

Madison Historical Society

Spring 2008

PRESIDENT'S LETTER

Spring has sprung very quickly here in Madison. Just a few weeks ago we had record-breaking snow depths and now an early spring thaw. Finally, summer is just around the corner!

At the Town Meeting in March the Madison Historical Society Board of Officers asked the Town to pass over our Article asking to raise and appropriate the sum of fifteen thousand dollars (\$15,000) to be added to the Capital Reserve Fund for the purpose of repairing and restoring the Historical Society building. The board recognized the Town's fiscal challenge this year with all the roadwork needed since last spring's floods and the winter we've just witnessed. We agree with Selectman Michael Brooks, also recognizing that we are not yet well enough prepared to present our future plans for the building restoration. We hope to have a better-prepared plan for next year's Town Meeting.

We are looking for some new board members, and especially a new Treasurer. Becky has been devoting most of her time as Curator, and as the Chairperson of the Building Committee. We hope that someone may have an interest to step up to join our Board of Officers, and possibly take over the Treasurer's position. Becky assures that it isn't a difficult task. If you are interested or know someone who may be, please contact any board member.

In celebration of our 50th anniversary we plan to enter a float in this year's Old Home Week parade.

Please keep this newsletter handy, it contains our 2008 program listing and extra events that we hope are of interest.

Happy Spring!

Mary K.W. Lucy

WISH LIST

1. An extra Board member or two, including a new Treasurer.
2. Lap Top Computer.
3. Donations toward new exhibit displays.
4. Donations towards expanding our Tool Shed for more exhibit space.

Executive Board

Mary K.W. Lucy, President
Linda Drew Newton Smith, Vice President
Robin M. Tagliaferri Ferreira, Secretary
Becky Knowles, Treasurer and Curator

FLEAMARKET FUNDRAISER

When: Saturday, May 17th 9 – 3
Where: Madison Fire Station

Price per 8' table and space will be \$20, or an 8' space alone is \$15. To reserve a space or space with a table please call Linda Smith at 367- 4640.

GRANVILLE HISTORICAL MARKER DEDICATION

When: Saturday, June 14th
Where: Madison Historical Society Museum

We were hoping to have the final plans for the day prior to this newsletter. However, we believe the dedication will take place about 10:30 at the Madison Historical Society, then a lunch and program to take place at The Whittier House in West Ossipee after the dedication. We will announce the day's events in The Conway Daily Sun as soon as they are finalized.

OLD PHOTOS WORKSHOP

When: Saturday, July 26th

Time: 10 – 2

Where: Madison Library

Cost: \$30.00 – includes a mini storage box that holds 600 photos

Contact: Becky Knowles 367-9289 to reserve a spot – space is limited.

The workshop will begin with a presentation on archival storage and care of photographs by Bob Cottrell, Director of Remick Country Doctor Museum & Farm. Laurel Anderson, of Creative Memory Products, will demonstrate how to "power sort" your old photograph collection. Laurel will demonstrate labeling and cropping photos, assisting the participants in beginning this process for themselves.

Refreshments will be provided.

Visions From A White Mountain Palette, Life and Times of Charles Hunt (Madison's White Mountain Painter)

We will be having an author's talk and book signing program this summer to introduce this wonderful book that Roy Bubb has been working on over the last several years. We will keep you posted on the date.

Reminder: If you would like to receive your newsletter by e-mail please e-mail Mary with your e-mail address and note this request to:

ghostduster@roadrunner.com

We also wish to update our e-mail database. So please e-mail us with your e-mail address. Thank you.

2008 MEETING PROGRAMS

Meetings held at the Madison Historical Society Building at 7:00 PM unless noted. Read "The Conway Daily Sun" for notices and any changes for each month's program.

May 15 "Remember When' with Lee Drew"

*Video presentation
Madison Library*

June 19 "Laconia State School, 1901-1991, Understanding Our Past to Create a Better Future for People with Disabilities"

Presented by Gordon DuBois

July 17 "Dressing a Colonial Lady"

*A program presented by Historical Reenactors,
Adam & Mary Spencer*

August 21 "Dolly Copp"

Presented by Carol Foord

September 18 "Sweetheart Pillows – from the Early Twentieth Century: Military Collectibles"

*Presented by Patricia Cummings
Madison Library*

Other events to note:

May 3 9 – 12 Museum Clean-up

**May 17 9 – 3 Flea Market
Fundraiser
Madison Fire Station**

**June 14 Dedication of Granville
historical marker by
the New Hampshire
Aviation Historical
Society**

**August 3 6 – 7 PM Blueberry Fest
James Noyes Gymnasium**

**August 5 Old Home Week – Tues. 2-4
Museum Open House**

BLAST FROM THE PAST

Found in the original Madison Historical Society Secretary's meeting notes and handwritten by Richard Hockings:

The Madison Historical Society met on the evening of June 17, 1959, at Maple Grove Farm, the summer home of Mr. and Mrs. Herbert

Weston. Nearly all the members and several guests were present. The house, which is furnished throughout in period furniture, was offered for inspection to all. Several old music boxes made sweet and tinkling background music.

The meeting opened at 7:50 P.M. The president, Herbert Weston, read a short prayer. Because of the secretary's absence, the minutes of the previous meeting were omitted. Mr. Weston welcomed the members and visitors. He regretted that the stormy weather made impossible a visit to the old cellar hole and mill site nearby.

Mr. Leon Gerry, the treasurer, reported \$86.97 in the treasury. The usual collection was taken. The amount was \$10.73.

It was voted to approve bills for loam and grass seed for the front lawn of the Historical Society building.

It was voted to give Fred Bickford a dues-paid charter membership in the Historical Society for the current year, in recognition of the time and effort he has given for the upkeep of the Historical Society building and grounds.

It was suggested that a work party be organized to clean and rehabilitate the interior of the building. Mr. Ernest Meader was appointed chairman to secure a work party. It was voted to remove the bars from the windows.

The annual meeting will be held in July in the society's own building. It was voted that the charter remain open through this meeting, so that any new members joining at this time may be added to the charter list.

Mr. Harold Colcord, Mrs. Alice Ward, and Mr. Ernest Meader were appointed as nominating committee to present names of officers for the coming year at the July meeting.

The Historical Society building will be dedicated at the August meeting. Mr. Ralph Acker, Mr. Harold Colcord, Mr. Ernest Meader, Mrs. Leah Kennett and Mrs. Alice Ward were named as dedication committee.

Following the business meeting, Mr. Ernest Meader gave the second and concluding installment of his talk

on old cellar holes of Madison. This created considerable interest and reminiscence among many of the members, who have long been residents of the town.

In the social hour, which followed, Mr. and Mrs. Weston served lavish sandwiches and coffee. It was unanimously agreed that the meeting had been interesting and successful exceptionally.

MAILBAG

Editor's note: We welcome all stories and memories, long or short to add to the newsletter. Please e-mail to Mary Lucy at: ghostduster@roadrunner.com or by mail to: Mary Lucy, 534 Moores Pond Rd., Silver Lake, NH 03875.

POETRY CORNER

We are happy to present another poem from the book of poems that Penny Hathaway copied and gave to me to share in our newsletter. The book is entitled, Whitton's Well, forty-three poems by Albert L. Watson, Copyright 1976 by A. L. Watson, printed by asc Creative Printing, inc., Hagerstown, Maryland. On the inside cover page it is inscribed, *For Leon Gerry of Madison Corner if he will put up with it.*

NOTE: As written by Albert L. Watson.

#38 MISREADING A STAR

*Summer's last afternoon sets
its face with gun-blue and silver bars.
The hills and mountain
go on green only to ignore, and birds
circle over corners of the pond.
But water conceded to the ethos of sky:
the center currents resign to nearly grey
and warn of ice level and featureless
beneath the snow.*

*Shortness of life is said to be the fate
of those who feel too much too soon.
Yet the first star sings only life
far over Carter Dome.*

*September 2, 1962
Written at the hour
Of Eslin Cummings' death*

NEWSCLIP FROM THE PAST

From the *Carroll County Pioneer*,
dated Friday, June 23, 1911:

Silver Lake

George Po?tson [The newspaper is worn here, so the name may not be correct.] of Portland was in town Monday night.

Mrs. Hattie ?rbern [name is worn off] has been a recent guest of Mrs. Wallace Webster.

Items containing Josiah Flanders' army life will appear in Next week's issue.

George Chick has arrived home from Worcester where he has finished his second year in Technology.

Dennis McGraw and wife of Kezar Falls were in town last week to attend the funeral of Josiah Flanders.

Charles Jones of Melrose Highlands was a weekend guest at Wayside Farm where his wife and son are staying.

Mrs. J. F. Chick and Miss Marion Moses went to Rochester Monday afternoon. Miss Moses going from there to Manchester Tuesday.

Mr. and Mrs. James Wood, who have been with their daughter, Mrs. Mary Wood, at Pineriver, were guests over Sunday of Mr. and Mrs. Jesse Kennett.

Mrs. John Twombly went to Union Friday with their daughter, Mrs. Lucy Phillips. Mrs. Phillips is to go to the Maine General Hospital for an operation this week.

Mrs. Eben Tibbetts and Mrs. Samuel Tibbetts of Newmarker, who have been guests of Mrs. Laura Knox and Mrs. J. W. Tyler for a few weeks, returned to their homes Tuesday.

Mrs. S. J. Gilman was in Portland a short time ago to see her husband who is at St. Barnabas Hospital. He is getting along nicely and it is hoped that he may be home before many weeks.

Miss Ethel Long of Boston, who has been enjoying a two weeks' vacation at the Lakeside, returned to Boston Sunday afternoon where she has a position in Chandler's Millinery parlors.

There will be [?]Hymn services at Shawmut Camp this Sunday afternoon at three o'clock; all are invited. Rev. Mr. Hall will officiate. Three motor boats will convey people free of charge.

Mrs. David Knowles, who has been at Memorial hospital in North Conway for three weeks, returned home Saturday afternoon after a very successful operation. It is hoped that her health will be much improved.

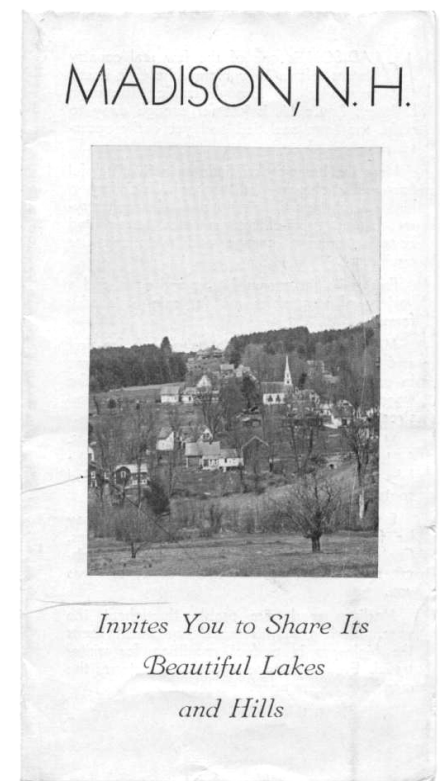
Mr. and Mrs. Irving Garrison of Port Washington, Long Island, N. Y., are in town for a short time. Mrs. Garrison, nee Myrtie Lyman, has many friends here who were delighted to see her and hope she may remain here for the summer.

William P. Copp and wife of Cornish, Me., were in town Tuesday and Wednesday as guests of Mr. and Mrs. Isaiah Forrest. Monday they were at the Eagle Mt. House, Jackson, to attend the wedding reception of Miss Gale, daughter of the proprietor, Cyrus Gale, who was married just previous to the reception.

Married at the home of the bride on High street Monday, June 19, Miss Addie M. Mason and William Littlefield of Albany. Rev. Mr. Hall performed the ceremony. A reception was held at the I. O. O. F. hall. They were the recipients of many pretty gifts including silver, china, glass, rugs and a very pretty center table.

Augustus Fickett, aged 54 years, died at his home Sunday, June 11. He had not been in his usual health for nearly a month, but had been so to his duties as a blacksmith until Friday, June 9, and he died very suddenly Sunday noon. Mr. Fickett has been a blacksmith here for twenty years or more and will be missed. He leaves a wife, three sons and two daughters. Funeral services were held at Odd Fellows hall Wednesday, June 14, conducted by Rev. J. T. Clow of Milton, assisted by Rev. Mr. Hall of Madison and Rev. Alonzo Nickerson of Pequawket. Crystal Lodge, N. 77, of which Mr. Fickett was a member, conducted the burial service. The floral tributes were very pretty; burial in High street cemetery.

The first drowning accident ever known in Silver Lake occurred Tuesday afternoon, off Howard Point. Three of the Shawmut Camp boys were in bathing when one boy, not being an expert swimmer, was accidentally drowned. The body being in the water nearly an hour, was brought to the surface by one of the town boys, P. Ralph Kennett, who obtained it by diving. The body was taken to Lakeside House and Undertaker Eaton of Conway prepared the body for burial and it was sent to the home of his parents in Malden, Mass., Wednesday. It has cast a gloom over the camp, not only for those remaining in camp but for our little community, and more especially for the bereaved family at home.



This is a cover of a brochure enticing people to Madison, which was recently donated by Elwood H. Banfill. Date unknown. However, Mrs. Minnie H. Gerry is listed as Town Clerk, as well as The Lakeside, Silver Lake House Cottage, owned by Albert R. Smith, and Frederic Warren owner of The Majors and The Bungalow. Do you know the year?