



CHITTENDEN  
HISTORICAL SOCIETY

# CHITTENDEN HISTORICAL SOCIETY NEWS

PO Box 89 • Chittenden, Vermont 05737

FALL/WINTER 2008

*CHECK OUT OUR WEB SITE! [www.chittendenhistory.org](http://www.chittendenhistory.org)*

## LATE SUMMER AND FALL ACTIVITIES

The Chittenden Historical Society, Inc., saw late summer and fall filled with activities.

President Bob Muzzy led a group to see Chaffee Falls in August. After the summer rains, it was spectacular. Two members toured the Calvin Coolidge Birthplace in July. A desired visit to the Vermont Folklife Center in Middlebury, hard to sandwich in between other fall activities, will be on the schedule for next year. Attendees to the Vermont Old Cemeteries Annual Meeting in October were treated to tours of the Rock of Ages Granite Quarry as well as Hope Cemetery in Barre.

After being inspired by the space upstairs at Town Hall during the restoration of the Civil War Stage Curtain, Society members spent an October clean-up morning in the little room upstairs at town hall to prepare it for use as a resource room. More work will continue when the weather warms.

In August, a movie night program - with popcorn and lemonade - gave us a view of logging activities in Vermont and the Adirondacks during the 1930s and 1940s. Lively discussion followed.

In October the fall potluck supper celebrated a Vermont Humanities Council sponsored speaker, author Vincent Feeney, whose program, "The Allen Brothers: Original Vermont Developers," was well received.

Also in the fall, the Society announced the publication of a new book about Chittenden, *Chittenden Vermont, A Town History*. Copies are available from the Society for sale at \$30 each; please add an additional \$3 for mailing if necessary.

Reggi Dubin and Fran Wheeler outdid themselves for the Election Day Bake Sale, which is a major fundraiser for the Society. The large voter turnout led to increased sales, and a new record of \$1099 was achieved. Thank you, Chittenden!

Again this year, the annual meeting scheduled for December was cancelled because snowy roads kept members away. The next meeting will be on March 12, 2009, at 7:30 pm in Town Hall. At that time, the annual meeting business as well as program planning for 2009 will be conducted. Maybe we should set a new date for our Annual Meetings?

We are sad to report the loss of one of our long-time members and directors, Allan Arthur, who passed away in early January. Our condolences go to his wife Arlene and his family.



*Allan and Arlene at a potluck supper*

*The Chittenden Historical Society meets next on Thursday, March 12, at 7:30 pm in Town Hall. Election of officers and the year's agenda will be planned then. Visitors and new members are welcome!*

## HISTORICAL SOCIETY PROJECT NEWS

### Cemeteries

Boy Scout Troop 105 from Rutland under the direction of Shamus Fagan as an Eagle Scout project, in conjunction with the Cemetery Commissioners, spent several Saturdays removing brush and trees from historic Wetmore Cemetery and uncovering a number of stones in the process.



### Cataloguing

The cataloguing project is going well. Many pictures and papers have been grouped for better for access and viewing. The Society is immensely appreciative for the donation of one of the old town computers. The new computer enables us to scan pictures for digital use and to archive the old originals, some of which are over 100 years old, for conservation and safe-keeping.

If you have pictures of interest for the history of Chittenden, please bring them by.

We can scan them while you wait and return them to you. Bring a disk, and we will make a copy for you.

We welcome contributions that will enhance its collection of historic items, pictures or genealogies. The Chittenden Historical Society, Inc., also welcomes visitors and extends an invitation to membership to those interested in the Town's history. The Society is open on Tuesday afternoons in Town Hall from 1:30 until 5 pm.

### The Grange Hall

Recent renovations to the North Chittenden Grange Hall are not so easy to see for passers-by, but much important work has been taking place. Three major objectives have been accomplished



this year: Electrical power has been buried and upgraded to handle the all electrical demands for the foreseeable future. A new cement floor enhances the lower level. A handicap accessibility lift is now installed to ease travel between the two levels for those with disabilities.

The project is being helped by grants from the State of Vermont and Cultural Facilities Coalition, The Windham Foundation, the Vermont Community Foundation, and a Preservation Trust Grant.



The Chittenden Historical Society, Inc., Web site ([www.chittendenhistory.org](http://www.chittendenhistory.org)) contains newsletters, news items, project information, and a pictorial history of the North Chittenden Grange Hall restoration. Please visit it and give us feed back. What would you like to see added to it?



The Chittenden Historical Society is a 501 ( c )3 non-profit organization. It receives no money in taxes and depends on fund-raising, annual dues and donations to carry out its many functions.



## MEMBERSHIP

We would love to have you join the Chittenden Historical Society. Pick the level where you feel most comfortable and fill out the form below and mail it with your payment to the Chittenden Historical Society, PO Box 89, Chittenden, VT 05737. Our thanks to all of you who have already answered.

### Membership Levels

Student	\$ 3
Senior	\$ 6
Regular	\$ 10
Contributing	\$ 20
Supporting	\$ 60
Life	\$150

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Name

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Membership Amount Enclosed

*Thank you for your generous support.*

*Watch for coming activities:*

Meeting March 12, 7:30 pm

Election of officers and planning activities and programs for the year

Spring Walk - - where would YOU like to go? Let us know.

This year we will also be planning trips to places of historical interest.

Watch for details. Check our Web site: [www.chittendenhistory.org](http://www.chittendenhistory.org).

Our new schedule of events will be posted after our March meeting.

Send us an e-mail!