



WHS Officers

President: Terry Macaig
Vice President: Brenda Perkins
Secretary: Marlene Price
Treasurer: Jon Stokes
Archivist & Collections Manager: Adrienne Katz

Williston Historical Society Bulletin

Volume 44, Number 2

October 2017

“Every individual is an historical figure.”

Founded 1974

S. & J. Burroughs, Editors

Save the Dates

Sunday November 5, 2:00pm at the Dorothy Alling Memorial Library.

Williston Historical Society Annual Meeting:

After a very brief business meeting for the election of officers, Devin Colman, Vermont State Architectural Historian at the Vermont Division for Historic Preservation will present a slideshow on historical structures of Williston. Devin earned his MS in historic preservation at the University of Vermont. Recent research projects include the documentation of mid-20th century modernist architecture throughout the state and buildings built by Finnish immigrants in southern Vermont. He and his family live in an historic 1956 ranch house in Burlington.

Light refreshments will be served.

Please update your email address and phone number

If you have not recently updated your email address with the WHS, please do so by sending your current email address to Bob Bradish, who is now maintaining the membership list. You can do this by sending an email to Bob at robertdonab@myfairpoint.net or by calling him at 872-8775.

Report from the President

Dear Williston Historical Society members:

I write this for the last time as WHS President. After 11 years it is time to run for Past President and to welcome our current Vice-President, Brenda Perkins as a candidate for President. This, of course, leaves a vacancy for the Vice-President position to be filled at our annual meeting on November 5th at 2 p.m. at the Williston library.

More information is found elsewhere in this newsletter. Needless to say, we need more of you to volunteer to become officers or to serve on committees. After the first of the year we are planning a member meeting with the state archivist talking about stone working tools donated by the family of the late Lynwood Osborne.

It has been a productive year with a cruise on Lake Champlain and a tour of Fort Ticonderoga on a beautiful late August day. We are looking for your input for other interesting meeting programs or events. It has been a privilege serving as President of WHS and I look forward to continuing my involvement on the Board of Directors.

Terry Macaig

Recent Events...



WHS sponsored Cruise on the Carillon and Visit to Fort Ticonderoga

On a quintessential late summer day, 22 members and friends of the Williston Historical Society met on the Ticonderoga shore to enjoy a 90 minute narrated cruise on Lake Champlain. We boarded the Carillon, a replica of a 1920's touring boat, along with our Captain and narrator. Lake Champlain was clear and smooth as we sailed between the shores of Vermont and New York.



The narrator regaled us with stories of Fort Carillon's/Ticonderoga's battles, captures and occupations, all the while pointing out landmarks where events took place. He also told the story of an ill-fated railroad bridge twice the site of unusual train accidents. He pointed out the house on the Vermont shore where Ethan Allen and Benedict Arnold met in 1775 before the taking of Fort Ticonderoga from the British.



We returned to the New York shore, disembarking on the dock below the Pell Mansion, currently being restored. On the grounds of the mansion are beautiful gardens including the enclosed King's Garden, vegetable gardens, fruit trees and theme flower gardens. William Pell purchased the garrison grounds, which encompassed the ruins of Fort Ticonderoga, in 1820. He landscaped the gardens and parkland, preserving the Fort ruins, as he built his summer home. The Pell family began restoration of the fort in 1909. It continues today as the non-profit Fort Ticonderoga Association, established by the Pell family in 1931.

Many of the group picnicked on the grounds then went on to explore the reconstructed Fort Ticonderoga with its re-enactors, rooms of artifacts and exhibits, ending the day with a trip up Mount Defiance. From this vantage point one could easily see in their mind's eye the bridge built by American troops between Mt. Independence and the fort; the ridge where thousands of British soldiers awaited their attack on Fort Carillon, held by the French; and both American held Fort Ticonderoga and Mt. Independence as it appeared to British soldiers looking down on it from the artillery placements of Mount Defiance.



Upcoming Events...

The Williston Historical Society recently acquired some stone tools gifted to WHS by the Lynwood Osborne estate. Lynwood's father discovered the tools years ago on the Talcott farm, near where the Williston golf course is now located. The Vermont State Archaeologist, Jess Robinson, has researched them and will speak about the tools and other archaeological digs in Williston at an Historical Society meeting, date to be announced.

Jess is originally from Burlington and now lives in Richmond with his wife and son. He has worked in Vermont as an archeologist in both regulatory and academic settings for over 15 years. Retired State Archaeologist Giovanna Peebles says of Jess, "He is passionate about studying the past and sharing stories with all interested Vermonters..."

Watch for notices in the Observer, the Dorothy Alling Library and member emails for the date of this upcoming meeting.

Announcing Williston Historical Society's New Grant Program

The Board of Directors is proud to announce its new grant program that is designed to encourage original research and projects based on the town of Williston. These projects might include a video, powerpoint presentation, models, maps, landmark identifications, articles or books.

Amounts up to \$500 will be distributed twice a year with applications due on April 1 and Oct 1. Multiple grants will be considered but the total will not exceed \$500.00 in any 6 month cycle. Students as well as adults are encouraged to participate in this new program. All of the completed projects and research will add to the existing knowledge base about our community. Grant applications are available at the Dorothy Alling Memorial Library, in our newsletter and on our website. (www.willistonhistoricalsociety.org)



Williston Historical Society Grant Application

Purpose: To encourage historical research and projects based on the Town of Williston, VT (ex. Video, powerpoint, models, maps, landmark identifications, articles, books)

Amounts: Up to \$500 will be distributed twice a year with applications due on April 1 and Oct 1. Multiple grants will be considered but the total will not exceed \$500.00 in any 6 month cycle.

Selection: The WHS directors will screen all applications and select those projects to be funded. (Criteria to include: some aspect of Williston History not yet explored)

Grantee responsibility: To report back to WHS upon completion of research/project, provide an article for the newsletter and to give proper credit to WHS for either full or partial funding. When appropriate, the work will be presented at a regularly scheduled meeting of the Williston Historical Society. If a project results in a book, two copies will be provided to WHS.

Amount being requested: _____

Time line of research/project: _____ Expected completion date: _____

Budget: _____

Overview of project with expected outcomes: *(use back if necessary)*

Signature: _____ Date: _____

If Student: _____ Advisor's Signature _____

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