

WATERVILLE VALLEY HISTORICAL SOCIETY IS ALIVE AND WELL!

Reggie Breeckner, *WVHS President*

July was a busy month for the Society. On July 1, we began the **move into our new Headquarters in Town Square**. We engaged the services of Anne Morgan, a/k/a “Anne the Archivist,” to work as our resident Archivist/Consultant for four weeks. With her guidance, we were able to assess the entire portion of the Town’s collection housed in Town Hall, as well as catalog the majority of the collection, and train volunteers to carry on with the work.

Anne also assisted us in our **application for a Moose Plate Grant** in the amount of \$10,000. The Society purchased a computer and museum-quality software to catalog the collection and eventually make it possible for us to share access to our collection through an online museum.

On July 19, the WV Recreation Department led an **historical hike** with a script provided by WVHS member, and resident historian, Preston Conklin. The hike was enjoyed by residents and visitors alike. Check the Rec’s website for future historical hikes.

On July 25, the Society **co-hosted the first-ever Blood Drive in the Valley**, with the Silver Streaks. The goal was for 20 pints... and we collected 31! THANK YOU, Waterville Valley!

UPCOMING EVENTS

2nd Annual Cellar Hole Hike

Sunday • 6 September • 10:00 AM

With Brenda and Preston Conklin

More info, contact: wvhistorybuffs@gmail.com

Sunday • September 6 • 1:00–3:00 PM

3rd Annual “Getting to Know the Valley”

Visit us in Town Square, learn about the many organizations and businesses the Valley has to offer and meet the people behind them. We thank you in advance for wearing your masks as a courtesy to everyone attending.

DO YOU KNOW?

In 1910 Waterville Valley had four parties listed on the Ballot... can you name them? There were also two questions to be voted on at the bottom of the Ballot... do you know what they were? Look for answers in the next Wig Wag.

“There’s something about these obscure vignettes of former lives that’s very powerful. Our woods are full of old cellar holes, tumbled-down chimneys, ancient scraggly lilacs absurdly tall still stretching toward the light.”

—Leslie Land



Reggie Breeckner, WVHS President

August kept us busy planning for our Annual Membership Meeting, using Zoom. It really is a whole new world! All in all, with a few minor technical glitches, we did have a successful meeting. The highlight of the meeting was a panel discussion on the newly released *The Waterville Valley Guidebook*, with accompanying slide show. The panelists included author Steve Smith with book contributors, society members, historians Brenda and Preston Conklin, and WV Recreation Director Brooke Wakefield.

On September 6, we hosted our **2nd Annual Cellar Hole Hike**. This year, Brenda and Preston led two hikes. The morning brought 25 hikers; Preston led 11 and Brenda led 14. The afternoon brought four more hikers. The hikes were so well received that we are considering offering this hike more than just once a year.

On the same day, Town Square was busy with our **3rd Annual "Getting to Know the Valley."** The day was beautiful and we had 13 organizations that participated. The Society sold the *Waterville Valley Guidebook*, as well as our new notecards with the Society's logo (the Stone Tower, as drawn by local artist Deb Hurley). Thank you to all who participated and stopped by to visit.

THIS MONTH'S HISTORY QUESTIONS:

How many students were registered in School District 1, in the Town of Waterville, NH in the year 1873? Where was the school building located?

LAST MONTH'S HISTORY Q&A

In 1910, there were four parties listed on the ballot—Republican, Democratic, Prohibition, and Socialist.

The two questions to be voted on at the bottom of the ballot were

Shall licenses for the sale of liquor be granted in this city or town under the provisions of "An Act to Regulate the Traffic in Intoxicating Liquor," passed at the January session of the General Court, 1903?

Is it expedient that a Convention be called to revise the Constitution?

REY CENTER SAYS GOODBYE TO RETIRING BOARD MEMBERS

Leah Elliot

The Rey Cultural Center wishes to thank two exiting directors for their focus and guidance of the Rey Cultural Center over many years. Former President Lynne Landa and Vice President Tina Koppel have supported our mission to honor the Reys' spirit of curiosity and discovery by increasing understanding of, and participation in, the arts, sciences, nature, and literacy through programs for youth, adults, and families.

Together we continue to cultivate a welcoming environment that promotes a positive experience for the community we serve. We encourage diversity through programs that celebrate the human story and we promote all forms of the Arts in Waterville Valley.

You can find both Lynne & Tina on the trails year-round in Waterville Valley. Thank you both for your time and care!

MORE NEWS FROM THE WATERVILLE VALLEY



Reggie Breeckner and Jane McCaffrey are busy transporting historical artifacts to the soon-to-be **Historical Society Kiosk** in Town Square, on the way to the Post Office



News from the
Waterville Valley
HISTORICAL
SOCIETY

Reggie Breeckner, WVHS President

I am happy to report that the “**Little Museum at the End of the Road**” is **now complete**. Many thanks to new member Eric Paul, and longtime member Jane McCaffrey, and a special thank you to the housekeeping staff, who acted as our critics and were very accommodating with all of our comings and goings.

Before his membership check had even been cashed, I enlisted Eric’s help to build a wall. With Eric’s expertise, a board purchased to create a shelf, and a few items that we repurposed, we had a blank slate on which to work. Jane and I went through our artifacts and came up with items that were representative of earlier fall seasons in Waterville Valley. We checked with historians Brenda and Preston Conklin, to verify information regarding the artifacts, and then put it all together. Our goal is to provide a **new exhibit** each season. The display is located to the right of the Post Office. Please stop by and see what we’ve done. If you have any interest in working on our next exhibit, please contact us at wvhistorybuffs@gmail.com.

Before the Trolley went into hibernation for the season, we were able to offer three **Historical Trolley Tours**. Preston created the script, and Brenda, Preston, and our wonderful driver Al Tailby, did many practice runs. Tour Guides, Margaret Turner and Jane McCaffrey did a great job sharing our history, while practicing social distancing.

Margaret went above and beyond with an impromptu rendition of some of Waterville’s early songs, to the delight of Town Square visitors. Next year, we will begin the Trolley Tours earlier and offer them throughout the Summer and Fall. We are also working to offer tours tailored to students at WVES — we believe it is important for our young people to know about the history of their town.

The Society and the Silver Streaks will again co-host a **Red Cross Blood Drive** on Friday, November 6 from 2:00–6:00 PM in the Brookside Room in Town Square. To donate please contact the Red Cross at: redcrossblood.org or 1-800-733-2767

LAST MONTH’S QUESTION ANSWERED

In 1873, the school had four students, Nellie Wilbur, and John, George, and William Dolloff. There was no school building. Wages for male teachers were \$16, \$4 for female teachers. Wages were monthly and included board. The teacher in Waterville received no wages and the District contributed nothing for the support of the school.

THIS MONTH’S QUESTION

Do you know what this artifact is?




ELEVATE YOUR
LIFE Style

NOW HIRING
WINTER POSITIONS

waterville.com/employment
 1.800.GO.VALLEY



Reggie Breeckner, WVHS President

A very Happy New Year to all! May 2021 be filled with good health and happiness.

I think we can all agree that 2020 was a year filled with challenges. I want to thank the people of Waterville Valley for dealing with Covid in such a caring and responsible manner. Thank you to our residents, guests, Town administrators, Board members, and employees, postal workers, the Resort and employees, our Elementary school staff, merchants and workers. Everyone came together, and with much creative thinking made it work. The past several months reminded me just how fortunate we are to be living here, our Valley truly is a special place. Respect and kindness live in Waterville Valley.

If you find yourself with a cool, clear day, a couple of hours, and no planned activities, I suggest you purchase the new *Waterville Valley Guidebook*, turn to page 205, and take the Town History Walk, followed by a stop in Town Square for a warm beverage. The walk was researched and scripted by our own historian, Preston Conklin. If you find yourself in a similar situation on a cold, rainy day, I suggest lighting a fire, popping some popcorn and pulling out the *Guidebook* to learn some local history and to plan your next hike, snowshoe or cross-country outing.

The Society just finished our **second exhibit** in our “Little Museum at the End of the Road.” It is located in the display window to the right of the Post Office. We will provide a new exhibit with each season. Our first exhibit focused on Fall activities and featured local artifacts and photos. The present exhibit was finished the second week in December and is all about **Winter activities**.

Winter is the time of year when the Society focuses on housekeeping chores. We are working on a **Strategic Institutional Plan** and will be reaching out to the community for your ideas. In the Spring, we will welcome back Anne Morgan, our archivist. She will be **training volunteers** in archiving and preservation methods, no experience required. If you would like to learn, please contact us at: wvhistorybuffs@gmail.com.

NOVEMBER’S QUESTION ANSWERED

Does anyone recognize the artifact in the photo? Do you know what it is? This object came from the top of Mt Tecumseh. The Appalachian Mountain Club (AMC), placed these small metal containers on mountain peaks. The top can be unscrewed, and hikers who reached the mountain top could leave a note inside. In other words, geocaching has been around for a long time. Eventually, the AMC removed them because people were walking off with them. This one was given to the Goodrich family by the AMC.



THIS MONTH’S HISTORY QUESTION

In what year was the first ski trail to the top of Mt Tecumseh built?

**UPDATE ON THE
RFK MEMORIAL CHAPEL**

Birdie Britton

We want to update *Wag* readers on the progress that is being made with the plans for the RFK Memorial Chapel. Here is a bit of the history about the chapel in Waterville.

Fifty-three years ago, Tom Corcoran, President of Waterville Company and master developer of Waterville Valley, had a personal mission of building an interfaith chapel in memory of his close friend, Senator Robert F. Kennedy, who lost his life on June 6, 1968. It was to be called the Robert F. Kennedy Memorial Chapel. It never was accomplished.

The Robert F. Kennedy Chapel Committee was formed in 2019 with the goal to realize Tom’s vision, as a tribute to Tom’s memory, as well as to Robert F. Kennedy. Members of the Chapel Committee are Birdie Britton, Tom Gross, Jack Sanders, Christine Corcoran Destefano, Katie Smith, Terry Roper, and Rob Wilson.

At last spring’s Town Meeting, a presentation was made by Birdie Britton and Tom Gross and a warrant was put before the voters to allow the chapel to be built on land overlooking Corcoran Pond. A vote was held, and it was approved by the town’s voters.

The Committee then went to work to pick an architect. Erik Barth was chosen as the architect from a number of excellent applicants. Erik and his family have had a condo in the valley for many, many years. He has a very warm spot in his heart for the valley. Since being chosen, Erik has been working tirelessly. After many months, he came up with the final plan, which was approved by the Committee. A survey of the land was done by Horizon, and a site test was performed by McPhail Associates to confirm that the site was suitable for building.

At the upcoming spring Town Meeting in March 2021, a warrant will again be put before voters to allow the chapel to be built on the designated parcel of land. The wording of the warrant is being worked on by the Chapel Committee and the Board of Selectman.

At the Town Budget Meeting on February 3 at 6:00 PM, there will be a short presentation to answer any questions residents may have about the project before the Town Meeting.





Reggie Breeckner, *WVHS President*

Keeping up with Tomorrow’s History

Can you believe winter is almost half gone? My, how time flies. Much of my time lately has been spent on the computer with lots of Zoom meetings. The Select Board, School Board, and Planning Board have been hosting meetings in preparation for the School and Town Elections, and the Town Meeting in March. Please keep informed and get out and vote. Lots of information can be found on the Town website at www.watervillevalley.org. You can also keep up on Valley news by attending the **Waterville Valley Community Meeting**, which is held every **Tuesday at 10:00 AM**, email Tsmith@waterville.com to receive your weekly invites.

Sharing Our Local History

The Society has also been keeping busy. We just finished our first quarterly **newsletter** of the year. Over the past few months, member Linda Coleman has taken on the task of creating and maintaining a fun, interesting, and informative site. Linda loves looking through our collection and searching for material to use on **Facebook**. Please “friend” our page and give a thumbs up to Linda.

Volunteers Needed for Archiving

Our Archivist/Consultant Anne Morgan will be back this spring to continue cataloging our collection, and to begin with the important work of preserving our precious history. Anne will be training volunteers to continue her work. If you have any interest in becoming a member, or in working on any of our projects or committees, please contact us at wvhistorybuffs@gmail.com.

JANUARY’S QUESTION & ANSWER

In what year was the first trail to the top of Mt. Tecumseh built?

In 1934 the first ski trail to the top of Mt Tecumseh was built, primarily by tying together old logging roads. In 1936 Sel Hannah, an early pioneer in the field of ski area planning, was hired by the Forest Service to lay out a good ski trail on Mt Tecumseh. The trail was cut by the Civilian Conservation Corps in 1937. Thirty years later, in 1965–1966, Tom Corcoran brought Hannah back to Mt. Tecumseh to lay out the trail and lift systems, which are still regarded among the best designed in the ski world. The Mt. Tecumseh ski area opened on December 24, 1966. It was an immediate success with the skiers, attracting 76,000 skiers in the first winter, more than any other New Hampshire ski area. The bad news was that the 100-year-old Waterville Inn burned flat during the peak Washington’s Birthday holiday period. The fire removed the only public accommodation in the Valley.

This answer was taken from *The History of Waterville Valley*, and with input from Valley “old timer” and member Bruce (Bear) Andrew.

THIS MONTH’S HISTORY QUESTION

In what year was the Waterville Valley Black and Blue Trail Smashers Ski Club (aka the BBTS) formed?

“CHECKING” FOR INTEREST IN ADULT HOCKEY

Rick Smith

I’m looking for some skaters and a couple of goalies to set up a weekly adult coed pick-up hockey game at the Town Square arena. Nothing serious, just a chance to use different muscles, get the heart rate up and, as with all hockey, have some fun. Ice time is limited right now, so at this point I am just looking to gauge interest. If enough folks come forward, I will work with the rink on some options for ice time. Please send an email to Rick.Smith8@comcast.net if interested. Thanks.

I think I’d miss you even if we never met.

— From the movie *The Wedding Singer*



Renting NH Vacation Homes since 1998!
(603) 726-3344

Locally Owned & Operated with exceptional Knowledge, Experience and Dedication To Help Rent your WV Vacation Home!

Contact Kathy Today!

kathy@allmountainrentals.com
www.allmountainrentals.com



ALL SALES WITH SERVICE
PRESENT THIS COUPON FOR 2% CASH OR CHECK DISCOUNT.

Plymouth Furniture Company, Inc.
SINCE 1923

OPEN: Mon. - Fri. (8am-5pm); Sat. (8am-2:59pm) www.plymouthfurnitureco.com

FLOORING
Ceramic Tile • Vinyl • Hardwood • Laminate • Carpet
Furniture • Appliances • Countertops
Custom Window Treatments

151 Main Street • Plymouth, NH 03264 • (603) 536-1625



Reggie Breeckner, WVHS President



Historical Society begins preservation project

Spring is just around the corner and the Society will have lots of spring cleaning and reorganizing to do when we finish unpacking all of the boxes. Our preservation project has been made possible through a New Hampshire Moose Plate Grant. This grant program is administered by the New Hampshire State Library, a division of the State’s Department of Cultural Resources, and is funded by the sale of Moose Conservation License Plates. We purchased \$6,000 of preservation supplies, which arrived in mid-February. Working under the tutelage of Anne the Archivist, we were able to begin the all-important job of preserving our Town’s Collection. All of our documents have been rehoused in acid-free boxes and folders. We have also begun the process of digitizing the Collection. When finished, our Collection will be much more accessible.

THIS MONTH’S HISTORY QUESTION

In 1926 who purchased the 23,000 acres surrounding the Waterville Inn’s 509-acre tract of land? Who purchased the same parcel of land in 1928?

FEBRUARY’S QUESTION & ANSWER

In what year was the Waterville Valley Black and Blue Trail Smashers Ski Club (aka the BBTS), formed?

In 1934, the Black and Blue Trail Smashers Ski Club was formed. The BBTS is still very much alive, and one of the largest and most successful competitive ski clubs in the United States.

HAMMOND WHEELER Realty
 CONDOS • HOMES • LAND
 It’s a great time to list!!
 Call us today for an evaluation.
 www.HammondWheeler.com 603.726.8040



22 BEAR BROOK LANE

Bordering the White Mountain National Forest, this thoughtfully designed 3 bedroom, 3 bath home is spacious yet offers room to grow with your work-from-home lifestyle. The same family has owned and lovingly cared for the home since its construction in 2001. **Call today!** **\$699,000**

With over 75 years of combined experience in helping buyers find their special place as well as assisting sellers with integrity and professionalism, we feel confident that you will find working with Hammond Wheeler Realty rewarding and hassle free.

All Mountain Rentals

“Kathy was very professional”
 -Property Owner

Renting NH Vacation Homes since 1998!

(603) 726-3344

Locally Owned & Operated with exceptional Knowledge, Experience and Dedication To Help Rent your WV Vacation Home!

Contact Kathy Today!

kathy@allmountainrentals.com

www.allmountainrentals.com

ALL SALES WITH SERVICE
PRESENT THIS COUPON FOR 2% CASH OR CHECK DISCOUNT.
Plymouth Furniture Company, Inc.
SINCE 1923
 OPEN: Mon. - Fri. (8am-5pm); Sat. (8am-2:59pm) www.plymouthfurnitureco.com
FLOORING
 Ceramic Tile • Vinyl • Hardwood • Laminate • Carpet
 Furniture • Appliances • Countertops
 Custom Window Treatments
 151 Main Street • Plymouth, NH 03264 • (603) 536-1625



Reggie Breeckner, WVHS President

Waterville Valley Historical Society expands

In our March article, I talked about Spring cleaning and the delivery of \$6,000 of preservation supplies. Well, with all of our new supplies and a donation of three large industrial shelving units, we found that our 9’x14’ space was becoming a little tight. I spoke with Abby, our Town Square rental agent, and we are moving into a much larger suite just down the hall from our present space. Our new Headquarters, aka HQ, should serve us well until we are able to build our museum.

If you are interested in joining the Society, new Membership Applications are available on the bulletin board in the Post Office. Present members will be receiving their new applications in June, as our membership runs from August to August. We are asking our membership to get involved in the Society’s activities. Our newly formed Museum Committee will move forward on the planning, funding, and construction of a museum building on the Town-provided land adjacent to the Osceola Library. Our Strategic Planning Committee is working on a five-year plan for the Society. We also aim to increase our present Board from seven to nine members. If any of these opportunities are of interest to you, please contact us at wvhistorybuffs@gmail.com.

MARCH’S HISTORY QUESTION

In 1926, who purchased the 23,000 acres that surrounded the Waterville Inn’s 509-acre tract of land? Who purchased the same parcel of land in 1928?

ANSWER: Nathaniel Greeley arrived in the Valley in 1830 and built a small cabin. He left to marry Nancy Wyman of Chatham, NH, and brought her back by ox team to settle here the next spring. His epitaph states “Nathaniel Greeley, Settled in Waterville, April 1831.” Over the years, he turned from growing crops to providing lodging for summer vacationers. Greeley gradually acquired the properties of neighboring homesteaders who pulled up stakes and left town. Altogether, he accumulated 509 acres on the valley floor. In 1868, he built an inn, which was later named the Waterville Inn. This Inn was in use until it was destroyed by fire in 1967.

By the late 1800’s and early 1900’s, the 509 acres were devoted entirely to the needs of summer vacationers, while the surrounding 23,000 acres were controlled by large paper companies. Their logging operations resulted in the devastation of the forest, as well as terrifying forest fires. In 1926, the Parker-Young Paper Company purchased the 23,000 acres. Their plan was to build a logging railroad into the Valley to expedite its logging operations. Environmentalists and public opinion, backed by

newspaper editorials, forced the Parker-Young Paper Company to sell its 23,000 acres in 1928 to the United States Government, to become part of the newly created White Mountain National Forest. Note: some of the above information was drawn from “History of Waterville Valley,” a brief (four page) publication circulated in the 1990’s (author unknown).

THIS MONTH’S HISTORY QUESTION

Do you recognize the disks in this photo? Do you know what they were used for?



JUGTOWN
- Est. 1978 -
COUNTRY STORE

Grocery & Convenience • Beer & Wine

M-TH 8:00-8:00 • FRI & SAT 8:00-10:00 • SUN 8:00-6:00
(603) 236-8662 • JugtownCountryStore.com

All Mountain Rentals

“Kathy was very professional”
-Property Owner

Renting NH Vacation Homes since 1998!
(603) 726-3344

Locally Owned & Operated with exceptional Knowledge, Experience and Dedication To Help Rent your WV Vacation Home!

Contact Kathy Today!
kathy@allmountainrentals.com
www.allmountainrentals.com



Reggie Breeckner, WVHS President

New “Digs” for Historical Society

Moving day for the Society went off without a hitch, thanks to the efforts of our wonderful volunteers. We also had the help of Andy and Kevin from the Town Square Crew who moved our two large upright cabinets. In one day, we were able to get everything out of our little 9' x 12' space and moved into our new spacious suite. We now have a dedicated collection room, and a separate work room. The work room gives us space both to work on, and to store, all of our preservation supplies. We are very happy with our new digs.

Please stop by and take a look at our “Little Museum at the End of the Road.” It is located to the right of the Post Office. Our Spring exhibit contains antique dolls and doll furniture, as well as some family photos on loan from the Scribner Family Collection. There are also some old-time photos from our Town’s collection, including a photo of the students from the first grammar school in Plymouth, 1898.

Historical Tours by Trolley Resume

This summer the Society will once again offer Historical Trolley Tours, if you have any interest in becoming a Tour guide, please contact us at wvhistorybuffs@gmail.com. Brenda and Preston will again be leading their much acclaimed “Cellar Hole Hike.” Stay tuned for dates and times.

A little history for you to ponder...

Did you know that our Town was originally named Waterville in the 1800s? Post Office mail got confused with mail for Waterville, Maine and Waterville, Vermont. In 1967, the Town’s name was changed to Waterville Valley, which made sense due to the increased mail associated with the new ski area.

APRIL’S HISTORY QUESTION

Did you recognize the disks in the photos in last month’s *Wig Wag*? Do you know what they were used for?



APRIL’S ANSWER

These numbered disks were for old windows. You would attach one to the outside of the window frame, and the corresponding number to the screen or storm window that fit that particular window. When you took them off for the change of season you could easily match them up later on. These photos are courtesy of Jerauld and Sara Adams.

THIS MONTH’S HISTORY QUESTION

What year was Waterville’s first Library founded, where was it located, and who was the first Librarian?

JUGTOWN
- Est. 1978 -
COUNTRY STORE

Grocery & Convenience • Beer & Wine

M–TH 8:00–8:00 • FRI & SAT 8:00–10:00 • SUN 8:00–6:00
(603) 236-8662 • JugtownCountryStore.com

SCHWARTZBERG LAW
EXPERIENCE THAT MATTERS

*Advising
Clients About
Wills & Trusts
Since 1985*

*Plan for your
future today.*

Ora Schwartzberg, Esq.

**572 Tenney Mountain Hwy
Plymouth, NH 03264
603.536.2700**

www.NHLawyer.net



Reggie Breeckner, WVHS President

Following is what we are up to:

Digitizing Our Postcard Collection

Member Brooke Clarkson has been hard at work scanning our extensive postcard collection and entering it into our database.

Trolley Tours

Historians Preston and Brenda Conklin, and driver extraordinaire Al Tailby, conducted two Trolley Tour Guide training sessions in June in preparation for our upcoming Trolley Tours. Several members are now ready to share some history with you.

Cellar Hole Hikes

We have had so many positive reviews of the Conklins' Cellar Hole Hikes that Brenda and Preston are working with Brooke and Tyler from the Rec Department to offer the hikes on a regular basis. Please check the Rec Department's website for dates and times.

Annual Meeting

We have a date for our Annual Meeting, which I am happy to announce will be in person, on the Mountain. The Resort has offered us the use of the Freestyle Lounge and outdoor space. It will be a little different this year with a "Bring a potluck meal" to be shared by all, a presentation with surprise guest(s), and our Annual Meeting with the election of officers. More information will follow.

Support Our Work — Become a Member

Membership is renewable every August. The cost for a Family Membership is \$25. We presently have over 120 members and we are still growing. Membership applications will be in the mail shortly and are also available on our website, at the Post Office, and at Town Hall. New members are always welcome. Please feel free to reach out to us at wvhistorybuffs@gmail.com with any questions.

Upcoming Events:

July

Exhibit — "The Little Museum at the End of the Road"
In Town Square

Historical Trolley Tours — Dates and times to be announced
August 15 • 1:00–4:00 PM — Annual Meeting and Social |
On the Mountain

September 5 • 10:00 AM & 1:00 PM — Cellar Hole Hikes with
Brenda and Preston

September 5, 1:00–3:00 PM — "Getting to Know the Valley"

JUNE'S HISTORY QUESTION

Do you know what "Waterville's Folly" refers to, where it is located, and the story behind it?

JUNE'S ANSWER: A folly is a structure that is decorative rather than practical. "Waterville's Folly" is the Stone Tower, also known as the Buckley Tower. It is located on Stone Tower Lane. Waterville's first summer vacation cottage was built in 1860. Rev. Dr. James M Buckley was a summer resident who built Waterville's third summer cottage in 1877, and built the tower in 1880 on property adjacent to his home. Rev. Buckley was born in 1836, ordained in 1859, and by 1880 was pastor of the largest Methodist congregation in the country, in Brooklyn, NY. When asked why in the world he built a ruin, Dr Buckley reportedly said "every man has a queer streak, and this is mine." He also said that Waterville had everything but a ruin, and he built it to provide work for the unemployed. The Tower property was transferred to the Town in 1990 by Regina and Ronald Doyle, who owned the land and adjacent home at the time.

Because the Tower is a unique feature of Waterville Valley, the Historical Society uses an image of the tower (that was created by local artist and member Deborah Hurley) on our newsletters, stationery and the note cards that we sell, to fund some of our projects.

THIS MONTH'S HISTORY QUESTION

Do you know what Mt. Tecumseh was called on an 1860 map? Who published the map and where did it first appear?

"I wisely started with a map."

— J.R.R. Tolkien

MOVIES on the MOUNTAIN

SAT • JULY 17 • 8:00 PM

WV Resort Base Lodge • Freestyle Lounge

2020 Riveting WWI film

presented by

Waterville Valley Foundation

We're excited to be back in the Lounge or—better yet—outside for this summer's movie series.

FREE Admission

Donations gladly accepted

Film starts when dark

(appx 8:30 PM)





Reggie Breeckner, *WVHS President*

NHEC Foundation Grant Supports Oral Histories

The end of June brought some glad tidings from the New Hampshire Electric Co-op Foundation. The Society applied for a grant to fund our “Oral Histories of the Valley” project... and we were awarded \$2,000! This money will allow us to purchase the equipment needed to produce high quality video interviews with our local “old timers”, descendants of some of the Valley’s original residents, and folks who were part of the earlier days of our Valley. The equipment has been ordered, and we plan to start filming this summer. If you are interested in joining our oral histories team (no experience necessary), please contact us at: wvhistorybuffs@gmail.com. Many thanks to the NHEC Foundation, who funded this project courtesy of members who participate in the Round-Up Program, and have their monthly electric bill rounded up to the nearest dollar. As recipients of this program, we encourage you to consider participating in the Round-Up Program. For more information, visit www.nhec.com/round-up-program.

Blood Drive a Success

July started off strong with the Society’s Third Red Cross Blood Drive. Our very generous donors gave a total of 20 units of much needed blood and were rewarded with Red Cross Baseball Caps. Thanks both to our donors and our Society volunteers for making the drive a success.

New Exhibit

We now have a new exhibit at “The Little Museum at the End of the Road”; many of the pieces in the exhibit are on loan from the Nat Scrimshaw Collection, and feature some very old maps, the tools used to create the maps, along with some nineteenth century trail signs. Please visit the Exhibit in the display window to the right of the Post Office.

Take a Sunday Trolley Tour Through History

In mid-July we offered our first Historical Trolley Tours of the year. Many thanks to driver Al and to our guides Randy, Jane, Tina and Jim. We will continue to offer Tours every Sunday throughout the summer. Take the scenic ride around the Valley floor and learn about our Valley’s history. The tour is free to all, and takes approximately one hour. Donations are gratefully accepted.

Annual Meeting

August will bring our Annual Membership Meeting. All are welcome! We encourage you to come and bring a guest, meet and greet our Board and many members, enjoy some snacks, listen to our speaker, and learn about our Society. More information below.

UPCOMING EVENTS:

For the months of July and August the Society will be hosting

Historical Trolley Tours • Sundays • 10:00 AM & 2:00* PM
Departs from Town Square Trolley Stop

**Please note that on 15 August there will be no afternoon Tour.*

AUG 15: Historical Society Annual Meeting • 1:00–4:00 PM
Base Lodge at the Mountain - Freestyle Lounge

All are welcome! The afternoon’s activities will begin with a Social Time and Snack. Please bring a sweet or savory finger-food snack to share. The Society will provide assorted beverages. Following the Social, our keynote speaker **Nat Scrimshaw** will talk about the trails of Waterville Valley and surrounding areas. We will end the day with our Annual Meeting and Election of Officers.

AUG 18–31: Anne the Archivist will be back in Town

Anne will continue her work training members to use the large variety of preservation materials we purchased with our Moose Plate Grant. Please stop by our headquarters and say hello.

SEPT 5: 3rd Annual Cellar Hole Hike • 10:00 AM & 1:00 PM

Meet at parking lot pull-off at jct. of Rt 49 and Upper Mad River Rd. Brenda and Preston Conklin will lead this 3-mile hike, which should last 2.5 hours, depending on questions. It will feature a visit to the original Waterville Cemetery, and stops at homesites of some of Waterville’s earliest settlers. Hikers should bring their own water and wear comfortable shoes.

SEPT 5: 4th Annual “Getting to Know the Valley” • 1:00 - 3:00 PM
Town Square

Meet and greet members of the many organizations and businesses that live in Waterville Valley. The Society’s new caps and notecards will be available to purchase, and we will be happy to show off our new headquarters, located on the second level in Town Square.

JULY’S HISTORY QUESTION & ANSWER

Do you know what Mt. Tecumseh was called on the 1860 map? Who published the map and where did it first appear?

Arnold Guyot labeled Mt. Tecumseh as Waterville Mountain. Mount Osceola was shown as Mad River Peak. The source of the names Mt. Tecumseh and Mt. Osceola is uncertain. The Indian leaders Tecumseh and Osceola were well known in the 1870s, but neither one of them came from this part of the country.

THIS MONTH’S HISTORY QUESTION

Within the Town’s collection is a branding iron that was the property of an early homeowner in the Valley. Who did it belong to, and what was it used for? HINT: It was featured in one of the Society’s earlier exhibits.

**“History is not a burden on the memory
but an illumination of the soul.”**

— *John Dalberg-Acton*



Reggie Breckner, *WVHS President*

UPDATES FOR HISTORY BUFFS

On Sunday, August 15, we started the day with another successful **Trolley Tour**. Later that day, as we were making last-minute preparations for our **Annual Meeting** at the Freestyle Lounge, we had a visit from Murphy (you know, the guy famous for the Law named after him). I had just put two pans of my “world famous buffalo chicken pie” (maybe a slight exaggeration) into the oven, and we lost power. Oh well, up to the mountain to set up. There was no power there either, soooo we decided to move the meeting outside. With the help of the Board, Society members, and a few others that we drafted into service, we moved picnic tables and chairs outside for the meeting. Thankfully, the weather was wonderful.

We began with a Meet, Greet, and Eat with all sorts of sweet and savory snacks provided by our members and the Board. Over 50 members and guests were in attendance. Next, our guest speaker Nat Scrimshaw, without the advantage of his planned PowerPoint presentation, shared some of our Valley’s early history. Did you know that in the 1860s, Waterville had the first hiking trail system in the Northeast? Did you know that Waterville Valley was one place where a true system of hiking trails was built before the Civil War? Many thanks to Nat for telling us about the important part that our little town played in the early days of trail development.

Power was restored, and after Nat’s presentation, we all picked up our chairs and moved inside for our Annual Report and Election of Officers. The Board shared our accomplishments over the past year and our visions for the future. Our present Board members agreed to serve for another year, and Jim Dunn was nominated and elected to fill the last opening on our Board.

WVHS 2021-2022 Board of Directors:

- President..... Reggie Breckner
- Vice President..... Susan Scrimshaw
- Treasurer..... Lori Horton
- Secretary..... Reva Gertel
- Members at Large..... Jim Dunn, Beth Goldsmith,
Charles Hastings, Rich Rita, and Rob Wilson

UPCOMING EVENTS—EVENTS

SEPT 5: 3rd Annual Cellar Hole Hike • 10:00 AM & 1:00 PM
with Brenda and Preston Conklin
 Meet at the parking lot pull-off at the junction of Rt 49 and Upper Mad River Road.

SEPT 5: Fourth Annual “Getting to Know the Valley”

Town Square • 1:00 – 3:00 PM

Meet and greet members of the many organizations and businesses in and around Waterville Valley.

AUGUST’S HISTORY QUESTION & ANSWER

Within the Town’s collection is a branding iron that was the property of an early homeowner in the Valley. Who did it belong to, and what was it used for?

The branding iron was the property of Harry C. Fabyan. He used it to brand his property. Our collection has many pieces that have the Fabyan brand.

THIS MONTH’S HISTORY QUESTION

From 1912–1932 what three men known as Waterville trail builders unified the White Mountain trail system?

“By all these lovely tokens September days are here,
 With summer’s best of weather
 And autumn’s best of cheer.”
 — Helen Hunt Jackson

SUBSCRIBE to the WAG
and SAVE!

RATES (12 Wag Issues Annually)

Full-color PDF in Your InBox.....\$20
 B&W Hard Copy in Your Mailbox.....\$30

PAYMENT OPTIONS

ONLINE

- **PayPal** – Send to info@wwwigwag.com
(Remember the ‘wv’ in wvwigwag.)
- **Venmo** – Send money to @ Michael-Furgal
- **Credit Card**
PDF: <https://tinyurl.com/y96v9b8m>
Hard Copy: <https://tinyurl.com/y8u3bbwy>

USPS

- **MAIL** – Send check, payable to *Wig Wag*:
 Wig Wag
 PO Box 383
 Waterville Valley, NH 03215

*The Wig Wag is available in the valley at
 select locations in Town Square for \$3/issue*

www.wwwigwag.com



Reggie Breckner, WVHS President

A VERY BUSY SEPTEMBER

September was another busy month for the Society. September 5 was a crazy, busy day with three separate events.

Trolley Tour

The day started off with the Sunday morning Trolley Tour. Our guides, along with our ever faithful driver, traveled the Valley floor, regaling locals and visitors alike with information about the early years in our town. They shared the names of the mountains that surround our Valley and talked about the origins of those names. They also pointed out some of the Valley’s earliest residences and the sites of others that are no longer there, showed off our ruin, and talked about the monument dedicated to the one armed man. As if that wasn’t enough, they brought history to life sharing old photos from our glass slide collection, including one featuring the old bowling saloon.

Annual Cellar Hole Hike

Meanwhile, across town, our historians Brenda and Preston, guided hikers on the third edition of our ever-popular Annual Cellar Hole Hike. The hike includes stops at the old Waterville cemetery, and cellar holes of some of the Valley’s earliest settlers. Our Valley has a very interesting history, and we are doing our best to share it with anyone who will listen.

Fourth Annual Getting to Know the Valley

Later that day we hosted our Fourth Annual “Getting to Know the Valley”, where several of our Town’s organizations and businesses were given the opportunity to make people aware of their presence in the Valley -- who they are, and what they do.

OCTOBER HOUSEKEEPING

October will be a month of housekeeping for the Society. We have a newsletter to put together, a new exhibit to create for our “Little Museum at the End of the Road”, data entry and preservation work, oral histories to record, new programs to develop and lots more. If you have any interest in getting involved in any way, please contact us. No weekly or monthly commitment is required, whatever time you can spare is gratefully accepted. Contact us at wvhistorybuffs@gmail.com.

SEPTEMBER’S HISTORY QUESTION & ANSWER

From 1912 to 1932 what three men known as Waterville trail builders unified the White Mountain trail system?

1912-1932 Paul R. Jenks, Charles W. Blood, and Nathaniel Goodrich (Waterville trail builders) unify the White Mountains trail system.

“It was in Waterville around the turn of the century that a young trio of ardent mountaineers first tasted the attractions

of trailwork: Paul R. Jenks, Charles W. Blood, and Nathaniel Goodrich (A.L.’s son). Remember those names: in future years Jenks, Blood, and Goodrich became the most active and skilled triumvirate of trailmen in the entire Northeast.”

SOURCE: Waterman, Guy; Waterman, Laura. “Forest and Crag” Green Mountain Club, Inc.. Kindle Edition

THIS MONTH’S HISTORY QUESTION

Do you recognize this building? Do you know when it was built, or the year and what act of nature caused its demise?



SUBSCRIBE to the WAG and SAVE!

RATES (12 Wag Issues Annually)

- Full-color PDF in Your InBox.....\$20
- B&W Hard Copy in Your Mailbox.....\$30

PAYMENT OPTIONS

ONLINE

- **PayPal** – Send to info@wwwigwag.com
(Remember the ‘wv’ in wvwigwag.)
- **Venmo** – Send money to @ Michael-Furgal
- **Credit Card**
PDF: <https://tinyurl.com/y96v9b8m>
Hard Copy: <https://tinyurl.com/y8u3bbwy>

USPS

- **MAIL** – Send check, payable to *WigWag*.
WigWag
PO Box 383
Waterville Valley, NH 03215

The WigWag is available in the valley at select locations in Town Square for \$3/issue

www.wvwigwag.com



Reggie Breckner, *WVHS President*

Can you believe it's November already? October just flew by.

Trolley Tour

On October 6, we did a Trolley Tour for the 2nd, 3rd, 4th, and 5th graders of WVES. Driver Al, and Guides Jim and Reggie were delighted to share the Valley's history with our 23 young historians. We had fun at the Stone Tower where the children were challenged to decipher the coded name of the Tower. Can you do it? We ended the Tour with a stop at our "Little Museum at the End of the Road", where we had more than one comment about the "creepy dolls" (actually antique dolls, featured in our last exhibit).

Our last Trolley Tour of the year was held October 10, and Tour Guides Tina and Reva shared our history with 20 guests. The Trolley is now in hibernation until spring. Look for the start of our Tours sometime next June, when we will once again share with you a little bit of Waterville Valley's history.

New Exhibit

Check out the new Exhibit at our "Little Museum". Most of the exhibit's pieces are on loan from Jerauld and Sara Adams. The Adams family own the home on the hill that was built by H.C. Fabyan. Judge Fabyan left behind a plethora of memorabilia. The Society's collection has several pieces from Judge Fabyan that were donated by the Lorenz family (the second owners of the Fabyan cottage) and have been featured in previous exhibits.

Digital Newsletter

Our quarterly newsletter has gone out, so check your inbox. Also you can visit watervillevalleyhistory.org for Society news. We are looking for volunteers for our Programs Committee to plan and develop new programs. Reach out to us at wvhistorybuffs@gmail.com.

OCTOBER'S HISTORY QUESTION & ANSWER

Do you recognize this building? Do you know when it was built, or the year and what act of nature caused its demise?

This was the two-lane bowling alley building known as the Bowling Saloon. It was built in 1860 and collapsed under a snowfall in 1903.



THIS MONTH'S HISTORY QUESTION

Who built the first Inn in Waterville Valley, where was it located, how long did it stand, and what caused its demise?

Thanksgiving Fun Facts

Q: Is turkey the real cause of feeling sleepy after a Thanksgiving Day meal?

A: Turkey does contain Tryptophan which could make us feel sleepy; however, sleepiness is likely caused by the over-consumption of alcohol and food, especially desserts.

Q: Is Thanksgiving the biggest drinking night of the year?

A: Yes, more alcohol is consumed on Thanksgiving than any other holiday of the year. So be careful on the roadways if you're traveling Thursday evening.

Q: Did the pilgrims officially declare Thanksgiving as a public holiday?

A: No, Abraham Lincoln declared Thanksgiving a public holiday in 1863.

Q: Why did the Pilgrims first celebrate Thanksgiving?

A: The feast they celebrated in 1621 in Plymouth was the result of a good harvest.

Approximately 46 million turkeys are eaten on Thanksgiving every year!

Historians believe the Pilgrims served wild game and vegetables, instead of turkey, at the first Thanksgiving.

The Macy's Thanksgiving Day parade began in 1924 with only 400 employees.

Pilgrim means foreigner or traveler from afar!

The state of California consumes the most turkey!

SUBSCRIBE to the WAG and SAVE!

RATES (12 Wag Issues Annually)

Full-color PDF in Your InBox.....\$20

B&W Hard Copy in Your Mailbox.....\$30

PAYMENT OPTIONS

ONLINE

- **PayPal** – Send to info@wwwigwag.com (Remember the 'wv' in wwwigwag.com.)
- **Venmo** – Send money to @ Michael-Furgal
- **Credit Card**

PDF: <https://tinyurl.com/y96v9b8m>

Hard Copy: <https://tinyurl.com/y8u3bbwy>

USPS

- **MAIL** – Send check, payable to *WigWag*:
WigWag
 PO Box 383
 Waterville Valley, NH 03215

The WigWag is available in the valley at select locations in Town Square for \$3/issue

www.wwwigwag.com



Reggie Breeckner, WVHS President

My goodness, where did November go? The shorter days with less daylight seem to lessen my productive hours; too many tasks with not enough hours to complete them.

PSU Intern

The Society is getting some much-needed help by way of our new intern from PSU. Sydney began work with us in November. She is presently working on our "Little Museum's" next exhibit, which will be ready for viewing at the end of January. Sydney will also be working with our Oral History crew, documenting for posterity some of the many stories of our Valley's "old timers".

New Brochure

Our new brochures (hot off the presses) are available at the Welcome Center and the Post Office. Please stop by and pick one up... the old photos are wonderful. If you are looking for Holiday gift ideas, we have WVHS notecards, artwork by local artist Deb Hurley, and WVHS hats with our famed Tower logo. They are available at Dreams and Visions. You can also contact us at wvhistorybuffs@gmail.com, and we will arrange for pick up.

NOVEMBER'S HISTORY QUESTION

Who built the first Inn in Waterville Valley, where was it located, how long did it stand, and what caused its demise?

The first Inn in Waterville Valley (the Town was then called Waterville) was built in 1860 by Nathaniel Greeley and his two sons Merrill and Henry. We usually refer to that "Inn" as the Waterville Hotel, but back in the day it was known as "Greeley's Hotel". It was located in the woods near the tee for the 8th hole of the Golf Course. The hotel only stood for a year; it burned down in June of 1861, just prior to opening for its second summer season. A new, smaller, hotel was built in 1868 by Nathaniel and his son Merrill; it was known as "Greeley's Mountain House." The building was attached to the Greeley family home and was located where the tall flag poles presently stand near the tennis courts.



THIS MONTH'S HISTORY QUESTIONS

Who was Arnold Drake? When did he come to the Valley? What did he build in 1861, and rebuild when it burned in 1895? What body of water is named for him?

WVES STUDENT ORGANIZES FUNDRAISER

Mike Furgal

Murphy Jane (MJ) Knight, a 7th grader at the Waterville Valley Elementary School, had a great idea for a community event: a presentation of a popular ski movie, just in time for ski season. What ensued was a graduate-level education in event organization. With some guidance, she contacted Faction Skis to see if she could show their movie, *Roots*. They agreed, provided it was for a fundraising event. Next, she contacted the Waterville Valley Resort to see if they would be willing to help host the movie at. MJ was put in touch with Jamie Cobbett, who coordinates events, and decided that the Freestyle Lounge would be the best place for the showing. Next up, she contacted Darrell Fernandes, the president of the Waterville Valley Foundation, to see if she could borrow the projector and the screen used for the Foundation's Movies on the Mountain series.

With all this in place she was almost ready, but she needed to make it a fundraiser. Here is how it came to be, in MJ's own words:

Tell us about your interested in skiing

I started skiing when I was three years old. My family rented for a season at Sugarbush and that's where I first learned to ski. After that, we rented at Loon for two winters, and my brother and I raced for the Prospect Hill ski team out of Blue Hills in our hometown of Milton. My brother decided he wanted to do Freestyle, so we joined BBTS, where I started as a Mitey Mite. After one year of Mitey Mites, I joined the BBTS Freestyle Team which is where I still ski. I will be going to Waterville Valley Academy this winter for a winter term, and this will be my first year on the "A" Mogul team. I'll also compete in slopestyle and rail jam events. I like both a lot!

How did you hear about Faction skis?

When I started freestyle, I really loved watching Kelly Sildaru in the X Games. She had some really amazing runs, and she skied on Faction skis.

How did you hear about the movie?

They posted something on Instagram about letting people use their movie for a fundraiser and I thought that was pretty cool.

How did you come up with the idea to make a fundraiser by showing the movie?

I was excited about the middle school trip and wanted to figure out some way to raise money for the trip. When I saw that post on Instagram, I thought it would be a great way to raise money.

How many people came out to see the movie?

Not really sure, but it was a lot! It was a good turnout. We raised \$820! [EDITOR'S NOTE I counted about 80 people.]

Are you planning to do something like this again? Did you enjoy planning the event?

Yes, I enjoyed planning the event. It was fun setting up and organizing it and seeing people enjoy themselves when they watched the movie. I'd love to do this every year!

Kudos to Murphy Jane for organizing this. The *Wag* wishes her good luck at WVA and in skiing this season. We're looking forward to the next event she organizes!



Reggie Breeckner, WVHS President

January is the beginning of a New Year; with hope for a year of good health, that leaves behind the need for masks and all things relating to Covid. May our days be merry and bright, and for the next few months provide our mountain with snow.

“Oral Histories of the Valley” Begin

December 19 marked the date for the first official interview for our “Oral Histories of the Valley” project. The project is in the very able hands of member Harvey Gertel. Harvey is working with students and their teacher from Plymouth Regional High School’s Technology Integration and Media Arts Department, along with Sydney, our intern from PSU’s Communication and Media Program. They bring with them a wealth of experience and expertise.

The first interview was conducted in the high school’s sound studio. Our first interviewee, Bruce “Bear” Andrew, was very active in the Valley for many years and shared with us recollections about the town’s more recent history. I personally can’t wait to hear stories like the one about the “Yacht Club” that existed before we even had a pond. The “Little Town at the End of the Road” has always attracted its share of quirky individuals, I think this is still true today. It takes a different kind of person to move to a town with an 11-mile driveway. Our townspeople, both past and present, come from many walks of life and bring with them their unique perspectives. The one common thread found in all of us is a love of this Valley, and an appreciation for its incredible beauty. We all share the desire to protect it. The more you know about the Valley’s history, the more you come to see the similarities between the town’s past residents and those who currently reside in our Valley. We look forward to sharing our history with you through our historical videos.

New Exhibit in Progress

Look for the UNDER CONSTRUCTION sign in our “Little Museum at the End of the Road” at the end of January, and the unveiling of the new exhibit courtesy of intern Sydney and members Jane and Cyndy.

DECEMBER’S HISTORY QUESTION

Who was Arnold Drake? When did he come to the Valley? What did he build in 1861, and rebuild when it burned in 1895? What body of water is named for him?

Arnold Drake came to Waterville in 1840 and had a house and an orchard not far uphill from the current Waterville Valley welcome sign. He and his four sons stayed in Waterville. Drake built a sawmill in 1861, and rebuilt it when it burned

in 1895. It operated until 1919. He was a Selectman for 10 years; his son James served for 21 years, and son Seth for 12 years. From 1890 to 1892, all three Selectmen were Drakes: father Arnold, and sons James and Seth. Drake’s Brook is named for Arnold Drake. (Information courtesy of our own historian Preston Conklin)

THIS MONTH’S HISTORY QUESTIONS

Who was Samuel Dolloff? When and where did he establish his farm? How many years did he serve as Waterville’s Selectman? How many children did he have? What war did four of his sons fight in?

SUMMERFALL WINTERSPRING*

Raymond W. Kucharski

As a life-long New Englander, I like the changing of the seasons. I like the first warm day in spring when I can take my jacket off. I like the first cool day in fall when I can put my jacket on. I like the yellow flowers of spring, the green grass of summer, and the first white snow that covers the brown November ground.

I like the winter when I can put on my wool coat and mittens and enjoy the freshly fallen snow. I spent several snowless winters away from New England. My first snowless year was in the Navy when I was stationed at Pearl Harbor, Hawaii, for two winters. The weather was beautiful year-round, with tropical trade winds and temperatures in the low eighties. Santa arriving on a surfboard and Thanksgiving and Christmas in an Aloha shirt just didn’t seem right.

I spent another winter working on the re-design of the Bathyscaphe Trieste II, at Mare Island Naval Shipyard in Vallejo, California. When I arrived, the hills were the usual California brown. When the rainy season began in the October, the hills began turning GREEN — going in the wrong direction, I thought.

To fill my time in the snowless Bay Area, I established a stable of racing turtles. I fed my thoroughbreds a special racing diet and gave my racing turtles daily work outs. I raced my turtles at Zack’s-by-the-Bay Restaurant and Bar in Sausalito. Zack’s hosted Turtle Races every Wednesday, and always drew a big crowd on race day. The racetrack had two concentric circles: a red inner starting gate and an outer finishing line. The turtles were placed in the red starting circle, the whistle blew, and the turtles would race to the finish line with the crowd loudly cheered them on. I don’t remember winning — but I do remember having fun during another snowless winter.

**Howdy Doody fans will understand this reference*

—Excerpt from
Chronicling My Life
© 2020-209



Reggie Breeckner, *WVHS President*

Progress Through Partnerships

Over the years I have found that you do not have to be an expert in all fields; rather, surround yourself with experts and draw from their knowledge. The Society is taking this lesson to heart by reaching out to the community and forming partnerships. To date, we are working with students and faculty from Plymouth Regional High School and Plymouth State University. The new relationships are mutually beneficial; the Society is able to learn from the experience and expertise of the students, and we, in return, give students the opportunity to apply their skills to real life projects. We are very pleased to be working with our new partners.

Keene State Intern to Assist with Archive Organization

In December, I was contacted by Rick Kipphut. Rick is a student in Keene State College’s American History and Archives Graduate Certificate Program. Rick currently works at Plymouth State University in the technical services department of Lamson Library. He holds an MBA from Quinnipiac University and a Masters in Historic Preservation from Plymouth State University. During the spring semester, he will be participating in an internship under the supervision of Keene’s archivist Rodney Obien. The internship will take place at the Waterville Valley Historical Society. Rick’s internship will focus on accessing, arranging, describing, and preserving our collection, using current archival theory, methods, and technical expertise. Board member Beth Goldsmith has been working with Rick on site and “Anne the Archivist” has provided her guidance remotely. We are very fortunate to have Rick working with us.

PSU Intern Creates Latest Exhibit and Soon to Start Oral Histories Project

Look for our new Exhibit in the display window to the right of the Post office. The Exhibit was created by our PSU intern, Sydney Letters. Sydney will also be working on the oral histories project.

JANUARY’S HISTORY QUESTION

Who was Samuel Dolloff? When and where did he establish his farm? How many years did he serve as Waterville’s Selectman? How many children did he have? What war did four of his sons fight in?

In the late 1850s, Samuel Dolloff established a farm near Waterville’s southern boundary with Thornton. He served 22 years as Selectman. Town voting was held in his home during the years around 1880. Samuel and his wife had six children, four sons fought in the Civil War and all returned home. One son built a home close to Samuel after the war, and stayed in Waterville until the late 1890s.

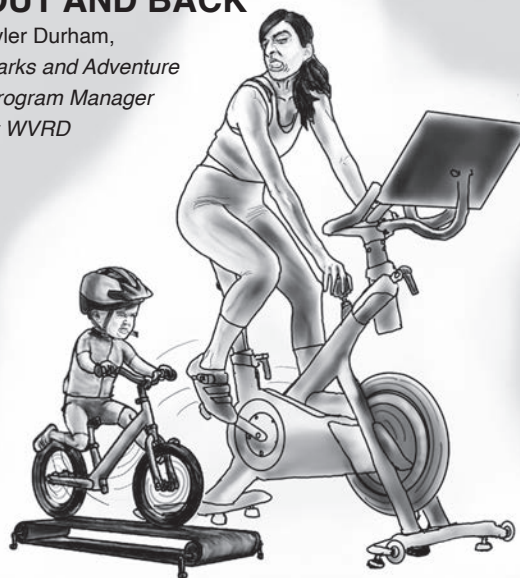
THIS MONTH’S HISTORY QUESTION

What was the value of one hundred acres of uncleared forest land in 1835? What were the taxes on this parcel of land? How much did this land sell for in 1818?

Please consider joining the Society. If you are already a member, think about getting involved in some of the projects we are working on. All are welcome. You can contact us at: wvhistorybuffs@gmail.com.

OUT AND BACK

Tyler Durham,
*Parks and Adventure
Program Manager
at WVRD*



T DURHAM



SCHWARTZBERG LAW
EXPERIENCE THAT MATTERS



*Advising
Clients About
Wills & Trusts
Since 1985*

*Plan for your
future today.*

Ora Schwartzberg, Esq.

**572 Tenney Mountain Hwy
Plymouth, NH 03264
603.536.2700**

www.NHLawyer.net



Reggie Breeckner, WVHS President

It's hard to believe that spring is just around the corner. Where does the time go? Winter is usually the Society's slow time, but not so this year:

Intern Making Progress Organizing Archives

Intern Rick Kipphut, from Keene State College, has been hard at work archiving artifacts and documents. Once everything has been entered into our specialized software, it will be much easier to access information on anything in the collection. In March, Rick will be participating in a workshop offered by the New Hampshire Historical Society on behalf of WVHS; this workshop will focus on creating catalog records for different types of objects.

First Interview of Oral History Project Completed

Member Harvey Gertel, working with Plymouth Regional High School faculty and students, has completed the first interview for our "Oral Histories of the Valley" project. The interview was conducted in the school's sound studio. The interviewee was Bruce "Bear" Andrew. Topics of the interview include early days of skiing at Snow's Mountain, the development of the Ski Resort, the Yacht Club, Waterville's first fire department and much more. Stay tuned for the first viewing of the interview.

First Interview of Oral History Project Completed

Sydney Letters, our intern from PSU, did a wonderful job with the Winter Exhibit in our "Little Museum at the End of the Road." She is eager to begin work on our oral histories project. Historians Brenda and Preston Conklin, hope to conduct two interviews, and Sydney and "crew" will be using equipment purchased with a grant from the New Hampshire Electric Co-op to film and edit the interviews.

Now Available

Society Hats and Notecards are now available for sale at Dreams and Visions. The hats and cards feature Waterville's Stone Tower, with artwork by local artist Deb Hurley.

FEBRUARY'S HISTORY QUESTION

What was the value of one hundred acres of uncleared forest land in 1835? What were the taxes on this parcel of land? How much did this land sell for in 1818?

In 1835 one hundred acres of uncleared forest land, which the State had sold for \$5 in 1818, was valued at \$40-\$50, and average taxes that year were 47¢. Nearly half of the tax assessment was for the road, and an additional 27% was for education. Settlers in the valley were 4-5 miles north of the first families, so there were two school districts. One district had eighteen students and a school building, the other had six students being taught in a private home.

— Source: Waterville 1835 Nonresident Tax List, Grace Bean's town history.

THIS MONTH'S HISTORY QUESTION

Who gave the toast "May the Town of Waterville always remain at the end of the road?" Where was this toast given, and on what occasion?

Please consider joining the Society. If you are already a member, think about getting involved in some of the projects we are working on. All are welcome. You can contact us at: whistorybuffs@gmail.com.





SCHWARTZBERG LAW
EXPERIENCE THAT MATTERS



*Advising
Clients About
Wills & Trusts
Since 1985*

*Plan for your
future today.*

Ora Schwartzberg, Esq.

**572 Tenney Mountain Hwy
Plymouth, NH 03264
603.536.2700**

www.NHLawyer.net



As I write, I am looking out the window of my daughter’s home in sunny Puerto Rico, where they enjoy perpetual summer, accented with a series of short daily rain showers. Not so in our own little Valley. When I return in April, I expect the snow, if any, will be melting, the streams will be running full force, lots of green stuff will be poking through the ground, and those darned black flies will be getting ready to emerge from wherever it is they emerge from [EDITOR’S NOTE: Ooo! Ooo! I know this one! Black flies breed in clear streams, especially the outlets of ponds and lakes, which we have in abundance here in Waterville Valley. Sorry.]. That said, I really do enjoy the four seasons.

Oral Histories Continue:

The Society is continuing work on our “Oral Histories of the Valley” project. Our second video (thanks to the library trustees) was filmed at the historic Osceola Library, with interviewees Todd and Cynthia Baldwin. The Baldwins shared information about the early days of the resort, the inns that sprung up after the Waterville Inn burned to the ground in 1967, and life in the Valley beginning in the mid 1960s. They both spoke fondly of their days here in the Valley. No interview of this time period would be complete without mention of the infamous Yacht Club. Another little-known fact was revealed during the interview: Waterville Valley, although landlocked, had a lighthouse. What has become of the lighthouse and how many ships have been scuttled since its absence? The Historical Society will dig deep to uncover and share yet another piece of Waterville Valley’s hidden history with you.

On the Horizon:

The first week in April will find our “Little Museum” under construction. Look for our **Spring Exhibit** soon after.

We are planning another **Blood Drive**; date and place to be announced.

Trolley Tours will begin soon after the Trolley comes out of hibernation. If you would like to become a Guide, we have a shirt and hat in your size.

Our “**Oral Histories**” project will continue as long as there is history to explore and stories to be told. If you would like to work with the “crew” please let us know.

At Town Meeting I talked briefly about a **Waterville Valley Museum**; please reach out to us with your thoughts. This “Dream Museum”, if built, would be by the people and for the people; in other words, there will be no Museum without your support and input. Contact us at wvhistorybuffs@gmail.com.

MARCH’S HISTORY QUESTION

Who gave the toast “May the Town of Waterville always remain at the end of the road.” Where was the toast given, and on what occasion?

Judge Harry Fabyan, an early resident of Waterville gave the toast at the 100th birthday celebration of the town at the Waterville Inn in 1929. (The answer was taken from, The Town at The End Of The Road: A History Of Waterville Valley, by Grace H. Bean).

THIS MONTH’S HISTORY QUESTION

What important event in the history of cross country skiing happened in Waterville Valley from January 27 to February 2, 1979?

Please consider joining the Society. If you are already a member, think about getting involved in some of the projects we are working on. All are welcome. You can contact us at: wvhistorybuffs@gmail.com.

“Spring shows what God can do with a drab and dirty world.”
- Virgil A. Kraft.

SUBSCRIBE and SAVE!

RATES (12 Wag Issues Annually)
 Full-color PDF in Your InBox.....\$20
 B&W Hard Copy in Your Mailbox.....\$30

PAYMENT OPTIONS

ONLINE

- **PayPal** – Send to info@wvwigwag.com (Remember the ‘wv’ in wvwigwag.)
- **Venmo** – Send money to @ Michael-Furgal
- **Credit Card**
 PDF: <https://tinyurl.com/y96v9b8m>
 Hard Copy: <https://tinyurl.com/y8u3bbwy>

USPS

- **MAIL** – Send check, payable to *WigWag*:
 WigWag
 PO Box 383
 Waterville Valley, NH 03215

The WigWag is available in the Valley at select locations in Town Square for \$3/issue

www.wvwigwag.com



As the saying goes “time marches on” for me: time seems to be racing by, with me running behind, a reminder that: “time waits for no one”. Oh well...

Spring Exhibit

Our new Exhibit is complete. Many thanks to our Plymouth State University intern Sydney Letters for designing and building the exhibit, and to Nat Scrimshaw for the loan of “Curious George” memorabilia from his personal collection. The exhibit features several items from our collection, reminding us of the wonderful opportunities our Valley affords us for outdoor activities this time of year. You can also learn about Margaret and H.A. Rey, the creators of Curious George. The Reys were summer residents of Waterville, where they did much of their writing. Their “cottage” is now home to the Rey Center. Our “Little Museum” is located in the display window to the right of the Post Office. Stop by and take a look.

Oral History Update

In December the Society asked Northway Bank to be a sponsor of our “Oral Histories of the Valley” project. I am happy to report that we received a check for \$200, which will be used towards the purchase of a projector. Thank you, Northway.

Lighthouse Update

Last month I mentioned the Waterville Valley Yacht Club and the infamous lighthouse. Thanks to Bruce “Bear” Andrew, we have a photo of the Waterville Valley Lighthouse. It was taken at the dedication of Corcoran Pond. Can you identify the sailors?



Trolley Tours

The trolley is coming out of hibernation and our Historical Trolley Tours will commence on Sunday, May 29 at 10:00 AM and 2:00 PM. Tours run every Sunday and take about an hour. The tours are free with no reservations required.

Requests

We are in need of a few individuals who would like to act as guides on our Trolley Tours. The commitment is small, and we will train you. Tours run every Sunday, late Spring through early Fall. If you would like to learn more please contact: Jim Dunn: wvhistorybuffsmembership@gmail.com.

We have a collection of the *WigWag* in our archives. There is a gap in editions from 1970–1999. If you have any copies from this time period and are willing to donate them, please contact us at: wvhistorybuffs@gmail.com.

APRIL’S HISTORY QUESTION

What important event in the history of cross-country skiing happened in Waterville Valley from January 27 to February 2, 1979?

The United States National Cross-Country Championships took place at Waterville from January 27 to February 2, 1979. Starting in August and working with the Forest Service, the Waterville cross-country crew made a special effort to plan and cut new trails for this race. (The answer was taken from The Town at the End of the Road: A History of Waterville Valley, by Grace Bean)

THIS MONTH’S HISTORY QUESTION

Where did the name Waterville come from in 1829, and what was the area known as before that?

Please consider joining the Society. If you are already a member, think about getting involved in some of the projects we are working on. All are welcome. You can contact us at: wvhistorybuffs@gmail.com.

THE END OF NELSON PATH

Unfortunately, we mean “end” in every sense of the term. Nelson Path, the short section of trail that ran through the woods between Town Square and Boulder Path Road, has succumbed to the development of a new phase of the Green Peak Townhouses. Time marches on, and we welcome new neighbors, but that doesn’t stop us from being a little wistful.