

RYE HISTORICAL SOCIETY AND TOWN MUSEUM



News and Upcoming Events

Papa Joe's Traveling Storytelling Show

Saturday April 15th 10 am - 12 pm
Rye Public Library

A fun event for everyone in the family! Papa Joe Gaudet's living folktales have captured family audiences from Cow Head, Newfoundland, to Austin, Texas, from the beaches in Florida to the mountains of Washington State.



Pretty Halcyon Days, on the Beach with Ogden Nash

Thursday May 18th 6:30 pm
Rye Public Library

Ogden Nash and his family spent their summers on Little Boar's Head, in North Hampton, NH. Using examples from their original stage work, "Home is Heaven," Pontine Theatre explores the ways in which Nash's life on the New Hampshire seashore influenced his poems, giving the reader insight into the man, his character, and his ideas about family, society, and nature. These themes form a rich portrait of the poet and underscore how the intersection of literature and local history can deepen our understanding and appreciation of everyday events in our own backyard.



April House of the Month The Rand/Garland House 2 West Road



For our April house in the series, we are pleased to tell you about The Rand/Garland House at 2 West Road. According to the Parsons history of Rye, Amos Rand lived at this location. The first of his children was born in 1727, so if he indeed lived at this location it is the site of one of the older homes in Rye.

The house has ties with the Garland property across the road (now Christine's Crossing) which was the site of the Garland store as well as the West Rye Post Office at one time. Another possible resident of 2 West Road was Simon Garland who was married to Elizabeth Brown in 1754.

The house is assumed to have been built well before 1805, perhaps in the early 1700's. The 1805 map of Rye shows the property as belonging to John Garland (1776-1845) who married Elizabeth Parsons in 1799. In 1851 and 1892 the map shows William Cutter Garland (1810-1894), a cousin of John, as the owner.

The Rand/Garland House is a center chimney Colonial that has been expanded on the north side toward Washington Road. Although the tax records say the house was built in 1895, but both historical photos and the hand adzed beam structure indicate it is way older than that, at least built prior to 1800. The beams are not of uniform shape and size and are curved as they reach the roof line indicating that they were not made in a sawmill. The foundation is piled stone, loosely mortared, with a dirt basement, which also indicates initial construction sometime in the 1700's.

An interesting part of the house is what the present owners, Dan and Diane Conway, use as their garage. The structure used to be a feed store, and the area that is now the garage with master bedroom above was a pull through loading dock, where horse drawn wagons would drive through and feed would be loaded in from a loft.



**Winter Hours in Effect for April
Wednesdays 3 pm to 5 pm**

**BUT REMEMBER - the Museum is
open by request at (almost) ANY
TIME!**

We're here for you - please call for an appointment 603-997-6742 or email us at info@ryenhistoricalociety.org

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

Jessica Bland
Deb Meyer
Tom and Rose Clarie
Harold and Gloria Moldoff
Lesley Cornell
Gail Finn
Ted & Cindy Bishop Alex
J. Dennis Robinson
Nicole Callahan
Mark Josephs
Patricia Lawrence
Pat Yeager

Karen Oliver
Barbara O'Brien
Michael Schwartz
Joan Lovett
Beverly Shea
Jeffrey Quinn
Ellen & Dave Hamil
kay Ruma
Richard Berry
Michael & Georgette Fernald
Bill & Louise Bolton

and new LIFETIME MEMBER Joan Drapaeu

Our 2017 Membership Drive Continues!

Become a RHS member today!

Membership Levels:

Individual	\$10.00
Family	\$15.00
Business	\$25.00
Sponsor	\$100.00
Lifetime	\$200.00



***Sponsor and Lifetime members will be acknowledged and thanked at a special spring event**

"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..

Centennial of United States Entry into World War I

by Alex Herlihy

In 1905, Rye and other Seacoast communities, through a variety of events, warmly welcomed the delegations from Russia and Japan when they arrived in Portsmouth for negotiations to end the war between the two nations. This hospitality helped promote relations between the two antagonists and, with the skill of US diplomats, it led to the Treaty of Portsmouth, one of the first examples of multi-track diplomacy (see portsmouthpeacetreaty.org). The treaty helped stave off world war for almost a decade, but the forces of militarism, nationalism and industrialism won out in the end. In early August 1914, the international telegraph station in Rye, located just south of Locke's Neck, was besieged with messages. It took ten minutes rather than a few seconds to get a message through and was symbolic of war anxiety and how close the ties were between the Old and New Worlds at that time.

The people above are standing at Lang's Corner in April 1917 waiting for the trolley. (intersection of Wallis, Long John and Sagamore roads where gas station is today)

German submarine attacks on US ships finally prompted the US to declare war and many enlisted in the military. These Rye citizens are going to a patriotic, war-related event in Portsmouth. President Wilson later declared this would be the "war to end all wars," but it led to a century of unending wars across the world.

The following Rye residents served in WWI and, in spite of having seen "gay Paree," most, if not all of them, returned to town: Arthur Brown, Charles Brown, James Brown, Phillip Davidson, Willard Drake, Ernest Eaton, J Russell Elwell, Donald Finlayson, Herbert Ross, Wallace Garrett, Forrest Jenness, Burleigh Johnson, Harry Keltchner, Calvin Lear, Rollo Morton, Charles Parsons, George Parsons, John Parsons, George Philbrick, Manning Remick, Seth Rand, Albert Remick, Austin Remick, Erwin Seavey, Maurice Smart, Norris Trefethen, Ernest Varrell, Jesse Walker, Garland Wynott and Maynard Young. At least one of them, Jesse Walker, was never the same. We know many Rye women also served in a variety of ways including work in war related industries and troop support. Growing up in Rye, I was fortunate to know some of these WWI veterans.

116,516 Americans were killed in less than a year and a half, but the US helped to turn the tide against the Germans. Three of those war dead were from Rye: Thomas McLaughlin, Phillip Tucker and Willard Rand. The terrible battles where they fought and died still toll down through the years such as Chateau Thierry, Belleau Wood and the Second Battle of the Marne in which the French and the Americans pushed the Germans back toward the border in August 1918, leading to the Armistice on November 11, 1918.

France and the US have a long history of close relations. The French General, Marquis de Lafayette, who served us so decisively in the Revolutionary War and returned for a triumphant tour including Portsmouth in 1824-25, was central to that history. General John "Black Jack" Pershing led the American Expeditionary Force (AEF) to France in July 1917 and his frontal assaults were criticized for unnecessary loss of life (Britain and France had long abandoned them). Pershing was later proven to be prophetic by wanting to occupy Germany and destroy their militarism. After arrival in France, one of Pershing's officers declared to the Parisians: "Lafayette, nous sommes ici!" (Lafayette, we are here).

Is Your House or Road Special? Tell Us Why!

The Rye "House/Road of the Month" - each month a different house or road will be **featured in our newsletter as well as in Rye Magazine**.

Is your house or road historic and of special interest to the community?

If so, please contact us to enter this month's competition. Don't know much about your house but you know it's significant?

We can help you do the research!

Email us TODAY at info@ryenhistoricalociety.org

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.



10 Olde Parish Road, Rye, NH 03870

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

