



WILMOT HISTORICAL SOCIETY

2021 Annual Newsletter



Message from the president



Happy New Year to all!

When it is safe for all of us to be together, we look forward to seeing you again. Thank you for your continued membership and support. Please send in the form at the bottom of this newsletter to renew for 2021.

Yours for preserving Wilmot's history, *Liz Kirby*

Annual Meeting Postponed

Because of COVID19, the annual meeting of the Wilmot Historical Society is postponed until such time as it is safe to meet in person. Meanwhile, we thought we would catch you up on what has happened during 2020.

Curiosity Shop Report – *Lindy Heim*

Lindy Heim continues to store treasures in her barn for each year's Curiosity Shop staged at the Wilmot Farmers Market. On a lovely Saturday in September 2020, volunteers assisted with setting up the Shop and serving our loyal customers. We netted over \$1,000 just in that one day. The total, so far, for the year is \$1210. These monies are put towards digitizing our collection and especially supporting our video interviews that are posted on the Memories of Wilmot webpage.

Boston Post Cane

Sadly, our Boston Post Cane holder, Ann Davenport, passed away last spring. In December we identified the next person to receive this award. Walter Willis Walker, (right) who celebrated his 90th birthday in October of 2020, is the new recipient of the Boston Post Cane honor.



Acquisitions Committee Report – *Catherine Stearns*

In March of 2020, we started a project of “virtually cataloging” all of the objects in our historical collection. Each piece will include a photo accompanied with its description and available history. In addition to the online information, we are creating a box of written information cards for use by those visiting the History Room. We had to put this project on hold when the COVID-19 pandemic hit and the town office building was closed. We plan to continue this project as soon it is safe to work together. Our goal is to provide ease of access online for all those who are interested in our collection.

Membership

We are considering moving the membership year from Nov 1 to January 1 through December 31 of each year. However, in order to make this official, we must change the by-laws. Hopefully, this will be done at our next public membership meeting. Meanwhile, all those who sent in their dues last fall, are considered members for the full year of 2021. A list of current members is updated on the front page of the website.



Driving Tours

Four 2007 Wilmot Bicentennial **town driving tours (North Wilmot, Wilmot Center, Wilmot Flat, and Mt. Kearsarge)** have been updated and posted on the front page of our website for friends and family to download and enjoy. Kearsarge Mountain and North Wilmot both had very early settlements. However, the swift-running streams in Wilmot Center and Wilmot Flat were able to power mills, and they became the centers of population. While on the Wilmot Center tour, stop in the Bunker Hill Cemetery. You will see why this particular grave marker (at left above) is so unusual. Check it out and have fun.

Historical Interviews Report – Lindy Heim

Almost all of our original audiotape oral histories and program recordings have been transcribed to make them available to the general public. WHS volunteers Jim Rayno and Fred Ögmundson helped with checking and editing the transcription part of the project. Next year our transcriber Kim White plans to finish the six-year-long project. These interviews are available at <wilmothistoricalociety.org> using the *Attic* and *Memories of Wilmot* tabs. One of the more recent video interviews is with our new Boston Post Cane recipient Walter Walker.

In 2020 we were able to complete recording Liz Thompson Kirby and her brother, Chuck Thompson while they told the history of the Thompson family. That project is now in the hands of our video production company which will produce several 20-minute-long enjoyable segments.

WILMOT HISTORICAL SOCIETY – 2021 MEMBERSHIP FORM

Name(s): _____

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!