



Members Quarterly Newsletter

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

Accessions

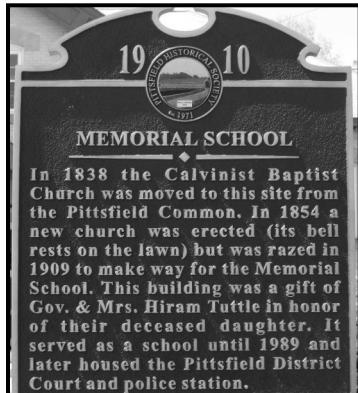
Suncook Sun



Although we regret the closing of the *Suncook Valley Sun*, we thank Ross Morse for the donation of various CDs containing news from the Sun, some older copies of the newspaper, and, of course, the cheerful Suncook Valley Sun sign.

Harriet Ames

Beverly Drolet graciously donated a brief article on Harriet Ames from the *Concord Monitor*, a photo of an Old Home Day Float, and a copy of *Pittsfield Fire Crier* (1998). Harriet Richardson Ames, who lived to 100, was born in Barnstead Parade and was a 1929 graduate of Pittsfield High School and Keene Normal School. She taught at various schools in New Hampshire and was the teaching principal at the Memorial School for 20 years before retiring. As a result of her subsequent course work and extensive teaching experience, she earned her bachelor's degree in education the day before she died.



Update on the New Museum

As of June 4, the foundation for the new building was installed and capped. The water and sewer lines have been connected and we await the pouring of the foundation for the front porch. We have raised enough money to frame, side and roof the building, and install the doors and windows.

We now need to raise money for the heating and electrical systems.

If you have not donated, please consider doing so. Go to our website pittsfieldhistory.com or Google Pittsfield Historical Society, Pittsfield New Hampshire and click on *Buy a Brick* or *Support a Display* for further information.

We will also be available to answer questions at Old Home Day, either at the museum or at Dustin Park, and on the field during the Balloon Rally! Please help to highlight Pittsfield's unique history in the new and spacious building.



Accessions—continued

History of Pittsfield, N.H. In the Great Rebellion

Many thanks to Fred Whitford, of Stonington, ME, for donating photographs of historic Pittsfield. He also donated *History of Pittsfield, N. H. in the Great Rebellion*, by Henry L. Robinson. This book, copyrighted in 1893, provides a brief biographical description of the men from Pittsfield who served in the Civil War, where they fought, and brief stories of their lives during the war.

Behind the Scenes

Most everyone knows that the museum is open most Tuesdays between 9:00 a.m. and noon to answer questions or to help research ideas. We also present various informative programs throughout the year. However, do you know that the Society sometimes takes the "show on the road"? Larry Berkson recently presented a brief history of Pittsfield to Ms. Elliot's third grade class.

He also gave a brief presentation on the history of the firefighting equipment, including historical pictures, to the Chichester Fire Department. Larry is well-versed in the history of Pittsfield's fire department since he recently published three volumes on the history of the fire department, significant fires, and the men and women who fought these fires.

This summer Larry will also narrate a bus tour for a local group interested in Pittsfield's history.

Of course, the Society preserves Pittsfield's history, but the members also maintain the Frank Lyman Park on Carroll Street. Recently members, Joe Darrah, Mark Riel, and Ray Webber, did the initial clean-up and members soon will plant flowers donated by Pleasant View Gardens. The park is the starting point for the Historic Trail a 1.5 mile walk that meanders through the town featuring many historic buildings and places.

Look Back in Time

Tricia Locke of Barnstead was the winner of the "World's Largest Christmas Stocking" at the Pittsfield Branch of the New Hampshire Savings Bank. Arnold Wells, Pittsfield's 1983 Citizen of the Year, drew the lucky winner's name. Frances Marston, N.H. S. B. teller is holding the box of entries.



Date unknown

Cellar Holes: A Walk Back In Time

Many thanks to Adair Mulligan and the New Hampshire Humanities program for presenting *A Walk Back in Time; the Secret of Cellar Holes*. This lively presentation explored the common characteristics of cellar holes—alignment, specimen trees or bushes, and nearby water sources. Also, she showed that by comparing sequential older maps, a person can recreate the population or density of towns.



Save These Dates!

The Historical Society has a variety of programs scheduled for 2019! Some are different from our familiar offerings, but all are extremely interesting. Please join us in enjoying these exciting programs!

Wednesday, September 11 Cruising New Hampshire History

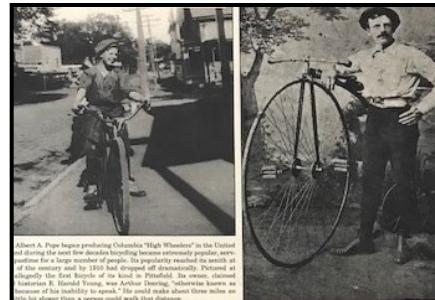
Michael Bruno, a native of New Hampshire, has published a book on the history of the roadside historical markers which dot the countryside. He will explore the history of the markers, some significant information on these markers, and some local marker information specific to our community.

Wednesday, October 9 New Hampshire on High: Historic and Unusual Weathervanes of the Granite State

This program offers a fun and engaging look at the historic and unusual weathervanes found on New Hampshire's churches, town halls, and other public buildings from earliest times to the present. Presented by Glenn Knoblock, this program will trace the history of weathervanes and their practical use and interesting symbolism. This program is available to us through New Hampshire Humanities.

2020 Calendars Are Now For Sale

The 2020 calendar is now available! This year's theme is *Transportation in Pittsfield*. The methods of transportation evolved over time and the calendar has many examples: wagons, trains, bicycles, early cars, motorcycles, and busses. There is also a unique picture of an airplane, piloted by Harry N. Atwood, that landed beside Dr. Frank Sargent's rehabilitation center at 22 Catamount Road. As with all the Historical Society's calendars, there is a brief history explaining each picture!



The cost is still \$10 and they will be available for sale at Old Home Day, the Balloon Rally, and, of course, at the museum! Copies will also be available at Josiah Carpenter Library and the Town Hall. Pick up yours today!