

RYE HISTORICAL SOCIETY AND TOWN MUSEUM

August News and Upcoming Events



**Historic Rye Beach: An Illustrated Talk
by RHS researcher Jen King
with Audience Participation**

**Thursday August 10, 6:30 PM at the Rye
Public Library**

This program has been inspired by the presenter's
research and development

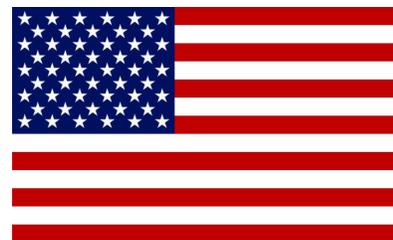
of a mobile app walking tour of Rye Beach

Co sponsored by Rye Historical Society and Rye Public Library

**Celebrate Labor Day and the end of a
great Summer with
a guided trip back into Rye's rich
history**

September 4th 10:30am-noon

Rye History Trolley Tour



The tour leaves from the Rye Public Library Parking Lot
plan to arrive by 10:15 AM

\$20 per person \$18 for over 65 and under 18

Our last tours have been SOLD OUT, so please book ahead of time

Reservations by e-mail only:

info@ryenhistoricalociety.org

Memories of Chris Remick, RHS Board Member

I first met Chris through my wife Nina early in the century. Both of them are artists and Chris had a gallery at Foye's corner where she represented Nina's art. Chris specialized in folk art and also exhibited at the Collectors Eye in Stratham. We have a Rye theme folk art creation by Chris hanging in the museum.

Her father Tony had a well drilling business in town and Chris donated a metal thermometer with his advertising and some great photos of Tony at work drilling. As fellow natives of Rye, Chris and I had fun reminiscing about our youth.

As a deacon at the Rye congregational Church, Chris was able to arrange for some RHS programs there and a few years ago she facilitated a long term loan of all church records (4 file drawers) to the museum. And while she was organizing them in the museum she did the same for our disorganized, but excellent textile collection which still is in need of archiving.

Over the years we became very aware of her love for Ireland (the auld sod) and she was so happy when she got Roger and Jan Philbrick to accompany her and Harry on one of their many trips to the old country. Chris even visited the beginning point of the first successful Trans-Atlantic cable to the US that began in Ballyinskellig, County Kerry, Ireland, via Tor Bay Nova Scotia and terminated in Rye in 1874. She created an album of that historical location on display in the museum.

She was one of those rare people who served on all three town organizations/ town government bodies related to history: The Rye Historical Society, The Rye Heritage Commission and the Historic District Commission, a model of civic engagement.

Chris helped RHS to revive its membership a few years ago, laying a foundation that in 2017 propelled RHS to over 100 members. In my last conversation with Chris in mid-June while she was staffing the museum, I brought six envelopes from the post office, the latest six members. After she opened them she beamed and exclaimed: "We'll make it to 100 easily!"

In 2008 Chris had a column in Fosters called "Wry View" and thanks to RHS board member, James Tegeder, we now have four of them for the museum archives. Her sense of humor and clever writing were on display in these columns and here are some excerpts from one called: Hopping Down the Bunny Trail.

"My corned beef – which is not eaten in the auld sod – is ready for the pot...I would never, ever add beets to corned beef and cabbage, especially since that makes the fodder less Irish and more New England boiled dinner. Erin Go Bragh!....The older I get, the idea of tradition gains importance. Perhaps as I age, I'm becoming a relic of the past and hope to be treasured too." Indeed.

In 2015 my son in law Ryan Balas and my daughter Deirdre made an independent film in Rye called "Hymns" and Chris allowed them to film her in the church. As Ryan wrote, she showed the kindness of strangers to them. This footage has been shared with Dan and Mathew. When I watched it today I was very moved by her devotion to her church and her town. Her humanity shone through brightly. Chris, we will miss you very much. Thank you for all you gave to us and to Rye.

Alex Herlihy, RHS, July 2017

[Click here to read more](#)

**We welcome our newest or renewed members -
thank you for your generous support!**

Judith Tallman
Scott and Frances Burkham
Ginna MacDonald
Bev Lord
Thomas Lydon
Karen and Robert Vose
Amy and Steven Borne
John McGonagle

We Did It!

We surpassed our 2017 goal and had a great Annual Meeting and Celebration

In late July RHS hit the 100 mark of new and renewed memberships!

We are grateful to all of our new and old members for your support and we welcome all of you on our newsletter distribution list to join RHS. Forty members gathered on July 23rd for the first RHS annual meeting to be held at the home of Garritt and Debbi Toohey on Sea Rd. near the Drake House. The president's message highlighted all our successes in the last two years and emphasized the need to grow our volunteers so we may attend to the many projects and tasks which all this success has created. (see article below.)

Our Membership Drive Continues - Join TODAY!

2017 Membership Levels:

Individual	\$10.00
Family	\$15.00
Sustaining	\$25.00
Business	\$50.00
Sponsor	\$100.00
Lifetime	\$500.00

"In kind" - Volunteer with RHS for 6 hours for membership

(ALL levels of donations are gladly accepted!)

[Click here to join online - it's EASY!](#)

Payment can be made via Pay Pal on our website or by check made out to "Rye Historical Society" and mailed to PO Box 583, Rye NH 03870, or placed in our new mailbox at the museum. Please include your name, mailing address and e-mail..

Volunteers Needed: See if Our Projects Match Your Interest or if Your Skills Can identify Other Tasks

As we all know, non profit organizations are only as effective as the level of their volunteers which includes the board. RHS has become successful on many levels, but our most glaring need is for people to help with projects and tasks such as finishing the very needed old house documentation, digitizing the old graveyard documents, learning to give Rye history trolley tours, developing a program to take the museum into Rye classrooms, archiving parts of the museum collection, archiving textile collection, digitizing Congregational church records, organizing a yard sale of items in our basement, staffing the museum, researching genealogy, helping with museum custodial duties including exterior painting, researching Rye history for a new book on this topic, promoting RHS film collection, etc. If these or other topics interest you please contact us at 997 6742 or write to e-mail below.

**Share The History of Your Home with a Historic
House Plaque**



Many Rye homes, business and public buildings are adorned with these handsome plaques. The cost of a plaque is \$85.

If you would like one for your home to add to the heritage of the town, house plaque applications may be picked up at the Rye library on the coffee table (behind the RHS brochures).

Check and application may be mailed to PO Box 583, Rye, NH 03870 or left in our mailbox by the front door of the museum.



Intimate Rye History Online - Access Rye History

Have you looked at all the new material recently posted on our web site? Under the tab: "Resources" click on Access Rye History and you will see over 1600's pages of a wide and diverse variety of primary source material from Rye 1850 - 1920. From diaries to letters to account books and much more you can open a window into the past and make Rye and American history come alive. Thanks to a grant from the New Hampshire Charitable Fund and the work of Robin Silva from the Portsmouth Athenaeum, RHS is now able to share a rich body of the past from our extensive collection.

Visit our website

Museum Summer Hours
Most Wednesdays 3pm to 5pm
Saturday 10am - 12pm
The Museum is open by request at (almost)
ANY TIME!

We're here for you - please email us at
info@ryenhistoricalociety.org



Rye Historical Society | 603-997-6742 | info@ryenhistoricalociety.org

10 Olde Parish Road, Rye, NH 03870

[Click here to be added to our email list](#)

