Our Perkins clock was obtained by the Society at an auction sale in 2012 and now stands a few feet from the Ainsworth clock. Robinson Perkins lived on Fitzwilliam Road. The house is no more but it’s said by some that the cellarhole can still be seen. He marked each of his clocks—all had wooden works—‘R. Perkins Jaffrey’ along with a number. Ours is ‘198.’ In 1810 he moved on to Fitzwilliam where he continued clockmaking until his death in 1847.

Our Laban Ainsworth clock was presented to the pastor of the First Church to celebrate his 80 years of service as minister. It was made in 1790 and given to the Society by Joseph Coolidge, an Ainsworth descendant.

Scott Edwards was born and raised in Temple where his family has resided since 1760. He’s a graduate of Conval High School and has always been fascinated by clocks, the first one being his Great Grandmother’s. He started working on his first clock when only 12 years old. Two years later he placed an advertisement in the Monadnock Ledger offering his services. (His parents helped out on pick up and delivery.) At sixteen he received certification in clock repair and restoration from the National Clockmakers Institute, the youngest to have ever received this certification.

Scott established his full-time business in 1987 and has been at it ever since. He has worked away at his Grove Street address for the past 12 years. His clients include museums & historical societies and numerous private and public collections—not to mention the State of New Hampshire.

He has given ‘Clock Talks’ to the Peterborough, Milford, Hillsborough Historical Societies and to many other local groups.

Earlier this year he removed the works of the Society’s Laban Ainsworth tallcase clock which usually resides in the board room of the Civic Center (along with our Jaffrey-made Perkins clock). He’s now cleaning and sprucing up the works, photographing the process as he goes. In his talk he will describe, using his photos, what’s involved in cleaning and maintaining a fine old clock such as ours. He will also give us some insight into the history of early New England clocks.

Note: Scott’s Clocks may be found at 64 Grove Street as you enter downtown Peterborough. The hours are 9:30 to 5, Wednesday through Saturday. He has on display a selection of antique clocks for sale. Stop by and have a look.

Looking ahead — Upcoming Programs

- **Sunday June 5, 2016:** Conant Cemetery ‘Walk-about’ with the Jaffrey Cemetery Committee
- **Thursday August 11, 2016:** Annual Meeting, John Peard, Sr. on Red’s of Jaffrey
- **Sunday October 16, 2016:** Annual Autumn Outing
- **Thursday December 8, 2016:** Annual Christmas Party with the Civic Center
- **Thursday February 9, 2017:** Annual Potluck
- **Thursday April 13, 2017:** Steve Baldwin on ‘Adventures in Local Metal Detecting.’
Greetings to All,

Our February Pot Luck was particularly well-attended with more than enough good food & drink. We did another Jaffrey Quiz which you can see at http://www.rs41.org/jhs/potluck2016.pdf

The Dean Murder Project is slowly progressing. (The main working website is http://www.rs41.org/td/dean.htm). We’re still in the data gathering stage: scanning lots of FBI files, correspondence and newspapers. Progress may be seen at http://rs41.smugmug.com/Jaffrey/Dean-Murder. The Dean Murder Research Group—numbering 8 to 10 interested people in and outside Jaffrey—has held several meetings, the last of which included a visit to the Dean Farm. Mark Bean and I will be making a presentation on the murder to the Cheshire Academy of Lifelong Learning (CALL) program of Keene State College on April 22nd.

The Society will be loaning its copy of Dr. Swenevey’s War I diary to the Willa Cather Foundation to be featured in an exhibit in Red Cloud, Nebraska, at the 61st annual Willa Cather Spring Conference: Both Bitter and Sweet: Cather, Literature, and the Great War Sweeney (whose Main Street house is now the Tower, Crocker & Smith Law office) lent his diary to Cather who used it as a resource when writing her novel One of Ours. If you want to learn more about Willa Cather remember that we have copies of Margaret Bean’s Willa Cather in Jaffrey available for sale or free at http://www.rs41.org/jhs/Cather.pdf

We’re in the early stages of revising and expanding our Hannah Davis booklet. Mary Jo Marvin will be taking on this project. New material will be added including photographs of band boxes in our and other collections. And speaking of Hannah Davis, the Society has just had Walt Hautanen redo the sign on her house on Main Street opposite and just west of Highland Avenue.

The Society’s Facebook page now has 124 ‘likes.’ Check it out at http://www.facebook.com/jaffreyhs.

We have a number of volunteer opportunities for those with the time and interest: Indexing the various Town histories; periodically picking up ephemera from around Jaffrey (business cards, flyers, menus, etc.); photography (there’s one particular project we have in mind); becoming involved with Ebay on the Society’s behalf; biographical indexing of the Dean Murder; and so on. Contact me if you might be interested.

At our recent Officers & Directors meeting we somehow got on to the matter of the upcoming Jaffrey Sestercentennial. That’s right, on August 17, 2023, Jaffrey will be 250 years old! It’s not that far in the future, only seven years from now. Any ideas on how we should celebrate?

Finally—congratulations to Savron Graphics on it being named ‘Business of the Year’ by the Jaffrey Chamber. They make JHS look good!

If you’ve never ventured downstairs to our Archives in the Civic Center, this is just a small portion of the Society’s collection of photographs, letters, documents and ephemera. Some of us are here on most Mondays and Thursdays, 10-12. Drop down and see what we have!

Rob Stephenson, President
PS: If you received a membership envelope with this newsletter it means that your dues have yet to be paid. Please renew your membership! The Society relies 100% on dues to cover its annual expenses—no fundraisers! So please be generous.

News of your Society