

Franklin Historical Society

August 2021

The only social contact members of the Society have been able to enjoy is through email, phone calls, and texts, except for the in-person contact as associated with the June Plant Sale. Until now. The August meeting WILL be held on the first Thursday of August (the 5th) at **6 PM** (note the time change from the usual 7 pm) at the Webster/Tay House, Webster Place. It will be a *business only* meeting, reviewing past reports, the annual financial report, and voting on such items as accepting the fees for archivally framing the recently acquired maps of early mills, and authorizing expending funds for creating a replica map of Webster Lake from 1890 to be sold as a fundraiser. A clipboard with a sign-up sheet for providing refreshments for the remaining meetings of 2021 will be circulated, a discussion will be held about the applicability of Zoom, or the recording of meetings in the future, plus an update will come from Karen Darling on placing an historical marker near the Ladd house.

Because Covid seriously threw the Society off its stride, questions arose regarding when members should pay their dues. "Dues season" runs concurrently with the Society's fiscal year, ending on the last day of April, with the new year beginning the first of May. Previously, many members paid their dues in person at the first meeting in April. Obviously, that was not possible, and the only reminders were incorporated in the monthly newsletters. In 2022, we are all looking forward to a regular schedule once again, with dues payable at the beginning of the meeting season being preferred, so that an accurate roster can be compiled and distributed as early as is practical. Thank you to every member for your continuing support and patience in these extraordinary and abnormal times.

The Society has always encouraged Franklin High School groups to reach out to the Society for any assistance it can render at making reunions memorable occasions. This year, the 1970 class year book was loaned to Joya Clark to scan the graduation photos for use in their upcoming reunion (the original negatives, unlike so many from the Poblenz Studio, are not in the archives of the Society).

It is important to note that the Society does have a responsibility to share the information in its collections, which is why the museum attempts to rotate its exhibits in an effort to offer something different each year. In that ongoing effort, donations to our collections aid tremendously in answering questions (and asking a few) while helping create displays of exceptional educational value. Recent arrivals include: from **Eva Sharp** even more material (photos, correspondence, mementos) from the Wescott family; and from **Adam Graham** (of Maine) a bottle marked "C.H. Hinds Franklin Falls N.H.", complete with its original stopper and wire holder. It appears that CH Hinds had a lunch room on Franklin Street in the early 1900's, and may be the one featuring the sign seen in a vintage postcard owned by Linda Pauwels (see inserts below). The lunch room is touted in the middle of the photo, beneath the livery sign. The bottle may have once held a soda, such as sarsaparilla, possibly bottled locally, and used to advertise his eating establishment. By the 1917 city directory it was gone, and CH Hinds was back to making a living in another way, specifically plating metal.

