

May 4, 2007

To Whom It May Concern:

Ever since I was a girl, one of my favorite fantasies was being able to collar some famous person from history and pepper them with questions until I could find out all about them. Recently, I had a chance to do just that, thanks to the considerable talents of historical performers Jessa Piaia and Lee Riethmiller. I had often wondered what happened to Paul Revere after his famous ride. Now I know!

All of us at the Blanchard Tavern, one of America's oldest working Colonial taverns located in Avon, MA, where Rachel and Paul made their appearance on April 21st, were completely captivated by Piaia and Riethmiller, who wore their historical costumes with ease and kept us spellbound with dozens of fascinating stories. For instance, I hadn't realized that Paul was married twice, and that Rachel, his second wife, had so many children to contend with (she not only helped to bring up Paul's brood of children from his first wife, she managed to produce many more little Reveres of her own in the process). We laughed at stories about Paul's irrepressible mother, who flatly refused to stop drinking tea (and who hid it in the mattress when they moved house so that British soldiers wouldn't confiscate it), and we found out about Paul's part in the invention of the steam-powered ships designed by Robert Fulton, among other things. There is certainly a lot more to the Reveres than the famous ride.

The two dynamic performers have really done their homework. I was impressed by their ability to answer questions unscripted, and with such humor and panache. You can chat with them, hear them sing (and sing along, if the spirit moves you), find out what daily life was like for them, and so much more. It all felt wonderfully authentic, not to mention great, great fun. In fact, the event was such a delight, it could well make confirmed history buffs of adults and children alike. ***Paul and Rachel Revere Ride Again!*** is simply not to be missed.

Sincerely,



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