



Members Quarterly Newsletter

Issue LV
1st. quarter, March 2021

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

Accessions

Many thanks to Lucille Noel for donating various items pertaining to Pittsfield's history. Some items were from the horse shows at the Pittsfield Fair: a 1931 silver cup for a single draft horse; a 1931 blue ribbon, a 1932 gold ribbon, and a 1930 red ribbon. There also was 1931 class list with the officers and rules and a 1931 program.



Winning Ribbons

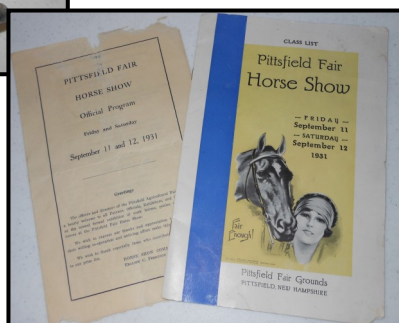
Other items from the fair included badges and horse number. Also donated by Lucille were two menus from the Washington House and some town reports.



Winner's Cup



Various Badges



Class List and Program-1931

Annual Report

The Pittsfield Historical Society's 2020 Annual Report is dedicated to Jim Parker and Ray Webber III because of their tremendous efforts and leadership in building our new, spacious, and modern headquarters and museum. Both Jim and Ray have devoted many hours in completing the groundwork and the construction of the building. Both men have saved us thousands of dollars and helped ensure our new building will be completed in the most professional way possible.

Thank you Jim and Ray!



Jim Parker and Ray Webber, III

Membership

Pittsfield Historical Society, Inc. 13 Elm Street Pittsfield, NH 03263	Name	_____
	Address	_____
	Telephone No.	_____
	Email Address	_____
	DUES FOR _____ ARE NOW PAYABLE.	
Please Check Membership Level:	<input type="checkbox"/> Senior/Student Membership <input type="checkbox"/> Individual Membership <input type="checkbox"/> Family Membership <input type="checkbox"/> Sustaining Membership <input type="checkbox"/> Contributing Membership <input type="checkbox"/> Supporting Membership <input type="checkbox"/> Patron Membership	\$ 20.00 \$ 25.00 \$ 30.00 \$ 50.00 \$ 75.00 \$ 100.00 \$ 250.00
Make checks payable to: Pittsfield Historical Society Mail to: P.H.S., Inc. • Treasurer • P.O. Box 173 • Pittsfield, NH 03263		

Please Join Us!

Thank You!

The Society would like to give a huge shout out to each and every one of our members. Do you realize how very important you are to us? Dedicated members who pay their dues are what keep this organization afloat. When you are willing to commit to a membership, we know you appreciate our mission and are willing to support us in our endeavors to keep Pittsfield's history alive. Membership dues also support the infrastructure of the Society. They pay for office supplies, heat, water, insurance, and to keep the lights on. Dues also ensure that we have the funds to participate in programs such as NH Humanities to Go, which provides speakers on wonderful topics that sometimes make up a portion of our annual program offerings.

Pittsfield Historical Society members come in all shapes and sizes, and from many places. They are current residents who encourage us with kind words and offers to volunteer their time and participation when we need them. They are former residents who love to stay in touch with their old Pittsfield by visiting the museum during Old Home Day or Balloon Rally, purchasing our calendars and books, and reading our newsletters for information of our programs and events. They are genealogical researchers who call or visit the museum to ask for help with ancestral histories, photos, and burial sites. They are brand new Pittsfield citizens who want to know more about the old home they just purchased, or who may join on the spot when they've only stopped by to see what the Historical Society does!

There are many facets to our Society, and every facet is touched by or influenced in some way by our members. We love to hear from you, and we truly appreciate when you choose to share your time and treasures with us. So, thank you for your loyalty and thank you for your dedication. We will continue to uphold our mission "...to educate the public about the significance of Pittsfield's past and its relevance and relationship to the lives of the citizens of Pittsfield today." Please contact us through our website, www.pittsfieldhistory.com if you have ideas of further ways to improve our Society.

2021 Board of Directors

At the Annual Meeting of Pittsfield Historical Society held in January, the following officers were elected:

President:	Liz Dimmick
Vice President:	Martha Moloy
Treasurer:	Clayton Wood
Secretary:	David Harper

The following people are members of the Board of Directors:

Larry Berkson	Bill Provencal
Joe Darrah	Mark Riel
Levi Gallup	Art Laro
Jaime Koladish	Ray Webber

Gail Allard, a long-time board member, resigned as a board member; however, she will remain active as a member of the Tuesday Morning Crew, and on the following committees: membership, calendar, and media indexing.

Thank you, Gail, for your support and dedication throughout the years!

Honor Someone Special!

Buy A Commemorative Brick!

A commemorative garden is being created on the grounds of the new museum. "BUY-A-BRICK" to honor whomever you wish, including yourself, your family, friends, business, or event. The bricks cost \$100 each and may be engraved with 3 lines of 18 characters each for a 4"x8" brick purchase. A commemorative certificate is also available for an additional \$15.

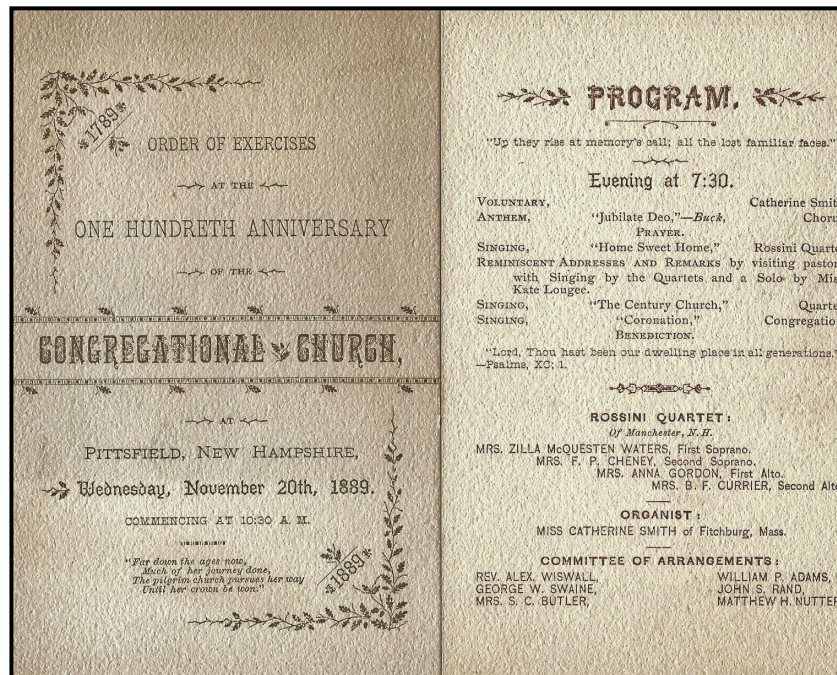


One Hundreth Anniversary Congregational Church

As you know, volunteers have been packing various items in preparation to move to the new building. One of the items we found was the program for the One Hundreth Anniversary of the Congregational Church.

On November 20, 1889, the Congregational Church in Pittsfield celebrated its One Hundreth Anniversary. The pastor at that time was Rev. Alexander Wiswall and the Deacons were W.C. Adams; S. R. Watson, and M.H. Nutter. It was an all-day celebration starting at 10:30 with a Social Greeting; an afternoon service at 1:30; and the evening service at 7:30 p.m. The services were singing, prayers, and addresses. The organist for the celebration was Miss Catherine Smith of Fitchburg, MA. (Spelling duplicates the program.)

*For down the ages now,
Much of her journey done
The pilgrim church pursues her way
Until her crown be won*



Do You Know Where This Is?



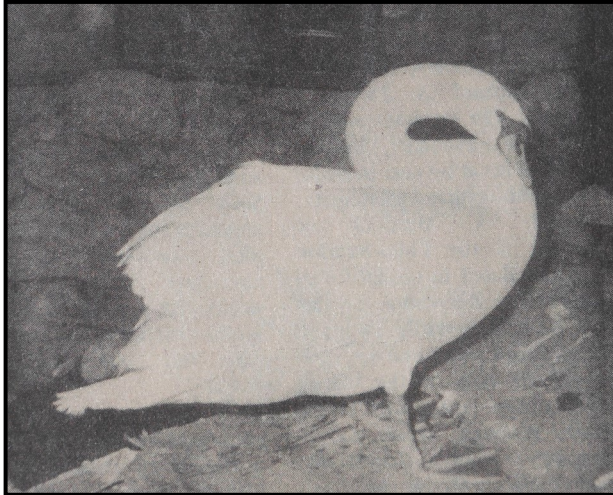
Again, while packing, we found some pictures with no names. Do you happen to know where this picture was taken?

If so, please call the Society at 603-435-8004.

Pittsfield's Romeo and Juliet

Information from the *Pittsfield Paper*: 1972-73

Did you know that Pittsfield had two mascots—Romeo and Juliet—a pair of swans that made their home on the Suncook River and surrounding bodies of water? In the early 1970s, Juliet was purchased by the townspeople to keep Romeo company. However, it was not a match made in heaven and Romeo, as they say, flew the coop. Juliet couldn't fly since her wings were clipped to prevent her escape to the wild. But don't feel sorry for Juliet since the townspeople raised funds to provide a winter haven—not in Florida—but in Acushet, MA. She returned in the spring of 1972. By now, she could fly short distances, so she was seen around Pittsfield.



Juliet

But Juliet was lonely without her Romeo, so Mr. Andre Hale, Acushnet, MA offered a choice of 2 males for \$125—if the town wanted to buy one. But alas, it seemed Juliet was alone the summer of 1972. In November 1972, Mr. and Mrs. James Olson, of Wollaston, MA, who had a seasonal home at Locke Lake in North Barnstead, read about Juliet's plight and agreed to buy a male swan from Mr. Hall. They wanted to do something for their adopted hometown.

In December 1972, it was time to move to her winter quarters, but Juliet proved elusive. She traveled up the Suncook River to Barnstead Parade. Mr. Harvey Locke, who lived along the Suncook River, had been feeding her, but it was time to move to winter quarters.

When the smallest channel of the Suncook River in Barnstead Parade froze, Juliet flew to Chichester. Unable to find open water there, she flew to Northwood Lake (Epsom/Northwood town line). This small channel usually stays open all year and her diet would be supplemented with high protein corn provided by local fans. However, poor Juliet, the channel did freeze this year, and she was not fairing well in below zero temperatures.

It was time to save—capture—poor Juliet!

Brave volunteers tried to capture her with nets, but Juliet eluded them. Mr. Jim Dooley came close, but then the ice collapsed, and he went in the water. He was rescued, but by this time Juliet couldn't fly because of the ice pack on her wings. But volunteers prevailed. Ken Magoon, Thomas Toule, and Luke Barton finally captured Juliet when she ran into Mr. Barton. After a brief stay with Mr. Magoon, Juliet would be transported to her winter residence in Acushet, MA where she would meet her new Romeo! However, before her travel to Massachusetts, she made her T. V. debut on January 19, 1973, on WMUR.



Romeo and Juliet

Not wanting to ship the pair again, plans were made to prepare a pen for the couple so they could spend the winters in Pittsfield.

There are rumors that the "swan" that graces Globe Manufacturing's pond is a tribute to Juliet. Is that true?