



Nashua Historical Society

Issue No.1 Summer 2016 www.nashuahistoricalsociety.org

A Very Special Society Celebration for Members

On Saturday, December 5, 2015, at noon, members gathered in our Library for a combined holiday and retirement celebration which included a potluck luncheon and entertainment. In the past, the event had often been held after the New Year, but this year we had a special reason to move it up since we wanted to celebrate, thank and express our good wishes to Margaret who had announced her retirement effective December 31.



As in the past, members’ favorite recipes made for a variety of delectable luncheon treats. Special thanks go to the Refreshment Committee members who were on hand to facilitate. Entertainment was provided by Ellen Nordstrom, a lyric mezzo vocalist, accompanied by Abigail Charbeneau on piano. They performed many songs popular during war years and invited members to join in. They also performed requests from the audience. Margaret was presented with gift certificates from the Society to a favorite jewelry store and to a local restaurant that Robert and she enjoy. Bill Ross, who hired Margaret and whose fourteen year presidency overlapped Margaret’s tenure at the Society, spoke very touchingly of her. The Society is not only grateful for Margaret’s service as an employee, but also for the fact that Margaret continues as a volunteer on several of our committees.



Abbot-Spalding House 1 Nashville St. Nashua, NH 03064
Florence H. Speare Museum 5 Abbott St. Nashua, NH 03064 (603)883-0015, (603)889-8515 fax

NASHUA HISTORICAL SOCIETY

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through 2016

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Staff

Beth McCarthy Curator
Eileen B. Herring Admin. Assistant
Barbara Comer Collection Technician

On May 17, 2016, I had the privilege of welcoming attendees to our 146th Annual Meeting of the Nashua Historical Society. Just beginning their new terms:

Alan Cohen was elected a Director from 2012-2014 and served on the Programs Committee as well as on several interim committees. A resident of Nashua since 1980, he and his wife were surprised when their home sold almost immediately in late spring, and they will be moving on. Alan hopes that more people will be exposed to our wonderful exhibits, collections and “institutional knowledge” that the Society possesses.

Roland Fisher has presented programs at the Society on the history of the automobile in Nashua. He brings practiced skills in short and long term planning and budgeting as well as expertise in building and infrastructure maintenance. Roland continues to be impressed with the scope and depth of the collections and exhibits.

Margaret Garneau was a volunteer at the Society when she accepted the new Administrative Assistant position in 1999. In that role, she became the Society’s communicator and membership contact person. Having retired in December, 2015, Margaret continues now as a very active volunteer, bringing her experiences and talents to several committees.

Rose Markiewicz is a Nashua native and has always lived here. She has enjoyed helping to catalog our large collection of pictures of the Nashua Manufacturing Company and putting together the 2013 summer exhibit, “Trash to Treasure” in the Speare Museum. Rose has served as Assistant Treasurer and as Acting Treasurer.

Penny Pardoe came to us as a volunteer with a great interest in the history of Nashua and in our collection of documents. She has invested both time and energy in reorganizing the Society’s Topical files. Penny recognizes the importance of preserving the history of Nashua and rediscovering its secrets, goals which she sees as a joint venture with the Society.

Jennifer Pizzi has been an active member of the Society for decades, assisting our Curator with various projects over the years. She is currently employed by the Londonderry School District, the American Red Cross and Gateway Community Services. Jennifer also tutors students and enjoys seeing them reach their full potential and giving back to her community.

Lee Rosenberg Lee was a computer volunteer on the MAPP photographic project at the Society. She enjoys taking courses at RISE for non-credit, including literature, politics and religion. Lee worked for the Communications System Segment Replacement team of GTE Government Systems assisting several program managers over the years in many senior secretarial and administrative capacities.

Bill Ross has served in the past as a Director, a Vice President and, for fourteen years, as President. Currently Chair of the Finance Committee, he is most proud of his involvement in the restoration of the Abbot Spalding House. Bill has a passion for history and a steadfast dedication to preserving Nashua history in particular.

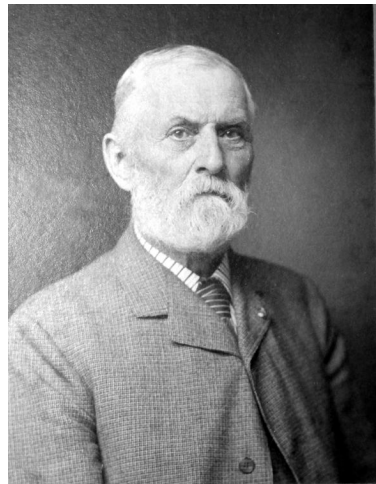
As the Annual Reports show, volunteerism is alive and well at the Nashua Historical Society. That is not to say that we have all the help we need. Ask us how you can assist with one or more of the following areas: newsletter, guides, grounds, changing light bulbs (on a ladder), counting the rings on our fabulous tree slices then researching the events the trees witnessed. If none of these appeal, we are very good at finding a project to suit your interest, and we’ll throw in training for free.

Thank you all!

Joanne Ouellette, President

Captain Elijah M. Shaw
by
Beth McCarthy

Captain Elijah M. Shaw was born in Kensington, New Hampshire, on July 16, 1826. His boyhood and early youth were spent attending the common schools of Kensington, New Hampshire. In 1838 after a little more than one year attending Philips Academy, he began employment for the Exeter Manufacturing Company. This was the beginning of more than a forty year career of prominently working in the cotton and woolen manufacturing industry of New England which included working for numerous manufacturing companies in many different states. As a young man, Captain Elijah M. Shaw acquired a practical knowledge of every phase of the manufacturing of both cotton and woolen fabrics which made him the ideal candidate to be employed as an agent and to be a successful manager.



Captain Elijah M. Shaw

He came to Nashua in 1888 to become the Agent for the Nashua Manufacturing Company. He lived in the agent's house during his years of employment. His goal was to organize the Nashua Manufacturing Company into becoming profitable once again. He retained that position until he resigned from all business of a money making nature.



Agent's House - Nashua Mfg Co.
The last agent to occupy it was Capt. E. M. Shaw 1886-1891



Captain Elijah M. Shaw was an individual who believed in giving back to each of the communities he resided within. He believed in the mission of The Young Men's Christian Association (the YMCA), and he wanted Nashua to have a YMCA. In 1887, through the generosity and efforts of many individuals, Nashua saw its first YMCA which was located on the corner of Main Street and Water Street. Locally this was referred to as the site of the old Goodrich Block. In 1889, space was secured on Water Street for the YMCA's first gymnasium. Captain Elijah M. Shaw served from October 1887 – November of 1887 as Nashua's YMCA's first president. He was instrumental in the writings of the organization's by-laws.



In retirement he built his own house at 85 Concord Street.

Live Free and Grow
by
Margaret Gay Garneau

“Think about trees and how they live and function. Connect with Nature and the need to know about tree systems, their parts, and their relationships intimately, before we set out to care for these amazing organisms,” was the philosophy of Dr. Alex Shigo, New Hampshire Tree Biologist, 1930-2006.

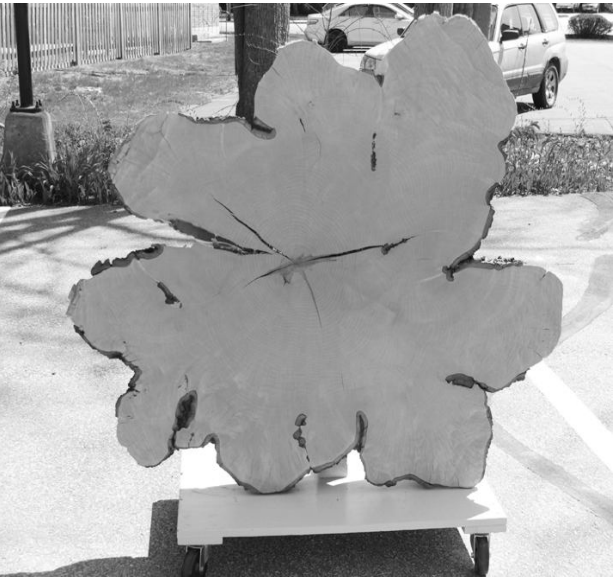
The Nashua Historical Society has been most fortunate to have some of the most beautiful trees on our grounds. Since 1993, they have all been documented by the Hillsborough County UNH Extension Forestry Resources Center. Sadly on June 11, 2012, on the Abbot Spalding House grounds, the Society lost two beautiful shady maple trees that were over a hundred years old.

Mr. Melchar, a former Society member who lived at 5 Abbot Street in the 1960's, saved one of the maple trees which had been damaged by a storm. Mr. Melchar hired professionals to save the tree by using rods which gave the tree a distinct shape like an octopus. Mr. Melchar had opened his residence to the Society for their meetings over several years, and he left his house to the Society when he died. Two other houses were moved in the 1970's so that the Society could build the Florence Hyde Speare Museum to house a huge Nashua artifact collection. The second maple tree was most likely planted during Daniel Abbot's tenure. It provided natural air conditioning to the Abbot home.

Fortunately for the Society, two local arborists, who take care of the trees on our properties, came forward to help replace these trees. We will be forever grateful to Kevin Fredette of Gate City Tree and Ted Sayce of Sayco Tree and Landscaping. A dedication ceremony was held on Saturday, August 18, 2012. One tree was dedicated to the late Dr. Alex Shigo, a well-known Tree Biologist. The second tree was dedicated to the Care and Preservation of the Trees of Nashua. A granite plaque was placed by each tree. Hopefully the trees will grow so their shade and protective covering will be enjoyed by future generations.



Out of sadness comes a little joy. Two slices of the fallen trees were saved and thanks to Ken Mayo, Roland Fisher, Dan Ledoux, John Markiewicz, Dave Pinet and Joe Comer. The slices are now on display in the society library for visitors to enjoy.



Many conservation groups in New Hampshire are fighting to protect and replace fallen trees in the forests. These are trees that have been attacked by pests, damaged by fire or torn down in violent storms. The Society had a third maple tree that was brought down during a storm in October, 2011. The tree was located near the Abbot front fence. The City of Nashua Parks and Recreation received a grant from the American Forests for 150-200 free trees. The Society applied for one of the maples, and the city replaced the tree. The Society is truly blessed to have such generous friends and neighbors in the community.

All of our trees, the oldest being our Black Walnut tree which was certified by New Hampshire Big Tree County Champion in a program sponsored by UNH Extension, Society for Protection of NH Forests and NH Division of Forests and Lands in 2014, are being carefully assessed by a team of experts.

The newest addition on our grounds is a Washington Hawthorne tree. During our Arbor Day celebration in April, 2016, we dedicated this tree in loving memory of Jeannie Sayce, wife of Ted Sayce, who was a true tree lover.

We hope that reading this article will inspire you to come to visit our museums, walk through our grounds and enjoy the beautiful trees before coming inside to learn more about our Nashua history.

Arbor Day

An Arbor Day Celebration was held on Saturday, May 30. There were many fun exhibits for visitors to explore.

The most special moment came as a Martha Washington Hawthorne tree and plaque was dedicated in loving memory of Jeannie D. Sayce. Her husband, Ted Sayce of Sayco Tree and Landscaping and Kevin Fredette of Gate City Tree donated the tree and the plaque to The Nashua Historical Society.



Beaver Brook Association from Hollis had educational materials and maple syrup tapped from their trees.



Board member Anita Vassar was accompanied by Badger, a Shetland Sheep, who enjoyed the attention of the children.



Judith Jones, Chair of the Arbor Day event and Board member Rose Markiewicz set up a table with edible goodies from bark.

Two new volunteers, Sue Young and Ami Krawczyk, greeted visitors at the Speare Museum, while Sandy Axton, Barbara Blake, Ginny Nedved-Cook, Marti Spalding, Gail and Dave Pinet greeted visitors at the Abbot House Museum.

Board member Claire Young, Executive Producer of the television show “Beyond the Garden Gate” hosted by Linda Temperino, interviewed several people for their program.

The Arbor Day video may be seen at accessnashua.org click on **Video on Demand**, scroll down to “**Beyond the Garden Gate**” and choose **Arbor Day video. Enjoy!**

Board Reports

Treasurer’s Report: Peter Vincent: Fiscal 2016 went asplanned. The expense budget for the year was \$253 thousand which was a \$15 thousand reduction from the prior year actual spending. This Fiscal 2016 budget included \$92 thousand in building maintenance, grounds maintenance and capital improvements (including completion of the furnace replacement project). We spent \$234 thousand or \$19 thousand (7.4%) under the \$253 thousand budget. We were able to complete the roof repairs on both the Abbot Spalding garage and the Florence Speare Museum. We made progress on moving the lighting toward LED lighting which uses 85% to 90% less electricity than the older incandescent light bulbs. The changing of the three flood lights on the front of the Abbot Spalding House will save the Society \$500 per year in electricity cost. Another accomplishment was the continued strengthening of the documentation and audit trail on all monetary transactions. This was done by completing all Treasurer’s processes and procedures documents and the “Treasurer’s Procedure’s” book. The expense budget for fiscal 2017 is \$202 thousand which is \$32 thousand below the actual spending for fiscal 2016.

Collection Committee – Beth McCarthy, Curator: The Nashua Historical Society was fortunate this past year to have made significant progress with the Collection.

Total Number of Records in Past Perfect Additional Records 04/22/2015-05/04/2016

Collection Records 34,920 8,697

Objects 2,146 397

Photographs 20,852 1,343

Archives 5,901 1,308

Library 741 50

Items In Container List 2,223 1,180

Accessions 3,867 133

Contacts 2,457 66

Collection Records Created: Sandra Axton 2; Barbara Bankeroff 547; Eastman 19; Barbara Comer 547; Susan Fineman 26; Paul Friday 200; Cherish Gile 17; Bryan Herring 86, Eileen Herring 201; Sarah and Hannah Jauris 18; Cecile Renzi 119; Mary Megaski; Rose Markiewicz 1; Patrick and Matt/Rick 717.

Accession Records Additions: Sandra Axton 2, Barbara Bankeroff 4, Barbara Comer 15, Margaret Gameau 54 and Beth McCarthy 59. Sandra Axton, Barbara Bankeroff, Barbara Comer, Rose Markiewicz and Beth McCarthy have all added materials to the existing accession records.

The Museum’s Environment: Five Hobos, devices designated to measure temperature and humidity, were used in the basement and the attic of the Florence Speare Memorial Museum.

Individual Contributions to the Collection: Sandra Axton continued to research history related aspects relative to the Abbot-Spalding House, completed accessioning scrapbooks and photographs from the June Caron Park and Recreation Collection and photographed and cataloged items for the Society’s MAPP project.

Barbara Bankeroff managed the Society’s computer network and the collection management software. She trained new users and is the computer support person for the staff. She worked on numerous photograph Research Requests and has entered archival materials into container lists. She assisted with all aspects of the reorganization of the attic project and was an instrumental participant in this winter’s Textile Survey.

Eastman, a Hollis Brookline High School student, learned to catalog photographs and completed catalog records for a large Tie Plant business in Nashua.

Barbara Comer continued to research and complete both catalog and accession records. She accessioned and cataloged Frank Mooney’s collection of bottles and his collection from the “Londonderry N.H. Lythia Spring Water Company”, Nashua.

Susan Fineman researched the backgrounds of all schools in Nashua and organized all the men’s and women’s military records into a better storage cabinet.

Paul Friday assisted with the organization and relocation of books and collections of books within the Speare Museum and cataloged a large number of photographs under different topics.

Plus Company students, Patrick and Matt, and their counselors have been cataloging the Pickering Collection of Nashua Business Cards.

Bryan Herring learned how to catalog objects and completed catalog records for the Society’s collection of eyeglasses.

Eileen Herring learned how to catalog archival materials in a container list and completed the cataloging of the contents of numerous genealogy files.

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reports continued

Sarah and Hannah Jauris have created numerous object catalog records and continue to catalog items within the Society’s bottles, canes and tool collections.

Mary Megeaski has learned how to catalog photographs and has completed numerous catalog records for the MAPP project. (The Millennium Archival Photograph Project).

Rose Markiewicz completed the accession process on all of the hand fans, gloves, belts, and small boxes in the Society’s collection and has greatly assisted with the research and sorting process on all incoming donation accession considerations.

Beth McCarthy, Curator, provided support and guidance to all of the individuals who worked/volunteered on the following committees: Collection, Exhibit, and Research and Records. She focused on the following areas: current accessioning practices, past accessioning maintenance, furthering the preservation of numerous aspects of the Society’s eclectic collections, maintaining all collection support files and providing oversight, support and participation within two of the Society’s largest collection projects, “A Textile Survey” and the setting up again of the Abbot-Spalding House.

Beth attended the NEMA, New England Museum Association conference, “The Language of Museums,” as a staff development opportunity.

Joanne Ouellette worked with de-accession items. Gifts were made to other historical societies, museums and libraries. Some items will be taken to the Brookline Auction Gallery for an opportunity for sale.

Penny Pardoe has worked extensively with the various pre-computer cataloging steps required for archival papers within the Topical Collection.

Alice Sheridan continued to organize the Society’s paper collection of current news topics and obituaries. She finished sorting over six thousand letters written by Nashua school children. These letters were a part of the citywide “Letters to Nashua 1853-2153” exhibit project.

Cecile Renzi worked with the Postcard Collection. She is creating new postcard catalog records and updating existing Post Card records. She attended the NEMA, New England Museum Association conference, “The Language of Museums,” as a staff development opportunity.

Anita Vassar has worked on the pre-cataloging tasks with all of the Nashua High School and the Nashua Junior High yearbooks. (Tattlers and Broadcasters)

Susan Young learned how to catalog objects in Past Perfect. She completed many catalog records on the Shoe Collection.

Significant Collection Project: This past winter, members of the Collection Committee worked with two consultants, a Textile Conservator and a Textile Historian. Their goal was to guide members of the Committee through the details of a textile survey. The participants learned about specifics to look for within a variety of fabrics which will assist us with making good collection development decisions. Other areas of focus included the most appropriate ways to store different textile types and how to appropriately exhibit them. Thirteen textile tasks were articulated for the Collection Committee members to complete prior to inviting the consultants back to pursue more Textile Survey steps. Collection Committee Members: Barbara Bankeroff, Barbara Comer, Collection Technician, Margaret Garneau, Collection Assistant and Beth McCarthy, Curator.

Donations and Acceptance: Books/Booklets/Archives:

Two retail ledgers from “Reed and Spalding” showing the change of City Names from Dunstable/Nashua—April 1836-1838 and from Nashua/Nashville—March 1840-March 1845.

Certificates from Garde Rochambeau Inc.

A dictionary “Twentieth Century Dictionary of the English Language” published in Nashua in 1914 by N.H. C.C Parker Publisher.

Two 15 cent Official Programs “Nashua High VS Fitchburg High,” Friday, October 11, 1957, Holman Stadium and “Nashua High VS, Lowell High,” Sunday, October 4, 1959, Holman Stadium.

One receipt book from McDonalds Kitchenware Store.

Objects:

One rock from the mine at Mine Falls Park (The Park was named after this mine which was well known for silver, lead and other minerals which are listed under the Galena rock type).

A sign in the shape of a stop watch for “Erin C. Peabody, Watch and Clock Repairing, 6 ½ Tyler Street”

A locker pin “41” from the lockers at Nashua’s Field’s Grove.

A stoneware jug from the Nashua Company “Londonderry N.H. Lythia Spring Water”

A tin donation can from “Dennis Sullivan” mayoral campaign

A heather green “Purrey By Nashua” blanket

A long sleeved purple “Nashua High School” shirt #23 worn by student Richard Holbrook, a 1959 graduate

**Nashua Historical Society Volunteer Recognition Luncheon
at Courtyard by Marriott, Nashua, NH
Sunday, April 10, 2016**



Administrative Assistant
Eileen Herring helped
keep the luncheon
running smoothly



Alan Cohen picks another winning ticket
while his wife Ellen and Margaret look on.

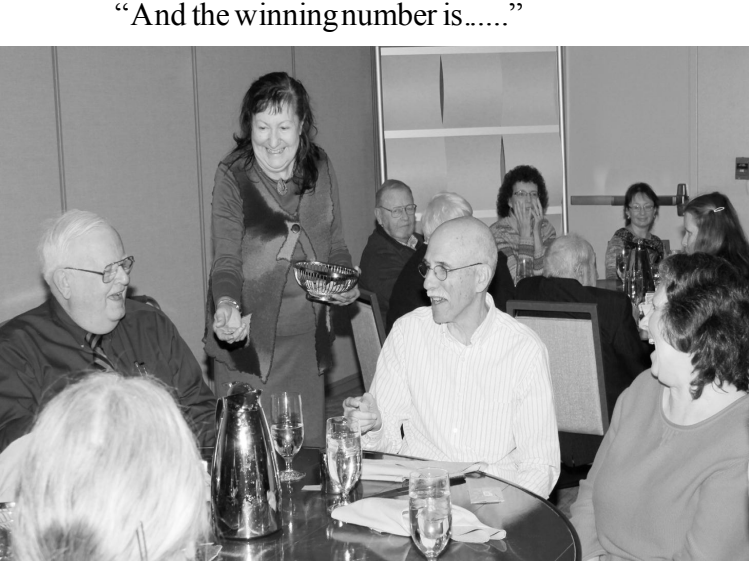
Margaret Garneau volunteered to take the “raffle drawing bowl” around.



A very tasty dessert.



Kathy Peterson is one “Happy Winner.”



“And the winning number is.....”

Forty-five volunteers attended. All of the volunteers received a Dunkin Donuts gift card. NHS would not be the organization it is today without all of the dedication of our volunteers.



Bobbie and Cal Knickerbocker looking over their
“raffle prize” plant.

In addition to providing volunteer and financial assistance to Nashua's first YMCA, Captain Elijah M. Shaw was charitable in Nashua towards the First Baptist Church. As an active church member, he was known to volunteer for significant roles as well as provide financial support to this church. He donated the land and provided \$500.00 towards the building of the Crown Hill Mission Baptist Church. This Church was completed and furnished for a cost of about \$33.00. Unfortunately, it burned in 1930, during the Crown Hill Fire. He also served as the Treasurer of the New Hampshire Baptist Association.

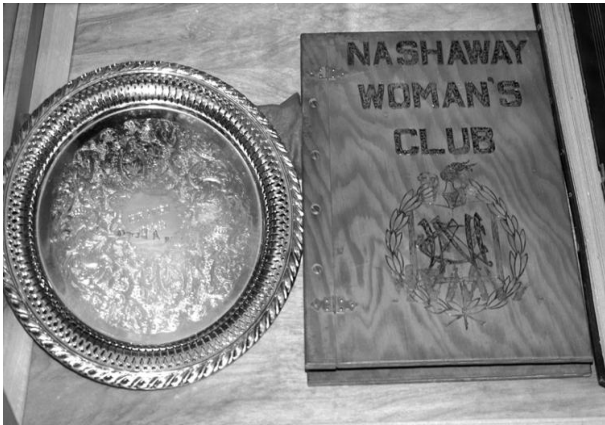
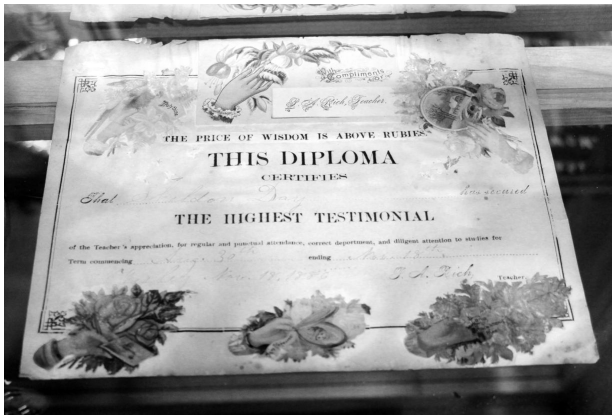
One other volunteer activity Captain Elijah M. Shaw enjoyed was service as a Director for the Nashua Trust Company. During his lifetime, Captain Elijah M. Shaw was married twice. His first wife whom he married on April 29, 1852, was Amantha C. Sanborn. Amantha was from Sanborn, New Hampshire, and they had four children together. After her death, he married Mary E. Davison of Prince Edwards Island, and they had three children together.

In 1903, Elijah M. Shaw passed away in his sleep at his boyhood home in Kensington, New Hampshire. He had been suffering from what was considered to be a fatal disease. As an adult, his boyhood home had become his summer home. He had spent many summers living there with family members which included his twin brother Thomas C. Shaw. At the time of his death, Captain Elijah M. Shaw had a large and extended family.

This past spring, Captain Elijah M. Shaw, his home located at 85 Concord Street and the history of the YMCA in Nashua was a feature segment on WMUR's New Hampshire Chronicle. Representatives of and portions of The Nashua Historical Society's collection participated within this feature New Hampshire Chronicle story. The link for the show is: <http://www.wmur.com/new-hampshire-chronicle/monday-april-18th-the-historic-home-of-elijah-shaw39028470>



Nashaway Woman's Club New Exhibit in the Speare Museum Display Case



The latest exhibit at The Nashua Historical Society celebrates that 120th anniversary of the Nashaway Woman's Club. The club was formed in 1896, and the exhibit includes original meeting records, a silver service, scrapbooks and more. Please stop by to view this lovely exhibit.

Programs

Tuesday, September 20, 2016 at 7:30 p.m. Wheelwright Deed and Its Context in Colonial America

Among the earliest documents recorded at the Middlesex North Registry of Deeds in Lowell, Massachusetts, is one dated May 17, 1692. Engulfed in controversy throughout its existence, the Wheelwright Deed and the circumstances surrounding it provide a fascinating story and serves as a window into the history and practices of land ownership in early New England. Richard P. Howe, Jr., Register of Deeds of the Middlesex North District will present this program. This program is free and open to the public.

Saturday, September 24, 2016 at 10 a.m. - Kids Into Drama Open House

Please join us for a celebration of the theater group Kids Into Drama. KID was active in Nashua from 1981-1988. The exhibit will be showcasing this very active and vibrant troupe. The Speare Museum will open at 9 a.m. with the opening ceremony at 10 a.m. The Abbot Spalding house will be open from 10:30 to noon.

Tuesday, October 18, 2016 at 7:30 p.m. - A Evening of Mountain Mysteries

Please join us for a "virtual tour" of New Hampshire's most haunted regions. "Do you believe in ghosts? What about aliens or Sasquatch?" Marianne O'Connor will cover stories in which a New Hampshire Bigfoot has been researched, and there will be plenty of ghost stories to go around. Have an evening of spine tingling fun with ghost stories, legends and mystery. The program is suitable for families. This program is free and open to the public.

Sunday, November 13 at 2 p.m. - French Canadian Music and its Cross-Cultures

Lucie Therrien presents the evolution of traditional French-Canadian music including its arrival in North America from France, its crossing with Indian culture during the evangelization of Acadia and Quebec, its growth alongside English culture after the British colonization and its expansion from Acadia to Louisiana. The movement of French-Canadian culture from Quebec to New England during industrialization and the ensuing French Canadian migration is also addressed.

This program is free and open to the public through a grant from the NH Humanities' Humanities to Go! Speaker's Bureau.

All programs are presented at The Nashua Historical Society, 5 Abbott Street, Nashua, NH

Nashua Garden Club Sale

On May 14, the Nashua Garden Club once again held their annual garden sale on the grounds of The Nashua Historical Society. The weather was perfect, and the sale was well attended. The Speare Museum was open for tours.



Images:

An oversized print of J.F. McElwain Company -Shoe Makers.

Two group photographs of the founders of“Nashua Corporation”(Eliot, Win, Hubert and Jim Carter)

Research Committee: JoAnne St. John,Chair:

Members: Sandy Axton, Barbara Bankeroff, Barbara Comer, Paul Friday, Margaret Garneau, Robert Garneau, Eileen Herring, Rose Markiewicz, Beth McCarthy, Scott McPhie, Frank Mooney, Dean Shalhoup

By the Numbers: Total Research Requests 65, Number of Requests Completed 57, Total New Hampshire Requests 46, Nashua Requests 30, Photo Requests 9, Genealogy Requests 15, History Requests 30, Miscellaneous Requests 10, Referred Out 8 Total Requests since 2003 - 1169

A recent request that came in this year was from Sean McDonald, WMUR news reporter, who was looking for information on Elijah Shaw. Sean and crew came to the Society, and Beth got her wish fulfilled to get the Society on NH Chronicle. She did a great job with the interview and looked great on television. I hope we get to see her again when hopefully New Hampshire Chronicle comes to the Society to tour the Abbot Spalding House!

Visitors and Volunteers Report, Eileen Herring: The Abbot Spalding House had 42 visitors this past year. Most visitors were local from Nashua, Derry, Salem, Hollis and Merrimack. There were also visitors from New York and from Cape Town, South Africa. Docents/Guides included Sandy Axton, Ginny Nedved-Cook, Beth McCarthy, Joanne Ouellette, Marti Spalding, Gail Pinet, Dave Pinet, Alice Sheridan. The House was open for the Nashua City Arts Day in September and for the Arbor Day Celebration in April.

The Speare Museum had 241 visitors mostly local visitors from Nashua, Pelham, Derry, Londonderry, New Hampton, and Merrimack. Others came from California, Massachusetts, New Jersey, Kentucky, Connecticut, Oregon, Florida, Rhode Island, Michigan, Colorado and Great Britain. Included in the 241 visitors were several groups including the Hispanic Latino and Intercultural Network, the Turkish Cultural Center, college students working on projects, two fourth grade classes studying New Hampshire and Nashua, a Cub Scout troop and three middle school classes that did research for class projects. Volunteers assisting were Margaret Garneau, Rose Markiewicz, Beth McCarthy, Joanne Ouellette, and Anita Vassar.

On April 10, a volunteer recognition luncheon was held at the Courtyard by Marriott. Forty-five volunteers attended. In addition to the luncheon, the volunteers were each given a \$5.00 Dunkin Donuts gift card. The gift cards were well received. Total Number of Volunteer Hours: 6,698.25

Programs Report, Eileen Herring: Six programs in the past year were all well attended and feedback was positive. We were fortunate to receive grants for two of the programs from NH Humanities to Go! Speakers Bureau. The Refreshment Committee did a wonderful job providing snacks after each event. Committee members include: Mary Dulski, Margaret Garneau, Shirley Hart, Judy Hemenway, Eileen Herring, Jean Wells and Susan Young.

Membership Report, Eileen Herring:

Number of new members (5-1-2015- 4-30-2016) 14

Current Memberships: Adult 71, Family 73, Student 3, Life 59, Complimentary 31

Sadly 7 members died during the year.

Office Report, Eileen Herring: Margaret Garneau retired in December, 2015. Eileen Herring took over as Administrative Assistant. We are fortunate that Margaret continues as a volunteer with the society. We are fortunate to have Margaret Garneau, Jean Wells, Judy Hemenway and Mary Dulski to assist with mailings.

research is complete. Committee members included Roland Fisher, Dan Ledoux, John Markiewicz and Dave Pinet. Joe Comer volunteered to make the mobile stands for the tree slices.

Technology Committee, Barbara Bankeroff: The computer network at the Society has been running very well. Two scanners have been added to our computers; one was purchased and another donated by Bob Sampson. The Past Perfect database, residing on the Server, continues to be backed up several ways which ensures that in case of a catastrophic issue with the Server, our database will not be lost.

Tree Slice Committee, Ken Mayo: A few good men worked sanding the tree slices several Saturdays last fall. A urethane varnish was applied to protect and seal them as well as to create a shiny surface to accept markers and labels when the research is complete. Committee members included Roland Fisher, Dan Ledoux, John Markiewicz and Dave Pinet. Joe Comer volunteered to make the mobile stands for the tree slices.

Grounds Committee Report, Dennis Parker: planted Hawthorne tree and new plaque; bark mulched flower beds, trees and perimeter of house (2015 & 2016)

Full reports are on file.
