

Andover Historical Society To Hear About First Flight In Granite State

By Margie Leber and Mary Hiller
Andover Historical Society

The Annual Meeting for the election of officers will be held on October 19 at 7 PM at the Masonic Hall on Cilleyville Road in Potter Place.

After the business meeting a program will be presented featuring Barbara Miles, Executive Director and Curator of the New Hampshire Aviation Historical Society (NHAHS). Founded in 1995, the NHAHS is a nonprofit organization whose mission is to preserve the history of aviation in New Hampshire, collecting aviation-related information and artifacts of the past, present, and future.

Ms. Miles will speak on *1910 – First Flight In New Hampshire*. Expect lively insight into the excitement the “Bird Men” created when they first took to the skies and performed their feats to convince a skeptical public what a life-changing development the invention of the Wright brothers truly was.

The excitement continues even today with such unlikely events as the moving of the historic 1937 Manchester terminal across the runways to its present location, where it will be a museum for the NHAHS.

Closer to home, on September 19 the Andover Historical Society sponsored an historic walk in the old village of Cilleyville and up Kearsarge Mountain

Road, led by Charlie Darling, the editor of *The Andover Beacon*. The enlargements of old photos and maps and the extensive preparation that Charlie put into the walk made it an informative and fascinating glimpse into history for the 30 or so participants.

By locating the industries that arose using the available water power – a saw mill, a grist mill, a large bobbin factory with its community dance hall on the second story, the Trumbull fish rod manufactory, a blacksmith shop, and a store or two – he recreated a sense of the busy and productive community that clustered at the confluence of the Blackwater River and Pleasant Brook around 1900. Today the restored Cilleyville-Bog Bridge stands as a reminder of how our areas change over time.

From time to time the Society will sponsor such walks and all are invited to join in to learn more about our local histories.

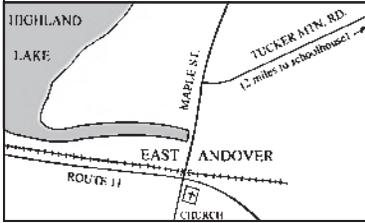
I Remember When...

“...Proctor Block had Mackenzie’s store, the Post Office, and Kate Harding’s restaurant. I worked at the restaurant when I was going to Andover High School.”

– Irene Jewett

What do you remember? Let us know!

The Historical Society’s museum at Potter Place is open for the summer on Saturdays from 10 AM to 3 PM and Sundays from 1 to 3 PM. The Tucker Mountain Schoolhouse (see Ed Hiller’s map below) is open on the second Sunday of every month from June to October from 1 to 3 PM.



This Month In Andover History

Excerpts from John Eastman’s *History of Andover 1751-1908* and from Ralph Chaffee’s *History of Andover 1900-1965*

“October 1869 – A great freshet [sudden rise in the level of streams and rivers] did much damage. The Keniston Bridge was seriously damaged by the undermining of the abutments. Nearly thirty rods [about 500 feet – a rod is about 16.5 feet] of the Northern Railroad embankment below the Andover Center Fire Station were washed away and many of the highways were badly damaged.”

- selected by Ralph Doe

Rail Trail To Potter Place To Open

Work on the rail trail got serious on September 23 when Friends of the Northern Rail Trail in Merrimack County (FNRT-MC) volunteers cut four inches of large stones off the top of the rail bed. Norman Lemay used a grader loaned by C.R. Bentley Landscaping of Salisbury to scrape away the stones and smooth them off to the sides of the rail bed.

Next, George Burdick of the Andover Snowmobile Club compacted the exposed surface with a large vibratory compactor that FNRT-MC rented, creating a firmly compacted base that is ready to receive the hardpack material that will form the surface of the new rail trail.

FNRT-MC is planning to install and compact the new hardpack rail trail sur-

face between Blackwater Park on Lawrence Street and Potter Place, a 1.7-mile stretch, starting on Friday, October 14.

On Saturday, October 29 a ribbon-cutting ceremony and celebration of this first phase of trail improvements will take place at Blackwater Park. Various public officials will be present, and the public will be invited to try out the trail. Bicyclists, walkers, wheelchair users, and horse riders will be encouraged to enjoy this first stretch of trail. Shuttle vehicles will be provided for those who wish to go all the way to Potter Place and be driven back to the start at Lawrence Street.

More details as to time and activities planned will appear in the next issue of the *Beacon*.



George Burdick compacts the base of the new rail trail. Photo: Charlie Darling

SRK Walkabout

Be prepared for fresh air and beautiful scenes. The 12th Annual Fall Walkabout, sponsored by the Sunapee-Ragged-Kearsarge Greenway Coalition, continues in October with the hikes listed below. Please contact the Walkabout hike leader for information about the time and location of individual hikes.

Good physical condition and walking experience is useful for lowland hikes. Good physical condition is required for mountain hikes.

Oct 1 – Mount Sunapee from Old Province Road, Goshen, to Newbury Harbor. A strenuous trail hike of 5.5 miles. Leader: Gerry Gold, 938-6132.

Oct 2 – Low hills woodland hike from Newbury Harbor to Chalk Pond, Newbury. A moderate road and trail hike of 4.5 miles. Leader: Charlie Kilham, 526-6421.

Oct 8 – Chalk Pond, Newbury, to Wadleigh State Park, North Sutton. A moderate walk of 5.4 miles, mostly on Class 6 roads. Leader: Iain Gilmour, 927-4053.

Oct 9 – Wadleigh State Park to Kearsarge Valley Road, North Sutton. A moderate lowlands road and trail walk of 4.0 miles. Leader: John Heiden, 526-7518.

Oct 15 – Mount Kearsarge from Kearsarge Valley Road, North Sutton, to Winslow State Park, Wilmot. A strenuous 6.1 mile trail hike. Leader: Peter Sabin, 456-3473.

Oct 16 – Winslow State Park, Wilmot, to Proctor Academy, Andover. A moderate woodlands and field walk of 6.0 miles. Leader: Nan Kaplan, 735-5352.

Oct 22 – Ragged Mountain from Proctor Academy, Andover, to New Canada Road, Wilmot. A strenuous trail hike of 6.4 miles. Leader: Ken Aldrich, 526-2942.

Oct 23 – New Canada Road, Wilmot to Wilmot Center. A moderate 4.1 mile hike on town dirt roads and woodland paths. Leader: Don Hinman, 768-3398. This is the final Fall Walkabout hike. Start thinking snowshoes!

The SRK Greenway Coalition is an all-volunteer, non-profit organization with members throughout the SRK region and beyond. Greenway guidebooks are available at local book stores. For more information about the SRK Greenway, visit SRKG.com.

COA Walking

COA walking is starting in Andover in the Proctor Gym. We can walk from 8:00 AM to 10:00 AM, Monday through Friday.

Remember, walking is good for the heart and the rest of the body, too, and it is fun! It gets the metabolism and body started out right for the day.

Bring a friend! Also remember to bring dry, clean sneakers to walk in.

For more information, contact Grace Stetson at 735-5611.



Andover Historical Society

Annual Meeting

October 19 • 7:00 PM
Masonic Lodge • Cilleyville Road
Potter Place

Election of Officers

Speaker: Barbara Miles
Executive Director & Curator of
NH Aviation Historical Society

Refreshments

PO Box 167 • Andover NH 03216
Yesterday Inspires Tomorrow



BARN STORE
OF NEW ENGLAND
Farm - Feed - Hardware
Lumber - Barn Building

YARD AND GARDEN TRACTORS
TRIMMERS/BLOWERS
CHAIN SAWS
BRUSH CUTTERS

12 MONTHS NO PAYMENTS
(ask sales person for details)

Priefert
Ranch Equipment

Vinyl Fencing
Metal Roofing
Dog Kennels
Heated Water Buckets

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Route 4
Salisbury, NH
648-2888

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