

Washington Historical Society Newsletter

SPRING 2016 EDITION

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MESSAGE from the Vice President

Hi everyone,

It has come to my attention that since the past President did not desire to be reelected and the position was not filled that I as Vice President am at the helm since no successor was voted in. therefore I will be running the meetings.

I have been monitoring the comments and have this to add, no decisions are going to be made outside of a meeting. The WHS is a Corporation, the members are the stockholders, they will have a say on important matters. We operated smoothly for twenty years, in the past ten years there have been members, Committee members and Board members who have been whittling away at a good and successful Organization. We have three properties, and a huge collection of information and artifacts that must be maintained and protected, we need to pull back together and keep strong. We need some young blood !

Our first BOD Meeting is @ 10am, April 11 WHS Museum is the location. Any member can attend and be heard. The first General Meeting starts @ 6pm April 11 as per the schedule herein. Camp Morgan Lodge is the location. All members are encouraged to attend and bring family, friends and guests.

This winter (that wasn't) has gone down in history, exceptionally warm, biggest storm 5.5", snow total under 29", early ice outs, very little frost, and the reasons go on. The ten year average for snow has been above 80", last year we were over 112".

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Here's to hoping that everyone is reved up and anxious to get going on their own projects and that they have extra time and inclination to lend a hand on some Society projects. And we desperately need a few volunteers for Barn Hosts.

We have lost a very dear friend and honorary member, Richard Crane. Richard was a member of the first Barn Committee and continued to be very active during the renovations and set up. He and his wife Rachel were hosting at the Barn every week for years. And We thank them. Also I would like to thank the folks who donated to the Barn Fund in Richards name, and it is not to late to do so now.

Phil Barker, VP WHS

August 5th & 6th, 2016, the Seventh Day Adventist Annual Meeting will be a two day celebration of the 20th anniversary of the start of the Sabbath Trail.

August 5th will have Sugar on Snow at the church pavilion with a concert featuring the "saw" on Millen Pond that evening in honor of Waldo Farnsworth.

August 6th Merlin Knowles, designer of the Sabbath Trail will be our guest speaker at 11:30 a.m. Cemetery Tour and Church History events will take place at 2:00 p.m. at the church. All events are free with a free will offering being taken.

They are looking for help with some boats for the concert on Millen Pond. They are also looking for a Model A Ford Truck, and other antique cars to help transport people between the town center/history museum and the church. Site Director Ken Brummel can be contacted at the Washington SDA Church website <http://www.firstadventistchurch.org/> or cell phone 603-477-1064, or e-mail kjb1000@myfairpoint.net. Details are still being put in place and will be posted at the General Store.

Washington Historical Society Officers

President:		Barn Committee:	Phil Barker Volunteers needed
Vice President:	Phil Barker (495-3640)	Museum Committee:	Gwen Gaskell Volunteers needed
Treasurer:	Elaine Crandall (495-3416)	Museum Aide:	Gail Revane
Secretary:	Marian Baker	Newsletter Committee:	Gwen Gaskell Tom Talpey Barbara Gaskell
Archivist:	Gwen Gaskell (495-3231)	Program/Publicity Committee:	Tom Talpey Pete Martin
Board of Directors	Pauline Laprade (495-1151) Tom Talpey (495-3284) Pete Martin		
Auditor:			
Webmaster:	Phil Budne		

This Summer

by Gwen Gaskell

The museum and barn will once again be open on Saturdays 10 AM to 2 PM. It has seemed to work well to be in conjunction with the Farmers Market and trips into town for store, library and post office errands.

This season there will be a "This & That" display, a variety of artifacts in our collection ranging from clothing, certificates, pictures and many miscellaneous objects, rather than specific displays we have been featuring.

The piano awaits anyone wishing to play and there are lots of albums to be enjoyed or researched for pictures of events, friends or family in years past.

We welcome new friends to assist in hosting the museum or barn as well as our old one room school house in East Washington which is open from 1 to 3 on Saturdays. We do have signup sheets at our meetings for all 3 locations so we can be sure they are covered each week. Bring a friend or family member to help and share in the fun and learning experience. If for some reason you do not make it to a meeting to sign up you are most welcome to call Gwen, 495-3231, to get your choice of a date. This is a great way for high school students who need volunteer hours to accomplish that goal.



This little building was near the dam at the outlet of East Washington Mill Pond in the early 1920s. I've been told that it was a tramp house or a shack for trappers. Perhaps it was both. The barn next to the house looks like it could collapse at any moment, with just a puff of wind. The photo was taken by Mertie Lemos, who lived in East Washington at the time. She took many pictures which she printed and sold as postcards. There was a short biographical sketch of Mertie, written by our member Evie Boyce, in our Spring 2007 newsletter. This picture is printed with her permission.
<http://www.ultimate.com/washington/whs/newsletters/2007spring/>



Gwen Gaskell, our archivist, was honored at the March 12, 2016 Town Meeting by being awarded the 2015 Richard E. Cook Community Service Award for her dedication to volunteering to the Town of Washington, NH. Selectman Tom Marshall read a brief synopsis of Gwen's history with the Town and Guy Eaton read a poem written in her honor.

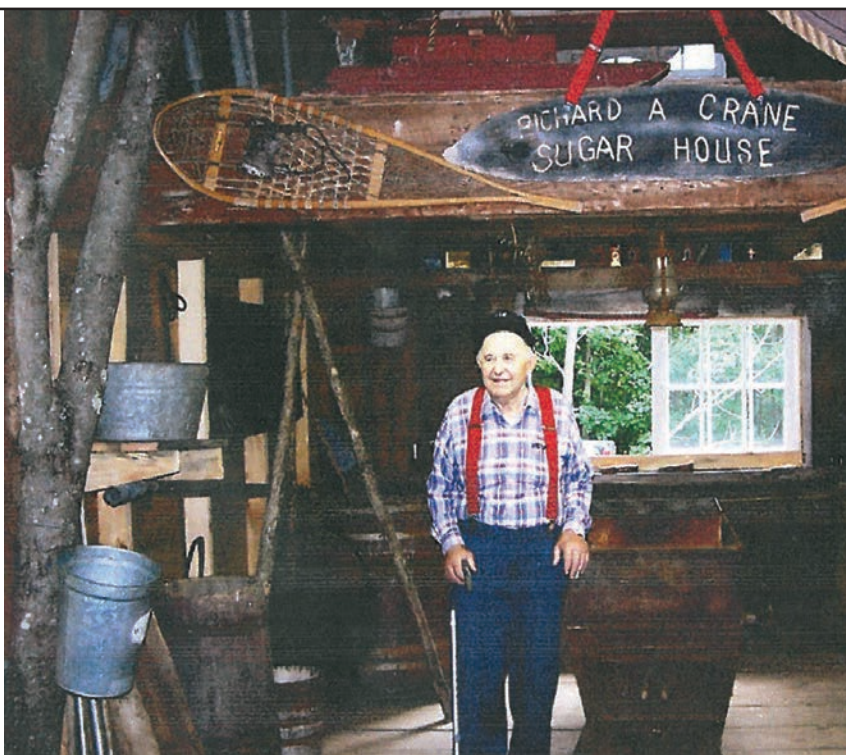
The Washington Historical Society is very proud of Gwen. She could be called "the glue that is holding us together" but she wants people to know that she could not accomplish what she does without

the support and love of friends, family and most of all her husband. She says she is not retiring but is always ready for help.

Richard Allen (Dick) Crane of Hillsboro, NH passed away on December 28th 2015 after a long illness. He was born on April 22, 1930 in Hillsboro to Roscoe and Katherine Crane. Richard graduated from Hillsboro High School class of 1948, UNH Thompson School of Agriculture class of 1963 and Reisch Auction College, IA in 1973.

Richard farmed with his father from an early age. He was a CED of ASCS USDA for 27 years, Justice of the Peace and a real estate broker. He was also the owner of and primary auctioneer for Your Country Auctioneer Inc,

specializing in antique tools. Richard loved the outdoors, hunting, fishing, making maple sugar in the spring and of late, raising blueberries.




Richard was a 50 year member of the Purling Beck Grange and a member of the Washington Historical Society with special interests in the Museum Barn. He is survived by his wife of 58 years Rachel M. (Snow) Crane. He is also survived by his two children, 8 grandchildren and 12 great-grandchildren, three sisters and a brother.

Donations can be made to the Hillsboro Rescue Squad or the Washington Historical Society Barn Fund, PO Box 90, Washington NH 03280.

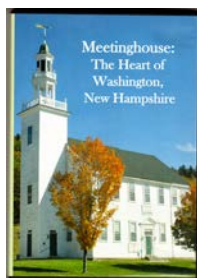
We will miss Richard at our monthly meetings where he always had a good story to tell.

**ITEMS FOR SALE
FEATURING FAVORITE LANDMARKS OF
WASHINGTON, NEW HAMPSHIRE**

Please order by mail, or call: Elaine Crandall (603) 495-3416, ecrandall@verizon.net
Gwen Gaskell (603) 495-3231 jimgwen@gsinet.net

ITEM DESCRIPTION	PRICE
Tote Bag. 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
Afghan. Featuring scenes of Washington woven into a beautiful memento of our Town. It is available in green or blue on an off white background	\$45.00
Puzzle. Our 494-piece, 14" x 19" puzzle is an aerial photograph of the Washington town center by Bill St. Pierre. A limited edition collectible.	\$5.00
Mug. 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
Trivet. 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
Gustine Hurd Images Postcards 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.	\$5.00 each

DVD Available



Meetinghouse: The Heart of Washington, New Hampshire

Few structures say “New England” as eloquently as does a classic eighteenth century Meetinghouse. The small hill town of Washington, New Hampshire, claims such a Meetinghouse. Erected on the 4th of July, 1787, it is still the heart of the town. In this film the town opens its heart to the world. It displays 225 years of affectionate, sometimes contentious, interplay between generations of Washington citizens and the Meetinghouse on the Town Common.



\$20 per DVD Shipping is: \$3 for one DVD plus \$2 for each additional.

All items can be shipped for an additional charge. Call or email Elaine Crandall or 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.

Washington Historical Society Programs for 2016

Meeting monthly, April through October at Camp Morgan

Meeting Times:	6:00 - 7:00 pm	Pot Luck Supper
	7:00 - 7:30 pm	Business Meeting
	7:30 - 8:30 pm	Program

April 11	Carol Carlson of Washington will talk about enjoying dog sledding and the Chinook dogs she and her husband Roger raise.
May 09	Phil Harvey A former Representative in the NH Legislature, Phil grew up in Hillsborough in the 1920's and '30's and has recently written a book entitled "Memories of a Native Son." He will share with us some of the anecdotes and illustrations from this book. Many of the illustrations are from the Manahan-Phelps-McCulloch Collection of the Hillsborough Historical Society.
June 13	Sarah Holdner A recent graduate of the Hillsboro-Deering High School, Sarah spent a summer as a crew member aboard the twin-masted schooner HARVEY GAMAGE. She will tell us about her experience and why she decided not to make a permanent career of sailing.
July 2	Flea Market and Pie Sale on the Town Common
July 11	From Tankards to Teapots: A Discussion of 18th and 19th Century Pewter Jonathan Gibson has been recognized as one of Americas 200 top traditional craftsmen since 1992. Jon and his family recently moved into the brick house in the center of town. They want to build a bigger and better pewter shop to better educate the public about the history of pewtering.
	Poor Houses and Town Farms: The Hard Row for Paupers From its earliest settlements New Hampshire has struggled with issues surrounding the treatment of its poor. The early Northeastern colonies followed the lead of England's 1601 Poor Law, which imposed compulsory taxes for maintenance of the poor but made no distinction between the "vagrant, vicious poor" and the helpless, and honest poor. This confusion persisted for generations and led directly to establishment in most of the state's towns of alms houses and poor farms and, later, county institutions which would collectively come to form a dark chapter in New Hampshire history. Presented by Steve Taylor
Aug. 20	Pot Roast Dinner - Camp Morgan - more information to come
Sept. 12	Eastern Woodland Native Americans, from 1700 until Today. Presenter Chris Bullock is a Washington, NH resident of Wampanoag descent. He has participated in Native American Powwows for his entire life, is a talented craftsman working with leather, beads, porcupine quills and rawhide, and he dedicates himself to educating people on Northeastern Native American history and culture. Chris owns The Wandering Bull, LLC, a mail order Native American craft supply business which he runs with his wife Carolyn at their home on Martin Rd. Chris and Carolyn are active participants in local Native culture events.
	The Connecticut, New England's Great River The largest river in New England rises in a small beaver pond near the Canadian border and flows over 400 miles through four states, falling 2,670 feet to the sea through America's only watershed-based national fish and wildlife refuge. Adair Mulligan leads an armchair tour of this great river in New Hampshire and Vermont, exploring its history and natural beauty through the seasons and among the communities that have sprung up along its banks. Next, the discussion will shift to how the river has influenced the lives of those who live there, and how they, in turn, have affected the river. Presented by Adair Mulligan

Museum & Barn Hours: July & August, Saturdays 10 am- 2 pm or by appointment any time.
Call Gwen Gaskell at 495-3231 or Phil Barker at 495-3640

District #5 School Hours: July & August, Saturdays 1 - 3 pm or by appointment any time.
Call Gwen Gaskell at 495-3231

Brockway Pond, now Millen Pond

This is an excerpt from the *Camps of Millen Pond*, printed in 1994, the author of this segment is Dick Brockway

The Brockways and Millen Lake date back several years- in fact over 220 years. Captain Jonathan Brockway and his family are some of the first documented settlers at "the pond". His original home was Lyme, Connecticut, a seacoast town where he was a sea captain. Not wishing to raise a family with a seaman's life, he and his wife and their eight children pioneered into the foothills of New Hampshire, arriving at what is Millen Lake in 1773-1774. He settled at the outlet of the lake using the power of water for a grist mill and later a "potato" distillery. He purchased about 1500 acres in Washington, several acres at the lake. (The wooded hillsides which we now call the backside of the lake.)

He made a gallant effort to have the town center established at the lake in 1776, when petition was made for incorporating the town of Washington. He lost out to the farmers living in and around the present town center. Being a good loser he was a signer of the final petition. He also helped to build the meeting house (town hall) and was very active in community affairs.

For many years Millen Lake was called Bockway's Pond. Then sometime after most of the Captain's heirs sold off their land and others moved in, it was changed because of the other prominent inhabitants.

The last tract of land that the Brockways owned along the pond was near Chapel Cove, as my Great Aunt Nell (Nellie Brockway Nichols Otterson) recalled to me about twenty-five years ago. She said her father, Willie D. Brockway, who was proprietor of the Old Brick Store, along with the post office and barbershop combined, sold the wooded hillside during the early 1900s as he had no use for it.

However the Brockways weren't detached from the lake too long. In 1926 my grandfather, Guy D. Brockway purchased a piece of lake property to have a summer residence.

2016 Update by Dick Brockway.

The last tract of Brockway land, from the original purchase, was sold by great grandfather Willie Brockway to Camp Morgan for one dollar. (It is Chapel Cove)

The cottage remained mostly the same for nearly 80 years when the decision was finally made for a new structure. In 2010 the old camp came down and a new log cottage began to take shape in its place. The huge white pine tree on the property was cut and milled by Phil Barker. The beams and posts along with boards for the floors, interior walls and ceiling (many 24" wide) were from the tree. The cottage was finished to occupy in 2012. The porch was added in 2013 to look like the old one. So, here we are in 2016 Judy Brockway Kavanagh and Dick Brockway, third generation at "Brockwood" plus two more generations of our families enjoying the sights, sounds, peace, playing and togetherness rooted on Millen Lake.

Washington Historical Society
PO Box 90
Washington, NH 03280

ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP DUES are \$10 for an individual and \$15 for a family (including children under 16). For those who would like to contribute more to the Society to help us cover our expenses, we have a new sustaining membership for \$25. The membership year is August 1 through July 31. 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: _____ Cell: _____

Email _____

Membership Level: \$10 Individual \$15 Family \$25 Sustaining

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.

Email: washingtonhistoricalsociety@hotmail.com