

PRESIDENT
Juanita Hunt

HOPE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

We have only met twice for meetings, which were held at the fire station so we could socially distance.

Marie has headed up two sales. One was a lawn/bake sale at the society house held in June, and the other was held at the Town Office on voting day. Both were very successful. We thank everyone for donating items and food. Many thanks for the people who purchased items. These moneys help pay for the insurance, fuel, electricity, and maintenance of the society. We also have cookbooks for sale which were put together by the society.

We are very grateful to Barbara Carver for her generous bequest to Hope Historical Society, as well as generous donations from people who have passed away and requested money to be donated to the society in their memory.

The Hope Historical Society has printed hardbound copies of Hope, Maine: Town Clerk Records 1804-1848 and is in the process of printing John Fogler's Day Book 1839-1853: South Hope Entrepreneur. Transcription of the Town Clerk records was a project taken several years ago when Yale Law Library forwarded the digitized copy of the ledger to the Historical Society. The ledger had been thought lost. With the urging of our then webmaster, Robert "Bob" Appleby, the slow process of transcription was accomplished.

There were several transcribers, and the finished product was published in a digitized format in 2020 on Yale Law Library's digital commons website. A hardback book edition was determined to be useful and was printed this past winter. The Hardback includes an Appendix with a table of Town Officers, early town roads (laid out and discontinued), and the 1812 State, County & Town tax list.

John Fogler's Day Book: 1839-1853 provides a window on what it was like conducting business transactions in our mid-coast region: the prices of goods, the cost of labor, and the cost of transporting goods. Both books will be available for reading at the Historical Society home when we open again.

We have a liaison officer, Cindy DellaPenna, who works on research for both the Historical Society and the Hope Cemetery Committee. Cooperation in the study of family history is beneficial to both.

I urge people to write down their everyday family life experiences; things that should be remembered and cherished memories, history. It is such a short time until they are forgotten.

The society appreciates the many items donated each year. Each item is very carefully researched and cataloged. This is all very time consuming but so important! All items in the collection have been donated.

Hope Historical Society has a website for which we are very thankful. There is a wealth of information on the society's website www.hist.com as well as on the town's website. Take a few minutes to read how Hope came to be, its early settlers, farming, family reunions and so on.

We are hoping to have regular meetings, the 3rd Tuesday of each month. We hope to be open to the public on Mondays throughout the summer from 9-noon, or by appointment.

The society address is P.O. Box 2001 Hope, Maine 04847. New members and the public are always welcome.



*Tipi atop Bull Hill – 1975
Photo courtesy of Ruth Emmett*