

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**MUSEUM HOSTS AGRICULTURAL FAIR PHOTO
COLLECTION DAYS TO HELP WITH NEW BOOK**

Friday, January 6th from Noon-1pm and 4-6pm
Saturday, January 7th from Noon-3pm
Museum Library

Edgartown, MA – December 22, 2011 – The Museum wants to add your photos to our collection. Local authors Susan Klein and Alan Brighs are currently working on a new book on the history of the Agricultural Fair and need your historic images. Together with the Museum, they are on a quest to find a variety of images that tell the story of the fair over the years.

The public is asked to bring their photos to the Museum, and let the curators scan and add them to the Museum's digital photo database. You may just see them in Susan and Alan's upcoming book. Photos will be scanned and returned to you immediately. Staff will also be taking information for captions and descriptions.

“There is so much interest in the Agricultural Fair,” says Museum Chief Curator Bonnie Stacy. “But often when we look for pictures of it in our collections, we find that there are whole blocks of years with no images at all. We know those pictures are out there somewhere. Sometimes people don't recognize that their snapshots show more than their prize livestock or their friends and family having a good time. When looked at all together, they show the history of the fair over the years.”

The Agricultural Fair photo collection days will be held on Friday, January 6th from noon to 1pm and 4 to 6pm as well as Saturday, January 7th from noon to 3pm in the Museum Library, 59 School Street, Edgartown. If you have photos from the fair you'd like to include but are unable to make these times, please contact Assistant Curator Anna Carringer at 508-627-4441 x114 or acarringer@mvmuseum.org.

Visit www.mvmuseum.org for more information about upcoming programming and exhibits. The Martha's Vineyard Museum is dedicated to furthering an interest in, experience of, and appreciation for the history and culture of the Island and its environs. The Museum is open year round, 10am to 4pm Monday through Saturday. Admission is free to Members and children under 6; admission for non-Members is \$6 for adults, \$5 for seniors, and \$4 for children 6 to 15.