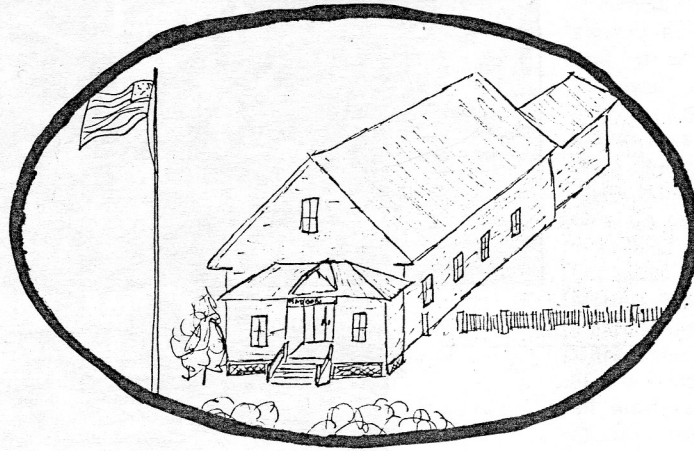


Madison Historical Gazette



MADISON HISTORICAL SOCIETY

MADISON, NEW HAMPSHIRE

03849

Volume 2

August 1, 1991

Issue 1

Newly Elected Officers

Ray Stineford - President
Isabelle Knowles - Vice President
Secretary - Peggy Hoyt
Treasurer - Ed Bickford
Curator - Becky Beaulieu

Editor

Becky Beaulieu

Important Membership Information:

Don't forget to renew. Our year goes from July 1-June 30. At our recent annual meeting it was voted to increase yearly dues to \$5.00 per person or \$8.00 per family. If you have already sent in \$3.00 for the year, please send the balance of \$2.00 or bring it to a meeting. Costs for sending the Gazette and reminder notices is over \$3.00 per year, therefore the need for the increase. Thanks and we will continue to offer great programs and quarterly issues of the Gazette.

Annual Meeting, Picnic, and Ice Cream!

Our 2nd Annual Picnic was held at Kennett Park. The weather cooperated and everyone enjoyed the comraderie! We returned to the Museum for our annual meeting. New by-laws were read and accepted, the major change being the cost of Membership, \$5/person and \$8/family. Afterward all enjoyed an ice cream smorgasbord, Peggy's homemade hot fudge was a delicious hit.

Thanks Jack and Joan!!!

We wish to thank Jack Alexander for 10 years of dedication as president of the society. He has stood by the Historical Society through thick and thin. Thanks Jack!

Joan Kracke has put in many exacting hours as treasurer and has done well keeping track of our finances. We have put her through her paces lately with the flurry of activity in the accounts. Thanks Joan!

We will continue to see them both at our meetings and events!

MADISON CELEBRATES.

50th. Anniversary of Town, and its First Old Home Week.

A Brief Historical Sketch and a List of The Home Comers.

(Special to the NEWS)

August 19. This year the residents of Madison decided to commemorate the 50th anniversary of the town's incorporation, and at the same time to observe their first Old Home celebration, a feature which is becoming so justly popular throughout the state.

Early in the season an organization was perfected to make the necessary arrangements, consisting of John H. Burke, president, Willis C. Kennett, first vice-president, Walter Kennett, second vice-president, James O. Gerry,

treasurer, I. A. Forrest, treasurer. The Executive Committee is John H. Burke chairman, John F. Chick, James O. Gerry, E. E. Hoyt, Jr., Mrs. Hattie E. Warren, W. C. Kennett, I. A. Forrest.

This committee commenced at once to plan for the grand event which has terminated in one of the best celebrations the town has ever witnessed. It was a grand success and reflects credit upon those who had the management of the affair.

Tuesday was the principal day.

The weather being favorable, a large number of the former residents, as well as many from adjoining towns, availed themselves of the opportunity to join and participate in the festivities. A conservative estimate places the number present at 800.

On account of the funeral of William Kennett which took place at the church Tuesday, the festivities

were deferred until Wednesday, which were made the principal day. Tuesday the ball team went to Freedom which took a large number of the residents and visitors to that town.

Monday the home team played ball with the Red Stone nine, resulting in a score of 7 to 5 in favor of Madison.

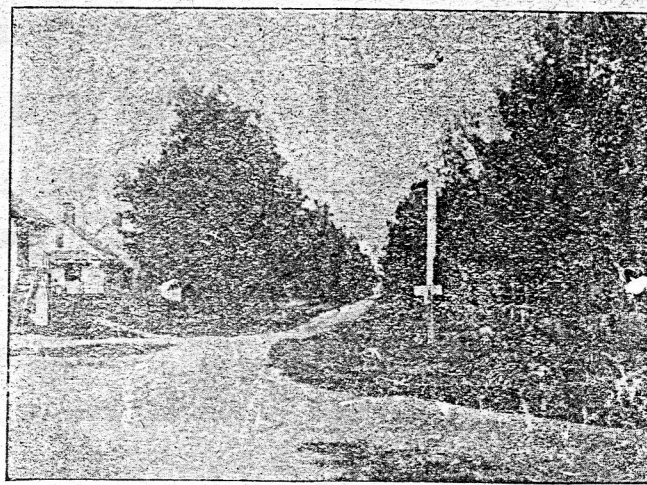
The committee issued their invitation in the shape of a neat little souvenir, in book form, containing about 50 pages, giving the weeks' program; a brief historical sketch of the town and also a list of the business firms there, as well as a list of the places of interest in and around Madison. This booklet was handsomely illustrated.

The invitation reads as follows:—

Madison, N. H., July 1, 1902.

"Dear Absent Friends. We most cordially invite you to participate with us in the festivities of "Old Home Week" and also in the 50th Anniversary of the Town of Madison" which we are to celebrate during said week.

The week will be given to celebrate the "Return Home" of our absent schoolmates



MADISON CORNER.

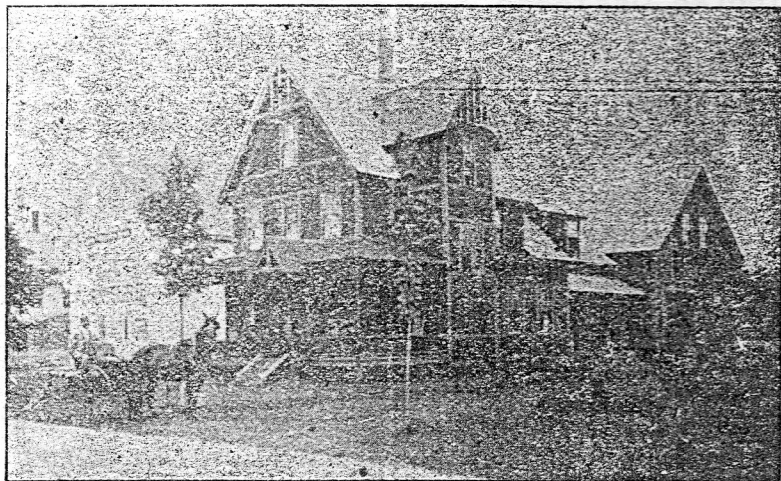
and friends who once made this their abiding place.

Every effort will be made to make it a pleasant and enjoyable occasion. We hope this will be the means of bringing to us "at sometime during said week" many who have been away for years, that we may once more be permitted to clasp their hands and welcome them to our homes.

Yours Very Truly,
JAMES O. GERRY, Secretary.
J. H. BURKE, President.

The exercises of the week were carried out according to the following program:—

SATURDAY. Receiving Visitors. Even-



RESIDENCE OF I. A. FORREST.

ing. Bon fire.

SUNDAY. 10 A. M. Old Home Sermon, by Rev. L. L. Harmon.

7.30 P. M. Sacred Concert.

MONDAY. Base Ball Game at 2 P. M. Evening. Speaking. Prof. Cummings.

TUESDAY. Old Home Day. Picnic Dinner. Addresses at 2 P. M. Josiah H. Hobbs, Esq., and

THE GRANITE STATE NEWS,

SATURDAY, AUGUST 23, 1902.

others on Old Home Day and 50th Anniversary of the town. Music by Chocorua band. Evening. Musical entertainment.

WEDNESDAY. Base Ball. 2 P. M. Evening. Sociable at Town Hall.

THURSDAY. Visiting Day. Evening.

vices in the French and Indian War. Most of the early settlers were descendants of the Orangemen who settled in the central part of the state near Manchester. Farming is the principal avocation followed although since the railroad

which is located near the "Five-mile Brook" and was built by Isaiah Forrest who was a recruiting officer in the war of 1812, and enlisted men in Eaton and marched them to Burlington, Vt. Soon after the war closed he returned, and from the wilderness cleared and made this pleasant home and, it is said, built 2,300 rods of stonewall on this farm. He died in 1871, aged 80 years.

The first frame-house in town was built by Samuel or John Banfield about 1785, and is located on the place now owned by Henry Harriman (his grandson.)

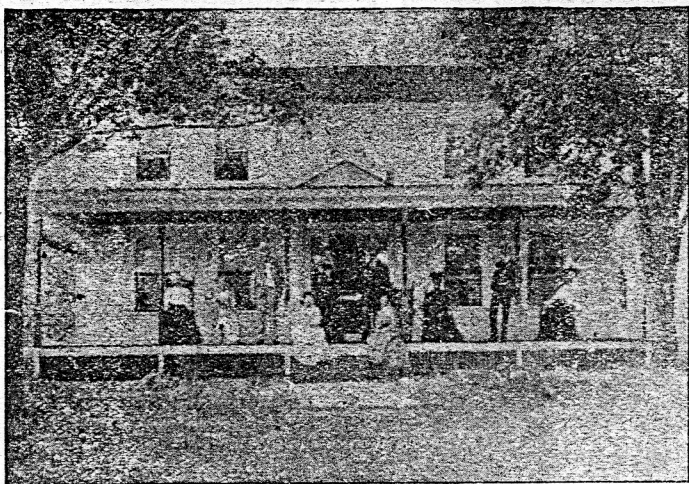
Thomas Burke was one of the early settlers who came to town in 1785 and located on Kennett Hill, John H. Burke the present postmaster, is one of his descendants, and is active in all matters pertaining to the welfare of the town. He is proprietor of

Burkely Inn, located at the Corner, of which the following is a faithful representation.

James O. Gerry who conducts a general store at the "Corner" is a descendant of General Hercules Mooney of Revolutionary fame and is and has been very active in town affairs. He came to the town when a small boy, in 1845. Recently he has built him a handsome residence on Elm Street.

Since the railroad was built a new settlement has come into prominence in town, known as Silver Lake. It borders the famous lake from which it derives its name, and is a very important part of the town. Here are located the railroad station, several hotels, stores and places of business, and also a post-office, among them the Silver Lake House, Miss Emma M. Forrest proprietress; Lake Side House, Walter Kennett, Proprietor; Here David Knowles, proprietor of the Chocorua Peak House, resides and conducts his celebrated greenhouse business, while Z. L. Savary, contractor and builder, Forrest Chick & Son, household furniture, Samuel Ward stone mason, N. K. Forrest livery stable, Walter Kennett, and A. L. Woodbury meats and provision, Gilman Bros., general merchandise and post-office, J. W. Tyler dry goods, Augustus Fickett blacksmith, Lyman L. Martin architect, and I. A. Forrest, agent for the B. & M. R. R. Am. Ex., and News agent reside and prosecute their work.

This town is credited with possessing the largest known boulder on the American continent, some claim in the world. It is a natural curiosity which nature will duplicate. An effort has been made by the owner to have this boulder broken up for commercial purposes, but a strong sentiment prevails against such a move.



BURKELY INN.

Entertainment.

FRIDAY. Base Ball at 2 P. M. Evening. Dance. Chocorua Orchestra.

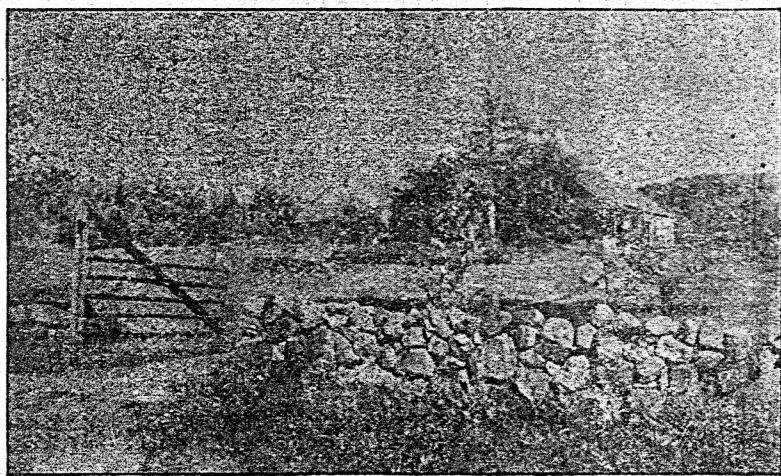
HISTORICAL.

Madison became a township by an act of the legislature approved December 17, 1852. Prior to that date it comprised a portion of the adjoining town, Eaton, which was granted November 7, 1766, to Clement Marsh and 65 associates.

The town of Madison is bounded north by Albany and Conway; east by

was built through the Town in 1870, much has been done to foster and encourage the summer boarding industry, and the town is becoming more popular each season as its merits is better known. The village is handsomely nestled among the foot-hills of the famous White Mountain section, on the line of the Boston & Maine system, northern division.

The town has many beautiful sheets of water scattered over its surface and also numerous springs, some of which

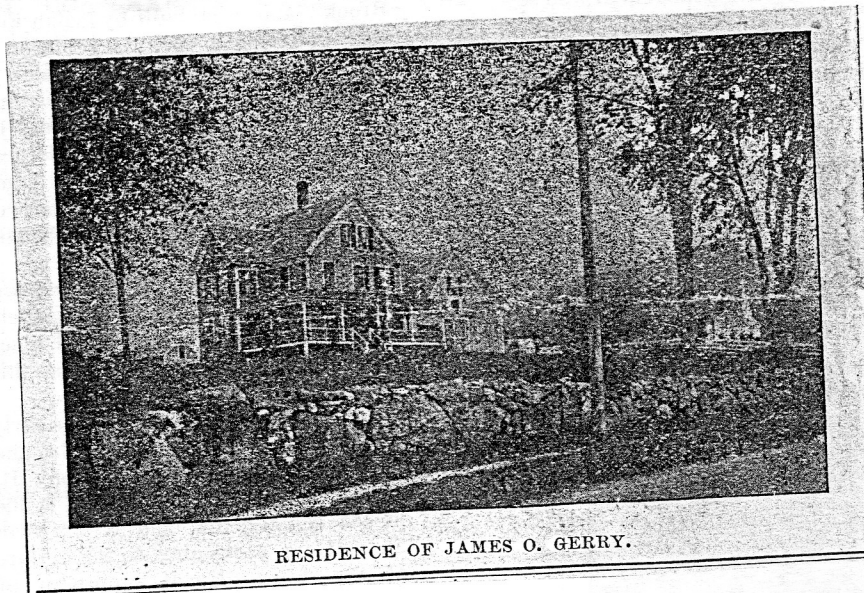


THE FORREST HOMESTEAD.

Conway and Eaton; south by Freedom; west by Tamworth and Albany. It contains sixty square miles, and the north part of the town was granted in tracts of 2,000 acres each to Daniel McNeal, Joshua Martin, Alexander Blair, John Caldwell and Nathaniel Martin for meritorious ser-

vice in the French and Indian War. have a reputation for great medicinal efficacy, and well authenticated instances of recovery from chronic diseases are traceable to the use of these waters.

The above cut is a faithful representation of the Forrest Homestead one of the old landmarks of the town,



RESIDENCE OF JAMES O. GERRY.

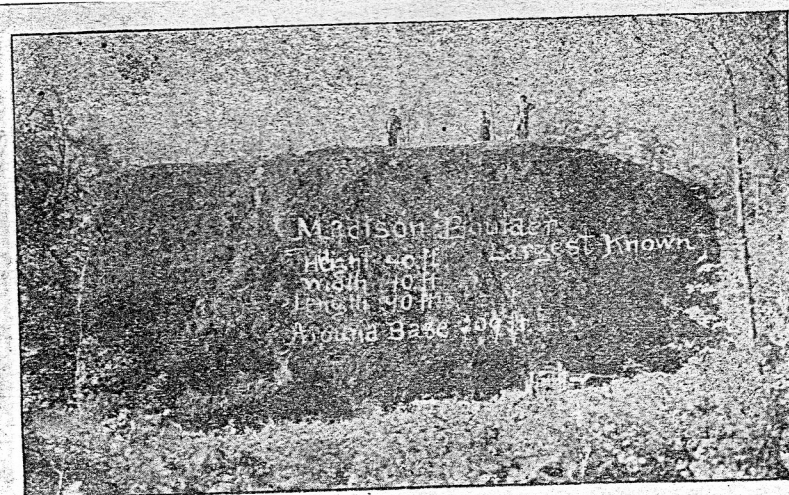
This boulder is of the following dimensions: 40 feet high, 40 feet wide, 90 feet long, 209 feet around base.

Among the former residents who have returned are:

Mrs. Henry Fulton and the Misses Fulton, Washington; John C. Harmon and Rev. F. P. Pearson, South Framingham; Mrs. B. F. Harmon and Miss Harmon, Boston; Colby Harmon, Wakefield; Mr. and Mrs. George Glines, Beverly; Mr. and Mrs. Albert Kennett, Nashua; Mrs. Augusta Dodge, Chelsea; Miss Emma Grover and David B. Lepper, Boston; Harry H. Lepper, Swampscott; Mrs. Wallace Webster and Miss Georgia Webster, Portsmouth; Mrs. King, Peabody; Mr. and Mrs. George C. Foster and Mr. and Mrs. Leonard C. Brown, Haverhill; Edward W. Libbey and Miss Sue Libbey, Melrose Highlands; Fred W. Drew, Boston; Mrs. Joseph

Tools/Farm Implements Needed

We are looking for more woodworking tools and farm implements for our new exhibit in the wood shed behind the museum. This wood shed used to be behind the Madison Library when it was to the right of the school building. John Erlewine and Ed Bickford have done a wonderful job reinforcing it and putting in a new "old" floor. If you have anything you would like to donate or loan to the museum, call Becky Beaulieu, 367-3583.



MADISON BOULDER.

Archaeology and Genealogy Workshops for Kids

During July a Genealogy Workshop was offered by the Society at the Museum. Students learned how to start a family history, made picture family trees, made their own computerized form for keeping track of family groups, wrote to relatives to inquire about family history, wrote to town clerks for information about ancestors and made gravestone rubbings. It was so much fun we decided to keep meeting once a week on Thursday nights at 6pm, to continue our research.

A basic course in Archaeology will start August 12 and run through the week, meeting from 2-4pm. We will do a simple dig after learning Archaeological Techniques. We may be offering a course after school in conjunction with Plymouth State University this fall if all goes well.

Sargent, Freedom; Dr. F. D. Lawson, New York; Miss Minnie Chase and Miss Marcia Chase, Providence; Miss Florence Gilman, Dover; Mr. and Mrs. R. C. Gilman, Mr. and Mrs. G. H. Connant and Mr. and Mrs. C. S. Gilman, West Somerville; Mrs. E. F. Knowles, Boston; Mrs. N. M. Hubbard and Miss S. E. Churchill, Malden; F. M. Batchelder, G. L. Batchelder, M. E. Batchelder, D. P. Batchelder, G. P. Batchelder, Rev. J. E. Norcross and Miss Mildred Norcross, Amesbury; Miss Alice O. Norcross and Miss Harriett H. Norcross, Watertown; Gilbert Ashworth, Amesbury; Mrs. F. T. Follansbee and Miss Marguerite Follansbee, Milton; J. H. Harding and Arthur L. Harding, Boston.

Calendar of Events

August 3 - Historical Society Table
at the Old Home Week Community
Fair - Books, Calendars and Maps
will be for sale.

August 8 - Open house at the Museum-
with Woodworking Demonstrations in
our new woodworking shop behind the
building. If you are coming, please
bring some refreshments to share.

August 9- Float in the Parade -
some members are putting together a
float for the Old Home Week parade.

There will be no regular meeting on
August 15 due to the Open House on
the 8th.

August 12-16 - Archaeology workshop
for kids grades 3-8. Call Becky
at 367-8583 if you are interested!

September 15 - Historical Society Day
at the Milton Farm Museum

September 19 - Regular meeting -
Program to be Announced

October 17 - Regular meeting -
Program to be Announced

Committees Needing Help - Volunteers?

Fundraising
Refreshments
Programs

Calendar (for next year)
Gardening (for front of our
building)

Publicity

Float

call Ray Stineford if you can
help 367-4687.

Madison Past and Present EPB

Stoned In

Man through the years has used what
was available to satisfy his needs
and in many cases done a remarkable
job. Such is the case in this area.
Available fencing around here was
wood and the overly abundant rocks.
I'm sure some log and split rail
fencing was used. Every year or so
the fence needed repair. After a few
years the whole fence would have to

be replaced because of rot. Stumps
were stacked together in some places
to keep animals in. These also
rotted and fell apart after a few
years.

In clearing fields and garden spots
farmers were coming up with rocks of
all shapes and sizes that had to be
moved. It was natural that some of
these were hauled off to the
fieldside and made into fences that
did not need much maintenance. Built
well, these have lasted for hundreds
of years. These stone walls also
lined road right of ways and property
lines. The acreage of a lot was
guessed at roughly, but the property
was known if it was surrounded by
rock. All this rockwork: roads,
fences lines, cellar holes,
cemeteries, etc, made a map built
right into the land. It is very
interesting to be in one of these old
communities and try to figure out the
reason for the structures. What
amazes me is the immense amount of
work involved. I've built some walls
and it is work.¹

"Stone is another word for total;
stone broke, stone cold, stone death.
Building a stone wall is stone work,
hyper work, mindless brutalizing
toil."²

The condition of the walls today
are the result of the way they were
built and the material available. It
is hard to build a dry wall out of
round fieldstone. Some farmers in a
hurry to get their farms going, laid
more footage a day, but had to keep
going back to replace stones that had
moved. The

good walls took longer to build, but
these stayed in place. I'm going to
give a brief description of wall
building:

The base of the wall should be
below the frost line to keep
everything from being pushed around by
nature. The largest and irregularly
shaped rocks could go on the bottom.
The rest of the stones laid should be
interlocking as much as possible. An
old rule: one on two, two on one. A
stone across the whole wall once and
a while would be good to tie the wall
together. The wall should slant
slightly inward from the bottom to
the top. This way gravity will have
a chance to pull the rocks closer
together. If you built a wall like
this one, you would appreciate the
walls already standing more.

In closing, I would like to encourage you to take a walk in the woods of Madison. It won't be long before you come across some stone work, a stone wall, cellar hole, or some structure whose use is unknown. It was put up with blood, sweat and tears and maybe a few choice words. When it comes time to use the land, give it some thought. See if we can keep as much of this land map together as possible for future generations to enjoy. We only rent you know.

- ¹Stone Work, by John Jerome
²The Forgotten Art of Building A Stone Wall, by Curtis Fields

The Barter Board

The Barter Board is sponsored by the Tri-County Community Action Program, CAP, working out of the CAP office on the second floor of the Gibson Center.

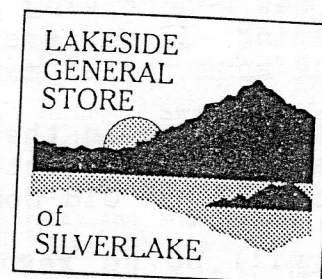
Social worker, Susan Nichols-Lucy, has coordinated and set up the program. Commodities, services, Real Estate, anything legal can be traded. Remember these actions are binding and the responsibility is with the parties doing the trading. CAP is a referral service only.

Money, of course, is necessary for some things: Bank mortgages, telephone bills, insurance payments and anything already set up on the money system. Barter has been used right along in this area for commodities and services. It doesn't take money so it is still workable in a slow economy. The idea of the Barter Board is to aid people in reaching trade agreements which can make life more liveable.

There will be boards with ads at the Conway Village Congregational Church and at the Gibson Center.

You may get more information by calling 356-6134 or stop at the office.

PS: The photo on the back of the last issue of the Gazette was from a post card sent to me by Eileen Crafts. She was wondering if the boat in the picture was the Queen Mary. It isn't, but does anyone know anything about the boat on the card?



Don & Ann McGarity

Route 113

Post Office Box 230

Silver Lake

New Hampshire 03875

603-367-9222



MARILYN CHRISTIE
Family Genealogist

23 Montrose Manor Ct
Baltimore, Maryland 21228

Telephone
(301) 744-6365

Census and military records
searched at the
National Archives
D.A.R. Lineage Work
\$5.00/hour

Ancient Landmark Society of Parsonsfield

A genealogical workshop will meet at Community Hall,
Route 160, North Parsonsfield, Maine

11 AM — 4 PM

April 28

May 26

June 23

July 28

August 25

September 22

BRING LUNCH - - - - - COFFEE SERVED

PUBLICATIONS ON SALE

History of Parsonsfield (Reprint)
Baptismal, Marriage & Funeral Records of
Rev. Albert Cole of Cornish, Maine
Cemetery Records of Parsonsfield, Maine
Vital Records of Parsonsfield, Maine
Vital Records of Limerick, Maine

Jose W. Fenderson, Treasurer
Box 311 Sanford, Maine 04073

Madison Historical Society 1992 Calendar

Calendar price \$5.50. Postage if you need it sent to you is \$1.25. (You may also pick yours up at the Museum during regular hours) Calendar will be available July 1.

I would like _____ calendar(s). \$5.50 x _____ = _____

_____ postage \$1.25 x _____ = _____
name

_____ total _____
address

_____ city _____ state _____ zip _____ phone _____

Send to: Becky Beaulieu, PO Box 57, Silver Lake NH 03875

John I. Chick & SON, INC.
QUALITY & SERVICE SINCE 1870

INDUSTRIAL PRODUCTS
Manufacturer of Wooden
LESLIE "PENNY" HATHAWAY
OPERATIONS COORDINATOR
Industrial Packaging

ROUTE 113
SILVER LAKE, N.H.
03875

OFFICE (603) 367-8857
N.H. WATS (800) 552-8955
OUT-OF-STATE WATS (800) 258-4692

Purity Spring
RESORT
HOME OF
KING PINE SKI AREA
Rte. 153, East Madison, N.H. 03849

603-367-8896

Resort Accommodations King Pine Ski Area
Camp Tohkomeupog
Specialize in School Groups, Weddings, Conferences

Membership Application
Madison Historical Society, Madison, N.H.

(PLEASE PRINT)

NAME _____

HOME ADDRESS _____

_____ PHONE _____

SEASONAL ADDRESS for:(dates) _____

(address) _____

Class of membership (choose one)

Single (\$5.00) Date paid: _____

Dual membership (\$8.00) Date paid: _____

Additional member: _____

Family membership (\$8.00) Date paid: _____

Family members (under 18): _____

W. EUGENE ALLEY, 

Carpenter and Builder,

JOBbing A SPECIALTY. ESTIMATES GIVEN.

Silver Lake, N. H., 1899

Mr Leary I made a mistake
yesterday in regard to my baby's
name I did not understand
that Eugene considered her
name Alfreda R Alley so
I told the Dr. he could name
her so of course it had to be
Olive I don't wish to offend
the Dr. but of course if
Eugene considers her name
Alfreda it has got to be so
I hope it will make no trouble

for any one

yours truly

Sarah Alley

BACK TO THE PAST...

READ THE GAZETTE!