

GATHERINGS FROM THE GREEN

Published by the Hampton Historical Society

November 2010

www.hamptonhistoricalsociety.org

Report From the President

You can certainly feel the energy of the Society by visiting the museum on Wednesdays and Fridays. While we are open those days to visitors, the real activity comes from the many volunteers present doing the work of the moment. From research to cataloging the collection, to planning exhibits and events, the list goes on. It is very encouraging to see all these fine people having fun, some laughs and getting an amazing amount of projects completed.

I worked on the buildings and grounds committee during the year. The roof shingles on the main museum building were replaced as we began this fiscal year, and none too soon as we had a very wet winter. Over the winter we renovated the textile storage room on the second floor and added more racks for storage of the large collection we have of dresses and textiles. During the spring and summer, we repaired and painted the exterior of the Fire Museum. Gardening and landscaping duties were also completed; all in all, a successful year.

The 9th Annual Pig Roast was another big success. The food, as always, was great and the Silent Auction continued to boost up the financial results of the day. The Provident Bank once again sponsored the event and we exceeded the results from earlier years. This fundraiser, along with member dues and donations, allows the Society to keep up the accomplishment of our missions and lets us think expansively about new programs.

At the Annual Members Meeting in October we were delighted to receive a significant donation from Al Casassa celebrating 50 years of his practice of law in Hampton. This donation will be used to add exterior signs on the museum grounds, to aid visitors in their understanding of the town history, and for graphics for our interior exhibits. A special exhibit on Colt News was also unveiled that evening in honor of Al's family who

owned Colt News.

We also honored two retiring directors at the annual meeting. Catherine Fletcher was named a Trustee Emeritus for her many years of service to the Society; Catherine will continue as the Chair of the membership committee. Percy Annis received a commendation for his work as a Trustee; Percy is on a medical leave as he recuperates from an illness.

Two New Committees Seeking Volunteers

As recommended by the 2009 Strategic Plan, the Board is forming two new committees to aid in planning for the future of the Historical Society. A new Library Subcommittee will work with the Museum Committee to plan the development of our small library and to create ways to make the resource more useful to members and researchers. We are looking for a few people to help us in this effort and enthusiastically welcome anyone with library experience. If you are interested, please contact Elizabeth Aykroyd at 926-3536 or email her at eara@comcast.net.

One of the major recommendations of the Strategic Plan was to form a Fund-raising Committee to plan for the present and future needs of the Society. We need to look beyond our very successful Pig Roast to determine what funds the Society will need as it continues to grow, or to determine what special needs we might have and to plan to raise the necessary funds. This committee will serve as a complement to the Strategic Planning Committee, which continues to look at the Society's future needs. Please contact Ben Moore at 926-3536 or by email at bfmoore@comcast.net if you would like to help in this important effort.

Education Committee: Adult Programs

John Forti, Curator of Historic Landscape at Strawbery Banke Museum, kicked off the Hampton Historical Society's 2010 adult program year with a talk on food, specifically locally grown foodstuff from sustainable gardens. The twenty members and friends present at the Society's October 9 annual meeting were treated to a talk on edible plants, herbs, flowers, and better-known vegetables. Mr. Forti's talk clearly related to Hampton's tradition as a farming community.

On April 20, the Society presented a program by Lori Cotter. Ms. Cotter, Hampton teacher, historian and Toppan descendant, talked about her efforts editing *Toppan's History of Hampton The Early Settlers* 1630-1730. Lori shared this history with an audience of thirty.

Lori Cotter's presentation was the Committee's first joint effort with a local Hampton organization, the Lane Memorial Library. The Committee plans to do more partnerships in the future.

On Sunday, May 16, Harold Inglis, President of the New Hampshire Society of Genealogists, talked about "The Snags & Serendipity of Genealogy." Through stories of his own research and that of others, he explained how to research ones ancestors and overcome the obstacles faced along the way. Hal shared his insight into genealogical research with an audience of fifteen. Hal Inglis' presentation was the first in our effort to provide a series of "How To" programs.

This year's annual meeting speaker was the mystery writer Brendan DuBois. He spoke about novel writing and the use of historical research about real places to set the backdrop for stories that are filled with fictional characters and events. Forty-five members and friends were in the audience.

On November 12, the Society held its final program for 2010. Steven Closs, New Hampshire historian, spoke on New Hampshire's involvement in the American Civil War. Over thirty members and friends were in the audience.

Our first 2011 program will be a presentation by Cheryl Lassiter on the Society's recently acquired Page-Cole Family Papers. Carol Felter, a descendant of both the Page and Cole families, donated these papers to the Tuck Museum. The date, time and place of this exciting program on two prominent Hampton families are to be determined. It will most likely be in late April 2011 so keep a watch out for further information.

The Committee is working on programs that will continue its past efforts to present the Tuck Museum's collections to the Society's members and the public. These programs will take the form of lectures and multimedia exhibits such as the upcoming talk on the Page-Cole Family Papers.

I will conclude with an encouraging report on the Committee's effort to start an oral history project. An oral history committee has been formed, consisting of Amanda Reynolds Cooper (Lane Memorial Library), Reverend Deb Knowlton (First Congregational Church), Elizabeth Aykroyd (HHS), Betty and Ben Moore (HHS), and Bill Keating (HHS).

There have been two meetings, with great progress made. The group has named the project the "Hampton Oral History Project." The project's first interview has been conducted with Bud Palmer, with many more to come.

Bill Keating Co-Chair Education Committee

Education Committee: School Programs

The education committee provides programs for schools, home schoolers, scout troops, and others. This year we have hosted the 1st grade classes from Centre School and Sacred Heart. Our traveling history went to Centre for the second grade classes in November. And spring brings our Marston 3rd graders to Tuck for a morning of history all around the Tuck Museum, as well as a day at Pine Grove Cemetery. The 4th grade classes from North Hampton came to Tuck for a program that we hosted along with some volunteers from the North Hampton Historical Society. Throughout the year we also provide programs and tours on request. The school programs are in great need of volunteers. This is a fun way to learn more about our history in Hampton. Please volunteer for the programs this year. Training will be provided. Call Sammi at 929-0881, or Betty at 926-2543. Thank you!

Sammi Moe Co-Chair Education Committee

Page 2 November, 2010

Communication Committee

- The 1938 Pageant Identification Project was implemented, to attempt to identify all the people shown in the panoramic image of the Cast of the 1938 Tercentenary Pageant. A webpage was established with high-resolution images of each section of the panorama, with each person assigned a unique number. As of October, 2010, approximately 160 people have been identified. Thanks to our members for all their help! There are still about 220 people that need to be identified.
- The committee helped with the work involved in the "Hampton Celebrates 100 years of Hampton Beach History in Pictures and Memoirs" project. This included setting up a webpage with images.
- It added the ability to use PayPal for the online purchase of Holiday Ornaments and the Hampton Beach Postcard book.
- It redesigned the Tuck Museum pamphlet, using more pictures

Strategic Planning Committee

Since the strategic plan was presented to the membership at the 2009 annual meeting, the Strategic Planning Committee has met twice, in March and July of 2010. In March the Committee held a joint meeting with the Heritage Commission to discuss common goals and programs. Although there was no formal plan of action adopted, the two groups agreed to maintain good communication about ongoing projects.

In July the Committee met at the request of President Ben Moore to discuss the feasibility of charging non-members for some benefits and services which are now free to the public. The Committee looked at three areas: research services, museum admission, and programs. Realizing that our costs of running the Society are climbing, the group recommended, after some discussion, to the Board of Trustees that we consider charging for some research services, particularly when we do the research for others, that we institute for non-members a strongly-recommended donation for admission to the museum, and that we charge non-members for some of our programs, excluding those that we sponsor

with other institutions. Members will receive all these services for free. The Board has voted to work toward implementing these changes in the next year.

Members of the Strategic Planning Committee are Percy Annis, Lynne Blume, Rich Hureau, Bill Keating, Sammi Moe, Betty Moore, Ben Moore, Candy Stellmach, Martha Williams, and Elizabeth Aykroyd, Chair.

Membership Committee

Membership is vital to the success of the organization. During the year both Liz Premo and Catherine Fletcher served as Chairs of the committee. Catherine is now actively seeking renewals from former members who have let their dues lapse. Our goal is to return to the level of members from a couple of years ago, after the statewide membership challenge. Our paid membership on October 31, 2010 is 505.

Included in this mailing is our 2010 annual appeal to members. Please update the contact information as necessary and reply as soon as possible. Your email address is very important to us as we increasingly use email as a way to advise the membership of programs and events and will use the postal system less and less.

Audit Committee

Thanks go to Tom Bridge for his services as auditor for the financial statements of the Society. In an effort to share our financial results with the membership and public, our IRS filing, Form 990, is available on the web site:

www.hamptonhistoricalsociety.org

Program Notes

The November 12 program featured a NH writer, Steven Closs, whose new book *Willing Sacrifice: Granite State Valor during the American Civil War* will be published in the near future. The program was very informative and we expect the book will be a nice addition to historian's bookcases. Information on the book can be found at www.stevenrobertcloss.com

November, 2010 Page 3

Tuck Museum Director's Annual Report November 2009 - October 2010

Some projects are covered in detail in other reports

Highlights of the year include:

- Cemetery Project Entering information from the High Street Cemetery into a database -Martha Williams, Candy Stellmach, Ben Moore, Carol Keating, Sue Irwin, Betty Moore
- Series of three walking tours of Hampton Karen Raynes & Betty Moore
- Hampton Barn Inventory Project in progress in conjunction with NH Division of Historic Resources Cheryl Lassiter, coordinator
- Hampton Beach 1900-2000 Project Stories and memoirs documenting 20th century HB, Candy Stellmach, coordinator
- "Hampton Center" DVD for Channel 22 Marge Crean & Betty Moore
- Charles Henry Turner limited edition prints Rich Hureau, Marilyn Rishkofski, Betty Moore
- 100th Anniversary of Hampton Academy Celebration exhibit at HAJH and museum
- Building and grounds projects: Costume room Ken Lobdell, Ben Moore, Jason Moore; Painting and repair of the fire museum - Ken Lobdell, Jason Moore, Ben Moore; Fire Museum sign repainted - Cheryl Lassiter; Fieldstone retaining wall next to barn - Ben Moore and Bud DesRochers
- Use of facilities by local groups: Hampton Garden Club, Hampton Community Band, DAR
- Conservation of the c.1830s map of Hampton

Other recognition:

- Website, newsletter, email notices, scanning Rich Hureau
- Collections Carol & Bill Keating, Diane Riley, Linda Metcalf, Percy Annis, Priscilla Triggs-Thoen
- School Programs- Sammi Moe, Dave DeGagne, Maggie Ginieres, Percy Annis
- Page/Cole research Cheryl Lassiter
- Exhibits Percy Annis, Elizabeth Aykroyd, Cheryl Lassiter
- Research Candy Stellmach, Cheryl Lassiter, Marge Crean, Karen Raynes, Betty Moore
- Museum Hosts Bob Wallace, Elizabeth Aykroyd, Rich Hureau, Carol and Bill Keating, Linda Metcalf, Martha Williams, Betty & Ben Moore
- Landscaping & Grounds Bob Wallace, Ben Moore, Chet Riley, Percy Annis, Bud DesRochers, Bill Keating, Betty Moore, Biff Eaton
- Costume room projects- Liz Premo
- Program Chair Bill Keating
- Pig Roast Committee Chairs and Key Volunteers Dyana Martin, Chair; Cliff and Kate Pratt cooking and volunteers; Catherine Fletcher ticket sales; Ben Moore silent auction; Betty Moore food. This fundraiser broke all previous records.
- Snowplowing Gary Webster

Highlights to the Collection

All donations relating to the history of Hampton are appreciated, but the following are of special significance:

- Page/Cole Family Papers
- Perkins Family Papers
- Map Collection relating to Hampton
- Hooded cradle Leavitt family
- Post style fire alarm box

We depend on so many people to accomplish what we do THANKS TO ALL OF YOU!

Betty Moore, Director Tuck Museum

Page 4 November, 2010

BUSINESS MEMBERSHIP

We thank the following business members for their support of the Society:

234 Lafayette Road Realty LLC
Eccentric Hair
Kingfish Trolley Lines, LLC
Lamie's Inn & The Old Salt Restaurant
Mackensen & Company Inc.
Neville & Associates Financial Services
Northeast Auctions
Preston Real Estate
Remick & Gendron Funeral Home-Crematory
Seabrook Station
Seacoast Florist Inc.
The Provident Bank
Tobey & Merrill Insurance
Law Offices of William Trafidio
Unitil Corporation

Lane Memorial Library 100th Building Anniversary Bash

Friends, library lovers, and wine enthusiast please save the date - **Saturday December 11th at 7:30 p.m.** for the Lane Memorial Library 100th Building Anniversary Bash.

We're looking forward to a fun evening in the library looking back to the way Hampton was in 1910 (with the help of the Hampton Historical Society), enjoying wine from local wineries, and raising money for a good cause. All of the proceeds will go to refreshing the New Hampshire Room, one of the two historic reading rooms in the original library building.

There will be refreshments, music courtesy of the Mr. Clean Jazz trio, and ladies in Edwardian hats. Ticket are on sales now at the library, \$25 per person. Sponsored by Mackensen & Company, Inc. Co-sponsored by Tracy Theatre Originals, Parsons Electric Co., Inc., and the Rotary Club of Hampton. For more information call the library at 926-3368.

Amanda L. Reynolds Cooper Director Lane Memorial Library

STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES Twelve Months Ended October 31, 2010

Unaudited

Operating Account	
Revenues, Gains, Other Support Dues Donations - unrestricted Museum Gift Shop Sales Fundraising Interest and Investment Endowment Funds Grants	\$4,360 4,583 364 10,130 941 2,030
Programs & Other	<u>410</u>
Total Revenues and Support	22,818
Expenses and Losses Tuck Museum Program Buildings and Grounds Public Programs Publicity and Website Membership & Newsletters Fundraising Management and General	2,938 12,321 380 72 347 2,005 1,673
Total Expenses	19,736
Change in Unrestricted Net Assets 3,082	
Restricted donations received Endowment transfer to NHCF Expended on building improvemen	6,815 -1,705 ts <u>-1,180</u>
Net change in liquid assets	7,012
Liquid Assets, Beginning of Year	61,091
Liquid Assets, End of Year	\$68,103
Robert Dennett, Treasurer	

MISSION

The mission of the Hampton Historical Society is to increase public knowledge and understanding of the history and cultural heritage of the town of Hampton, New Hampshire, from its earliest inhabitants to the present generation. We will communicate that history through an active museum, educational programs, and a resource library.

November, 2010 Page 5

2010-11 Board of Trustees, Officers and **Committee Chairs**

President Ben Moore Vice Pres Rick Griffin Secretary Sammi Moe Treasurer **Bob Dennett**

<u>Trustees</u>

Elizabeth Aykroyd Dave DeGagne Rich Hureau Bill Keating Ken Lobdell Dyana Martin Linda Metcalf Liz Premo Karen Raynes Candice Stellmach

Executive Director - Betty Moore Education - Bill Keating & Sammi Moe Membership - Catherine Fletcher Building and Grounds - Ken Lobdell Strategic Planning - Elizabeth Aykroyd Audit - Tom Bridge Communications - Rich Hureau

Holiday Gift Ideas

For great Christmas gift ideas, visit Art Experience (www.artexperienceinc.com) at 17 High Street in Hampton, Many items from our Museum store can be purchased there. Featured are prints made from several of the Museum's collection of Charles Henry Turner paintings. Also available are Hampton Christmas ornaments, postcards and publications.

Calendar of Events

We have no specific calendar at this time. Emails will be sent out to advise members of upcoming events (hint we need your email addresses!). Meanwhile, the Hampton Holiday Parade is on Saturday, December 4, at noon

2009-2010 Volunteers Over 100 Hours

Percy Annis Marge Crean Catherine Fletcher Rich Hureau

Bill Keating Carol Keating Chervl Lassiter Ben Moore

Betty Moore Jason Moore Karen Ravnes Candice Stellmach

25 - 100 Hours

Elizabeth Aykroyd Dave DeGagne **Bob Dennett** Bud DesRochers Ken Lobdell

Sammi Moe Cliff Pratt Kate Pratt Liz Premo Diane Rilev

Bob Wallace Priscilla Triggs-Thoen Martha Williams

Other Volunteers

Doug Aykroyd Judy Ashenden Fred Ashenden June Bean Tocky Bialobrzeski Lynn Blume Ginny Bridge Agnes Brown Sheree Brown Sandy Buck Sharon Buck Betty Callanan Ann Carnaby Janet Caylor Blake Chichester Renny Cushing Christine Dargie Janice Deibert John Deibert Helen Dennett Margaret Dennett Ryan Dennett Lois DesRochers

Katie Ells Susan Erwin Steve Falzone Bob Fellow Maggie Ginieres Kate Portrie Biff Grafton Kim Grondin Rick Griffin Bill Hansen Dick Hansen Deb Knowlton Denis Kepner Susan Kepner Linda Kilju Sue Launi Brad Jacobson Karin Jacobson Larry Marsolais Dyana Martin Marie Matthews Ada Merrill Russ Merrill Dick Millette

Jim Metcalf Byron Moe Ken Mooney Donna Pelletier Chet Riley Marilyn Rishkofski Gloria Robinson Sam Robinson Dann Shaw Jean Shaw Jim Stellmach Nancy Stiles Sandy Taube Gary Webster Skip Webb Liz Webster Chuck Weinhold Karen Weinhold John Williams Maureen Workman



Catherine Fletcher receives Trustee Emeritus award from Ben Moore

Page 6 November, 2010

Bonus PDF page!



At the Annual Meeting, Al Casassa and his son Bob presented Ben Moore with a generous donation to HHS, celebrating 50 years of their law practice in Hampton.

At right is the special exhibit at the museum in honor of Al's family and Colt News. The display was created by Cheryl Lassiter, with help from Betty Moore and Rich Hureau









On October 1, HHS volunteers hoisted the C.S. Toppan buckboard (donated by Peter Christopher Toppan) to the 2nd tier of the barn. The supporting floor has been deliberately left open so the wagon can be easily viewed from below.

Present were Ben and Betty Moore, Dave DeGagne, Ken Lobdell, Elizabeth and Doug Aykroyd, and Candy Stellmach.

Photos on this page by Candy Stellmach and Rich Hureau

November, 2010 Page 7