

The President's Corner

The summer of 2022 is quickly fading into the background as temperatures now dip into the upper 20's. Our upcoming December Christmas Party is the last of our 2022 member programs, and Board members and volunteers have moved many boxes of photographs and slides to the scanning room in the Old Firehouse for processing over the winter months. We've also repaired some windows in the Eastman Lord House, although we are still waiting the installation of the much delayed fire door in the Keeping Room. With temperatures falling we've paused our curating efforts for the season as most of the rooms are too cold to work in effectively. With some re-organization of the office area we've condensed many file drawers and have made that area more organized so that work can take place there over the winter months.

It is not too early to ask our members for ideas and thoughts concerning our suggested list of programs for the 2023 summer season activities. Programs like Joe Berry speaking on the history of the Eastern Slope Inn, and the programs on Conway Old Homes and Conway Lake were all well attended and generated lots of good discussion with the presenters. We should plan on seven member programs next year with perhaps two of them by the New Hampshire Humanities Council who always provide wonderful speakers. As many folks spoke favorably about the Old Homes of Conway program we'll probably have the next version of that presentation later in the summer. And the August Annual Picnic will be on the schedule for sure.

To continue to be a vital organization we still need more members. One way to generate more interest in your organization is to have more active leadership, but that cannot be done by the Board alone. For many years the Society had an Executive Director to both generate and manage our activities, and that model lapsed after the departure of David Emerson. Your Board believes that returning to that method of management could be beneficial at this time. So, your Board has been working

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Recent Donations

We have had several items recently donated to the Society. Sally Hatch donated several prints and engravings of the Conway area. The Cannell Family donated 2 signs from the Abenaki Indian Shop. Theresa Honeycutt, daughter-in-law of Mary Honeycutt, donated a hand-sewed unfinished quilt from the 1890's which was signed by each of the persons working on the quilt. See the pictures on page 3. We have also received pictures and information about the Edgewood Inn in North Conway from Cynthia Rolfe Simpson. The Inn was built by Abiathar Eastman in 1800.

Upcoming:

- | | |
|------------------------|-------------------------------|
| December 13 | Annual Christmas Party |
| January – March | Winter Vacation |
| April 11, 2023 | Meetings resume |

Save the dates

Conway Historical Society monthly program is the second Tuesday of each month. Meetings and presentations will be held at the Old Firehouse in Conway village, beginning at 7:00 P.M., and are open to the public.

If anyone has an idea for an upcoming program that would be of interest to you, please contact Ken Rancourt. If you know of someone who would be willing to present a program, also please contact Ken Rancourt.

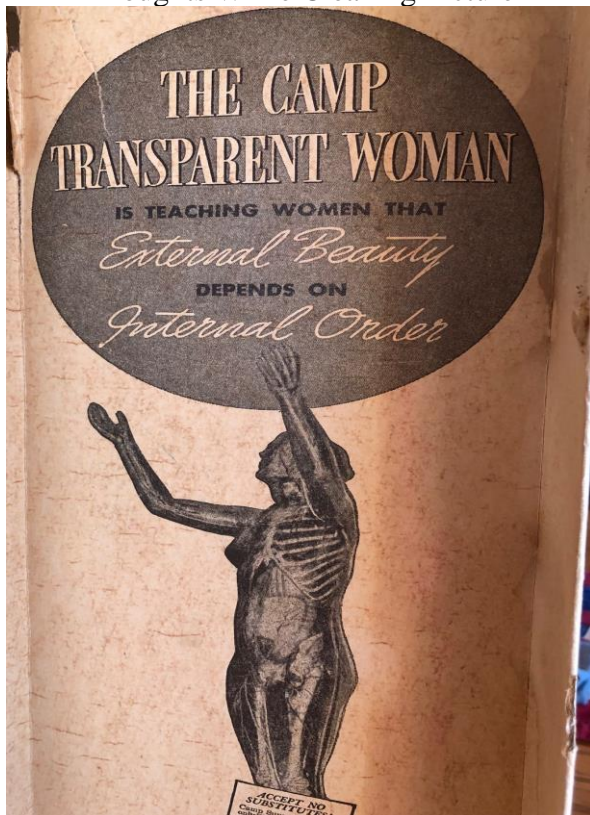
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on generating a job description for an Executive Director and will begin the search and hiring process over the winter months. If you are aware of any individual with an interest in leading CHS efforts in the future please have them contact the office for more information.

Over the winter months we'll also be scanning and identifying photographs in our archives with volunteer labor – ant that means you! The scanning room in the Old Firehouse is warm and bright, and is full of interesting photos that need our attention. Training sessions will occur on our volunteer's schedule so let us know if you are interested in participating in this effort.

And, don't forget about our Annual Christmas Party and Yankee Swap on December 13th! As always, we'll have lots of refreshments and a Jolly Good Time!!

Thoughts While Cleaning Picture



Thoughts While Cleaning

The other day I was cleaning out a cabinet and I came across a long narrow box that I knew had extra-long thin candles in it. It was just an ordinary box with small one inch square, embossed logos saying Camp Supports. There were no other indications of what the original contents of the box had contained, until I opened the box. Inside the cover was a picture and advertising information. The picture was of "The Camp Transparent Woman". The logo said the transparent woman is teaching women that external beauty depends on internal order. So I asked myself – was the picture on the inside of the box because it was too risqué to put on the outside of the box? Then I found a sticker on the end of the outside of the box that told me exactly what was sold inside the box – a maternity support, groin line, latex front, back adjustments, intermediate type, tall figure, tea rose batiste. Did the salesclerk in the store have to open up each box to find the right size? Or did the company only make a few sizes and then the woman had to make her own adjustments to fit her? Then another thought came into my wandering mind – why would any woman want to wear a girdle while pregnant?

Times have certainly changed. We no longer shop in stores where the customer goes in and tells the salesclerk what she needs to purchase as all items are discreetly placed on shelves behind the counter. Today each box screams at everyone shopping – buy me! See my fancy box with all the information on the outside. Pick out the item you want without having to talk to anyone! It is yours to choose and take to the front of the store and the register.

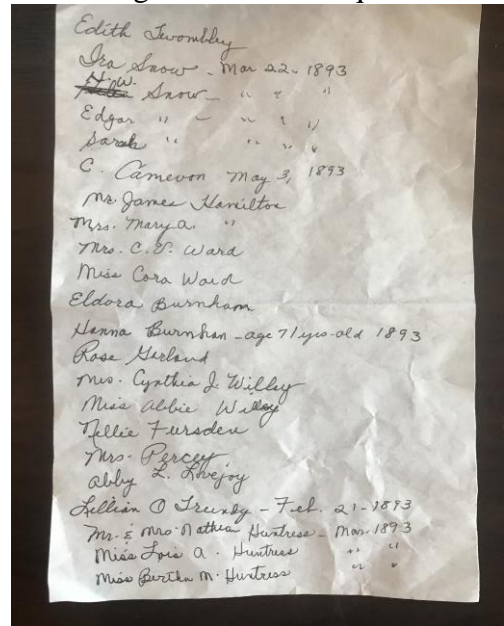
By the way, "Camp Supports" was "the world's largest manufacturers of scientific supports" when the box was printed. That probably was in the 1940s since my mother was pregnant 4 times in that decade and the candles she had put inside the box came to me from her.

Pictures of Donations

Quilt donated by Theresa Honeycutt



Names Signed on White Squares



Postcard of the Edgewood Inn, built by Abiathar Eastman in 1800



THE EDGEWOOD, NORTH CONWAY, N. H.

From the Archives

Conway's First Settlers:

In 1765 in Center Conway were Joshua Heath, John Dolloff, and Ebenezer Burbank. Two of Conway's first settlers became soldiers of the Revolutionary War.

Major Joshua Heath who built his home on the old road at Morrill's Corner in Center Conway where the site of his cellar hole may still be discerned on land owned by Dr. William Masterton. Here Major Heath opened Conway's first tavern where the first town meetings were held. A Heath descendant living in town today is Clayton Heath of the Stark neighborhood.

John Dolloff began a settlement at Morrill's corner that became the first small business section of Center Conway. Here in the 1870's, the first railroad station was built. One of the Dolloff descendants is Mrs. Benjamin Saunders of North Conway.

Ebenezer Burbank's land joined Major Heath's on the northwest. Here he built a home, a large two-story house that became a tavern. It is there today, "On the south cant of the hill north west of the town house," near the site of his original cabin. Mr. Burbank was too old to take an active part in the war. Roger Burnell of Conway is one of his descendants.

1772 The most important new subject to be voted on this year was a pound to be built between the cabins of Joshua Heath and Ebenezer Buurbank. Mr. Burbank was elected pound-keeper.

1773 This year the town held several town meetings. In March it was voted to give eighty

acres of land to the town for a parsonage and five acres to set a meeting-house on. An assessment of two dollars on each proprietor's share was voted to assist in building a meeting-house, and two dollars on each share to help pay for a minister's support.

In April the citizens voted \$100. Towards clearing five acres of land and building a meeting-house to be 45' by 35' with 20' posts. The location of the meeting-house lot and the minister's lot in the geographical center of town proved unsatisfactory. It was too remote from neighbors and the soil was too poor. The first ministers the town tried to settle there refused to live on it. The meeting-house was built, but it was never quite finished. It was used until 1796 when it was moved to Center Conway and became the South Church. The North Church was built in North Conway in 1793.

In November the meeting was devoted to purchasing the "original right of land of Joseph Hiks for the use of the town forever for a parsonage." This lot lay in the hilly south part of Conway that looks down on Walker's Pond, and where the soil is deep and rich. Here Nathaniel Tobias Porter, D.D., Soldier of the Revolution who was serving as Chaplain under Washington when he took command of the Army in 1775, was finally settled, He developed a fine farm there that included a beautiful orchard that was the mecca for all the beauty-starved people around in blossom time. Dr. Porter, Harvard graduate, served Conway's two Congregational Churches for fifty years. He is buried in the Center Conway Cemetery.

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Ken Rancourt

603-447-2720

Vice President

Brian Wiggin

603-447-3426

Secretary

Jane Rancourt

603-447-2720

Treasurer

Gary MacDonald

447-5014

Directors

Joseph Phillips 802-449-2012

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Tim/Jan Quint 603-397-7897

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Conway Historical Society

100 Main Street
P.O. Box 1949
Conway, N.H. 03818
Phone: 603-447-5551

CHS Newsletter

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Volume 28, Issue 3, Winter 2022

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