Accessions

The Historical Society recently received a World War II Heart-Shield Bible/Catholic Prayer Book, as well as various pins and medals from Ethel Miller. Heart-shield Bibles were designed to fit securely in the chest pocket of a soldier’s uniform. Metal plates were securely attached to the front cover of the Bible to stop a bullet from reaching a soldier’s heart. This Catholic prayer book and manual of prayers and devotional exercises belonged to Cpl. Arthur St. Laurent and is dated September 1943. She also donated a hand-stitched kimono.

Leon and Corine Miller donated a household emergency phone list.

Many thanks for your generous donations.

Winter Woes

During this past cold, cold winter, the furnace at the museum decided to take a vacation! The cold was too much, and it shut down. Well, we all know what happens when the inside temperature reaches a certain point. The pipes freeze and burst! And that is exactly what happened with the pipes in the bathroom. However, there are some very dedicated people on the board who helped fix this problem. First, Fuzz Freese noticed the warning light for cold temperature, then Clayton Wood and Ray Webber nursed the heater back from its vacation—with a little help from Rymes—and they have continuously monitored it. Clayton has stopped by almost daily. Then additional thanks to Ray Webber for fixing the pipes! What a chore! Thanks to everyone who has helped with keeping the museum up and running.

Do You Recognize These Pictures?

Many times, the Society receives very interesting and thought-provoking pictures, but they are lacking any information. We wonder: Who are these people? Where are these places? What are the stories behind these pictures? We’ve selected a few and are hoping that you may be able to identify the people or locations. If you have any thoughts, please contact the Society at 603-435-8004. Thanks, as always, for your help.
2017 Annual Report

The 2017 Annual Report was recently mailed to all members. Please take a moment to read it for a glimpse of the many activities the Pittsfield Historical Society has accomplished during the past year. We couldn’t do any of this without your support and encouragement. We welcome your attendance at our programs and thank you for your purchase of our yearly raffle tickets, calendars, and various articles. But more importantly, we thank you for supporting the Society with your membership dues. Your dues fund our activities, pay the bills and maintain the Museum—particularly the furnace that decided to stop. If you haven’t done so already, please take a moment to mail in your dues. Thanks for all your support.

2018 Calendars

As you can see from the 2018 list of Board Members, Fuzz Freese has resigned. He had difficulty attending meetings last year and anticipated the same this year. Fuzz has been on the board for numerous years, but he has assured us that he will still participate in any activity that fits his schedule. We’re holding him to his promise. Thanks, Fuzz!

“When It Began” by Larry Berkson

In 1868 a lodge of the Good Templars was organized in Pittsfield and held regular weekly meetings in the Central Block Hall, located on the recent site of the Tuttle Block destroyed by fire in 2001. The fraternal order was created to further the cause of temperance and total abstinence from the use of alcohol. Unlike many of the organizations of the time, it admitted both men and women and individuals of all races. (The Gazette, January, 1867)