



CUMBERLAND HISTORICAL SOCIETY
P O Box 82
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President:	Carolyn Small
Vice President:	Diana Copp
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Trustees:	Herbert S. Foster, Jr.
	Lynda Wilson Jensen
	Linda Fulda
	Thomas Bennett, Director Prince Memorial Library
	Nancy Latham
	Jeff Frost
	Margery Gruber

MISSION STATEMENT:

The purpose of the Society shall be to collect and preserve artifacts pertaining to the Town of Cumberland and its history, making it available to groups, schools, and individuals.

Cumberland Historical Society is a non-profit, tax exempt, 501c3 organization.

FEBRUARY 2017 VOLUME 136

FEBRUARY THOUGHTS:

They invented hugs to let people know you love them without saying anything. Bil Keane



PAST PROGRAMS AND EVENTS:

The January program, "Did You Know?" welcomed a crowd of more than 30 people. Carolyn Small presented a power point, or in her case, a powerLESS point, program of part of the Cumberland Historical Society's collection of postcards showing all areas around Cumberland, mostly from the 1920's. There was a brief history of postcards given before the show started. A question and answer period followed, and information added as well. Robert Storey noted that the King's Highway marker B135, located on Middle Road in front of Top Knot Farm, was moved to its current location about 100 yards from its original place due to the fact of it being on private property. We extend huge thanks to Eileen Wyatt, Linda Storey, Linda Fulda, and Joan Norton for a wonderful selection of delightful refreshments. Tasty, tasty, tasty!

And, as a result of the program, a couple from Friar Lane who had attended called and asked to visit the museum, which they did on February 3. They were really astonished by the amount and variety of items that we have in our collection.

Two mysteries from last month's newsletter were cleared up. The first was by Linc Merrill, who deciphered the initials in regards to the I. O. R. M (Improved Order of Redmen), - Sawga, No. 20, Fri.; Indianola, No 44 ,

1. D. of P. D. P. is Degree of Pocohontas- women's part of Red Men
2. UOGC Is United Order of the Golden Cross. They had local organizations in many towns including Pownal where they had their own Hall in North Pownal across from the North Pownal Store. They had regular meetings and activities. They had life insurance program for the members. Thank you, Linc.

The second mystery was cleared up by our genealogy guru, Nancy Mason, who found this info on Ancestry about Caroline Blanchard.

When Caroline Taylor Blanchard was born on August 4, 1839, in Cumberland, Maine, her father, Beza, was 33, and her mother, Dorcas (Prince), was 32. She married Jonathan Jordan on August 22, 1863, in Portland, Maine. They had two children during their marriage. She died on September 20, 1920, in Tunbridge, Vermont, at the age of 81.

Thanks, Nancy for that info.

FEBRUARY STUMPER: Why was Poland's Corner so named?

ONGOING NOTICE: NEW COMMITTEES ON THE DOCKET FOR NEXT YEAR:

This announcement will continue in each newsletter. Bicentennial! The Town of Cumberland will be celebrating its 200th anniversary in 2021, and the Town will be creating a committee to put together the festivities. There will also be a subcommittee from the Historical Society to help implement that. Please think about signing up for that committee, or send some thoughts for activities and events to promote and put forward. This could be a really great endeavor. Another one that might be coming up is the 150th anniversary of Greely Institute/ High School. Lots of things to do! We have a couple of volunteers already, with Margie Gruber and Linda Fulda, but do need a bigger group to help the Town pull this event off! We will start having meetings in regards to these events soon. And one more: Cumberland Fair will be celebrating its 150th anniversary next year. The Officers and Directors are looking to do something special with that.

Speaking of Cumberland Fair, congratulations to the Cumberland Fair Exhibition Hall for being presented in January at the Maine State Fair Association Convention with the award for being the Outstanding

Exhibition Hall of Large Maine Fairs for 2016. This is the award.



ACCESSIONS WORKSHOPS:

There will be a couple more accessions workshops this month. More people have expressed an interest in helping out with this task. One will be on Monday evening, February 20th from 6:30 to 8:00ish, and the other will be Tuesday morning February 21st from 9:00 to noon-ish. As stated previously, this is not a complicated process, and you do not need to know about the history of these things. It is mostly a bookkeeping procedure. We always have refreshments on hand, and really do need the help. If you are interested in attending one of these workshops, please contact Carolyn at 829-3757, or 415-4589, or csmall1943@maine.rr.com. The ones from last month were cancelled because of the very nasty weather.

EAGLE SCOUT PROJECT HELP NEEDED:

Ben Follet's Eagle Scout project has received a start, but really needs some folks to help him out. He has got a big spreadsheet to work on, and needs help filling in the blanks. Ben is working closely with Thomas on this effort, and it is, indeed, a huge one. He has two years to complete it, so any amount of time and at any time would be much appreciated. The finished product will be an in-depth study for the Town, the Library and the Historical Society.

GIRL SCOUT SILVER STAR PROJECT

Our other Scout project, the Girl Scout project with Erin O'Donovan, which began quite a while ago is moving along very well. We got this update from her: Right now I am working on splitting the interviews up into smaller segments, and also working on how they will be laid out on the website. Then I will be sending those to Eliza Porter to put on the website! (I don't know how long this will be taking since there are many long interviews, but I will keep you posted!)

ACQUISITIONS:

Items from MSAD 51 Superintendent's Office: Jeff Porter, MSAD #51's Superintendent, (not to be confused with member and former Town Councillor Jeff Porter) and the crew are cleaning out some closets and an office there at the E.K. Sweetser School, and we have been the recipients of some interesting items. Two of great interest are a watercolor painting of Sweetser's Apple Barrel by Bill Crowell, a former member of Cumberland Historical Society, and a few Dick and Jane books that came from one of the schools. Dick and Jane; what fond memories for some of us! Bill and Maryann Crowell were devoted members of the Historical Society, and he had a few art shows at the building. The painting that we now have is a great example of his lovely work.

COMING UP:

February program: "Tree Tapping and Maple Sapping" presented by Carolyn Small. Learn about Maine's favorite natural sweetener, and sample some tasty maple treats. No, there will not be a pancake breakfast served!



There are some interesting programs in line for the rest of the year, but we need firm up the times for each of them.

COMMITTEE UPDATE:

The Scholarship Committee developed a new scholarship application and has sent it to Greely High School. They will soon be getting in applications. Last year they received 17.

TAKE NOTE AGAIN: In the Recreation Department booklet that recently came out, it is noted that, on Thursday, March 2, 2017, Jeff Porter will be hosting a tour of the Old Customs House in Portland. He conducted a tour for the Historical Society a while ago, and it was an absolute delight. Check out page 10 of the Cumberland Rec Department for details.

ALWAYS LOOKING: For folks to help with refreshments. Bake a cookie or two and add them to the goodie table for us. Thanks.

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS:

Two students who visited the museum on Martin Luther King Day joined. They are Grant Dresnok and Kyle Harrison. Also joining are , Greg and Nancy Goodspeed, and Marguerite Aube.

ANSWER TO THE FEBRUARY STUMPER:

Charles Poland, Cumberland, ca. 1825

Contributed by Maine Historical Society

Item 48949 Charles Poland of Cumberland (1795-1867) posed for a portrait in about 1825. He is holding a telescope. Poland married Eunice Harris in 1817. The couple had nine children, four of whom survived to adulthood. In 1865, after Eunice's death, he married Susan Chenery of Falmouth. The artist is believed to be Joseph Greenleaf Cole (1806-1858)



Charles Poland owned and operated a store located on the hill just east of the Tuttle Road Methodist Church. He started it in 1840, and that area was named for the Poland family. From the Phyllis Sweetser book: "The basement kitchen of their home was dug into the side of the hill and there Mr. Poland started his store."

~ COMMITTEES THAT NEED HELP STAFFING: PLEASE HELP WITH ONE OF THESE ~

Education: ____ Fund Raising: ____ Programs: ____
GreelyInstitute/High School 150th Anniversary____
Refreshment: ____ Nominating: ____ Publicity: ____
Bicentennial ____ Scholarship ____
Cumberland Fair 150th Anniversary____

Membership Application
2016-2017

Please join us!

____ \$10.00 Individual	____ \$25.00 Household
____ \$100.00 Sustaining	____ \$100.00 Business
____ Other/Gift	____ Students: Free

Name(s)____
Mailing Address:____
Town:____
State/Zip____
Phone____ Cell Phone:____
Email____
Winter address if applicable:____

Do you want your newsletter sent by USPS? ____ **Or** email? ____

The Cumberland Historical Society is a 501(c) (3) organization.

Please mail this form and your check to:

Cumberland Historical Society

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Cumberland, ME 04021

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