

President's Message

First, let me welcome everyone to the 2009 annual meeting of the Bartlett Historical Society. 2009 was another busy year for the society and our theme this year was "Images From The Villages". With the Bartlett School Reunion behind us in 2008, the Board of Directors concentrated their efforts on gathering more collectible items and material, trying to attract new members (and especially volunteers) and putting on programs and speakers that would especially interest our members and other attendees.

This year we are seeking a couple of grants to help provide top notch programs and member support. We will be asking for a grant from the Henney Historical Fund to help support the cost of our newsletter. In addition, we will be asking The Pequawket Foundation for grant monies to purchase a wireless microphone and speaker system. We have found that our programs are being well attended and we want to ensure that everyone can hear and understand the speaker and be able to have their questions heard by all.

We especially want to thank everyone who continue to donate photos, books, objects and other various items to the society's collection.

Although we are growing in membership with more than 200 members in 150+ households now, we are still a fledgling organization and are constantly looking for new members and most especially people who would be willing to help the Board of Directors on a volunteer or committee basis. We have been in existence now for 6+ years, but are being managed by a small core of 4-6 people. Please consider volunteering some time or expertise to help us in our ventures. This small group cannot continue to do it all.

On that note, we are very pleased that Dave Eliason has taken over the management of our website---www.bartletthistory.org---and we cannot express strongly enough what a tremendous asset Dave and his technological knowledge have been. We also have received the benefit of having Kathleen Howard continue with us as Curator. Her credentials, expertise and background are beyond anything we could have hoped for and she has done a tremendous amount of work in cataloging our materials and getting us organized. Hopefully people will continue to make more donations of materials so we can continue to keep Kathleen busy. Recently, Tammy Bronejko joined us as recording secretary, thus allowing Marcia Dolley to lighten her work load and concentrate on the aspects of the society that she enjoys most. Tammy's organizational skills as well as her marketing expertise will be a huge asset to us. Welcome to you all and Thank You Very Much for joining us in this labor of love.

We were saddened by the passing this year of Bartlett native Donald Clemons, a long time supporter of the historical society, but his passing and bequest provided the impetus for the oft discussed establishment of a Memorial Fund where one can bequeath funds for capital purchases by the society. With a commitment by your board of directors to the future, we are optimistic that these funds will be a starting point to obtaining permanent housing. We have had initial discussions with the Bartlett Public Library about a joint venture and we both feel that it could definitely be both cost savings and mutually beneficial.

At last year's annual meeting, we were asked to look into the possibility of creating a lifetime membership category. After extensive research, we have decided that at this point, it probably is not a vehicle which fits our society. We will continue to study this further.

Norman Head, President

Vice President's Message

Time fly's!

When we reviewed the Historical Society's activities for 2009 I was reminded of how far we have come since 2003. The quantity and quality of the projects we were involved with and programs offered this year was amazing. I know some of the members have worked hard to ensure the society accomplishes our primary mission and to offer programs of interest to our membership. However, it is the membership as well as the larger community's interest that makes it all happen. I know that with the recent additions to the BHS staff of Dave E., Kathleen H. and Tammy B., that Pres Norman talked about in his message, will be a tremendous uplift to the quality of our projects and programs. We thank all of you for your support.

Our Military Project is ongoing and our goal is to continue collecting a data base of Bartlett men and women that have served our country in the military. We have a good start with names from the Honor Roll, but we would like to collect basic data to include: dates served, unit assigned, rank, medal or special recognition, current residence and, if now deceased or KIA, place of burial. We need help with names especially from 1985 to the present. If you get the chance, stop by the BHS office and look at the display that Marcia Dolley put together from donations from some relatives that served in WWII. Hopefully that will give you an idea what we hope the "Military Project" will accomplish and will be a significant collection preserving one more aspect of our common Bartlett history.

A lot of the members have filled out our military info form and we thank you, but if you have not, and would like to, go to our web page at bartletthistory.org. I hope the form is still there. If you have family members that served and can provide any of the information, that too would be appreciated.

Treasurer's Report

This Report will be presented separately by Hannalore Chandler, Treasurer.

Committees

The BHS committees per our by-laws are as follows:

Policies and Procedures, Membership, Programs, Genealogy/History, Fundraising and Railroads

The committee and members presently stand as follows:

Polices & Procedures: Norman Head and Bert George

Membership: Marcia Dolley and Bert George

Programs: All Members

Genealogy/History: Marcia Dolley with Mike Kirk

Fundraising: Tammy Bronejko & All Members

Railroads: Bert George

We are looking for members to join such committees to help enhance their productivity. If you are interested please contact one of the following:

Norman Head, President 603-986-6278; Bert George, Vice President 603-374-2328 Marcia Dolley, Secretary 603-367-9278 or Hannalore Chandler, Treasurer 603-383-4297

Secretary's Report

My interest in the history of Bartlett began as a child with me asking my dad hundreds of questions about the families of Bartlett Village and his growing up years there. Of course, I did not record his answers, and after his passing in 1984, I began to set down what I could remember of his responses and to ask others of their recollections, which started my recording the genealogies of the families of Bartlett. Soon, Aileen Carroll, writer of the Bartlett histories, became my new best friend (although she never knew it.) In 2006 I joined the Bartlett Historical Society with the intention of continuing on with genealogy research, as well as to volunteer to record the information from the cemetery gravestones, and to introduce an oral history project.

However, soon after joining, I agreed to act as Secretary for the Society, and my focus on the families of Bartlett gradually faded into the background. The duties of the Secretary included (*but were not limited to*) recording the minutes of the quarterly meeting of the Board of Directors and to keep a record of, and to send a welcome letter each new member. The membership grew to 110 that year.

During the following year, the membership continued to grow. The Board of Directors met more frequently and expanded their public presentations. I volunteered to put together a quarterly newsletter to inform the members of our activities, and to include tidbits of Bartlett history. The first newsletters were one two-sided, double spaced documents. By then we were beginning to receive gifts and our historical collection was growing.

Following true to form, in 2008 the membership took another large leap; the Board of Directors found the need to now meet on a monthly basis; the public presentations increased to four; and, the Society hosted the 2008 School reunion, a three day event of huge undertaking. Each time a gift was received, it was inventoried, a thank you, and a deed of gift was sent and received; and the Secretary also participated in the writing of various grant applications. The Society was growing and expanding at an incredible pace. By then the newsletter had grown to include five two-sided pages.

Several times over the past few years, the directors put out the call for volunteers to serve on the committees as established by the by-laws, but received very little response. We do have a few dedicated members who assist us often. In the meantime, if we were to continue to grow, the five member board would be required to assume the duties which rightly belonged to the various committees. By the end of last year the activity level of the Society Secretary had nearly reached that of a part-time job status.

This year, the Secretary's activity level has continued as stated above. Our membership is now nearly 200. Kathleen Howard is on board as our curator however, her present focus is to record the gifts into the Past Perfect program, and the Secretary is still acknowledging and inventorying the gifts. Recently, the Directors agreed to distribute the Secretary's current workload among two individuals, therefore creating a Recording Secretary and a Membership Secretary. The recording secretary will record and distribute the minutes of the monthly meetings, receive, acknowledge, and inventory gifts to the collections until such time as the Curator is ready to accept this duty. The membership secretary will send a welcome letter, maintain the membership address database and the email listing for each new member, and send email member updates. New member, Tammy Bronejko has agreed to assume the duties of the Recording Secretary and I have agreed continue as the Membership Secretary.

This arrangement will also allow me to volunteer my time to continue to work on family genealogies, mapping and indexing of the Bartlett cemeteries, the oral history project (which has now recorded 30 individuals,) and to produce the quarterly newsletter.

Respectfully submitted. Marcia Dolley, Secretary

Bartlett Historical Society Website

In April of this year I (Dave Eliason) took over the job of maintaining the website. I also created the Bartletttnh.net website last year which you may have seen.

In April and May I added quite a bit of content and reorganized some of the material. So much so that I sometimes had trouble remembering what I had put where. Due to the limitations of the web-authoring tool the society was using (Yahoo Site Builder) getting things indexed was a little difficult. A bigger concern was that the site builder program has a way of sporadically deleting sections of text, or in some cases entire paragraphs. At first I blamed this issue on my own aging mental system, but after leaving the site alone for two months over the summer upon revisiting I discovered that pieces of text had been deleted in many random locations and I knew I couldn't have done it. My research on this issue revealed that this behavior is not unusual for "Site-Builder" and is unavoidable due to a conflict with Java code updating (or some gobble-gook nerd talk like that). Whatever the reason, it seemed totally unacceptable to me and I am working on getting our site switched to a different server using a different authoring program.

Although the web-site seems to have a **limited audience** (perhaps 25 to 35 page-views per day) the value of organizing all the stories, pictures and details in an easily accessible, searchable and perpetual record, immune from the threats of flood, fire or calamity, is well worth all the effort. With this factor in mind Site Builder's random deletions became a primary concern.

So, beginning in September I began a **complete over-haul** of the site, utilizing a more professional program. It is temporarily hosted by my very under-used "officeguy.biz" domain as a sub-web until we get the domain name, bartletthistory.org, transferred to a new server.

My goal was to make the site cleaner with less clutter, less colors and less distraction. I went with a picture rotating banner and a body area that is on a plain white background with very little decoration. It has an excellent **search function** so it's easy to find any content. I also have implemented a clickable **name/subject index**, which was previously a noticeable omission (at least to me). The new site format continues the **guest book** feature but with more space for the user to write down whatever they want (the old guestbook stopped recording after a couple of sentences). I also included an expanded "**contact-us**" form that allows plenty of space for the writer's subject matter. E-mail can be an extremely un-reliable method of communication in some cases, so I included a **printable form for new members** to fill-in, print out and send by US Postal service mail. I am also working on a page to highlight the items the historical society sells in its **fund-raising efforts**. There is also a page of reference material that has **links to other places** with additional relevant information on a variety of subjects.

My efforts continue towards seeking out and adding subject matter in an organized method. Since I enjoy historical things, this project is an extension of my hobby and gives me a **place to organize all my discoveries**.

I only recently remembered that about 1790, **Obed Hall**, a prominent Bartlett Citizen, had a tavern in the Village about where the present day park is located. He also had a 150 acre farmstead that occupied the land on both sides of Rte 302 from about the old Hayes farm all the way down past the present day North Colony Motel. He was one of the few people in New Hampshire who **owned a slave**. Read more about Obed at the web-site, look in the index. Check out the story about the **local inn-keeper who shot and killed a pushy customer**...and was acquitted by the court; and the day in the late 1800's when the entire Village Business District burned to the ground. It's all on the web-site and I'll let you search for it on your own.

I think the most interesting parts of the website are the **short stories** and recollections that both **past and present Bartlett residents** have sent in. There is plenty of room in the "contact us" form at the web-site for you to jot down anything about any subject that may be of historical interest...and I know everyone has some recollection of a person or event that everyone would find interesting and could be recorded for posterity. As an example, **Ellsworth Morton** sent an article about his years at the Bartlett School and every-day experiences from **1947 to 1952**. Look for his name in the web-site index page to read his article. I am also developing a section called "Innkeepers Tales" which I hope will be entertaining. **Send in YOUR story** and I will see that it gets special prominence on the web-site. Why not plan on sending something in the next day or two! I only ask for a half hour of your time.

Since the October 20th meeting features **Mr. Crane** speaking on **Livermore** you might be interested to know that I located some very good **pictures of Livermore** in the 1920's that were very recently released at another web-site. I have included a link to their location in the "**other resources**" section of the web-site. Now you have a few good reason to **re-visit bartletthistory.org**.

Submitted by: Dave Eliason

Projects 2009

Our ongoing member projects relating to Genealogy/History are our oral history project Life, Legends and Lore—Village Voices: Cemetery Mapping and Indexing; the History and Genealogy of the Families of Bartlett and the Military Service of the Men and Women of Bartlett

Presentations 2009

Our 2009 programs, in addition to this evening's presentation by Dr. Peter Crane on the history of Livermore were as follows:

February saw the always popular Ben English, former educator at Josiah Bartlett School, give his presentation on "Railroading in Bartlett & Vicinity 1972 Forward". This was held at the Glen Fire Station in conjunction with a Spaghetti Dinner put on by The Bartlett Firefighters' Association. We thank them for their help in putting this event together.

April featured a New Hampshire Humanities Council sponsored program entitled "New Hampshire Cemeteries and Gravestones" presented by scholar and author Glenn A. Knoblock. This was combined with a Dinner and a Program in partnership with the Bartlett Congregational Church. A wonderful meal was enjoyed by all and we thank the church for their participation.

In between all the raindrops in June, we were very excited to receive John Cannell featuring his photos and his talk of life and growing up in Glen during the 1930's, 1940's and beyond. John drew the largest crowd of the year and regaled us with many of his funny stories and recollections of growing up in Glen. For many of us, he opened our eyes to how different life was then and for others John brought back some wonderful memories of times and names long gone. The Seasons at Attitash was kind enough to provide the venue for us.

August brought another New Hampshire Humanities Council sponsored speaker, Marcia Schmidt-Blaine giving her presentation on "A Woman That Keeps Good Order—Women, Tavern Keeping and Public Approval". Ms. Schmidt-Blaine certainly had some interesting tales to tell about women operating taverns and seeking public approval by doing so. The Bartlett Public Library was kind enough to offer their room for us in August.

Planned Presentations 2010

We believe we have all our programs planned for 2010 and look forward to seeing you there. Some of the locations still need to be firmed up, but you will be notified when the locations are confirmed.

Our January meeting is scheduled for January 17th and will be a celebration of all the ski clubs in Bartlett and their historic significance to our town and their impact on early skiing days. Bartlett Town Column reporter Marcia Burchstead is spear-heading this large undertaking.

The April 20th meeting will feature Jean Garland giving her talk on her 55 years as Bartlett's Librarian and all the changes and improvements she and the library itself witnessed.

June 15th will see the return of Ben English giving a new presentation on railroading days in Bartlett. Ben's programs are always popular and much looked forward to.

On August 17th we will be having a program sponsored by the New Humanities Council Wrapping up the year at our annual meeting on October 19th will be Historian Rick Russack, who will be doing a program on the building of the 10th Mountain Division New Hampshire Turnpike through Crawford Notch. Remember, our programs and presentations are always free and open to the public. We look forward to seeing you and your friends at our future events.

THE BARTLETT HISTORICAL SOCIETY
P O BOX 514 BARTLETT, NH 03812
www.bartletthistory.org

Annual Meeting Agenda

October 20, 2009

1. Election of Officers for 2010
2. Budget
3. Any Committee Reports
4. Report on 2010 Programs
5. Need for volunteers
6. Report on Nov 1st Charity Chatter Fair from 2:00----5:00 @ The Grand Summit
and Nov 14th Craft Fair from 10:00—2:00 @ The Bartlett School
7. Any other business or questions
8. Get Well cards to Gary Dolley 1560 Conway Rd. Madison, NH 03849
9. Adjourn business meeting

BARTLETT HISTORICAL SOCIETY FINANCIAL REPORT AND BUDGET

INCOME	2009		2010
	BUDGET	ACTUAL	BUDGET ROPOSED
MEMBERSHIP DUES	\$ 1,800.00	\$ 2,345.00	\$ 2,000.00
DONATIONS	500.00	410.33	350.00
FUNDRAISING	2,200.00	863.50	1,100.00
TOTAL	\$ 4,500.00	\$ 3,618.83*	\$ 3,450.00
EXPENSES			
ADVERTMT./PROMOS	100.00	30.00	100.00
COMP./INTERNET	150.00	71.70	150.00
DUES/SUPSCRIPT.	200.00	75.00	150.00
HEATING	500.00	-0-	-0-
INSURANCE	500.00	500.00	600.00
NEWSLETTER	800.00	1,933.62	750.00
POSTAGE	50.00	172.00	50.00
SUPPLIES	400.00	13.90	200.00
PROF.FEES	100.00	-0-	100.00
PROGRAMS	200.00	413.00	200.00
MAINT/REPAIRS	300.00	111.86	200.00
PHONE	400.00	156.24	400.00
ELECTRIC	300.00	146.00	250.00
FUND RAISING	100.00	-0-	100.00
EQUIP.REPAIRS	400.00	-0-	200.00
EQUIP.PURCHASES	-0-	-0-	-0-
BANK CHARGES/FEES	-0-	63.00	-0-
TOTAL	\$ 4,500.00	\$ 3,695.32*	\$ 3,450.00

- Figures are to 7/31/09

Respectfully Submitted: H. Chandler Treasurer