



CHITTENDEN  
HISTORICAL SOCIETY

# CHITTENDEN HISTORICAL SOCIETY NEWS

PO Box 89

Chittenden, Vermont 05737

WINTER 2014

## FALL MEETINGS

### July

At our annual Ice Cream Social, the Muzzy Davenport Award was given for outstanding work and interest in local history at Barstow. Victoria Quint, daughter of Andrew and Sarah Quint of Chittenden, presented her winning project, comparing and contrasting the old one-room schoolhouses in Chittenden with the Barstow of today, before the audience. Afterwards, everyone enjoyed ice cream, fresh strawberries, whipped cream and Vermont Sundae Sauces.

### August

A report on the Society's booth at Expo 2014 in Tunbridge was given at the business meeting held in August, along with other business of the Society.

### September

Using the digitized photos in the Society's collection, an informal slide show of the building of Chittenden Dam and the Flood of 1947 with historical comments by Bob Muzzy was well received by the members. This completes our series of programs on the dams. Earlier we viewed photos of the building of the East Pittsford Dam and hiked to see its remnants. Also in September, we celebrated the 100th anniversary of the building of the electric generating plant on Powerhouse Road with a display at Green Mountain Power's fall cleanup at the dam. GMP supplied hotdogs, cupcakes and t-shirts to commemorate the event.

### October

The potluck supper at the Grange Hall this year was followed by Vermont Humanities Council speaker and curator of the Precision Museum in Windsor, Carrie Brown of Etna, NH with the title

“Arming the Union: How Vermont Gunmakers and the Technology that Shaped America.” Carrie explored the critical role that Windsor, Vermont, played in producing technology that not only won the war but went on to change American life with precision tool-making. Many industrial companies of today trace their roots to Windsor.

### November

The annual meeting and dinner out was held this year at the Country House in Pittsford. Officers for 2015 were elected as follows: President, Karen Webster; Vice President, Marcia Lertola; Secretary, Elaine Meyers; Treasurer, Bob Webster, Trustees for two years, Reggi Dubin and Newt Wetmore. Bob Muzzy and George Butts will continue to serve as Trustees until 2016.



*Victoria Quint presenting project at the Ice Cream Social*

*The Chittenden Historical Society meets on the second Tuesday of the month, March through November at 7:00 pm at the Society on Holden Road (or otherwise posted).*

*Visitors and new members are welcome!*

## Projects

We are pleased to announce our annual summer Ice Cream Social to introduce community members to the Chittenden Historical Society and invite them to join us as members. Our mission is to preserve, and share our rich town history. During the Ice Cream Social we also present a monetary award to the annual winner of the Muzzy Davenport Award and the recipient shares their project with us.

In our yearly programming, we present field trips and hikes to explore the town's early history and historical programs at our monthly meetings.

We collect and preserve photos, artifacts, buildings, oral histories, genealogies, and historical accounts of town places and events.

Many aspects of our heritage are alive and relevant today.

In a time of "instant everything," the Society can provide an historical context for today's current life activities and, in so doing engender a "sense of place" in our Town of Chittenden.

In 2013, through the generosity of the Board of Selectmen, we were able to move into the prior Town Office building on Holden Road. Our records, some over 100 years old, are now in the previous Town Clerk's vault. At last, everything is on one floor and much more accessible for everyone. Several historical displays now in the society's building evoke life in the early days of Chittenden. We invite you to visit.



As part of our mission statement, the Chittenden Historical Society seeks to teach and share town history. We welcome inquiries. Some of our historical photos may be found in the tavern at Mountain Top Inn.

We are a 501(c)3 corporation; all donations and memberships are tax deductible.

**Dues are now due for 2016.  
Your support helps preserve and share town history.**

Visit our Web site [chittendenshistory.org](http://chittendenshistory.org).

## FALL ACTIVITIES

In September we were excited to be part of Barstow teacher Rachel Valcour's project to explore the historical, commercial, community and wildlife aspects of Chittenden Reservoir for Barstow 7th and 8th graders. The Society showed slides of vintage photos of the building of Chittenden Dam, followed by slides of photos and an account of the Flood of 1947.

Rachel also arranged for the students to kayak around the dam to predetermined areas where speakers were able to further enlighten them regarding commercial, community and wildlife surrounding the dam. Historical Society member Bob Muzzy talked about effects of the flood on the community. The students could identify with Bob, who had been identified in the photos seen earlier as a young boy playing where his home had been before the flood. Students later used their experiences to compare the local effects of the Flood of 1947 with Tropical Storm Irene. As part of the project, narratives of their experiences with Irene were written to provide a primary source of information of the event.

Rachel also shared the tent with us at the GMP fall cleanup at the dam with some of her "flood math" and water dynamics table.



**Notice:** Notecards with Lena Osgood's delightful photos of children are available for purchase at the Chittenden Historical Society at \$5.00. All proceeds go to support the Society.

### MEMBERSHIP

We would be excited 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:*

March 12 -- Organizational Meeting for 2015 to determine programs, hikes  
- 7pm Historical Society

April 14 -- tbd

May 12 -- tbd

June 9 -- tbd

July 14 -- Ice Cream Social - 7pm Town Hall

*Note:*

The third edition of *Chittenden, Vermont: A Town History* is now in! Books are available at the Town Clerk's office or the Society for \$30. For mailing, add \$4 for postage. All proceeds go to Chittenden Historical Society to fund its educational and enrichment programs.

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