



MILTON HISTORICAL SOCIETY NEWSLETTER

On the 86th Anniversary of its' first dedication, September 6, 1909, the Civil War Monument was moved from the intersection of Route 7 and Main Street to the lawn of the Clark Memorial Building. It had to be moved to a new location to allow for the widening of Route 7 when the present bridge is replaced. Many people viewed the historic event including representatives for area newspapers and television stations.

The Historical Society is sponsoring the annual Vermont History Contest for the 4th Grade. Students and parents report gaining knowledge of Vermont from this contest. Prizes consisting of books about Vermont will be presented to each winner and a book will be give to the Herrick Avenue School Library. The contest dates will be April 4 to April 19 with awards given at the May 1st meeting.

This past summer we sponsored a Band Concert by the Fairfax, Fletcher, and Westford Band on the lawn of the Clark Memorial. In July, several members visited the Fairbanks Museum in St. Johnsbury.

When the Milton Town Offices and the Library moved to the new Municipal Building in July, the Milton Museum became the sole occupant of the building. Much time and effort was spent this year on trying to reach an agreement with the Milton Family Community Center who applied for a grant for joint use of the Clark Memorial Building. Since no agreement could be reached, we are left with the one room originally voted by the townspeople in 1978.

At the Milton Country Fair several members showed old-time crafts such as embroidery, making wooden toys, churning butter and homemade ice cream. Fair-goers enjoyed free samples of butter and ice cream.

Jane FitzGerald participated in the Summer Science Fair at Herrick Avenue School. Teachers and students were provided pictures and information on Milton's natural waterfalls and early mills.

Fifth and Sixth Grade students visited the Museum with their teacher to learn more about the important part that the Lamoyille River and Lake Champlain have played in Milton's history.

Some Junior High students also visited the Museum with their teacher in connection with a topographical map which they made and presented to the town of Milton.

A fun activity in September was an archeological dig which was held behind Ivan Sanderson's home. We hope to do this again.

Requests have been made for genealogical information. Presently we are looking for members of families of Dean Mortimer Cooley, William Phelps, and Alfred Washburn. If anyone has any information, please call some member of the Society. Gwen Brown helped visitors from California who were searching for members of the Daniel Marr's family. Many pictures of the Marrs Hollow Cemetery were sent to them.

Fran Ferro, Town Librarian, has invited us to set up exhibits in the library to encourage interest in the Museum. The first exhibit is being organized on Milton's schools.

The third annual Vermont Archeological exhibits will be shown in different places around the state from May 5-11. The theme is "Windows to the Past" and will shed light on Vermont's past. Lori Henry is making a quilt square for us which will show Milton's rich heritage.

At the June 5th meeting, Terri Buchner and history students from Burlington will present a program "Historical Development of the Position of First Lady". A trip to the Science Center is being planned during July. Everyone is welcome to attend.

We were fortunate to obtain records of Early Circuit Riders in the northwestern part of Vermont (Georgia, Milton, Fairfax, and Colchester)- courtesy of Peter Mallett of Georgia.

Rough drafts were made for a new Milton History Book. Possible completion of this book will be the main focus of our 1996-1997 year. Anyone who has time, typing skills, pictures on articles of Milton is encouraged to contact us. We need you and your help!

The death of President John FitzGerald was a tragic loss for the Milton Historical Society. We thank everyone who donated memorial gifts in his name. They will make the publishing of this book possible.

We regret that here was no newsletter in 1995. We have had no editor and time just slipped away. We are looking forward to a busy productive year and invite you to join us. The following officers were elected at the April meeting: President- Gwen Brown, Vice-President- Jane FitzGerald, Secretary- Stanley Henry, Treasurer- Jessica Sanderson, Historian- Ruth Ryan. Board of Directors: Iris Mayville, Loren Sanderson, and Lori Henry.

If you are interested in joining the Milton Historical Society, please send your check to the Milton Historical Society, Box 2, Milton, VT 05468.

Family Dues- \$7.50

Individual Dues- \$5.00

Name _____

Address _____
