



GATHERINGS FROM THE GREEN

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www.hamptonhistoricalsociety.org

Executive Director's Report

Even after twenty seven years I am amazed at how our volunteers still inspire me! We are fortunate in the depth of professionalism, skill and dedication given to the Society. I counted almost 4,000 volunteer hours this year, but the amount is much more than that with the "off the grid" work that goes unnoticed.

My highlight of 2015 is our new Collection and Research Center (known as the CRC) at 387 Lafayette Rd. It was quite a job getting the space renovated – painting, cleaning, and installing shelving – and then getting



the collection packed up, moved, and unpacked. Knowing where things were located was a little daunting for a few months. It seemed whatever I needed was never where I was. The CRC is now organized and open for business. Our two former storerooms have been transformed into volunteer offices and do we ever look professional!

In the past year we created a Victorian tavern walk, celebrated with a 90th birthday bash, started a history book club, and sponsored one Eagle Scout Leadership Project on site and another documenting our small cemeteries. We held a marsh walk, garden talk, and participated in a job fair.

The community came to us as we hosted the DAR Silver Tea and the grounds were used for the NH Profile Auto League's lobster bake. We were on the local airwaves with programs on the seawall and history of Hampton Beach, as well as a spot on WMUR's "NH Chronicle." We also did a series of oral histories featuring local residents.



I would like to acknowledge our weekly Tuck Museum volunteers: Elly Becotte, Candy Stellmach, Rich Hureau, Diane and Chet Riley, Lisa Grashow, Ben Moore, Linda Metcalf and Lassie, Carol Keating, and Mary Ertl. They keep the place running smoothly and me on my toes.

Cheryl Lassiter is responsible for the superb 90th anniversary exhibit as well as many of our graphic art

projects. Kathy McLaughlin conceived the creative community-wide "History Bits" exhibits. Both Kathy and Karen Raynes provided publicity for the Society and Karen maintains our stunning Mrs. B's herb garden. Other volunteers that provide terrific support are Ken Lobdell, Ann Carnaby, Jason Moore, Sammi Moe, Liz Premo, Patty O'Keefe, Bill Keating, and Jim Metcalf.

I report to a top notch Board of Trustees – their meetings are productive, positive, and most of all fun. The Board does a stellar job of watching over our buildings, collections, and finances. Thanks to all our amazing volunteers!

Betty Moore

Board of Trustees, Officers, and Committee Chairs, 2016

Officers

President - Candice Stellmach
Vice President - Bob Dennett
Secretary - Kate Pratt
Treasurer - Ben Moore

Trustees

Rusty Bridle
Blake Chichester
Katrin Grant
Rick Griffin
Rich Hureau
Ken Lobdell
Dyana Martin
Kathy McLaughlin
Linda Metcalf
Karen Raynes
Joshua Silveira

Committees and Chairpersons

Executive Director - Betty Moore
Education – Betty Moore
Pig Roast – Dyana Martin
Membership – Linda Metcalf
Building and Grounds – Ken Lobdell
Audit – Tom Bridge
Nominating Committee – Mark McFarlin
Communications – Rich Hureau
Programs – Betty Moore

Letter from the President

"It takes a village" perfectly describes our team of volunteers who help in so many ways throughout the year. They are the backbone of HHS, a pool of talent that we sometimes do not thank often enough.

Throughout the year carpenters, enable us to repair all the buildings, create shelving and storage solutions. People with computer skills enjoy cataloging new items to our museum collections, designing newsletters and posters. Retired teachers offer their talents in developing the variety of programs for elementary students. Photographers and writers, whether highly educated or just plain experienced, enable us to take advantage of new opportunities upon which we can build, like self-publishing.

Since 2009 we have been indexing the High Street Cemetery, verifying names and dates of deceased. We are nearing the end of that project, thanks to those who continue to walk the cemetery or sit for hours doing database entry.



Transcribing letters from the Civil War era took time and talent, but those historic records are invaluable. Research of all the town records is now easier, having created digital versions of early town and church records, and also indexing those town records.

Many of our Trustees bring their own skills as well. Rusty Bridle, former Captain in the Hampton Fire Dept., has entertained and educated all ages in our Fire Museum, recalling the variety of safety lessons learned over the centuries.

Chet Riley and Dave DeGagne shared their unique knowledge to the "barn story," a treasure which was saved from demolition to become the most popular feature on our grounds. Inside those doors are tools and stories from centuries past during which common men and women built this community. The tools and photos help explain many early occupations: carpentry, fishing, dairy farming, salt water haying, shoemaking, and even the cutting of ice at a time before refrigeration.

We recently celebrated our 90th Birthday Celebration at HHS, and, to the many volunteers of yesterday and those of tomorrow, we owe a great deal of "Thanks!"

Candice Stellmach

Education Committee

The education committee offers programs to the public schools and anyone who asks for this service and makes a reservation with specific request. We currently have standing programs for grades 1, 2, and 3. (We have also offered a program to the 8th grade students upon request.) Other educational programming is tailored to the needs of the specific group attending, such as home schools, scout troops, and service clubs.



The first grade program incorporates the reading of the book "Ox Cart Man," by Donald Hall. At left, a costumed "Goodie" O'Keefe explains the many items found around the barn that are also seen in the pictures in the book, while teacher Michaela Hardy looks on.

In second grade the students get a visit in the classroom from a traveler who crossed the ocean in the 17th century with her family to come to this new land of opportunity. She tells of the crossing and what they found when they arrived, what they endured to make a life here, what items they brought with them, and what they learned to make and grow here.

In third grade the classes are learning Hampton history. They take a trolley ride around town to see some historic sites, one of which is Pine Grove Cemetery where we meet them for a short visit. We have a chance to talk about the "burying grounds" and the many citizens of Hampton's early days. A few days later the classes come to Tuck Museum to spend a couple of hours learning a bit more about our town's history, and how Hampton has shrunk in land size, (daughter towns breaking off), while it has grown over the years.

The volunteers for this group meet as needed to discuss and refresh programs, usually prior to the schools attending programs. New volunteers are encouraged to join the group and will be greatly appreciated! Training is short and easy to accomplish. Let Betty know if you are interested.

Sammi Moe

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.

2014 - 2015 Volunteers

Over 100 Hours

Elly Becotte
Katrin Grant
Rich Hureau
Bill Keating
Carol Keating

Cheryl Lassiter
Ken Lobdell
Kathy McLaughlin
Jim Metcalf
Linda Metcalf/Lassie

Ben Moore
Betty Moore
Karen Raynes
Diane Riley
Candice Stellmach

25 - 100 Hours

Doug Aykroyd
Rusty Bridle
Mary Ertl
Lisa Grashow
Mark McFarlin

Dyana Martin
Sammi Moe
Jason Moore
Patty O'Keefe
Kate Pratt

Liz Premo
Chet Riley
Dann Shaw

Other Volunteers

Elizabeth Aykroyd
Judy Ashenden
Fred Ashenden
Ina Banbury
Phil Bean
Tocky Bialobrzewski
Nancy Brady
Tom Bridge
Renny Cushing
Margaret Dennett
Robert Dennett
Bud Desrochers
Lois Desrochers
Katie Ells
Tracy Emerick

Dawn Emerick
Rick Griffin
Abby Hansen
Amy Hansen
Whit Hansen
Valerie Hendgen
Ann Justin
Rev. Deb Knowlton
Sue Launi
Gary Martin
Marie Matthews
Jody Mc Farlin
John Muxie
Fred Rice
Joan Rice

Gloria Robinson
Sam Robinson
Linda Sari
Joshua Silveira
Nancy Stiles
Priscilla Thoen
Norma Torti
Bob Wallace
Skip Webb
Dave Weber
Chuck Weinhold
Karen Weinhold
Maureen Workman

Business Members

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

234 Lafayette Road Realty LLC
The 401 Tavern LLC
Atlantic Motel
Dr. Leonard Walker
Eccentric Hair
Hampton Beach Casino, Inc.
Kingfish Trolley Lines LLC
William Nay
Northeast Auctions
The Provident Bank
Tobey and Merrill Insurance
Tracy Theatre Originals
John Troiano
Unital Corporation

Membership Committee

Membership fees and additional donations in our annual appeal continue to contribute significantly to our operating budget. Membership dues for the fiscal year just ending total \$5,835 with accompanying membership donations of \$13,475. There are 448 members on our mailing list. Of these, 136 are Life members and 312 are Family, Senior, Senior Couple, Individual, and Business memberships. The renewal rate is 77%. In addition, of the total membership, there are 104 new members who joined as a result of our recent new membership drive.

The 2016 annual appeal begins with this mailing. Thank you in advance for your continued support!

Linda Metcalf

2014-15 Annual Statistics (10/1/14-9/30/15)

Casual visitors	304
School programs	650
Group Tour visitors	95
Program Attendance	509
Other events	441
Total	2003

Volunteer hours for the year 3971



Part of Gathering on the Green exhibit

STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES
11 months ended September 30, 2013

Unaudited

Operating Account

Revenues, Gains, Other Support	
Dues	\$5,975
Donations - unrestricted	20,522
Museum Gift Shop Sales	1,648
Fundraising	17,421
Interest and Investment	-1,678
Endowment Funds income	2,078
Programs & Other	1,228
Total Revenues and Support	47,194
Expenses and Losses	
Tuck Museum Program	5,099
Buildings and Grounds	16,708
Public Programs	1,346
Publicity and Website	268
Membership & Newsletters	2,879
Fundraising expenses	3,634
Gift shop purchases	506
Management and General	1,577
Total Expenses	32,017
Change in Unrestricted Net Assets	15,177
Restricted donations received	131,236
Restricted donations expended	-172,522
Net change in liquid assets	-26,109
Liquid Assets, Beginning of Year	160,623
Liquid Assets, End of Period	\$134,514

Treasurer's report

We started off the fiscal year with the purchase of our new Collection and Research Center on Lafayette Road. Donations in the current and past fiscal years enabled us to complete the transaction without incurring debt. A membership drive during the year was successful and our fundraising activities, including the Pig Roast, maintained our financial strength.

Ben Moore

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, will be available on the web site, www.hamptonhistoricalsociety.org.

Building and Grounds Committee Report



Last year was unique for the Building and Grounds area mainly due to the acquisition of the CRC, located in the Hampton Village Plaze on Lafayette Rd. There was much to accomplish to ready our

new facility for move-in day. Both A/C and Heating units required replacement. In addition, walls and ceilings were painted, new LED lighting was installed and fixtures repaired. Donated cabinets were added to the mini-kitchen. The bathroom was updated with a new vanity and fixtures along with plumbing changes to make the hot water supply more efficient.

Move-in day went off without a hitch! Now that CRC is fully utilized, it is difficult to realize that Tuck Musuem could hold so many artifacts. Now, both locations are arranged for easy access to our collections. The CRC also has a full basement area available for future growth and use.

Freeing up space at the Tuck Museum allowed renovation of the last "old" room in the main building on the second floor. A new ceiling was installed, walls painted and floors refinished as well as minor electrical updates. Our new room is now furnished with new desks and in use for research purposes. The balance of lighting has been converted to LED technology bulbs further adding to energy reductions.

As with past years, Tuck Museum continues to benefit from Eagle Scout projects. Last fall, Thomas Dumont of Troop 177 in Hampton, completed installation and dedication of our new flag pole with solar powered LED lighting and landscaping. It is an attractive addition to our grounds.

Typical of any facility, Tuck Museum continues to need on-going maintenance. The winter of 2014-15 was especially harsh to plants and trees. Bushes next to the parking area had to be removed and replaced with low maintenance plants. One of the trees planted during the last couple of years died and was removed. Other projects started include: painting the barn, rebuilding the basement bulkhead to the main building, rebuilding windows in the workshop etc. 2015-16 items on the bucket list are numerous and cover energy savings (replace 1960's wing windows and add insulation to ceiling) and painting.

Ken Lobdell

Pig Roast 2015 Report

The 2015 Pig Roast was a lot of fun for all. This year, like last year, we had Whit Hansen leading the cooking of the pigs with a few friends and HHS Trustees. As usual, and thankfully, Chuck Weinhold and Sam Robinson were there again to cut the pig for serving. And the great news this year is that Karen Weinhold, who had been injured the year before and could not make the Pig Roast, was there again at this year's Pig Roast sporting her smiling face. We are all thankful for Karen's recovery and happy to have her back with us on this annual, fun day. Many thanks to all of the above for their contributions to what ended up being an awesome meal. We always get rave reviews on the pork and this year was no exception.



We also had our plethora of wonderful volunteers that helped out on the day of the Pig Roast, as well as the wonderful group that met ahead of time and did the behind the scenes work that brought the event all together on the big day.

Many thanks go out to all of them! As usual there are too many of you to count here, but please know you are all appreciated and we are thankful to have you help make this day the success that it is. Plus, it is great to spend the day with all of you.

There is a lot of hard work that goes into this event and it could not be done without the help of many. So again, thank you to you all—those who served food and desserts, cooked and cut the pork, set up and broke down the tents and tables, decorated, bought tickets and brought friends, washed dishes and made desserts, made calls and collected silent auction items and managed the auction, sold raffle tickets and ran food back and forth and cleaned up, cooked burgers and dogs, and took photos—thank you for being the friends that we fortunately have that help to get the job done. Because of that, the end result is a fun and memorable day had by all each year.

This year the Pig Roast sales totaled \$10,353. And expenses were \$1,733. This gave the Historical Society a profit of \$8,620 for this year's pig roast. Unfortunately this number was down by approximately 15% from last year. The raffle, which is included in the above totals, was very close to the same as last year at \$600 to the Society. Thank you once again to Rick Griffin for selling again this year. Still, all in all, the profit was good for the Society and its community endeavors.

Having said that, there was discussion after the Pig Roast about the date of the event. Many people thought that the decrease in participation and volunteer help was due to the date. There were a number of folks and volunteers that could not go to the Pig Roast on the holiday weekend. At our last

meeting on October 6th, the Trustees that were present discussed the date to see if we all agreed that changing the date would help attendance, or if leaving the date as is was the right direction to go in for future years. The vote that was taken was in favor of changing the date of the Pig Roast for next year to September 10, which is the Saturday of the Seafood Festival. The group did not believe that the Seafood Festival would have an impact on the Pig Roast and, as long as the parking lots at Tuck Field and Eaton Park were free for Pig Roast participants, it is believed that that date might help others who could not attend or volunteer to be able to again.

The food and entertainment and the auction were all excellent, as usual, and many thanks go out to our donors - The Galley Hatch Restaurant, Fast Eddies, Bud and Lois Desrochers, the Old Salt, Joe's Meat Shoppe, Hannafords, Shaws, Seacoast Coke, Sam's Club, 401 Tavern, Tracy Emerick and Amy Hansen (delicious bbq sauces!), Kate Pratt and Walmart. Also special thanks to the Provident Bank again this year for being our major sponsor. We could not do it without their financial help and generosity.

Overall, the day of the event was a happy one, with tremendous weather, tremendous food, tremendous friends and many smiles all around.

Dyana Martin

Program Committee Report

A dedicated core group of five members met monthly over the past year to accomplish an exciting calendar of ten programs. We managed to conduct a wide variety of both outdoor and indoor adventures and demonstrations related to people, events, and structures in town, and all were well attended.

Ellen Goethel, a marine biologist and former head of the Hampton Conservation Commission, led us on a guided walk of the Hampton salt marsh. She discussed the history and geophysical significance of the marsh and its critical role in our ecosystem, explaining how it is a buffer along our shoreline that absorbs the onslaught of the high tides. Everyone was surprised by the depth of knowledge that Ellen shared, especially when she had all of us bouncing like children in order to feel the resiliency of the huge sponge of peat below them.

Next year's list of programs will be even more exciting and diverse. Hope to see everyone take these opportunities to learn more about Hampton and our environs.

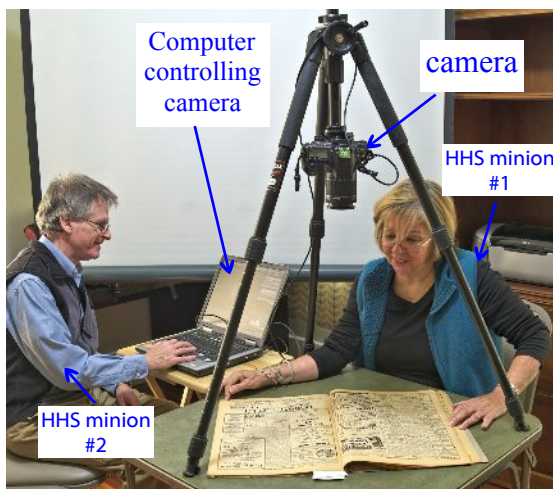
Ann Carnaby

Communications Committee Report and Digitizing Large Documents

This year, the Communications Committee worked on the 90th Anniversary celebration, enhancements to the website, and digitizing of documents. For the 90th Anniversary, the History Bits project required printed maps, signs, and the "Bits" themselves, plus web versions of all of them. Digitization of any documents often included placing low-res or even full-res versions on the website.

The largest digitizing task was photographing 23 years of the *Beachcomber* newspaper and formatting the results for web display. A link to the entire Beachcomber Archive can be found on our Home page. We also digitized a large 1910 map of the USA. The techniques we used for these two tasks are shown below.

Rich Hureau



HHS volunteers sometimes have to "digitize" large objects (newspapers, paintings, etc). In such cases, scanning is usually not possible so we use a digital camera, often "tethered" to a computer or tablet for easier control of the camera.

In the photo on the left above, two volunteers photograph all the pages of a bound edition of the *Beachcomber* newspaper. The condition of the newspapers was so poor (newsprint is poor quality anyway, and old editions are yellowed, faded, etc) that the lighting wasn't much of a concern. The main problem was the volume - the hundreds of pages that had to be photographed.

The largest document we have had to do so far is a 5' x 7' 1910 map of the USA. The setup (above, right) consisted of:

- A tripod on each side of the map
- A boom arm spanning the space between the tripods (over the map)
- A camera attached to the boom in the center, shooting straight down
- An Android tablet "tethered" to the camera via an electronic cable, running an app to control the camera (focus, shutter release, etc).
- 2 lights on the other sides of the map

The shot at above right shows the setup we used to photograph the entire map. After we finished that, to get more detailed shots we lowered the tripods (and camera) to about 2 feet above the map and took images of 9 sections of the map by *carefully* sliding the camera on the boom and also moving the tripods around in tandem to target each area of the map.

The final results can be seen on the new **1910 Map** page on the HHS website: www.hamptonhistoricalsociety.org/map1910.htm

It is linked to from the main Map page (which is reached via the left menu on the Home page).