

## PRESIDENT

Juanita Hunt

**HOPE HISTORICAL SOCIETY**

The society house opened for the 2022 year in April with a short meeting followed by guest speaker Zachary Fowler. Zachary is a finalist on the survivalist TV show: "Alone". He gave a very interesting presentation of the experiences he went through to become a finalist.

Our May meeting guest speaker was Jane Liedtke who gave a very interesting slide presentation on Coiled Pine Needle Baskets. Margaret Morse & Juanita Hunt set up vintage sewing display of about 25 items in a small display case. It has a tatting shuttle, hat pins, men's shirt collar studs, and common pins that have porcelain heads. Several other items are also displayed. Margaret has sifted through newspaper clippings and compiled them in two scrapbooks of the Snowmobile Club's activities.

In June, Marie with her excellent group of volunteers held a very successful lawn, bake, and craft sale at the historical house. Many thanks to all who either baked, donated, or purchased items. It was a very successful day. The historical home is open to the public every Friday, June through September, from 9am to 12pm, with Marie being hostess.

At the June meeting, the guest speaker was Emma Jordan, a Hope gal who won a photography award for her film: "The music Box." The film centered around a music box which was found at Hope General Store, where Emma worked when she was in high school. Emma is now enrolled in The University of Southern Maine where she is studying photography.

In July, our program director, Margaret Morse, made arrangements for us to tour Robbins Lumber in Searsmont. There were 20 that had an excellent and very educational tour of the mill. The society had a booth at Union Fair in July. Bunny Gleason & Juanita Hunt put together an exhibition on kitchen utensils, carpenters' tools, mechanics tools and a table of unknown items from yester years. The booth received 2<sup>nd</sup> place. We had a great time putting it together.

Mary Pearse donated her mother's (Ruth Pearse) "Clarion" cook stove. Roger Hunt refinished it greatly improving the looks of the old stove. Jarvis Johnson and Roger Hunt installed new boards on the wall behind the cook stove, adding a lot to the garage area. We have a display of old kitchen items next to the stove. We added a collection of laundry items from "Grandma's Day". About 50 vintage items were added to the collection.

At our August meeting, Mary Kelly gave a very interesting slide presentation about weaving and the history of different weaves.

September's guest speaker was Kevin Johnson who gave an excellent slide presentation and narrative on the life and photos of Kosti Ruohamaa. It was titled: "Kosti Comes Home" from 1930 to 1950. It was greatly enjoyed.

Marie coordinated the Hope Historical Society's table for the Fall Festival at the Hope Corner Orchard. It was well attended. Marie also coordinates for the bake/craft sale at the town office on election day. It was a great success! Many thanks to everyone who baked or purchased items!

October's meeting was a potluck supper held at the fire station. "Painted Wall Preservation" for early wall stenciling visited the house at the request of Cindy DellaPenna to give us information on the unique stenciling on the parlor walls. It may have been stenciled by Moses Eaton Jr. around 1820.

November's guest speaker was Hope's Sexton, Beth Gindel. She has done a fantastic job on researching information and documenting work that she and her crew of volunteers have done on cleaning up the Morey Hill Cemetery and locating graves of our ancestors. There have also been at least 16 gravestones set up and repaired at Hope Grove Cemetery. Several formerly unknown gravesites have been identified at both cemeteries. They have done a superb job.

Cindy DellaPenna took a course in grant writing for nonprofit organizations. She then wrote a grant and was informed that a grant has been awarded to cover the cost of installing 3 heat pumps at the Historical House. We owe Cindy a HUGE thank you for all the time she spent on taking the class and writing the grant. Thank you, Cindy! The heat pumps will be installed in February of 2023. Cindy has also written 4 books: "John Folger's Day Book," "Array of Hope," "Town clerk Records 1704-1848" and "A Taste of Hope" Cookbook that may be purchased at the historical society.

In December we had a potluck brunch with 22 attending. A very enjoyable time was had by all.

The society has lost a long-time member, Barbara Ludwig.

Many historical items have been donated to the society this year, for which we are grateful. Each item is cataloged with a description, number, and donor's name. This is a very necessary and time-consuming job done by Gwen Brodis and Donovan Bowley.

We are grateful for the generous support from citizens and friends of Hope in supporting our fundraising projects.



Antique Tools

*Photo by Juanita Hunt*