



CHITTENDEN
HISTORICAL SOCIETY

CHITTENDEN HISTORICAL SOCIETY NEWS

PO Box 89 • Chittenden, Vermont 05737

WINTER 2009

FALL MEETINGS

August

Lindsey Bishop, the 2009 Muzzy Davenport Award for interest in local history at Barstow School, presented her independent study of the Battle of Hubbardton in the Revolutionary War.

September

As a preservation measure, the Society is digitizing its old pictures. In September, some of the collection was shared on screen, enhancing the details captured by early photographers. Bette Deatte found a photo of herself waving at President Eisenhower along Mountain Top Road.

Later in October, The Society presented a "Then and Now" program to Barstow grades K-2 using these old photos to show how town and school looked ca 1900.

October

Vermont Humanities Council speaker Don Wickman inaugurated all events at the Grange Hall in North Chittenden at the Chittenden Historical Society meeting in October. A potluck supper preceded his well researched and well presented program on George Houghton, Civil War photographer, using slides of the original pictures taken by Houghton of Vermonters during the war.



October supper and speaker at the Grange Hall

November

At the annual meeting, officers were elected for the year 2010 as follows:

President: Bob Webster
Vice-President: Bob Muzzy
Secretary: Karen Webster
Treasurer: Fran Wheeler
Directors: Bob Muzzy - 2011
Elmer Wheeler - 2011
Reggi Dubin - 2010
Newt Wetmore - 2010

At the next meeting on March 11, 2010, the year's calendar of events will be determined.

*The Chittenden Historical Society meets on the second Thursday of the month, March through November at 7:30 pm in Town Hall.
Visitors and new members are welcome!*

HISTORICAL SOCIETY PROJECT NEWS

Grange Hall

The lower level of the Grange Hall has been completed. It will be open for community use within the next few weeks. See photos at right.

We thank the Select board, Preservation Trust, The Vermont Cultural Coalition, The Windham Foundation, the Vermont Community Foundation and Chittenden residents for their help in renovation.

Cataloguing

For the cold winter months, the Society will not be open every Tuesday afternoon, but will be happy to open by appointment. We will resume our Tuesday afternoons in March. While away from the desk, we are working to update our family files, news clippings and lists and to undertake other conservation measures.

Cemetery

This fall we were delighted to help a Churchill relative find roots. Mary Churchill Dickson is pictured below in Wetmore Cemetery between the headstones of her great, great, great-grandparents, Caleb and Sarah (Hawley) Churchill, who came to the old Philadelphia part of Chittenden from Plympton, Massachusetts, in the early 1780s.

Furthermore, we found that her ancestors were charter members of the Congregational Church, now the Grange Hall, and their children were christened there.



Churchills, 5 generations apart

For those who haven't stopped by ...



...a view of the kitchen and lift



...tables ready to be set



...and the new kitchen

Visit our Web site: www.chittendenhistory.org

Fall Hike

A happy coincidence this fall led to a delightful and insightful hike to the site of the old Steam Mill in North Chittenden. The adjoining land owner called to offer her trails to the site, which we had already planned to visit. Hikers were treated to refreshments afterwards by our hostess, Susan Leikin.

Following our leader, Bob Muzzy, we explored the trails to the once-extensive site. Amongst the mill meadows, we found pre-war truck fenders, pipe, buggy springs, and possibly a charcoal kiln evidenced by the shaped bricks, despite the chest-high goldenrod.

After passing the Steam Mill Schoolhouse site, we found remnants along the way of other activities, such as a mine shaft and what may have been a blacksmith's shop. The still beautifully squared cellar hole is shown at right.

The mill was once known as the Pierce and Naylor Mill. Charles Reed Holden brought the first mill steam engine there in 1868, initiating the big lumber boom in town.

We are trying to learn more of this area and its residents. If you have any information to share, please contact us.



A cellar hole along Steam Mill Brook

The Society endeavors to sponsor a spring and a fall hike each year. The public is welcome to join us.

The destinations of our hikes are chosen at the March organizational meeting of the Society. If you are interested in a particular area, come to the March meeting on the second Thursday evening at Town Hall at 7:30 pm.

★ ★ 2010 DUES ARE DUE ★ ★

MEMBERSHIP

We would love to have you join the Chittenden Historical Society. Pick the level where you feel most comfortable and fill out the form below and mail it with your payment to the Chittenden Historical Society, PO Box 89, Chittenden, VT 05737. Our thanks to all of you who have already answered.

Membership Levels

Student	\$ 3
Senior	\$ 6
Regular	\$ 10
Contributing	\$ 20
Supporting	\$ 60
Life	\$150

Name _____

Address _____

Town _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____

E-mail _____

Membership Amount Enclosed _____

Thank you for your generous support.

Watch for coming activities:

Meeting - March 11, 2010

7:30 pm Town Hall

To set calendar of events (programs, hikes and visits) for the year

Check our Web site: www.chittendenhistory.org

C H I T T E N D E N

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