

Andover Historical Society Elects Four New Trustees

Don Gould's presence on the board will be missed

Press release

At its November board meeting, Andover Historical Society approved a number of changes to its Board of Trustees. Joining the board are:

- Pam Cooper, a self-employed business consultant who moved with her husband Ron into the historic Emery Homestead on Chase Hill Road in 2012

- longtime Andover resident Sandra Graves, a volunteer for years in many local organizations

- Andover native Rita Norander, a descendant of the Hersey family whose farmlands near the Franklin border are now protected by conservation easement
- Jesse Schust, an Andover native who recently returned to his family's home on Elkins Hill Road

Leaving the board are:

- Richard Brewster, a trustee since 2003 and unofficial groundskeeper of the Historical Society's Potter Place holdings, a title he will continue to hold

- Paul Glorioso, a trustee since 2004, who will continue to assist with mounting the Society's exhibits and evaluating items for its annual auction

- Don Gould, a board member and its treasurer since 2001

- Wanda Smith, longtime local resident and member since 2010, now living in Florida

Re-elected board members are Sarah Will, Edna Peters, and Arch Weathers.

The re-elected officers are: Pat Cutter, president; Alex Estin, secretary; Pat Cutter and Robin Boynton, co-directors, museum management; Suzy Norris and Nancy Barrett, co-directors, community relations; Chris Norris and Tim Norris, co-directors, building and grounds.

The position of treasurer remains open. About the outgoing treasurer, Pat Cutter said: "We have been blessed since 2001 by Don Gould's contributions on the board – by his keen eye for financial matters, by his willingness to tackle hundreds of non-financial jobs and projects, and by his unfailing good humor. The entire board will miss his presence."



Pictured is the front side of the Frank W. and Ellen Hersey's farm, which faced down Tucker Mountain Road rather than facing the road itself. This picture was taken at the 1914 Hersey Reunion, 100 years ago. In later years, daughters May and Edith owned the farm and lived there together.

An Old Hersey Farm on Tucker Mountain Road

Photo from October Beacon explained

Rita Norander, for the Beacon

In the October issue of the Beacon, there appeared an old photo of the Tucker Mountain Schoolhouse and, in the distance down Tucker Mountain Road, a former Hersey farm that has since burned. We asked readers for more information about the old farm, and Rita Norander sent the following:

In Ralph Chaffee's book, *East Andover and Its People, Fifty Years Ago and Today*, you'll find:

"Another quarter of a mile or so beyond the so-called Weir Bridge was the 'Old Mountain Home' of Frank and Ellen Hersey and their daughters May and Edith. Frank Hersey came there in 1867, marrying the daughter of Col. Jacob Rowe, whose home it had been for a long time. Grace and I have in our possession the appointment papers of Jacob Rowe as Ensign, Captain, and finally in 1840 Colonel, commanding the 21st Regt. of New Hampshire militia.

"The 'Old Mountain Home' was another of those farms which catered to boarders in the early days of the century. May Hersey was the last teacher in the little red Tucker Mountain schoolhouse in 1891, and her sister was one of the last students there. After their parents died, the two unmarried sisters continued to live in the farm for a time, generally referred to as 'the Hersey girls.'

"Eventually (1922), they sold their old home and moved to California. Af-

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ter the Hersey girls, a Wainwright family lived there for a while, and then Paul Sr. and Anna Jurta, who were there in 1924. Here misfortune struck again, when all the buildings were totally destroyed by fire in the spring of 1934, and another fine old farmstead disappeared forever."

Rita fills in many family details:

There were two Frank Herses. The above-mentioned one was Frank W. Hersey, who was born in 1843, and he was an uncle to Frank T. Hersey, who was born in 1872. The younger Frank was married to Grace Tucker, and their children were Alta and Alfreda Hersey, who at one time owned the Tucker Mountain Schoolhouse. The older Frank was also uncle to my great-grandfather, Benjamin G. Hersey, who lived on Chase Hill Road.

All of the above-mentioned Herses were very active members of the annual Hersey Reunion. (This year's reunion was the 117th!) The reunion was hosted by May and Edith Hersey at their Tucker Mountain home three times before they moved to California. Even after they moved, they planned their return family visits to coincide with the reunion.

I have two pictures of Frank W. Hersey which were taken at the 1902 Hersey Reunion. I also have two pictures of the reunion when it was held at May and Edith's in 1914. These pictures show the front side of their farmhouse, which does not face the road, but rather is perpendicular to the road.

And lastly, I have a picture of May and Edith, along with Frank T. Hersey, which was taken at the 1939 reunion.



Jack McAuliffe was the guest presenter at the Wilmot Historical Society's 2014 annual meeting and Stories of Old Wilmot program on November 2.

Ninety-year-old Jack, demonstrating his enviable memory, told stories of growing up in Wilmot on the family's Stearns Road farm. He walked or bicycled to several country school houses before attending high school in Andover, where he boarded nearby on weekdays to save his family from having to make the long commute from North Wilmot.

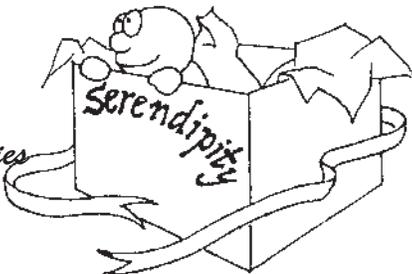
Photo and caption: Lindy Heim

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