



Freedom Historical Society

“Preserving Freedom’s past
For future generations”

www.freedomhistoricalsociety.org

Mid-year Update, 2012

Dear Members,

You are indeed a valued and unique group of people. Of all the residents and friends of Freedom, you are one of only 10% of our population who belong to the Historical Society. Of course, some of you live elsewhere and still generously support us. We have 108 members so far this year, up 54% over last year’s membership. And, membership income is better too. I am pleased to report that we are, so far, on-target to reach our 2012 income budget of \$8,600. So we are making progress thanks to you!!

Beyond membership we have many positives this year that I would like to report to you.

1. The Society’s 2012 programs have been a big hit so far! The “Art of the White Mountains” was excellent and scholarly-we all learned something. The “Fire of 1947” drew a crowd of about 100 people, which is a record-breaker for the Society, I believe. And the personal stories and recollections of the fires in Freedom were all videotaped for posterity. It was nice to see Effingham and Madison residents present. In case you have forgotten, here is the list of the remaining programs (don’t miss out!):

JULY 18- NEW HAMPSHIRE BARNs. Speaker: John Porter; Presentation on the many examples of barns seen in the Granite State through the years

AUGUST 15 -NEW HAMPSHIRE GRANGES. Speaker: Steve Taylor; The rise, the triumphs and the eventual decline of the Grange Movement in N.H.

SEPTEMBER 19- 17th & 18th CENTURY NATIVE AMERICAN HISTORY IN NEW HAMPSHIRE. Speaker: David Stewart-Smith; NH Indians and their interactions with the colonists

OCTOBER 17- NEW HAMPSHIRE TOWNS & THE CIVIL WAR. Speaker: Jere Daniell; A focus on town actions and community responses in New Hampshire during the war. This program includes our Annual Meeting and a POT LUCK SUPPER starting at 6 PM.

2. The 2013 Freedom Historical Society calendar has just been released (June 29th) and it looks fantastic! In full color this year, it contains beautiful photos of Freedom barns. Copies are available at the Freedom Village Store or at the Allard House or by contacting Dick Many at 301-1107; but act now as it’s a limited edition with only 200 printed. Kudos to Bonnie and her committee who put together the photo contest and produced the calendar. The professional, amateur, and youth winners of the photo contest are:

January: Joe Viger, Professional
 February: Dick Many, Amateur
 March: Maureen Elliott, Amateur
 April: Silas Feuerborn, Student
 May: Sherry Rehm, Amateur
 June: Libby Priebe, Amateur
 July: Karen Hatch, Amateur
 August: Joe Viger, Professional
 September: Agnes Walls, Amateur
 October: Bonnie Burroughs, Amateur
 November: Silas Feuerborn, Student
 December: Sue Hoople, Amateur



Cover: Bonnie Burroughs

You can start collecting new photos for 2014 calendar now since the contest committee has announced the theme already: **“Freedom Community”**: **Submit photographs that capture the character and beauty of Freedom’s community including aspects of family life depicted in events and seasonal pastimes.** The deadline for submittal will be announced later.

3. Most buildings & grounds repair tasks left over from last year (roof, chimney and window leaks, re-surfaced driveway, etc.) have been completed and the place is looking good. Beyond the roof painting, which will be done professionally, we have one more task to finish. On July 13 & 14, we will have a volunteer party to paint the north side of the Allard house. Please come and help if you are able.

4. The Freedom Elementary School kids visited us on June 11th for a tour of four areas of the house and barn. The kids (kindergarten, 2nd and 3rd grades) and our 4 volunteer docents (Board members) all had a great time- and we all learned something. See the photos on our website at www.freedomhistoricalsociety.org.



5. The museum collection in the Works Barn is now being labeled and entered into our Past Perfect software database which includes a photo of each item. This will be a slow process (have you seen how many items are in the barn!?). This process has already been done for the collection in the Allard House (over 1,000 items). Check out the many notebooks in the Freedom Public Library (thanks to Ed Boyer and others) if you want a glimpse of what is recorded. The expectation is that, once complete, anyone can come into the Society and do research by item type, name, or collection category. We are trying to make Freedom’s wonderful museum accessible and useful to all.

6. Our 2012 11-member Board is doing very well with focusing on the Society's mission and making improvements. We have maintained a near 100% attendance at all monthly board meetings, so you can see that the group is committed. In case you have forgotten who they are: Bonnie Burroughs, Gale Morris, Dotty Brooks, Scott Cunningham, Art Robinson, Sylvia Carney, Ellen Many, Dick Many, Nadine Chapman, Tom Luke and John Shipman. They, and our volunteers, are the energy that keeps things going.
7. We would like to announce at this time an exciting (and tasty!) fundraising event. The Society is raffling off tickets for a fine New England "comfort food" dinner for four with all the fixin's, to be held in the Allard house dining room. Some fine local chefs (Board members and friends) have created a special menu to delight and satisfy. Look for tickets available around Freedom or call Sylvia Carney (539-5799) or e-mail sylviacarney@roadrunner.com... Don't miss this great opportunity!

"So what can I do?" Your membership does so much to help us, but of course we always have needs. These include:

- **Tell a friend or neighbor** about the Society and ask them to join. This would be a great help and aid us enormously.
- **Help with items not in our budget.** This year's spring cleaning went very well, but we found that several curtains in the house had deteriorated to the point where they must be replaced. Some UV shades we use to protect the collection are in similar condition. We need between \$400 and \$500 to remedy this problem. Included at the end of this letter is a form you can submit to help us out with these non-budgeted needs.
- **Help us with the collection.** Identify and enter the Works barn collection into the Society's database. It is not difficult and we have a methodology -- what we need are people with attention to detail, rudimentary computer skills, and/or knowledge about tools (be part of a team). Please call John Shipman (539-5799) or e-mail jshipman120@gmail.com to help us.
- **Come to the FHS presentation to the Freedom Community Club.** In September come hear an update about what is going on at the Freedom Historical Society, and enjoy a great meal. Call Dean Robinson (539-8617) if you can make it.

We greatly appreciate your support! Please come by on Saturdays between 10 and 12 and EXPLORE your historical society.

Sincerely,



John Shipman, President

Can you help us?

Unfortunately, we did not budget for the following items which were found deteriorated during the 2012 spring cleaning. These are necessary to protect the collection and maintain the charm of the Allard House. Please just indicate what items you would like to support and send a check for whatever you can afford. Very much appreciated!! Ultimately we need \$404.

_____ 8 Curtains \$282
 _____ 12 Curtains rods \$60
 _____ 4 Roller shades \$ \$30
 _____ 2 UV shades for the Works Barn (upstairs) to protect clothing \$32

For a Friend or Neighbor! 2012 MEMBERSHIP FORM

"Preserving Freedom's Past for Future Generations"

Yes, I/we would like to support the **Freedom Historical Society** by starting/renewing my membership. Enclosed is a check in the amount of:

Angel \$ _____; Sponsoring Member \$100; Contributing Member \$50.
 Family \$25; Individual \$10

Name: (as you would like it listed in the program)

_____ Mailing Address:

_____ Zip Code _____

Winter Address (if applicable): _____

_____ Zip Code _____

Email Address: _____

Please check here if you would like your newsletter emailed Contact me about volunteering
 yes, you may publish my name as a member

I was invited to join by this member _____

Please return this form with your check to: **Freedom Historical Society, PO Box 548
 Freedom, New Hampshire 03836**

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