



2025

Events with Judy Anderson

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Many events are free / no R.S.V.P.

Others benefit local historical organizations (Mhd. Mus., Pickering Hs., MAA)

Programs for “the Salem Alarm” (or “Leslie’s Retreat”) ~ Tours & Talks by Judy Anderson:

Trolley Tours:

Saturday, February 22 afternoon 2 tours ~ 12:30 - 2 pm & 2:30 - 4 pm ~ both **SOLD OUT**
~~Trolley tour from Salem to Mhd. & back starts & ends in Salem ~ at St. Peter’s Church, Salem~~

Bell Ringing:

Saturday, Feb. 22 ~ 7 am / noon / 6 pm Annual bell-ringing (30 min. each) George Washington’s Birthday (a long tradition in Mhd.) in honor of the 1st U.S. President, George Washington

Sunday, February 23 11 am All Marblehead churches & synagogues plus Abbot Hall to celebrate no outbreak of war in Mhd. on Feb. 26, 1775
Town-wide Bell-ringing (3 minutes)

Illustrated Talks:

Sunday, February 23 11:45 to 12:30 at Old North Church, Marblehead ~ 35 Washington St.
“How the Rev. War Almost Began in Mhd. & S” Talk is in the main church / Donations appreciated \$10 p/p

Sunday, March 9 11:30 (noon) to 1 pm at the Pickering House in Salem ~ 18 Broad St., Salem
“Four Colonels & One ‘Retreat’ ~ & M’hd’s Role in the ‘Salem Alarm’ on 26 Feb. 1775” \$25 to benefit the Col. Pickering House / P. Hs. Association
Reservations open to public Feb. 22 ~ PickeringHouse.org

Wednesday, April 23 7 pm at Tapley Hall in Danvers ~ 13 Page Street, Danvers
“Facing Colonel Alexander Leslie of Scotland” Donations to benefit the Danvers Historical Society

Sunday, April 27 11:45 am to 1 pm at Old North Church, Marblehead ~ 35 Washington St.
“How the Rev. War Almost Began in Mhd. & S” Talk is in the main church / Donations appreciated \$10 p/p

Walking Tours:

Friday, April 25 5 to 6 pm in Marblehead ~ Meet at Fort Beach / End on Wash. St.
Saturday, April 26 9 to 10 am **SAME TOUR** each time / No RSVP / No restrooms /
Sunday, April 27 4 to 5 pm No rain date / Children are welcome & Dogs on a leash

“How the First Shots of the Amer. Rev. War Could Have been Fired in M’head &/or Salem on Feb. 26, 1775 Just 7 Weeks before Lexington & Concord” Individual or group tours can also be scheduled by appointment

Other Programs by Judy Anderson ~ TALKS & TOURS ~ in Marblehead ~ April to October:

Illustrated Talk:

Thursday, April 10 7 to 8 pm at the Marblehead Museum ~ 170 Washington St.
“Marblehead’s Most Enigmatic Revolutionary ~ Honoring the Life & Legacy of Colonel Jeremiah Lee” in person or via zoom / \$10 members / \$15 public
Reservations ~ MarbleheadMuseum.org / Upcoming prog.

A tribute to Colonel Jeremiah Lee ~ father, husband, businessman, community leader & rebel (Patriot) leader ~ and the 12 months before the fateful day of April 19, 1775 which led to his premature & long forgotten death on May 10.

Walking / Sitting Tours:

“Col. J. Lee & His Covert Revolutionary Acts” incl. period quotes by & about Lee & his risk-filled role in 1774 & ‘75
Friday, May 9 5 to 6:30 pm Meet in front of Lee Mansion ~ 161 Washington St.
Saturday, May 10 10 to 11:30 am **SAME CONTENT** (essentially) each time / \$10 mbrs. / \$15 public
Saturday, May 10 4 to 5:30 pm Reservations online ~ MarbleheadMuseum.org / Upcoming progr.

Illustrated Talks:

Note: ‘King’ Hooper was 68 & a moderate Loyalist or ‘Tory’

Sunday, May 18 1 to 2 pm
“*The Loyalist / Patriot Divide in Mhd. in 1775*”

at the King Hooper Mansion ~ 8 Hooper Street
Donations to benefit Marblehead Arts Assoc. / no RSVP

On the eve of the Revolutionary War, Marblehead was a thriving & prosperous international Atlantic seaport, and a town of nearly 5,000 people ~ (perhaps the sixth or at least tenth most populous metropolis in British North America) ~ with about 950 families (living in about 525 houses ~ approx. 300 of which still survive). About 90% of those 950+ families were “rebels” (Patriots). Only about a dozen heads of families can be clearly identified as **Loyalists** (“Tories”)

Sunday, June 1 1 to 2 pm
“*Marblehead Loyalists & their Homes*”

at the King Hooper Mansion ~ 8 Hooper Street
Donations to benefit Marblehead Arts Assoc. / no RSVP

Town tensions came to a head in May 1775 ~ after the battle shots of April 19, 1775 ~ (and devastating economic Parliamentary sanctions that took effect in March 1775, and would have spelled ruin for Marblehead ~ as the war did). Many Loyalists were run out of town in May. But by the war’s end, nearly a decade later, most (tho not all) would return.

Sunday, September 7 1 to 2 pm
“*The Lee & Hooper Families and the Revolution*”

at the King Hooper Mansion ~ 8 Hooper Street
Donations to benefit Marblehead Arts Assoc. / no RSVP

With visuals, this program will illuminate the lives of the families of Marblehead’s two most prominent merchants ~ rebel (‘Patriot’) Colonel Jeremiah Lee & moderate Tory Robert ‘King’ Hooper ~ to the Revolutionary era (1763–83). Both families lost everything due to the war (as most ‘Headers did) ~ Col. Lee losing his life to the cause after he sacrificed his fortune to help supply and arm it, and ‘King’ Hooper losing his fortune as he watched everything that he had worked for a half-century to build. (‘King’ Hooper was in large part responsible for much of Marblehead’s mid-1700s prosperity (1720s to ‘50s), along with a few dozen other merchants (esp. 1750s to 70s), but those to a lesser extent). Three of Hooper’s four wives and many of his grown children died before Hooper did, and most who lived longer lost their financial resources due to the war — as the Lees’ grown children did also. Interestingly, most of King Hooper’s offspring were Patriots (as was Marblehead’s *other* principal Hooper family network, which thrived afterward).

Programs at Fort Sewall:

Note: *Fort Sewall was not called that until about 1800*

“*The ‘Marblehead Fort’ in 1775*” ~ *Before it was ‘Fort Sewall’* (... and ~ who was Samuel Sewall ?)

Thursday, May 22 5:30 to 6:30 pm
Saturday, May 24 9 to 10 am
Sunday, May 25 4 to 5 pm

Meet at Fort Beach on Front Street / No RSVP
Memorial Day weekend (Thurs. eve, Sat. & Sun.)
SAME CONTENT (basically) each time / Donations

Thursday, Sept. 5 5:30 to 6:30 pm
Saturday, Sept. 7 9 to 10 am

SAME TOPIC Meet at Fort Beach on Front Street
Labor Day weekend (Thurs.eve & Sat. morning) Donations

For more than a century after it was first built in 1644, the earthwork “Marblehead Fort” occupied only the very end of the headland. And it had at least 4 renovations after that, all directed by professional military engineers under Crown and military orders. **The Fort was enlarged to its current footprint in 1775, as the war began** ~ again under the direction of professional military engineers. But this time, they were officers in the Continental Army. The fort was under local Marblehead jurisdiction only briefly during that transition time in 1775.

The white brick structure so visually prominent now was not built until the later 1790s, due to tensions and threat of war with France, just a decade after France helped the new U.S. win its war against France’s old enemy. The talk will discuss why ~ and the answer’s roots lie in the American Revolution.

Walking Tours: (architecture & social history)

Note: *Nearly 300 houses survive from before 1775*

“*Revolutionary Dwellings*”
first Fridays each month 5:30 to 7 pm
first Sundays each month 4 to 5:30 pm

June thru October ~ **First weekend of every month**
in downtown M’hd. ~ Meet at Abbot Hall / No restrooms
SIMILAR TOUR each time / No RSVP / No rain dates

Homes of prominent individuals in the Revolution, their lives, & how the town developed before & after 1775

TOURS can also be scheduled any time by appointment by individuals, organizations or groups 781-631-1762