

Andover Historical Society: 2015 in Review

A good year, with new faces and new projects

Pat Cutter, AHS president

It was another good year for the Society, our 33rd, and it was a busy one. Financially it was not a banner year, but revenues held fast, we are on solid ground, and visits to the museum are up.

Projects and Events

The 2016 calendar was entitled "Andover Center Then and Now," and we appreciate the venues that offered them for sale: both Andover libraries, the Andover Service Club Thrift Shop, New Horizons Hairstylists, Morgan Hill Book Store, and The Andover Beacon office.

We also thank all of the monthly sponsors who make the calendars possible and profitable: Tilton Medical Associates; Mountain High Kennel; Jay C. Boynton, Attorney at Law; JP Paquette Construction; Baker and Hartwell; Belletetes; The Village Sweep, Rick Estes, Proprietor; Lake Sunapee Bank; and the Blackwater Junction Restaurant.

In January, after much consideration, the Board voted to replace the Lull house on Depot Street across from the railroad station with a new, more suitable building that might contain public toilets. As of this date, no further plans

have been considered.

June was very busy. On the 3rd we had our annual visit from the fourth grades of Andover, Webster, and Salisbury.

On the 5th we hosted about 30 senior citizens from Osher Lifelong Learning Institute at Granite State College, a first for us. The group heard two presenters: John Hodgson spoke about Richard Potter, and Ken Cushing gave a Powerpoint presentation on the Northern Railroad. Both speakers were very well received.

On the 6th we celebrated National Trails Day with a public meeting at Proctor's Stone Chapel featuring some of the wonderful photos Charley Freiberg took of architectural features along the Northern Rail Trail from Boscawen to Lebanon. Charley, Ken Cushing, and Charles Martin, author of *New Hampshire Rail Trails*, all spoke to an enthusiastic full house.

A selection of Charley's photographs, mounted by Paul Glorioso, were on exhibit at the railroad station this season and then went on to the Wilmot library. On June 25, at our public meeting, we welcomed the return of folk musician Jeff Warner.

During the summer, the box car at the Freight Shed in Potter Place was re-

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Fifty Years Ago in Andover: February 1966

Here's some old news from the Andover, East Andover, West Andover, Potter Place, and Cilleyville "gossip" columns of the Franklin Journal Transcript, selected by Heather Makechnie.

February 3, 1966

Much sympathy goes to the Bernard Miller family in Franklin. Bernard passed away at his home on the weekend. He was born in town and attended schools in Flaghole.

February 10, 1966

Miss Judith Adair Boyd, daughter of Mrs. Albert Truman Boyd and the late Mr. Boyd of Andover; and Lawrence Tucker Evans, son of Mr. and Mrs. John Lawrence Evans of Manchester, were married on February 5, at St Andrews Church in New London. Mrs. Evans graduated Andover High School and attended Plymouth State College and the University of New Hampshire. Mr. Evans, a research assistant with Harvard Herbarium and Arnold Arboretum, is a graduate of Manchester High School and of the University of New Hampshire, where he was a member of the Acacia fraternity. The young couple will leave shortly for Puerto Rico, where Mr. Evans will be engaged in botanical research.

This week at Regal Theatre: HELP! Help yourself to seven new Beatles hits with John, Paul, George, and Ringo! The colorful adventures of The Beatles are more colorful than ever ... in Eastman Color!

February 17, 1966

Funeral services will be held on Saturday for Budd H. Keyser, 83, who died at his home in Andover Plains after a sudden illness. Mr. Keyser was born in Sutton and had lived in Andover for about 65 years. He had been a farmer and a woodsman, working at the Andover Box Shop for several years and for the Town of Andover. Members of the family include his wife, Mrs. Esther Clark Keyser; six sons: Clarence, Robert, Harold, Ralph, and Fred Keyser, all of Andover, and Joseph Keyser.

February 24, 1966

The Stephen D. Jewett Memorial

Scholarship fund was swelled to the new high of \$1,916 this past week with a contribution by the Webster Valve Company, as well as Blackwater Grange and a number of private citizens.

A Single Vote Knocks Andover Out of the Cooperative School: The eight communities in the Kearsarge Regional study registered their feelings by ballot on Monday night. All except Andover voted overwhelmingly to join in the proposed Kearsarge Regional Cooperative School District.

That Andover vote, a hair-raiser, was split almost exactly down the middle: 150 Yes, 151 No. Whether Andover will accept this as a final vote or try to take further action is not known at this point.

Because the vote is so close, the State of New Hampshire provides that another vote may be taken. Meanwhile, Andover continues negotiations with the Franklin School Board as well.

New Fire Truck: The East Andover Volunteer Fire Department's new 1965 Dodge fire truck arrived on the weekend, all equipped and ready to go. The firemen gathered at the fire station on Saturday for a demonstration and try out, with a great many people looking on.

The first actual use of the new truck was on Sunday morning at a chimney fire down to Mr. Temple's on the Andover/Franklin Road.

A great many donations were given towards the truck. The firemen have worked hard to get this truck by having parking privilege collections at Highland Beach.

The volunteer fire company first organized in 1936 with a 1932 Chevrolet fire truck. There were 25 firemen at that time. The first chief was William Miller, Junior, and captain was Gerald Walker.

All the new firemen and a good share of the old firemen have worked very hard and deserve a great lot of credit. Other fire chiefs were Lawrence Rising, Leland Miller (now deceased), and present Fire Chief, Bryant Adams.





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