

2026 A Series of 13 Public Illustrated Talks for **Marblehead 250**

Wednesday evenings 7 pm Presented by the **Marblehead 250 Committee**

All but two are at Abbot Library **Contact:** *JudyAnderson MarbleheadArchitecture@gmail.com*

including a Revolutionary **Captains Series** by **Donald Doliber (4 talks)**
and a Revolutionary **Soldiers Series** by several speakers (7 talks)
plus **two** at the **Marblehead Museum** (170 Washington St. / reservations req'd.)

<u>Date</u>	<u>Presenter</u>	
April 1	Judy Anderson	Revolutionary Near Miss – How the Rev. War's First Battle Could Have Occurred in Mhd.
April 8	Donald Doliber	Captain Michael Corbett and the Pitt Packet Incident in 1769
April 29	Robert Allison	Elbridge Gerry – M'hd. signer of the Declaration of Independence at M'head. Museum
May 6	Judy Anderson	Revolutionary Dwellings – Homes of Patriots and Loyalists in Mhd.
May 27	Donald Doliber	Captain James Mugford , an early Revolutionary War Martyr in 1776
June 17	Donald Doliber	Captain Samuel Russell Trevett , Artillery Commander at Bunker Hill 1776
Aug. 26	Larry Sands	Revolutionary Leader – Colonel John Glover & his Crucial Leadership in 1776
Sept. 2	Donald Doliber	Captain Nicholson Broughton , First Captain of the Privateer <i>Hannah</i>
Sept. 10	Judy Anderson	Loyalists In Marblehead during the 8 Years of Revolution at Marblehead Museum
Oct. 14	Pam Peterson	Revolutionary War Heroes in Marblehead Cemeteries
Oct. 28	Rabbi David Meyer	A Jewish Hero in Glover's Marblehead Regiment
Nov. 4	Nancy Schultz	Revolutionary Reward – General Glover and his Farm House in his Retirement
Dec. 9	Robert Booth	Revolutionary Brothers – The Glovers and their Homes & Farms



The four talks by Donald Doliber about Four Revolutionary Captains are funded in part by a grant from the Marblehead Cultural Council, a local agency that is supported by the Massachusetts Cultural Council, a state agency



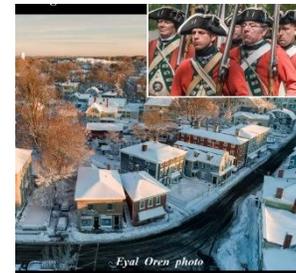
Three talks feature **General John Glover** and his remarkable 7 years of service in the American Revolution (June 1775 – 1782), including his first year and a half as **Colonel of the Marblehead Regiment** which existed from June 1775 to December 1776

Next page: **Brief Summaries for the 11 talks in the Marblehead 250 Lecture Series at Abbot Library**

Brief Summaries for the 11 talks in the **Marblehead 250** Lecture Series at **Abbot Library**

April 1 **Judy Anderson** **How the Revolutionary War's First Battle Could Have Occurred in Mhd.**

In this first of ten free illustrated talks offered by the Marblehead 250 Committee and Abbot Public Library each month in 2026, the United States' 250th year, see and hear the fascinating story of how the first shots of the American Revolution were almost fired in Marblehead or Salem on a cold Sunday in February 1775, when nearly 250 British soldiers "marched through the town" and on to Salem's North Bridge, instead of in Lexington and at Concord's North Bridge less than two months later, on April 19th. That infamous "first battle" could easily have happened here (or in Salem), with loss of Marblehead lives (and more) instead. And that near-miss episode could have made Marblehead (and/or Salem) instead of Lexington (and Concord) "Ground Zero" for the seven long years of war that followed.



Judy Anderson is an independent social, cultural and architectural historian who worked at the Marblehead Museum for 16 years, as the organization's first administrative director in 1994 and the only specified curator of the Jeremiah Lee Mansion 2001-10.

April 8 **Donald Doliber** **Captain Michael Corbett and the Pitt Packet Incident in 1769**

Early revolutionary resistance! ... Hear the dramatic tale of Michael Corbett and his Marblehead shipmates who resisted British tyranny at sea on King Hooper's merchant ship the *Pitt Packet* (named after a British prime minister who was sympathetic to Americans' grievances) a full year before the 1770 Boston "Massacre" and six years before the Revolutionary War's first battle in 1775. After the mariners killed a British officer who was trying to impress them into British Navy service, they were brought to trial in Boston but were acquitted successfully by a young unknown lawyer named John Adams. That case launched Adams into professional and political prominence, which grew after Adams successfully defended some British officers a year later, after the so-called "Boston Massacre" on March 5th in 1770. In 1775, Corbett and most of the others would become ship's masters on privateer vessels — a role that caused most of deaths of Marblehead men in the Revolution, including Corbett's.



Donald Doliber was appointed as Marblehead's Town Historian after 24 years as an award-winning history teacher, who was selected as the "Outstanding American History Teacher in the United States" by the D.A.R. (Daughters of the American Revolution), followed by 17 years as an assistant high school principal. His ancestors arrived in Marblehead in the 1630s, and were fishermen, Selectmen, and merchants in the early community and later, and a few served in the Revolutionary War.

May 6 **Judy Anderson** **Revolutionary Dwellings – Homes of Patriots and Loyalists in Mhd.**

Nearly every house in Marblehead that predates 1775 was the home of a serviceman in America's Revolutionary War. An estimated 300 houses still survive, even if modified by later generations, out of perhaps 525 or so that existed as the war began, when Marblehead was apparently still the sixth most populous metropolis in British North America. In June 1775, nearly 600 men and teenage boys from those homes joined the Continental Army's new "Marblehead Regiment" under Colonel John Glover, which grew from the earlier rebel Patriot militia led by



Colonel Jeremiah Lee until his death in May 1775. Starting in Autumn 1775, hundreds of them would sail out as captains and crews of privateer vessels. And many would lose their lives that way. But the “prize” vessels they captured helped to supply and pay soldiers in the new nation’s struggling army, and to outfit its fledgling navy. Over the course of the war’s eight long years, an estimated total of 1,400 or more would serve from this town of about 950 families — all living in those 525 houses ! Nearly all were Patriots, as only about a dozen heads of households can be identified as Tories, or Loyalists. And nearly every house was filled with women and many children who suffered greatly. It would take several generations for the town to fully recover — and that was only briefly. But that is the reason so many pre-Revolutionary homes still survive. Come learn about where some of Mhd’s. Revolutionary heroes and their families lived.



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May 27 Donald Doliber Captain James Mugford, an early Revolutionary War Martyr in 1776

On his 27th birthday in May 1776 (May 19th), Captain James Mugford became an early Revolutionary War hero and martyr, killed in combat by the British in retaliation for his having audaciously and fortuitously captured a 300-ton British supply ship a day or two before. It’s a sad but fascinating story ! — as his young wife successfully negotiated with the captain of the British warship for his release after the young Marblehead ship’s master had been “impressed” (essentially kidnapped from off a Marblehead street) and held prisoner on that British ship. While on board though, Mugford heard about the supply ship’s imminent arrival. Soon after, commanding the *Franklin* out of Marblehead, he and his crew, posing as a harmless fishing vessel, captured the valuable munitions transport. Tragically, he died in a retaliatory battle the following day. But the vital and desperately needed munitions and supplies however, remained in American hands.



Don Doliber’s biography is on first page.

June 17 Donald Doliber Captain Samuel Russell Trevett, Artillery Commander at Bunker Hill 1776

The Battle of Bunker Hill on June 17, 1775, up above Charlestown, just north of Boston, early in the war, is famous for several reasons. The battle, the Revolutionary War’s first major combat involving cannons, was a loss for the Americans, but the British suffered a high number of casualties. One of the American revolution’s charismatic young leaders, Dr. Joseph Warren, a doctor and a Son of Liberty of Boston, was also a significant loss, as he was mortally wounded there. But a little-known episode involves a Marblehead artillery commander, Captain Samuel Russel Trevett, who fought valiantly and was the only American to lead his cannon company into the thick of the fray, defying the orders of his superior officers. He also dragged a field-piece down off the hill as the American forces retreated. It was the only American cannon that was not captured by the enemy. Trevett, however, was falsely accused of his superior officer’s failures. Though he was exonerated soon after, he never rejoined the army, but served instead as a Captain aboard privateer vessels through the war’s end in 1782.



Aug. 26 Larry Sands Revolutionary Leader – Colonel John Glover & his Crucial Leadership in 1776

John Glover is justly the most famous and celebrated of Marblehead's hundreds of Revolutionary servicemen due to his capable and resolute leadership of his intrepid and unflinching Continental Army regiment during the war's first year and a half, through December 1776, while he was a Colonel. Although the numbers of his soldiers were somewhat in flux as hundreds would leave to serve as captains and crews on privateer vessels, nearly 600 men and teenaged boys served in the rebel Patriot army in June 1775. This talk will primarily discuss Colonel Glover's time as commander of that so-called "Marblehead Regiment" (1775 - 76). But it will focus on the pivotal last four months of 1776 — from the crucial evacuation of Long Island that saved Commander-in-Chief George Washington's entire army of 9,000 men and equipment, to the pivotal December Crossing of the Delaware River in lashing sleet (and back again, in worsened conditions, with two grueling nine-mile marches in between), which saved the war effort itself.



Afterward, most of Col. Glover's remaining men returned home, and would join their mates in privateering — to Glover's frustration, though a handful of stalwart officers stayed in the army with him. Colonel Glover was promoted to General in Feb. 1777, and served throughout the rest of the war's 7 long years. He retired from service in 1782, as hostilities on the N. American continent finally ended.

Larry Sands is the captain of Glover's Marblehead Regiment, a re-enactment unit established in 1974. A member for over 35 years, he has filled all leadership roles and has participated in reenactments of every engagement in which the original regiment served.

Sept. 2 Donald Doliber Captain Nicholson Broughton, First Captain of the Privateer Hannah

Captain Nicholson Broughton earned honor as the first commodore of the United States Navy. But he first gained fame as captain of the even more famous schooner *Hannah*, the "first" official privateer vessel sent out from Marblehead / Beverly waters under a commission from George Washington in service of his Continental Army, on September 2, 1775. Broughton had at first been a captain of one of the ten regiments in Colonel John Glover's 21st Massachusetts Regiment (as it began in June 1775). In November 1775, Captain Broughton commanded the privateer *Hancock*, which sailed up to Nova Scotia waters with the schooner *Franklin*, commanded by Captain John Selman, also of Marblehead, to interrupt shipping of British armaments to bases in Canada. Finding none, they took matters into their own hands — and were court martialed personally by Commander-in-Chief George Washington.



Oct. 14 Pam Peterson Revolutionary War Heroes in Marblehead Cemeteries

Many men from Marblehead fought in the American Revolution. Most were part of the 14th Continental, known as Glover's regiment. There were also captains and sailors in Washington's crucial privateer fleet. Rebels who fought back in other ways, such as serving on Committees and attending the early Continental Congress, were also part of the story. Many never returned home, dying on battlefields or at sea. But those buried in Marblehead's graveyards help us remember our Town's role in the nation's fight for independence. Find out more about who lies where, and about what's wrong about the 1930 Tercentenary sign at Old Burial Hill.



Pam Peterson is the Chair of Marblehead Historical Commission and served on Marblehead's Cemetery Commission after 19 years at the Marblehead Museum, first as Director of Education and then as Executive Director, as well as designer of several exhibitions. She is a columnist for the Marblehead 'Current' newspaper, and has recently written a book about all of the cemeteries in Marblehead which also includes stories about some of the people who were interred in them.

Oct. 28 Rabbi David Meyer A Jewish Hero in Glover's Marblehead Regiment

Through the remarkable story of Abraham Solomon of Glover's Marblehead Regiment, Rabbi David Meyer illuminates the often-overlooked role of Jews in the American Revolution and their early struggle for religious liberty and civic equality. Blending history, humor, and heartfelt storytelling, he reveals how Jewish patriots helped shape a nation founded on freedom. This presentation invites the audience to reflect on how honoring the past can inspire pride, identity, and connection in the present.



Rabbi David J. Meyer is rabbi emeritus of Temple Emanu-El in Marblehead. In his retirement he has enjoyed learning about and portraying the only known Jewish soldier in Colonel John Glover's Revolutionary War Regiment (1775 - 76).

Nov. 4 Nancy Schultz Revolutionary Reward – General John Glover and his Farm House in his Retirement

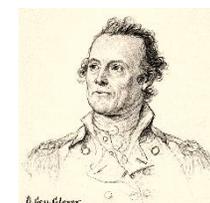
This presentation will focus on General Glover's post-Revolutionary years, when he re-started his business operations and purchased a farm in 1781, the year he re-married after his wife's death in 1778 in the middle of the war, and a year before he retired from his eight long years of service. Updates about the state of the c.1730-50s farm house and its preservation will be included.



Nancy Schultz is Chair of Swampscott's Historical Commission. For the past 3 years she has pressed tirelessly for the preservation of General Glover's Farm House, after a long career as an English professor at Salem State College then University.

Dec. 9 Robert Booth Revolutionary Brothers – The Glovers and their Homes & Farms

This talk will discuss the adventures of a family of rebel entrepreneurs in mid-1700s Marblehead and their rise in the three decades leading into the Revolutionary War and the ways each participated in the two principal mid-18th c. N. American wars as Marbleheaders — first in the British Army in the 1750s (Samuel, in btw. John and the eldest brother) and on behalf of independence in the Revolutionary War (the other three brothers, John, Jonathan and Daniel).



Robert Booth is a historical researcher and published author of award-winning books about regional and Marblehead history who was most recently the director of the Manchester (MA) Historical Museum. This year, he has researched and written a monograph about the Glover brothers and their work, lives, and homes in Marblehead that will be available for sale locally.

Note: *For the past several years, Robert Booth has also been researching and writing a book about how Marblehead grew from a productive though gritty fishing community in the late 1600s to a thriving international Atlantic seaport that became British North America's sixth most populous metropolis by the mid-1700s — whose size and the nature of its working community enabled it to contribute such a large and dauntless maritime force to America's revolutionary cause.*

All 10 talks are part of this year's Marblehead 250 commemoration, coordinated by the Marblehead 250 Committee



Talks by Donald Doliber *Publicity for all of Don Doliber's talks require the logos and must state:*

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Other talks NOT at Abbot Library :



At the Marblehead Museum 170 Washington St. (illust. talks, in person & virtual / RSVP required)

April 29 7 pm Dr. Robert Allison Elbridge Gerry – M'hd. Signer of the Declaration of Independence
Marblehead's brilliant but mis-represented statesman on the continental, state and national levels

Sept. 10 7 pm Judy Anderson Loyalists in Marblehead 1770 – 1784
The dozen or so residents in this town of about 950 families in the 1770s who did not want to overthrow their government, and what happened to them during and after America's 8-year war for independence

At Goldthwaite Reservation at the end of Phillips St. (off Atlantic Ave.) (not illustrated)

Sat. July 25 4 pm Robert Booth The Four Glover Brothers before & during the Revolutionary War
The adventures of a family of rebel entrepreneurs in colonial Marblehead leading into the Revolutionary War.

Sun. Aug. 23 4 pm Nancy Schulz General John Glover's Farm & Farm House in Vinnin Square
The farm and farm house Gen. Glover purchased just before his retirement from his 7 years of Rev. War service.

Sun. Sept. 7 11 am Judy Anderson The Four Glover Brothers' 6 Wives & 28 Children in M'head.
The adventures of a family of rebel entrepreneurs in colonial Marblehead leading into the Revolutionary War.