



**Freedom
Historical Society
January 2012**

“Preserving Freedom’s past
For future generations”

www.freedomhistoricalsociety.org

Dear Members and Friends,

I must start off explaining why we have sent this letter to you addressed “Postal Patron”. Seems odd doesn’t it, since we know many of you? But the honest answer is that we reach the most people for the least cost with this method. I hope you appreciate our paying attention to the bottom line!

Membership Request

This letter is our annual appeal for membership and includes a summary of the status of the organization (see following pages). Since we can’t survive without **YOU**, I would like to respectfully ask that you take a moment to renew or initiate your 2012 membership (see enclosed envelope). Our goal for 2012 is to have at least 10% of Freedom’s population be members. **Please help us reach our goal!!**

Why do we need more members? Of course we want you to enjoy the historical collections and information available in the museum, and learn more about Freedom’s past. Along with that you should know that it takes over \$7,000 annually to run the Society; between collections, facilities maintenance and upgrades, insurance, programs, mailings, etc., it all adds up. Keep in mind that we have no employees- FHS is entirely run by volunteers. The one thing missing in our budget is a maintenance fund reserve to tackle the larger facility issues that arise over time. We have been fortunate that the Town allocated \$10,000 in 2009 and again in 2010 to make safety improvements but now we need to set up and fund a reserve for major maintenance & safety upgrades that will happen in the future.

“So what can I do?” This is where your membership is so vital - we must be able to maintain our great facilities for generations to come! It is our sincere hope that you will join us now if you are not a current member and that current 2011 members will upgrade to the next giving level for 2012. See the list at the end of this newsletter if you are not sure if you are a current member.

Membership Levels: Angel \$____; Sponsoring Member \$100;
 Contributing Member \$50; Family \$25; Individual \$10

We greatly appreciate your support!
Sincerely, John Shipman, President

NEWSLETTER FROM THE SOCIETY

In this Newsletter, I would like to answer questions that may be on your mind:

“What does the Freedom Historical Society do for ME?” Good question. The answer involves:

- **Preserving the History of Freedom.** The collections at the Allard House and Works Barn preserve valuable historical town records, family records/histories and collected items that reflect what life was like just before and after the turn of the 20th century. You, your children, grandchildren and their children can view and enjoy the collections now and in the future. History is a valuable resource and it takes effort to preserve it.
- **Presenting Historical Programs.** Below you will see a list of programs that were presented in 2011 and from the very favorable attendance and response, it is clear that these programs were a hit. We look forward to continuing and improving the programs in 2012 and to your attendance and support.
- **Providing Museum Memberships.** We are happy to continue the mission of the Society by maintaining and staffing the Allard House and Works Barn for your viewing and research pleasure. We will continue to offer a family admission pass to the Willowbrook Village Museum (<http://www.willowbrookmuseum.org/>). This village, in nearby Newfield Maine, is a must see for any history buff. We have had good response in 2011.
- **Contributing to the Pride of our Town and its Sense of Place.** As you all know, Freedom is a special place and many locations in New Hampshire and beyond do not have what we have. Our members help by making sure this sense of place continues and that our historical artifacts and documents are preserved.

“What did the Society accomplish in 2011?” Highlight above were the 2011 programs which reached all-time attendance records. These programs (by month) were: May: Rufus Porter Museum, presented by Bob Boggs; June: Thomas Edison as portrayed by John Hively; July: Stonewalls, Cellar Holes and other Stoneworks: “Our Heritage and Treasures”, presented by Carol Foord and Michael Gaudette; August: King Phillip’s War, presented by Michael Tougias; September: Chinook Dogs, presented by Bob Cottrell; October: Annual Meeting and Pot-Luck dinner followed by a Freedom history trivia contest!

Another very important highlight was the progress made on safety and maintenance upgrades to the Allard House and Works Barn. This work has been supported through town warrant articles from 2010 and 2011 and has helped us get up to current safety standards. Work accomplished in 2011 was: removal and replacement of roofing over the Allard House bathroom; repairing and re-pointing the chimney in and above the Allard House kitchen (interior and exterior); replacing some wiring and lighting in the Barn and House; adding new lighting to the barn; repairing all doors; repairing windows and sills; replacing approximately 200 lineal feet of clapboards; adding a second floor security door; adding track lighting in museum areas to improve safety and traffic flow; installing required lighted “Exit” signs, emergency directional lighting and outside fire alarm; and, adding an out-swinging barn door to

replace the sliding door. The progress was very significant and we owe many thanks to Michael Gaudette and Dick Many for getting these tasks accomplished with a lot of the work done by Michael himself!

Another highlight was that we celebrated the 30th anniversary of the building of the Works Barn with a few of the original workers in attendance- it certainly was a milestone.

And, certainly not last or least was the great progress Bonnie Burroughs, Dotty Brooks and Gale Morris made on the historical records collection; they continued the archiving work initiated by Ray Dahlstrom, Pauli Libbey, David Buswell and Ed Boyer. They have completed organizing and filling of over two dozen notebooks with historical records which heretofore were basically disorganized. It is a wonder to go into the archives room in the Allard house and see this long line of clearly labeled records organized by subject and/or date. Think of how much easier (and possible!) historical research will be for all residents and visitors!

“What are the plans for 2012?” I should start off by saying that the leadership voted in at the October 2011 annual meeting will be responsible for carrying the mission forward. These brave souls are:

President: John Shipman

Vice President: Dick Many

Treasurer: Tom Luke

Secretary: Gale Morris

Curator: Bonnie Burroughs

Ass't Curator: Scott Cunningham

Directors: Dotty Brooks, Arthur Robinson, Ellen Many, Nadine Chapman and Sylvia Carney
(A **big** thanks to retiring Director Peg Scully and the past officers who now play new roles!)

Programs: We are pleased to announce some very interesting programs lined up for 2012. This is a draft list which will be finalized in the next couple of months, so stayed tuned.

2012 Date	DRAFT Program	Speaker
May 16	White Mt. Art	Bob Cottrell
June 20	Inventor of the TV	Not confirmed
July 18	NH Barns	John Porter
Aug 15	NH Granges	Steve Taylor
Sep 19	Native Americans in NH	David Stewart-Smith
Oct 17	NH Towns and The Civil war	Jere Daniell

Calendar/Photo Contest! The Society is pleased to announce a contest to select photographs for use in its 2013 Calendar. Anyone may submit photos that reflect the calendar theme: ***“BARNs OF FREEDOM”***. Photographers may submit up to three photos of barns that are located in Freedom, NH. An independent panel of judges will select four winners in each of three categories: Student, Amateur, and Pro/Semi-Pro. Winners will be announced at a reception on Friday, June 29, 2012 where winning photographs will also be displayed. Deadline for submissions is April 1, 2012. Address questions to Bonnie at bonniebnh@roadrunner.com; call 603-539-3665; or see www.freedomhistoricalsociety.org.

Facility improvements: Work planned for 2012 still involves completing the work that needs to be done to the facilities to make sure they are safe for all members, volunteers and visitors. Fortunately, savings from the 2011 work that the Town has graciously funded will carry over into 2012. We are grateful to Dick Many and Michael Gaudette for preparing our planned work and compiling cost estimates. Completion of these tasks will go a long way toward also ensuring the safety of Freedom's historical artifacts and records.

2011 Freedom Historical Society Members

ALLISON, Lee; BIRNIE, Richard; BIZER, Gail; BOSSI, Donald; BOUVE, Howard & Sylvia; BOYER, ED; BRITTON, M. Jayne; BROOKS, Dorothy; BURROUGHS, Bonnie & Herbert; CHAPMAN, Nadine; CLAUSEN, George & Alia; CUNNINGHAM, Scott & Anne; DAHLSTROM, Ray; DORAN, Marguerite; ELLIOTT, William & Maureen; FRIER, Gordon; FRITZ, Lee; GAUDETTE, Michael & Anne; GIBBS, Charles & Margaret; GRANT, Alan & Beverly; GULVIN, Shirley; HATCH, Robert & Karen; HENTZ, Elizabeth; KENDALL, Marshall & Lucy; KNOX, Brandon & AnnMarie; LAWRENCE, David; LEVY, Diana; LUKE, Thomas & Jane; MANHARD, Warren & Patty; MANLEY, John & Sylvia; MANY, Richard & Ellen; MacLEOD, Myrtle & Don; McCUE, David & Bonnie; McKENZIE, Jane; MIDDLETON, Jack & Anne; MIKSCH, Heidi; MILLIKEN, Virginia & Jay; MOLIN, Jennifer; MOONEY, Ray & Karen; MORRIS, Gale; MORRISON, Bill & Martha; NASON, Nettie; ORAM, R.A.; PACKARD, Elizabeth; PARK, Peter & Diane; PAUL, Ruth; PHILLIPS, Emily; REED, Ed; REIS, Kimberly; ROOT, Charles & Andrea; SCHENKER, Sarah; SCHILLER, Karin & Peter; SCHLUTER, Duane; SCULLY, Peg; SEABURY, Frank & Nancy; SHADD, Deborah; SHIPMAN, John/CARNEY, Sylvia; SMART, Bob & Ruth; SMITH, Jan; STAPLES, Mary; STOKES, Emery & Ellie; STOOPS, William & Sally; TIDESTRAND, Gertrude; TRAIL, Fred & Beverly; VESTNER, Elizabeth; WAGNER, Gary & Dianna; WALLS, Agnes; WALLS, Linda; WARD, R.A.; WATTS, Patricia; WEED, Warren; WHEELER, Paul & Lisa; WOODARD, John & Carolyn

Finally, we need YOU!! VOLUNTEERS are needed for 2012!! And we hope a component of the collection will be of interest to you so you can help us work on it. The Society's collection involves over 50 categories and includes items like:

- Arts and Crafts
- Blacksmith/Farrier
- Carpentry
- China
- Clocks
- Cooperage
- Currier/tanner
- Family Histories
- Farm Equipment
- Furniture
- Harness making
- Ice harvesting
- Jewelry
- Lumbering/Timbering
- Medical equipment
- Military/veterans
- Shipwright
- Shoemaker/Cobbler
- Stonemason
- Store/Commercial goods
- Tailor
- Tinsmith
- Tools
- Toys
- Transportation
- Wheelwright

COME JOIN THE FUN!!