



CUMBERLAND HISTORICAL SOCIETY
P O Box 82
4A Blanchard Road
Cumberland, ME 04021

President:	Carolyn Small
Vice President:	Diana Copp
Secretary:	Elizabeth (Betsy) Huston
Treasurer:	Peter Wilson
Trustees:	Herbert S. Foster, Jr.
	Lynda Wilson Jensen
	Linda Fulda
	Thomas Bennett
	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.

JANUARY 2017 VOLUME 135

JANUARY THOUGHTS:

Learn from yesterday, live for today, hope for tomorrow.

— **Albert Einstein**

Cheers to a new year and another chance for us to get it right.

— **Oprah Winfrey**



PAST PROGRAMS AND EVENTS:

At a Board meeting on January 4th, Margery Gruber was elected as Trustee pro-tem, the term lasting until the general meeting at the end of our year in June where she can be officially installed in that position. She has been an active member since joining, and we welcome her to the Board. Also, the idea came up again to have the museum open on Saturdays from 9:00AM to 1:00PM for visitors. This will start in February, with probably every other Saturday being open until and if we decide something different. If you would like to volunteer to be a host(ess) for any of the occasions, contact a Board member for further details. We all felt that more exposure than just a few hours on Monday mornings would be beneficial for the Society. Members are always welcome to stop in to see the new arrangements that have been made, and view the great acquisitions that are on display.

A presentation for Cumberland Rec Department's "Tea & Talk" was held January 12th by Carolyn Small at the Town Office Council Chambers. About 30 people were present, and were shown a power point program which was followed by a "show and tell" of artifacts brought from the museum. The bed key, the niddy noddie, the darning egg, the wooden butter mold, and the fans with a demonstration of the "language of fans" seemed to intrigue those present. We even acquired an envelope of 5 pictures of the burning of the Burgess chicken house to make way for the building of the Mabel I. Wilson School. Thank you, Barbara Butler, for that gift. Another donation was a book, "Remember the Trolleys", given to us by Alan and Sally Pierce. Thanks to them, too. All that and a new membership: welcome Ellie Walker! Refreshments were provided by the Cumberland Rec Department.

1917, 100 YEARS AGO: This is the year that the United States entered World War I on April 2nd.

The men from this Town who joined the military were:

Fred O. Adams, Paul E. Alden, Antonio Battista, Albert T. Bjorn, Morris W. Blanchard, Ralph L. Blanchard, Robert G. Blanchard, Roy M. Blanchard, Ralph M. Bragdon, Edward E. (Ned) Bragg, Victor Burnell, William H. Chambers, William M. Christensen, Clifton H. Copp, John Cummings, Glendon B. Doane, Ralph W. Doble, Leslie L. Edwards, Joseph L. Ennis, John W. Hall, John Hansen, Otto C. Hanson, Grol Hawkes, Everett L. Hill, Albert Kay, Ernest A. Leighton, Carl B. Lufkin, Floyd W. Norton, John H. Peterson, Mads F. Peterson, Benjamin F. Porter, Charles B. Porter, Earle R. Porter, Ernest A. Rand, William P. Randall, Harold M. Ross, Robert A. Ross, Vernon B. Russell, Harvey D. Sederquist, Elsie Smith, Roy Vaughn P. Sprague, Ernest Osgood Sweetser, Marston O. Sweetser, Walter M. Thurston, Royal P. Webber, and Willis E. Wilson. This list was compiled by Harold M. Ross, Victor Burnell, and Halvor S. Merrill

In the Town of Cumberland, according to the State of Maine Register that year, the population was approximately 1400 people, and the following lists were named:

Postmasters: A.W. Doughty at the Poland Corner store, Jas. L. Dunn at the Center P. O. (located in the store on Main Street where the apartment house currently, and Henry Bowen on Chebeague Island.

Selectmen: Eugene Strout, Dennis B. Hamilton, and Clinton M. Hamilton

Town Clerk: Harvey C. Blanchard

Treasurer: Edmund R. Norton

Constable: Edward L. Farwell

Road Commissioners: Woodbury. Hamilton, Charles E. Merrill, and Martin B. Hamilton (Chebeague

School Committee: Louville H. Merrill, H. P. Sweetser, and Royal H. Bennett (Chebeague)

School Superintendent: W. Lunt

Board of Health: A.W. Doughty, Sec.

Clergymen: B. C. Wentworth, Methodist, Center (Congregational), vacant, West Cumberland Methodist,

supplied; Universalist, vacant; Chebeague Island, Leon L. Hale

Physicians: Center, Henry M. Moulton; Chebeague Island, Leon L. Hale

Notary: H. C. Blanchard, Sept. 19, 1919

Justice : A. R. Littlefield, Dec. 16, 1919

Merchants: A. W. Doughty, general stores (Poland Corner), Jas. L. Dunn general stores(Center), E. R. Hill, Fred Fogg, meats and provisions,; Frank H. Chase, A. S. Chase, C. H. Jenkins, Howard C. Blanchard, P. M. & M. W. Leighton, florists; H. C. Blanchard, Willis A. Thurston, poultry and eggs; Henry Bowen, fruit and confectionery, A. R. Littlefield, S. F. Hamilton, general stores, R. H. Cleaves, provisions (Chebeague Island)

Manufacturers: (Center) Fred L. Adams, smith; E. L. Farwell, Wm. H. Shillings, painters; Chas. Small, stone cutter; F. R. Sweetser, E. B. Osgood, sausages; Gorham L. Farwell, carpenter; Wm. R. Barbour, mason; (West) Wilson & Leighton, saw, stave, and grist mill; C. R. & W. H. Mountfort, saw and stave mill; Levi Morrill, stave mill; Geo. N. Wilson, carpenter and builder; (Chebeague Island) William Fenderson, canned goods

Express: (American, Center) E. J. Herrick

Library: Cumberland Circulating, Mrs. Olive M. Hall, lib.; 700 vols.

Live Stock Breeders: (Center) Geo. Blanchard, prop. Broadmoor Farm

School: (Center) Greeley (*sic*) Institute, Dana S. Jordan, princ.

Station agents: (Center) M.C.R.R E. J. Herrick, G. T. Ry., Geo. E. O'Connor

Asso'tns: (Center) Cumberland Famers' Club – Willard Wilson, Sec., I. O. R. M (*Redmen*), - Sawga, No. 20, Fri.; Indianola, No 44 , D. of P. (?), alt. Mon., P. of H. (*Grange*) – Cumberland No. 500, Tues. Chebeague Island, U.O.G.C. (?) - Banner, No. 276, Sat.

Hotels: (Chebeague Island) Sunnyside, H. H. Jenks; Hamilton and Hillcrest, Bicknell & Hamilton; Summit House, Mrs. C. M. Hamilton; Grannell Cottage, Miss S. L. Grannell; Hamilton Villa, A. E. Hamilton; Island View House, L. F. Hamilton

The graduates that year from Greeley Institute were: Lucille Blanchard, Morris W. Blanchard, Katharine A. Brown, Marjorie E. Cole, Annie G. Curtis, John Doughty, Gladys P. Hamilton, Philip G. Leighton, Alma S. McIntire, Sybil A. Merrill, Whitman Mitchell, Beatrice Small, Jeanette Sturdivant, and Mildred Wyman

JANUARY STUMPER: Who was the United States President in 1917?

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 Greeley 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.

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, January 23rd from 6:30 to 8:00ish, and the other will be Tuesday morning January 24th 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.

EAGLE SCOUT PROJECT HELP NEEDED:

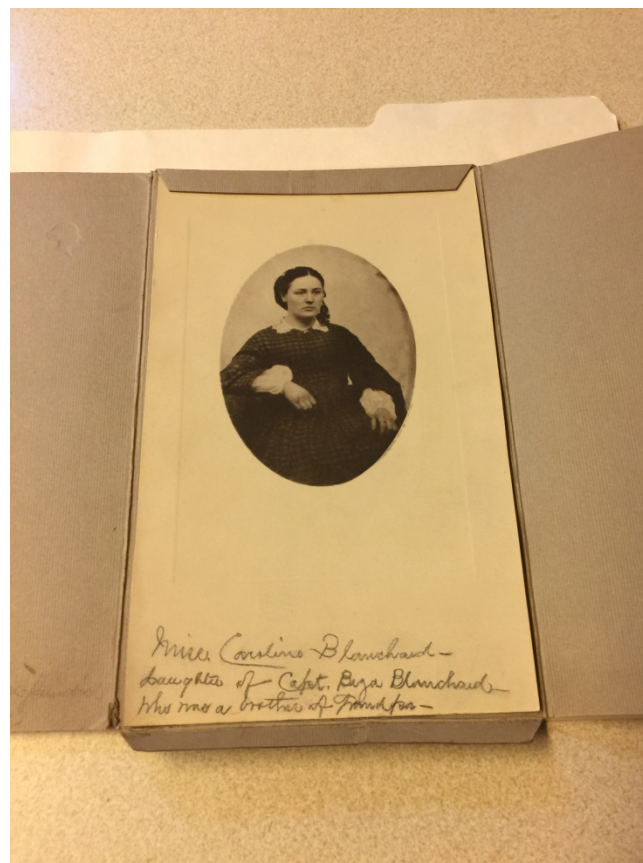
We received this plea for help from Ben Follet for his Eagle Scout project. He had gone to see Director Thomas Bennet for a project to do for the Library, and Thomas came up with this one. Ben is working closely with Thomas on this effort, and it is, indeed, a huge one. He needs some help with name and date verifications, and is asking a lot of people to join in. 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.

Hello Mrs. Small,

My name is Ben Follett, and I am a Life Scout with Troop 58, Cumberland/North Yarmouth. I am currently working on my Eagle project. It was approved by the Eagle committee, and I have finished the project plan. I am ready to start work on the ebook, but I first need volunteers. The ebook will be about the town of Cumberland, and changes in jobs over time. We will be researching from 1863 to the early 1900s. We will be utilizing town militia records to do the research. If you would be able to volunteer, please email folletteagleproject@gmail.com. I am looking for researchers, writers, craftsmen/women, and somebody with a penchant for the visual arts. An initial project briefing will be held in the Prince Memorial Library on January thirteenth for those who would like additional information. Thank you,-
Ben Follett

ACQUISITIONS:

Merry Chapin send a packet of several items, including a photo of Caroline Blanchard, daughter of Beza, who lived at 16 Blanchard Road. That's the house across the street from the old Sweetser Apple Barrel home. Lots of history in that area! Not much information is available about this mysterious lady except when she was born and the fact that Capt. Beza Blanchard and wife were her parents. If any of you genealogists have information about her, please share it! Thanks.



Deputy Fire Chief Chris Copp donated a conductor's hat badge (#24) from the Portland to Lewiston Interurban. What a treasure that is! Quick research about this badge number does not reveal who Conductor # 24 was, but we will keep digging.



The Portland-Lewiston part of the Interurban was chartered in 1907 and was out under construction early in 1910. Construction from the Lewiston end began at Littlefield's Corner in Auburn, and the following year the Portland end was started. All work was done by pick and shovel, and horse-drawn dump carts and earth scoops were the tools of the day. An electric locomotive was acquired as soon as rail had been installed, and gravel from the Morrison's Hill pit in West Cumberland was hauled along the line to be used as ballast. The bridge in West Cumberland crossing a stream can still be seen from Route 100, just north of J Brothers' on the other side of the road. The water runs very deep under this bridge, and is a favorite fishing hole. The trolley station for the area was located in behind where Budd's gas station now stands. It has been beautifully restored is now located at the Seashore Trolley Museum in Kennebunk.



COMING UP:

January program will be “Did You Know?” presented by Carolyn Small. This will be a program of facts about our town, with a few items to display from the collections of Cumberland Historical Society. The date and time will be 7:00 PM, January 19th, 2017 the Council Chambers of the Cumberland Town Office. Refreshments before and after will be provided by the Cumberland Historical Society.

There will be a program, by request of Reverend Diane Bennekamper, on the history of the Congregational Church. Location will be in the Congregational Church at 2:00 PM Sunday afternoon February 26th. Refreshments will be provided by the Cumberland Congregational Church. Bless them!

On January 29th at 2:00 the new music director, Dr. James Nga of the Cumberland Congregational Church will present a piano concert in the church. He will play a selection of beloved hymns.

TAKE NOTE: 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.

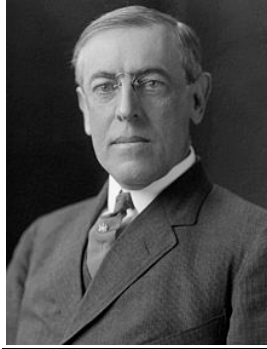
WELCOME NEW MEMBERS:

Ellie Walker

RESEARCH REQUESTS:

Info about Redmen's Hall from the current owners, Sevee & Maher, Engineers.

How many islands belong to Cumberland from Susan Garsoe? It started out with 19 islands, but has been pared down to only two now: Basket and Sturdivant.

ANSWER TO THE JANUARY STUMPER:

28th President of the United States
In office March 4, 1913 to March 4, 1921

Thomas Woodrow Wilson (December 28, 1856 – February 3, 1924) was an American politician and academic who served as the 28th President of the United States from 1913 to 1921. Born in Staunton, Virginia, he spent his early years in Augusta, Georgia and Columbia, South Carolina. Wilson earned a PhD in political science at Johns Hopkins University, and served as a professor and scholar at various institutions before being selected as President of Princeton University, a position he held from 1902 to 1910. In 1910, he was the New Jersey Democratic Party's gubernatorial candidate and was elected the 34th Governor of New Jersey, serving from 1911 to 1913. In the 1912 presidential election, Wilson benefited from a split in the Republican Party to win the presidency, gaining a large majority in the Electoral College and a 42% plurality of the popular vote in a four-candidate field. He was the first Southerner elected as president since Zachary Taylor in 1848. Wilson was a leading force in the Progressive Movement, bolstered by his Democratic Party's winning control of both the White House and Congress in 1912.

~COMMITTEES THAT NEED HELP STAFFING: CAN YOU HELP WITH ONE OF THESE? ~****

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

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

PO Box 82

Cumberland, ME 04021

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THANKS ALSO FOR THE GARDENING SUPPORT FROM SKILLINS GREENHOUSES, WEST CUMBERLAND, MAINE



