

# Andover Historical Society

Andover, New Hampshire 03216



- NEWSLETTER -

January 2024

Newsletter #1

What a great year we had in 2023. We started the opening weekend with walking tours of Potter Place. John Hodgson talked about Richard Potter and Potter Place in the early 1800's. Fred Nystrom talked about the rail station during the late 1800's. Luan Clark talked about the Emon's Store and Potter Place during the early 1900's. Bill Hoffman talked about the early 1900's as well, along with showing the site of the future Concord Stagecoach Building.

The Old Time Fair was back in swing and certainly was a great fund raising day. It really is a wonderful day for the community. We are looking at changing the date so we don't compete with Hospital Days and the Crafts Fair. Would love your thoughts on a good time to have the Old Time Fair. Our Freight House Sales did pretty well. Thank you to Judy Perreault and Gail Richards for all of their time at the Freight House. Do you know someone who would want to be in charge of our museum? Please let one of the trustees know or email [estinal@proctoracademy.org](mailto:estinal@proctoracademy.org).

The Historical Society held a Memoir writing class at the Hub with Joan Katz leading it. The Schust Family stepped in at the last minute to offer the "History of Drumming in Andover". It was a magical evening and everyone got to play drums. The One Room School House was used for a documentary film in January. We received some wonderful Archival items which you will see below. Fred Nystrom has been working on replacing the Semaphore and it has now been completed!

The Andover Historical Society has been working with the Andover Lions Club to build a permanent spot for the Concord Stagecoach. It will be available for all to see at Potter Place. We have gotten all the permits needed and hope to get the building up this Spring/Summer. We also received a few grants this year, one from The Franklin Savings Bank and New Hampshire Charitable Foundation. We are looking forward to a great 2024!

## **SUZY NORRIS**



The Society lost one of our biggest supporter/volunteer at the beginning of this month. After a brief illness, Susan Abbott Norris (Suzy) died on January 2, 2024. Suzy came to Andover in 1966 with her husband Timothy, and together they raised their son Matthew and worked a Proctor Academy. She was an invaluable trustee of the Andover Historical Society for over twenty years during which she spearheaded the continued Oral History Project. She interviewed dozens of Andover residents and continued to support making those histories available to the public. She also hosted the special speaker programs, bringing flowers and goodies, chaired the publicity and public relations committee, and single-handedly ran and funded the children's games at the annual Old Time Fair. Her spirit of helping others and pitching in was ever-present as she was a frequent docent, helped tend gardens, dusted and vacuumed during clean-up in the museums, and was a dedicated member of trustee meetings. Her lively, generous, sparkling presence greeted everyone she met, and the Society owes deep gratitude for all that she brought to our community.

## **NEW ACQUISITIONS IN 2023**

In 2023, the Andover Historical Society gratefully received more than 160 items from a total of 35 donors.

Here are some highlights of the artifacts that were added to our ever-growing collection.

- From the family of Irene Haley Jewett we received Irene's mother's beautiful four-piece "honeymoon outfit". Myrtle "Carrie" Sleeper married Frank M. Haley in Andover on Christmas day in 1909. Also donated was the West Point Cadet hat that had belonged to Irene and Noah's son Stephen Jewett. Stephen was killed in action during the Vietnam War.

- Laura Gould of Hillsborough discovered a collection of papers, correspondence, and published articles written by Kimball Elkins (1903-1997), and kindly passed them along to us. Kimball was a 1933 graduate of Harvard and went on to work at the Harvard University Library for 25 years. The Elkins family lived in Andover since 1792, and by 1858 had built a home on Beech Hill. The home remained in the Elkins' family until the 1990s.

Kimball was one of the founding members of the Andover Historical Society and was also its first curator.

- Four members of the Tuttle-Thompson family (Carolyn Thompson Currier, Donna Baker-Hartwell, Frank Baker, and Kay Parker Lisseck) donated several noteworthy family items

including a bottle of "Tuttles Elexer" (still with original elixir inside!), a 19th

century photograph

album with photographs of the Flanders-Tuttle family, a wonderful assortment of antique chairs, and several pieces of hand-woven textiles and artwork by Stella Tuttle Thompson (1875-1968).

- David Powers donated items passed down from his grandmother Bernice Huntoon Powers, including their family's 1816 Tucker-Huntoon Family Bible and the 1911-1970 Ledger for the All

Souls Church in Potter Place, as well as the yearbook from his father's Andover High School class of 1949.

- Glenn Haley passed along the Andover Citizens Fire Co. ledger book which contains meeting

minutes and member lists from 1945-1964.

- Currently on display in our Emons Store window is the 1920s "Easy Vac Electric double-tub, copper basin washer" that was donated by Tom & Lynn McMurry.

- Karen Phelps Hanson donated Eliza Buzzell's (1887-1990) scrapbook. Eliza lived in Andover Center on what is now Shirley Road, and was one of Andover's first mail carriers. She tells us in her Oral History interview that "I was a mail carrier in Andover. The mail started in 1904 & 1905. The first day I delivered it was 23 below zero, and I delivered 32 miles in an open sleigh".

- Jon & Betsy Fulton donated a beautiful commode and treadle sewing machine that came from their family home on Emery Rd. This property had once been Jim & Maude Keniston's 100 acre Broadview Farm.

In addition, we received a large c.1928 photograph of the faculty and full student-body at Proctor Academy from Susan Huntoon Ford; a 1950's Andover District Nurse uniform from Luan Clark; a handmade sled from the Don & Marilyn Gould family; a framed watercolor of "Hamp's Garage" from Carroll & Maureen Gautreau, and from an anonymous donor came a 1908-1913 diary which includes several Andover names.

The Society also wishes to thank the Bardsley family, Bill Bates, the Beaufay's at Highland Lake Inn, Barbara Buswell, Annette Mercier Cain, Victoria Dumante, Leigh Webb at the Franklin Historical Society, Fred Nystrom, Connie Powers, Catherine Stearns, Mark Stetson, Cheryl Fenton Swenson, and 5 additional Anonymous donors, for their contributions to our collection.

And lastly we would like to gratefully acknowledge the donation made by Andover's American Legion Crosby-Gilbert Post #101 of their Andover Legion Post flag, the Andover Legion Banner, a State of New Hampshire flag, and the original 1947 American flag that was used by the post throughout the past 76 years.

## **WE NEED A MUSEUM MANAGER**

We are looking for someone to manage the Museum for the Historical Society. This person would be in charge of inventory for the items we sell in the store, setting up the exhibits, helping with the volunteers for the Station and Store during our Summer hours. This person is responsible for the preservation, acquisition, and display of historical artifacts relating to the Andover region. It is a big job and could have 2 people to do it. Does any part of this sound of interest to you? We would love to have you join us, if you are interested or know someone who might be, have them contact one of the trustees or email [estinal@proctoracademy.org](mailto:estinal@proctoracademy.org) to answer any questions. Thank you for even considering to help. Do want to do a shift at the Museum or store, let us know, and we will get you on the list as we always need volunteers!

## **DUES**

**Thank you to all that have already paid them, we really appreciate it! Just a reminder that 2024 membership dues are needed. They help us keep up with all of our expenses, such as buildings, utilities and all the things we need to run. Your annual dues are a very important part of our revenue. You can easily pay online with PayPal by going to our website at [www.andoverhistory.org](http://www.andoverhistory.org). or by mailing it to the address below on the Membership Form. Thank you.**

**2024 MEMBERSHIP FORM**

Membership Categories: Individual: \$20 • Family: \$30 • Donor: \$50 • Corporate: \$100

Name \_\_\_\_\_

@AHS-NH

Email address \_\_\_\_\_

*Please print*

Mailing address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Tel. No. \_\_\_\_\_

Seasonal Mailing Address (please specify months) \_\_\_\_\_



**venmo**

Life member: \$250 per person • \$450 per couple Enclosed is an extra donation of \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Volunteers are always needed and welcomed. If you would like to participate in the work of the Andover historical Society, please indicate your special interest: \_\_\_\_\_

Andover Historical Society is a 501C(3) charitable organization • PO Box 167, Andover, NH 03216

You can cut out this form and mail it to:

Andover Historical Society, PO Box 167, Andover, NH 03216

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