

Newsletter
OCTOBER
2014

**Conway Historical
Society**
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A quarterly publication
of the Conway
Historical Society

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article for publication or want to share a
picture and story
please e-mail the materials:
ConwayHistory@myfairpoint.net
Or mail to Post Office Box 1949
Conway, NH 03818

UPCOMING MEETINGS

**Save the dates—monthly
every 2nd Tuesday**

November 11, 2014
TEM and Gabrielle White
Artist photographers
Carol Saunders

** December 9, 2014
Christmas Party and Yankee Swap

January 13, 2015
Conway Then and Now Part Two
Pat Blake slides continued

**Potluck dinner begins at 6pm
with regular meetings and presenta-
tions at 7pm. All programs are open
to the public at the Salyards Center.



Bring a Friend !

Welcome
new Board member
Joseph Phillips



At our October 14 annual meeting, Joseph Phillips, a native of York, Pennsylvania was voted in as our newest Board member. During a 5th grade fieldtrip to the Gettysburg battlefield, he developed a lifelong passion for studying history. In 2012 he graduated from West Virginia University with a Master's Degree in American History and a Cultural Resource Management certificate. He is currently a forest ranger with the USDA Forest Service, where he works in Interpretive Services and Visitor Information Services. Previously, Joseph worked for the National Park Service as a park historian and interpretive media designer at Gettysburg National Military Park and then at Manassas National Battlefield Park. From August 2012 to August 2013, he served as an AmeriCorps Volunteers in Service to America (VISTA) member with the Rivers to Ridges Heritage Trail in the coal region of southern West Virginia as a Historian and Interpretive Specialist, during which time he developed historical exhibits and signs and published a pictorial history book of the region, *Along the Kanawha*. Joseph moved to Conway, New Hampshire, in January 2014.

More news from the Annual Meeting: Tom and Chris switched their official positions on the Board. Chris is now the Treasurer and Tom the Assistant Treasurer. A great big special thanks to Tom for all his years of service and it's great that he will be here to help in this transition.



The famous Umbrella Brigade was resurrected in honor of David Emerson, for the Independence Day parade on July 4th in Conway Village. Later that day we started moving items over to the Sal-yards to sort and catalog. Read more about our cataloging project on page 4.

Our Conway cemetery program was held on July 8, 2014. William Marvel, Ken Rancourt and Brian Wiggin led the presentation to a large crowd. We plan to share the results of this research. Our September 9th program was Conway Then and Now, a selection of the Blake's slides. Part 2 will continue at our January 2015 meeting again with comments from the peanut gallery.





Left: Our annual summer outing, led by Kathy Somerville was held August 12 at the Russell-Colbath barn and cemetery.

Below: Over the years, Steve Swenson has led many tours for the public and spearheaded preservation and interpretive efforts at the Redstone granite quarry. Seen here on his August 23rd tour. Redstone will be featured in our 250th celebration and new exhibits in 2015.



Steve Swenson, Redstone quarry expert, is "outstanding in his field"





In July and August volunteers accessioned over one thousand items and by the end of the summer everything was carefully boxed up, shelved and put away.



In 2015 we will celebrate both the 250th anniversary of Conway as well as the 80th birthday of the Conway Historical Society, founded in 1935.

On July 15, 2014 we received the donation of an important desk and bookcase from Faith Schrader that descended in the Whitaker family. It will be featured in our new 2015 ex-

The Henney History Room of the Conway Public Library recently started a new history blog, Mount Washington Valley History. The link is <http://mwvhistory.blogspot.com/>.

The purpose of the blog is to share the fascinating history of New Hampshire's Mount Washington Valley, the White Mountains, Carroll County and western Oxford County, Maine.

We invite and encourage all members of the community and anyone interested in Mount Washington Valley history to subscribe, post, and comment on this blog. Please submit any stories and/or photos that you have and are willing to share with others. Thank you!



Much of our research to support the 250th anniversary celebration will involve fieldwork. We will be mapping out and documenting the history of the Town of Conway and developing interpretive materials for exhibits, the web, smart phones and print. If you have photos or old maps to contribute, please contact us!



At the August 19, 2014 Mount Washington Valley Chamber of Commerce “after hours” at Cranmore Inn we got a tour of the carefully preserved and recently restored historic original Chamber of Commerce information building that was moved here from Schouler Park. It is a wonderful example of protecting our town history.

During road work on Washington Street this summer, Town Manager Earl Sires arranged to have this newly excavated boulder moved to Meeting House Hill. It will play a key role in the October 1, 2015 commemorative event to be held here and will be the centerpiece of a newly dedicated park.



We recently loaned a number of our Benjamin Champney related items for an exhibit at the Historical Society of Cheshire County in Keene. The exhibit, *Canvassing the White Mountains: Icons of Place* was on display from June 21st to September 12th. The exhibit featured important works by nineteenth and early twentieth century painters of New Hampshire's White Mountains.

White Mountain Art was a major feature of Conway's 200th anniversary celebration in 1965 and will play a key role in our 2015 celebrations again!!! If you have White Mountain Art paintings or sketches to share, please contact us. Thanks.

White Mountain Painters



As part of the Keene exhibit, Bob Cottrell led a bus tour through the White Mountains. At one of the stops at the Museum of White Mountain Art in Jackson Eric Koepple explained about historic painting techniques.



As part of getting ready for the 250th, volunteers are placing a new floor in the attic of the Eastman Lord House. This will expand our storage ability and free up space for new exhibits in our signature historic house.

Home Depot,
Lowe's and Walmart
all made significant
discounts and
donations for our
"Sprucing up"
projects.
Thanks!



As a private 501(c)3 non-profit, we rely on your support. Donations are tax-deductible to the amount allowable by law. Please consider donating today and remember to renew your membership.

Wish List

- Snow blower
- Lawn mower
- Storage Shed

Get ready for the "holidays" and help support the Conway Historical Society. Soon to be for sale: special edition 250th anniversary playing cards and full color booklet, afghans, gift books on Conway history, etc. Call us or see our website for details!

Conway Historical Society
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CHS Newsletter

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A significant percentage of our income is generated through membership. Please pass your newsletter along to a friend when you are finished with it. Recycle and help the society to grow. Membership Dues are payable in October.

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CHS Membership Dues = \$20.00 per person per year

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