
HENNIKER HISTORIAN

DECEMBER 2018 NUMBER 74

NEWSLETTER OF THE HENNIKER HISTORICAL SOCIETY AND MUSEUM

Officers 2018-19

President: Kristen MacLean

Vice President: Diane Carpenter

Treasurer: Ron Taylor

Secretary/Newsletter: Ellen Reed

FROM THE PRESIDENT

In December 1918, President Woodrow Wilson sailed to France to attend a peace conference that would set terms for the defeated central European powers following the end of World War I a month earlier. This was the first time a U.S. President had traveled abroad while in office. His ship may have crossed paths with American troops returning from the war. These men would have been eager to get back to their families and jobs, both of which had been managed by women during their absence.

It is no wonder that the momentum for women's rights grew after the war. The brief independence many women experienced had been taken away and the fact that they did not even have the right to vote must have been especially galling. The pro suffrage movement took to the streets, taking their children along with them if need be. One of these children was, a very young, Ruth Carlson.

Ruth (Carlson) Jarvis is the most recent recipient of the Boston Post Cane. I had the pleasure of interviewing her this fall. I found it amazing that after more than a century, she remembers marching with a female relative in a suffrage parade. This event not only influenced Ruth's future but also provides some insight on the personality of the women who nurtured her. No story is too small to tell.

The Governing Board is pleased to have Marc McMurphy as a new member. His experience with a non-profit organization, as director of White Birch Community Center, will be a great asset to our group. Welcome!

Thank you to all our members for the continued financial support during this 2018 Giving Campaign.

Happy Holidays!
Kristen MacLean

NEW BOARD MEMBER

We would like to welcome our newest board member, Marc McMurphy. Marc is currently the director of the White Birch Community Center, and we look forward to utilizing his knowledge and expertise on the Henniker Historical Society Board. If you think you might be interested in serving as a board member, please contact us. We are always looking for new members!

Newest Boston Post Cane Recipient



Henniker Historical Society board members, Diane Carpenter, Kristen MacLean and Martha Taylor are joined by Selectman Peter Flynn as they award Henniker's oldest citizen, **Ruth Carlson Jarvis**, the coveted Boston Post Cane. Ruth was born on May 25, 1917. Congratulations!



Acquisition Help Needed!

Do you love old things? Are you good at organizing stuff? Then do we have a job for you! People in the community frequently donate items to the Society to add to our collections. Our Acquisitions person is in dire need of help with recording information and organizing some of these fascination items. If you are interested, please contact us! It doesn't take up a lot of time and it's a wonderful way to learn more about the history of our town.

Just call or email Deb Dow at 491-6686 or dgdow2000@yahoo.com for more information

PastPerfect 5.0

After lots of research and hard work, we have finally chosen a new software program to help us organize our collection of artifacts and photos. PastPerfect is a program specifically designed to handle the needs of small historical societies and museums and with the conversion of the data we'd entered into our computer previously, we are now ready to begin the process of entering new items and digitizing our photographs. That will allow us to search for and view photos on the computer along with the pertinent information for each photo. We are very excited about this next step in our efforts to make researching Henniker history easier. In the future, we would like to photograph each artifact that comes in so that we may pair it with the data on each item, thus allowing easier access for researching the artifacts. Welcome to the 21st Century!

THANKS!

Thanks to all of you who have donated to our Giving Campaign so far. Your donations allow the Henniker Historical Society and Museum to remain a thriving organization and helps us to preserve Henniker history for future generations.

A special thanks to Andrea Parker for donating the proceeds of her lovely basket raffle to the Historical Society and Museum. Her generosity is much appreciated.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

The Historical Society is always in need of volunteers to help us in our mission to preserve Henniker history. No experience is needed! New board members are also needed. So, if you have some spare time you'd like to donate, please contact Deb Dow at 491-6686.

VISIT US ON THE WEB:

www.hennikerhistory.org

email: society@mettelecom.com

Facebook

VISIT US AT ACADEMY HALL

51 Maple St

Henniker, NH 03242

603-428-6267

BUSINESS MEETINGS

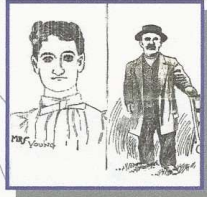
Monthly board meetings are held the 2nd Monday of each month at 6:30 pm in Academy Hall. Members and prospective members are invited to attend.

MEMBERSHIP

Your membership expiration is noted on your mailing label, if yours is about to expire please renew to continue to receive the newsletter and support us as we preserve Henniker history.

To renew, send \$5.00 per person (checks can be made out to Henniker Historical Society) along with your name and address to:

Henniker Historical Society
PO Box 674
Henniker, NH 03242



These two citizens were at the top of the news on July 16, 1900. What happened?

1902 in Henniker
Two young men were in town selling certificates for the Manchester Emergency Hospital that entitles the holder to medical advice and surgical treatment for 1 year for 1 dollar.

A Century in the Life of Henniker, New Hampshire

A Birdseye View of 1900-2000

❖ *A new history of Henniker* ❖

BOOK SIGNING

11am – 2pm, Saturday December 15, 2018
Grange Building at 21 Western Avenue

Authored by Martha Taylor and formatted by Bruce Elliott, this book was created by using newspaper articles from the archives of the Henniker Historical Society & Museum. There are more than 1,430 articles, 200 pages and 450 photos.

1961 in Henniker
The local telephone service was transferred from a hand-crank magneto system to a modern direct dial system. Mrs. Julia Davis, Chief Operator, has bid farewell to many last minute callers.

Congratulations to Martha Taylor on the publication of her new book! Martha has spent years combing through the Society's collections of newspaper articles and photos to put together this exciting history of Henniker in the last century. This is a great addition to the library of anyone with an interest in Henniker's history.

Snippets of Life in Henniker's Past

The following are items found in local papers concerning life in Henniker in bygone days.

The 1850 report of the District No. 6 Summer School Term by the Superintending School Committee was as follows: Hannah G. Clark, Instructress. Considerable proficiency was manifest among the larger scholars, particularly in reading and spelling. The teacher did not succeed so well with the smaller scholars. Discipline perhaps a little too mild for the best good of the School.

1869: Grind the Tools - A boy with a dull pocket knife is one who swings on the gate and avoids his duty; he is one who will be, in after life, a great dunce and a useless man; he will not add anything to the world of science, neither will he take anything from it; his existence will be nearly animal; his thoughts and ideas, if he has any, will be of no value. The boy with a sharp knife makes models of machinery, of boats or steamers, and in time he becomes a useful and valued member of society. *Published in the Deaf-Mutes' Friend magazine*

1882 – Now that a new year has begun, we can give to the young men no better advice in material things than that they keep a diary of events. Such practice helps to strengthen memory, tends to make one methodical, and, besides accustoming a person to the use of the pen, furnishes a life history for future reference. Those who kept such a record during the late war can testify to the value of the practice. Begin, persevere and you will never regret it.

1896 – The sidewalks are being utilized as a cycle track by a good many riders here and they have the supreme cheek to ride up behind pedestrians, ringing their bells furiously for people to get out of their way. It is time that this practice was suppressed.

1903 - We can offer any one who comes to Henniker the benefit of a Masonic Lodge, an Odd Fellows Lodge and Rebekahs, Knights of Pythias and Rathbone Sisters, Grange of Patrons of Husbandry, Golden Cross, American Mechanics and Daughters of Liberty, four churches, a High School, one of the finest libraries in the state, free mail delivery, first-class laundry, pure spring water supply, and excellent fishing, with hardpan under a rich soil, and an enterprising weekly newspaper.

1903 – I will be able to supply the people with groceries, Confectionery and a line of bakery goods for cash and cash only or its equivalent. I shall not drive my team around to take orders, but my team will be out from 2:30pm until 5pm for anyone who wishes to have their goods delivered.

1940 - Fifty or more years ago, wood was King in Henniker. Scattered over Henniker were dozens of wood chopper's camps and hundreds of Frenchmen were busily engaged chopping wood for the then Concord and Northern railroads. Locomotives then used wood for fuel and it was not an uncommon sight to see 350 cords of wood piled up at the depot for use of the transportation system. *Published in the Henniker Advertiser*



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ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

Cookie Sale and Book Signing



The Annual Cookie and Gift Sale will be held on Saturday, December 15th from 11:00 am to 2:00 pm at the Grange Hall on Western Avenue. This is a great opportunity to get some tasty cookies for those holiday parties and guests without the hassle of making them yourself! We are all so busy at this time of year, it's nice to have one chore checked off!

While you're at the cookie sale, we will also have a variety of gift items, such as the Cats Meow buildings, available for purchase, and you definitely won't want to miss the launch of Martha Taylor's newest book on Henniker history, *A Century in the Life of Henniker, NH*. Martha will be on hand to sign copies of the book, making this a unique gift item!