



# Members Quarterly Newsletter

Issue LIX  
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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

## Programs are Back!

After a two-year hiatus, the Historical Society will resume their annual programs. I know many of you toured Sanborn Mills Farm last fall, and it was a great program! We were comfortable promoting that program since it was an outside tour, and we could be socially distant. Now, we will be hosting programs in our new building. Look forward to seeing you there.

### History of *The Suncook Valley Sun*

Presented by Art Morse  
Wednesday, May 11  
7:00 p.m.  
Pittsfield Historical Society  
4 Oak Street

The first program this year is the history of  
*The Suncook Valley Sun*.

How many of us miss *The Suncook Valley Sun*? I bet all 8,000 of the people in our surrounding towns who had the chance to receive the Sun felt a void in their life the day it stopped running in 2019. This weekly wealth of knowledge, printed and delivered to your door, connected you with your town and the surrounding communities. You could find a plumber, know whose birthday it was, and find out the theme of Old Home Day all in one glance. You could hold it in your hand and keep it on your counter for reference without ever having to “log in.” It was our local news source. Having this small local newspaper for Pittsfield, Barnstead, Chichester, Northwood, and Epsom is now sadly a thing of our past.



## Future Programs

Future programs include a tour of Sanborn Mills Farm located in Loudon—June 8.

Bruce Graham, who makes historically accurate 18<sup>th</sup>-century footwear, will discuss the process and provide a history of local shoemakers—September 14.

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—October 12.

### Pittsfield Historical Society's Facebook Page

Want another way to connect with Pittsfield and its rich history?

**Pittsfield NH History** is our official Facebook page, and we are excited to announce that it is rapidly becoming popular with folks near and far. The Group page is a place where its members enjoy and share the history of our community, centuries past, decades past, and of more recent times.

**Pittsfield NH History** is a place where, together, we can keep history alive, honor those who came before us, and share the stories of our common past. You will also find announcements, program notices, and bits of news regarding current events at the **Pittsfield Historical Society**.

## Historical Society at Literacy Night

Thanks to the organizational and creative skills of Jaime Koladish and with the help of Mark Riel, the Pittsfield Historical Society participated in the Pittsfield PTO's **Literacy Night**, on February 23, at the elementary school. The theme was "around the world," and the students were given a "passport" that was stamped at each location they visited. Our location and corresponding craft project highlighted the journeys of John Cram, Pittsfield's early founder. We also gave away books written by Larry Berkson, to promote the history of Pittsfield,

Remember, the Society is not only a place to house artifacts, but we are also an active member of the community.



## Yearly Membership

Recently you received a letter requesting your support in our yearly membership drive. Many of you have responded; but if you haven't, please take a moment now to complete the membership card and return it to the Pittsfield Historical Society. Membership applications can be found on our website: [pittsfieldhistory.com](http://pittsfieldhistory.com)

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. 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."

## 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 Moley
Treasurer:	Clayton Wood
Secretary:	David Harper

The following people are members of the Board of Directors:

Larry Berkson	Art Laro
Joe Darrah	Martha Moley
Liz Dimmick	Bill Provencal
Levi Gallup	Mark Riel
David Harper	Ray Webber III
Jaime Koladish	Clayton Wood

## Let's Take a Tour.

We're almost ready to have a Grand Opening of the new museum. Here is a preview of some of the displays in the museum! Let's take a quick tour.

### Piano-Organ

Although this instrument looks like an upright piano, the pedals must be pumped to hear any sound. The Peaslee family, a Quaker family and one of the first settlers of Pittsfield, purchased this piano-organ in 1894. Elizabeth Peaslee, born in 1893, was the last to own the piano-organ.

Betty Ann (Clark) Lord, formerly of Pittsfield, donated this unique instrument to the Pittsfield Historical Society. Elizabeth, a family friend, had given it to her. Mrs. Lord had it in her Hopkinton home over 40 years ago.

There is more to this piano-organ's history, so please visit it when you come to the museum.



### Globe Display

Thanks to Gef Freese, Stephanie McQuade, and Doug Towle, the Globe Manufacturing display is complete. Although the museum cannot house all the memorabilia on the history of the Globe, these three individuals have captured the essence of the company in this display. There are various styles of coats, some on mannequins, boots, and bobbleheads! This may be a rotating exhibit, and in the future other items will be displayed. We also hope to have a future program on the Globe.



Series of Bobbleheads  
and memorabilia



Jacket

## Fire Equipment Display

Most of you have seen the old fire wagon displayed at Old Home Day. Now it is residing at the museum for all to see. There is also other equipment used by firefighters on display, and these photographs show only a few of the items. You will be amazed at the various pieces of equipment when you visit!



Fire Wagon



Assortment of hats, buckets, and pumps

## Railroad Display

Here is just a preview of the various railroad items that are on display. There are numerous pictures, a seat that "reverses," sample tickets, and signs. A piece of the rail and a tie are displayed on the cart. On the outside of the building, you'll notice that one piece of edging is a length of rail.

