

The Historical Herald

Bartlett Historical Society's summer quarterly newsletter

Volume 2 Issue 2

June 2008

-Our Mission-

To preserve and protect all documents and items of historic value concerning the history of Bartlett, N H

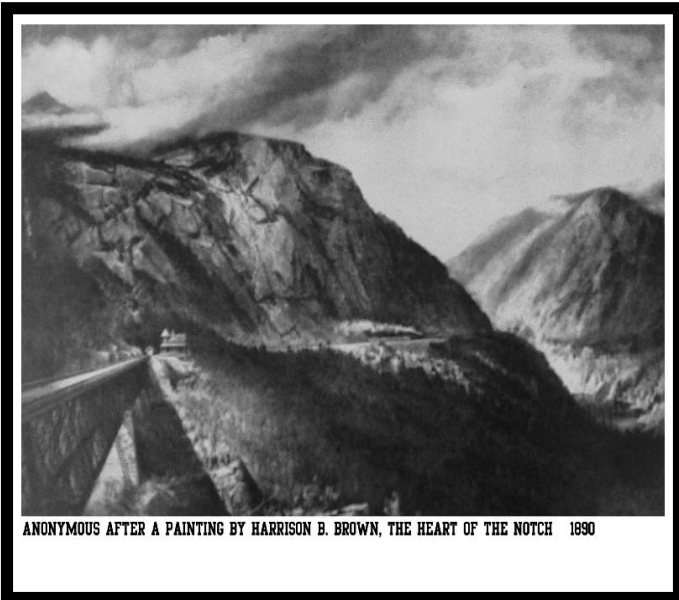
PROGRAMS, PROJECTS AND PRESENTATIONS

-committees: the board is in the process of making appointments to the various committees, and they would appreciate member volunteers.

-the afghan fundraising project is expected to be underway soon. The society has commissioned Country Mills, Inc. of Pennsylvania to create an afghan which captures the history and spirit of Bartlett's historic schoolhouses with the depiction of four of the one-room buildings, four of the multi-room buildings and the present school. A sample, along with order blanks, is expected to be on display soon.

The audience was then treated to a wonderful slide show presentation entitled "White Mountain Art Heritage," followed by a time to enjoy the delicious refreshments, and to view the variety of historical displays drawing attention to the society's 2008 motto "Celebrating our Historical Heritage." Also on display was a recently-acquired four-page 1816 legislative act giving Bartlett permission to build a bridge over the Saco, as well as an exhibit featuring a newspaper account of the flood of 1927, with photos of the resulting damage in Bartlett village. The exhibits will be on display each Saturday from Noon - 2pm at the BHS office, 18 Linderhof Strasse, Glen, NH.

The board extends thanks everyone at the Seasons at Attitash for their kind hospitality; and thanks also to BHS members, Greta George, Ellen Hayes,



The Spring Quarterly Meeting

On Thursday, April 16th members and friends of the Bartlett Historical Society gathered at the community room at the Seasons at Attitash for their spring quarterly meeting.

President, Bert George briefly updated the audience on the following society activities:

-membership: BHS has fourteen new members since the first of the year, bringing current membership to 191 members in 140 households.

-programs: the committee is currently developing a variety of monthly programs and would appreciate suggestions from our members regarding subjects for the programs.

Marion Greenwood, Lise Peters and Leslie Mallett for the delicious refreshments; Brian Knight for the photos of the 1927 flood damage exhibit; Bert George and Norman Head for the loan of historical memorabilia; David Emerson at the Henney History Room for the loan of the slide show presentation; and, to all who supported the efforts of the society by their presence.

Photo of the house beside the track in Crawford Notch courtesy of Mike Kirk.

A Grateful Thank You to the following for their Gifts and Services

Michael Chandler who recently spent several hours taking care of miscellaneous maintenance items at the BHS offices.

Cheryl Hall who not only became a member of the Society, but sent on her genealogical research on the Hall family who settled in Bartlett in the late 1700s.

Paul Taylor who donated his research on the postmasters of Bartlett. His research provided the background for the most recent exhibit at the BHS office.

David & Barbara Hovey who donated a collection of newspaper clippings of people and events of our area.

Brian Hill of Hill's Nursery for flowers for the spring spruce-up day.

Andrea Murphy for railroad photos and a photo of her father, Hugh Murphy and classmates, dated October 1937.

A sincere thank-you to the late Stoney Morrell, the Morrell Corporation, and their parent company for providing us with accommodations for office space and storage for our growing collections at the chalet. Our appreciation for their generosity cannot be adequately expressed in words.

We appreciate also the support of our business members:

-Abbott's Premium Ice Creams, Inc.

-Forest Glen Property Management

Also on April 24th several BHS members gathered at the little chalet for some spring spruce-up. Evelyn Bailey, Ellen Hayes, Steve Murphy and Gary Dolley planted new flower beds at the entrance. Bert and Greta George, Debbie Gilmore and Marcia Dolley were also present.

Thanks to Mike and Doris Kirk for planting and taking care of the window boxes.

2008 Membership Update

We are pleased to announce that our membership has increased by the following new members since our last newsletter: David Emerson, Cheryl L. Hall, Clifton & Bette Henry, Francis Siek, Jr., Nancy King Lauziere, Jim &

Jackie Lane, Don & Phyliss Linger, Barbara & Bill Denhard, and Alice Garland.

Welcome aboard all. We know that you will enjoy being a member of our active, enthusiastic society.

Bartlett School Reunion ***August 22, 23 & 24***

After more than one year of planning, the Bartlett Historical Society reunion committee recently provided information and registration forms to more than 800 former Bartlett school students to gather here on August 22nd, 23rd and 24th for a reunion of Bartlett school alumni, and now they are inviting friends and neighbors to join in this eventful weekend.

The celebration will be launched on Friday evening with a gathering of family, classmates, friends and neighbors for Bartlett Recreation Department's special presentation of its popular Concert in the Park, located at the site of the former Bartlett Hotel. The VFW Auxiliary and the Bartlett Congregational Church will be offering refreshments.

On Saturday, the Bartlett school is the place to be. Guests will be treated to the following:

The Hall of Fame, featuring class, sports and school photos from the early 1900s to the present;

A Century of Railroading presented by author and former Bartlett teacher, Ben English;

The Mountain Division: Images and History with railroad aficionado, enthusiast, and former Bartlett alumnus,

Scott Mallett;

Molly Ockett Indian Doctress, a character reenactment by naturalist Carol Foord of the Tin Mountain Conservation Center;

Update on The Flying Yankee and It's Restoration Project by Bartlett High school graduate, George Howard, class of '53;

River Driving on the Saco River, a character reenactment by Carol Foord of the Tin Mountain Conservation Center;

The Construction of Stoney's Sugar House, a slide presentation on the actual sugaring process and a tour of the sugar house by Josiah Bartlett School students;

Songs of Old New Hampshire by Jeff Warner, Folklorist and Community Scholar for the New Hampshire Humanities. Jeff connects 21st century audiences with the music and everyday lives of 19th century people with warmth, humor and understated scholarship. Jeff has honed his craft in front of audiences across the country at festivals, museums, clubs and schools. His songs, rich in local history and a sense of place, brings us the latest news from the distant past.

Bartlett Public Library will be open and welcoming all guests.

If that is not enough, attendees may be a participant or spectator at the following: a shotgun start nine-hole golf match at the Eagle Mountain House in Jackson; a special presentation of the BHS oral history project, Life, Legends and Lore - Village Voices, where classmates and others will be sharing memories of their days living in the villages of Bartlett; and, just as in the good ole days, teams will be playing

softball at the Precinct Field west of the village.

The day will culminate with a cocktail hour at the Grand Summit Hotel at Bear Peak followed by dinner, awards, special recognition and dancing to Jonathan Sarty and the White Mountain Boys.

On Sunday the old home days school reunion will come to an end, and participants are invited relive the past few days and say so long to family, neighbors, friends and classmates at a Till We Meet Again Breakfast at a local restaurant (to be announced).

Updates and additions will be forthcoming. Attendance to the above events will require pre-registration.

-Event registration fee is \$10 per person and will allow entrance to all presentations and programs.

-Banquet/Dance Reservations are \$40 per person, inclusive. Early pre-registration will allow for planning and is strongly recommended.

Registration forms may be obtained at the Bartlett Historical Society chalet on the hill (which is open every Saturday from Noon - 2pm), at selected places in Bartlett or from the following BHS Reunion Committee members:

Norman Head, chairman 603-986-6278

Bert George, 603-374-2328

Marcia Dolley, 603-367-9278

Leslie Mallett, 603-374-2282

John Ludgate, 603-374-2356

Carol Saunders, 603-939-2254

Donna Lovino, 603-374-0826

100 years ago in Bartlett

News items from *the Reporter*

Bartlett - June 4, 1908

Miss Nina Stewart is at home from Boston.

John Murphy is at home from Portland; Frank Murphy, Fernald Mead, and Clifton Garland are at home from Bridgton.

Howard Dorsit's little son is very low.

Eugene Whitten, who went to Washington on a visit to his father, is expected home about June 18.

Mrs. H. L. Bowen spent two days in Portland last week.

Many hearts were gladdened when the news spread Friday of Dr. Richardson's return to his practice; it is hoped he will remain.

Ashley Fernald has gone to Jackson for the summer.

Ed Blackwell has moved his family here from Brownfield.

Mrs. Joe McDonald visited Portland, Saturday.

W. Silks, G. E. Thompson, R. Morse, J. Currie, were called to Lancaster on railroad business, Tuesday.

Robert Myers is taking a vacation.

Mrs. R. W. Hunter went to Portland recently, to consult an eye specialist.

Geo. Lemeiux's house looks fine; it has a new coat of paint.

Miss Annie Wentworth is suffering with rheumatism.

Gertie Stillings is working for Mrs. Webb.

Rev. Mr. Brotherston occupied the pulpit of the Congregational church, Sunday.

Mrs. Foster received a letter from her son, W. S. Foster, Jr., who has been on the Pacific coast for sometime; he now has a position in Montana.

Married, May 23, at North Conway, George E. Thompson of this village, and Miss Gertrude Marshall of Redstone.

Mrs. F. M. Littlefield was a recent visitor in Portland.

Miss Mayme Daly of Coos, was a guest of F. H. Sheridan and wife last week, and attended the Catholic Fair.

Born, May 23, in Portland, Me., to Mr. and Mrs. G. R. Little, a 6 lb. daughter. Mrs. Little was formerly Myrtle Stillings.

Mrs. Elijah Stanton is preparing to visit Bridgton.

E. D. Stanton, Dolpheus Bergeron ... (unreadable)

Glen - June 4, 1908

Decoration Day was duly observed at Glen on Saturday; music was furnished by a drum corps from Berlin. The G. A. R. and S. of V. marched, at 11 A. M. to the cemetery and decorated their Comrade's graves,

after returning, a picnic dinner was served at the town hall.

In the afternoon the services at the church were as follows: Music by drum corps; prayer by Rev. A. E. Roberts of North Conway; music by a quartet consisting of B. W. Sawyer and daughter Lenna, Mr. and Mrs. Fred Dinsmore; remarks by Rev. R. Gilkey of Jackson, Rev. A. E. Roberts of North Conway, and Rev. E. Gerry of Lower Bartlett; reading by Miss Foster of Maine; music by quartet; address by orator of the day, Rev. Mr. Nelson of Conway; music by drum corps; address to the unknown dead by Rev. Frederick Towers of North Conway; solo by Miss Lenna Sawyer; singing of America by the congregation; benediction by Rev. R. Gilkey of Jackson.

Mrs. C. W. Harmon of New York City, arrived at her summer home at Intervale, Saturday night; she attended church at Glen on Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. L. R. Cox were guests of Joseph Mead's on Sunday.

Joel F. Robinson left on Friday morning for Baltimore, Md., where he has a sister residing, and will also meet a brother and his wife there from the West.

Mr. Elroy Hicks has gone to his summer's work at Stockbridge, Mass.

Oliver Stillings of Jefferson Meadows, is visiting his daughter, Mrs. Edith Nute.

The sale of ice cream on Decoration Day for the benefit of the church realized the sum of \$9.80.

Glen - June 18, 1908

J. F. Robinson returned home last Tuesday, from his trip to Baltimore, and reports a fine time.

Glen Grange observed Children's Day on Saturday. A goodly number of children were served ice cream and cake and seemed to enjoy it immensely.

Born to Mr. and Mrs. John Fernald, a daughter, on Wednesday the 10th.

Mr. and Mrs. John Lucy of North Conway, were guests of Mrs. Lucy's mother, Mrs. John Cook, on Sunday and gave Mrs. Cook a ride in their new automobile.

Mrs. Grace Stillings and Mrs. Edith Nute and daughter attended the graduation exercises at Bartlett, last Thursday night.

Percy Hanscom and his mother of Conway Center, spent Sunday at Glen.

Mrs. Dan Merry spent last Thursday in Portland.

Frank Monahan has cut his foot quite badly. Dr. George Shedd of North Conway, is attending him.

Lilly Allan has commenced her summer's work at the

Jackson Falls House.

J. W. Winslow of Lancaster, formerly of Glen, was calling on friends at Glen, last week.

James Garland has moved into Malcolm Peter's house at Jericho.

J. F. Robinson has gone to Ossipee on a business trip.

Intervale, NH - June 18, 1908

Mrs. W. D. Tasker has returned from a visit with her daughter in Sandwich.

Miss Mitzloff has arrived at her summer home in Intervale Park.

Mr. Fred Tasker and family spent Sunday with Mrs. Tasker's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Otis Merrill of Conway.

Mrs. Stillman Merrifield and Mrs. Lucinda Fish attended the whist party at Grange hall, Saturday evening.

Elder Jones and wife are spending a few days at the Pendexter Mansion.

Mr. W. D. Tasker drove a party of guests from his house to Glen Ellis Falls on Monday.

Bartlett Railroad History

Scotty Mallett, Railroad Historian

Railroad News and Happenings

*The Mt. Washington Hotel was recently featured on an episode of "Ghost Hunters" which aired on the SCI-FI channel.

*The Bartlett Roundhouse Preservation Club has been formed and is working with the State of NH on saving the Bartlett Engine House.

*The Bartlett Roundhouse goes for final approval for placement on the State Register of Historic places in July. It was not placed on the list in April, due to the fact that property boundary lines for the listing could not be done at that time due to the snow on the ground.

*If you are interested in local railroad history, stop by the Bartlett Public Library, they have a great file, full of information on the subject.

*If you have any stories or information to share, visit the Society's website and contact me via the Railroad link.

Scotty

The following can be found on the website
www.AbandonedRailroads.com.

The Sawyer River Railroad -New Hampshire

Thanks to Jeremy Saxe for the write-up on this line.

One of the last logging railroads to operate in the White Mountains was the Sawyer River Railroad, which existed from 1877 to about 1937. Construction of this line became feasible when the Portland & Ogdensburg Railroad was built through Crawford Notch in New Hampshire. By comparison with other logging roads of the day in the White Mountains, this was a small one, running only eight or so twisting, lonely miles up the narrow valley of the Sawyer River above Bartlett at the south end of Crawford Notch.

The Sawyer River Railroad was part of the story of the Saunders family logging operation in the 75,000-acre township of Livermore. Its owners were the only rail operators of their era to follow a continued policy of selective tree cutting. The little line was under the control of one management over a longer continuous period than did any other similar line - in fact, it was the second logging road built in the mountains and second from last to discontinue operations.

The railroad was constructed in 1876 in connection with the organization of the Livermore Lumber Company, which erected a sawmill at Livermore, N.H. It operated from Sawyer River Station on the mainline of the Portland & Ogdensburg Railroad (later the Maine Central's Mountain Division) to Livermore, four miles south, and extended beyond into the forest. The total length varied at times, but was between eight and ten miles. The end of the Sawyer River's line was only about four miles from the East Branch & Lincoln Railroad which ran northeast from Lincoln, N.H., but the two roads were always separated by an intervening mountain range.

The company had a station, brick engine house, general office and yard at Livermore, and a spur track at Sawyer River Station on the Maine Central. One train a day was operated between April and November connecting with a northbound and a southbound train at the MEC station. The railroad never had a mail contract, and so the rural mail carrier made his way over an almost impassable road from the Bartlett Post Office to Livermore.

The mill and railroad operations ceased in 1927-28. In 1935 the United States government decided to extend its

forest holdings in this territory and its purchases included all of the land served by the Sawyer River Railroad, as well as the town of Livermore and the mill. The lumber equipment had already been scrapped and in two years a camp of Civilian Conservation Corps workers removed every trace of the railroad and village. SRR's original locomotive was the C. W. Saunders, No. 1. This 0-4-0 was built by the Portland Company in 1876 with the builder's number of 347; it had 15" x 16" cylinders and 48" drivers. The locomotive served for more than four years. Frequently it was wrecked, periodically jumping the track on some sharp curve and plowing its way into the forest - usually taking the whole train with it. Three different tenders were used during its period of usefulness; on its last trip it was using a converted logging truck to carry its supply of wood. In 1920 it left the tracks at Livermore and fell into the Sawyer River, ending its career.

The second locomotive was Peggy, No. 4 - a 2-4-2T built by Baldwin in 1886, with builder's number 7794. This engine was purchased from the Henry Lumber Company in 1920, which had operated it on the Zealand Valley Railroad, off the Boston & Maine at Twin Mountain, N.H. It had double-flange wheels, which were very convenient if the rails at some points along the line were farther apart than normal. This teakettle was operated until the mill in Livermore closed and the property was taken over by the government. Some say its rusting hulk lay at Livermore until 1947.

In 1876 the Sawyer River Railroad purchased from the Portland Company 35 rail logging trucks with link-and-pin couplings, which comprised the entire roster of rolling stock until 1885 when two four-wheel flatcars were purchased from the same company. In 1916, 14 additional rail trucks were purchased from the Maine Central Railroad when the Swift River and East Branch logging railroads were abandoned. The rolling stock near the end in 1935 consisted of 35 logging trucks and two flatcars. The flats carried both supplies and people to Livermore from Sawyer River, passenger comfort not being a high priority.

Today's visitor to the forest will find little evidence of any civilization in this area. It is very difficult to find the location of Main Street, let alone any sign that a town even existed there. It's hard to believe that the town once had 150 to 200 citizens and a steam sawmill that supported 50 to 60 employees and upwards of 150 to 200 loggers in the hills beyond. The Sawyer River Railroad's junction with the Maine Central is about four miles west of today's Bartlett, near U.S. Route 302.

2008 BHS FUNDRAISING PROJECT
On page 9 of this newsletter you will find a graphic of the Historic Schoolhouses afghan along with an order blank. We urge our friends and members to support the Society with your purchase of this afghan, which celebrates eight of the historic schoolhouse in Bartlett, along with the current Bartlett School in the center.

Programs, Projects and Presentations

Programs:

Wednesday, June 18, 6:30pm at the Red Parka Pub Caboose. Chet Lucy presents a program on Diana's Baths.

July 4th parade entry?

Friday, Saturday and Sunday August 22, 23 & 24 School Reunion (see info on the agenda of programs for this weekend on page 3 of this newsletter)

September program – time, place and program to be announced

Wednesday, October 15th (time and place to be announced) - Annual Meeting: To hear the officers' report of the for January 1-September 30, 2008 and to establish a budget and to elect the officers for the fiscal year January 1-December 31, 2009

November - Annual Open House

Projects:

This Member Project Needs Our Help Help! A member project, in progress, is a compilation of the history of Bartlett town baseball and softball teams. The primary focus is the decade after WWII. Although it is

known that the town had baseball teams as far back as 1921, we are unlikely to discover much in that era. However, we know that Bartlett sent a ladies softball team to the state playoffs in 1949, and we would like to learn more about that 'Cinderella Story'.

If you played on the men's or ladies team or were a fan with memories, please contribute your recollections to BHS. To date, we have received information from, and wish to thank, the following individuals: Earl Chase, John Cannell, John Murphy, Ray Chandler, George Abbott and Richard Jones.

We are interested in: names of players, the years they played for Bartlett, towns they played against, misfortunes, humorous sponsors, home umpires, team managers, coaches, heroics, triumphs, anecdotes, incidents of the good old sports days that you would like to pass along to future readers. Also, any photos or printed information that could be copied, would be greatly appreciated. Please help us to record this interesting era of town history. Information may be mailed to Marcia Dolley, Bartlett Historical Society, PO Box 514, Bartlett, NH 03812 or e mailed to secretary@bartletthistory.org, or by telephone 603-367-9278.

Calling all BHS Artisans

The Society will be holding a raffle of items crafted by Bartlett artisans, during the school reunion weekend. Raffle items are needed. One of your hand-crafted creations for this unique raffle would be very much appreciated. To donate, Please contact Norman Head at Norman@badgerrealty.com or at 603-986-6278.

Bartlett School Wall of Fame

The "Wall of Fame" will highlight classes, team sports and school activities throughout the years. We are now collecting original photos or photocopies to display on this board. We have received donations of classes from 1909, 1921, 1944 and a scattering through the '50s, '60s, '70s and '80s but would appreciate more. Please contact Marcia Dolley at 603-374-9278 or secretary@bartletthistory.org.

The History of... Projects:

Skiing

A reminder that BHS member Mike Bannon is exploring Bartlett's long skiing history. He is collecting photos and/or any information on the many small facilities in Bartlett.

Military

BHS members Mike Kirk, George Howard and Bert George are collecting information on those who served in the military from Bartlett. Please share your family military history with these researchers.

Bartlett Cemetery Mapping & Indexing
Now that the snow has gone, we have resumed our work on the Glen Cemetery. We are now mapping and indexing the lower section. We urge our members and friends to join us in this project. To do so, please contact one of the members of the Cemetery Committee.

Life, Legends and Lore - Village Voices
We have recently recorded conversations with Marion Morton Randall, a delightful, energetic individual. Marion is the daughter of George Morton, who designed and built

the Skimobile. She was raised at Goodrich Falls and attended the Goodrich Falls school. Next, we will be recording conversations with classmates during the school reunion.

Presentations:

The theme for 2008, "Celebrating our Historical Heritage," with an emphasis on the families who lived the history of Bartlett, can be found in all of our programs, projects and presentations this year. The afghan fundraiser celebrates our educational heritage with images of some of the old schools.

We are celebrating our hospitality heritage with an exhibit of some of the old hotels, inns and taverns with photos, artifacts and genealogical information on the families who owned or managed them.

At the April quarterly meeting we displayed photos and newspaper accounts of the 1927 flood, along with a recently acquired 1816 petition to the state legislature to erect a toll bridge over the Saco River.

On Saturday, April 24th once again we celebrated our historical heritage with an exhibit featuring the appointments of Bartlett postmasters since 1804, an 1874 drawing of the Lower Bartlett post office precinct, along with family genealogy on selected postmasters.

These exhibits will remain on display at the Historical Society office throughout the summer. We invite members and friends to visit the office on Saturdays between Noon and 2pm to view the exhibits.

Bartlett Historical Society

PO Box 514
Bartlett, NH 03812
www.BartlettHistory.org

Introducing the 'Historic Bartlett Schoolhouses' Afghan

This beautiful afghan was commissioned by the Bartlett Historical Society and created by Country Mills, Inc. It is 100% cotton, two layers, Jacquard woven in the U.S.A., preshrunk, color-fast and machine washable and dryable. It is handsome and practical, measuring approximately 50x70" and fringed on all four sides.

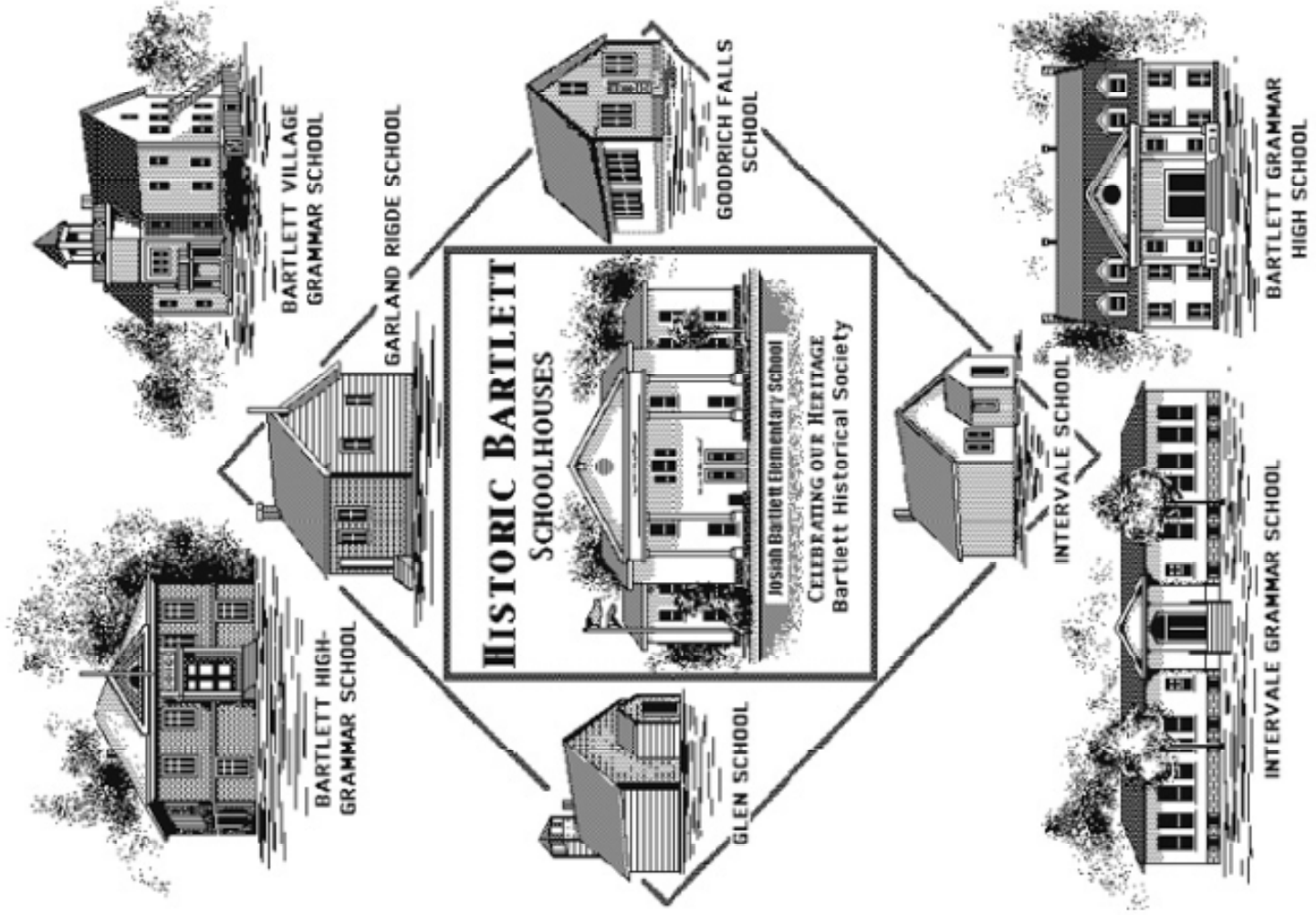
The design captures the history and spirit of Bartlett's historic schoolhouses with the depiction of four of the one-room buildings, four of the multi-room buildings and the present school. It is the perfect gift for family members and friends both near and far. It will become an instant keepsake.

This unique custom woven afghan is available in Cranberry Red with Natural as a second color. The price is only \$48.00 but the perceived value is much higher.

Quantity _____ @ \$48.00 each \$ _____
Total enclosed \$ _____

Checks should be made payable to Bartlett Historical Society and mailed to: PO Box 514, Bartlett, NH 03812.

Ordered by: _____
Name: _____
Address: _____
City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____
Phone number: _____
You will be notified when your afghan may be picked up.
Please allow 6-8 weeks.



This Bartlett Historical Newsletter Features:

- ⇒ The Bartlett School Reunion – August 22nd, 23rd, and 24th – an agenda of programs and activities for that weekend
- ⇒ Projects, Programs and Presentations currently underway by the Society and its members
- ⇒ 100 Years Ago In Bartlett – a delightful look at life as it was in the villages of Bartlett one hundred years ago
- ⇒ Bartlett Railroad History – by railroad historian Scotty Mallett, with railroad news items and narratives of interesting events in Bartlett railroad history
- ⇒ The current BHS *Historic Schoolhouses of Bartlett* fundraising project with order form

Bartlett historical society
Po box 514
Bartlett, NH 03812