



CHITTENDEN HISTORICAL SOCIETY NEWS

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HISTORICAL SOCIETY

PO Box 89 • Chittenden, Vermont 05737

WINTER 2011

FALL MEETINGS

July

At Barstow Graduation, the Davenport-Muzzy Award for demonstrated interest in local history was awarded to Alden Bishop, son of Ejay and Susan Bishop of Chittenden. Continuing a tradition, the U.S. Savings Bond was given at the Society's Ice Cream Social in July. Alden's project included a video interview with his grandmother who served on a welcoming committee for President Eisenhower's visit to Rutland and Chittenden in 1955. She attended the Ice Cream Social and answered our questions after viewing of Alden's video

August

The August program, the first of the two Vermont Humanities Speakers, proved to be prescient: Professor Nicholas Clifford spoke and showed slides of "The Flood of 1927 - A New Look," just two weeks before a repeat performance, courtesy of Hurricane Irene.

September

September was time for business and sharing memories of time gone by.

October

The annual potluck supper in October at the Grange Hall featured our second Vermont Humanities Council Speaker, Professor Vincent Feeney, who spoke of "Mad Matt the Democrat," the colorful early Vermont resident Matthew Lyons.



Alden Bishop presents tape of interview

November

Our last meeting of 2011 was celebrated with dinner out at Mountain Top Tavern. The first order of business was presentation of a class set of ten of the Society's books on Chittenden history to Karen Prescott, Principal of Barstow Memorial School, to be held in reserve in the school library for use by teachers in a classroom.

Also before dinner, officers were elected for 2012. They are president, Karen Webster; vice-president, Reggi Dubin; secretary, Carolyn Schwalbe; and treasurer, Martha L. Welch. Trustees serve two year terms. Elected this year for two years were Bob Muzzy and Steve Welch. (Trustees elected last year were Newt Wetmore and Reggi Dubin.)

Visit our Web site:
www.chittendenhistory.org

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

Projects

We are still at work on our three major projects, Wetmore Cemetery, cataloguing of the collection and the Grange Hall. This year some important tasks were completed at the Grange Hall. The most visible is the new parking lot and traffic circle funded by the Vermont Department of Transportation for a Park and Ride. Residents are encouraged to make use of the new lot for carpooling. An improvement you don't see from the road is the new retaining wall in the rear and the drop off circle by the lower entrance. Check it out!



With an Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant, spray foam insulation was applied to the upper level walls and under the roof. You may have noticed the new insulating double-celled pleated shades were added to the windows. According to calculations, this should save over 700 gallons of heating oil since heat was able to escape through the previously uninsulated upper level. Electrical wiring was added in the walls before insulating them. Also inside, a 90-year-old patch for a rotted beam was replaced with a new iron sleeve which will not protrude under the planned coved ceiling. New wood replaces missing supports for coved ceiling.



Leaks in the roof were stopped at last. Since old slates were used for patching missing and broken slates, and the color of the new ridge cap is so quiet, new work on the roof is hardly noticeable.

We wish next to install strapping and sheetrock over the foam insulation, a project that will allow use, even if limited, of the upper level.

Watch for coming activities:

March 8, 2012 Meeting to set agenda for the year. Come voice your interests
for programs, hikes, trips

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