



GATHERINGS FROM THE GREEN

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President's Notes

Greetings and Happy Summer! I am going to let this newsletter do all the talking for me. It is packed with news of the Historical Society and many upcoming events.

Again, we thank you for your membership, as without you, this could not be possible. Each and every one of our volunteers are dedicated to the task of protecting, preserving, and sharing Hampton History.

If you know people who might consider being members, please pass the word. If you know a local business that would like to join us in helping a treasure in Hampton, please chat with them. Our goal is to create a membership that thrives on community awareness, and hope that you can help guide us to that point. And, of course, come visit us!

Yours in History,
Lori Cotter

100 Years of the Hampton Historical Society 1925-2025



Wait until you see what we have planned for next year's celebration of our 100th Anniversary!

- In April, a celebration with cake and ice cream, as we watch a video documentary of the History of the Historical Society spearheaded by our very own Karen Raynes and Mike Garland.
- In May, a look back at the Roaring 20's as we dance to a Jazz Band, with help from the WHS Jazz band at a 1920s Gala event. Costumes appreciated!
- June will bring us together for a Trolley Tour of Historical Hampton.
- August, we are set for an old fashioned ball game, hosted by the Dirigo Baseball Club of Maine at Tuck Field.
- Late September or Early October, we are working on a Wine and Cheese, Beer and Crackers Speakeasy event on our Tuck Museum grounds.
- Our team of quilters are busy making squares about HHS for a 100th Anniversary quilt that will be on display during the year.

More info will come as we slide into 2025. We hope that you will plan to join us in our celebration! Donations are happily accepted!

Return of the Marquis de Lafayette



From July 1824 to September 1825, the French Marquis de Lafayette, the last surviving major general of the American Revolutionary War, made a tour of the 24 US states of that time. He was received by the populace with a hero's welcome at many stops, and many honors and monuments were presented to commemorate and memorialize the visit.

This year the American Friends of Lafayette will commemorate the Bicentennial of his return to America. On **September 1**, Lafayette (actor) will make his way on a similar route made on Sept.1, 1824 to Hampton Falls, Hampton, North Hampton, Greenland, and Portsmouth.

Hampton's Sept.1 celebration of this historic event will include a **book exhibit at the Lane Memorial Library**, a Lafayette exhibit at the Tuck Museum, and will conclude with our "Jubilee of Liberty" celebration from 9:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. We'll welcome the Marquis to the HHS barn and Meetinghouse Green as he arrives in his horse-drawn carriage.

Following a brief presentation, we'll share pastries and French coffee with the Marquis before he continues north on his tour of the NH seacoast. Please plan to join us for this commemoration of one of the earliest foreign friends of our nation.

Here are more details about the additional events that will be taking place in Hampton:

Throughout the **month of August**, the Lane Memorial Library will have a **Lafayette Book Exhibit**.

On **August 21 and 23** from 1 to 4 p.m., HHS will have an Open House with a shelf Exhibit of General Moulton, General Lafayette, and other Revolutionary War figures.

On **Sept.1** the Marquis event itself, as detailed above.

On **Sept.18**, HHS and the Lane Memorial Library will welcome "**President John Adams**" for an evening of history and entertainment which will include information about the friendship between President Adams and Lafayette.

The **Hampton Falls Historical Society** has a number of events planned to commemorate Lafayette's visit including making a red, white, and blue "Lafayette Cockade," a book club discussion, and additional speakers who will discuss Lafayette's time in the United States. Please see the Hampton Falls Historical Society website for additional information.



HHS thanks Lisa Barreto for her tireless work on the Marquis event.

Building and Grounds Committee Report

Our 100th year anniversary is several months away. Mike Compos, Mike Stiers, Ben Moore, Bill Keating, Mark McFarlin and I have worked to ensure that all of our facilities are maintained properly and look good.



Work started with the Fire Museum. The old sagging picture window has been replaced with an energy-efficient twin double-hung unit and the large arched double door unit has been restored. The exterior siding has been scraped and prepared for painting.



Our workshop and 60's addition's siding has been power-washed and repairs were made to the main building's roof. Corner boards were fixed and painted on the barn.



Gardens and grounds of the Museum have also been getting attention this spring. Karen Raynes, Marillyn Wallingford, Betty Moore, Mike Compos, Bill Keating, Jack Hafey, and Ben Moore have all contributed to the work. One of the maple trees near the Kid's Kingdom Park had been weak for years and this year it gave up. It has now been replaced thanks to help from Park's staff Cameron Duquette and Richard McLaughlin and a big thank you to Jim O'Neil and Richie Fountain at Home Depot, which donated the replacement tree.



There is more to do! The barn has windows that are rotted and in need of repair. Ken Lobdell has volunteered to replace the bulkhead and basement door that serves the main building. In the fall, the Fire Museum's walls, ceiling and floor will be painted. Meeting Room repairs are scheduled to be done during our winter closing.

If you have interest in joining the buildings and grounds volunteers, contact me, at ggrashow@ggrashow.com or (603) 209-2476.

Thanks to all our volunteers!

Respectfully submitted,
Gary Grashow, Buildings and Grounds Trustee

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.

Our Thanks to Hampton Garden Club for Beautification mini-grant 2024



The caretakers of the gardens at the Tuck Museum – Betty Moore, Marilyn Wallingford, Ben Moore, and Karen Raynes – wish to thank the Hampton Garden Club for awarding the museum a Beautification mini grant to help us continue to maintain the museum gardens for the benefit of all who pass by and visit the Tuck Museum of Hampton History.

Miss Hampton Beach, 2023

A yearly photo package has been donated by the HHS to the winner of the Miss Hampton Beach contest for the last eight years.

Cheryl Lassiter, while researching a book, found that there were some years when it was difficult to find a good photograph of the Miss Hampton Beach winner. She asked HHS to sponsor a photo package, taken by a professional photographer, to ensure that future winners would be recognized and their likeness saved for posterity in the society's collection. For 2023 Lexi Taylor (at right) is Miss Hampton Beach.



This year the Little Miss and Junior Miss Hampton Beach competition will be held Saturday July 27th at the Hampton Beach Seashell Stage at 2 p.m. The Miss Hampton Beach competition will be held there on July 28th at 2 p.m. Come out and support these young women. Both events are free.

Business Members

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

Casassa Law Office
Dover DAR
Edward Jones
Galley Hatch Restaurant, Inc.
Hampton Beach Casino, Inc.
Harris Real Estate
John Cass
Newburyport Bank
Preston Real Estate
QA Technology Company, Inc.
Quadripoint Investment Management
Remick & Gendron Funeral Home & Crematory
Tobey & Merrill Insurance

Membership Report

Hampton Historical Society is a non-profit, tax-exempt organization whose activities are funded by your dues and donations. Many of you will be receiving your membership renewal forms with this newsletter. As an all-volunteer group, your generosity is our lifeblood.

What do we do with the money we receive from you? Many things.

We preserve Hampton's history with the over 12,000 items in our collection that need to be safeguarded in a controlled environment. When you come to the museum you will see some of those items on display. We also maintain our outbuildings that showcase firefighting and farming, as well as a one room schoolhouse. Pop into the tourist cabin and see what a vacation in Hampton Beach looked like in 1950s. Times certainly have changed!



Thanks to you, we presently have special exhibits on shipbuilding in Hampton and shipwrecks off our coast. If you visit the Building Community Room, you can learn about 20 women who helped shape Hampton since 1638, as well as an exhibit on those who served in the military.

The children of Hampton are of special focus to the Hampton Historical Society. We invite the 3rd graders to the museum to learn what life was like in Hampton before even their grandparents were born. Middle schoolers do research and then compose poems about what they found. This year a standing room only crowd heard their presentation. The cemetery tours are always a hit. And we have an internship program where students can get a deeper understanding of topics that interest them.

We offer educational programs to our adult members as well. The exciting upcoming programs can be found in this newsletter.

Our information and documents are open for review and are a great source of genealogical research on Hampton residents (at right is a Hampton Personal Property Book from 1925; digitized pages from all these are available on our website).



As one of the oldest towns in New Hampshire, Hampton's descendants are widespread. Visitors from all over the US as well as other countries spend time at the museum learning about their family trees. If you are interested in doing your own research, we only ask that you contact us beforehand so that we can have documents ready for you and make your search easier. This service is free to members.

Much of this could not be possible without our business members. Do you own a business? Do you want to join the other businesses that support Hampton's history through the Historical Society? The fall newsletter will focus on how your participation as a business member can enhance the town, the Society, and your business.

Hampton Historical Society presents.....
Sunday, October 13th, 11 am-3 pm
(rain date Oct. 14th) on Tuck Museum grounds 40 Park Avenue

Fall Festival 2024

Free Admission

Games, Baechtold and Abel aerialists, Legacy Lane Farm petting zoo, Laura Walden and her hoola hoop artistry, free popcorn, homemade bake sale, Billy Billy music

Hope to see you there!
For more info, visit:
Hamptonhistoricalsociety.org

4th Annual Fall Festival

More free family-friendly fun will return to the Tuck Museum for the 4th Annual Fall Festival.

All are welcome to join the festivities from 11 a.m. - 3 p.m. on Sunday, October 13th. We will have all our buildings opened and fully staffed for tours. While interesting stories about Hampton's history are shared inside, the outside field will be filled with music, entertainment, and food! Aerial artists **Baechtold and Abel** will return to the field and perform awe-inspiring aerial acrobatics. **Laura Walden of Vegetable Circus** will once again display her hula hooping wizardry. **Billy Billy** will return as our musical guest with performances throughout the event, and we are excited to welcome back **Legacy Lane Farm** who will join us with their mobile petting zoo.

Food and refreshments will be available for purchase. We will also have a Historical Society representative serving fresh popcorn as well as a bake sale full of homemade goodies!

Some other exciting things happening that day will include fair-style booths with a variety of games and activities run by local organizations, a traditional table raffle filled with local goods and services, a photobooth, and the opportunity to sign up for a Historical Society membership.

This year's Sponsors include: **Newburyport Bank, Beach Club Casino, The Hampton Area Chamber of Commerce, Tobey and Merrill, Experience Hampton, and The Skin and Lash Lounge.**

We need your help! If you would like to volunteer to help with this event, please reach out to info@hamptonhistoricalsociety.org. We look forward to welcoming the public to this free event at the Tuck Museum and hope to see you there.

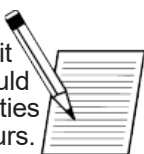
Fundraising: Can you help us?

We are actively looking for people who might be able to volunteer in a few important positions:



1) to participate on a Fundraising Committee a few times a year, helping to develop ideas, calendars, and implement the basics needed to continue our fundraising efforts. We are hoping to increase revenue to continue with our mission, as it gets more expensive every year.

2) it is very important that we look for a Grant Writer, either to teach us how to submit exceptional grant paperwork, or who could search out and reply to the various opportunities for grants available to historical societies like ours.



If you are interested, please email us at info@hamptonhistoricalsociety.org or call the Museum (603-929-0781) and leave a message. We will get right back to you!

Annual Meeting Program

Finding Your Family Through Neighbor History

John Cass has been a family historian since the 1980s, researching history in the UK, the west coast, and New England. He has presented at Boston National History Camp in 2023 & 2024.

Genealogical research focuses on following historical evidence about relatives; research about your family is an obvious line of inquiry. But, when a family historian focuses on lineage and then does not put family members in context with their communities or their society, the family history is only diminished in its extent and value.

By exploring a historical person's motivations, the historical context, and the meaning of the data that is discovered, there will be a better understanding of both who that person was and the meaning of the evidence. In doing so, those very same historical mysteries that drove initial research may be solved.

In genealogy, the practice of research should not be reduced to a list of names and dates. Instead, researchers will gain more from adding color and detail into the recorded lives of their ancestors.

James Lewis Booklet

The Tuck Museum has an eclectic assortment of books, pamphlets, postcards, CD's, videos, ornaments, jewelry, prints, and cards for sale in the gift shop.

Recently researcher Karen Raynes has added to the gift shop a booklet about a sailor from Barnstable, MA, James Lewis, who was found drowned at Hampton Beach on October 2, 1773, on his passage from Kennebeck, Maine to Barnstable. No one claimed his body, so the good people of Hampton raised the money for a fine gravestone and buried James Lewis in the back of the Pine Grove Cemetery.



The booklet tells more of the story, with help from the Barnstable Historical Society. Some of the story will probably remain a mystery, but the research continues.

Other booklets are in process; one about the founder of the museum, Reverend Ira S. Jones, another about The Honorable Edward Tuck (who helped fund the museum, Tuck Field, and many other institutions in NH), and Moses S. Brown, who made pianos in Hampton. These are just a few subjects that will be researched and published throughout the year by the museum. \$3 each.

The Programs Committee welcomes you to the following events for the remainder of the year

- **July 20, 2:00 p.m. – Family, Memory, Place: Writing Family Stories** - program focusing on capturing family stories that are part of personal, generational, and communal history; Hampton Recreational and Senior Center
- **September 1, 9:30 - 11:30 a.m. – Marquis de Lafayette visit;** Tuck Museum grounds (see first page)
- **September 18, 7:00 p.m. – Meet John Adams – A Lively and Revolutionary Conversation with America's Second President** - co-sponsored with Lane Library; at Lane Library
- **October 13, 11 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. – 4th Annual Fall Festival** - Tuck Museum grounds (see page 3)
- **October 20, 1 p.m. - Annual Meeting**
Program: *Finding Your Family Through Neighbor History*; John Cass, historian (see description at left); Tuck Museum