



# HOLLIS HISTORICAL SOCIETY

**Wheeler House**  
**20 Main Street, P.O. Box 754**  
**Hollis, New Hampshire 03049**  
**(603) 465-3935**  
**[www.hollishistoricalsociety.org](http://www.hollishistoricalsociety.org)**

*Winter 2014*

**HAPPY NEW YEAR!**

Dear Members,

2013 was a busy year for your Society. Here are a few of the highlights since our Fall newsletter:

- There was a class reunion tour, hosted by Sharon Howe, of both of our museums
- A tour for Hollis Cub Scouts, and some of their family members, was given by Martha Davis and Freddi Olson
- A terrific slate of programs was presented, thanks to the planning of Bruce Hardy, our Vice President and Program Chair. Wonderful refreshments, hosted by Lydia Schellenberg, were enjoyed by all present.
- A membership drive worked on by Marilyn Wehrle, Sue Birch, and Freddi Olson, has helped bring our total membership up to 192 members
- There have been fascinating monthly articles in the Hollis Brookline Journal written by various Hollis Historical Society members. Note: We're always looking for new writers!
- The Grange Corner, at the Always Ready Engine House, has been expanded, thanks to Martha Davis and other volunteers
- Jeanne Cripps-Smith has joined Martha Davis, on a permanent basis, in helping with exhibits



- Phyllis Houle helped us with both exhibits and accessions
- Dotty Hackett continues to do a superb job overseeing our accessions department
- Your Society had a booth at Hollis Old Home Days
- Our Poole/Hackett House Tour Fund Raiser was a great success.....and... MARVELOUS FUN! One hundred and forty four tickets were sold, with net proceeds totaling \$4330. A great many of our members either provided goodies for the event, acted as docents, served wine and food, and/or donated signs, posters, wine, cider, decorations, music, booties, set-up and break-down duties, time, etc., etc. We thank every single one of you for your generosity! And a special, HUGE

THANK YOU to Dotty Hackett, who opened her home, gardens and barn for this event. She had every inch of her place looking perfect, plus she provided a lot of the wine and food herself. (Even the inside walls of the barn were vacuumed. Now that's extraordinary!)

- We've had some interesting mini displays at the Wheeler House, presented by various members
- We received some very generous donations from members for the museum. A full list of new accessions will be presented at our Annual Meeting.
- Julie Tyska and Martha Davis did a stellar job in lining up docents for both museums. To both of these ladies, plus the docents, thank you!
- Genealogy research, for visitors, continues at the Wheeler House, thanks to Historians Joan Tinklepaugh and Sharon Howe, plus other Wheeler House volunteers
- We are now receiving requests for information from our newly designed website. Thanks to Bette Finnern, this site is up and running.
- Your Board continues to meet on a monthly basis



## **Production Staff**

Design: Fredricka Olson  
Editing: Marilyn Wehrle  
Sue Birch  
Layout: Bette Finnern

## NOW.....WHAT'S COMING UP IN 2014????

- On a sad note for us....but an exciting one for our President, we bid a fond farewell to our wonderful President, Dick Lates. He and his wife BJ are moving to Portsmouth, NH and starting a whole new chapter in their lives. Dick's leadership, good humor, thoughtfulness, problem solving abilities, sensitive forward thinking, and all-around-great-guy skills are going to be sorely missed. But we wish Dick and BJ only the best in their new adventure.
- Our very able Vice President, Bruce Hardy, with assistance from Sharon Howe, will step into the President's position until our Annual Meeting when a slate of officers will be presented for your vote
- Anyone interested in being on the Hollis Historical Society Board of Directors and taking on a leadership role is asked to contact Freddi Olson at (603) 465-3935
- The Wheeler House building is going to be 100 YEARS OLD this year...so that calls for a celebration. If you would like to be on a committee to help us plan the festivities, please call the Wheeler House at (603) 465-3935
- NEW COMMITTEE: We are forming a FUND RAISING committee! Now don't be frightened -- you don't actually have to put on the event or activity. We need folks to brainstorm ideas for fund raising events and research locations, costs, etc., and then report to the Board. A HHS Board member will work with you. We have some ideas, but you may have better ones, however, either way ,we need folks to do the research. If you can HELP us, PLEASE call Freddi Olson at the Wheeler House ((603) 465-3935).
- Under the guidance of Sharon Howe, the Hollis Historical Society Board is re-thinking the Society's Mission Statement/Statement of Purpose. Sharon has put a great deal of effort into this exercise and it's stimulating a lot of thought and discussion.
- The membership drive is starting up again.
- The New Hampshire Preservation Alliance, in association with Freedom's Way, and the Hollis Historical Society will be hosting an OPEN BARNs TOUR AND LECTURE in Hollis, September 27th. There will be more information as time draws nearer.
- We want to start interviewing some of Hollis's older residents and recording these interviews.



## DID YOU KNOW.....

The New Hampshire State Library in Concord has copies of most New Hampshire town records prior to 1835 on microfilm. Even more unusual than this remarkable collection is the card index which references to the microfilm nearly every name mentioned in these records by volume and page.

The New Hampshire Historical Society (NHHN) has begun a project, called the New Hampshire History Network (NHHN), to provide virtual access to their extensive collections. They are creating digital images of their historic material along with transcriptions and interpretive information. The NHHN will empower historical societies and libraries around the state to share their own digitized materials as part of NHHN. The network will allow public school teachers to create and maintain customized lesson plans and resources that tie into the state's curriculum standards. These are exciting times for all of us. The Hollis Historical Society has started digitizing some of our collection, thanks to John Butler, but a lot more needs to be done.....but it all costs money. Hence the need for a Fund Raising Committee.

## SOMETHING TO THINK ABOUT IN REGARD TO PRESERVATION.....

Comments from Jim Leach, Chairman, National Endowment for the Humanities, Washington, DC, November 2009, Heritage Preservation Annual Meeting:

*“Preserving documents is critical to advancing the study of history, and preserving artifacts is central not only to understanding cultural values but reflecting respect for the individuals and societies whose heritage is involved.*

*“It is not surprising that one of the greatest gestures of respect between peoples is the exchange of a book or textile or craft or work of art. And there are few greater reflections of respect than assisting others to preserve their heritage.*

*“One of the most profound examples of respectful attention to cultural preservation involved a small cadre of American military officers who came to be called the “Monuments Men.” At the end of World War II they led in cataloguing and returning works of looted art from Nazi hands to countries of origin.” (The “Monuments Men “ is now a movie.)*

Preservation is so very important...and on so many different levels.

In closing, we look forward to your visits to the Wheeler House and Always Ready Engine House, and seeing you and your friends at our programs. We also encourage you to share your thoughts with us on how to make the Hollis Historical Society the best it can be. Together.... we can accomplish wonderful things.

Wishing you good health and great happiness in this New Year

*Fredricka Olson*

Fredricka Olson, Curator



**Snow Plowing in Hollis in Past Times**



## *Copper Smithing - How Do You Make a Flat Sheet of Metal into a Pot?*

**Presented by Bruce Hardy**

Bruce will discuss the art and technique of copper smithing, and provide examples of his work and his copper collection.

**Thursday, March 20, 2014  
Lawrence Barn  
Program at 7:30PM**

**OPEN TO THE PUBLIC!!!**

### **Wish List for Hollis Historical Society**

- Someone to take photos at our events
- Someone to interview the older residents of Hollis and record the interviews

**The Wheeler House is open  
Monday and Wednesday afternoons  
from 1 to 4pm, year round.**

**As well as the 1st and 3rd Sundays of the  
month, June through October.**

**The Always Ready Engine House is open  
the 1st and 3rd Sundays of the month,  
June through October.**

**Both museums are available for tours  
at other times, by special arrangement,  
by calling (603) 465-3935.**

