

# NEWBURY HISTORICAL SOCIETY



## Newsletter Volume 6, No. 1 Winter, 2009

### "As I Recall..."

#### Recollections of people, places and events from Newbury's past

One of the Society's major accomplishments in 2008 was the completion of a pictorial history of Newbury to be published by Arcadia Publishing in 2009 as part of their *Images of America* series. The book, which will be titled *Newbury*, will cover the town's history from the time of incorporation (1778) through the Bicentennial (1978). Through text and more than 200 images, it will tell the story of Newbury from its earliest days of settlement, the establishment of early farms and community buildings, the attraction of Lake Sunapee and Mount Sunapee, the wonderful era of railroads and steamboats, the settlement of Blodgett's Landing, the impact of the automobile, the development of town government and businesses, and the Bicentennial celebration. The Society extends thanks to all those who contributed pictures from their collections and to the committee who spent many hours identifying, discussing, and selecting the finest images for inclusion in the book. Committee members were Shelly Candidus, who wrote the text, Bill Weiler, who provided pictures and documentation from our archives and who scanned all the photographs, and Judy and Wayne LaPorte, Donna Long, Dennis Pavlicek, and Gay and Martin Sheary, who contributed valuable advice and input. The book will be ready for sale by early summer, 2009.

A decision was also made in 2008 to extend the Society's reach into the community to gather memories of past events and to chronicle how life in Newbury was lived "back in the day." To this end, we plan a number of open forums which will bring the townspeople together to share their reminiscences about such topics as old school days, natural disasters, life on the farm, summers at Blodgett's Landing, etc. Plans for structuring the meetings, guest moderators, and other details are being worked out, and the first session is tentatively scheduled for early spring, 2009. Watch for notices publicizing this event, and meantime – tap into your memories!



Blodgett/Romaine House



Surrey with the fringe on top

Please e-mail [info@newburyhistorical.org](mailto:info@newburyhistorical.org) if you can identify any individuals pictured.

### President's Message

First, I want to thank the Board, NHS members and committee members for their enthusiasm and support in the many projects completed and those still in progress. As you read the enclosed articles, you gain a perspective on the successful dedication and work accomplished by those involved, i.e., Picture History of Newbury, Historic House Markers, Website and the Collection/Cataloging Project.

As your President, I envision a larger membership whereby the Society can bring to you more programs/projects involving our historic Newbury. A larger more active membership will enhance our mission, with expanded involvement of those who want to share to expand our vision in the community. As part of this goal, read the enclosed news article about "Remembering When" Sessions which is being developed to provide programs for resident to enjoy.

We invite all members and friends to attend our meetings and become involved with our projects and we welcome your new ideas and suggestions.

On behalf of the entire Board of Directors, we wish you all a Happy, Healthy New Year.

Bob Morris, President 763-5859  
[bdmorris5868@verizon.net](mailto:bdmorris5868@verizon.net)

## Historic House Markers Hang on Twenty One Buildings

Your Society has successfully completed the first phase of identifying and presenting historic date markers on twenty one historic properties in Newbury. Nineteen residents whose homes date from c. 1790 to 1899 have received these dated signs.

Property owners researched and authenticated the dates of their properties when they submitted their application to the Society. Two town owned properties, Old Town Hall, c. 1778 in South Newbury and the Train Station, c. 1871, located in Newbury Harbor also have dated markers in place. Other properties are expected to follow shortly.

Committee members who worked on this project are Rich Cole, Judy Healey and Diana Morris, Chair. This is an on-going project and will continue with new Chairs Gay and Marty Sheary. Residents may contact them for further information and an application by calling 763-4746 or e-mailing sheary@msn.com.

Special thank you to Rich Cole for crafting and finishing all the signs.



Diana Morris presents Historic House Marker to Elizabeth Folsom

## Thank You to our Business Members!

Please join us in expressing your appreciation to our Business Members:

**New Hampshire Historical Society**  
**Head Gopher LLC (Chris & Gary Daniels)**

## New Website Up and Running

The Newbury Historical Society's Board, at the meeting held on May 1, 2008, formed a committee to implement a website. Members of the committee included Bill and Margie Weiler, Rich Cole, Bob Morris and committee chair, Bruce Healey. The committee met many times over the next 5 months relative to the site's objectives, look and feel, content, and functionality. The committee was also professionally assisted on a pro bono basis by Symbolic, Inc., a company specializing in web strategy, design and technology. Symbolic translated the Committees ideas and design criteria using web graphics and visuals.

The NHS site was launched on the Web on October 15. The site's address is [www.newburyhistorical.org](http://www.newburyhistorical.org) and the initial content includes the following essentials:

**Home** - a page that states the Society's mission and a center page picture of historical interest. The home page center picture will change every 6 months

**About Us** - Information about Sherman Hall, how to contact the Society and a list of the Society's Board members and Committees

**News & Announcements** - a list of Board Meeting dates, recent Board Minutes and Newsletters

**Support the Society** - Information on becoming a member, a volunteer or giving a donation

### Sponsors, Items for Sale and Links

The committee is currently working to add content to the site and to document the History of the Newbury Canes and the recent House Marker project and initial participants.

Submitted for the Website Committee  
Bruce Healey

## Center Meeting House to Sponsor Tour of Historic Homes

The Stone Barn on Route 103 A will be the site of a Preview Gala on August 14<sup>th</sup> to be followed by a tour of eight homes of historic significance on Saturday, August 15<sup>th</sup>. Anyone interested in the history of Newbury will not want to miss this once in a lifetime opportunity. The tour will include a variety of farms, cottages and homes in the town.

### **Sherman Hall Collection Rehousing and Cataloging Project**

With the help of the voters at the March Town Meeting, who approved our request for funds, and with additional funds from an anonymous donor, we have completed the first phase of our long-term project to improve how our collection is stored and to gain better access by generating a computer catalog of our holdings. This May and June a group of archivists from Museum and Collector Resource worked in Sherman Hall, reorganizing and rehousing the materials and generating an inventory. We were fortunate to be able to purchase almost all of the needed supplies with unexpended funds from the Moose Plate grant to conserve Book C. The supplies we purchased include shelves as well as boxes and many other items.

The inventory listed over 350 major accessions, most of which consisted of groups of items, including the old Town books and other Town-owned material. Some of the inventory sheets were summaries rather than detailed listings of all items. The majority of this inventory information has been entered into our PastPerfect computer catalog along with search terms which allow us to locate items in many categories. Much more work needs to be done, to complete the entry of every item in full detail as well as generating new accessions for other items in our collection such as Ernest Sherman's genealogical and property summaries.

#### **Partners Around Lake Sunapee (PALS)**

Your Society will again join with other kindred organizations around the Lake to offer another year of programs, exhibits and events of historical interest based on the theme *Then and Now: Around Lake Sunapee*. The New London, Newbury and Sunapee Historical Societies, along with The Barn Playhouse, The Fells and The Lake Sunapee Protective Association have drafted an exciting calendar of events - watch for it in March.

The Newbury Historical Society is delighted to sponsor Tracy Messer in a newly revised and expanded edition of *Vanishing Newbury*. Tracy has added a considerable amount of material and will feature a "then and now" approach. Save Sunday, August 2 at 2:00 PM for this program.

### **Sherman Hall Vault Shown "Before" and "After"**



### **Newbury Cane Presented to William Henry (Bill) Schroeder**

Bill Schroeder, the town's oldest resident at age 95, received the Newbury Cane at a well attended reception held in his honor in October. Bill and his wife Marilyn have lived in Newbury since 1982. The Schroeders have two children, William, also of Newbury and Marilyn who resides in Naples, FL.





**Newbury Historical Society**  
**P. O. Box 176**  
**Newbury, NH 03255**

#### **NHS Board of Directors**

Term expires June, 2009:

Deane Geddes, Margie Weiler & William Weiler

Term expires June, 2010:

Alice Lynn, Robert Morris & Mary Thayer

Term expires June, 2011:

Shelly Candidus, Dennis Pavlicek & Barbara Steward

**E-mail: [info@newburyhistorical.org](mailto:info@newburyhistorical.org)**

**Website: [www.newburyhistorical.org](http://www.newburyhistorical.org)**

#### **Dates to Remember**

NHS Board Meets (public invited) at 7 pm:  
Jan. 8, Feb. 19, May 7 and June 18, 2009.

The Annual Meeting will be held July 19 at 2:00.

PALS program, *Vanishing Newbury*, presented by  
Tracy Messer will be Sunday, August 2 at 2:00 PM.

Preview Gala at the Stone Barn: August 14

Tour of Historic Homes: August 15

#### **Sherman Hall, South Newbury**

Sherman Hall, home to the NHS's collection, will be open to the public by appointment from May through October. For information check our website or contact Bill Weiler: 603-938-2892 or [w\\_weiler@conknet.com](mailto:w_weiler@conknet.com)



Center School, Newbury, NH c. 1929.  
Can you find Alice Lynn in this photo?  
Answer will appear in the next Newsletter.