



THE SQUIRE LIVERMORE CHAISE

The Quarterly Newsletter of

The MILFORD HISTORICAL SOCIETY

6 Union Street, PO Box 609 MILFORD, NH 03055

A NEWSLETTER FOR MEMBERS AND FRIENDS

SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 22, 2013 2 pm

Milford Town Hall Auditorium

GUEST SPEAKER

JIM MORAN

DIRECTOR OF THE

AMERICAN ANTIQUARIAN SOCIETY

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

We like to look back on things with an optimistic eye, we feel like times were always better. Perhaps that is why so many of us like history. Looking back at the near term just this year the Historical Society provided 12 home owners with research on their homes and a sign to proudly display. We hosted the second graders at the Carey House Museum and presented a Town History talk for the eighth graders at the Milford Middle School. A couple of members investigated the town 'sick house' remains, we located what may be the original settlements in town, we searched the local cemeteries for Hutchinson Family graves and created a couple of genealogy charts.

Since we are listing things - we signed up over a dozen new members. Open House attendance is up and the heating prices have dropped since our conversion to natural gas. Our website is gaining in popularity and our Facebook page has a combined reach of thousands! Finally, you may notice that we have new letterhead and cleaner print on the newsletter.

Now to look forward - Favorite events in town are the Labor Day Parade, The Pumpkin Festival and the whole Christmas season. Milford is a very popular place to visit and we love living here. The Historical Society has many events planned at Town Hall and the Carey House Museum as you will see reading this issue of the Newsletter but we have much to do as well. Many of the exhibits need updates and repairs, and we need help to compile a historic register of old homes. We have open Board positions (we are looking for a secretary and a few folks to spearhead special projects). We need people to host Open House and talk with visitors and answer questions about our town. We want to take an active role in all the events in town and there are many - from the Farmer's Market to entering a float in the Labor Day Parade.

Just continuing your membership helps as we carefully invest the annual dues back into programs and outreach. Like a machine with many parts we all have our own purpose and difficulties arise when the smallest part breaks down. Please continue to support the efforts of the Milford Historical Society. Thank you.

David Palance, President

SEPTEMBER 22 2013 MEETING – SUNDAY 2 – 4 pm

The Milford Historical Society in conjunction with Freedom's Way presents Jim Moran, Director of Outreach at the American Antiquarian Society, Worcester, Massachusetts on Sunday, September 22, 2013 from 2-4 pm in the Milford Town Hall Auditorium.

The American Antiquarian Society library houses the largest and most accessible collection of books, pamphlets, broadsides, newspapers, periodicals, sheet music and graphic art material printed from the colonial period through 1876 in what is now the United States, Canada and the West Indies. Many of the items are directly related to the communities in the Freedom's Way Heritage Areas. This national library of American history and culture comprises over 4 million items and its collections of early American imprints from 1821 through 1876 are the largest of any library in the world.

Jim will be discussing the rich resources of this unique institution and how the Society can be used to both tell and contextualize the history of the New Hampshire towns of Milford, along with Amherst, Nashua, Hollis, Brookline, Greenville, Mason and New Ipswich.

Jim has over twenty years' experience creating cultural and educational programming including designing and presenting teacher training programs. He is also a writer, director and producer who has created thirteen plays based on historical themes. He also developed an innovative radio program entitled *The History Show* which appeared on 151 public radio stations in 47 states. One of his plays is *Beating the Demon*, a one-person show about the nineteenth century temperance reformer John B. Gough.

HAPPENINGS AROUND THE CAREY HOUSE

HOUSE PLAQUES Our house plaques are selling very well. Order yours now.

OPEN HOUSE Don't forget that Open House for 2013 is in full swing. If you have time and would like to host one of the open houses on the second full week-end from now through December, please contact Janice Adams. You can work a full week-end Saturday and Sunday from 2 pm to 4 pm or just one day, whatever fits into your schedule.

UPCOMING MEETINGS

Our November 14, 2013 meeting will be guest speaker Scott Edwards from Peterborough. He will be presenting a power point program on antique clocks and all aspects of their restoration which he has been doing for 27 years. He will also be bringing many of his clocks with him. If you are interested in old clocks, don't miss this program. The meeting is at 7:00 pm in the Banquet Hall in the Town Hall.

LYCEUM MEETINGS

The historic Congregational Church here in Milford continues to celebrate its 225th Anniversary this year and is holding a series of Lyceum programs on the history of the church. The rest of the Lyceum Series meetings are to be held on Tuesday evenings in the church Parish House at 10 Union Street at 7:30 pm as follows:

The Finnish Congregational Church of Milford with Bob Gott - September 10

Memories of Milford, The Way We Were with Bob Courage - October 8

The Influence of Congregationalism on New England Towns with Dr. Margaret Bendroth on November 19 which will wind up the Lyceum Series.

Don't miss these interesting and historic Lyceum talks on Milford history and The Congregational Church. The series is free and open to the public.

ITEMS FOR SALE AT THE CAREY HOUSE STORE AS FOLLOWS:

The Granite Town History by Winifred Wright	\$20.00
Images of Milford by Christopher Thompson	\$19.99
The Carey House Chronicles by Polly Cote	\$17.95
Stationery and Post Cards of Milford	various prices
Hutchinson T-Shirts (only a small supply left)	\$15.00
Numbered House Plaques by special order and design	\$80.00
Elm Street Cemetery Booklet by David Palance	\$8.00
Paul Revere Bells cast by Hitchiner Mfg (only a small supply left)	\$25.00

CURATOR'S REPORT by Janice Broderick MEMORIES

HOUSES - A young girl was heard referring to a house by a previous owner's name. The woman who had overheard the comment and lived in the house, was baffled. We have lived in this house for over ten years, when will it be referred to by our name? It may never happen. These names are often connected with childhood memories, history or an event that may or may not have happened at a particular house. When you are talking to someone who has not lived in the area for a time, a frame of reference with the owner from your youth lets you both know who you are talking about and is a form of oral history.

PLANES - A few months ago a reference was made to the on-going search for Amelia Earhart's plane. Some may have never heard of her or only have a vague idea of who Amelia was. But for an instant, my first thought was 'wait until my mother hears about this' as Amelia was one of her favorite people. But it was only a fleeting thought as Mother has been gone for many years. I often wondered why my mother was so interested in Amelia Earhart or Charles Lindbergh. Planes, jets and helicopters are a common occurrence to us today but when my mother was a child, flying was still a relatively new occurrence. Apparently she and some of the adults around her were talking about the solo flight of Amelia Earhart or Charles Lindbergh and my grandfather may have told her to go outside and look up in the sky and she might see the plane flying overhead. It might not have been the same one but exciting to a child just as if it were the exact plane. Planes are such a common occurrence to us that when you don't see them in the flight pattern over your house, as happened for two weeks after 911, it is very noticeable and a frame of reference for us.

WINTER SLIDING - Now that winter is almost upon us, I recall a conversation about someone sliding down Highland Avenue in the winter. When my sister and I were little in the 1940's, we used to slide down West Street, starting at Spaulding Street. On a good run we got all the way down to Crosby Street and on a 'perfect' run we got down to the railroad tracks. When the Avon Lady got stuck in the snow, we all would push her car. Then horrors! The sand truck appeared. She had turned us in, or that is what it felt like. She had called the town to say the road was very slippery. I can remember my mother telling us that she used to slide down Amherst Street when she was a young girl which would have been in the 1920's.

BIKES - another subject that stirs up memories. I can recall stories about my grandfather riding up to Frankestown on his bike and even once he rode up to Maine. I can't imagine that. We used to ride our bikes all over town, often up to Ball Hill -- be home for lunch or supper - those were the only stipulations. Now it seems the only stipulation is don't get far from the house. I wonder if this has affected the sale of bikes for younger children. We didn't have a care in the world. Outside in the summer after breakfast, home for lunch, then out again until supper. Is it any wonder we long for "the good old days".

Airplanes, bikes, old houses - the stories they stir up from our past.