



Antrim Historical Society

PO Box 172

Antrim, New Hampshire 03440

February 2013

Officers

Thelma Nichols
President

Missy Taylor
Vice President

Phebe Lewan
Secretary

Sarah VanderWende
Treasurer

Board Members

Dave Dubois

Peter Moore

Liz Robertson

Steve Ullman

Honorary Members

Lyman Gilmore

Nina Harding

Gif Russell

Dear Members and Friends of the Antrim Historical Society,

Historically it seems the years used to go by slower than they do now, but maybe that's just because I've gotten older and my memory is failing. Nonetheless, the new year, 2013, has crept in and it is time for the Antrim Historical Society's Board of Directors to thank you for your support over the past year and to ask you to consider renewing your membership or, perhaps if you have not been a member, to begin the new year by joining us.

It is through volunteer and financial support that the Antrim Historical Society is able to continue to archive and preserve events and artifacts of Antrim's past and present and to present programs throughout the year.

2012 found us accomplishing some administrative duties. The Board finalized revision of the AHS by-laws, bringing them up to date with not only our needs, but also with the guidelines of the state and federal government. Peter Moore stepped down on completion of his two-year term as president, but continues to serve on the AHS Board. We were very pleased to have Sarah VanderWende join us on the Board, filling the position of Treasurer. She brings a real passion for history and interest in Antrim to the table. Our curator, Neil Brown, decided to move to Florida to enjoy the rest of his retirement, and regretfully resigned. Neil volunteered many hours and much energy to the Society, bringing our archives up to date, inventorying our items and their history, meeting with and assisting individuals on their genealogy quests, accepting items of interest to Antrim, and performing numerous other duties. His shoes will be hard to fill.

Throughout the past year, under the leadership of our Program Committee, Elizabeth Robertson and Steve Ullman, we continued to host Sunday afternoon programs and expanded our community participation by co-sponsoring programs with the Antrim Grange, Antrim Area Senior Center, and the Tuttle Library. Annual events of the Society - the July 4th Coffee and Doughnuts at the bandstand and reading of the Declaration of Independence, the popular Apple Crisp Social on Home & Harvest weekend, and the 3rd Annual Festival of Trees co-hosted with the Friends of the Library were again very successful and well attended. Steve Ullman also launched a book club for the Historical Society and led lively discussions during the fall based on biographies of some of our greatest presidents. The success of all these programs is possible because of the many hours provided by volunteers, to all of whom we are very grateful.

Lyman Gilmore succeeded in having the Antrim Stroll digitized and reprinted. Donald and Joan Dunlap donated a beautiful "Dunlap highboy" to the Society. What a great addition to our collection. If you haven't seen it, please take the time to stop in at the Library to view it. The Board purchased from Martin Nichols a roll-top desk which had served as the town clerk's desk at least as far back as Archie Swett, first at the town hall and later in Martin's home. The Society also accepted many other items given by current townspeople and those of long ago through heirs and friends.

The Board is looking forward to making our organization stronger and growing this year. Our wish list for 2013 begins with the following.

It is hoped that we will have our own website up and running this spring so that we can post coming events and programs, make our archives easily available to everyone, keep everyone informed of what is happening within the Society and be able to acknowledge gifts and give as memorabilia is received.

Technology within the historical room has been sketchy and available mainly through the use of whoever's computer is available. The Board hopes to purchase a computer/printer/scanner which will allow us to keep our records up to date and make available the ability to scan items in our archives for personal use, program presentation, etc. In March of 2007, the Board voted to no longer allow materials to be removed from the Historical Room in order to protect our items, so this system would alleviate the inconvenience this much needed action has created. Borrowing projectors to present our programs has become nearly impossible so we are also hoping to purchase our own projector along with the computer system.

The position of Curator/Archivist needs to be filled. If you are interested or know of anyone who might be interested, the Board would very much like to discuss this with you. The schedule is open and the time spent is very negotiable. Neil spent a great deal of time organizing the museum and the records are available on a flash drive. Members of the Board are available to orient you to the museum, which is on the upper floor of the Tuttle Library.

The present Board is a forward-thinking group of men and women working to preserve the history of Antrim and a great group to work with. If you are interested in becoming a Board member or serving on a committee, please come talk to us. Our door is always open to you.

There are many areas which need to be researched in what is becoming a very timely necessity. Subjects such as Antrim schools, current events, family histories, etc. need to be researched or expanded upon. The Antrim House project needs to be continued and finalized. We are always looking for people who are willing to volunteer time to work on any projects of interest. You may have a project that you have researched or a program in mind that you would like to share with us. We welcome your suggestions and would be happy to discuss them with you.

The Antrim Historical Society is an independent nonprofit organization that saves, preserves, and shares its history. A gift to the Society is a celebration of Antrim's past and an investment in its future. Whether through membership, a financial contribution, volunteer help, or the gift of an object, book, or document, your support will help the Society save and preserve Antrim's history for all of us and for generations to come.

To our members, I say thank you as you renew your membership for 2013. And, to all others who share our love of Antrim and history, I invite you to join today! Membership of \$10.00 per person or \$20 for a family is for the calendar year, or our newly created Life Membership of \$500 for an individual.

Sincerely,

Thelma A. Nichols

Thelma A. Nichols
President