston where Joseph became publisher of her writings and the Christian Science periodicals, and later a member of the Christian Science Board of Directors. Tasked by Mrs. Eddy with overseeing the building of the Original Edifice of The Mother Church — a project rife with challenges — Joseph wrote that Mrs. Eddy's counsel had “led on to success in the face of such seeming odds. Her nearness to the great heart of Love endowed her with power from on high before which every obstacle vanished.”³

“It has gone across the ocean”

Christian Science Hymnal, #29

While Westward expansion of the Christian Science movement in the United States had its beginnings in the mid-1880s, by the 1890s there were active Christian Science groups in Canada, the British Isles, Germany, and Australia. At the time of Mrs. Eddy's passing in 1910, *The Christian Science Journal* listed Christian Science Churches, Societies, or practitioners in 27 countries — on all continents except Antarctica.

E. Blanche Ward was one of the first Christian Science practitioners outside North America to be listed in *The Christian Science Journal* (1893).

She first heard of Christian Science in 1889. After taking class in 1891, she moved to Belfast, Ireland, where she held talks in her home. Moving to London in 1894, she held private services in her home there until early 1896, when Mrs. Eddy requested public services to be held. These commenced in rented rooms until the congregation acquired an edifice. Blanche was active in the practice and teaching of Christian Science until 1954.



E. Blanche Ward. Portrait by Eileen Ayrton, AW0356, Longyear Museum collection.

History of the Longyear Portrait Gallery

Mary Beecher Longyear had the privilege of knowing Mary Baker Eddy, and early recognized the importance of preserving an accurate historic record of Mrs. Eddy's life — durable evidence for future generations of her unparalleled work for mankind. She saw great value, too, in capturing the histories and experiences of many of the pioneering workers who stood with Mrs. Eddy as she established the Christian Science movement. She asked them to write their recollections, she gathered papers and photographs, and she had portraits painted of many of them by celebrated artists of the day. She also envisioned a Portrait Gallery as an essential part of the museum she so hoped to build.

Mrs. Longyear never got to build that museum. But she did take all the necessary steps to make sure there was a Foundation to carry on the work she had started — to care for the historical



Mary Beecher Longyear. Photograph, P4301, Longyear Museum collection.

materials and sites she had acquired, and to oversee growth of the organization and its collections. And she left her home — the Longyear Family mansion — to house the Foundation and its collections.

Mrs. Longyear's hope for a dedicated building was realized when Longyear Museum's new purpose-built facility came to fruition in the late 1990s. A Portrait Gallery for changing exhibits was an essential component. For almost two decades, this gallery has served as a supplement and complement to the other museum galleries, with a unique opportunity for thematic focus on Mrs. Eddy as teacher, mentor, and friend. Selected portraits of her students

and early followers are always on display, and their first-hand experiences with Mrs. Eddy, and as pioneering workers in the Christian Science movement, are shared with visitors.

A church government for the ages

With years of experience in church governance behind her, Mary Baker Eddy realized that a set of bylaws would be necessary to guide her church for generations to come. In 1895, she published the *Church Manual*.

Of these bylaws she wrote:

Of this I am sure, that each Rule and By-law in this Manual will increase the spirituality of him who obeys it, invigorate his capacity to heal the sick, to comfort such as mourn, and to awaken the sinner.

*The First Church of Christ, Scientist, and
Miscellany*, 230

As visitors leave the Portrait Gallery, one of the last things they see is a full wall of images from Pleasant View and selected quotes from some of Mary Baker Eddy's published writings —

sending them off with Mrs. Eddy's own words, observations, and counsel.

*Cheryl P. Moneyhun is Curator of Collections at
Longyear Museum.*

ENDNOTES

1. Mrs. Eddy referred to Mr. Salchow in this way when she inscribed a gift copy of *Science and Health* to him. See Robert Peel, *Mary Baker Eddy: The Years of Authority* (New York: Holt, Rinehart and Winston, 1977), 182 and 437, fn10.
2. Mary Baker Eddy letter to Victoria Sargent, January 3, 1891, as quoted by Chester C. Muth, C.S.B., in *Victoria H. Sargent and Laura E. Sargent: A Biographical Sketch* (Green Bay, WI: Victoria H. Sargent's Students' Association, 1953), 29.
3. Joseph Armstrong, *The Mother Church: A History of the Building of the Original Edifice of The First Church of Christ, Scientist, in Boston, Massachusetts* (Boston: The Christian Science Publishing Society, 1897), vi.



*To live and let live, without clamor for
distinction or recognition; to wait on divine
Love; to write truth first on the tablet of
one's own heart, — this is the sanity and
perfection of living, and my human ideal.*

— *Message to The Mother Church for 1902*, 2

George Kinter and his family enjoy
a ride in Mrs. Eddy's boat on the
Pleasant View pond. Photograph,
P3020, Longyear Museum collection.



Another Great Day in Swampscott!

by Mary M. Beermann

I had wanted to work for Longyear since before I could remember, but my husband, Ron, and I were settled in Chicago with jobs and I was very active in a branch church. I also had no special training or talent for museum work. However, this desire was always in my heart. Within a very short time of having a remarkable healing experience where, out of great gratitude, I asked God, "And now, what can I do for You?" I ran into a Longyear staff member who asked if I might like to apply to be a Resident Overseer at one of the Mary Baker Eddy Historic Houses. I didn't have to think twice — I certainly would! The next thing I knew, I had embarked on what has proved to be one of the most satisfying, educational, and fulfilling times of my life!

I could write a book with all that has occurred while overseeing the Swampscott and Lynn Historic Houses. The title would be *Another Great Day in Swampscott!* — a phrase Ron and I have exclaimed at the end of every day since we moved in six years ago. Some of the chapter titles might be: "Overcoming Fears and Trepidations about the Job," "The Purpose of the Historic Houses," "Sharing the Historic Houses with the Public," and "Blessings Received While Serving."

As a Resident Overseer, I strive every day to maintain "such a spiritual attitude as will draw men unto us," as Mrs. Eddy counsels in *Retrospection and Introspection* (88). One dreary day, I walked outside to open the gates and put out the OPEN flag. It was pouring rain. As I went back inside and hung up my coat, the thought came, "Well, surely no one will come for a tour today — not in this weather!" I quickly turned that thought right around and said, "No! That's not my thought! Nothing can prevent the purpose of this house from being known and shared." Not long after that declaration, the bell rang and I gave a tour!

At one point, it dawned on me that the "millions of unprejudiced minds — simple seekers for Truth..." which Mrs. Eddy writes about in *Science and Health* (570) were the same ones desiring to know more about the Discoverer and Founder of Christian Science, simply because the message and its messenger are inseparable.

With this new insight, I soon found myself giving a tour to a young schoolteacher. He informed me he knew nothing about Christian Science, but had found and listened to the *Christian Science Sentinel Radio* program every Sunday and wanted to learn more about Mary Baker Eddy. Another day, three young women, one a nursing student, also stopped by to learn about Mrs. Eddy. They became so engrossed in what



Mary and Ron Beermann

they were hearing and then reading in the Lynn exhibit, they stayed for four hours, wanting to read every word and asking many questions.

The purpose of the houses to educate has been appreciated not only by the general public, but also by a Boy Scout troop, grade-school children, neighbors, and those specifically interested in the history of Swampscott and Lynn.

Graham, a third grader who was given the assignment only to drive by and take a picture of a historic place, saw our sign advertising tours and implored his mother to call and arrange for one. While I was explaining how Mrs. Eddy had asked for her Bible and had been healed after reading an account of one of Jesus' healings, Graham's mother, who had been listening intently, turned to her son and said, "Maybe we should be reading the Bible more!" Afterward, Graham left and headed to the library to find additional information about Mrs. Eddy. My heart swelled when, several months later, the doorbell rang and there stood Graham with a copy of his assignment, informing us that the teacher had pronounced his to be the best in the class. He presented us with our own copy of the project and a hand-written thank you note!

I have shared only a few of the experiences I've had during these last six years. Just imagine all the others that have taken place in these two houses over the decades! I'll close for now, but if you'd like to know more...well, you'll just have to read my book!

Mary Beermann is Resident Overseer of the Mary Baker Eddy Historic Houses in Swampscott and Lynn, Massachusetts.



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LONGYEAR MUSEUM Established 1923

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LONGYEAR MUSEUM is an independent historical museum dedicated to advancing the understanding of the life and work of Mary Baker Eddy, the Discoverer, Founder, and Leader of Christian Science.

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Longyear Museum owns eight historic houses in which Mary Baker Eddy lived:

Amesbury, Mass.
Chestnut Hill, Mass.
Concord, N.H.
Lynn, Mass.
North Groton, N.H.
Rumney, N.H.
Stoughton, Mass.
Swampscott, Mass.

May is National Historic Preservation Month

May is here, and with it the annual celebration of National Historic Preservation Month. What better time to talk about the Mary Baker Eddy Historic Houses?

These houses are a special part of Longyear Museum's collection. To us, each one represents a step in Mrs. Eddy's spiritual journey, and taken as a whole, the collection dramatically illustrates her own growth along with that of the Christian Science movement.

To offer just one example, travelers to the humble four-room house in remote North Groton, New Hampshire, learn of Mrs. Eddy's time there

(1855–1860), when she was practicing homeopathy and continuing her lifelong study of the Bible, taking tentative steps towards her discovery of Christian Science. By contrast, Mrs. Eddy's final residence in Chestnut Hill, Massachusetts (1908–1910), an imposing 28-room stone mansion situated in a gracious neighborhood just outside Boston, serves as a vivid symbol of the distance she traveled from her years in North Groton, and all that she achieved. It is truly a home befitting the Leader of the Christian Science movement.

It is Longyear Museum's privilege to share Mary Baker Eddy's story through these houses, and it is our privilege to care for these important

landmarks so that her story will continue to be told for generations to come.

We invite you to join us in caring for these homes through a gift to the Mary Baker Eddy Historic House Fund.

Gifts to the fund will help us complete several projects on this year's to-do list. Your generosity also helps underwrite annual operations at all eight houses, from utilities and yard care to security, insurance, housekeeping, and more. Thank you for considering an additional gift to the Mary Baker Eddy Historic Houses!

To make a gift online, please visit www.longyear.org and click on "Support Longyear."



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