

**Association of Historical Societies of NH
Upcoming Events!**

Round-Robin Summer Jaunts

Saturday, June 25 Bring a picnic lunch and join us for a bus trip to Franconia and Sugar Hill where we will visit both historical societies and the Iron Works interpretive center. We are expecting to see fields of lupines along the way--not to overlook the beautiful mountains.

You may join us at any of three starting points: A (school) bus will leave Concord's Everett Arena (I-93 x 14 east) at 7:45 am and pick up at Plymouth State sports complex (I-93 x 25) between 8:45 and 9:00. We expect to be at the Franconia Museum (I-93 x 37) by 9:30 a.m.

Saturday, August 27 Our second picnic outing will be a seacoast bus trip to the societies of Rye, Hampton, Hampton Falls, Exeter, and Stratham. The bus will begin in Concord and pick up in Raymond. Times will be posted in next newsletter and on-line.

No charge for either trip (a change from earlier notice. AHSNH has agreed to pick up the bus fee.) The courtesy of registration is requested, but you are welcome on the day regardless. Free program catalogues from the Humanities Council will be available on both trips.

For more information: Linda Day; 753-9846;
lindaday@historicalsocietiesnh.org

Saturday, October 22, Annual Meeting
Sanbornton will host at the Lane Tavern, which is on Sanbornton Square on Rte 132, between exits 20 and 22 off I-93. The schedule will be as follows:

9:30 a.m. Welcome, coffee
10:00 a.m. Tour of the Lane Tavern, with period-costumed docents
11:00 a.m. Business Meeting
12:00 p.m. Lunch
1:00 p.m. *Liberty & Lumber: NH Timbermen & the Rise of Revolutionary Spirit*
A presentation by Dr. Marcia Schmidt Blaine of UNH-Plymouth on the role of the timber industry in New Hampshire. Lunch will be brown bag, as it has always been; Sanbornton will provide beverages.

There is no charge but registration is urged.
Linda Day; 753-9846;
lindaday@historicalsocieties.org

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Association Contacts:

Linda Day see above
Tom Haynes hscddired@cheshire.net
David Ruell 968-7716
Ben Moore BFMoore@comcast.net
Newsletter jg@nhpreservation.org

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Association Vacancies

The Association is seeking both a Treasurer and a Recording Secretary. In addition, there will be three Director slots open this October! Why not join us and have a vote?

Two important committees are also being formed, to work between now and October--short window! People are needed for the always-fun job of up-dating the Directory. We are also looking for people to join a nominating committee, to lay the word around about the openings mentioned above (and come up with golden finds).

If you are interested in any of these opportunities, please contact Linda Day or the Board member of your choice.

Societies' Events

(where contact information is omitted, please consult the Association's Directory. Thank you).

Ashland: June 15, 7 p.m. *Annihilating Distance: Railroads and Community Development in New Hampshire*, R. Stuart Wallace, Railroad Station Museum (NHHC)

Franconia: June 18, 2 p.m. *Old Man Revisited*, Dick Hamilton.

Hampton: June 15, 7 p.m., WWII *Documentary: The War at Home*, Lane Library (NHHC)

Holderness: June 14, 7:30 p.m. *Raising Bees*, Ernie Budloc, Meeting House

Keene: July 14, 2 to 4 p.m., Old-time Children's Games in the Garden by the Cheshire County Historical Society

Meredith: July 5, 7:30 p.m., *Mission of Town Historical Societies in Today's New Hampshire*, Bill Veillette, Main Street Museum

New Hampton: June 8, 7 p.m. *Hill Country Abandonment: 19th Century Sandwich, NH*: Marcia Schmidt Blaine

Nashua: June 11, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. *Arts, Crafts and History Celebration*

Salisbury: June 14, 7 p.m. *An Evening With Donald Hall*, Meetinghouse

Salisbury: June 18, 9:30-3:30 *NH Quilt Documentation Project*, Salisbury Town Hall. Quilt must have been made before 1975. Appraisals also can be scheduled. Appointments required. Call 648-2134.

Tamworth: June 18, 10:00AM – 2:00PM *Ox & Rocks* at Remick Country Doctor Museum & Farm. Demonstrations of historic and

modern farming chores like stone wall building and repairing, plowing with oxen and haying with sickle and scythe.

Washington: July 11, 7:30 p.m. *Annihilating Distance: Railroads and Community Development in New Hampshire*, R. Stuart Wallace (NHHC)

NHHC: NH Humanities Council program

Additional News from Societies

The Historical Society of Amherst's web-site www.hsanh.org includes over 700 images from its archives and past newsletters. The Society plans to add genealogical data in the near future.

Ashland Historical Society's work to save the town's landmark Victorian school has reached an important milestone, and a capital campaign seeks to match existing support so that Tri-County Community Action Program can purchase and revitalize the building.

The Franklin Historical Society has launched its first web-site and suggests other societies consider the new services offered by the Sanbornton Historical Document Foundation to host organization's sites. Contact 279-5499 or check www.histsoc.org.

Do you have Old Home Day activities in town? The New Hampshire Preservation Alliance would like to promote a statewide list. To add your information or get a copy of the publication *Old Home Days in New Hampshire*: 224-2281 or admin@nhpreservation.org.

New Hampshire Preservation Alliance is seeking nominations for its annual Preservation Achievement Awards. 224-2281 or nhpreservation.org. Categories include building preservation projects as well as educational initiatives. Nominations due June 15.

**Report on the Association's April Meetings
Team Up with NH: The Role of the
Historical Society in the Identification of
Local Treasures**

Our April 16th meeting at the Rocks Estate in Bethlehem and the April 30th meeting at the Wyman Tavern in Keene offered attendees a chance to learn about the programs of the New Hampshire Division of Historical Societies and explore the role of historical societies in identifying and protecting historic resources in their communities.

Edna Feighner, Historical Archeologist with the NH Division of Historical Resources and Linda Wilson, the agency's deputy director, offered these two suggestions:

- 1) Nominate a representative from your historical society to attend meetings of your town's planning commission. Go and listen. If anything raises a concern, discuss it with the Division.
- 2) Conduct a town-wide inventory. The Division has a form with questions--and will provide guidance--for the process. First, find the places you feel have historical significance, explain where they are, give a brief description, and take a picture. Plan to do that over a year; and send that information to the Division. Then, as you have more time, you can go into greater detail.

On April 16th, Frumie Selchen and Becky Newton of the Arts Alliance of Northern New Hampshire reported to the group that their organization has secured a grant -- in response to a desire expressed by local historical societies struggling for visibility -- for the preparation of a brochure and a website touting the historical and cultural resources of the North Country. They need help to raise \$5,000 in matching funds to advance the project. The Jackson Historical Society has donated \$1000 and challenges the other North

Country historical societies to each contribute. (Editor's note: If each North Country historical society donates \$175, the goal should be reached!) Contact them at ArtsAllianceNNH@cs.com to help make this important idea a reality!

On April 30th, we followed the workshop with a tour of the Wyman Tavern.

About 20 people representing 6 northern New Hampshire societies and 10 people representing 5 southern New Hampshire societies participated in the programs. Free program catalogues from the NH Humanities Council were distributed at both workshops.

Our thanks to Linda Day, the presenters and our hosts for making the events a success.

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**Notes from April Board Meeting
From Minutes by David Ruell**

President Day will appoint a nominating committee chair, and members will be added at the August meeting, to secure new officer candidates before the October annual meeting. There are several vacancies as noted on the front of this newsletter.

The group agreed to accept an offer by a facilitator to help us review strategic goals for AHSNH. A survey for member societies will be circulated with the Directory questionnaires to inform the process.

Centralized workshop locations and enhanced marketing were discussed as ways to boost event attendance. The group also agreed to provide an honorarium to host societies.

Ben Moore will head up the effort to update the Directory but needs assistance for this summer project.

Richard Hureau has offered to set up web pages for member societies. A modest fee will be charged.

More News from President Linda Day

Internet Happenings

Be sure to visit our web-site from time-to-time, as we are cooking up new ideas all the time! And please put a link on your web-site to ours so we are all supporting each other.

Let your members know that they may receive a free weekly (or so) electronic newsletter if they are interested. Contact lindaday@historicalsocietiesnh.org to sign up. We reach over 200 people by this route.

Your AHSNH Board is currently designing a web-page offer for members who are not yet on the internet. We hope to have the application form ready for circulation in June. Keep your eyes open!

Get on the List!

Good news from the Division of Tourism and Travel. They put out a map and a directory. Any museum that has regular hours through the summer--that should include weekends--is eligible to be listed in their directory!

And everyone may be listed on their website! So head on over to www.visitnh.gov and get your information listed!

New Internet Service

If your society has items for sale, write up a list and send it, along with contact information, to the Association and we will post it on the "Store" page of our web-site. This is not a sophisticated spread--we are not yet posting pictures, nor can we offer "secure credit card purchases"-- but it is another way to spread the word if you are interested.

Use the following pattern:

Name of Society
Contact: (Name or Title)
Address
Phone
E-mail address if available
1) (Item). . . . \$
(Item). . . . \$
s/h per order. \$ <u> </u>
 Total:

Association of Historical Societies of NH
PMB 101
26 South Main Street
Concord, NH 03301-4848

www.historicalsocietiesnh.org