



Madison Historical Society Museum - 1884

Madison Historical Society

F A L L 2 0 0 8

P R E S I D E N T ' S L E T T E R

W I S H L I S T

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

E x e c u t i v e B o a r d

Mary K.W. Lucy,
President

Linda Drew Newton
Smith, Vice President

Robin M. Tagliaferri
Ferreira, Secretary

Becky Knowles,
Treasurer and Curator

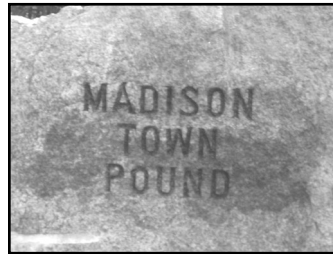
As I write the leaves are changing to their beautiful autumn colors. This newsletter will be my first attempt using Microsoft Publisher. I hope you will enjoy this format.

In our last newsletter I forgot to thank Paul Shackford who also helped with the Madison Town Pound restoration. Thank you Paul!

At our September meeting, the society members voted to spend \$265.00 to have the large stone at the pound engraved. This will replace the old wooden sign, which has been missing for some time now. When you get a chance, go up and check it out!

Patricia Cummings emailed to tell us that she and her husband, Jim, thoroughly enjoyed their visit when they were here presenting her program in Septem-

ber. Patricia presented a wonderful program on Military Sweetheart Pillows. She wanted me to let our members know that her article on



Engraved stone at the Madison Town Pound. September 2008.

WWI pillows will be published in the January 2009 issue of Quilters Magazine. However, that issue will be on the stands by November 15th. If anyone waits until January, the issue will be sold out. If you are inter-

ested in more of Patricia's work her website is: www.quiltersmuse.com.

Roy has been busy promoting and selling his wonderful book, Visions from a White Mountain Palette, The Life and Times of Charles A. Hunt (Madison's White Mountain Painter). If you are interested in getting a copy, please send \$40.00 to the Madison Historical Society.

We wish to thank Bob Nipher for his contribution of the cleaning and restoration of our Charles A. Hunt landscape that hangs in the museum. Thank you Bob!

The Winter Newsletter with next year's program brochure will be out in February. Until then, the Board wishes you Happy Holidays and we'll see you in 2009!

Mary K.W. Lucy

BLAST FROM THE PAST

This is taken from an old newspaper article, probably from The Reporter, sometime after the Madison Historical Society meeting dated December 20, 1961.

Madison Historical Society
The Madison Historical Society held its Christmas meeting at the Hall with 21

members and two guests present. Percy Blake, the president, presided, and Mrs. Beatrice Harmon was at the organ. Mr. Leon Gerry gave the treasurer's report. There was a very short business meeting. Herbert Weston showed **Harper's Weekly**, published

the same as it was in 1861. One can buy these weeklies by subscription.

The following gifts were presented to the Society by Mr. and Mrs. Johnson: a clothes stick, a carpet stretcher, a pair of very old skates. Mr. Weston mentioned a stationary saw as a

prospective gift.

Mrs. Acker gave a very interesting account of her visit to New London Academy, which her grandfather attended as a student. She has his text book which was brand new in 1852. Enclosed in the book was a letter, which her grandfather wrote when he was thirteen years old. There were 170 scholars at that time. He was interested in girls, mentioning names of Mary, Helen and Martha.

Christmas carols were enjoyed by the group.

The next speaker of the evening was Mrs. Marian Weston who spoke on the traditions of Christmas and where some of the customs originated. Holland, was doer of good deeds; England, the chimney gift; Germany, the Christmas tree; Poland, the mistletoe plant; the Romans, the candles to guide the Christ Child. She told about the huge 8th century banquets, how they were announced by blaring the trumpets.

Our President, Percy Blake, spoke not of the commercial values of Christmas but its faith, hope, love, gifts without price. This Christmas share, write a letter, forgive an enemy, think good, be gentle, laugh a little, express gratitude, speak your love. Thus ended a very pleasant Christmas program.

Mr. George Shaw played Santa Claus and distributed presents from an old fashioned Christmas tree, decorated as it would have been about a century ago. Our host and hostess for the evening, Mr. and Mrs. I. A. Forrest and Mr. and Mrs. Herbert Weston, served the traditional plum pudding and coffee. A very pleasant evening was enjoyed.

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

MAILBAG

This is from several e-mails that I received this summer from Arline Harmon Parker, who responded to the Editor's note under last issue's *Blast From The Past*. The question was, "Who was Ruth Kennett's grandfather?"

Arline wrote that Ruth H. Kennett's parents were Caroline M. Harmon and

William Kennett, her grandparents on her mother's side were Caroline Gilman and Samuel Harmon, and Samuel was the son of Ruth and Henry Harmon who settled on Goe Hill.

She goes on to say that there were stories in the Harmon family that there were two kettles, one of which is in the Madison Historical Society's collection.



The Henry Harmon kettle on exhibit at the Madison Historical Society Museum.

Furthermore, the Henry Harmon that Ruth told about coming to Eaton (Goe Hill) "with a kettle in his hand, etc.", is the Henry Harmon whose picture is on page 26 of Roy Bubb's recent book (*Visions from a White Mountain Palette, The Life and Times of Charles A. Hunt (Madison's White Mountain Painter)*), and whose house appears in the copy of Charles A. Hunt's Goe Hill painting on page 72.

Henry married Ruth Harmon (from a different Harmon line) and among their six children were Samuel and Thomas.

Samuel and his wife Caroline (Gilman) had a daughter Caroline. She married William Kennett (parents unknown). The Kennetts owned property on Goe Hill when the Harmons were there.

Caroline and William lived in the farmhouse north of Madison Church where Sally (Perrow) most recently lived. Sally is most probably their great-granddaughter.

It was Caroline and William's daughter Ruth who told the story at The Madison Historical Society meeting about her great-grandfather, and Arline believes the kettle that is in the museum is the one that had been handed down in her family from Henry. Ruth never married and lived most of her life in Conway in a large house next to the original Kennett High School.

Arline goes on to say that the line for Henry's son Thomas is shown on page 27 of Roy Bubb's book, and that his Goe Hill homestead is pictured on the previous

page. Thomas' son Daniel moved from Goe Hill with his family to Madison Village and lived in the house on the southeast corner where Pound Road meets East Madison Road. His son (Arline's father), William A. Harmon built the house on the other side of East Madison Road, and she grew up there with her brother, William C. Harmon (Nancy Martin's father).

Thank you Arline for this rich piece of history!

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.

CORRECTIONS IN BOOK *CEMETERIES AND GRAVEYARDS OF MADISON, NEW HAMPSHIRE*

This summer I was assisting Randy Stevens from Lee, NH on his quest to find information on his Durgin family line. Randy purchased our cemetery book and noticed an error. If you have the book, please add this:

Corrections to book, Cemeteries and Graveyards of Madison, New Hampshire, Compiled by Mary K.W. Lucy, copyright 2002.

Page 201: Lyman Cemetery, Durgin Plot, RE: Nancy J. Durgin m. to Lorenzo Durgin, Nancy was not the daughter of Abraham C. & Rebecca (Forrest) Harriman. Nancy was the daughter of Moses & Hannah J. Pierce. **See below.**

Researching files at the museum I came up with:

1. Information from the Jesse Harmon handwritten genealogy files at the Madison Historical Society, Madison, NH.

Rebecca Forrest b. 1811 (father John A. (Adams?) Forrest) m. Abraham Harriman b. 1808

Their children:

Thursa L. b. 1851 m. George Perkins

Roxanna (or Rosanna) b. 1841 m. George W. Osgood
 Mary* J. b. 1849 m. Lorenzo Durgin
 Eugene b. 1844 m. 1st Carrie, m. 2nd Addie Adams b. 1836 m. Elizabeth F. 1834 – 1903

Apparently, the Jesse Harmon genealogy notes are not quite accurate. See below.

- Then I decided to check old school records ... looking at the earliest of the Silver Lake School, known as District No. 5, figuring that Nancy may have gone to school in that area. I found both **Nancy J. Pierce** age 11 years, 3 months as of term from August 13, 1860 – December 8, 1860, along with her sister **Mary E. Pierce**, age 4 on the school roster.
- I continued my research into this puzzle and looked in the Madison US Census records.

1850 US Census:

Pierce, Moses, age 34, Farmer b. in Maine
 Hannah, age 25 b. in Maine
 Roxanna, age 8 school child
 Nancy J., age 1

Harriman, Abraham, age 43, Farmer
 Rebecca, age 39
 Adams F. school child
 Amanda M., age 12 school child
 Benjamin F., age 8 school child
 Eugene, age 5 school child
 Elizabeth, age 3
 Thurse L.

1860 US Census:

Pierce
 Moses, age 47 Farmer b. Maine
 Hannah, age 43
 Nancy, age 11, b. N.H.
 Mary E., age 4
 {Apparently Roxanna, now about 18 is married and out of the family home.}

Harriman
 Abraham, age 53 Farmer
 Rebecca Forrest, age 50
 Adams, age 24, Day Laborer
 Amanda, age 22
 Benjamin, age 18
 Eugene, age 15
 Elizabeth, age 13
 Tirzah, age 11
 Frederick, age 5

So, we now know that Nancy J. was a Pierce for certain, and not a Harriman. It is also now known that on **page 202**, Roxanna B., wife of George W. Osgood was Nancy's sister, making Roxanna B. a Pierce too.

It is also very probable that Lorenzo married Nancy's sister, Mary E., sometime after Nancy died in 1871.

The 1870 Madison US census shows Lorenzo Durgin, age 30, Nancy, age 21, wife, and Ellen F., age 2, daughter.

The 1880 Madison US census shows Lorenzo Durgin, age 45, Mary E., age 25, wife, and Ellen F., age 12, daughter.

On **page 203**, under the Harriman Plot at the Lyman Cemetery, it is probable that Rebecca W., wife of Abraham Harriman, married on 8 March 1835 (from the Early Eaton Vitals), was not the daughter of Adams & Phebe (Banfill) Forrest, as written, but more probable a granddaughter. According to the Jesse Harmon genealogy notes under "Lary", it is written that Rebecca was the daughter of John A. (Adams?) Forrest. Whom, I believe to be, is a probable son of Adams & Phebe (Banfill) Forrest. This needs to be clarified by someone who has knowledge of the Forrest family genealogy.

Mary K.W. Lucy
 August 19, 2008

SOCIETY FLOAT WINS FIRST PLACE

Madison Historical Society wins first place for our float in the Old Home Week parade. It was a very rainy night, but many came out for the parade and fireworks at Burke Field. What a great week! The Old Home Week theme was the celebration of the Society's 50 year anniversary.

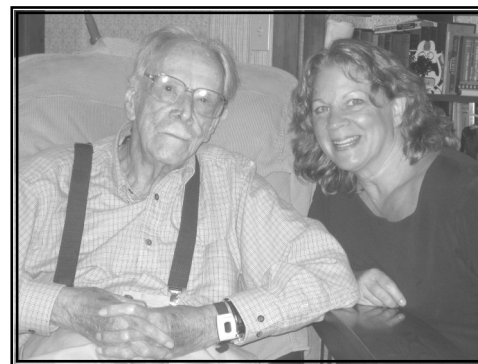


Janice Arnold and Roger Clayton keeping dry on the float. Photo courtesy of Noel and Linda Smith.

Many thanks to those who helped with our float, Paul and Kathy Jo Shackford, who donated the truck and flatbed; Ed Bickford, who built the framing that was needed on the float, Becky Knowles, Linda and Noel Smith, Robin Ferreira and Mary Lucy, who helped decorate the float. Also,

all those who dressed in period costume and rode on the float with umbrellas trying to keep as dry as possible. Those hearty soles included Roger Clayton, Janice Arnold, Sandy Bickford, Linda and Noel Smith, Becky Knowles, Robin Ferreira, and Mary Lucy. Great job and what great fun we had!

VISIT WITH ELWOOD BANFILL



Elwood Banfill with Mary Lucy during visit on September 13, 2008 at Elwood's home on Mount Desert Island, Maine.

Elwood is our most senior member of the Madison Historical Society at the age of "soon to be 98" on December 9th. Happy Birthday Elwood!

Elwood's great-great-grandfather was **Joseph Banfill** b. (probable Portsmouth, NH) – died Aft. 1830 in Eaton, NH, m. 1st Elizabeth Jones on August 5, 1760, Elizabeth d. Abt. 1784, m. 2nd Aft. 1785 **Sarah Moulton** in Eaton, NH. Sarah Moulton b. in Moultonboro, NH Abt. 1766, d. 1866 in Eaton.

His great-grandfather, **Eli Clark Banfill** Feb 4, 1807 – Oct. 20, 1897, m. 1st Bef. 1835 Caroline Shackford d. Sept. 22, 1839 in Eaton, NH, m. 2nd **Elizabeth Jackson** b. June 20, 1819 – Aug. 29, 1895. Elizabeth died of "Paralysis of Heart". Elizabeth was the granddaughter of Rev. James Jackson and Mary Brigham, the daughter of Jonathan Jackson Nov. 5, 1780 – Dec. 7, 1829 and Mary Roberts of Ossipee, NH. Jonathan and Mary were married Nov. 30, 1814 by Jonathan's father James Jackson.

Elwood's grandfather was **Eli Woodsman Banfill** b. in Conway, NH, Sept. 21, 1852 or 1853 – Aug. 7, 1929, m. Sept. 22, 1879 in Moultonboro, NH to Mary E. Shaw (Minnie) b. in (?) Lancaster, NH or (?) Danville, CT in 1861, or as according to notes from Elwood H. Banfill - Minnie was born in Quebec, Canada.



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GIFTS

Donations by check or cash - the most direct and immediate way to offer support. Your gift will be deeply appreciated, whether in response to our mailed appeal or at a time convenient to you. As a non-profit organization, all gifts we receive are tax deductible to the full extent allowed by law.

Memorial gifts- one of the most meaningful ways to acknowledge the passing of a loved one is by offering a gift as a tribute to a life lived. Memorial gifts become part of our Memorial Fund, which supports the work of the Madison Historical Society. Many times, families include a request for memorial gifts as part of the newspaper obituary. Often, individuals choose to make gifts in memory of their loved ones on birthdays or to mark the anniversary of their passing. A listing of the donors' names and addresses (but not the gift amount) is provided to the deceased's next of kin. Families tell us memorial gift tributes help to bring comfort and solace during their time of bereavement.



The Madison Historical Society float in the Old Home Week parade on August 8, 2008. Photo courtesy of Olive Clayton.