



Members Quarterly Newsletter

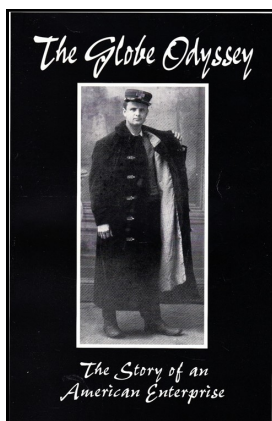
Issue LX
2nd Quarter June 2017

Pittsfield Historical Society
13 Elm Street
Pittsfield, NH 03263
603-435-8004

Pittsfield, New Hampshire – The Gem of the Suncook Valley
Liz Dimmick & Bill Provencal, co-editors

Future Programs

History of Globe Manufacturing



Globe Manufacturing, Pittsfield's largest employer, was established in 1901 by Courtland F. H. Freese. He began to produce the Globe Fireman's Service Suit in a small room located over a harness shop with 5 employees. This has evolved into the present day firm employing over 450 employees. Globe is the largest and oldest maker of protection fire fighting equipment in

the world. Come and hear Doug Towle, Director of Marketing, speak on the early history of Globe, its growth and its future outlook as a company. The program will conclude with a question-answer period and stories from the audience about their experiences with Globe.

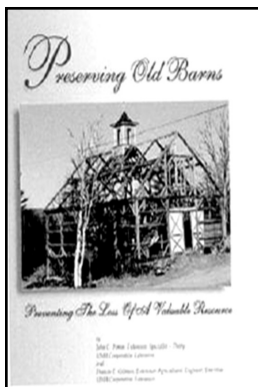
Wednesday, September 13, 2017
7:00 p.m.
The Society Museum
13 Elm Street

Accessions

1976 Bicentennial Quilt

A hand embroidered quilt made by the Pittsfield Evening Extension Club for the 1976 Pittsfield Bicentennial was donated by Corine Kimball Riel Miller. Many of the squares in the quilt are copies of a quilt made in 1976 by Pittsfield community women for the Bicentennial Celebration. Prior to being donated to the Historical Society, the quilt was on display at the Pittsfield Town Hall.

New England Barn Talk



John Porter, co-author of *Preserving Old Barns*, will present "The History of Agriculture as Told by Barns." The evolution of barn architecture tells the story of New Hampshire agriculture. Barns changed from the early English style, to Yankee style, to gambrel and then pole barns to accommodate the changing agriculture. This presentation will be a chronological walk through time, with photo illustrations of barns

around the state that are examples of these eras of agricultural history. John Porter and Francis Gilman, co-authors of *Preserving Old Barns*, have spent their careers with farmers around New England helping them update and retrofit barns and have applied this knowledge to the renovation of old barns.

Wednesday, October 18, 2017
7:00 p.m.
The Society Museum, 13 Elm Street

2018 Calendars—Old Time Trades

The 2018 Historical Society's calendar is now on sale! The theme selected for the 2018 calendar is *Old Time Trades*. During the Nineteenth Century, various trades were essential and many folks earned their livelihood working in these trades. Some trades highlighted in the calendar include blacksmiths, stage coach operators, lumbering and sawmills, and, of course, farming. An informative history and detailed descriptions are provided.



The calendars are currently available at the Town Hall and at the Historical Museum. Cost is still \$10. They are excellent historical sources of Pittsfield and make excellent gifts!

Woodworking in Pittsfield



David Harper, secretary and board member of the Pittsfield Historical Society, and himself a cabinetmaker, was the featured speaker at the May meeting of the Society. He spoke on Pittsfield's history of woodworking, which was once a part of everyday life, beginning with the box and shingle mills of John Cram in the late 19th and early 20th centuries – an industry indispensable to the early growth of Pittsfield. David also highlighted the works of Jacob Jones, clockmaker; Abraham French, cabinetmaker; and William Hartwell, millwright and lumberman. Following his presentation, David was joined by fellow furniture maker, Steve Winchester of Center Barnstead, and they demonstrated the technique of dovetailing, and displayed numerous antique tools of their craft.

Spring Clean-up at Lyman Park



Lyman Park, thanks to Jeff Huntington of Pleasant View Gardens and many volunteers, is now a colorful garden.

Thanks to all the volunteers who spent their Saturday morning in dirt and mulch to clean and plant Lyman Park. These volunteers included Joe Darrah, Liz Dimmick, Keith Donovan, David Harper, Louie Houle, Mark Riel, Kathy Trayner, Ray and Judy Webber, and Clayton Wood. An additional thanks to David Harper for replacing all the boards on the garden bench. A job well done!

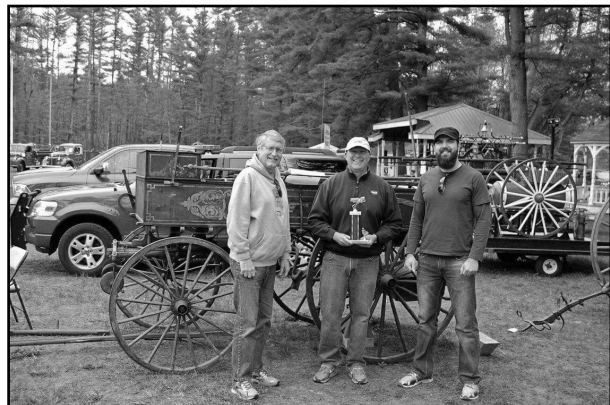
Pittsfield is a Winner!



On Saturday, May 13, the Pittsfield Historical Society participated in the First Annual Walter A. Sanborn Fire Truck Show at Webster Park in Epsom. The Society displayed its hand-drawn Hose

Wagon purchased in 1876 and its Hose Carriage purchased in 1895. It was the first time they had been taken out of mothballs in well over a decade, perhaps two.

For its display, the Historical Society won the Walter A. Sanborn Trophy, presented for a unique or unusual piece of equipment. The vehicles were picked because they were in original condition and have been in possession of the Town since their purchase.



Larry Berkson, Mark Riel, David Harper (left to right)

When it Began by Larry Berkson

In 1868, John Cram built a dam and saw mill at the bottom of what is known today as Factory Hill, thus founding the Pittsfield locale of Chichester. Later he added a grist mill to his operation and in 1770 erected his house at the top of the hill. It became the center of local life, especially after Pittsfield's incorporation in 1782. The building became a tavern and eventually developed into the famous Washington House Hotel. Tragically, it burned in 1984 and was razed in 1993.