Wilmot Historical Society NEWSLETTER

January 2016

9 Kearsarge Valley Road, PO Box 97, Wilmot, New Hampshire 03287

www.wilmothistoricalsociety.org

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Message from the President

2015 was a good year for the Wilmot Historical Society. Our membership remains steady as we continue to stride forward in digitizing our collection. At our annual meeting, Betsy Forsham shared her grandmother Edith Campbell's insights from early Wilmot. Betsy works closely with the WHS to determine what family history should be added to the WHS collection. Also, please look for Walter Walker's pictorial history book of Wilmot. Thank you for all who participated in our Curiosity Shop at the Wilmot Farmer's market. Your assistance helps us greatly to build our collection. On the form below we welcome your support through membership in the WHS. Marc Davis – President

Celebrating a Life Well-lived

It is with deep sadness that we announce the death of Jack McAuliffe, former Wilmot resident and star of the first video in the new series *Memories of Wilmot*.



Charming and eloquent, Jack holds his audience captive as he relates his experiences as a resident of Wilmot from 1930 on. Jack's home adjoined the original location of the North Wilmot Church on Tewksbury Road.

Having been taught in a one-room schoolhouse by Annie Whittemore, Jack recollects that he was lucky enough to have been one of the first students to be transported to school rather than having to walk.

Boston Post Cane Holder Dies

On December 20, 2015, Clara B. Langley passed away at the Merrimack County Nursing home in Boscawen after living many of her years in Wilmot. Clara was 97 years old last June.



"I attribute my longevity to good genes!" said Clara when she received the Boston Post Cane on her birthday in June of 2013. "My mother lived into her nineties, and I have a 90-year old sibling still living."

After teaching in schools from Maine to Maryland, Clara took a job at the Wilmot Center School. She met and married Frank E. Langley in the early 1950s, taught for two years, and raised her family within blocks of that school. The building she taught in now houses the Wilmot Public Library.

Officers: Marc Davis, president; Lindy Heim, vice president; Judy Hauck, secretary; Mary Fanelli, treasurer Directors: Nola Aldrich, Sue Finney, Esther Grace, Liz Kirby, Julie Morse, Fred Ogmundson

WILMOT HISTORICAL SOCIETY - 2016 MEMBERSHIP FORM

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Mailing Address:

E-Mail Address:

Phone:

Annual membership is \$5 per person

Enclosed is \$_____for ____membership(s)

I am also including a tax-deductible donation of \$_____for a total of \$_____

Please make check payable to: Wilmot Historical Society, P.O. Box 97, Wilmot, NH 03287

Thank you!

Upcoming Programs

Family Storytelling Feb. 7

Jo Radner, past president of the Washington (DC) Storytellers Theatre and now on the Board of Directors of the National Storytelling Network, will present a workshop on "Family Stories, How and Why to Remember to Tell Them" at the Wilmot Community Association Red Barn at 2 p.m. on Sunday, February 7.



With over 15 years of experience performing in theaters, festivals, conferences, schools, colleges, and at community events, Jo promises to be a very engaging workshop leader as she helps us tell our family stories. Jo earned her higher education degrees at Harvard University and taught for

30 years at American University in Washington, DC.

This program, sponsored by the New Hampshire Humanities, is free and open to the public.

Program May 8

Please mark your calendar for Sunday, May 8, at the Town Hall. We promise to have a fun program from which you can learn something new.

> 2016 membership roster is updated regularly on line at www.wilmothistoricalsociety.org

WHS News

Education Collection on Loan

Clothing from our education collection is on loan to the New London Historical Society. The Society is thrilled to have period costumes for their volunteers and docents to wear during open houses and other programs in the New London Historical Village.

Oral & Video Histories Making Progress

According to WHS board member Lindy Heim, who is spearheading the digitizing of the WHS oral and video collections, we are making great headway in transcribing our oral interviews into document form and the video interviews into finished documentaries. Both of these media will be uploaded to our new online catalog, which will go live as soon as there are sufficient entries. Many hours have been spent scanning photos and digitizing diaries in anticipation of having this information available to the public on the internet.

2015 Curiosity Shop Report

The Curiosity Shop was open for business on nine Saturdays in a row again this summer, resulting in a staggering \$3,016.25 income, up considerably from the \$2,419.41 raised last season. With no expenses to deduct, thanks to the generosity of those who donated time and treasure, all proceeds will benefit the Wilmot Historical Society's effort to preserve its collection and make it accessible online.

If you find you have an attic-full, garage-full, or drawers-full of old things that you would like someone else to love, give Lindy Heim a call at 526-6376. Pick up can be arranged. Tax receipts are available.

WHS Book Club

This group meets quarterly on Saturdays at the Wilmot Community Center and is open to all.

Call Marc Davis for list of books for the year. 927-4596

History Room Hours

July 2 through August 27 Saturdays 9–12 Throughout the year by appointment

President Marc Davis 927-4596 V. President Lindy Heim 526-6376

The history room is located in the Town Office Building 9 Kearsarge Valley Road