



Members Quarterly Newsletter

Issue LX
2nd quarter, June 2022

Pittsfield Historical Society
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Pittsfield, NH 03263
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Pittsfield, New Hampshire – The Gem of the Suncook Valley
Liz Dimmick & Bill Provencal, co-editors

Spring Clean-up at Lyman Park

Volunteers gathered on a recent Saturday to clean, weed, and plant Lyman Park. Many thanks to Pleasant View Gardens for donating the various plants that provide this gem of an oasis with an abundance of colors. Their continued support is greatly appreciated, not only by the members of the Historical Society, but also by the people of Pittsfield.

Many thanks to Judy Webber for all the preparation she did on the grounds prior to everyone's arrival. Because of her prep work, the garden with the lilies received a "make over." Others who worked on the park include Fuzz Freese, Susan Carbon, Art Laro, Ray Webber, Larry Berkson, Donna Webber, Liz Dimmick, and Jaime Koladish and her "crew" of Oliver Koladish, Rose Koladish, and Maggie (Rose's friend).



Fuzz Freese



Rose Koladish, Jaime Koladish, and Maggie

*Many Thanks to Pleasant View Gardens for the Colorful
Flowers Planted at Lyman Park.*

Sanborn Mills Farm

Perfect evening weather was on tap for our June program touring Sanborn Mills Farm in Loudon!

Sixty-five adults and youth gathered and were greeted by owner Colin Cabot. Colin provided us with a glimpse of the past when touring the buildings and witnessing the grist mill, as well as the recently resurrected "up-and-down saw" in operation.

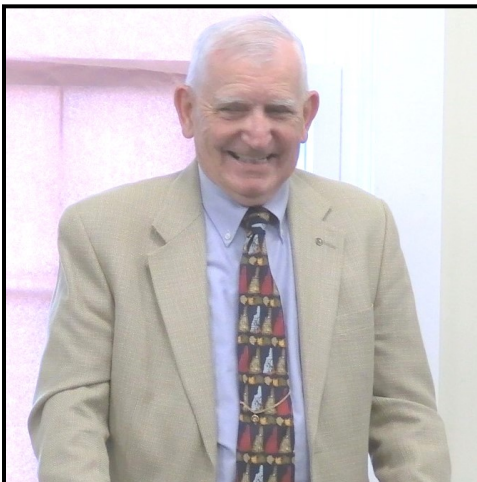
Thank you for taking the time out of your busy schedules to join us!

Up-and-Down
Saw Mill



Thank You, Art Morse!

For the Historical Society's first program after a long hiatus, Art Morse presented an excellent and detailed history of *The Suncook Valley Sun*. The *Sun*, as it was familiarly known, was a staple of the community for numerous years and is missed by many. He related how and when he acquired the paper and some of the highs and lows of operating it. If you are interested, Art donated an overview to the Society on the history of the *Sun* which you are able to read. Stop by and see it.



Yearly Membership

Your membership is important to the Historical Society.

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.

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.

Save the Dates

Historic Shoemaker

On Wednesday, September 14, Bruce Graham, a shoemaker who makes historically accurate 18th century footwear, will present explain, and show the tools of his craft. His main customers are historical re-enactors who want historically accurate garb, right down to the shoes. He will also provide a brief history of local shoemakers.

This program will be held at the museum at 7:00 p.m. and is free and open to the public.

Pittsfield Center Historic District

On Wednesday, Oct. 12, Harry and Leslie Vogt will discuss Pittsfield's Historic District and the key factors that were considered when the historic designation was made by the National Park Service. The **Pittsfield Center Historic District** encompasses the civic and commercial heart of Pittsfield. This area is defined by a roughly square bend in the Suncook River, whose power provided an impetus for the development of the town in the 19th century. Learn why this area is considered historic.

This program will be held at the museum at 7:00 p.m. and is free and open to the public.

Join the Pittsfield Historical Society at the Balloon Rally!

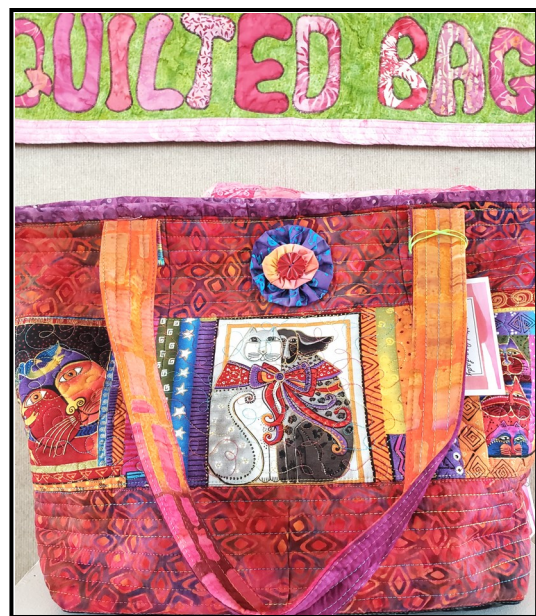
August 5-7

This year, the Historical Society has been organizing the Craft Fair which is open on Saturday, August 6! Previously, this was the responsibility of PYW (Pittsfield Youth Workshop). However, two years ago, they decided to concentrate their fundraising efforts in another direction. The Historical Society was offered the opportunity to coordinate this event, and the Board of Directors believed this would be an ideal fundraising event for the Museum. However, 2020 and 2021 were not good years for any type of activity, and the Balloon Rally was canceled. Therefore, this is our first venture organizing the Craft Fair.

Numerous crafts people have signed up and there will be a wide variety of crafts available.

So please look for the Historical Society booth. We will be over towards the river, near the Craft Fair. We will offer the 2023 Calendar, Anniversary T-shirts, books, and a 50/50 Raffle!

See you there!



Examples of crafts that will be available at the
Craft Fair

Pittsfield's Old Home Day—Saturday, July 23

In addition to the parade, introducing the 2022 Citizen of the Year, acknowledging the recipient of the Boston Post Cane, games, food, and a movie, the Pittsfield Historical Society will be hosting the Grand Opening of its new museum at 4 Oak Street. Numerous volunteers, guided by Larry Berkson, have dedicated many hours making this dream a reality. The new museum will have a dedication ceremony at 2:00 p.m. on Saturday, July 23, during the Old Home Day celebrations.

Please join us for your first glimpse of this wonderful building and all the hidden gems from Pittsfield's past.

Come Celebrate with Us

*The Pittsfield Historical Society
cordially invites you to attend the
Grand Opening
of our new Museum.*

*We would be honored by your
presence at this historic event.*

*July 23, 2022 at the hour of 2:pm
4 Oak Street, Pittsfield, NH*

Rain or Shine

A Historic Moment in Time



Come, Be A Part Of History

Welcome and Introduction

Liz Dimmick

President of the Pittsfield Historical Society

Acknowledgements

Larry Berkson

*Pittsfield Historian and Member of the Board
Pittsfield Historical Society*

Keynote Speaker

Joe McQuaid

Editor at Large, Union Leader

Special Guest

Carole Richardson

Pittsfield Select Board

Closing Remarks

Liz Dimmick

President of the Pittsfield Historical Society

Ribbon Cutting

Grand Opening of the new

Pittsfield Historical Society Museum

Let The Doors Swing Open

*Following our brief
Grand Opening Ceremony,
the Museum will be Open to All.
Come Tour This Exciting New Facility!*

- *New Displays*
- *Expanded Displays*
- *Docents On Hand to Provide
History and Answer Questions,
Throughout the Museum.*
- *View Items Never Before
Presented to the Public*
- *Meet Benefactors, Guests,
Volunteers,
Other Members & Directors*
- *Refreshments Available*
- *Free Commemorative Gift
for All 2022 Members*

Thank You, For Being A Member

The Pittsfield Historical Society was founded on April 12, 1971 at the home of J. Frank Drake.

*At that meeting the group established the Articles of Association and the By-Laws.
Meetings were first held at the Masonic Hall, then the Memorial and Grammar Schools.*

The Society sponsored programs and collected materials for the museum.

During the 1980s the organization became dormant.

In 1997, Harriet Ames and a few of the old directors invited

Bob Moulton and Larry Berkson to reorganize and rejuvenate the Society.

They agreed, and worked with John Varney to purchase Dustin Hall, then owned by the Grange.

They remodeled the building and set up a museum.

*Soon a series of monthly programs began, and major projects were undertaken.
Many volunteers have worked endless hours to create the organization that it is today.*