



# Freedom Historical Society

*“Preserving Freedom’s Past for Future Generations”*

August 2016

Volume 1, Issue 8

*The Freedom Historical Society was incorporated in 1968. The Society has sought to secure Freedom’s legacy. We continue this effort because of the value we all receive in preserving Freedom’s past.*

### **Freedom Historical Society Mission Statement**

The purpose of the Freedom NH Historical Society is to collect, research and display objects and records relating to the town’s history for educational and cultural preservation. The Society fosters and inspires awareness and appreciation of the town’s past through the records and collections in the Allard House and Works Barn Museum, and through its cultural education programs and publications.

### **2015 – 2016 Board Members**

President            John Shipman  
Vice President    Nadine Chapman  
Treasurer         Tom Luke  
Secretary         Sylvia Carney

### **Directors**

Dotty Brooks            Barbara Buffery  
Scott Cunningham     Rick Holt  
David Trook



Website:

[www.freedomhistoricalsociety.org](http://www.freedomhistoricalsociety.org)

Email:

[FHSociety28@gmail.com](mailto:FHSociety28@gmail.com)

**LIKE US ON FACEBOOK**

Mailing Address:

**The Freedom Historical Society  
P.O. Box 548  
Freedom NH 03836**

### **Location and Hours:**

The Allard House/Works Barn location: 28 Old Portland Road, Freedom NH 03836. **The hours are: Memorial Day to Labor Day, 10 a.m.-12 p.m. or by appointment.**

### **LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT**

Dear Members,

Your Freedom Historical Society is a busy place this summer! As I write, Freedom Old Home Week has just finished. The museum was open every morning with many visitors each day - it was great when they complimented us about the organization of the exhibits, the resource room, and the general cleanliness of the place. The front and back of the Allard house have been freshly painted and the beautiful flowers in the front window boxes complete the cared-for look. Our pride is showing!

It has come to the point where we need to change the way we communicate our news and activities to our members. There is too much to cover in two newsletters a year, and it is clearly not frequent enough. We need to stay more connected to the membership. So, we are going to try a bi-monthly, and if possible, a monthly newsletter delivered by email. We hope this will also give you a better opportunity to communicate back to us. We know many like to hold a paper newsletter in their hands, so we will send it in a format you can print. We will still need to print and mail one a year, as part of our annual fundraising drive. I hope this will be a way to maximize communication while minimizing costs. For our non-email members, we will mail a newsletter, but find a way to do it more efficiently.

Please let us know how this new communication approach works for you, and what content you would like to see (specific or general). Also, please remember we have much information on our website and frequent updates on Facebook. Hope you enjoy the waning days of summer!

Thanks,  
John Shipman

## FHS RECENT NEWS

- On July 15<sup>th</sup> we **received a check** from the **Henney Fund for \$2,740** as a result of a grant request we submitted. We now have two new (well, refurbished) computers, a multi-function printer and scanner, a modem/router, cable and Wi-Fi service and have upgraded our museum software, Past Perfect, to version 5.0. These are big changes for us and will improve our collection recording and communication abilities significantly.
- On July 27<sup>th</sup> we held the open house for the **Janet Thomson Doll's House exhibit** in the Works Barn. Maynard and Laura Thomson held a wonderful reception at their home on Village Road. We had many visitors (50+) and everyone was delighted. The doll's house is now part of our permanent collection. See the doll's house story at [www.freedomhistoricalsociety.org](http://www.freedomhistoricalsociety.org)
- July 30<sup>th</sup> brought the **118<sup>th</sup> FOHW Parade** and our entry **won the "Best Organization"** ribbon. Yea!
- August 1<sup>st</sup> the **Silver Lake Singers** entertained about 50 of us with spiritual and uplifting a Capella singing. Thanks to Rick Holt (a singer and our board member) for bringing us this show! See our Facebook page for a short video of the singers.
- August 6<sup>th</sup> was the open house and reception for the **"History of the Telephone in America and Freedom"**, sponsored by the descendants of the Williams family. Children visiting the exhibit have been amazed by talking to each other over two 1914 vintage telephones. The display is a great family learning experience.

\* \* \*

## DID YOU KNOW?

There was a youth camp for boys on Scarboro Road near Governor Black's place? It was "Camp Tulofa" and started by Governor Black's son prior to WWII. One interesting thing they did was offer the boys a week-long tour of the White Mountains in a "coach" (horse-drawn wagon).



Go to: [www.freedomhistoricalsociety.org](http://www.freedomhistoricalsociety.org) and see Camp Tulofa's brochure to learn more.

## FROM A FREEDOM ORAL HISTORY Glad Works

Glad and Nelson "Skrow" Works had a house on Scarboro Road (known after they sold it as the "mushroom house" (another story). Skrow was the 'collector' who turned his entire, very large, collection over to the Historical Society when the barn at the Allard House was finished in 1981 (again, another story). Here is Gladys talking about coming up in the winter:



*"And then we came up one Christmas...we were living in Greenwich, CT one year. John Brooks was our caretaker...for years and he was wonderful to us. And one Christmas we came up from Greenwich and Skrow drove my mother and a couple of the children and Christmas presents in the station wagon and Emily and I went up in the Jeep, and we got up as far as Mary Birnie's field and the station wagon went off the road in the snow and so Skrow got out and he was going to walk up to the house and call....we had a phone by then, and call John Brooks to rescue us and John was already in the house with the lights on and the furnace going when he got up there, so we were rescued. We used to rent the house to skiers through Doug Coates, a group of doctors from Boston."*

Go to [www.freedomhistoricalsociety.org](http://www.freedomhistoricalsociety.org) and see "oral histories" to read the entire interview conducted by Sally Stoops in 2003.

*Please remember to visit the Freedom Historical Society, 28 Old Portland Road. Interesting and informative displays and exhibits are available as well as a resource room for delving into Freedom's history. It's more than worth a visit, it is a sensory experience! Whether you are a history buff or just curious, please join us at times of operation.*

## The Thomson Doll's House





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## HAPPENINGS FROM THE PAST

### Scarboro Road

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#### “The Pinnacle”

Virgil “Chick” Valicenti (1914-1989) was from Weymouth, MA and established “The Pinnacle” in Freedom NH as a tourist destination on the top of Scarboro Road. In the winter there were two rope tows to get skiers up the hill. The resort only lasted a few years in the mid to late 1940’s to the early 1950’s. Here is his brochure.

THE PINNACLE was originally conceived with the idea that there are certain people in these United States who like to spend their leisure moments in a scenic rustic spot which provides every comfort yet none of the glitter of modern hotels. This is THE PINNACLE.

OUR KITCHEN is known not for its physical appearance but for what comes out of it. Once you have tried the Pinnacle our kitchen will be known for the most appetizing home cooking you have ever eaten. This is THE PINNACLE.

A SKIMOBILE? No, there's no need for a skimobile here. Two rope tows furnish transportation to summits which provide a wide variety of skiing. Your walking distance to Porcupine Hall is five yards.

PORCUPINE HALL is the rustic lodge which contains two large bunk rooms and a recreation hall which Bill Love, New

York Journal American columnist, describes as: "luxurious, with huge picture windows, piano, juke box and ping pong table, perfect for the entertainer type of guest and those who like to be entertained."

HUNTERS find Porcupine Hall a veritable dream come true when their turn comes to put on the plaids and packs and step out into the brisk mountain air in quest of the deer, partridge, bear, wildcat, fox, coon or rabbit in which the miles of wooded area around the Pinnacle abound.

GROUP PARTIES are solicited. The Pinnacle is ideal for conventions, outings, parties or reunions. Special rates based on the size of the group are available on request. Inspection trips are invited.

OTHERS have said it. So, too, will you after you visit with us.

*The Pinnacle is "My Mountain Home."*

**See the full brochure and pictures by visiting the Museum.**

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### **VOLUNTEERS! VOLUNTEERS!**

FHS would like to *recognize and thank the following dedicated volunteers for their assistance:*

- **Nancy Ferry** for donating dozens of hours planning, assembling and completing the Old Home Week Memorial quilt; to **Nadine Chapman** for the great idea and managing the fundraising project; to **Mary Hockmeyer** and **Peg Scully** for donating Freedom Old Home Week T-shirts for the quilt.
- **Ed Boyer** for donating photo lights and photo stand for recording collection items; a paper cutter; plowing the driveway in winter; and many other thoughtful acts.
- **Carl Olgren and boys** for mowing the yard to keep the Allard house looking wonderful.
- **Joanne Woodhouse, Gere Lane, and Paul Tung**, for assisting **Laura Thomson** in setting up the doll house during many cold spring days. Thanks to Laura for getting the display completed, assisted by **Ken Brogren**, assembling and lighting the display. Thanks to **Maynard Thomson** for writing the historical background for the Janet Thomson doll house.
- **Noel Quentin** who is organizing the Freedom post card collection. **(Don't miss the August 17th program!)**
- **Charlie Peterson** who wired the two 1914 Western Electric telephones and got them in working order for the new display.
- **Janet Meyers** for cleaning and protecting the surrey in the FHS museum.
- **Steve Thurston** and **Sylvia Carney** for painting the museum's anteroom and bathroom.
- **Nancy Essex** who writes and distributes all the program publicity pieces.
- **Gale Morris** and **Nadine Chapman** for assisting the FES students (their spring research projects) on Freedom's historical buildings.
- The **Seabury family** for use of the Frank Seabury memorial donations for the preservation framing of the museum's large 1860's map.
- **Dotty Brooks** for clipping and compiling all 2015 Freedom-related news articles, organizing them into a notebook...to go with the 1929-2014 books from previous years that she, **Bonnie Burroughs** and **Gale Morris** compiled.

**THANK YOU!**

**QUILT RAFFLE**

Freedom Historical Society (FHS) is selling raffle tickets for a one-of-a-kind queen sized quilt to benefit the museum. The quilt beautifully displays thirty (30) Old Home Week tee shirts – clearly a unique reminder of Freedom’s favorite celebration, Old Home Week!

**Proceeds from the raffle will be used to construct stair access to the unique antique carriage and wagon display in the lower shed at the FHS Museum, which has no safe access at present.**

**Raffle tickets cost \$5.00 each or 3 for \$10.00.** Tickets are available via PayPal on the FHS website: [www.freedomhistoricalsociety.org](http://www.freedomhistoricalsociety.org) or at the Freedom Village Store and the Museum. **The drawing will be held on October 19, 2016, at the FHS Annual Meeting, Freedom Town Hall on Elm Street.**

Please cut and paste the order form below and email to us: [FHSociety28@gmail.com](mailto:FHSociety28@gmail.com)

**Or mail: Freedom Historical Society  
P.O. Box 548  
Freedom NH 03836**



**Quilt Raffle Form**

I would like to support this FHS Museum project! Please email or mail (check box) my raffle ticket/s numbers.  
 Email       Mail

\_\_\_\_\_ 1 ticket for \$5.00  
 \_\_\_\_\_ 3 tickets for \$10.00  
 \_\_\_\_\_ other amount \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Please mail checks to Freedom Historical Society (address above). FHS will email or mail the ticket numbers ASAP as we receive your check. Make sure to include your name and mailing address when sending in payment. *No cash please.*

**OLD HOME WEEK FLOAT**



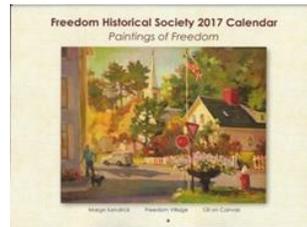
**PLEASE NOTE: The two (2) fundraising efforts listed on this page help the Freedom Historical Society to maintain the Museum and to plan and budget for future and current projects. Both are beneficial. Please support one or both. Thank You! from the FHS Board of Directors.**

**A gift for under \$15!**

**2017 FREEDOM CALENDARS**

The 2017 FHS Calendars are still available. The calendars have beautiful and interesting art work for each month.

*This is an annual fundraising endeavor by the FHS.* The calendar presents thirteen original art pieces submitted by local area artists.



**The proceeds from calendar sales are an important part of the annual operating budget.** The Freedom Village Store and the FHS Museum both have calendars available for a quick pick-up.....holiday shopping at its best!

**Calendars are also available via the FHS website and PayPal:**

[www.freedomhistoricalsociety.org](http://www.freedomhistoricalsociety.org)  
**OR by email:**  
[FHSociety28@gmail.com](mailto:FHSociety28@gmail.com)

(requires a quick cut and paste – form below)

By direct mail, please return the form below with a check in the amount of purchase, made out to the FHS or Freedom Historical Society. *No cash please.*

**2017 Freedom Historical Calendars**

I would like to support and purchase the 2017 Calendar by email or direct mail (indicate which is applicable) by submitting the following form:

Email       Mail

\_\_\_\_\_ # of Calendars at \$14.00 each  
 (includes a \$2.00 shipping fee)

Total Cost \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**Mail checks to: Freedom Historical Society  
 P.O. Box 548  
 Freedom NH 03836**

**FHS 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:

**Sponsoring Member \$100**     **Contributing Member \$50**     **Family \$25**     **Individual \$10**

**Additional Donation \$** \_\_\_\_\_

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 the newsletter emailed.

Yes, you may publish my name as a member

Please contact the FHS about volunteering: John Shipman, [jshipman120@gmail.com](mailto:jshipman120@gmail.com)

**Kindly return this form with check to:**  
**Freedom Historical Society**  
**P.O. Box 548**  
**Freedom NH 03836**



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