UPCOMING PROGRAMS

May 25th – Tom Dustin will present a program on THE SHEEP CRAZE IN CHESTERFIELD at 7 P.M. in Chesterfield Town Hall.

July 20th – MEMORIES OF SPOFFORD LAKE: a Silent Movie at 7 P.M. in Chesterfield Town Hall. Please join us for these two interesting programs.

CALENDAR PHOTO UPDATE

After our 2016 calendar was printed we found another copy of that photo with names on the back and information that helped date it. 

Cover Photo & Sept: On back of George H. Joslin’s copy of Austin O. Foster’s photo of “Lost Election Bet”- Horace Kilburn driving the band on Democrat’s getting president—(Grover Cleveland—1884-first Democrat elected president since Civil War). Dave Slade wheeled Fred Holman on wheelbarrow. Taken up by old Howe Place that burned. Nearly opposite Nearlake (Inn). The Howe Place burned by Carl Burnham(?) & Harry Pearson. Chimney Geo. Darling’s place (now Villa) & Elias?—Front row: Driver Horace Kilburn #1 Arthur Bowker, #2 Corrier(?) Hall, #3 Curtis Beals, #4 Henry LaPointe, #5 Lee Burt, #6 Elias Wheeler, #7 Louis Davenport, #8 Albert LaPointe. Back Row: #1, (?). #2 Perley York, #3 (?), #4 C.D. York, #5 Amos Hill, #6 J.W. York, H.D. Hopkins with flag. Wheelbarrow-Old Fred Holman, Spring St., D.W. Slade the loser. Standing (?).
SERVICE INFORMATION NEEDED

We would very much like to have photos or records people who have served our country since the Viet Nam War. We have notebooks of those who served from the Revolutionary War through the Viet Nam War. We would also like to have some volunteers to assist in gathering and compiling this information. The Historical Society is open on Thursdays from 9:30 A.M. – 12:00 noon and on Sunday from 2 – 4 P.M.

SPAFFORD GRANGE #83

Jim Tetreault, Town Clerk of Winchester, recently retrieved from the State Grange Offices in Concord nine old books he knew needed to be in our Historical Society. They were books of secretary’s reports of the SPAFFORD GRANGE #83, located in West Chesterfield from 1918 – 1976 (year that the grange was disbanded). Reading them is a walk back in time and includes the names of old friends and family members very familiar to many of us old timers. Come in and see if you recognize any of these names.

ASBURY CHURCH HISTORY PRESERVED

Much history is being preserved at the Asbury United Methodist Church, as workmen do the much needed repair work on the steeple. The Asbury Methodist Church is the only building in Chesterfield that is on the National Register of Historic Places.

PICTORIAL TOUR OF CHESTERFIELD

Neil Jenness took a group of senior citizens from Rivermead in Peterborough on a bus tour of Chesterfield. Ten notebooks with photos of historic places in Chesterfield, most of which are not still standing, were made for the tour. These notebooks are available to borrow for anyone in town who would like to do a self-guided tour. Come in during our regular open hours and borrow one or more for your own historic tour.

CHESTERFIELD’S CHIEF JUSTICE

With all the news lately regarding the U.S. Supreme Court here are some tidbits about Chesterfield’s Chief Justice, Harlan Fiske Stone (sometimes called “Doc”). He was Chief Justice from 1941 – 1946. He is the only justice ever to have sat in all 9 seats of the Supreme Court (They are seated by length of service). He was appointed in 1925 by President Coolidge. He was stricken while speaking on the bench and died a few hours later (April 22, 1946). A quote from him made a few months before his death is as follows:

“A good many years ago I made up my mind that those who have a happy useful life are those who resolve to do the job nearest to them with enough interest and enthusiasm so that it leaves them no opportunity to think much about what is ahead.”
FRIENDS OF PISGAH PROJECT

One project we have been working on recently is organizing the archives of the Friends of Pisgah Park which consist of photographs, documents and maps which have been entrusted to our care.

IT IS THAT TIME OR YEAR AGAIN

If you haven’t already done so, now is the time to pay your Historical Society membership dues for 2016. Please use the back of this newsletter to fill out your category of membership and mail it to us with a check. We appreciate all our members’ support and hope each of you take the time to visit us and enjoy our displays.

2016 CALENDARS STILL AVAILABLE

There are still a few 2016 calendars available for the reduced price of $6.00. The photographs alone are worth the price. Calendars are available at the Historical Society and the Library.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

The following members of the Chesterfield Historical Society Board have been elected officers for 2016:

PRESIDENT: Neil Jenness
VICE PRESIDENT: Audrey Ericson
RECORDING SECRETARY: Peg Fegley
CORRESPONDING SECRETARY: John Hudachek
TREASURER: Skip White

SPOFFORD LAKE – ARTICLE FROM THE VERMONT PHOENIX NEWSPAPER

Date: 7-28-1871: (From a Circular printed in Boston by a former resident)...Spofford Lake, now so well-known and a constant resort for the city people who spend the summer in Brattleboro and Keene,...is nine miles in circumference, is surrounded by fine groves, its waters are of crystal purity and it is undoubtedly and finest small lake in New England. Howells thinks it rivals, in beauty, the famous lakes of Italy. “Fanny Fern’s” enthusiastic praise will be remembered. The current traditions regarding its marvelous depths, and that King Phillip built his last council-fire upon its lovely island enhance its interest to the sentimental. To all who desire to “get out of the world”, to enjoy the real country, to ride and walk and sport, sail, row, bathe, hunt and picnic, eat, drink, and sleep in quiet and without restraint, we heartily commend Chesterfield.
The Chesterfield Historical Society thanks you for your past support. To join in 2015 or 2016 or to contribute, please complete this form and return it to:

Chesterfield Historical Society
P.O. Box 204
Chesterfield, NH 03443-0204

Name ____________________________________________
Address ____________________________________________
Telephone Number _____________________ Email Address _____________________
I/We enclose $10 (individual) ______ or $20 (family) ______ membership ______
I/We enclose $_________ for help with the work of the Historical Society
Comments/Items to Share:__________________________________________________________

I would be interested in helping with:
Buildings and sites______ Genealogy______ Research______ Old Photos______
Date entering ______ Scrapbooks ______ Cataloging______ Other______

Our hours are Thursdays 9:30 – 12:00 noon and Sundays 2:00 – 4:00 p.m.
For more information call Neil Jenness (363-8018) or Audrey Ericson (363-8856)