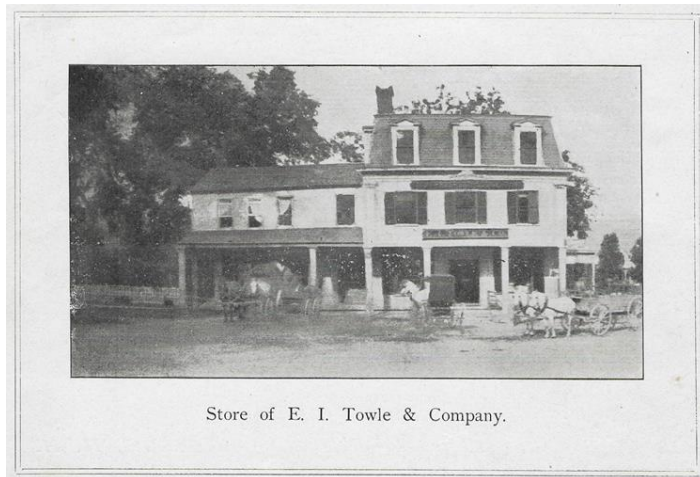


FHS newsletter Summer 2023

Freedom “Movers and Shaker” at the turn of the 20th century: George I Philbrick.

The E.I. Towle store- 1879

In 1879 **George I. Philbrick** and E.I. Towle went into partnership to create a store and George, at age 26, was tasked with managing the business. The other proprietors located at the Store included J. Arthur Bennett who sold caskets on the first floor and Alonzo Pease operated a tailor shop on the second floor; the Grange and the Rebekahs occupied the third floor.



Store of E. I. Towle & Company.

Clothing Manufacturing- 1880’s

E. I. Towle & Company, a partnership between E. I. Towle and **George I. Philbrick**, began manufacturing men’s clothing in 1880. Boston clothing firms cut the material and shipped the pieces to Freedom where they were sewn together in the small factory space to the left of their general store. Over 40,000 pairs of men’s work pants were completed annually and shipped back to Boston to be sold in retail stores.



Continued on P. 3

Progress Report on the Restoration of Freedom’s Snow Roller

Over the past several months, we have received several requests for an update on the progress of the restoration of Freedom’s snow roller. The team of Brandy Buttrick, Scott Cunningham, and Alan Fall are currently overseeing the restoration of the Snow Roller that was acquired from Smiling Hill Farm in Westbrook, Maine in 2021. Although the Town of Freedom is the owner of the snow roller shed, the snow roller belongs to the Freedom Historical Society. The FHS has the non-profit (501C3) status that the former owner at Smiling Hill Farm wanted to be able to state an approximate value for tax purposes (\$4500) in giving this gift. Fundraising for the restoration has been spearheaded by the Freedom Historical Society and currently stands at \$3,385. The projected completion date for this project is by Freedom’s Old Home Week in 2024.

So far, the local ash trees have been cut and milled into the appropriate planks to replace the slats for the roller drums and are currently stacked and drying. On Saturday May 6, 2023, the frame for the snow roller was being cut by Jason Ferry, as seen in the photo below. The wood for the frame will need to cure for at least one year before it can be assembled in the snow roller.



Continued on P.5

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
<u>Directors</u>	
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:

What a busy summer! We opened our 2023 exhibits May 27th and since then we have had over 150 visitors. Both Noel Quinton and Brandy are busy giving tours packed full of Freedom History and they have also launched the "Walking Tour of the Village" on Saturday mornings at noon. If you have not had time to stop by the FHS please do. We would love to hear your comments about the expanded history of Freedom Village, the new exhibit on recent Museum acquisitions, and the new artwork by Freedom Artists. The FHS is open every day during Freedom Old Home Week from 10 AM to 12 noon except Sundays.

Although we had to deal with the challenges of rain and tornado warnings, we had a fantastic group of 104 members and new members listening to Erica Brown and the Blue Grass Connection at the Town Hall on Sunday, July 16th. A special shoutout for our Vice President, Ed Barosky and volunteers Lucy Kendall, Glenn Kemper, and Bonnie Burroughs who helped organize the event that launched our Future Fund for the Freedom Historical Society. A special thanks to Board Member Barbara McEvoy for providing her yard and gallery for the pre-concert reception and our sponsors G. W. Brooks and Son, Inc, CSM R. A. Oram U.S. Army Retired and Sam at Ossipee Valueland.

We have even more activities for you to enjoy as we move forward into summer! Margie's Lunch will once again be featured during Old Home Week on Saturday, August 5th and the FHS Wine Tasting on Thursday, August 24th. And, over Labor Day weekend, our 2023 Yard Sale at FHS will take place on Saturday, September 2nd. Stay tuned for further updates on these exciting events!

Roberta MacCarthy

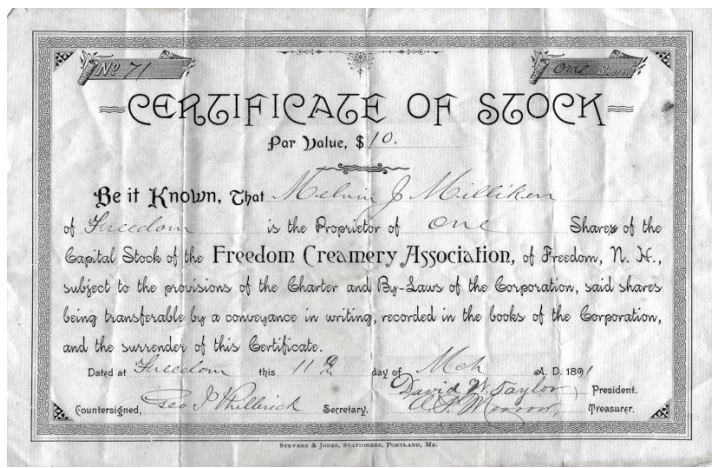
Brandy Buttrick

Co-Presidents

“Movers and Shakers”Cont’d from P.1**The Freedom Creamery Association- 1891**

After Freedom’s “Old” Creamery was destroyed by fire, a group of local residents successfully petitioned the New Hampshire legislature in 1890 for a charter that created the Freedom Co-Operative Creamery Association, a stock-issuing corporation. The new company erected a small one-story building across the road from the “Old” Creamery and commenced operation under managers that included **George I. Philbrick**, business partner of E. I. Towle.

D. Whiting & Sons, one of Boston’s largest dairy firms, rebuilt the creamery in 1915. Milk from local farms was collected at the facility, tagged, and sent via livery service to Center Ossipee to be loaded onto southbound B & M trains at the Mountainview depot. D. Whiting & Son pasteurized and sold the milk throughout Boston. The State of New Hampshire repealed the Creamery’s charter in 1925 because it was an “inactive or delinquent corporation.” Eventually the creamery building was converted to residential use - today it is 19 Loon Lake Road.

**Ossipee to Portland Rail line- 1893**

George Philbrick was one of 13 founding members of the Ossipee Valley Railroad Company that petitioned the State of NH to develop a railroad that would connect with the Boston and Maine Railroad from Ossipee Train Station to the State line of Maine. A separate line was proposed from the Maine border to a line in Baldwin, ME. The plan

was to have this railroad run through Freedom and Effingham. This Charter was approved by the NH Senate and House legislature on March 31, 1893. This was a 10-year charter to build the railroad, but the line was never built.

Ossipee Valley Five and Ten Cents Saving Bank

The Ossipee Valley Ten Cents Saving Bank was headquartered in the E. I. Towle Store from 1868-1901. However, by 1905 the bank’s assets were liquidated. **George Philbrick** was trustee and assistant treasurer of the Ossipee Valley Ten-cents Savings Bank for a period.

The incorporation of the Freedom Hotel Company- 1905

We, Ralph G. Foster, William A. Smith, **Geo. I. Philbrick**, Geo. F. Huckins and Arthur P. Merrow, all of Freedom, in the County of Carroll, and State of New Hampshire, of lawful age, do hereby associate ourselves together for the purpose of forming a corporation, under Chapter 147 of the Public Statutes of New Hampshire, to be known as the Freedom Hotel Company. The capital stock of said corporation shall be the sum of twelve thousand dollars divided into one hundred and twenty shares of the Par value of one hundred dollars each. Witness our hands this 5th day of September 1905

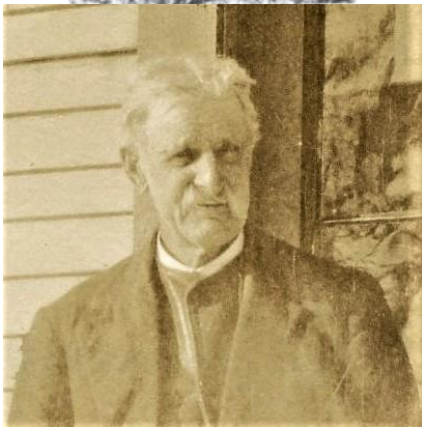
Freedom Electric and Power Association

In 1919, **George Philbrick** and 31 others from Freedom, founded the Freedom Electric and Power Association: this association under George’s leadership was instrumental in wiring Freedom Village and Effingham Falls. George represented the interests of local residents by appearing before the New Hampshire Public Service Commission on September 24, 1919. George submitted the petition that formally requested the State’s authorization to organize the freedom Electric & Power Association for the purpose of bringing electricity to Freedom and Effingham Falls. This brought electricity for heat, light, and power to Freedom Village. The first Service provided was on December 4, 1919. The organization was incorporated as the Freedom Electric Company on September 1, 1922, and in 1929 that stock was

acquired by Public Service. The actual transfer of the property to Public Service took place on November 30, 1930.

George I. Philbrick- A community Leader

The above business adventures in Freedom at the time show that George I. Philbrick was a key player in the community. Born in Freedom on Durgin Hill in 1853 he lived all his life in Freedom and died at 82 years of age in 1934.



George was the Grandson of Daniel Philbrick, a pioneer settler of Freedom on Durgin Hill. Georges' father was John Philbrick (1821-1876) and his mother was Irene Fernald Philbrick (1823-1902). John was a farmer and was the town clerk in 1860 to 1863; he served in the military during the Civil War from 1861-1866. When George was 19 years old in 1872, he went to work as a clerk in the Elias Towle Store. He had a natural entrepreneur spirit that played a key role throughout his life.

George married Anne Eldridge of Freedom in 1875 and they had a son, Charles Roy (1877-1931). Starting in 1883, they lived at 28 Elm Street (now Karen Beatty's home) with their son and George's mother, Irene. Charles Roy is buried in Lakeview cemetery; we have no evidence to date as to where George or Anne are buried.



George and Anne ran the "Philbrick House" on Elm Street as a boarding house, a common practice in Freedom at that time. Corey Ford and John Holmgren were guests, and they became good friends with the Philbrick's as a result.

George was in public office from an early age and was very interested in representing his community. He was town clerk in 1871 when he was 23 years of age. In 1884 he was elected Treasurer of Carroll County and served for four years. He was a Democrat and was appointed postmaster in 1886-1890 under the Cleveland Administration; and again from 1895-1897. He was Freedom Road Agent in 1901-1903. He was instrumental in designing and building the Freedom Roller Shed.

Progress on Snow Roller.....Cont'd from Page 1

This Freedom structure still stands on the western side of Schoolhouse Hill, in its unchanged footprint. Snow rollers played an important role in the transportation needs of Freedom. "Breaking" the roads was necessary for effective horse and buggy usage.

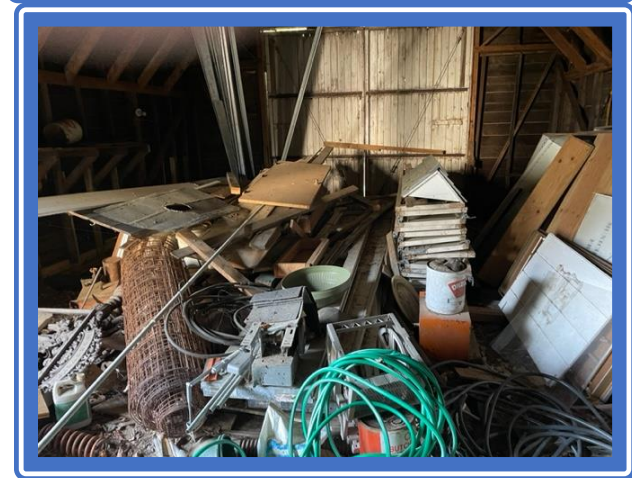
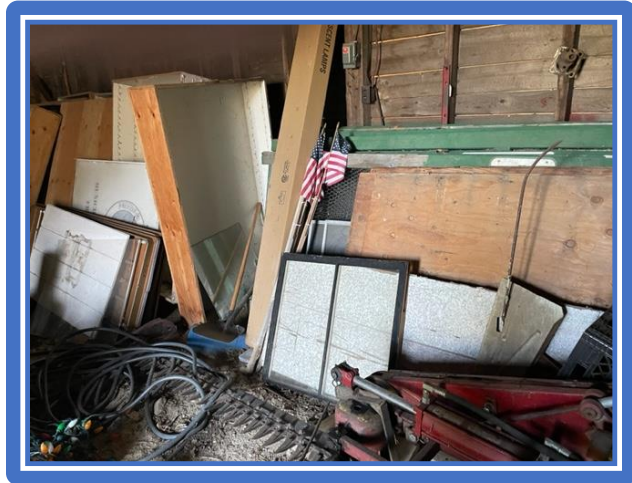
George was the Freedom Town Moderator from 1896 to 1917. In 1901 he was elected chairman of the Board of Selectmen and served three years. George Philbrick is described as a thorough, systematic businessman, an entrepreneur, a local leader, and a good citizen. He made his position and success by his faithfulness, integrity, and ambition. He was also the Commissioner of Justice for several years.

George's wife Anne Eldridge died in Haverhill MA in 1946. She had moved to Groveland, Ma to live with her sister in 1938 after her son died in 1931 and husband died in 1934.

In preparation for the process of restoring the snow roller, work must be done to prepare the site where the restoration will take place. We have determined that the best place for the restoration is in the renovated snow roller shed.

In 2012, the Freedom Snow Roller Shed was placed on the NH State Register of Historic Places and in 2016 the Shed was restored under the auspices of the Freedom Heritage Commission. The intent has always been to bring this piece of history back to its original shape. In fact, once the restoration of the snow roller is completed, Freedom will be the only NH town to have both a snow roller and a snow roller shed.

Before this can begin however, the shed must be cleared out and neatened. The photos below depicts only some of the items stored there.



At a meeting of Freedom's Board of Selectman on Monday April 17th, the Board approved and supported a request made by Vice-President of Freedom's Heritage Commission and Co-President of the Freedom Historical Society Brandy Buttrick, to clear out the snow roller shed so that restoration of the snow roller could begin. At the Board of Selectman's meeting on Monday, May 15, BOS agreed to cover the cost of cleaning out the shed. On Monday, June 12th a 30-yard dumpster was filled to the brim by four hard souls, Brandy Buttrick, Bill Deshaies, Michael Gaudette and Stephen Thurston. Many thanks to them, the Town of Freedom and The Freedom Historical Society for their support on this interesting restoration project.

Finally, since the snow roller will be restored to a design and condition that is as close to what a Freedom snow roller would look like, it is taking time to do research, prepare a design and then source all the materials locally. We feel it will be

worth the wait.

Marguerite Allard Eulogy, 1979

Remarks delivered by the Rev. George T. Davidson, Jr at the First Christian Church in Freedom, NH on the occasion of the Funeral for Marguerite Allard, who passed away at the Memorial Hospital in North Conway, NH on Saturday, April 7, 1979.

While anticipating this service of love and memory, I found myself wishing that each one of you might share with each other the many memories that must be uppermost in your thoughts at this moment. Each one of us has so many memories that are very meaningful, ones that we would like to put into words and share with others—just how we feel about Margie Allard who was a friend of us all.

Margie was as much the soul and the spirit of Freedom as any human being possibly could be. The light of her home in both a spiritual and physical sense was always “turned on,” and she was always ready to receive her many friends and neighbors. She gave so much love, kindness, and joy to everyone, and she received them all back manyfold.

Margie’s Lunch was perhaps an example of Freedom at it’s best, and the village will never be quite the same now that Margie has left us. Both young and old will miss visiting with Margie; we will miss the warmth and good fellowship that each visit brought us; we will miss her enthusiasm for life, her contagious smile, her sense of humor; her genuine concern for all of us....in good times and bad, in sickness and in health; in victory and in defeat. Margie was like a loveable and deeply respected “Aunt” to all of us here in Freedom and a little but important part of our lives has vanished forever with her passing.

Margie was always giving of herself, sharing her talents and giving of her love. She gave lavishly and abundantly, and she seemed happiest when she was sharing. She gave of herself from the

heart; those little gifts that money cannot measure.... the cheerful smile, a friendly word, a sympathetic nod. She knew that thoughtfulness and kindness and love are never sold.... she understood that these were the priceless things in life for which no one can pay, and she believed that the giver received rich recompense in giving them away.

It is fitting and right that the memory of this woman who was so much a part of the history of Freedom for over 50 years will be perpetuated for all time to come in the use of her home for the Freedom Historical Society.

I will remember Margie always...I’ll never forget her loving concern for my wife during the long years of her illness and the many ways that she demonstrated her concern. The things she did to help ease the burden. For this, and here demonstrated caring as a friend and neighbor to many others I shall forever be grateful.

I will never forget her contagious faith in God and her willingness to put her life completely in God’s hands. She was happy that she was able to attend church up until the last week of her life. She talked with me often about her faith, especially in her final months when she was so uncertain about her physical condition, but her faith was strong, and she was prepared to meet her Maker. For this and for her interest and support of this church, I shall forever be grateful.

I will never forget how she found delight in the love of little children, and how she looked forward each day to her visits with the children from the Freedom School, in the aspirations and the confidence of youth and in the joys of older folk. Freedom was her parish and to her, earth had no strangers.

I’ll never forget her enthusiasm and her love of the Red Sox; especially her devotion to Pudge Fisk and Yaz. For her love of baseball and her loyalty to the Red Sox, I shall forever be grateful.

Today, the life of our good friend is richer, fuller, a crowned with eternal glory, enshrined forever in the heart of God. I can hear the echo of the trumpets which have sounded for her arrival on the other side. We see the light she has left to guide us along our further journey--- the light of faith, the light of love, the light of a friendly spirit. These lights will continue to be reflected in the hearts of all of us who were privileged to know and to love her.

The poet, Elizabeth Whittmore has written these beautiful words which somehow, perhaps better express some of the thoughts I would want to leave with you...

"My friends are little lamps to me,
Their radiance warms and cheers my ways,
And all the pathway dark and lone
Is brightened by their rays.

I try to keep them bright by faith,
And never let them dim with doubt.
For every time I lose a friend
A little lamp goes out."

A little lamp goes out, but the lamp of Margie Allard will never go out!

Thank You!!

Thanks to our Board Member Steve Thurston, our monthly programs have continued with such interesting topics as "New Hampshire's Indigenous People - Past Present & Future" in July and Ossipee Ring Dike Complex in June. The return of our in-person programs held at the Freedom Town Hall has proven to be very popular.

Thanks to Board Members Carole Taylor and Linda Habif, the window boxes and flowers are in full bloom.

Lastly, we want to thank all of you for your tremendous support. Members are the lifeblood of the Freedom Historical Society. Thank you for renewing your membership and your commitment to preserving Freedom's history for future generations.

Annual Membership Giving

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. Membership helps provide free museums, develop exhibitions that celebrate Freedom's history, and offer programs and events that engage and inform our community about our shared past. Membership and donations provide 92% of our budget. The more you help, the more value we can return to the community. Your support is greatly appreciated!

Many thanks to the following members who have joined or renewed their annual membership in 2023 at the following levels:

Heritage (\$1000): Linda Mailhot *, CSM R. A. Oram U.S. Army Retired *, Roberta MacCarthy*

Angel (\$500): Barbara & Peter Birnie*, Anne & Scott Cunningham*, Elizabeth Seabury*, Susan & Ramon Marks*, Brandy & Karrie Buttrick*, John Shipman*, Ed Barosky & Gillian Frost*, Charles Watts & Holly Haynes*

Leadership (\$250): Jane and Richard Nylander, Lucy Kendall

Sponsor (\$150): Elizabeth Johnston & Stephen Capoccia, Mark McKinley, Janet Meyers, John & Carolyn Woodard,

Contributor (\$75): Mary Lee Allison, Tim Allison, Robert Barker, James Brown, George & Aila Clausen, Pam Clemons-Keith, Eugene Corbett, Alice Custard, Paul & Bonnie Elie, James Farinella, Randy Greenstein, Dann Lewis, Caroline and Greg Marston, Jack Middleton, Carolyn Stone, Steve & Dianna Thurston, Janice Zecher

Family (\$25): Jayne Britton, Terry and Charles Brooks, Martin & Susan Bygrave, Diane & Pater Cahill, David & Maureen Cheever, Kristine & Craig Carlson Niiler, Bill & Maureen Elliott, Elaine Gentile, Beverly Glynn, Gerald & Kimberly Hastings, Robert & Karen Hatch, Don & Janet Johnson, Warren & Patti Manhard, Jean Marshall, Peter & Diane Park Jane McKenzie, Nettie Nason, Peg Scully, Robert Smart, Mary K. Staples, Fred and Beverly Trail, Jennifer & Richard Ullrich, Joyce & Fred Watson

Individual (\$10): Shana Aisenberg, Patricia Bernard, Elizabeth Hentz, Russell & Nancy Jackson, Gale Johnson, Kathie S. Lange, Lorraine & George Martin, Ruth Paul, Linda Wall

Honoring someone special...

A Memorial or Tribute Donation to the Freedom Historical Society is a thoughtful way to honor or memorialize a special friend or family member Your gift in honor of someone special, a special occasion, or in memory of a loved one recognizes that person's appreciation for Freedom history and Freedom as a special place. The following people have been honored by Memorial & Tribute Gifts in 2023:

Betty Barker, Ed Boyer, Ralph Brooks, Sylvia Carney, Paul Clausen, Patricia Godfrey Hodge, William Stoops, Marshall Kendall, Ian H. Marshall, Henry & Margaret Trail, Charles and Patricia Watts

Additional Gifts and Special Donations:

The following members and friends have contributed a special donation to our general operating fund or our special projects as the Climate Control Room, the Archival Fund, and Future Fund

Gillian & Edward Barosky*, Karen Beatty, Barbara Birnie*, Karrie & Brandon Buttrick*, Jayne Britton, Bonnie Burroughs, Kathleen Chaput, David & Maureen

Cheever, Diane & Lawrence Claveau, David & Maureen Cheever, Kathleen Craig & Xavier Simonsen, Elizabeth Anne Genovese-Clifton, Nadine Chapman*, Gene Corbett, Pat Crane, Martine A. Culbertson, Cynthia Cunningham & Laura Tyson, Anne & Scott Cunningham*, Jane & Rick Davidson, Mary & Steve Edes, Effingham Historical Society, Bill & Maureen Elliot, Paul Elie, Betty Fuller, Nancy & Bill Essex*, Sally Florio, Michael & Anne Gaudette, Linda Habif*, John and Mary Habif, James & Kimberly Hastings, Henney Fund, Elizabeth Hentz, Maggie & David Hoople, Marsha Hurst, Richard Hiller, Linda & Charles Iselborn, Bruce and June Howlett, Barry and Pam Keith, Lucy Kendall, Arlene Knight, Richard & Nancy Knight Melissa Labonte, Ella Lellis, Kathie Lange, Dann Lewis, Susan & Ramon Marks, Fletcher Marks, Jean Marshall, Hope McGowan, Heidi Miksch, Nils Lovering Nordberg, Robert Phinney*, Jim Rines, Marcia Santner, Peg Scully, Janet Smith, Caroline & Greg Marston, Christine Shields, Monica & Dennis Simmons, Lauren Stoddard, Robert Smart, Judith Smith, David Smith, Sarah Tabor, Brian and Carole Taylor*, Steve Neal Thomas Rowe, Stephen & Dianna Thurston, Laura & Maynard Thomson*, Paul & Donna Tong, Marcia & David Trook, Jennifer & Richard Ullrich, Paul & Donna Tung, Linda Walls, Anne & Noel Quinton, Barbara Alowski, Gary & Dianna Wagner, Charles Watts & Helen Haynes*, Joyce & Fred Watson, Laurie Wells, Paul & Lisa Wheeler

*Lifetime Member

Local Businesses Support your Historical Society.

Thanks to our local businesses that have made a significant contribution to our operating costs by advertising their businesses in our fund-raising calendar. 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

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

Your membership is critical to our survival- Please renew or join now! And its tax deductible! See next page 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 addition 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 _____

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



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

