



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

President:	Carolyn Small
Vice President:	Diana Copp
Secretary:	Linda Fulda
Treasurer:	Peter Wilson
Trustees:	Herbert S. Foster, Jr., Trustee Emeritus
	Brian Jensen
	Margie Gruber
	Thomas Bennett
	Nancy Latham
	Sandy Nickerson

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.

SEPTEMBER 2017 VOLUME 141

SEPTEMBER THOUGHTS:

"The breezes taste of apple peel.
The air is full of smells to feel-
Ripe fruit, old footballs, burning brush,
New books, erasers, chalk, and such.
The bee, his hive, well-honeyed hum,
And Mother cuts chrysanthemums.
Like plates washed clean with suds, the days
Are polished with a morning haze."
- John Updike, *September*



SEPTEMBER STUMPER: What day did Greely Institute first open its doors ?

BY LAWS CHANGES:

The members of the bylaws changes committee will chair a membership meeting at 7:00PM on Friday, October 5 at the Town Office Council Chambers. Included below are the proposed changes.

DRAFT

Cumberland Historical Society (CHS)

By Laws

Article I. Purpose

The Cumberland Historical Society (CHS) is located in the Town of Cumberland, in the County of Cumberland, in the State of Maine. It may also be referred to as the "Society". The purpose of the Society is to collect, preserve, and display the cultural, historical, and scientific materials that document the prehistory and history of the area now known as the Town of Cumberland with the goal of supporting education and furthering research into its people, culture, and natural world. The Society will carry out its mission as a nonprofit organization in accordance with the statutes of Title 13-B: Maine Nonprofit Corporation Act and Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code. The Society's fiscal year is from July 1st to June 30th of the following year.

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The CHS Board of Directors shall consist of seven (7) voting members. A slate for the seven board members will be elected at a CHS general membership meeting for a term of one year. Five (5) board members unrelated by family or business interests shall constitute a quorum, and a quorum must be present in order that business can be legally transacted. Votes must be passed by a majority of the Board members present. Additional board meetings with the purpose to consider a specific item may be called by the Chair of the Board with written notice to all board members at least 10 business days prior.

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The Board Members will elect a Chair, Vice Chair, Secretary, and Treasurer. The officers will be elected for a term of one year, and may be elected to additional terms. The Chair will preside at all meetings of the Society and will be entitled to vote on all matters. The Vice Chair will preside at meetings in

the absence of the Chair. The Treasurer is responsible for all financial records and reports. The Secretary is responsible for the administrative support of the Board. The Board of Directors will (1) appoint a curator to manage the museum, (2) appoint committees as needed, and (3) review and approve policies as needed.

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The CHS Board of Directors may at any scheduled meeting or at any special called meeting, amend these By-Laws in accordance with Article IV of these By-Laws.

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If the Society no longer feels it can carry out its mission as a nonprofit organization for financial reasons or membership decline, the Society will dissolve the organization in accordance with the statutes of Title 13-B: Maine Nonprofit Corporation Act and Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code. The Society will also give notice to the Town of Cumberland and the general public.

Revision adopted and effective on October xxxx, 2017

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Revisions to the Constitution November 1970; June 1977; September 1978;
January
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2014

President's Report for the Year July 1, 2016 to June 30, 2017

Cumberland Historical Society June 15, 2017

To the Officers, Trustees, and Members of the Cumberland Historical Society:

This year at Cumberland Historical Society has been a busy, productive, active, and interesting one. Changes, both in the physical appearance of the museum and in our paperwork, are being diligently worked on, thanks to many dedicated members who have devoted countless hours to their individual projects in their own homes and at the museum. The recorded volunteer hours added up to nearly 1,000. That constitutes quite an effort for a small totally volunteer organization like ours, and reflects the commitment that these folks put forth. Thank you all so very much.

The Cumberland Brass Band drum, part of our permanent display at the museum, is at East Point Furniture Restoration in Brunswick, being renovated in order to halt the deterioration that dirt and mold had taken root. This project was funded by a \$5,000.00 grant awarded to CHS by the Davis Family Foundation. We had applied for \$15,000.00 to completely restore the drum, but were grateful for the money awarded to preserve it. We had applied to other grant givers to supplement the cause, but were refused, which was a disappointment, but not a setback. We will try again.

Money makers for started last summer with the three we historical tours offered in conjunction with the Cumberland Rec Department, which were very well received. We tabled two craft fairs last year, at Election Day at the Town Office last fall, and at the "Welcome to New Residents" evening this spring. Welcomed visitors by hosting several Open Houses and sold some of our items at the museum.

At the museum, we completed several research requests, accepted some very nice artifact gifts, accessioned numerous gifts, and have added open hours on the second and fourth Saturdays of each month. There were a couple of accession workshops held for folks to learn how to do that paperwork and help get us caught up with recording all the great items that come to us. We are not fully caught up, but are closing in on the backlog. Once we get things in order, we can then move forward by putting everything into the computer. There have been volunteers to help us out with that "techie" stuff.

We assisted with MSAD#51's 50th anniversary celebrations last fall by offering historical data and having an Open House on the day of the event. People came by to visit to view in awe at what we have in our dear little schoolhouse. Besides the programs that we presented as our usual procedure, we also presented one for Aging in Place and the Cumberland Congregational Church. Both were well received. A new event this spring that was very popular, and ever so much fun, was the Scavenger Hunt, created by members Debbie Knight Dugas and Judith Taylor Gagnon. Their very clever clues, riddles, and rebuses led the forty participants on a historic quest of places in our town. Took some thinking there! These two ambitious ladies are already working on the one for next year. Memorial Day Parade and events went well, despite the cold weather and the threat of rain. National Guard Brig. Gen.

Gerard F. Bolduc, Jr., son of member Sylvia Bolduc and the late Gerard Bolduc, was the keynote speaker for the event. Afterwards, he was pleased to meet up with three of his 1977 Greely classmates, Retired Maine State Trooper and now Cumberland Councilman, Mike Edes, Retired FBI agent, Pete Bickmore, and Soon-To- Be-Retired Cumberland Police Lieutenant Milt Calder. Those of us who knew them "back when" are saying "Who'd of thunk it?" Our Open House and White Elephant table drew in a few people and a box full of artifacts from the Clough homestead on Pleasant Valley Road. Thomas Bennett, Director of Prince Memorial Library, had some photos of Cumberland veterans from all different wars made up into large sizes and offered to let us borrow them for the Memorial Day Open House. They are proudly on display in the front hall, and make an impressive exhibit.

Margie Gruber has connected with Eliza Porter, Communications Director at the Town Office, and they have created a link for us with the Town of Cumberland website, keeping our events and happenings up to date for all the world to see! Margie and Linda Fulda are working with Thomas Bennett to finish the revisions of the bylaws that Brian Jensen and Jeff Frost started, and uniting them with the constitution to make a more comprehensive and less cumbersome set of guidelines. Brian and Linda Jensen cleared up and cleaned up the membership list, and will now be able to easily access it, and keep it up to date. The scholarship committee awarded a \$1,000.00 scholarship to Riley Soule this year, upon review of hers and 14 other Greely Cumberland students' essays. All entries were good ones, but hers stood out as the best. Sandy Nickerson has done a great job of keeping up with the gardens at the museum, and is very capably aided by the Town Crew from the Cumberland Parks Department. The gentlemen from that department seem to always show up to mow the lawns for us on Monday morningsperhaps the coffee and treats offered upon their arrival might have something to do with that! Nancy Latham has started working on research for the 150th anniversary of Cumberland Fair. Mary Maloney has eagerly offered to help with that, so that project is in motion. We will also be partnering up with people from Greely for their 150th anniversary, and with the Town Office for Cumberland's 200th anniversary. Looks like we will have enough to keep us busy for a few years.

There are currently two bus tours offered again this summer on June 20th and June 27th from 1:00 to 4:00. The one on the 20th is booked, but there is only one for the 27th, so there is room for 14 more on that one. There will be a slight reconfiguration from the ones done last year, due to time constraints, and several road projects. If these do well, we are talking about doing an early evening or Saturday one for those who cannot attend on a weekday.

The six second grade classes at Mabel I. Wilson School completed their annual historical tour of Cumberland, in spite of the several postponements that had to take place because of the weather!

We are currently hoping that someone will gather up a team to have a float in the Cumberland Fair Parade. We have the truck, the trailer, the theme, and the driver, but need folks to cook up their creative juices and put it together. It could be a money-maker for us. The Parade is on Opening Day of the Fair, September 24th.

Girl Scout, Erin O'Donovan, is finishing her Gold Star project with us, and is excited about presenting it to us, probably next fall. She has been working on this for two years, and has managed to fit it in with her many other efforts at school and home. Boy Scout, Ben Follett, has been working on his Eagle Scout project for several months now, but is still looking for some help with research. We will also be contacted soon by Girl Scout Izzy Chandler, granddaughter of John and Barbara Chandler, for her Gold Star project, the history of the Cumberland Congregational Church. Isn't it wonderful that these young people are doing historical things for their projects?

The Town of Cumberland has contracted an architectural company, Resurgence, to remedy some issues that have plagued the museum. More details on those things when they decide which to do first.

Monday mornings at the museum are always abuzz with activity; researches being researched, newspaper clippings being clipped and filed, rearrangement of items in the gallery, accessions be accessioned, gardens being gardened, and whatever else needs to be done. There is always something, to be sure!

The Phyllis Sweetser history of Cumberland book is reaching completion, and will be in our hands in the near future. It has been a long time coming, and has overcome several hurdles, but it will be here.

You are cordially invited to visit the Cumberland Historical Society and view what we have been working on this past year. Respectfully submitted, Carolyn F. Small

NEW COMMITTEES ON THE DOCKET FOR NEXT YEAR:

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! One other project that we have been asked to help with is the celebration coming up in a few years of the 150th anniversary of Cumberland Fair! A lot going on for this wonderful old town.

ACQUISITIONS:

The family of Evelyn Thurston, who is now a resident of Ledgeview Estates, has donated two big folders of photos from her home. One of the most interesting ones was a photo of Evelyn and the other ladies who were the last ones to operate the phones at the Cumberland telephone office at Main Street. What makes this photo so special is the fact that the Cumberland Historical Society also has a photo of the very first telephone operator at that very same office. These two photos will certainly be featured for the upcoming Cumberland bicentennial celebration. Arveen Berryman donated an 8mm film of the train wreck at Longwoods Road, across from where she lives, in 1971. How many of us remember that day? Cis Tonks donated a recipe book from her family that contains recipes from ladies of the Town of Cumberland, with their names. There are so many familiar Cumberland names like, Chase, Blanchard, Thomes, Merrill, and Crickett. Fun reading!

COMING UP: Over 30 amazing artisans and crafters all under one roof! Plenty of parking, free admission and Rachel's on the Green will be open for breakfast, lunch and dinner. The morning will also feature Storey's warm homemade donuts and local High School Senior, Meagan Grover, will be holding a "Whoop out Cancer" whoopie pie sale and will be donating all proceeds to the Dempsey Center. It will be the perfect place to get started on your holiday shopping and support the local economy and fundraising events. Cumberland Historical Society will have a table at this event, and at the one at Greely High School on November 18th. These will be a good opportunities to purchase the updated Phyllis Sweetser book.

REPORT FROM THE GARDENER:

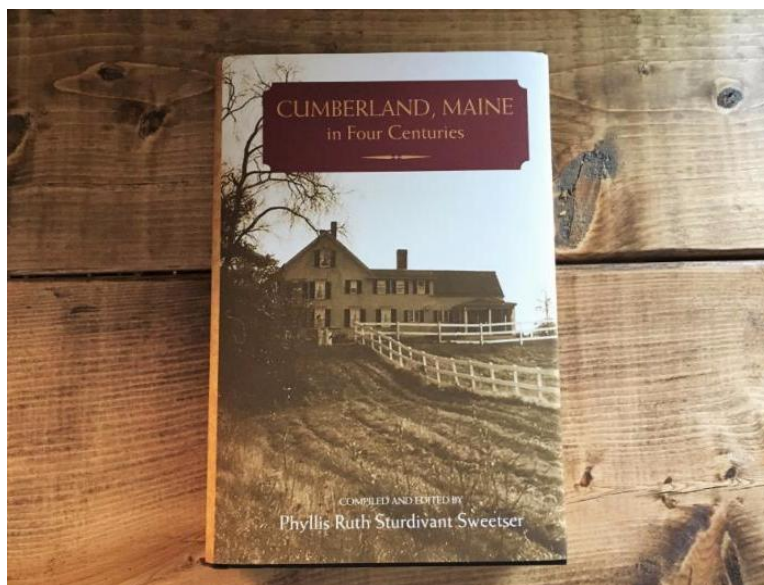
August 16, 2017 We got off to a slow wet spring this year but the bushes and new plants survived the winter very well. The annuals in the window box and sign garden are just covered with blossom and look great. There are three new perennial variegated shade plants called Bugloss in the garden by the driveway. Will be adding more plants to this area next year. The blue spruce has been trimmed up and mulch is coming. The long sidewalk is in the process of being updated and with the help of the town crew I hope to have this finished soon. We are looking much neater and people are noticing and making nice comments.

Respectfully submitted, Sandy (Sandy Nickerson, Gardener)

(Editor's Note: Sandy works very hard at this job, and has the gardens looking lovely. We very much appreciate her diligence. See the photo below.)

ANSWER TO THE SEPTEMBER STUMPER: September 28, 1868. Eliphalet Greely, in his will to dated January 27, 1858, bequeathed \$27,500 to Cumberland for the purpose of erecting a high school in the town. Of that sum, \$20,000 was to be invested in a trust fund, \$6,000 was to erect the building, \$1,000 was for "philosophical apparatus", and \$500 for a school library. He requested that the building be a simple style of architecture, have two stories, and be built of brick and granite, with a slate roof. His wife, Elizabeth Loring Greely, later purchased four acres of land from Enos Blanchard, on which the school would be built. The school was built, using bricks fired from the brickyard behind what is now the Prince Memorial Library, remnants of which still stood in the wooded area there until about three years ago when a road and house were built upon that property. Thus, on Monday, September 28, 1868, Greely Institute opened the doors, and the next day, the building was dedicated with much pomp and ceremony. A dedicatory prayer was given by Re. Isaac Weston of the Cumberland Congregational Church, and addresses were given by Rev. E. S. Jordan, N. L. Humphrey, Esq., Asa Greely, Esq. (a brother of Eliphalet), J. Sturdivant, Esq., Benjamin Merrill, Esq., Dr. Hall, and Mr. T. Jefferson Emery, Principal. It was a proud moment in the Town of Cumberland for all of its citizens.

WHAT'S HAPPENING AT CHS?: Cumberland, Maine in Four Centuries



Don't miss out on getting an updated copy of *Cumberland, Maine in Four Centuries*, written originally in 1976 by Phyllis Sweetser! With the forthcoming 200th anniversary of this town in 2021, this book is a must for you and your family. Books can be purchased for \$25 (plus sales tax) at the Town Hall or through the Cumberland Historical Society.

For further information, contact Carolyn Small at 829-3757, 415-4589, or by email at csmall1943@maine.rr.com. There are only 500 of these books printed, so get your copies while you can!

The following is the slate of officers elected at the June meeting:

CUMBERLAND HISTORICAL SOCIETY
SLATE OF OFFICERS AND TRUSTEES
2017-2018

OFFICERS

Carolyn Small, President
Diana Copp, Vice President
Linda Fulda, Secretary
Pete Wilson, Treasurer

TRUSTEES

Thomas Bennett
Sandra Nickerson
Brian Jensen
Margery Gruber
Elizabeth Huston
Nancy Latham
Herbert Foster, Trustee Emeritus



~*~*COMMITTEES THAT NEED HELP STAFFING: ~*~*

Education: ____ Fund Raising: ____ Programs: ____ Refreshment: ____ MSAD#
51 50th Anniversary ____ Nominating: ____ Publicity: ____ Bicentennial ____
Scholarship ____ Cumberland Fair 150th anniversary ____

DUES FOR THE 2017-2018 YEAR ARE NOW DUE.

PLEASE JOIN US! CHS MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

____ \$10.00 Individual
____ \$25.00 Household
____ \$100.00 Sustaining
____ \$100.00 Business
____ FREE Student
____ Other

Name: _____ Mailing Address:

_____ Town:

State/Zip: _____

Phone (Home): _____ Phone (Cell): _____

Email: _____

To save printing and mailing costs, it is our policy to send newsletters by email. However if you would prefer to have yours sent to your mailing address, please check the block.

Please mail this form and your check to: Cumberland Historical Society
PO Box 82 Cumberland, ME 04021

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

As it was:



As it is:



SPONSORED BY SEVEE & MAHER,
ENGINEERS
4 Blanchard Road, Cumberland, ME 04021



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



**CUMBERLAND HISTORICAL SOCIETY
SPECIAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING
THURSDAY, OCTOBER 5, 2017 - 7 P.M.**

COUNCIL CHAMBERS, CUMBERLAND TOWN HALL, CUMBERLAND, MAINE

The Officers and Trustees of the Cumberland Historical Society have given approval for a new set of bylaws for the Society which now require a vote by the membership of the Society. A draft and review of the new bylaws is provided for your

consideration. This meeting will be very brief and we hope you will make every attempt to attend.

DRAFT

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