

Contents

- 01: Latest Happenings
- 02: Committee Rosters
- 03: Society News
- 04: From the Archives

Latest Happenings

It has been a very busy and productive few months for the Jaffrey Historical Society! Our February program featured Bruce Hill presenting his Conant Generations Project. After extensive research into Jaffrey families and Conant graduates, his 45-minute presentation traced back multiple generations of Conant alumni through the decades. Many new faces were in the audience, and everyone had a blast seeing friends, family members, and themselves from “back in the day!” Thank you to Bruce for putting together such a terrific program.

If you were unable to see Bruce's presentation, it may be viewed online (along with supplemental materials) by going to our website, www.jaffreyhistory.org



Bruce Hill presents the Conant Generations Project. At right, one of his many slides featuring Jaffrey personalities from past CHS yearbooks. Photo Credit: Sean Driscoll.



Photo Credit: Peter Lambert

On April 11 we held our annual Potluck Dinner. In addition to the delicious appetizers, entrees, and desserts, members were able to get a “sneak peak” at all the work done by Jeanne Duval and her team in the Display Rooms in the Civic Center. Sean Driscoll gave a presentation entitled “Resurrecting the JHS Displays – a Work in Progress” which highlighted some of the work done so far, and focused on a few of our treasures. Members were able to chime in on what they knew about the Belletete’s coffee grinder, the Goodnows gunpowder container, and the infamous lock of Paul Revere’s hair, among others! A good time was had by all, and we hope to see more members at the 2025 Potluck!

On a sad note, Karen Ayers has resigned as Co-Vice President to focus on her health and recovery. Karen has been instrumental in the displays, exhibits, and program planning for many years. Together, we thank her for her devoted service to the JHS.

As always, it is the volunteerism and commitment of our members that makes all of this possible. Thank you to everyone! -Peter



Sean Driscoll gives his “Resurrecting the JHS Displays” program at the 2024 Potluck. Photo credit: Peter Lambert

Committee Rosters

Last year in an effort to increase participation and help share in the responsibilities, the JHS decided that all Directors, and any interested members, would serve on various committees. If anyone else would like to volunteer to serve on a committee, please contact either the JHS President or the head of that committee and let us know. We welcome the assistance, and all are welcome!

I would ask that all committees meet as soon as possible to decide on current and future projects.

-Peter

Accessions & Archives:

Bruce Hill, *chair*
Dick Boutwell, *chair emeritus*
Fran McBride
Jeanne Duval
Harold Davis
Meg Gourley
Jackie Johnson
Betty Royce
Charlie Turcotte

Exhibits & Displays:

Jeanne Duval, *chair*
Lyn Lambert
Member TBD

Facilities:

Charlie Turcotte, *chair*
Joel Proulx
Karl Putnam

Genealogy:

Carolyn Garretson, *chair*

Hospitality & Refreshments:

Diane Schaumann, *chair*
Cathy Proulx, *chair*
Marcie Manning
Peggy Ueda

Little Red Schoolhouse:

Jackie Johnson, *chair*
Vicki Arceci
Cathy Proulx
Peggy Ueda

Membership:

Marcie Manning, *chair*
Carolyn Garretson
Cathy Proulx

Monadnock #4:

Dave Kemp, *chair*
Bruce Hill
Karl Putnam
Ray Record

Programs

Sean Driscoll, *chair*
VP TBD, *chair*
Judith Goff
Henry Hammond

Publications

Sean Driscoll, *chair*
Rob Stephenson, *chair emeritus*
Fran McBride
Betty Shea

Publicity:

Bob Schaumann, *chair*
Committees wanting events publicized should send information to Bob.

Website:

Sean Driscoll, *chair*
Rob Stephenson, *chair*
Vicki Arceci (Social Media)
Meg Gourley

UPCOMING DATES

May 2: Executive Committee Meeting

May 16: Board of Directors Meeting

There is no June cemetery tour this year. If you would like to take a self-guided past tour, go to
<https://rs41.org/jhs/tours.htm>

July 4: Independence Day Celebration

July 11: Board of Directors Meeting

August 8: Annual Meeting

www.jaffreyhistory.org 



<https://www.facebook.com/JaffreyHS>



<https://www.youtube.com/@JaffreyHistoricalSociety>



Instagram coming soon!

Society News

The Archives & Accessions committee members who will assist in the JHS archives will meet Monday, May 6th, at 10 AM in the archives. To date the sub-committee includes Chief Archivist Dick Boutwell, assistant Bruce Hill, newspaper archivist Jackie Johnson, data recorders Marcie Manning and Betty Royce, new document reviewer Dave Davis, collection reviewer Meg Gourley, exhibition stager Jeanne Duval, resource books organizer Fran McBride, and deaccessioning operator Charlie Turcotte.

Carolyn Garretson, our JHS genealogist, and her program has been busy recently with requests for historical research on three Jaffrey families, some of whom lived in Jaffrey briefly but with others, were able to determine family relationships as to why they had moved to Jaffrey. She was able to trace one family directly back to their arrival in Boston in 1635, going back 10 generations from the initial person given who died in Jaffrey in the 1880s.

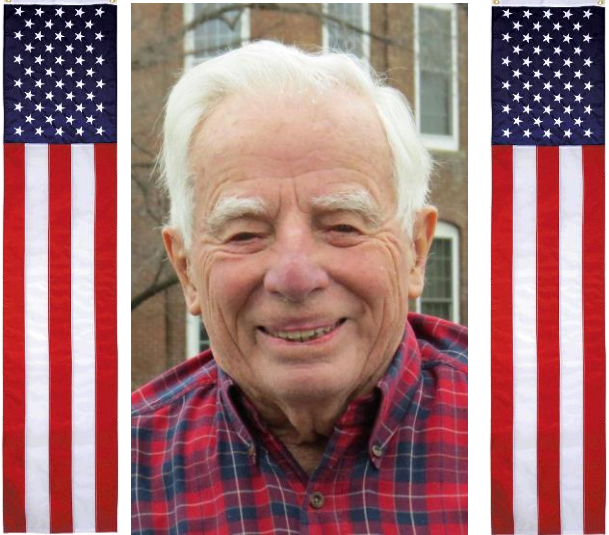


Our own *Dick Boutwell* was recently honored by the Jaffrey Selectmen for his years of service on the Cemetery Committee. From left to right, Town Manager Jon Frederick, Cathy Proulx, Jan Weekes, Selectman/Cemetery Chair Charlie Turcotte, Dick Boutwell, Eric Healy, and Rob Stephenson.



Photo Credit: Bob Schaumann

The Little Red Schoolhouse committee proudly unveiled a new sign to replace the old, rotting one that had been around for many decades. The new sign, crafted by Walt Hautanen of Walt's Signs in Jaffrey, will be placed on the side of Route 124 in time for the upcoming season. Thank you to everyone who made this possible. Remember, the LRSH Committee will soon be looking for docents for the 2024 summer hours!



In Memoriam
Joseph P. "Joe" Manning

Joe dedicated a great portion of his life to the service of his community, from serving in World War II to representing Jaffrey in the state legislature. He served as the Jaffrey Historical Society as a longtime director and also as Co-President from 2016-2017. His dedication, spirit, and humor will be greatly missed.

Keene Sentinel Photo

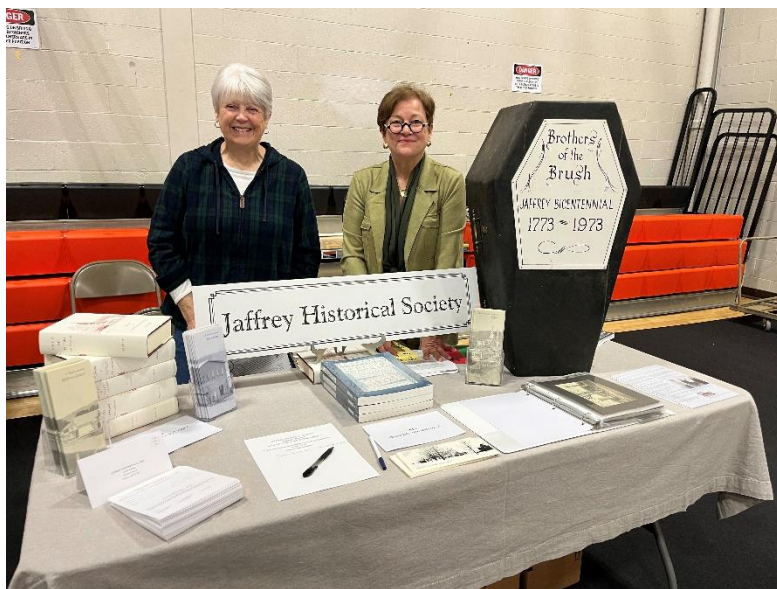
From the Archives

By Bruce Hill

The Coffin is Back!

In February of 1973 Walt Hautanen and several others organized the “Brothers of the Brush,” men who pledged to stop shaving until August of that year, in honor of the Town's Bicentennial. They ceremoniously labeled their hand razors with their names and put them into a small custom-made wooden coffin. As part of the Bicentennial ceremonies that year they gave recognition and awards to the “Brothers.” The intent was for the coffin to be buried like a time capsule but it remained in a shed for several years until it was privately donated to a collector of razors.

That collector, Tom Whiting of Deering, NH decided to dismantle his collection this year and contacted the Jaffrey Historical Society to see if we wanted it back in town. Mr. Whiting carried the coffin to Jaffrey and we gladly accepted this significant artifact with much appreciation. An article and photo appeared in the Monadnock Ledger February 29th, and the coffin was displayed at Town Meeting this year.



Jeanne Duval and Lyn Lambert, members of the Exhibits and Displays committee, proudly show off the newly-acquired Brothers of the Brush coffin at Town Meeting this year. They also showed off photos and other JHS artifacts and gave away free JHS publications. Photo by Vicki Arceci.

Jaffrey Historical Society Officers and Directors

President: Peter Lambert

Vice Presidents:

Karen Ayers (*resigned*)

Sean Driscoll

Recording Secretary: Meg Gourley

Recording Secretary: Lyn Lambert

Treasurer: Peter Davis

Directors

2021-2024

Judith Goff - Henry Hammond

Bob Schaumann - Betty Shea

2022-2025

Jeanne Duval – Jackie Johnson

Fran McBride - Ray Record

2023-2026

Lyn Lambert - Cathy Proulx

Karl Putnam - Diane Schaumann

Genealogist:

Carolyn Garretson

Trustees of the Trust Funds

Harvey Sawyer (2021-2024)

Clay Hollister (2022-2025)

Betty Royce (2023-2026)

JAFFREY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

40 MAIN STREET

JAFFREY, NH 03452

