THURSDAY MORNING ACTIVITIES

- Freda continues scanning our photos on CDs.
- Newspaper articles are being added to scrapbooks.
- Cataloging, cataloging, cataloging.
- Helping visitors find information.
- One exciting morning we toured Italy via photos/postcards volunteer Sue Sciuto brought back from their recent, exciting visit to Italy.
- Bruce Gauthier has visited us a few times and gifted us with old deeds and info.

RECENT GIFTS

- We have been given a most interesting “find” of part of an old Colonial shoe buckle which was discovered behind the library by Andrew Richter from Alexandria, N.H. when he was using his metal detector recently. Ray Hutchins went on line and found more info and drawings of old shoe buckles. It would appear it could have gone back to the late 1700s. Who can come up with the most inventive story of how it came to be there?
- Margaret Johnson has given us several items including a remarkable post card of 2 children arriving at school in 1909 a very special school bus—a horse and sleigh. Look for it in our 2009 calendar. Also, she gave us a can with some very old clay marbles, as well as other interesting items.

- David Belluscio brought in a large pastel drawing of a very dilapidated, haunted-looking house that he and Joel had uncovered and hoped we could identify. Possibly that house? Mary Durland kindly photographed it for us.

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**OLD PARSONAGE/COMMUNITY CLUB HOUSE/PARKER RESIDENCE**

We have been researching the Old Parsonage/Community Club House/ Parker Residence for several months seeking information for the new owner, David Belluscio, who with his son, Joel, has been making major repairs and restoring that house.

Located on the Horseshoe Road, this is one of the older houses in town having been built around 1785 by Jacob Amidon and inherited by his son, Otis, both prominent men in Chesterfield. In the 1870s it was given to the Methodist Church and used as a parsonage until 1925 when it was presented by Morris Friedsam, to the Community Needlecraft Club (which became the Chesterfield Community Club) to be used by them as a club house. In the late ‘40s it was purchased by Dave and Ginny Parker who did much restoration work.
and lived there with their daughters Joyce and Nancy. Later it was the home of Dave’s brother, John, his wife Doris, and their son Don.

They discovered on one of the bedroom walls when wallpaper was removed several caricatures and a message—‘Whoever takes this wallpaper off find Nancy Parker and collect an award of 10 cents.’ Also—‘Sunday Aug. 30, 1950 Time of Korean War - 15,000 men killed in 3 days.’ The Belluscios would LOVE to have Nancy’s address and astound her when they ask for their 10 cents. Anyone have her address? Believe she now lives in FL.

Recently, several of our Thursday morning workers were invited by the Belluscios to tour the house and were amazed to find so many of the original features pretty much intact: the original front stairway, fireplace hearths and mantles (large center chimney is gone but the space would be available for rebuilding it), neat cupboards around one fireplace, wide floor boards, etc. An old grinding stone is set into the front step. Dave Belluscio has a love affair with old houses, as is obvious in the careful restoration work being done. They are looking for a buyer who would love the place as much as they do.

CHESTERFIELD COMMUNITY CLUB

The Chesterfield Community Club served an important role in our town during the years it was in existence (1931 - 1960s), and offered pleasant evenings out and good fun, the place to be, during those years. Reading the secretary’s reports gives one a great sense of what the social life of our community was like during the mid-1900s, and the list of members is a real who’s who of Chesterfield residents at that time. After Pearl Harbor, the club voted to send $5. ‘as a gift to Uncle Sam toward a new plane’; vote rescinded at the next meeting as it was felt there would be other ways their help would be needed. President Danny Schlichting and secretary, Deane Tuttle, resigned to enter the U. S. Army. Stuart and Harold Foster, Jane Allen, and other members were given gifts and best wishes as they went into the services and gifts/cards were sent to them at Christmas time. One meeting, in January of 1942 was interrupted so that the members could listen to President Roosevelt’s speech about the war.

We’d love to obtain old photos and talk with people who can share their memories of the old club house, AND, to share Chesterfield Community Club memories/photos.

Among the “finds” tucked into a secretary’s report for Dec., 1943 was a V-Mail Christmas note from Pat Pearson to the Community Club, which we copied recently and sent to his daughter, Isabelle Mann.

I’VE LEARNED TO CALL RADIO “WIRELESS”  MY AUTO WON’T RUN WITHOUT PETROL
A VICTROLA TO ME NOW’S A “GRAM”  AND “CHERIO” I USE FOR GOODBYE
INSTEAD OF CATCHING A STREETCAR  A “CLIPPIE’S” A STREETCAR CONDUCTOR
NOW BLIMEY, I’M HOPPING A “TRAM”  I SAY “BLOKE” INSTEAD OF A GUY.
I DRIVE ON THE LEFT HERE IN ENGLAND  AND THOUGH MY SPEECH HAS BEEN ALTERED
BY “LORRY” AND NOT IN A TRUCK  AND CHANGED SINCE I’VE BEEN AWAY
AND WHEN I GO SPENDING MY MONEY  I STILL HAVE NO TROUBLE IN WISHING
FIVE SHILLINGS IS LIMEY FOR BUCK  MERRY CHRISTMAS” THE AMERICAN WAY

Arvid W. Pearson, USN 248 Unit E, c/o F.P.O., NYC, NY  Somewhere in England  PAT
SPOFFORD LAKE OFFICIAL ICE OUTS

Fred Szmit has given us an official list of ice outs at Spofford Lake that covers most of the years from 1927-2008 (65 years listed) At the historical society we have a framed list of ice outs that is part of the Larry Colony Collection. Fred Szmit has updated that list and provided this information: the average date is April 10; the earliest was on March 14, 2002; the latest was May 3, 1956. This year’s ice out was on April 15.

SPOFFORD LAKE BOOK

The long anticipated book, Spofford Lake: A Retrospective of the Cottages, Camps, and Resorts, by Marty Potter is at the printers and will be available in early summer! Marty spent more than three years researching the ownership of the cottages and land back to the 19th century. Included in the book are colored photographs of each cottage from the lake as well as lists of owners, family stories, poetry and anecdotes. Photographs and histories of the Pine Grove Springs Hotel, Silverdale Hotel, and camps Namaschaug and Notre Dame, among others, are also included. Historical photographs and maps from our collection round out the wonderful volume. The book will sell for $35.00. The book is being published and underwritten by the society so we are encouraging pre-publication purchases. We have, conveniently, included an order form with the newsletter.

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

Name______________________________________________________________

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Address___________________________________________________________

__________________________

Tel #________________________

Spofford Lake: A Retrospective of Her Cottages, Camps, and Resorts, by Marty Potter
Number of copies @ $35.00 ______
    Postage @ $3.00 each ______
    TOTAL ______

Please make check to “Chesterfield Historical Society”
Free delivery if ordered before July 1, 2008
OTHER ITEMS OF INTEREST

- Two groups are meeting and looking for creative reuse of two of our historic buildings as the town offices & police station and the Spofford Fire Department move into new quarters.

- Our 2008 Calendars are still available at the historical society, library, town clerk’s office at a reduced price of $10.00. The very collectible photos include the old Chesterfield Stagecoach driven by Edson W. White, Skip White’s grandfather. This now has a place of honor at the International Museum of the Horse in Lexington, KY and was discovered by Glenn Chickering several years ago when he was on a tour.

- We gathered a packet of information, post cards, brochures, photos, town report, booklets, etc. about our special corner of the world—Chesterfield, NH, and sent it off to Chesterfield, England. They had asked us to participate in an exhibit they are assembling of items from all the Chesterfield locations in the world. They returned the favor and we’ve received photos and info from them. If you just happen to be in England in 2009, perhaps you could plan to visit this exhibit?

- We enjoy doing a bit of genealogical research but can’t come close to competing with this remarkable research done by The New England Genealogical Society that we read in a recent newspaper article: Obama related to Pitt, Hillary Clinton to Jolie” Clinton is a distant cousin of Madonna, Celine Dion and Alanis Morissette. Obama can call six U. S. presidents his cousins—George W. Bush, George H. W. Bush, Gerald Ford, Lyndon Johnson, Harry S. Truman, James Madison, Vice President Dick Cheney, British Prime Minister Winston Churchill and Gen. Robert E. Lee. Clinton’s distant cousins include beatnik author Jack Kerousac and Camilla Parker-Bowles, wife of Prince Charles of England. McCain is a sixth cousin of first lady Laura Bush. Their ancestry shows they are more alike than they think.

PINE BLISTER RUST MAPS AVAILABLE

The society has for sale copies of the Chesterfield Historical Society Pine Blister Rust Maps from the 1930s. These remarkable forestry maps show details of Chesterfield’s woodlands in the last century, including stonewalls, house sites, and tree growth. The 360 original maps, at the New Hampshire State Archives, were scanned by member Dave Allen and are available on a CDROM. To order a CD, send a check to the historical society for $34.00, or order on line by credit card at www.vhist.com/chesterfield
WANTED

Town Reports and Inventories for the year 1980; also from 1990 to the present.

Volunteers Needed:

- To stitch shades for the historical society building. We have them and they need to be lengthened
- Once-a-month—add obituaries to our scrapbooks.
- Copy and index Viola Tuttle’s newspaper articles 1937-1942 scrapbook.
- Help insulating the building to lower our oil bills.

The Chesterfield Historical Society thanks you for your past support. To join in 2008 or to contribute, please complete this form and return it to:

Chesterfield Historical Society
PO Box 204
Chesterfield NH 03443–0204

Name__________________________________________
Address_____________________________________________________________________________________
Telephone Number ___________ Email address_________________________________________________________

I/We enclose $5 (individual) _____ or $10 (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 ______
Data entering ______  Scrapbooks ______  Cataloging ______  Other ______

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