

Franklin NH Historical Society Newsletter – July 2023

Despite the dire weather predictions all week long prior to the event of thunderstorms in the morning *and* afternoon, the Annual Plant Sale occurred as scheduled under azure skies, dotted with just enough fluffy clouds to add character and substance. Although not attaining a new record in sales, the net was respectable, and along with dues payments and recent substantial donations, the checking account balance is now able to comfortably handle all monthly and yearly expenses for the remainder of 2023.

Karen Darling's youth group with assistance from her husband Dan, helped to untangle and clear much of the dead bittersweet vines from the "consortium bush" in the front yard. Volunteers in the effort included Emily and Vanessa Hollis, Kayla Adams, and Lilly and James Machos.

Cyndy Campbell put up signs along Rte. 3, Ken Ackerson was in charge of the cash drawer, with Sandra Burney, Rita Norander, Elizabeth Jewel, and Belinda Aylward all helping out with sales, with some contributing plants as well. Other plants came by way of Maureen Aube, the Pierce family, Annie Lund, and of course the Chairperson of the event, Annette Andreozzi, who expertly coordinated the entire affair.



Photo by Karen Darling

There will be NO July meeting due to its proximity to the 4th and the possibility of conflict with family plans of our members. However, as in years past, all members are encouraged to visit and learn from the varied historic venues the state has to offer, and relay their adventures to those assembled for the August business meeting.

The Society continues its tradition of open hours to the public every Saturday through the summer. And on any given weekend (when the weather is behaving), visitors may be treated to a glimpse of a venerable "Tin Lizzie", originally purchased from Sinclair Motors in Franklin and had listed among its previous owners Dr. Alphonse Legace (first owner), Judkins & Wallace, and Guy Buswell, now in the restorative hands of Ron Collins who loves to show off this beautiful example of early 20th century automotive craftsmanship. If anyone has a photo of Dr. Lagace in this car, please let the Society know if we can somehow get a scan. Ron would love one too.

If that is not enough to titillate your historic fancy, new items keep appearing every month for which the Society is extremely grateful. This past month gifts came from the following, with a listing of their donations: **Linda Pauwels**—her usual clipped obits and newspaper articles of local interest, as well as her 1961 tiara awarded her along with the title of BPW Calendar Girl; **Bob Lucas (passed on from Sue & Steve Littlefield, N. Saco, ME)**—a WWII vintage floor model Zenith radio, which has been added to the Society’s military uniforms display for “historic flavor”; **Maurice Tandy**—his Navy dress blue uniform from his days of serving aboard the USS Daniel Webster atomic submarine, with shirt, tie, and gloves, accompanied by a 1966 letter by the sub’s commander mentioning Maurice’s last patrol aboard; **Ken Merrifield**—a framed Sawyer print of Webster Lake (from by Brent Lemire), a color snapshot of the Old Man of the Mountain by Richard Gordon, postcards of Central Street, and a rolled map of Webster Lake c. 1930(?) with property owners’ names; **Kathy Fuller**—Maxwell House and Campbell’s soup mugs and a 1950’s Simplicity Patterns apron (courtesy of the Clothes Closet Thrift store), WWII ration books from Albert T. Love, children’s’ books with three belonging to her grandmother, grandfather, and aunt all from 1901 to 1935 (now part of the schoolroom exhibit), and a Civil Defense nurse’s cap; **Beverly Larose, Parkland FL**—an 1876 deed possibly related to 88 Pearl Street; **Marie Legare Morang**—a 1980 Sears catalog (remember those?), an old newspaper photo of St. Mary’s school, and a 100th anniversary booklet from St. Paul’s; and **Annette Cain**—(2) vintage slide projectors (with which the Society can enjoy old-fashioned slide shows!), a Trachy-Smart key chain, Franklin Rotary Club pen, a 1982 FHS Drama Club program, a Franklin City 1982 Master Plan booklet, and a 1975-76 NH Network School Broadcasting Schedule (and a correction from last month’s newsletter: the thread identified as coming from one of the Franklin mills was actually donated for the attached tag, which came from Franklin’s J J Newberry’s).

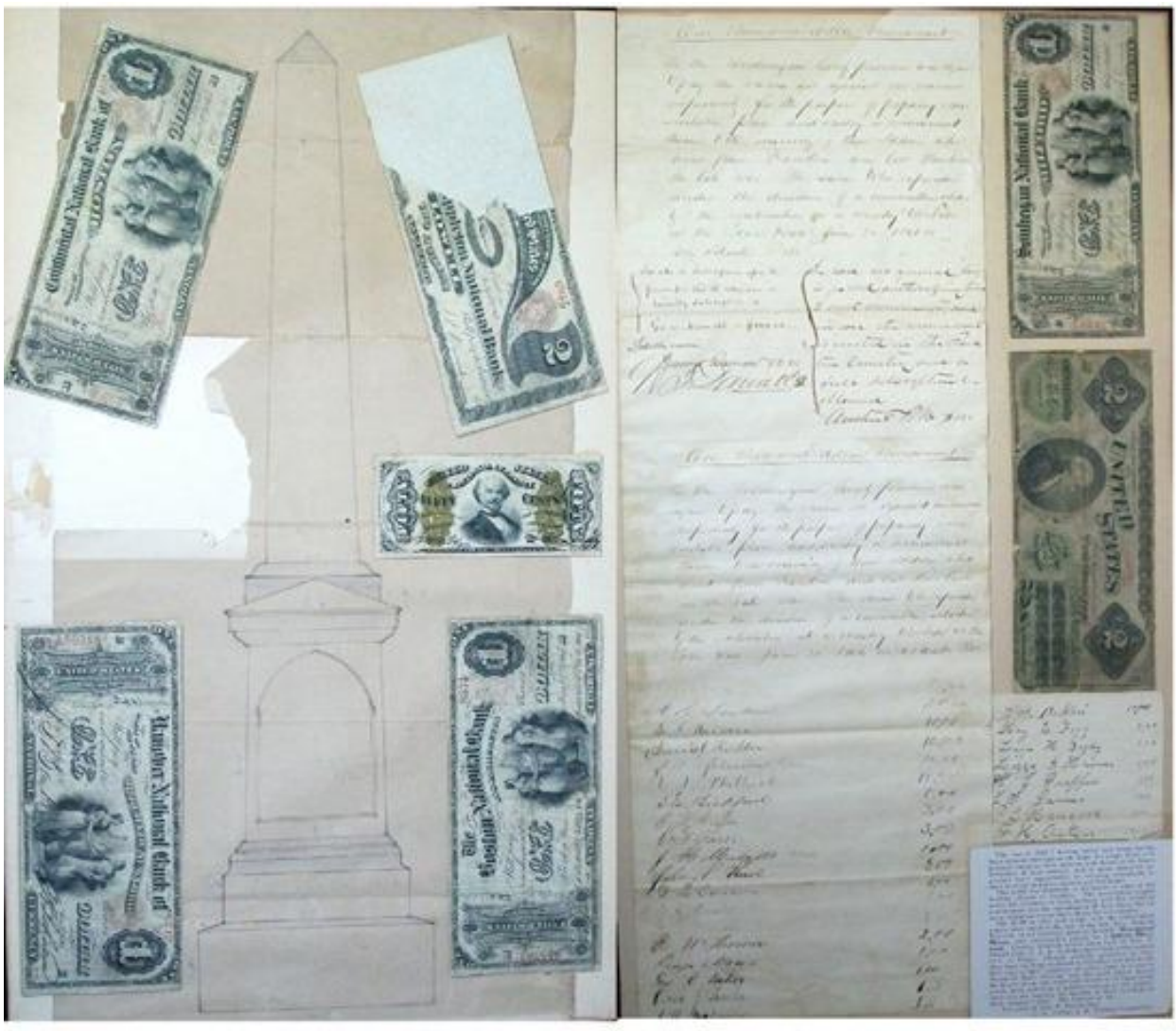
To all of our donors, THANK YOU.



FTCS (SS) USN RETIRED Maurice Tandy’s dress blue uniform as Senior Chief Petty Officer aboard the USS Daniel Webster

Other Society news of note: President Leigh Webb was once again, after a two year hiatus due to the pandemic, able to address the Franklin fourth graders on the places in their city most relevant to the birth and life of Daniel Webster. Thanks to Kerri Biller for arranging the talk.

After a very long absence (somewhere around 100 years) the documentation (and intended monetary donation) that promoted the 1866 attempt in Franklin to create a memorial to honor those who served in the Civil War, is back in the G.A.R. Hall where it was first displayed. Thank you to Rob Sargent who found this framed display and brought it to the Society's attention. The glass was broken, a piece of one bill and an entire other fractional 50 cents bill were missing. However, since its discovery, the glass has been replaced so no further damage can occur, and the item, with the consent of the Library Trustees, has been returned to its rightful home. Found in the safe of Stephen Kenrick after his death in 1884, the pledge documents, currency, and drawing of the proposed monument, played a part in reigniting the desire to create a lasting tribute in the town. This drive ultimately resulted in the construction of Soldiers Memorial Hall, or as most refer to it today, Franklin City Hall and Opera House. Lest we should ever forget, this building was, and is, and should always be, the city's tangible tribute to those who have served and sacrificed.



A scan of the contents of the framed display. This well-intentioned attempt never resulted in a monument, but may have played a role decades later in the town of Franklin finally recognizing its veterans.