



WILMOT HISTORICAL SOCIETY

2022 Annual Newsletter



Message from the president

In spite of COVID, we had a very productive year. 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 2022.

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

2021 Annual Meeting

We were able to have our annual meeting this year on October 24 in the Town Hall with guest speaker Steve Taylor. Steve gave a talk on The Great Sheep Boom in NH, which was enlightening, funny, and well-received. In spite of the ever-present threat of COVID, we did have a nice attendance with everyone masked and sitting separately or in pods. Lindy Heim and her assistants set up a nice display of what was left from this summer's Curiosity Shop.

Veterans Memorial Anniversary Celebration

On May 29th at 2 p.m. the Society held a celebration to mark the 101st anniversary of the Soldiers Monument, now known as the Veterans Memorial. Although the weather was overcast and rainy, the turnout was impressive. People came from all over to take part in the ceremonies. Liz Kirby served as Master of Ceremonies, Rev. Jay MacLeod gave the invocation and benediction, American Legion Post #40 provided the patriotic protocols, Veterans were recognized for their service, and children from the local schools performed a tableau and recitations. Will Ögmundson on piano and Nola Aldrich on flute presented various musical selections for the program.



WWII Veteran and WHS member
Florence Gove

Curiosity Shop Report – *Lindy Heim*

Lindy reports that the one-day sale at the Wilmot Farmers Market in July netted an astounding \$1,027. The efforts of John and Margaret Monto and all the other wonderful helpers were recognized by Lindy in her annual report. However it is time to pass the baton to another nonprofit. The Wilmot Historical Society will retain its Curiosity Shop brand name for selling WHS published books and such but would like to offer the opportunity to use this popular fundraising vehicle, hosting a booth at the Wilmot Farmers Market to sell collectibles, to another Wilmot nonprofit. Lindy is happy to consult. Contact her at Lindy@heimfamily.org for tips and “how-tos.”

Acquisitions Committee Report – *Catherine Stearns*

A big find of the year was photographer Fred Goodhue's 150 glass negatives from the 19th and 20th centuries. Boston Post Cane holder Walter Walker loaned them to the Society in order to have them cleaned, restored, and digitized. Meanwhile Catherine Stearns and Al Price continue to photograph and catalog materials in the history room with the ultimate goal of having the information available on the web. The committee has rented space in a nearby storage unit that is climate controlled to protect the collection.

Membership

As of the end of our fiscal year, October 31, we had 125 active members. Our numbers are growing. We have continued to keep the dues at \$5 a person annually so that membership is open to all who want to join. It has been our experience that those who want to make a gift to support our activities, tend to do so when they submit their dues, and for this, we are extremely grateful. Last year \$3,980 came in as donations with annual membership renewals and applications. Thank you to one and all.

Grants

This year we received \$5,250 in grants to continue our work in preserving the history of Wilmot. \$4500 came from a private foundation to help with the cost of producing the Memories of Wilmot videos that chronicle the lives and times of Wilmot. The other grant was from Mascoma Bank to support the republishing of Casper LeVarn's book "The Early History of Wilmot, New Hampshire."

Wilmot Historical Society
P.O. Box 97
Wilmot, NH 03287

Pre-sorted STD US Postage Pd New London, NH Permit #11 ECRWSS

Covid-friendly — Tours of Wilmot
www.wilmothistoricalsociety.org

Postal Customer

Wilmot, NH 03287

WILMOT HISTORICAL SOCIETY – 2022 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!