

Franklin Historical Society, June, 2024

For various reasons (limited parking due to the construction activities by Easterseals, use only of a porta-potty as the Society's septic line has been temporarily disconnected, and the difficult task of predicting turnout numbers), the venue for the June meeting has been changed to the Peabody Place Senior Living facility at 24 Peabody Place. **The event will still be at 7 pm, Thursday, June 6th**, and will feature the program **"100 Years of Class Day"**. This is a chance to celebrate a tradition like no other, from its humble beginnings in 1924 to the classic it is today. The presentation will include images from the decades, with a potential surprise guest. As the actual parade for 2024 will only be a week later, this slideshow should get everyone in the proper mood to make the 13th a truly memorable occasion!

As always, the program is free and open to all, with light refreshments offered between the program and the regular business meeting at the end of the evening.



Community Day was an unqualified success! With the able assistance of Annette Andreozzi, who opened up in the morning, and stayed all day, and Annette Cain, Elizabeth Jewell, and Sandra Burney, Scavenger Hunt forms were sold, memberships received, and merchandise sold totaling over \$100! The weather was great, and despite the booth being somewhat hidden, new friends were made and relationships formed. Remember, Scavenger Hunt applications can be purchased (for \$10) at the Society on any Saturday, and during the Annual Plant Sale the 22nd! (More on that below...)

Last month also revealed a little gem, in keeping with the theme of the history of the Opera House, that was rescued from the dumpster filled with materials destined for a landfill. With its dramatic unveiling, came questions as to its origin. Based on research since, some answers have come to light, with some speculation to fill in a few blanks. The rolled painted muslin backdrop measured



roughly 7 by 9 feet, and displayed several symbols common to the Odd Fellows secret society.

The “All seeing Eye” (similar to the Masons, from which much was borrowed, including ceremonial similarities), the tent, but most of all, the three links of a chain. The links symbolized the organization’s motto: “Friendship, Love Truth” (with the initials FLT usually seen in the links), as can be seen in an image of a decorated collar box (above) found on the internet. This intriguing item was stored in the rafters of the attic of Soldiers Memorial Hall, which of course housed the Opera House.

Could this have been used by a presentation of the I.O.O.F. in the Opera House? Possibly *after* being used in a production in Burleigh Hall, on the third floor of the Odd Fellows building itself? Or was it only used on the Opera House stage? And what was the nature of the production? Perhaps future research, in newspapers and scrapbooks, may supply an answer...

So much has been donated to the Society lately that there is never a shortage of tasks to occupy any time not filled with guests touring the museum on Saturdays. So *thank you* to all those listed below for their contributions:

Linda Pauwels for her monthly gifts of newspaper tidbits, obituaries, and this time, a small metal coin bank from FSB, a photo of Hilda Geiler reading to children on the library lawn in the 1930’s, and a postcard of the replacement St. Paul’s church.

Kathy Fuller for a 1974 FHS letterman’s jacket, a 1940’s FHS baseball cap, a 4th grade diorama of the Veterans Memorial Ski Area made by Ted Beaudet in 2007, archival material from the early days of Winter Carnival, *including the “Holy Grail” of Carnival pin-back buttons, the very first from 1936-37!!* The Society now has the *only* complete collection of ALL the Winter Carnival buttons (alas, possibly to become a tradition relegated to memory only).



Annette Cain for a 2014 FHS Graduation Commencement program, a “Kathy Lynn Gloddy” remembrance T-shirt, and an Andover Beacon with Franklin articles.

John Benham for an 1896 copy of “The Story of the Indians of New England” by Alma Holman Burton, which painted an extremely unflattering portrait of America’s indigenous peoples. Perhaps the Society’s speaker in October may know of this tome, and have some

appropriate comments to make during his presentation of “The History of the Pemigewasset Valley”...

And **Tim Lemire**, who has over the years been sending digital copies of treasured family photos to include in our reference folder. This past month he added a view of his paternal grandmother, Marie (Mary) Lavoie in a group shot of women when she worked in one of the Franklin mills, and one of his Uncle Romeo Carignan in a class from St. Mary’s in the late 1920’s. Any positive additions to the story would be welcomed by Mr. Lemire and the Society.



Might this be the Sulloway or Stevens Mill?



The priest appears in other photos in the Society's collection in association with St. Mary's School.

June is the month of the Society's Annual Plant Sale. Pre-orders are encouraged, as per the information below. Don't miss out!

FRANKLIN HISTORICAL SOCIETY PLANT SALE FUNDRAISER

June 22, Saturday 10am-2pm

at 21 Holy Cross Road off of Route 3 in West Franklin

INDOOR & OUTDOOR PLANTS,
TOOLS, BOOKS, POTS, VASES, WHIMSYS

THIS YEAR we would like you to preorder your plants. That is the only way you can be sure we will dig up the plants that you want. **PLEASE** pre-order for best selection as some plants will only be available if pre-ordered.

TO **PRE-ORDER** email to agranitenh@gmail with your NAME, PHONE #, EMAIL, LIST of plants desired, and NUMBER OF PLANTS STEMS

for each plant desired. Or call 603 934-8222 please speak the above info slowly & clearly. We will contact you to confirm and let you know the cost.

Orders must be **picked up by noon** on sale day, to guarantee availability.

Please check the FranklinNHHistoricalSociety facebook page for updates and additions to the plant list, as well as plant details.

Whatever isn't pre-ordered will be **available to purchase** the day of the sale.

Available plants all grown locally by volunteers.

PERENNIALS:

ARTEMISIA Silver Queen; ASTILBE white; BEE BALM red; BALLOON FLOWER blue; BETHLEHEM STAR bulbs; BLACK EYED SUSAN; CORAL BELLS green leaves; CROCOSMIA; CAT mint; DAYLILY - Orange single early, Orange double tall late, Yellow short early, Light Orange short late Yellow/orange bicolor, Dark red/yellow stripe, "Mystery"
DEAD NETTLES; DIANTHUS Cheddar Pinks; EVENING PRIMROSE (sun drops);
GERANIUM scented; GOOSE NECKS;
GROUND COVER green, white, pink strip w/white flower
IRIS Bearded- purples, yellow/red, yellow short, Siberian- purple;
JACOBS LADDER; LILIES assorted Asian; MISSOURI PRIMROSE yellow;
MILKWEED PODS; MUMS - Cranberry, Orange; PEONY light pink; PHLOX pink tall
SEDUM ground cover pink or yellow flowers; SUNFLOWER small yellow flowers on tall stems
VERONICA blue

PERENNIAL SHRUBS:

GOAT'S BEARD; HUMMINGBIRD VINE; SPIREA; LILAC

EDIBLES: MINT apple; BASIL; CUCUMBER; SQUASH butternut; RASPBERRY Thornless; RHUBARB

HOUSE PLANTS: including Angel Wing Begonia, Aloe Vera

Lastly, the Society owes a debt of gratitude to Kathy Fuller for her suggestion, and Peabody Place, for graciously allowing the Society to hold its June meeting at its facility. THANK YOU.