

New Hampshire Circle Of Home And Family

By Judy Perreault
NHCHF Halcyon Seekers

There were three statewide meetings for NHCHF this summer. The first was the Bead Workshop held in June at the Bead Bush Studio in Deerfield. Judy Bush, a former extension educator, gave an informative talk on the origin of beading and other early jewelry.

She showed some wonderful examples of different types of jewelry collected from all around the world. Then we had the difficult choice of picking beads from her extensive collection to make our own jewelry. I finally settled on some blue and white beads and made a necklace and earring set. Each attendee chose something different and were very pleased with their creations.

The second was a trip to The Fells in Newbury. The Fells was the summer home of American writer and diplomat John M Hays who served as private secretary to Abraham Lincoln. He was Ambassador to Great Britain and Secretary of State to President McKinley and Roosevelt.

We were met by Mary Kronenwetter, the education director, who started our tour describing the gardens along the walk to the house. Sharon Kenrick took over for the house tour which began with a video presentation. Sharon was a very enthusiastic and knowledgeable guide and gave us a great feel of the house and how the people lived and entertained. Each generation added something to the house.

We had a damp tour of the gardens which were very pretty. We had missed the height of the azalea blooms but there were a few left. While we were there we saw an art exhibit of various views of the Sugar River done by Andover's Lisa Jelleme-Miller and by Jennifer Hansen.

We had brought lunch and enjoyed it on the terrace overlooking the rose gar-



Shirley Currier (l) chats with Ann Bridge of Concord at NHCHF's Friendship Day. Photo: Judy Perreault

den. Despite the weather, which did clear off toward noon, we enjoyed the day.

Our guide recommended a trip back in November to see the home decorated for the holidays. The theme this year is Holiday Celebrations Around The World.

Our last event, Friendship Day, was in August. It was hosted by Merrimack County at Yvonne Wheeler's home on Winnepocket Lake in Webster. The theme was the '50s. Over 25 members attended and enjoyed a lunch of salad, sloppy joes, and dessert.

Some of the ladies got into the spirit and dressed in '50s clothes. We had a competitive auction of items that members had brought and raised some money for expenses and for the Abby Sargent Scholarship Fund.

We rounded off the day with root beer floats and games. It was a beautiful sunny day but a bit too cold for swimming.

The next meeting of the Halcyon Seekers is on Monday, September 18, at 12:30 PM at Judy Perreault's home. The program is tea. Bring a sandwich to share and dress for a '50s tea—gloves, etc. Please call 735-5493 if you plan to attend.

Blackwater Grange

The Blackwater Grange met on August 10 with eight members present. The Grange made a donation to the Friends of the Northern Rail Trail committee.

Danbury's Blazing Star Grange will hold a fair in Danbury on Saturday, September 9.

The next meeting of the Blackwater Grange will be our annual Awards Night supper on Thursday, September 14, at 6:30 PM at the Masonic Hall in Potter Place. Pat Rich will be catering the supper.

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