

Chichester Historical Society

49 Main St., Chichester, New Hampshire

January 2012 - Newsletter

The members of the Chichester Historical Society are looking forward to a new and exciting year. At our annual meeting in November officers for 2012 were elected. The new officers are: Bernd Reinhardt, President; Richard Pratt, Vice President; Fred Shaw, Secretary; Elizabeth Collins, Treasurer and Barbara Frangione, Curator.

Our program schedule for 2012 is available. You will note that we have four programs planned for this year instead of our usual six. We tried to avoid scheduling programs during the bad weather months of winter. In addition to these four scheduled programs we will announce other interesting programs from time to time during the year.

At our weekly meetings, which are held every Tuesday morning between 9:00 and noon, after taking care of necessary business items we are working on various projects to make improvements at the museum. In addition to the accession program which lists the items in the museum both in hard copy and on computer records. Each item is listed with detailed information and the location of the item is recorded on the computer record so that any item can be located easily and rapidly...a daunting task when we have over 1700 items. In addition we are continually adding items to our collection.

Should you have an item related to Chichester's history that you think the museum would like please contact us. Documents and photographs can be scanned and the originals returned to you. Due to space limitation we may not be able to accept all items.

We have recently updated our mailing list. If you know someone who might be interested in receiving a copy of our newsletter please contact us so we can add them to the list. If you would like to become a voting member of the Society the dues are only \$5.00 per year. You do not need to be a voting member to attend our weekly meetings or programs...all are welcome. Our programs are free of charge and we have a nice selection of free refreshments. Also it's a great opportunity to get together with your friends and neighbors.

While at the museum you might be interested in some of the items we have for sale in our "museum store". Some of the items you will find for sale are: A collection of articles written by Walter Sanborn which appeared in the Suncook Valley Sun, a history of Chichester, a history of the Chichester Volunteer Fire Department which celebrated its' 75 anniversary last year, various note cards of drawings of local barns and locations in Chichester, tote bags and many many other items. Be sure and check out our website which gives information about the Society along with links to many interesting sites such as a mystery picture, our newsletters, program guide and even an oral history of the Fire Department recorded by Walter Sanborn who was involved with the Chichester Fire Department for the entire 75 years of its' existence.

Our newsletter and web site will keep you up to date about the activities of the Society and keep you posted on upcoming programs and events.

“Clothing, Accessories and Other Textiles from Our Museum Collection:

Our program for May features models and even a “runway” with members and friends modeling the latest fashions from yesteryear. You don’t want to miss this! Lady Gaga would be jealous. We’ll have models presenting clothing as well as accessories such as gloves, hats, and shoes. The show will begin at 7:00PM on Monday, May 14 at the museum at 49 Main Street. The “fashion show” will be followed by refreshments and an opportunity to chat with our models and your friends and neighbors. Lucille Noel is our fashion coordinator putting together this program and she needs your help. We’re rounding up volunteers. Here’s your chance to be on the ” red carpet”.If you would be interested in demonstrating or modeling some of our fashion items please contact Lucille at 798-5709. It will be a fun evening.

WHAT IS THIS????

This was found by Walt Sanborn under the eaves of his roof during recent roof repairs. We have no idea what it is or what it is used for...do you? If you think you know what it is, let us know. Drop us a note, stop by the museum or call any member.



NEW ACQUISITION – SILHOUETTE

We recently acquired a silhouette done by William Chamberlain who was born in Loudon, NH in 1790 the child of Captain Moses and Rebecca Chamberlain. He married Ann Baker in 1813 or 1814 and had one child Mary. He died on April 13, 1860 and is buried in the Plains Cemetery in Boscowen, NH. Not a lot is known regarding William Chamberlain. The 1850 census lists him as a chair maker.

Chamberlain went on a two-year journey in the 1820's throughout New England as an itinerant silhouette artist. Although Chamberlain never signed his work, his silhouettes can be identified by the unique way in which they were cut and made. We are fortunate to have this item as one of the over 1700 items in the museum collection. Be sure and stop by and see our exhibits. The museum is open every Tuesday from 9:00am till noon.

