

July 2012

Madison Historical Society Newsletter

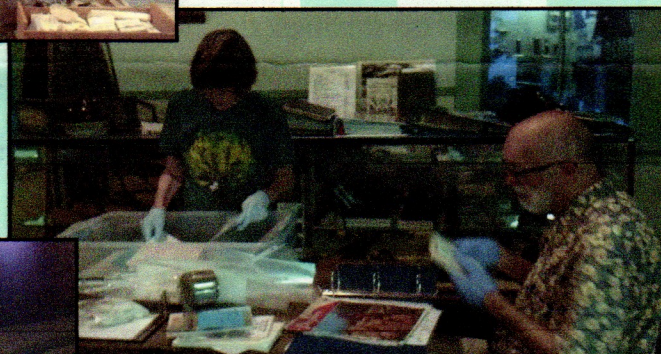
NEWSLETTER DATES

JANUARY

APRIL

JULY

OCTOBER



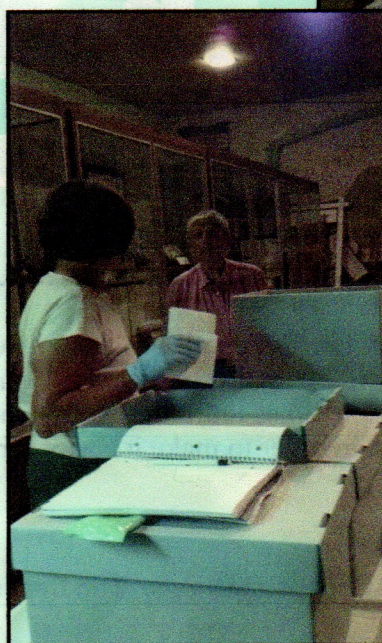
CHANGE OF PROGRAM

Our July 19 program
on Indian Artifacts will
be postponed until next
Spring.

Mike Hathaway will be
presenting:

"Who Do You Think
You Were?"

Discovering past lives



Great Progress
being made on
our sorting and
cataloging
project

Organizing our collections.....

Our first night working on our collections was a great success. We are mainly going through documents and sorting them by subject, person or town. Our goal is to keep only those items pertaining to the Town of Madison and people who have lived here. The size of the project is overwhelming but we started with just one closet in the meeting room and a few boxes from the storage area. As we sorted we repacked, if necessary, using archival materials. We meet every Monday night at 7pm, a few people attending each night. We plan to continue throughout the summer then change our meeting night during fall and winter. Once we have sorted as much as we can, we will start cataloguing, computerizing and digitizing artifacts and photos. We can always use more help.

As we go through the files we find file folders containing documents that could be sorted further by name. There are hundreds! We have a good start and will continue until the weather gets too cold. At that point we hope to continue at Becky's house through the winter months.



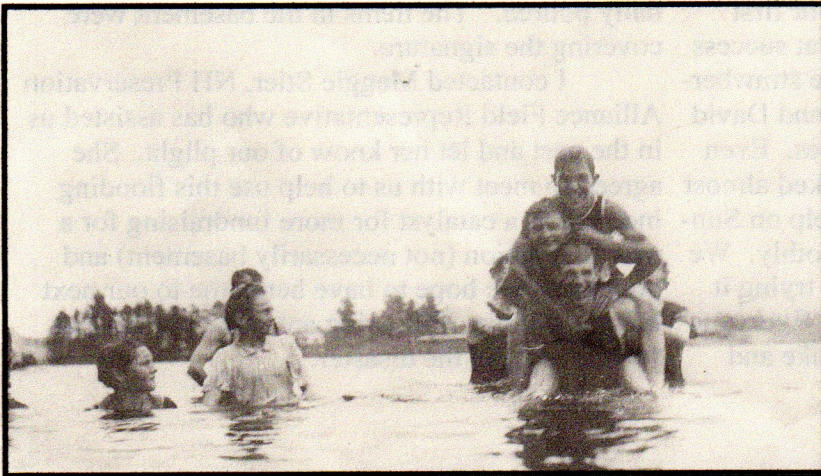
Revised By Laws

The Board proposed new by laws at the last meeting and they were approved. If you would like a copy please let one of us know. Penny Hathaway was instrumental in these changes, revising them for us on her computer multiple times until they were ready to present. The main change is in the timing of the annual report in order to make it easier for the Treasurer to complete it in a timely manner.

New Member Dues

The dues have been updated at the last two meetings. The final result is:

Adults \$10, Families \$15, 18 years old and under Free. As always, members over 80 are eligible for a free membership. Just let us know after your 80th birthday!



Fun at Silver Lake

These young people are cooling off at the bathing beach...recognize anyone?



Canoe Wars during Old Home Week

Pig Island visible in the background just behind the raft

Old Home Week
Umbrella races,
notice the top
hats!!



Strawberry Festival

We had about 60 people attend our first annual Strawberry Festival. It was a great success and everyone had a wonderful time. The strawberries were picked the day before by Ann and David Wilkins, Linda Smith and Becky Knowles. Even that was fun and in no time at all we picked almost 48 pounds of berries. We had a lot of help on Sunday afternoon and things went very smoothly. We will be scheduling it again next year but trying it on Saturday evening instead of Sunday. Everyone attending enjoyed the homemade shortcake and intend to return next year.

Flooding in the Basement

As some of you know, this spring we had about 18 inches of water in the basement of our museum. On our annual cleaning day we discovered the flooding and with the help of Sean Dunker-Bendigo, Russ Lanoie, Doug Haver and equipment borrowed from Cormack Builders we were able to bring the level of the water down to less than 3 inches. We then bought some hose and a small sump pump which fit in the floor drain and is keeping the water level just below the level of the floor.

The Town allowed us to hire a drain cleaning company to find out why the water was coming into the cellar. It was discovered with an under water camera that the cellar floor drain going from the building to the road was blocked. An attempt to clear it was made but was unsuccessful. I went back to the Selectmen who agreed to have Bill Chick and the town road crew dig up and replace the drain pipes. Bill met with me at the building will start on the project as soon as he has the time and when the ground has dried. He will add some new drainage down the side of the building also. We really appreciate everyone's help and the generosity of the Town.

Since everything in the cellar was saturated with water, we decided to clean everything out and remove it to the dump because of the danger of mold. Ed and Sandy Bickford, Linda Smith, Jim Coogan and I spent a couple of Monday mornings removing everything. We left fans running down cellar for a week to dry out the floor. We discovered someone had scratched their name and date,

Mike Barne 1934, in the floor when it was originally poured. The items in the basement were covering the signature.

I contacted Maggie Stier, NH Preservation Alliance Field Representative who has assisted us in the past and let her know of our plight. She agreed to meet with us to help use this flooding incident as a catalyst for more fundraising for a new foundation (not necessarily basement) and drainage. We hope to have her come to our next board meeting. Following are some photos that we took during the disaster.....



The black mark on the wall indicates the depth of the water at it's highest

President Becky Knowles
Beckyknowles1950@gmail.com
367-1025

Vice President Linda Drew Smith
ldns7558@gmail.com
367-4640

Treasurer Penny Hathaway

Secretary Position Open

Board Members:

Celeste Benoit
Ann Wilkins
David Wilkins



All of these items were floating in 18 inches of water and had to be removed to the dump because of mold.



Thousands of gallons were pumped out over a couple of weeks as the water continued to back up in the cellar from a blocked floor drain. The water table finally subsided and the flow of the water ceased.

NEEDED!!

- ♦ Secretary –duties are monthly minutes and minutes for occasional board meetings.
- ♦ Volunteers for scanning, photographing and researching artifacts and photos for our web sites. Youngsters 6th grade and up are welcome to help us! We will train you. We meet at 7pm every Monday night at the museum
- ♦ Volunteers to help with building committee

Madison Historical Society
PO Box 505
Madison, NH 03849

Coming Up

- ♦ Old Home Week Craft Fair—Aug 4—9am, Burke Field
- ♦ Blueberry Festival—Aug 5—Madison Elementary
- ♦ Old Home Week Museum Open House— Aug 7 with a special old books for kids program by Ann and David Wilkins
- ♦ Henry Haffke presents his program on the Gee Bee Racing Planes, 7pm August 16
- ♦ Regular Meetings
 - ♦ Every third Thursday, 7PM, May –October—programs to be announced