



# GATHERINGS FROM THE GREEN

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## President's Report

As we close one year and enter the next it is time to reflect on the happenings of the Society. We have had another busy year at HHS, and Tuck Museum. All of the programs and projects are the result of many hours of work by our volunteers. The work of HHS is not possible without the dedication, sweat, and tireless effort of those who spend their time keeping the Society and Tuck Museum running smoothly. So I give a huge thanks to all of you!

The reports of some of the committees are in this newsletter so I will touch lightly on a few of the year's highlights, starting with the building of the barn. This has been an exciting and interesting project. The many hours it took to dismantle and store the barn properly were just the beginning (a couple of years ago). This year the committee has finished marking the pieces, worked on repairs, spent countless hours preparing the timbers, and the building has begun. I got to hold a piece in place one day while the men moved two pieces. I am now claiming that I helped to build the barn! Of course all of you who have contributed money have helped to build the barn too! We are closer to our financial goal, but keep those donations coming!

We also moved the beach cottage into place and have begun to ready the building for exhibition. The outside looks wonderful due to the efforts of Betty and Ben, with some help from Kelley McLean and myself. Ben and Betty could be found sanding, scrapping, and painting from the wee morning hours to dusk. Kelley and I came along in between to assist the process and work the power sanders. The paint job looks great! Ben worked on the inside stripping the old (and smelly!) flooring out, and we will start working on cleaning up the rest of the interior and decorating. Pretty soon we will have the Tuck Museum Complex!

The kitchen in the museum had a few problems that needed to be taken care of, like a

crack in the cast iron pipe and a bubbling floor. One thing leads to another as they say.... Just like at home, this project took off. The board made the decision to finish the room properly so that we can continue to hold events and programs at the museum with a good space to work and better storage.

Our school programs are offered to students from all of the schools, home schools, and others. They are well attended and we are beginning to see more parents attending, many of whom remember coming to Tuck Museum when they were in school. It is my goal to live long enough to recognize the parents from their student days!

I have enjoyed my past 2 years as president. I have had the good fortune to have a fantastic board to work with and I thank you all! I am now beginning my third term and look forward to another great year with this new board. Betty Moore keeps the museum running so well that we don't have to worry too much about problems that occur, or building disasters. Thank you Betty! And thanks to all of you members, volunteers, and supporters. It has been my pleasure!

Sammi Moe

## **MISSION**

The mission of this organization shall be to promote and honor the history and heritage of the town of Hampton, New Hampshire and its founders and inhabitants; and to preserve such history for future generations.

**Director's Annual Report 2006**

My grandmother used to say, "A job well done is its own reward." We have been rewarded this year with a variety of projects.

From school tours and outreach programs for almost 1,000 students to building projects- we have been extremely busy. Sammi Moe coordinated the school programs and made it fun for all of us that participated. We had over 300 "off the street" visitors to the museum since last October with an additional 58 doing research or genealogy (add to that 26 requests for information by phone or email). Another 600 joined us for meetings, events or groups tours. In compiling the statistics I found that only 10% of our general visitors (the 300) were from Hampton. So improving attendance from the local area is one of my goals for next year.

We worked with the Heritage Commission on the District Courthouse, participated in SummerFest with the Parks and Recreation department, cleaned our local beaches by working through the Blue Ocean Society and have just begun work with the Hampton Beach Village District on their 100th anniversary. We feel that through these efforts we are adding value to the community and fulfilling our mission.

Photo ID mornings started in March and since that time we have sorted through thousands of photographs. We identified those belonging to Hampton and have passed the remaining along to the other seacoast towns for their inspection. The photos are from the Hampton Union and Atlantic News and are giving us a glimpse and chance to save some of our 20th century Hampton. Thanks to Russ Merrill, Eleanor Young, Beverly and Neil Prakop, Catherine Fletcher and Priscilla Weeks.

Linda Metcalf, Carol and Bill Keating, Nancy Coes, Ann and Don Morton, and Ansell Palmer assisted with cataloguing projects. Elizabeth and Doug Aykroyd covered exhibit planning and research. Rich Hureau keeps our web site up to date and developed a beautiful line of note cards and prints suitable for framing.

Our grounds are kept looking great by Bob Wallace and Ben Moore. We removed some dead and dying trees and planted a Liberty Elm donated by Bob Booth. Our setting is beautiful and we

enjoy sharing it with the community - Parks and Rec. Dept., Rockingham County Craftsmen, Hampton Rotary Club, Boy Scout Troop 177 and the Hampton Community Band are some of the groups that have shared our grounds with us this year

The exterior of the tourist cabin has been finished, and we plan to finish the inside and add some landscaping in 2007. We have an ongoing research project on the many hotels, motels, tourist cabins and guesthouses that have been in Hampton since the 1800s. This project will take years to complete. The progress of the barn will be in another section but I want to thank Chet Riley, Dave Degagne and Percy Annis for the hard and faithful work on the project this summer. When completed it will be something that the whole community can be proud of.

As the separate list of volunteers indicates, many people are involved in activities regarding the historical society and museum. There is a spot for everyone's time and talents, and we appreciate those of you who by your membership support our mission.

By the way, demolition has started on the office area, but the barn project has taken center stage until the weather gets too cold to work outdoors. Soon those volunteers will be glad to work where it is warm. The plans have been finalized and it will be a modern efficient space. I can't wait!

Betty Moore

<b>Board of Trustees</b>	
President	Sammi Moe
Vice Pres	Catherine Fletcher
Secretary	Catherine Redden
Treasurer	Bob Dennett
Trustees	Elizabeth Aykroyd Percy Annis Bud DesRochers Rick Griffin Marilyn Green Rich Hureau Dyana Martin Tom McGuirk Linda Metcalf Ben Moore Liz Premo

## Leavitt Barn Fundraising and Construction

A great deal was accomplished this year on the barn project, principally through the efforts of our very dedicated volunteers- Chet Riley, Dave DeGagne, Percy Annis and Ben Moore. Other volunteers- Bud Desrochers, Doug Aykroyd, Chuck Weinhold, and Mike Gould assisted them from time to time.

The first step accomplished in early spring was the pouring of the concrete floor. We decided on a modern approach for the floor for maintenance and safety. It has also proved useful as a work surface for the repair and construction work during the summer. After the floor cured we placed the sills on the frost wall that had been installed in 2005. Again we considered long term maintenance and building structure and used pressure treated lumber and a 9 by 9 hemlock sill as the base for the barn timbers.

Then the real fun began as repairs and replacements were made to the frame. Water damage had destroyed some of the original posts. Using the damaged posts as references the replacements were carefully crafted from new 9 by 12 pine timbers. Using the original and replacement timbers the two gable bents were laid out and squared up.

The frame uses an English plate that connects all 4 bents together. This method of building requires that the sidewalls be laid out and raised first, prior to the crossties and rafters being installed. What that meant to our process was that the gable

ends, after repair and fitting had be carefully disassembled so that the sidewalls could then be laid out.

As this report is being written we are in the process of repairing the timbers and replacing girts in the two sidewalls. Once those sides are complete we will continue on the final repair work for the interior posts and girts and the rafters and purlins.

Our goals for the year are heavily dependent on weather and the amount of necessary repair work we encounter. We believe that all of the repairs will be completed this fall and that the frame will be ready to raise in spring 2007.

Our fundraising continued in 2006. Our barn fund increased an additional \$10,750 and we now have over \$34,500 towards the budget of \$60,000. The funds raised in 2006 included over \$1,000 from the Jet Blue ticket raffle conducted during the fall Pig Roast. The budget is tracking very closely to the actual costs incurred. To date \$13,000 has been spent on the barn, mostly for the foundation and floor and we have nearly completed the purchase of repair materials for the frame. With the \$21,000 remaining in the fund we can sheath and roof the barn in 2007. Additional donations will be necessary to install the siding and the other details necessary for the completed project (electrical, lighting, security, etc. etc.). We're confident that those donations will come in once people see progress is being made.

It is amazing what dedication to a project can accomplish; we

look forward to a successful completion of another major project for the Society that will last many lifetimes.

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## Building and Grounds Report

Many projects, large and small, were completed this year.

The tourist cabin was lowered onto a new cement pad, repaired and painted with the help of Doug Aykroyd, Percy Annis, Bud DesRochers, Sammi Moe, Kelley McLean, Dave DeGagne, Jim McIlveen, Betty and Ben Moore. It was looking pretty pathetic before the work began, scraping through the many layers of paint, replacing rotten boards, and repairing windows. It was painted with its original paints colors of white clapboards and dark green trim. It stands proud now.

Inside the cabin, old carpeting and flooring has been removed. The bathroom floor was replaced and we are now waiting for next spring's renovation projects to begin.

Shrubs were transplanted, dying trees removed, and the stumps ground. A disease resistant Liberty Elm was donated to the museum through the generosity of Bob Booth of Hampton and was planted to replace an old tree we had lost through disease and storm damage. Ben Moore has been in charge of the weekly grounds work parties that are conducted throughout the summer. Betty Moore keeps the container plantings healthy.

For the main museum, the front porch floor, ceiling and woodwork were painted. The doors and trim on the east and west

side of the building were also freshen with a new coat of paint. Jim Fones replaced missing and outdated exterior lighting fixtures, providing additional safety and security to the buildings.

Bob Wallace has done his best trying to keep our grass looking great as he tends to all the new planting areas. We have kept him busy with all the trucks that have gone in and out of here this past year.

Darren Patch, Al Mason, and crew provide additional support thorough the summer season and we thank the Parks and Recreation Department for helping us keep the museum grounds looking their best.



Goody Cole plaque in marble  
Donated by Syphers Monument Co.

## Membership

We currently have 492 paid members. This is a decline from the end of last year, as new members joining in the campaign in 2005 did not renew at the same rate as our more long-term membership had in the past. We did have 25 new members join during the year but overall our membership went down by 41.

We mail reminder notices and will solicit those that did not renew one more time as we mail out the annual appeal letters in November. Our current members can also help strengthen the Society by asking friends to become members or by giving a membership as a holiday gift.

The financial support provided by the annual dues of the membership is very important to the overall success of the Museum. Donations by our life members and annual members are necessary (and appreciated!) to continue the growth and well being of the collections and buildings.

**(Membership is due for the new fiscal year, which runs from Nov. 1, 2006 to Oct. 31, 2007. Look for your renewal in this issue. We need your membership dues and donations to continue the good work. Thank you very much!)**

## Education

We hosted about 1000 students this past year. We enjoy having the kids come into the museum for programs. We also go to the schools and host programs for students around town. We do programming for the elementary grades, junior high, and also have high school students who come in for research projects. Programming and support is offered to home schools, public and private schools, and organizations.

The Hampton PTA has supported our efforts this year with a nice donation, and we thank them for their confidence in us. Programs for the new year have begun, starting with the first grade "Ox Cart Man" program in October, and we have gone into the second grade classroom at Centre School with the "Traveling History Trunk." The third grades will have programs in the spring, and we will also be looking forward to the eighth grades and others. Volunteers for the education and school programs are always needed. Please call Sammi at 929-0881.

**Needed...**

For the 2006-07 year we need committee chairpersons and committee members. Programs, Education, and Fundraising are just a few that are especially in need of members.

We are also looking for someone who will become our new Volunteer Coordinator. This person will have a list of those willing volunteers and their interests, and then make the phone calls when a need arises.

These committees and volunteer positions do not take a huge amount of time. We do try to keep the meetings as short as possible, and as few as possible. Please consider helping out.  
**To help preserve the past for the future we need to work in the present.**

**Needed...**

The Society is looking for a donation of a **digital/computer projector** that will modernize our presentations. We are currently using an "old fashioned" slide projector to present programs to various school groups and organizations. We would like to become a bit more "modern" and efficient with these programs.

Spread the word to businesses and individuals who might be able to help us out. If you or anyone you know is upgrading their equipment and would like to donate this much-needed item to the Society, please call Betty, 926-2543, or Sammi, 929-0881, or the museum, 929-0781.

**Pictures from Annual Meeting**



Oops! That really should say 368!



Rebecca Rule, author/humorist, discusses "Frog Rock" during her talk entitled "Better Than a Poke In The Eye!"

**Programs 2007**

The programs committee met on Nov. 9. We are looking for those interested in helping this committee with refreshments and greeting speakers and guests. Please contact Catherine Fletcher at 926-0124, or Sammi Moe at 929-0881 if you are able to assist us.

Thank you!

**Upcoming programs (tentative)**

February - Program with Lane Library

May - The Gundalow Company

Look for information on dates and times when these programs have been confirmed. Additions to these programs and more throughout the year will be posted on our website, and in future newsletters. Your input is always welcome!

**Business Membership**

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

- 234 Lafayette Road Realty LLC
- Ashworth By The Sea
- Casassa & Ryan
- Galley Hatch Restaurant
- Hampton Eyecare Associates
- Kimball Auto Body
- Landwright LLC- Mark Olson
- Mackensen & Company Inc.
- McGuirk's Ocean View
- Preston Real Estate
- Remick & Gendron Funeral Home-Crematory
- Seabrook Station- FPL
- Seacoast Florist Inc.
- Tobey & Merrill Insurance
- Unitil Corp

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