



Members Quarterly Newsletter

Issue LX I
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Pittsfield Historical Society
4 Oak Street
Pittsfield, NH 03263
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Pittsfield, New Hampshire – The Gem of the Suncook Valley
Liz Dimmick & Bill Provencal, co-editors

Accessions

Edison Disc Phonograph

Thanks to Caroline Tricca for donating this Edison Disc Phonograph. After many years it made its way back to Pittsfield, thanks to Ms. Tricca. This phonograph was originally owned by Georgianna Butters Drake when she was growing up at her father's house at 51 Main Street, Pittsfield.

In 1877, after her marriage to Josiah Carpenter, the couple moved to Manchester. Sometime later, the phonograph became part of her household. After her death in 1937, it was brought back to the family homestead in Pittsfield and placed in the left front room. The phonograph traveled to Canton, MA after being sold at an estate sale.

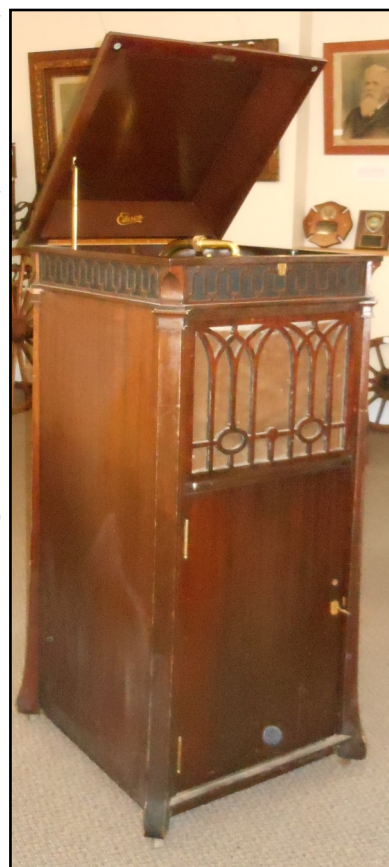
This August, it was donated to the Pittsfield Historical Society by Mrs. Tricca, who is the granddaughter of Agnes (Drake) Foss and grandniece of Frank Drake.



Turntable

The history of this phonograph was provided by Agnes F. (Drake) Bender.

Edison Disc Phonograph



Generous people have donated many other items. Robert Silveris donated a warrant for Jocky Fogg; Margaret Chagnon donated pictures of the fires of the Washington House and the Pittsfield Tannery; Mary Briggs donated copies of *The Valley Times* and the *Manchester Union Leader*, and other items; Paula Dickinson donated many sports-related items and pictures; and Lori Emerson donated many items pertaining to Hiram Tuttle. Hiram Tuttle, a local businessman, was also a politician and the 43rd governor of New Hampshire. Charlene Morin donated a chapter on Walter Bishop and a book about the *USS Scorpion*. Walter Bishop was from Pittsfield and was chief of the boat (COB) on the last voyage of the *USS Scorpion*, a nuclear submarine which sank.

Program-Save the Date

Curious about Pittsfield's Historic

District?

Harry 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! You may be surprised to learn of many interesting facts and little-known information surrounding this area.

Please join us!

Wednesday, October 12

7:00 p.m.

**Pittsfield Historical Society
4 Oak Street**

This program is free and open to the public.



Did You Attend This Program?

Bruce Graham, an Old-fashioned Cordwainer

Bruce Graham, a local man from Northwood, presented some of the history of shoemaking in Pittsfield and in surrounding areas. He shared many anecdotes of his shoemaking craft, and he showed us some tools that are used in the craft. He later demonstrated how a shoe was made. Not an easy task! Did you know that originally there wasn't a left or right shoe? The shoe was formed after wearing it.

He graciously answered our numerous questions. Thank you, Bruce and Penny (his wife).

Historical Society Now Offers

Videos!

Thanks to new video equipment, and Harry Vogt who has manned this equipment, the Historical Society now has videos of our grand opening and recent programs: Art Morse and the *Suncook Valley Sun* and Bruce Graham on the art of the cordwainer. Future programs, Harry Vogt and Pittsfield Historic District, will also be captured. These videos are on our website so please take a moment to see what is available.

www.pittsfieldhistory.com

Have You Checked Out Our Facebook Page?

Pittsfield NH History is an excellent place to discover photographs, articles, observations and musings regarding our great town. Regular postings provide historical images and information that intrigue the mind and inspire memories. Come see why 1,100+ members regularly visit this page and engage with one another in remembering and commemorating Pittsfield. Simply request to join. There is no charge to be a member of this exclusive Group.

Thanks to Levi Gallup for managing the page.



2023 Calendar is Now on Sale!

The 2023 calendar is a treasure trove of intriguing facts describing the various displays in the new museum. There are so many interesting displays that it would take hours to see them all. The calendar offers you an opportunity to see some of the items on display, and there are some items that have never been displayed because of lack of space.

Twenty-six pictures showcase both the exterior features as well as some of the historic displays. There are items from the Civil War, memorabilia of the Washington House, as well as historic equipment from the fire department and police department.

The calendar costs \$15 and is available at the Town Hall, the Josiah Carpenter Library, at the museum, or call or text Fuzz at 603-848-4488.

Please support your historical society and purchase a calendar!



Globe Manufacturing
Display



Brigadier General Harrison
Thyng's Display



Vintage Fire Extinguishers

Lyman Park

Did you notice Lyman Park during the summer? Thanks to Pleasant View Gardens and their choice of flowers and the work of many volunteers, the park was a colorful oasis during the summer months. It was also the background for this year's Old Home Day Parade's reviewing stand.

Thanks to all the volunteers who worked on Lyman Park and especially to Joe Darrah and his "crew" who were the most consistent workers.

Thyng Memorial

When you go by the Thyng Memorial and notice that it's sporting "strange" colors, don't be surprised. It's not an early "trick or treat" prank. It's an indication that the Memorial has been cleaned.

It was time for the Memorial to receive some needed cleaning and refurbishing since there was some lichen on the monument and some caulking needed replacement. When the solution used to clean the memorial comes in contact with the lichen, the lichen has a tendency to change colors. This is only temporary and will soon disappear. So be on the look-out for some "strange" views!

Did you notice the picture of the Thyng Memorial in NH Sunday News on Sept. 11? Excellent recognition of the monument and Pittsfield!

Old Home Day Parade

The Historical Society was very much a part of the Old Home Day Celebrations this year. Not only did the Society celebrate the Grand Opening of the new museum, board members and volunteers participated in the Old Home Day Parade. To emphasize our true goal, some of the parade participants representing the Historical Society dressed the "old fashioned way" and drove a vintage car!

Many thanks to the entire Koladish family—Jaime, Rose, Marie and Oliver, who walked in the parade, and Luke, who drove the car. Thanks also to Levi and Jean Gallup and Art Laro, who also walked the parade.

Finally, a big thanks to Bill Miskoe, who graciously allowed the Historical Society to borrow "Alice," his 1940 Buick Coupe Special, for the parade.



Rose and Marie Koladish, Art Laro
Levi and Jean Gallup
Jaime and Oliver Koladish



"Alice" 1940 Buick Coupe Special, driven by Luke Koladish

Oliver Koladish, Levi Gallup, and Jaime Koladish