

## Washington Historical Society Newsletter

A NEWSLETTER FOR MEMBERS AND FRIENDS

SPRING 2012 EDITION

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### President's Message

Well everyone else starts off this way so I might as well do it too.

I hope that you enjoyed your winter that wasn't, at least up here in the north country. Officially we are logged at 83.5" of snow thus far for this winter season, and today is the last day of winter. The temperature was a balmy 81 degrees today. At times during the winter we were warmer than Atlanta and even warmer than Tampa on one occasion! So those of you that want to can continue to travel south, I'll continue to remain right here. As Ginny Macy used to say, "I'll be here till they take me out as a flat passenger."

Congratulations to Gwen and her 'diary team' for the completion of the transcribing of the 40 years of Clara's diaries. A daunting task, considered a miraculous achievement by many. However the adventure is not over as Gwen continues to develop her program based on the life of Clara. This presentation is being very well received everywhere it is presented.

Richard has been up to his antics too. He is constantly seeking some item that he thinks we should have (even tho we may already have one, unbeknownst to him). As was a recent case where he sought an item that can be carried in a back pocket. Well, we wound up getting three pickup loads and two trailer loads of items from one farm, most of the items for the Barn Museum. It looks like my idea presented a year ago for needing more space has become a serious reality.

By all indications at this time, there are going to be a few of us absent from the scene in early July. Annual Flea Market time. This is an important fund raiser for us and unless we get some new volunteers, serious help, we may not be able to carry this on this year. Both doughnut makers will be gone ! This will be an item for discussion at our first meeting.

Our program committee has been busy and lined up a good selection for our enjoyment and there will be a celebration in August of the 225th Anniversary of the Town Hall.

We are always in need of more volunteers to host, co-host, the Museums during open hours; that is simply two hours on Wednesdays and Saturdays. You will be surprised at how much you can learn, both about our own collections, and from the visitors themselves. I recommend that new volunteers co-host along with a seasoned host in order to be knowledgeable about the collection on display. Believe it or not, we have members that have not visited our museums!

In closing I would just like to pay tribute to the long time members that we have lost during the past year. We will miss them.

Mark your calendars for the second Monday of each month, April through November, 6pm., Camp Morgan Lodge.

*Phil Barker*

## **This Summer at the Museum**

In conjunction with the 225th celebration of the "Meeting House/Town Hall" it will be our main display at the Museum. We will pull out all of the pictures, information and memorabilia of our much used and loved building.

We have some new acquisitions to put on display and there will be many new acquisitions at the barn. It is going to keep me busy for more than a couple of days getting those items catalogued and the "barn committee" will be busy cleaning them and finding places to display them. I am sure the museum and barn will be much visited during the August 11<sup>th</sup> celebration and we are looking for extra volunteers to assist during extended hours that afternoon.

This year is no different in that each Wed. and Sat. afternoons 2-4, we need volunteers to help host our buildings as well as the school house in E. Washington on Saturdays from 1 to 3 PM. These jobs take no special training, just a friendly smile and attitude, which you all have. Sign-up sheets will be available at each meeting and the "early bird gets the worm" or in this case, sign up early to get the date you want. Two hours is not asking too much when you consider the many hours a few of us put into the society for everyone. Bring guests and encourage your friends and neighbors to visit your museums.

It has come to my attention that while people are going through collections of items in their homes, they may come to old deeds, records, books, souvenirs or other memorabilia that they don't know what to do with. Some of it may be pertinent to Washington and we would be glad to accept them to go through and save what may be beneficial to our society. One can never tell just what piece of information may be the "missing piece to a puzzle". Keep us in mind rather than just discarding questionable items.

Thank You.

*Gwen Gaskell*

## Catchall

*(This was a newspaper clipping found in our collection and seems to come from a Lowell, MA newspaper)*

Let me relate some things about the other Washington. Not Washington, D.C. I wish this morning to take the Catchall readers to the hill town of Washington, N.H., not very far from Lowell as the crow flies and yet not so well known even to seasoned motorists as some of the other communities of southern New Hampshire.

The Washington which I commend to exploring parties is the town northwest of here which has a building locally called the Capitol. It boasts of no White House, though of many white houses. It is a township which contains within its borders 22 lakes, and two other bodies of water which it shares with other towns. It has a sizeable peak – Mt. Lovell, altitude 2600 feet. When first I visited Washington it was far from being overrun with strangers, since the nearest railroad station was 15 miles away and the roads were generally poor. Even today it is somewhat off the beaten track.

Washington in the past has had its Lowell contacts. The families of the late Dr. Irish, and the late Hon. James W. McKinley were of this New Hampshire hill town. It is not of them, however, that I want to talk this morning. I have it in mind to tell a few anecdotes concerning one of the folks who have stayed Washingtonians all their lives.

Sitting at Washington on the piazza of a pleasant cottage where I had obtained board, I noticed that a one-story building was going up across the street. Entering to investigate, I found myself talking to an old man with grayish beard, originally very sandy. He had not noticed me at first, as he kept right on hammering, but finally he answered a question. That opened up an acquaintance with a gentleman who knew more than anybody else about the history of the town of Washington, and who was, I do assert, the most remarkable carpenter in the United States. He was totally blind. Yet he drove a nail with perfect assurance, always hitting it squarely on the head.

Pursuing the conversation, I discovered that Mr. Jaquith was not a carpenter by trade. He was a veteran of the Civil war and he had been, before he lost his eyesight, a surveyor. As in that occupation I had had a little experience of my own, having run lines in the prairie states, in the wooded Northwest and in several cities, I happened to know that surveying is hard on the eyesight. I have no doubt that Mr. Jaquith's work may have contributed to his going blind at the age of 76 years; though I said nothing to him about this.

Here are a few of the old-time surveyor's reminiscences: "I was born in this town, and I remember when the last five wolves were killed. All the wildcats have disappeared but some bobcats are seen now and then. Several people here are older than I am. Our oldest resident is a woman who is 98. The oldest man in town is 92. I used to live in a house on the site of the one I am now building. It was a small house and a slaughterhouse that had not been used for years was attached to it. One night last fall the old house got afire. The man across the road where you are boarding, my friend Silas, saw the smoke, rushed over to my house, came upstairs and saved me from being burned to death. It was a heroic act. He was almost stifled by the smoke and flames. I was never frightened worse in my life except once when I was young and had climbed Mt. Lovell, when a thunderstorm came on the mountain and I was right above the lightning flashes."

Asking Mr. Jaquith at this point how to get the best view of the town, he walked with very careful steps outside the house and pointing to a high hill just as if he could see it he said: "That is the road to Marlow. It is a rough road, but at the top, a distance of about a mile and a half, you will reach the first house where a Boston banker has his summer home. Just sit down on his piazza and have a look around. Be careful to watch everything and tell me when you return just what you saw."

Walking up a winding road to the first house at the top, as my newly found friend had stated, I got a wonderful view of the surrounding country, with sight of three lakes and with Mt. Lovell showing much higher than it did from the valley. Descending I related what I had seen to Mr. Jaquith, who made several inquiries as I seemed to finish my narrative. It was evident that I had not noticed what he most wished me to observe. "What is it that I have missed?" I asked him.

He replied: "Now, when on the piazza of the house at the top you noticed that the land sloped downward on each side. You did not observe that the building is so situated as to be a perfect water-shed. The rain from one side of the roof flows down into the Connecticut; from the other side, it runs into the Contoocook and thus into the Merrimack



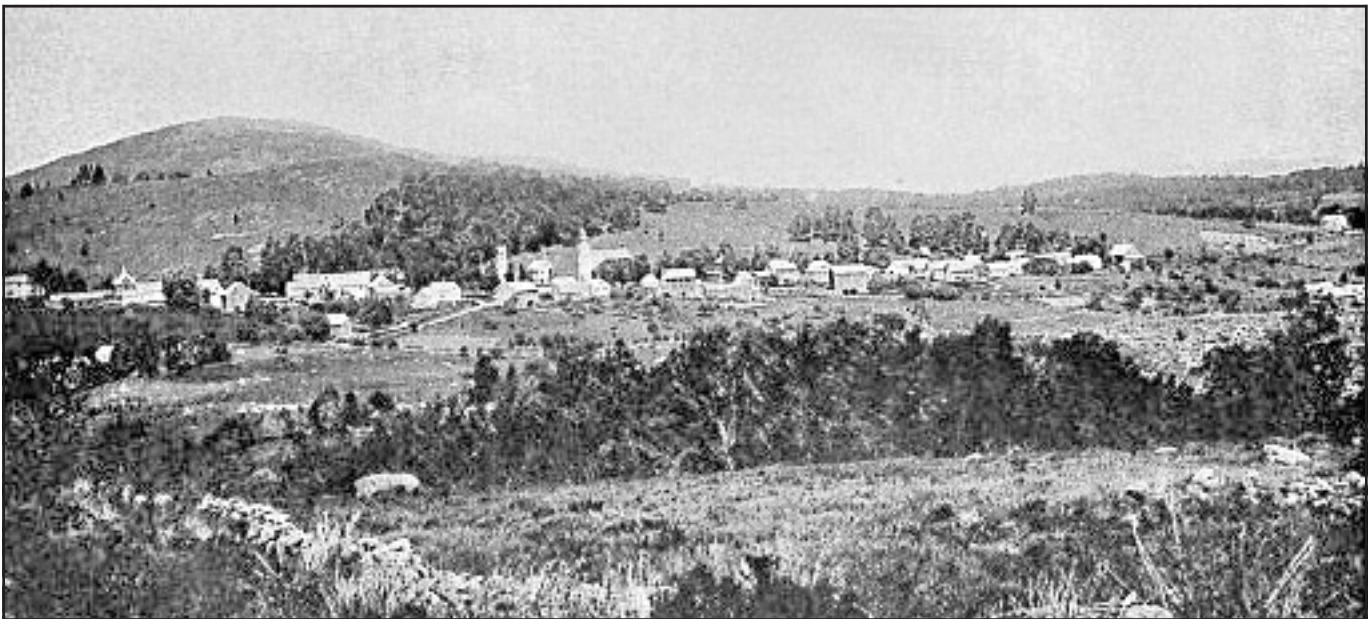
and past your city of Lowell to the ocean at Newburyport.” That was information that intrigued me then, and only the other day in the Manchester Union I saw a picture of this very house, together with a little story describing its position on the divide between two great river valleys. It is a conspicuous landmark of New Hampshire.

Following our conversation about the Washington ridge Mr. Jaquith started to pick his way to the garden patch back of his house. “I want to see how much my melons have grown the past week” he said. Realizing that he was blind, I naturally asked: “How do you tell how much they have grown?” “Just you watch me,” was the reply. Out in the garden the sightless farmer knelt down, felt among the melons and selected one which he had measured previously. With a steel surveyor’s tape, on which were notched feet, inches and fractions of inches, the old surveyor made his count of the fruit’s girth. “This melon has grown three and seven-eighths inches in a week,” he said, for my information , and to my astonishment.

Waiting on the piazza that evening for a supper that was late, I drew out my watch and saw that it was 8 o’clock. In the house opposite Mr. Jaquith was still pounding with his hammer. He had told me that he should work until supper was ready. Darkness was already on us, but that made no difference. I crossed the road to tell him that he had better quit, but it came upon me as I went that this was a foolish errand. I said to myself: “Don’t you realize that Mr. Jaquith can drive a nail just as well in pitch darkness as at noonday.” So, I returned to my piazza and waited until 9 o’clock when, at last, we had supper, and a very good one, with the aged surveyor as a pleasant table companion.

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*Arthur Jaquith was born November, 1844 and died March 1, 1925. He was blind by age 76. Arthur was Clara Hurd’s nephew and was often mentioned in her diaries. The fire was in 1919 and this article was published in 1920. The watershed house is the McNeil Farm on Old Marlow Road. The house roof has been turned since this story was published.*







Washington Village Center from Faxon Hill. Circa 1885. Scanned from the *1886 History of Washington, New Hampshire*. The photographer may have been George W. Lincoln of Hillsborough Bridge. Note Faxon Hill Road on the left, with Lovell Mountain in the background. Near the left, the cupola on top of the Shedd Free Library can be seen. Further to the right is the roof of the long carriage shed of the Lovell House and the steeples of the church and the town hall. Between the steeples is the white two-story schoolhouse, built in 1883, which served as an elementary school for more than 100 years and is now the police station.

## Washington Historical Society Programs for 2012

2<sup>nd</sup> Monday of each month, April through November at Camp Morgan

Meeting Times:	6:00 - 7:00 P.M.	Pot Luck Supper
	7:00 - 7:30 P.M.	Business Meeting
	7:30 - 8:30 P.M.	Program

March 31 April 1	<b>Spring Clean-up days outside the Museum.</b> Please volunteer to put in a couple of hours and bring a rake.
April 9 	<b>Washington Meeting House Documentary/Video</b> This will be a sneak preview of the special video on the history of our Town Hall in celebration of its 225 birthday. Presented by Carolyn Russell - Project Director
May 14 	<b>Revolutionary New Hampshire</b> The man who's name we bear - George Washington and the origins of the United States. Presented by Jere Daniell, Professor of History Emeritus, Dartmouth College.
June 11 	<b>The New Hampshire Grange Movement - It's Rise, Triumphs and Decline</b> Presented by Steve Taylor, independent scholar, farmer, journalist and former NH Commissioner of Agriculture.
July 9	<b>The Himalayas</b> A photographic journey. Presented by Tim and Stephanie Wolf.
Aug. 11	<i>Celebration of the 225<sup>th</sup> Birthday of the Town Hall.</i>
Aug. 13	<b>Female Ring Master</b> The experiences of the first female ring master and her worldwide travels to horse shows. Presented by Grace Yaglou of the Barre, MA Historical Society.
Sept. 10 	<b>Lizzie Borden Took an Axe or Did She?</b> In 1892 Lizzie Borden, a 32 year old single woman, was officially charged with the murder of her father and stepmother in Fall River, Massachusetts stirring the curiosity of people across the nation. This presentation is designed to review the facts and explore evidence of her guilt and innocence. Presented by Annette Holba, who is an assistant professor at Plymouth State Univeristy, as well as a former police detective and the author of a book on Lizzie Borden.
Oct. 8	<b>Elk in Washington, NH</b> - Richard Crane will tell the story of the origin, brief existence and demise of the elk herds in Washington and surrounding towns in the early 20 <sup>th</sup> century.
Nov. 12	<b>The Photography of Arthur &amp; Ernest Nelson</b> - Bea Jillette and members of the Goshen Historical Society will present a program of the adventurous 1890's photographic forays with a glass plate camera into Washington and surrounding towns by two intrepid young brothers from Goshen, with readings from their (at times humorous) journal. Come and help identify people and places.

Museum & Barn Hours:	July & August, Wed. & Sat. 2-4 P.M. or by appointment anytime. Call Gwen (603) 495-3231 or Tom (603) 495-3284
District #5 School Hours:	July & August, Sat. 1-3 P.M. or by appointment anytime. Call Gwen at 495-3231 or Charlotte Treadwell at 495-0800

**ITEMS FOR SALE**

**FEATURING FAVORITE LANDMARKS OF  
WASHINGTON, NEW HAMPSHIRE**

Please order by mail, or call: Tom Talpey (603) 495-3284. [ttalpey@gsinet.net](mailto:ttalpey@gsinet.net)  
or: Gwen Gaskell (603) 495-3231 [jimgwen@gsinet.net](mailto:jimgwen@gsinet.net)

Visit our website for pictures of these items: <http://www.ultimate.com/washington/whs/>

ITEM DESCRIPTION	PRICE
<b>Tote Bag.</b> This custom designed tapestry tote bag depicts the much photographed buildings on our Town Common. Tapestry woven in an array of beautiful colors, it measures a generous 17 1/2 inches square. Long 25 inch handles are easy on the shoulders. Lined, with inside pocket.	\$30.00
<b>Pillow.</b> Featuring the East Washington Baptist Church, the pillow is covered in tapestry woven in an array of beautiful colors. It measures a generous 16" x 16" and is offered with hunter green backing.	\$25.00
<b>Puzzle.</b> Our 494-piece, 14" x 19" puzzle is an aerial photograph of the Washington town center by Bill S. Pierre. A limited edition collectible.	\$5.00
<b>Mug.</b> White ceramic mug with sketch of the three steepled buildings in the center of Town. They are 11 ounce and can be used in the microwave and dishwasher. White mugs with black print.	\$5.00
<b>Trivet.</b> A 6" x 6" ceramic trivet, or tile, suitable for hot or cold, with a leather backing, featuring a color photograph of the three steepled buildings in the center of town. Gift boxed.	\$15.00
<b>Gustine Hurd Images Postcards</b> Two postcards have been generated, using copies of very old photographs taken in the early 1880s by Gustine Hurd. Also available as single fold notecards packaged in sets of four, including envelopes. Two of each or all four of the same image. Both the postcards and the folded notecards are 5 1/2 x 4 1/4 inches.	50¢ each \$5.00 per set

Glass Medallion – Suitable for a window hanging, depicting the Town Hall. Adapted from an early 1880s wet plate photograph made by Gustine L. Hurd.

These 3 inch diameter medallions are available in Blue or Green - Locally made.

\$5.00 each



*All items can be shipped for an additional charge. Call or email Tom Talpey at the contact info above to ascertain the amount required. It will be in the range of \$4 to \$10 per package, depending on your zip code.*



## The Clara Hurd Diaries

Gwen Gaskell

Congratulations and a huge THANK YOU to the team of dedicated transcribers that worked with me on the diaries. You transcribed all 40 years in just 21 months! I am not as speedy in verifying dates and looking up the added information to insert where peoples' names or places are mentioned. While doing the research I'm also making a "weather book" so I only have to go through the transcribed books once. All of the diaries are on a dedicated computer and this spring we will start inserting the "added information" in the proper spots in *italics* so it will be obvious that it is added information.

Last fall "Clara" went to Barre, MA and Dunbarton, NH to tell her story and so far has a date on June 2<sup>nd</sup> to go to Marlow and on October 1<sup>st</sup> she will visit the Hillsborough Historical Society.

Clara and Shubael were active in the Grange which occasionally caused them to make a trip to Marlow where they enjoyed contact with people of that town. Shopping in Hillsborough was an all day excursion and more often than not their trip was made to meet the grown children, May or Fred, at the train depot at the "Bridge" as that part of Hillsborough was called at that time.



Clara Hurd Diary Volunteers pictured left to right: Charley Eastman, Rachel Crane, Elaine Crandall, Pauline Laprade, Vivian Hunter, Gwen Gaskell (in her Clara Hurd persona), Sandra Sonnichsen, and Nancy Jager. Missing from the picture are, Charlene Cobb, Sue Bermudez, Donna O'Malley, Cassie Bachand, Kay McCrillis, Monica Wood and Natalie Jurson.

Despite the 1830 nudging from the Newport Spectator (see John Weston Article) and numerous discussions at Town Meetings over the years, it was over a hundred years before Washington got its first fire truck, a 1937 Dodge pick-up with a ladder on top, a pump, hoses and fire extinguishers. Chief Abner Barker is at the wheel and Capt. Alan Plumb is on the running board, in this circa 1939 photo. To be fair, however, voters often did appropriate funds in the interim to purchase fire buckets and other apparatus, as well as to dig a fire pond. (Image used with permission from *Portrait of a Hill Town*, by Ronald and Grace Jager, who give a good summary of the town's firefighting efforts over the first half of the last century.)



## John Weston – Local Hero

In July of 1830 a terrible fire occurred in the center of Washington. The following week's *N.H. Spectator* newspaper (Newport) reported:

“We regret to learn that the flourishing village at Washington, in this county, was nearly half consumed on Friday evening, the 23<sup>rd</sup> inst. The fire was discovered in the lower stable of Mr. E. Lawrence, which had not been in use for more than a week, and circumstances warrant the belief that it was the work of an incendiary.”

“The buildings burned were in all seventeen. The tavern house occupied by E. Lawrence, stables and out buildings. Dwelling house of Nathan Brainard, Jr.; barn and out buildings. Dwelling house occupied by W. and E. Davis, and a stone cutter's shop. At one time the roofs of six buildings were on fire, which by great exertions were saved; among them was the meeting house, from the belfry of which, a young man by the name of [John] Weston leaped onto the roof, a distance of nearly nine feet, and extinguished the flame. The store of Brainard and Bontelle, was saved, we understand, by the individual exertions of Mr. Thomas Farwell [Jr.]. Three horses, in the upper stable of Mr. E. Lawrence, a number of carriages, harness, &c. were burned; one horse escaped. Considerable household furniture was saved.”

“By this distressing occurrence a number of individuals have lost nearly all their property. The principal sufferers are, Henry and Samuel Mathers, sons of the late Dr. Mathers, owners of the tavern house occupied by Mr. Lawrence and Nathan Brainard; Nathan Brainard Jr., Brainard and Boutelle, (goods damaged by removal from the store,) William Davis, Ephraim Davis, and David Farnsworth, Jr. We are informed that the whole loss is estimated at 7000 dollars. Insurance, 3000 dollars in the N.H. Mutual Fire Insurance Company.” [*\$7000 in 1830 would have the purchasing power of over \$200,000 in today's economy.-Ed.*]

“We think the public charity cannot be bestowed with more real benefit than upon the sufferers by this fire. A subscription paper has been left at this office, where those citizens of Newport and its vicinity who feel willing to aid the distressed, and extend a helping hand to their unfortunate brethren, can have an opportunity of acting in accordance with the divine precept, “help one another.”

“We will just say for the benefit of the inhabitants of Newport village, that, if a *Fire Engine* had been owned in Washington, it is highly probable that two of the dwelling houses might have been saved. It is surprising to us that *with a fund raised especially* for the purchase of an Engine, that this populous and compact village should be *entirely* without the means of extinguishing fires.”

The origin of the fire was on the south side of the Second N.H. Turnpike, ( today's Lempster Mountain Road,) just beyond its junction with the Croydon Turnpike (now Route 31.) Brainard's Tavern stood approximately at the spot to which the now empty “ Little Red House,” known to old-timers as “The Parsonage” was recently moved and sits waiting for a restoration. Mr. Lawrence lived not far to the west along the Second N.H. Turnpike which passed right by the front doors of both. The Davises lived in the frame house just west of the present Shedd Free Library, and David Farnsworth, Jr. had built and lived in the brick house to the east of the Library. The fire was also reported, with less detail in newspapers in Keene, Amherst and Peterborough.

John Weston was born in Peterborough on Nov. 11, 1803, the son of Ephraim and Elizabeth (Ney) Weston. It is not known precisely why he was in town nearly 27 years



later, at the time of the fire. Although it is purely romantic speculation, he could have had a job in Washington, or he might have been “visiting” at the home of his “intended,” as two years later, on June 19, 1832, he married Sophronia Farwell, the daughter of William Farwell, who lived near the center of town. After their marriage the couple lived in Cambridgeport, MA, for a few years and then moved back to Washington to a farm house on Half Moon Pond Road which stood with its door facing the barn and has been replaced with the newer museum building. The floor boards were saved when the old farm house was torn down and re-used as the floor of the present museum. One can now walk on the same boards that John once stood on! The 1886 *History of Washington, New Hampshire* states that “he was a man of very superior mental endowments and his ideas were broad and liberal.”



John and Sophronia had one daughter, Juliette F. and three sons, John, Charles and Timothy. Timothy was the only one born in Washington, the others having been born at Cambridgeport, MA. All of the children attended Tubbs Union Academy and their father was listed in the Academy catalog for many years in an advisory capacity as a member of the volunteer Board of Visitors. The eldest son, John, even took on the job of teaching “Physiology” in his senior year, 1853. Unfortunately he died in 1856 at the age of 23, without ever achieving his full potential. Sadly, the other two boys both died in 1859, Charles in February and Timothy in December, a few years after finishing at Tubbs. None of the boys ever married. Juliette, however, married Ira Brockway in 1859 and lived for many years in the house across the street from the museum. Sophronia out-lived John by more than 21 years, dying on Feb. 8, 1895. John, Sophronia and their three sons are all buried near the entrance in the Old Cemetery on Faxon Hill Road. In this recent photograph of the Weston family gravesite it will be noted that two of the graves on the left of the picture are “replacement” stones, for John and his wife, Sophronia. John’s inscription reads simply “John Weston – 1803-1872” and Sophronia’s is similar. (The date for John is incorrect, however. It should read 1873, as given in the 1886 *Town of Washington History* and confirmed by an entry in Clara May Hurd’s diary of that year.) Their daughter, Juliette, lived until August 31, 1910 and is buried in the New Cemetery on Faxon Hill Road, next to her husband Ira Brockway.



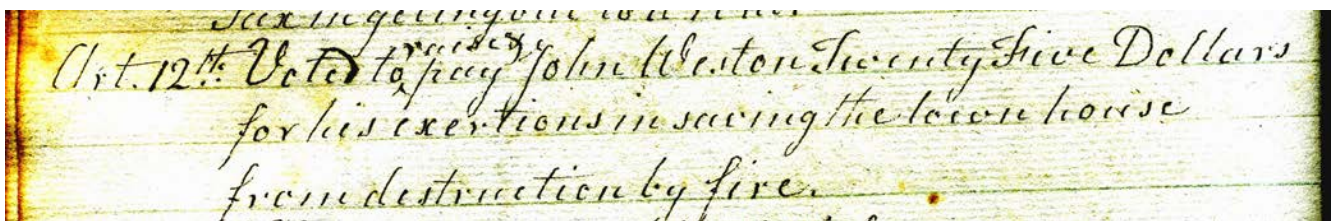
At a town meeting in 1867, the bequest by Sarah Shedd which founded the Shedd Free Library was accepted. At the annual meeting in March of 1869 the selectmen were directed to appoint a library committee and Jesse Bailey, Martin Chase and John Weston were chosen, with Martin Chase named librarian. However, Mr. Chase moved away before the actual opening of the library to the public and John Weston, by then “an aged and respected citizen” was appointed librarian in his stead. The Shedd Free Library officially opened to the public on Oct. 30, 1869, in “a small upper room of a building owned by S. W. Hurd,” (Clara Hurd’s husband). John Weston thus has become known as the town’s first librarian. He served until his death, assisted by his daughter, Juliette (Weston) Brockway, familiarly called Julia, who succeeded him as librarian and served for the next nine years. John Weston died on June 4, 1873, five months shy of his 70<sup>th</sup> birthday.

John Weston’s part in extinguishing the roof fire on the Town Meeting House is also mentioned in the book, *A Sacred Deposit*, by Ron Jager and the late Sally Krone, with the surmise that the building might not exist today, had it not been for his heroic feat, and the fact that the belfry itself had been added only ten years earlier, thus giving John a platform from which to jump! Not only did he leap from the bell tower balcony down nine feet onto a sloping roof, but he scrambled around that roof to extinguish the fire, all-in-all an impressive athletic feat. Thus John Weston clearly earned the distinction of being considered a LOCAL HERO!

In the Washington Town Clerk’s Records, reporting on the Town Meeting of March 8, 1831, Article 12 reads: “Voted to raise and pay to John Weston Twenty Five Dollars for his exertions in saving the town house from destruction by fire.” [*The equivalent of over \$600 in today’s economy—Ed.*]

Thanks to Gwen Gaskell for supplying some of the local color for this article.

*Tom Talpey*



Excerpt from the Washington Town Clerk’s Record of minutes for the Town Meeting of March 8, 1831, when it was voted to award \$25 to John Weston for his part in extinguishing the fire on the meeting house roof

### Washington Historical Society Officers

President:	Phil Barker (495-3640)	Barn Committee:	Phil Barker Richard Crane, advisory
Vice President:	Jack Sheehy (495-3066)	Museum Committee:	Ann Lischke Vivian Hunter Charlotte Treadwell Gwen Gaskell
Treasurer:	Tom Talpey (495-3284)	Newsletter Committee:	Gwen Gaskell Tom Talpey Barbara Gaskell Betty Talpey
Secretary:	Elaine Crandall (495-3416)	Program/Publicity Committee:	Jack Sheehy Jim Crandall
Archivist:	Gwen Gaskell (495-3231)		
Board of Directors:	Bob Evans (495-1060) Jim Crandall (495-3416) Vivian Hunter		
Auditor:	Charlie Fields		
Webmaster:	Phil Budne		

**Email: [washingtonhistoricalsociety@hotmail.com](mailto:washingtonhistoricalsociety@hotmail.com)**

**Website: [www.ultimate.com//washington/whs/](http://www.ultimate.com//washington/whs/)**

Yes, we have an email address and would like to hear from you about any issue that you feel concerns the Washington Historical Society. We are always open to suggestions for programs that would be of interest for future meetings or things that would enhance our purposes.

Also, we would like your email address so that we might send notices of upcoming programs or events. We are considering sending future newsletters by email to make things easier and less expensive for us and quicker for you. The best way for us to get your accurate address would be for you to send us an email, Thanks for doing so.

**ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP DUES** are \$5 for an individual and \$10 for a family (including children under 16). The membership year is August 1, 2011 through July 31, 2012. If you haven't sent us a payment since last June, your membership may have lapsed. In that case there will be a reminder note slipped into this newsletter; if our records are not correct please let us know. We appreciate your continued interest and support of our projects. New members are always welcome. If you would like to join us as a member, please complete the form below and send to THE WASHINGTON HISTORICAL SOCIETY, P.O. Box 90, Washington, N.H., 03280. If you know of someone who might be interested in our newsletter, please let us know or pass this one on to them.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Participating family names: \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing address: \_\_\_\_\_

Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone No. Winter: \_\_\_\_\_ Summer: \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

**PLEASE NOTE:** As a non-profit historical society, we qualify with many companies for matching grants provided the company you work for, or are retired from, supports such benefits.



# Save the Date To Celebrate!

**Saturday August 11, 2012**

The 225<sup>th</sup> Birthday Celebration of our  
Washington Meetinghouse & Town Hall

**10 am – 4 pm A Gathering on the Town Common**  
to see, touch, taste and learn about the talents & resources  
assembled to raise the meetinghouse on July 4, 1787

- Log Hewing, Shingle Making & Hand Planing -
- Spinning, Weaving, Quilting & Rug Hooking -
- Timber Framing & Joinery -
- Blacksmithing & Glassblowing -



**7 pm – 9:30 pm**

### An Evening on the Town Common

with an Ice Cream Social, a Vocal Performance  
of 18<sup>th</sup> century selections and the Premiere  
of the documentary video,

***“The Heart of Washington, New Hampshire:  
Profile of a New England Meetinghouse”***

For more information go to  
[www.washingtonnh.org/Meetinghouse1787](http://www.washingtonnh.org/Meetinghouse1787)  
see a preview at <http://youtu.be/IjIrZIFhyk0>



This documentary is sponsored by  
the Washington Historical Society and  
was funded by private donations and grants from  
the New Hampshire Humanities Council,  
the New Hampshire State Council on the Arts,  
the National Endowment for the Arts  
and the Actna Foundation

