

Franklin NH Historical Society News

January, 2015

The turkeys were skillfully cooked by Sally Bussiere and Annette Andreozi, the trimmings, potatoes, vegetables, and desserts were all provided by Historical Society members, and Christmas carols were led by Steve Foley completing another memorable holiday potluck dinner for which all could be truly thankful. The Society wishes to extend its most sincere gratitude to the Congregation-Christian Church for the use of Thompson Hall, and to longtime member and former president Glenn Morrill for arranging the date and time of the event. As in years past, donations were made to the local food banks and everyone went home sated, and filled with the holiday spirit.

Also in December the Society participated in the Franklin Opera House's 2nd annual "Festival of Trees" for which the Society would like to thank Linda Pauwels and Elizabeth Jewell for their donated decorations. The tree was delivered to the Opera House and decorated by the president, topped with a handmade wooden golden star. The lucky winner of the raffled tree also received a copy of every book the Society offers for sale, from Alice Shepard's "History of Franklin" to Elizabeth Jewell's "Franklin Then and Now", with the copy of "In Their Time" donated by Rita Norander, the author's sister. IN ADDITION, to make Christmas that much more special, the winner received a one year's membership in the Society, and a guided tour of the Society's exhibits at Webster Place. For the lover of history, could there have been a better Christmas present?

As the Society does not meet again until the first Thursday in April, next year's program of speakers is now being formulated. If you have an idea of a subject that would be of interest to the Society, please feel free to contact Leigh Webb at 934-8222 with your suggestion anytime during this month. The programs need to be finalized before the end of February, so the sooner the better.

The Curator's Corner has another opportunity to thank a constant donor in Norma Bushman for some incredible contributions: a box of ambrotypes and tintypes dating to before and during the Civil War of her relatives from the Barney and Stevens families, including one of Paul Stevens in his uniform of the 12th NH Volunteers, Co. G. Also from Norma: a childhood dress of her mother's (Verna Stevens), two family diaries from 1866 and 1877, an album of vibrantly colored Victorian cards, photos of the 1928 Franklin Centennial parade, and a sampling of miniature books published in the 1960's by Hillside Publishers, a Franklin company.

This month's photographic contribution is a winter view of the "Headwaters of the Merrimack River", better known as Daniell Point (behind the High School), or where the Pemigewasset and Winnepesaukee Rivers join to form the Merrimack.

For a New Year's resolution, it is the Society president's fervent wish that those interested in preserving Franklin's history pledge to get involved: join the Society, volunteer to participate in Society events or

help out at the Webster/Tay House, and encourage others to do the same. Seek out archival items and vintage photographs for donation, to be honored and cherished while being preserved properly by the Society, so that future generations can point with pride to the roots that fashioned their existence. Let 2015 be the year that the Franklin Historical Society sets records for numbers of new members and attendance at events. Let 2015 be a banner year for preservation and pride.

From all the officers and directors of the Franklin Historical Society, Happy New Year, one and all!

