
Nobleboro Historical Society

PO Box 122, Nobleboro, Maine 04555

Spring 2010

Dear Members,

This Friday, March 26th Phyllis Leck, the Village Weaver

Did you ever wonder how the early New England settlers made their cloth and clothing at home? Or the origin of the phrases "The whole nine yards" and "Cut from the same cloth"? Phyllis, a fiber artist who has created textiles for over 25 years in Maine, will weave all this together in her talk and demonstration at 7:00 pm at the Center.

31st Annual Potluck Dinner April 10th 6:00 PM at the Nobleboro Grange!

Tim Dinsmore, our own talented local archeologist, will present slides illustrating the lives and shipyards of the shipwrights George Barstow and Nathaniel Bryant from Nobleboro and Damariscotta. Artifacts from the Society's collection will be shown too.

And bring your favorite dish to share, along with your place setting.
(This may be the last dinner in the Grange building.)

See your friends and neighbors and talk about spring!

Please Mark Your Calendars:

Friday, May 14th at 7:00 pm*

"The Settlers Use of Plants that Grow Here Today" Wanda Garland is a fascinating botanist with a special interest in the plants shared by the early settlers & the Native Americans. Wanda will bring local plants and describe their uses then and now.

Fish Ladder Restoration Festival

May 29, 30, & 31 Memorial Day weekend watch alewives swim up their new ladder and enjoy great food, music, art, smoked alewives, and games to support the restoration of the Fish Ladder. See the website at www.damariscottamills.org.

Please help staff the Society's sales & info table. We will have new postcards from old Mills photos and prints from the Banco alewife barrel top stencil.

Friday, June 11th at 7:00 pm*

"A Colonial Kitchen & the handsome decorated tin"

Nancy Schmehl will tell about the utensils used in colonial kitchens and display examples of painted tin 'waiters' (trays) that recorded the events of the 1700-1800s. Nancy is a member of the Historical Society of Early American Decorators.

Wednesday, July 14th at 7:00 pm*

"Water power usage from 1730 to CMP"

John Hilton, long-time resident of the area, will present the 280-year story of the water power from Damariscotta Lake falling to Great Salt Bay and the Damariscotta River. Where there are now alewives and homes, there were a series of factories and mills including lumber mills and grist mills, the Centrifugal Leatherboard factory and the Diamond Match, which were the life blood of this area.

APPLEFEST is Saturday, October 2nd

Enjoy silent auction, crafts, music, great food & bakery, and games for kids at the Historical Center and Nobleboro School from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Tell your friends and plan to join the fun!

Call Al O'Donnell (563-6488) or Henry Simmons (563-6028), co-chairs, to help or to bake. Join Sally Hough (563-3613) to make crafts for AppleFest – and donate (uncracked) lobster claws to make wonderful witches – really!

Friday, October 15th at 7:00 pm*

"The Moody Family of North Nobleboro since 1700s" Thomas Moody, Nobleboro genealogist, will spin the stories of the many Moody families who settled Nobleboro, farmed, worked and lived here for hundreds of years. Tom tells a great story and this will be fun.

"History of Damariscotta Lake to 1960"

is the title of the book being created by Jefferson, Newcastle, & Nobleboro Historical Societies, and the Damariscotta Lake Watershed Association (DLWA). Arcadia Publishing initiated the project with DLWA last year; a spring 2010 publication is planned. The book is a photographic history of the Lake with about 250 photos and limited text.

Important: If you have old photos from the late 1800s through 1960 of the Lake or Lake activities, we would like to copy them – for possible use in the book and for the Society's archives.

New Society Officers!

The 2010 officers were elected at the November 2009 meeting. Welcome to Tom Wriggins, our new vice president! Tom knows Nobleboro well and will be a wonderful addition. The officers are attached, as is the 2009 financial report.

* program is at the Historical Center

What's Happening

1. Almost everything is back in the vault! Did I tell you that the vault has a grass green floor and a sky blue ceiling – and it's great, thanks to Henry Simmons! Sarah Birkett, Flora Gray, Carolyn Hardman and Donna Howarth and I have collectively spent 30-40 hours on the project so far. When the large bookcase, flat file drawers and archival boxes arrive, we will move the artifacts to their proper place – and ensure that they are labeled correctly.

The ultimate plan is to annotate the Acquisitions Book so all of the Society's approximately 1,000 items can be readily located.

2. Henry Simmons will reconstruct the large wood shelf from the vault for basement storage. His help with heavy-duty projects has been invaluable.

3. The new Rinnai heaters will be installed when everything is safely back in the vault. The heating ducts will be removed, which will create a much better basement area for displays.

4. New farm and building displays will be created by Resource Committee (Donna Howarth, Carolyn Hardman, Mary Sheldon) when basement is done.

5. The NHS website upgrade is still on the to-do list and Jean Vose is chairing the committee.

6. Carolyn Hardman has been invited to create a one-room schoolhouse experience for NCS third grade class again this spring.

7. The Nobleboro PTO and Historical Society roadside sign project was halted when the PTO decided to use their funds for more immediate school needs.

8. The Town will replace the deteriorating roof on the Historical Center sometime in 2011, which is greatly appreciated.

9. The significantly revised Nobleboro Cemetery map is getting closer and closer to publication.

Scholarship Applications due May 7th

Since 1985, 57 students received a total of \$45,200 in scholarships. Three \$1,000 scholarships will be awarded spring 2010. Eligible students (of any age) are those who live in Nobleboro or their families are members of the Society – and they will be attending postsecondary school (college or technical) during the 2010-11 school year. Applications are at high school guidance offices or www.nobleborohistoricalsociety.org.

Our heartfelt thanks to Beverly Hancock, chair of the Scholarship Committee for many, many years, who served magnificently, but who resigned this year because of illness. We miss you and wish you well! Thanks also to Barbara Bragg, Clyde Duncan, and Faith Jones – our other faithful members, who wisely selected the awardees for many years.

The Scholarship Committee was renamed the *Scholarship and Education Committee* to better reflect its responsibilities. The mostly new Committee members are Tim Dinsmore, Britt Hatch, Carolyn Hardman, Sally Hough, Patty Scudder, Chris Skokoll, Ramona Whitaker, and Mary Sheldon. The Committee will meet this month to plan their activities.

Historical Center Open Summer Saturdays

The Center is open Saturday afternoons during July and August from 1:30 to 4:30 p.m. or any time by appointment. There is information about Nobleboro history and many historic artifacts on display. Joyce Brown, our genealogist, is also available by appointment to help research your ancestors.

Volunteer hosts/hostesses are needed –and ideas to increase the number of visitors.

The Historical Society makes a difference in our Town – as we share our history and make Nobleboro an even a better place to live.

Mary Sheldon, President

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Membership Application for 2010 (from January thru December)

- Individual \$10.00 Family \$15.00
 Student \$1.00 Life \$200

Please send your check & membership form to:
Lois Green, PO Box 10, Nobleboro, ME 04555

Your name/s _____

Address _____

Email _____

Enclosed is \$_____ for 2010 membership

Invite your friends and neighbors to join NHS and preserve and enjoy Nobleboro history – and have fun too !