



CHITTENDEN HISTORICAL SOCIETY NEWS

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HISTORICAL SOCIETY

PO Box 89 • Chittenden, Vermont 05737

SUMMER 2009

SPRING MEETINGS

April

A history of the Congregational Church North Chittenden 1834-1873 was featured, along with a biography of its first pastor, Chauncey Taylor. The evening ended with a showing of pictures from the Society's collection, now digitized and on the computer.

May

Bob Case showed vintage films of Vermont. The film of crop dusting the apple orchards near Middlebury revealed unexpected art. A 1950s Vermont promotional film was nostalgic.

June

A much-needed business meeting took place. Some changes to the Articles of Association were discussed.

July

Allen Hitchcock of Pittsford gave a complete and well-received presentation with slides about the Pittsford Furnace. Iron from Chittenden supplied the furnace, as well as other industries necessary for its operation. His family has owned the site for many years.

As a result of the enthusiasm of the audience, a visit to the furnace will be planned soon.



The CHS, Inc., is happy to announce that Lindsey Bishop, daughter of Susan and Ejay Bishop of Chittenden, was chosen for the Muzzy Davenport Award, given for outstanding work in history and interest in local history at Barstow. Lindsey will present her local history project at the Society meeting on August 13.

Visit our Web site:
www.chittendenhistory.org



Memorial Day

Again this year, the Society sponsored the Memorial Day observance at the Grange Hall. Eddie Gee and Mickey Carvey of the Vermont National Guard presented the flag. After a short speech by Sgt. Carvey, hot dogs, hamburgers and sausages were served by Bob and Teenie Bearor with salads and cookies provided by the Society. Art Wardwell, the town's oldest veteran age 102, talks with Sgt Mickey Carvey (inset).



HISTORICAL SOCIETY PROJECT NEWS

Cataloguing

Some elements of the Historical Society are moving upstairs. The Society is in the process of revitalizing and refitting the little room upstairs in Town Hall as a resource room. A major factor in the decision is that the computer can be left on a desk instead of being disassembled and put into the vaults as is now necessary because the little room downstairs sees so much use by other groups. Also the Society will have more room for books, pictures and other materials and artifacts of interest.

The Society is open to welcome visitors on Tuesday afternoons between 1:30 and 5.

Cemetery

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, trees and overgrown plantings from historic Wetmore Cemetery and uncovering a number of stones in the process.

Under the guidance of Cemetery Commissioner George Butts, the stones are presently being mapped and their location placed on a grid for future reference.

Grange Hall

Work is moving forward at the Grange Hall. First, the interior posts were removed and a new support beam was added

After a bidding process, the job was awarded to the Quinn Company to finish the lower level. The interior framing is complete, a new roof was added to the handicapped entrance, and new lower level windows added to correspond with upper ones. When the insulation has been sprayed on the exterior walls, the walls can be finished.

The lower level is expected to be finished for community use by this fall. After this phase is finished, plans will be completed to finish the



Boxed beams and framing in the lower level.



The new porch roof

upper level. Rehabilitation of this building has been a long rewarding process. The Grange Hall Committee appreciates the community's support in saving this historic building.

*The Chittenden Historical Society meets on the second Thursday of the month,
March through December at 7:30 pm in Town Hall.
Visitors and new members are welcome!*



A perfect moose antler, by the Bogue cellar hole.

In late April the CHS, Inc., took a walk led by our President, Bob Muzzy in New Boston, the site of the town's earliest settlement. We covered the portion of the Green Road from Hewitt Brook east to the Government Road and saw many early cellar holes, some of which were surprisingly large, and what were once fine farms. We ran out of time before getting to Zeeb Green's Tavern, so we will have to plan another hike.

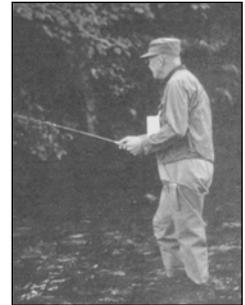
History in the Making

The Society is happily anticipating the ceremony to celebrate the renaming of the Pittsford National Fish Hatchery to the Dwight D. Eisenhower National Fish Hatchery. The hatchery was originally named for its postal district, in spite of the fact its lands were entirely within the Town of Chittenden.

An act of Congress was necessary to make the change. After the Centennial Celebration in 2008, a name change was discussed with Legislative aides. Selectman Dave Sargent undertook the task of writing our Congressional delegation to ask for the change. The change is already official; it came in part of the Omnibus bill passed in March. The name commemorates President Eisenhower's visit to Chittenden in 1955.

He came to fish in Furnace Brook, but didn't catch any fish. (Local boys got them the night before.) The next year, construction began to completely rebuild the hatchery. So, it is fitting that the hatchery should bear his name.

Watch for details!



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

Name _____

Address _____

Town _____

State _____

Zip _____

Phone _____

E-mail _____

Membership Amount Enclosed _____

Thank you for your generous support.

Watch for coming activities:

Meeting August 13, 7:30 pm Town Hall Muzzy Davenport Award recipient will present project

Meeting September 11, 7:30 pm Town Hall - old pictures

Meeting October 9 - VT Humanities Council Speaker October 9, 7:00 pm Town Hall Don Wickman will present program George Houghton, Civil War photographer with slides.

Meeting November 13, 7:30 pm Annual Meeting

Check our Web site: www.chittendenhistory.org

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