



Members Quarterly Newsletter

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

Accessions

Meeting House Painting



Treasures can be found at yard sales! Art Morse purchased this painting of the Old Meeting House because he recognized the subject, and he then donated it to the Society. The painter is Arthur Eften, who is an unknown, at least to us at the Society. If you have any information on Arthur Eften, please contact the Society.

1927 Photograph

This 1927 photograph was donated by Peter Polshak of Gainesville, FL. It was taken by the Strand Studio in Pittsfield. Notice the style of clothing. Do you recognize anyone? If so, please contact the Historical Society.



Antique Wooden Cart

Thanks to Globe Manufacturing for the donation of an antique wooden cart that was previously used to move various materials. A picture is currently unavailable since the cart is in storage, but you will be able to see it when we open our new museum.

Iron Urns

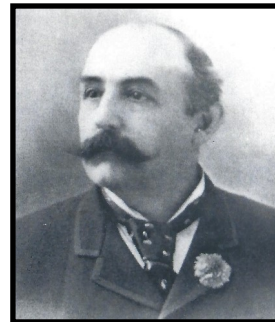
A pair of antique cast-iron urns that were previously placed in front the Josiah Carpenter Library were refurbished by Eli English. They will be on display when the new museum is completed. Thanks to the Josiah Carpenter Library and Mr. English for providing another element of Pittsfield's past that will be enjoyed in the future.

Meeting House Lights

When Pittsfield's Meeting House was modernized, the overhead lighting was removed. Thanks to the foresight of Daniel and Sabra Welch, the light fixtures were "saved" and will be used in the new museum. Daniel and Sabra worked on removing layers of tarnish and then the lights were rewired. When you visit the new museum, look up! Another piece of Pittsfield's history will be on display—and working!

Other items have been donated that will be used in the new museum and these items will be highlighted in future newsletters.

Hall of Fame



At a recent Board meeting, Ferdinand F. French was elected to the Society's Hall of Fame. Mr. French was born in Pittsfield in 1848 and grew up on a large farm located on Eaton Road. He moved to Boston and became a prominent businessman in the carriage manufacturing industry, working in several organizations either selling or producing high-quality carriages that were sold throughout the United States and abroad. He passed away in 1917.

HAPPY NEW YEAR!

2019 Programs

Historical Markers and Weathervanes!

This past year, the Historical Society had a wide variety of programs: *A Walk Back in Time: The Secret of Cellar Holes* presented by Adair Mulligan; *Alice Brown's Tales of New England* presented by the Pontine Theater; *Cruising New Hampshire* presented by Michael Bruno; and *New Hampshire on High: Historic and Unusual Weathervanes* presented by Glenn Knoblock.

Mr. Bruno, the author of *Cruising New Hampshire History*, took us on his exploratory journeys and how he became interested in the roadside historical markers located throughout the state. He explained the process, the research, and the criteria that goes into obtaining the state's approval for each marker. To more fully explain the process, he described in detail the background of three established markers and one proposed site that he is currently exploring.

We in Pittsfield are lucky since the Historical Society has undertaken the project of researching and funding the historical markers found in the Town.



Michael Bruno

Mr. Knoblock's program, *New Hampshire on High: Historic and Unusual Weathervanes of the Granite State*, provided a brief history and explanation of the various features, functions, and shapes of weathervanes. He also detailed how a weathervane is made and weighted so that it turns with the wind! Thanks to Mr. Knoblock, we have a little background on the type of weathervane which now sits upon the new Pittsfield Historical Society's building. This program was made possible by a grant from New Hampshire Humanities.



Glenn Knoblock



Looking for a Gift?

Pittsfield Historical Society's 2020 calendars make great gifts! This year the theme is *Transportation Throughout the Years in Pittsfield* and there are 24 wonderful pictures! Each picture has a brief history explaining the scene and there are some very interesting scenes. The cost is still \$10 per calendar and they are available at the Pittsfield Historical Society, Pittsfield Town Hall, Josiah Carpenter Library, and Pittsfield Senior Center. Enjoy Pittsfield's history every month.



This is the first factory-made school bus used to transport Pittsfield's children to school. The purchase was arranged through Pelissier's Garage. Samuel Marston and his wife flew to Syracuse, New York, and picked up a new, "modern" vehicle. They drove the Ford with its Bender Body back to Pittsfield.

2019 Raffle Winners!

Congratulations to the following winners of the Historical Society's 2019 Raffle:

Bobbie Lacoy	\$100
Bobbie Lacoy	\$ 75
Hardwicke	\$ 75
Koladish	\$ 50

Thanks to all who have purchased tickets to support your local Historical Society! Money raised by this raffle helps to maintain the facility and preserve local artifacts.

Historical Society's Annual Meeting

The Pittsfield Historical Society's Annual Meeting will be held Tuesday, January 14, 2020, at 7:00 p.m. at the Museum, 13 Elm Street, Pittsfield. All are welcome to attend.