



Hartland Historical Society News

JANUARY 2023

VOLUME 23

ISSUE 1

20th Anniversary

This special edition serves to honor the 20th Anniversary of the first of The HHS newsletter. If Hilda Nutter hadn't approached Brenda Seekins, and others, none of us would have enjoyed all of the previous editions. Thank you, Brenda, for the many years you worked on the newspaper. Many interesting articles have been written over the years. At this time, we do not have a planned schedule for printing of this newsletter. We do hope to offer them periodically.

Creating A Home for the Hartland Historical Society

As many know the HHS has been looking for a home for a number of years. We have large items saved from the old town hall, filing cabinets containing documents and photos, antique clothing, scrapbooks and numerous donated items that are currently being stored around town between people's barns, homes, the library's old original cellar, and the food cupboard building. Items from the town hall include the sign, the original cupboard, stove and golden toilet from the mason's section on the 3rd floor, the 1940's movie projector and reels, opera seats, benches and one of the stain glass windows.



We have a large collection of documents, photos, scrapbooks, signs and clothing at the library in and on top of filing cabinets, totes sitting on the floor and as well as items stacked on shelves. While words cannot adequately express the appreciation we have for the library trustees who have allowed us to store these items there these past years, there is no way we can review the individual items for cataloging in that small dimly lit

space. Being able to create a designated home will allow us to review each individual item, catalog it, and when possible, digitize it for everyone to be able to enjoy.

Two of our members, Debbie Tapley and Stacy Halford, have taken the lead on fundraising to create a home for the HHS. The goal is to raise enough money to cover several years of expenses that the HHS will incur once we find a designated permanent home. All funds donated will be kept in a designated account to be used exclusively for the acquiring and setting up of this new place. We are asking you to make a donation of any size to this fund. A document will be included in HHS' new home that will include the name of all who donate to this initial 'Creating a home' fundraiser. I'm sure you have enjoyed all the items that have been include on our wonderful website. Just imagine all the new information that will be added once we are able to catalog and digitize items. Won't you help today? The donation form is included at the end of this newsletter.

UPDATE: A few months ago, we thought we had found a small space to rent to allow us to start sorting and digitizing newspaper articles, photos and documents that have been donated. Plus, it provided enough room that we could have a place to display a few of our items and invite people in to see them. The Irving Tanning Community Center (a 501c3 non-profit) has recently acquired the remaining 1964 section of the former consolidated school after the library board turned it back over to the town. Since the members of the ITCC board are supporters of HHS, and they do not have immediate plans for that wing, they offered to rent us space.

Originally, we were moving forward with renting one or two of the former class rooms until it became clear that the lack of roof maintenance by the various owners between the school closing and ITTC's acquisition had taken a large a toll. During one of the large rain and windstorms this fall, the roof began leaking in the room we were going to rent. We cannot take the chance of damaging any of our artifacts so we have put a pause on entering into a rental agreement.

Thank You

As many of you know Nate and Ann Foss have been officers for several years. This past year Ann let us know she had become too busy maintaining the Facebook pages for several historical societies, Maine memories as well as being our secretary. She let us know she needed to step back and let someone else become the secretary. Nate let us know if no one else had spoken up to state that they were willing to take on the treasurer responsibilities, he would have continued. All of us would like to publicly extend a sincere thank you to Mr. and Mrs. Foss for all the work they have done for HHS.

Hartland's Bicentennial

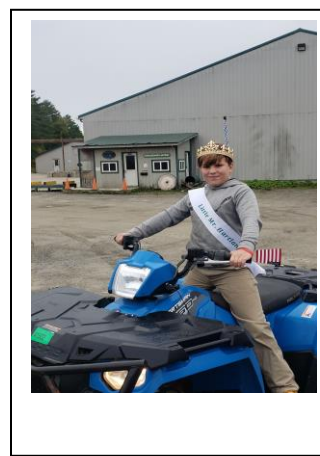
There was a blizzard on town's actual 200th birthday on February 7, 2020. Because school was canceled, so were the plans for a large birthday party, cake and educational activities at the Somerset Elementary school (former middle school built off Blake St.). However, a small crowd of citizens did gather that evening at ITCC for the cake and ice cream social. Approximately five weeks later all plans for our spring celebration came to a stop due to the recent pandemic. Although it took an additional year, the bicentennial celebration was held in September 2001. We had a parade, children's Miss and Mister Hartland contests and educational activities, a photo contest, a historical location scavenger hunt, a quilt and textile show, a display of aerial photos taken via drone of most of the town streets, music shows, lots of food, fun and very large fireworks display.

A new 100- page Hartland history book was written to celebrate the towns 200th birthday. It was intended to be a follow-up to the books written by F. Wayne Libby to celebrate the town's 150th and 175th birthday. You can

still get one the newest history books for a donation of \$20. If you live local, leave a message including your name, phone number and the number of books you would like to get at 938-2350. You may also send an email indicating your interest in obtaining a book to: stacyburnhamhalford@gmail.com. You will be contacted and arrangements will be made to fill your order. If you would like your book mailed to you, please make a check payable to the Hartland Historical Society for \$24 to cover the donation and the shipping costs. Mail it to Hartland Historical Society, Attn: Stacy Halford, PO Box 173, Hartland, ME 04943.

When the town celebrated their centennial in 1920, the country had just ended a two-year pandemic. Our bicentennial was impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic. We can only hope when the future citizens are planning the town's tricentennial, there won't be another pandemic.

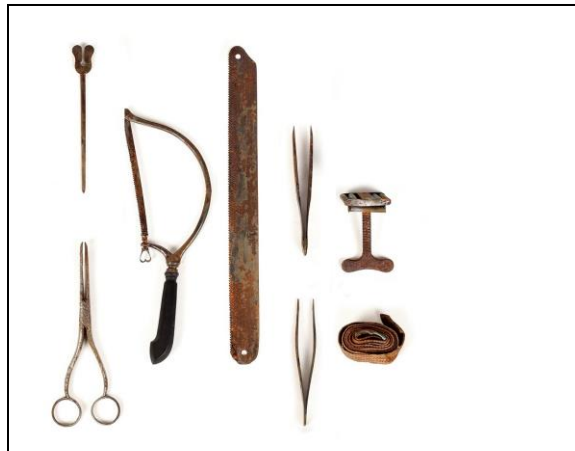
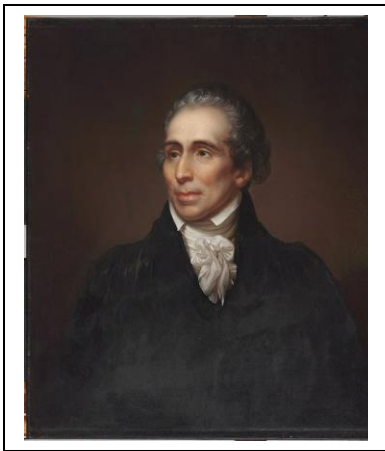
Here are a few photos of our pageant participants and winners. Almost all of the children who entered the bicentennial celebration pageants participated in the parade by riding on a float or ATV.



People of Hartland

The first veterans to influence our town were from the Revolutionary war. The most noted being Dr. John Warren who entered Harvard College at age 14 and by age 18 became an apprentice under his older brother Joseph to learn the practice of medicine. Although they could trace their ancestry back to William the Conqueror of England, both Dr. Warrens supported becoming independent from Britain. Joseph was a leader of the war effort in Boston and even instructed Paul Revere to make his midnight ride. John was in Roxbury and had already joined the militia there. After the war started John marched with his regiment to Cambridge and began serving in the Continental Army Hospital. Eventually John marched to New York along with General George Washington and spent the winter of 1776-77 with the army. John served in several army hospitals and at the age of 22 he was appointed the senior surgeon in the Continental Army Hospital at Cambridge.

Left Picture: Dr. John Warren | Right Picture: His Revolutionary War Amputation Kit



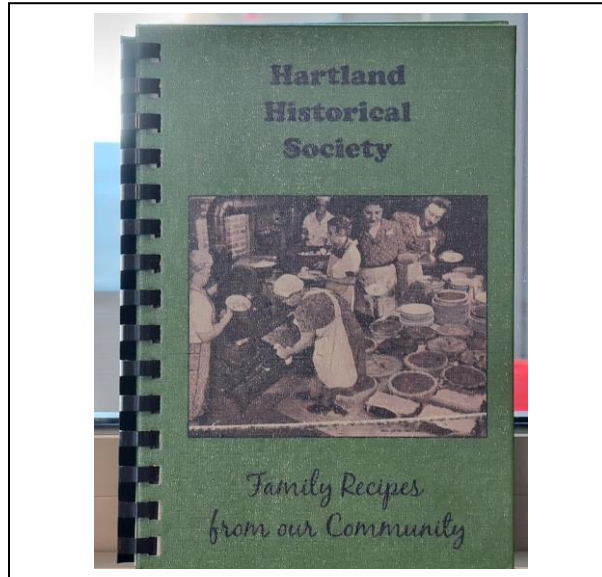
After the war, John opened his medical practice in Boston and specialized in anatomy and surgery. In 1780 he was one of the founding members of the Boston Medical society. Noting that there were over 10 medical apprentices in the city, he suggested a medical school should be started. Instead of supporting opening a school, the society sponsored him giving public anatomical lectures at the Continental Army Hospital. After he finished his second set of lectures in 1782, he was asked to develop a plan for a medical school. This plan was accepted by the Harvard Corporation's board and the Harvard Medical Institution was opened. By age 29 John was directly responsible for the opening of the first medical school in the USA and was appointed professor of Anatomy. He taught there for over 30 years.

It was common practice after the war to allow veterans receive pieces of land in exchange for their service. Given his prominence in Massachusetts, Dr. Warren was purchasing large tracts of land. The area that included Hartland was deeded to him on February 26, 1796. Eventually Dr. Warren owned approximately 40,000 acres which would have encompassed what is now the four towns of Hartland, St. Albans, Palmyra and Corinna. He went on to arrange for the roads to be mapped out and for meeting houses/church and schools to be each be provided a piece of land. After land had been designated for those specific purposes, the rest could be split up and sold to anyone interested in clearing the land and creating their own homestead.

In future newsletters, we will highlight other people from our town's history.

HHS Cookbook

The Hartland Historical Society cookbook is now a reality. They are currently for sale locally for \$20. They are available at several locations in town. If you would like order a book and have it mailed to you, please make a check (or money order) payable to the Hartland Historical Society for \$24 for the book and postage. Mail it to Hartland Historical Society, Attn: Cookbook Committee, PO Box 173, Hartland, ME 04943. These will be a great keepsake and/or make a great gift.



PayPal

Earlier this month we began the process of creating a dedicated PayPal account. Soon, in addition to accepting payments by check or cash, we'll be able to offer an option to process transactions electronically via our PayPal account from several online locations as well as accept multiple payment options in person using our POS (Point of Sale) unit. You won't have to set up a PayPal account to make an online transaction as you'll be given the option to securely process your payment as a Guest using your credit card. In the near future, our plan is to create an online store on our website providing another location to pay annual dues, make donations or purchase items we have available via PayPal. Once we're officially up and running with PayPal, we'll provide details on the various options to access our account to process transactions.

Irving Tanning Community Center

In the mid 1990's the President of Irving Tanning Company, Richard Larochelle, was bothered by the fact that a number of the employees could not read. Initially he invited Literacy volunteers to come work with any interested employee. As he saw success, he wondered what impact the parent's illiteracy had on their children. He was aware the elementary school didn't have a gymnasium nor a computer lab. He authorized the initial seed money for ITCC. (Now you understand the name.) His vision included a place that would encourage reading, exercise, computer skills and the arts. A decision was made to attach the center to the back of the consolidated school. A board of directors was created and they applied to become a 501c3 non-profit. Once

opened, the school used it during school hours. Adult ed classes were held, local people could rent it for events and it became (and still is) the base for the area tri-town recreation programs for children from Hartland, St Albans and Palmyra. When a school closes, the rule is that the property is turned over to the town. An offer was made to KVCAP to sell them the front portion of the building and three of the thirteen acres so they could rebuild it to become subsidized senior housing. They made a counter offer indicating they wanted the entire property. The hard-working ITCC board members and a small group called the Friends of ITCC successfully negotiated to get back the community center end of the set of buildings. Music events, room rentals, an annual "Fill the gym" rummage sale/flea market and fundraising events have replaced the furnace as well as kept the center open and going strong through the pandemic and into 2023. Since the town has no other large buildings to hold public events, it was the base for the bicentennial celebration, it has been the site of several public meals the town uses it for the selectmen's meetings, town meetings and it is the State approved location for voting in the various elections and referendums. For very reasonable fees, one or more rooms are available to rent by calling 938-4579 (leave a message). They hope to see you at one of the children's games or tournaments, a community breakfast, a music event, the weekly bingo games or at the monthly HHS meeting. You can follow ITCC on their Facebook page.

UPDATE: As indicated earlier, the roof of the remaining section of the consolidated school must be repaired. This is an unbudgeted, additional expense. The income they currently make is enough to cover the massive fuel costs (thousands of gallons of fuel), the light bill and the provide the day-to-day supplies. They are holding a fundraiser called "Buy a Bundle" asking people to make a donation to help repair the roof. It was sad to watch the majority of the consolidated school be torn down. Most of us made many memories there. Let's all pitch together and help them save that last section of our old school.

Annual Dues

HHS Membership Dues are payable in October each year for the next year at \$10 per person.

They may be sent to: Hartland Historical Society, P.O. Box 173, Hartland, Maine 04943-0173

Officers

President - Dot (Elliot) Humphrey

Secretary - Norma (Nutter) Munn

Treasurer - Deborah Tapley

Board of Directors - Brenda Seekins, Robert Hodgkins, Stacy Halford

Website & Contact Info

Website: www.thehhs.me | Email: hello@thehhs.me | Phone: 207.370.7773 | Mail: PO Box 173 Hartland, ME 04943

Remember, today's events are tomorrow's history!
Document and forward all current Hartland events,
or updates to the family trees at the Contact Us page
on our website at: www.thehhs.me

Create-A-Home for the Hartland Historical Society Donation Form

Mail check or money order payable to:
Hartland Historical Society
c/o Stacy Halford/Deborah Tapley
PO Box 173
Hartland, ME 04943

***Please note "Create-A-Home Fund" in the Memo Section**

Name: _____

Business Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Donation Levels

Platinum Supporter @ \$1,000+
Gold Supporter @ \$ 500+
Silver Supporter @ \$ 250+
Bronze Supporter @ \$ 100+
General Supporter @ \$ 10+

Donations to the Hartland Historical Society are Tax Deductible!

Donors/Dedications will be recognized in a document in our new home & in a special edition
HHS digital newsletter

Donation Amount: \$_____

Dedicate my Donation to: (optional) _____

How would you like your name listed? _____

_____ Check if you wish to remain anonymous in all public recognitions

Optional Purchase of Hartland's 3rd History Book (100-page book, covering 200 years, published in 2021),
"Celebrating the Bicentennial" at \$24 each (includes postage): # of Books: _____ Total: \$_____

(Platinum, Gold & Silver Level Supporters receive 1 FREE Book)

Grand Total = Donation Amount + Book Purchase = \$_____