

## FREEDOM HISTORICAL SOCIETY ANNUAL REPORT, 2023

Another successful year has passed for the Freedom Historical Society (FHS). Many hours are given by our Board of Directors to keep FHS moving forward and expanding our services. Most of all, the Board appreciates the support of our membership, over 200 strong and the Town of Freedom for their support and trust in the FHS Board to keep Freedom’s history alive. The Board works tirelessly to meet the FHS mission.

When we think of the past year, we introduced many new projects and events which you can read about in the following summary of our 2023 activities. Most importantly, we got things done, carried out our mission, and increased our membership. We also took care of our buildings and completed two priority projects – the post beetle eradication in the Works Barn and a new security system funded by a generous FHS “Heritage Circle” Member. We had an increase in visitors this year from 400 to 475 and many, many positive comments and some visitors returned for a second or third time to enjoy the experience of the Freedom Historical Society.

Our special opening of our 2023 Exhibit was “Celebrating the historic businesses of Freedom Village” and ‘Opening Day’ was Saturday, May 27th. In addition, we introduced a new exhibit on recent acquisitions to our Museum Collection, published the 2024 FHS Calendar on Freedom Artists and had our second Wine Tasting Event at the Museum. Most importantly, we had our first Future Fund Concert in July launching an endowment for the future. We continued to celebrate Old Home Week with expanded opening hours, a float in the Old Home Week Parade, and Margie’s Lunch Event. Our gigantic Yard Sale on October 7<sup>th</sup> T was a huge success and turned out to be one of the biggest money-maker events this year. We finished the year with our annual participation in Freedom Rings, celebrating the holiday season event on November 17<sup>th</sup> & 18<sup>th</sup>. A very special thanks to our members whose contributions made all this happen.

A review of the Society’s activities in 2023 and our plans for 2024 were presented at the 2023 Annual Meeting on November 14th. Highlights are provided herein; but also see: [www.freedomhistoricalsociety.org](http://www.freedomhistoricalsociety.org).

Respectfully,  
Brandy Buttrick



Roberta MacCarthy



Co-Presidents



# The Freedom Historical Society: "Preserving the past for future generations"

## The Freedom Historical Society

The Freedom Historical Society was formed in 1965 and incorporated in 1968 and has sought to secure Freedom's legacy. We continue this effort because of the value we all receive in preserving Freedom's past.

### 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.

### 2022 – 2023 Board Members

- Co-Presidents            Brandy Buttrick  
                                  Roberta MacCarthy
- Vice President        Ed Barosky
- Treasurer              Jayne Britton
- Secretary              Jane Davidson
- Past President        John Shipman
- Directors
- Steve Thurston        Barbara McEvoy
- Jean Marshall         Pam Keith
- John Perkins          Linda Habif
- Carole Taylor         Anne Gaudette
- Scott Cunningham   Nancy Essex
- Michael Gaudette

## Letter from the Presidents

Dear Members and Supporters:

As mentioned above, we are so pleased to report the progress that the Freedom Historical Society has made in 2023. We are proud of these accomplishments.

But let's keep in mind the accomplishments of all the Boards over the years, as well. The vision of the original Board to get the Society started down the path of Preserving the History of Freedom in 1965; the initiative to become a non-profit organization [501(c)(3)] in 1968; the great effort it took to build a new barn in 1980/81 to hold the "Skrow" Works collection; the initiative to start the PastPerfect database of the FHS collection in 2000; the work it took, starting in 2015 to complete a set of Policies and Procedures to set standards for all activities; the great insight and teamwork it took to start annual changing exhibits that help tell the stories of Freedom. We are so grateful to all the people in Freedom who have made all this work possible!

Roberta MacCarthy



Brandy Buttrick



Co-Presidents

### SOME 2023 HIGHLIGHTS INCLUDE:

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Increasing building security and protection.



Thanks to a generous donation from a "Heritage Circle" member we were able to get a fire and intrusion detection and alarm system installed in the barn and house this fall. If a problem is detected by the system an alert is immediately sent to The Carroll County Communications Center in Ossipee NH who then immediately alerts the Freedom Fire and Police Departments. Up until this point any fire detection just triggered an alarm system that rang within the building to alert neighbors who then had to call the fire/police personnel. This new system ensures that fire and police are immediately notified and that can happen 24/7. For added protection the FHS Board voted to increase our building insurance protection to cover the current replacement cost if a building is lost. Although both these actions will cause some operational cost increases, we thought it was the prudent thing to do.

Increasing fundraising events.



Because of increased operational costs, the FHS held two additional fundraising events in 2023. A **Yard Sale** in October was greatly supported by community donors and buyers. It was work, but the board volunteers pulled it off with a great attitude as well. Additionally, the **Wine Tasting** event done once previously was brought back and was also a successful social and fundraising event, Again, we thank the volunteers and community attendees for supporting this valuable event,



Between these projects and Margie's Lunch, which was repeated again this year, we were able to add over \$5,000 to our budget to help with additional operational expenses this year.

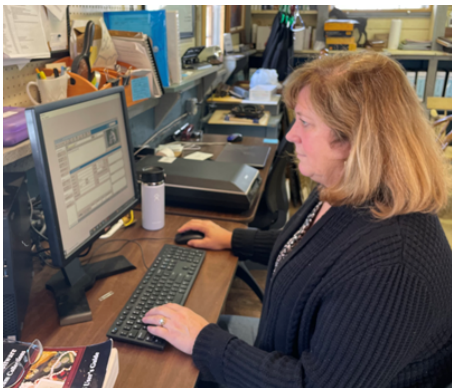
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Sponsoring a concert for the Future Fund.



Fundraiser Concert on July 16th with Erica Brown and the Bluegrass Connection to launch the FHS Endowment Fund

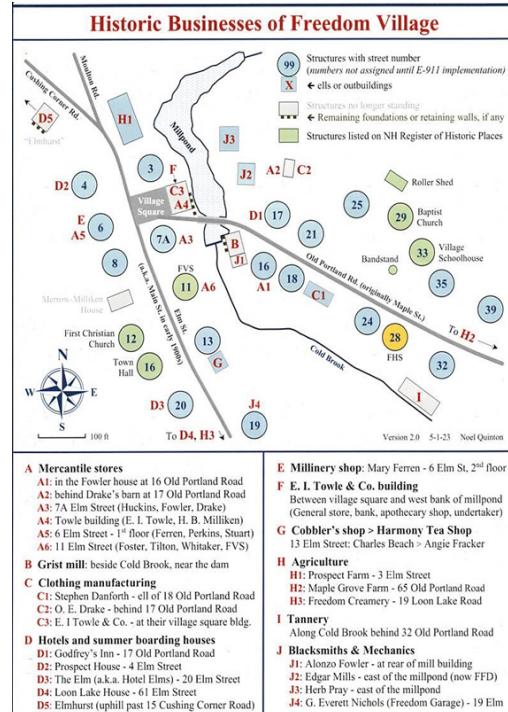
Continuing the Archival Project as a priority.



This past August the FHS Past Perfect Software was converted to the WEB VERSION, a cloud-based software solution that allows up to 10 multiple users and longer-term public access with the goal of sharing our records. This was a big change since previously database access was only through the two computers at FHS. Now access from home is available for several of us at once, allowing for more work to be done and with less conflict. The Past Perfect database now has 2,300 Object records, 550 Archival records, 4485

Images/Photographs, 98 Library items, and 4,328 names in the People and Biographies" section of the database.

Launching a Tour of Historical Businesses of Freedom Village on Saturdays



Celebrating Freedom Painters, 1970-2020



An exhibit displayed the art and biographies of Peg Scully, Terri Brooks, Barbara McEvoy, Laura Thomson, Nancy

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Essex, Gary Heckner, Alice Macy Miller, Sam Warren, Elizabeth Acton, Sarah Tabor, and Ian Marshall.

## Creating an exhibit for New Acquisitions



This year we set up an exhibit in the Allard House to display new objects that have been accepted into our collection – new acquisitions.

## Providing Student Education Programs



Steve Thurston continues to work with Mrs. Karen Briggs (5th & 6th grade teacher) to bring Freedom History to the FES students. Two projects involved a tour of the Allard House and the village tour of the businesses.

## Providing Adult Educational Programs.



Eight Programs ranged from Freedom artifacts and the stories they tell to a presentation on witchcraft. Audience size ranged from 26-110. Total participants for all programs over 450

## Increasing Membership.



In 2023 (to date) Memberships have increased from 179 to 200. Lifetime Members increased from 19 to 46 since 2019. Lifetime Membership was created to help lay the foundation for the Society's and museum's sustainability. In 2022 the Heritage Circle was created

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to highlight our higher-level donors/supporters.

**Presenting The 2023 FHS Team.**



- Brandy Buttrick and Roberta MacCarthy**  
Co-Chairs
- Ed Barosky**, Vice President
- Jane Davidson**, Secretary
- Jayne Britton**, Treasurer
- Nancy Essex**
- Scott Cunningham**
- Anne Gaudette**
- Michael Gaudette**
- Pam Keith**
- Linda Habif**
- Jean Marshall**
- Barbara McEvoy**
- John Perkins**
- John Shipman**
- Carole Taylor**
- Steve Thurston**

And a BIG Thank you to all our volunteers!!



**Membership Giving 2023**

**Membership is the lifeblood of the Freedom Historical Society.** Each member is an investor in the community to ensure that Freedom’s history is kept alive for future generations. Many thanks to the following members who have joined or renewed their annual membership through November 15<sup>th</sup>:

- Individual:  
Shana Aisenberg, Patricia Bernard, Geoff Bickford, Norma Conner, Kathleen Craig &

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Xavier Simonsen, Cynthia Cunningham, Mary Lou Dowd, Amy Forman, Elizabeth Genovese-Clifton, Elaine Giles, Christine Hurley, Russell & Nancy Jackson, Gale Johnsen, Eleanor Jenkins, Arlene Knight, Kathie Lange, Felicia Legard, Jane McKenzie, Marcia Santner, Laura Tysen, Linda Walls, Rachel Ward, Joyce Watson, Ed Wogan, Richie & Maureen Wright

### Family:

Carl Bloomquist, Jayne Britton & Jim Layne, Chuck & Terri Brooks, Susan Bygrave, Dianne Cahill, Kathleen Chaput, David Cheever, Diane & Laurence Claveau, Michael & Anne Gaudette, Elaine Gentile, Beverly Glynn, Susan & Martin Bygrave, Patricia Good, Charles & Linda Iselborn, Mitchell & Marie Hanson, Gerald Hastings, Karen & Robert Hatch, Elizabeth Hentz, David Habif, Janette Jenkins, John & Mary Habif, Don & Janet Johnson, Melissa Labonte, Christopher Lee, William & Patricia Manhard, Jean Marshall, Lorraine Martin, Nancy & Larry Meserve, Sharon & Alain Meyer, Jennifer Kahler Miller, Nettie Nason, Kristine Carlson Niiler, Peter & Diane Parks, Ruth Allard Paul, John Perkins, Neal Thomas Rowe, Miranda Sandahl, Peg Scully, Deborah Shadd, Bob Smart, Judy Smith, Mary Staples, Lauren Stoddard, Marcia & David Trook, Paul & Donna Tung, Fred & Beverly Trail, Jennifer Ullrich, Gary & Dianna Wagner, Robin Waters, Richard & Carole Wolfe,

### Contributor:

Mary Lee Allison, Robert Barker, James W. Brown, George & Aila Clausen, Martine Culbertson, Pam Keith, Alice Custard, Ernie Day, Laurie Eisener, Paul & Bonnie Elie, Bill & Maureen Elliot, Moira Epps, Betty Fuller,

Randy Greenstein, Bruce & June Howlett, Pamela Keith, Dann Lewis, Caroline Marston, Hope McGowan, David Meserve, Jack Middleton, Heidi Miksch, Nils Nordberg, Tim Ostendorf, James Rines, Barbara & Daniel Siktberg, Carolyn Stone, Steve & Diana Thurston, Janice Zecher

### Sponsor:

Tim Allison, Eugene Corbett, Pat Crane, Elizabeth Johnston & Stephen Capoccia, Paul & Bonnie Elie, Mark McKinley, Janet Meyers, Siobhan Murphy, David Smith, John & Carolyn Woodard,

### Leadership:

Marsha Hurst, Jane & Richard Nylander

### Lifetime Members:

Edward Barosky, William S. Barret, Karen Beatty, Barbara Birnie, Pieter Birnie, G. W. Brooks & Sons, Karrie & Brandy Buttrick, Nadine Chapman, Anne & Scott Cunningham, Beth & Peter Earle, Nancy & Bill Essex, Linda Habif, Pat Hatfield, Carolyn & James Holmes, David & Karri Kemper, Lucy Kendall, Jane Luke, Roberta MacCarthy, Linda Mailhot, Sylvia & John Manley, Susan & Ramon Marks, Barbara McEvoy, CSM Robert A. Oram, Nancy & Robert Phinney, Anne & Noel Quinton, Jody Shellene & Tim Hartsfield, Elizabeth Seabury, John Shipman, Sara Owen Tabor, Carole & Brian Taylor, Laura & Maynard Thomson, Ellen & Richard Many, Emily Philips, Elizabeth Coddington & Gary Ward, Helen Hayes & Charles Watts, Katherine Watts, Lucy Works, Marjorie Works.

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In memoriam:

Edwin Boyer, Nancy Seabury

### The Heritage Circle

CSM Robert A. Oram, Linda Mailhot,  
Roberta MacCarthy, The Henney Fund

2023 Donors Giving to Memorial Funds,  
the Climate Control Room, Archival,  
Operating Funds and the Future Fund.  
Thank you.

Tim Allison, Robert Barker, Edward Barosky, Barbara Birnie, Jayne Britton, Chuck & Terri Brooks, Bonnie Burroughs, Brandy & Kerri Buttrick, Kathleen Chaput, David Cheever, Diane & Laurence Claveau, Kathleen Craig & Xaver Simonsen, Pamela Keith, Eugene Corbett, Pat Crane, Martine Culbertsen, Anne & Scott Cunningham, Cynthia Cunningham, Jane Davidson, Effingham Historical Society, Bill & Maureen Elliot, Nancy & Bill Essex, Betty Fuller, Elizabeth Genovese-Clifton, Christina Gill, Linda Habif, John & Mary Habif, Gerald Hastings, Elizabeth Hentz, Marcia Hurst & Richard Hiller, Charles & Linda Iselborn, David & Kerri Kemper, Glenn Kemper, Lucy Kendall, Melissa Labonte, Kathie Lang, Roberta MacCarthy, Ramon & Susan Marks, Jean Marshall, Caroline Marston, Barbara McEvoy, Hope McGowen, Jane McKenzie, Heidi Miksch, Nils Nodberg, North Broad Bay Association, CSM Robert S. Oram, John Perkins, Robert & Nancy Phinney, Jim Rhines, Neil Thomas Rowe, Peg Scully John Shipman, Christine Shields, Judy Smith, David Smith, Sarah Own Tabor, Brian & Carole Tabor, Laura & Maynard Thomson, Steve & Diana Thurston, Fred

& Beverly Trail, Marcia & David Trook, Laura Tysen, Jennifer Ulrich, Linda Walls, Joyce Watson, Charles Watts & Holly Haynes, Katharine Watts, Laurie Wells, Paul Wheeler

### Local Businesses Support

Thanks to our local businesses that have made significant contributions to FHS. Please support them.

Barbara McEvoy, Artist – Freedom Gallery  
Beth Day, LMT – Massage Therapy  
Calumet Lutheran Camp & Conference Center  
Cetera Investment Services – Marjorie Amico, Financial Advisor  
Exit Realty Leaders – Grace Brooks  
Freedom House Antiques  
Freedom Village Store  
G. W. Brooks and Son, Inc  
Gerard Constantino – Constantino Real Estate  
Green Mountain Furniture, Inc  
Hannaford, Center Ossipee  
Hatfield's B & B – Pat Hatfield  
Inn at Crystal Lake  
James Farinella & Sons: Building and Remodeling  
Max's Restaurant & Pub at the Snowvillage Inn  
McConkey & Associates  
Minuteman Press  
REMAX Presidential – Paul Wheeler, Realtor  
Sentinel financial – Paul Olzerowics  
Terri Brooks Watercolors and Pastels  
The Spot  
Thrivent Financial: Sarah Grouleau  
Valuland Food Store, Ossipee

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Your membership is critical to our survival- Please renew or join now!  
And its tax deductible! Thanks!

HISTORICAL SOCIETY MEMBERSHIP AND DONATIONS

"Preserving Freedom's Past for Future Generations"

Membership:

Leadership \$250  Sponsoring \$150  Contributor \$75  Family \$35   
Individual \$15

Senior/Student. \$10  Patron/Lifetime. \$500  Heritage Circle \$1,000   
other \_\_\_\_\_

Donations:

I'd like to make an extra donation of \$\_\_\_\_\_.

Please specify project if you wish:

General Operating  Building Renovation.  Preservation Supplies   
Programs

Museum Collection  Exhibits  House Project

Memorial/Tribute Gift in honor of \_\_\_\_\_

Your Name \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address \_\_\_\_\_

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Email \_\_\_\_\_

Yes, I'd like to know more about volunteering!

Yes, you may publish my name as a member in the newsletter

Please make your check payable to Freedom Historical Society and mail to:  
Freedom Historical Society, P.O. Box 428, Freedom, NH 03836

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