



# HISTORICALLY SPEAKING

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE MILTON HISTORICAL SOCIETY

2008-2009

## Hear Ye, Hear Ye...Celebrating 30 Years! by Jane FitzGerald

During the mid to late 1900s, Milton experienced dramatic change. During the twenty-five year period from 1950-1975, Milton's population increased from 2000 to 7000 with several family farms disappearing. Many new homes were constructed and nine one-room schools closed, followed by construction of the first consolidated Elementary School and a larger Jr.-Sr. High School. Many families had previously remained here for generations, resulting in family and town histories being shared orally with families and friends. As we witnessed these changes, it became obvious that Milton's town center would be moving from the Main Street area known as Milton Village for over one hundred years. We needed to preserve two hundred years of Milton's History.

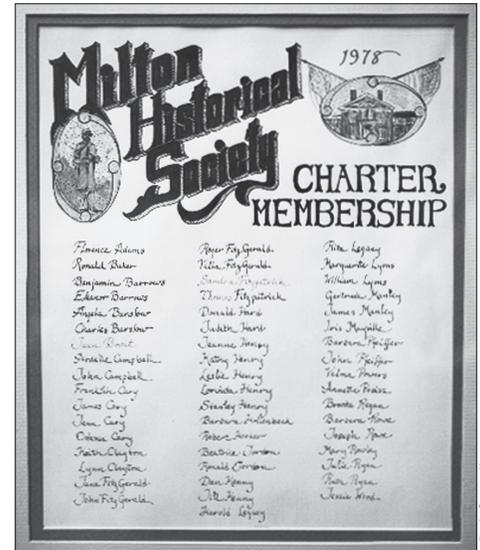
located in one room upstairs in the building. When the new Municipal Building was completed in 1994, the Town returned the building to the Clark family.

With the lack of concern of some people for our early village and the changing landscape, we realized the necessity to organize the Milton Historical Society to keep our town's history alive for future generations. The Society's purpose is to collect, preserve, promote, and present Milton's history to interested persons.

Thirty years ago, in April 1978, the Society consisting of fifty-two charter members held its first meeting at the American Legion Hall, our meeting place from 1978-2001.

During that first year our enthusiasm and energetic members wasted little time in becoming visible. It was imperative that we reach out at every opportunity to share Milton's important and interesting past. Our first public appearance was our prize winning float at the Country Fair Parade in late June. With "Back to Basics" as the theme, our display was a one-room school with all the appropriate furnishings, complimented by teacher and pupils in authentic dress. In October of that year, we held the first of several successful Historic Homes Tours, which included seven homes on Main Street.

One of our most important concerns was to have a place to collect and exhibit artifacts and memorabilia. One room in the recently renovated Clark Building had been suggested, but town officials deemed the space necessary for offices. After learning there was adequate space, a petition was presented to town officials asking that an article be placed on the ballot at the special election held on November 7, 1978. It



The Milton Historical Society Charter Membership plaque, created in April 1978.

would allow the Historical Society the use of one room upstairs in the Clark Building for the Milton Museum. The town overwhelmingly approved the space for the town's first Museum. For the next six months, members made bookcases, a library table, curtains, and acquired showcases that had to be moved in through the windows. In May 1979, we held a memorable Open House at the Milton Museum.

In 1981, Society members started the Bicentennial Quilt project, making a total of twenty-eight squares commemorating places, people, and events during Milton's first fifty years with the center squares picturing a map of early Milton with original settlements, stage roads, rivers and mountains. It was dedicated in February 1982, two hundred years after the first five settlers arrived in February 1782. This visual exhibit shows the dedication and commitment of our members and is proudly displayed in the Museum for all to enjoy.

We have sponsored twelve home tours,

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Charter Members Stan Henry and Jane FitzGerald rode on our 30th Anniversary parade float, July 4, 2008.

A group of residents concerned about the town's restoration project at the historic Clark Memorial Building on Main Street organized in 1977. This was the home of Joseph Clark, the town's most noted benefactor and railroad pioneer. The Clark family had given Clark's home to the town stipulating that it be used for town purposes or returned to the Clark heirs. From 1916-1994, it housed the town offices and from 1979-1994 Milton's first Museum was

*The Society's purpose is to collect, preserve, promote, and present Milton's history to interested persons.*

Rick Stowell

Rick Stowell

MILTON  
HISTORICAL SOCIETY  
ESTABLISHED 1978

**Officers**

Jane FitzGerald	<i>Museum Director</i>	893-2340
Rick Stowell	<i>President</i>	893-4546
Bill Kaigle	<i>Vice President</i>	893-7387
Beverly Quebec	<i>Secretary</i>	524-5848
Linda Ballard	<i>Treasurer</i>	893-7734

**Directors**

Perry Thom	<i>3 years</i>	893-2530
DeeDee Plouffe	<i>2 years</i>	893-1163
Doris Mears	<i>1 year</i>	893-7894

**Membership**

Membership is open to the public. Annual dues are:

Individual	\$5.00
Family	\$7.50

Honorary (age 80 & over) Free

Please send payment to:

Milton Historical Society  
P.O. Box 2  
Milton, VT 05468

HISTORICALLY SPEAKING

VOLUME 8, NUMBER 1 2008-2009

Bill Kaigle *Editor / Designer*



**Remember...**

Our membership year begins in April, but you may join at any time. Please renew or begin your membership today!

Send enclosed form and payment to:  
Milton Historical Society  
P.O. Box 2 • Milton, VT 05468

**We appreciate your support!**

# 2007-08 Historical Recap by Jane FitzGerald

This past year has been one of the Society's busiest and most exciting and rewarding years for many reasons. Our main focus has been restoring our local cemeteries. We must preserve the monuments of our dedicated forefathers, early families and veterans who served their country and community during the past 226 years of Milton's existence. Our prize-winning float in Milton's July Fourth Parade and our exhibit at the Milton Community Activities Fair in September also emphasized Cemetery Preservation. We received an Award of Excellence at the Annual Meeting of the League of Local Historical Societies and the Vermont Museum & Gallery Alliance for our Cemetery Project.

Following the theme "Travel & Transportation" at the Vermont History Expo in June, we highlighted Joseph Clark, our most prominent benefactor and businessman. He was a railroad pioneer who brought rail service and prosperity to Milton during the mid-1800s.

July's Cemetery Tour & Picnic was beneficial as we learned the location and condition of our nine cemeteries. During September and October we held two cleaning workshops in one of the oldest sections of the Village Cemetery directly behind the United Church. Many thanks to the Atkins family and the Milton Fire Department for providing the necessary water.

A Sugar-on-Snow Party was held in March at the Grange Hall. Around 100 people enjoyed maple desserts, music and exhibits. Many parents and friends attended the 26th Annual Junior Historians Awards Night in May at the Elementary School. The fourth grade was studying "Life in Rural Vermont in the 1930s-40s (The Great Depression and World War II era). Dr. David Little discussed the changes in healthcare during this period, and books and certificates were awarded to about 40 deserving students.

A successful raffle was held during May and June to support the Museum Window Restoration Fund. The front stained glass windows were removed, reglazed and painted. Many thanks to Jim Watson, Ernie Turner and Milton Rental for helping with this project.

On a beautiful late September day, the Milton Masons joined the Society for an event celebrating Historic Main Street. The Masons, celebrating 150 years of continued

service, held a luncheon at the Masonic temple. A program in the Village Cemetery at the monument of Noah Smith, Vermont's first Grand Master Mason, followed. The

*continued on page 6*



*Vermont Historical Society Executive Director presents an Award of Excellence to Jane FitzGerald and DeeDee Plouffe at the Annual Meeting of the League of Local Historical Societies for our recent Cemetery Preservation Projects.*



*These marble monuments stand proud at the Village Cemetery after our 2007 stone cleaning workshop.*

Rick Stowell

**Milton Grange  
Farmers' Market**  
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# Loren Sanderson

by Allison Belisle Templeton

*A large part of Milton's history is the families that built the community. Many of those families still live in Milton. Through them we can learn the personal side of our town's history. This is the second article in a series of articles on long time Milton residents whose families go back many generations in this town.*

Loren Sanderson and I met at his farmhouse on Sanderson Road. He invited me in for a chat and we sat in what used to be the formal parlor room in the home his family has lived in for over 175 years. His family has had their farm on this land for over 200 years and celebrated their bicentennial in 2004. The family cows were just recently sold in October 2007. With this significant change in his recent past, Loren has been spending many hours researching his family history and has gone back 400 years. I was thrilled when he agreed to talk to me about his family's history in Milton.

Loren's great-great-grandfather, John Sanderson, and his family left Massachusetts in late 1803 and arrived in Milton on March 4, 1804. In those days, there was no interstate nor many traveled roads. Although the exact route is not known, he either traveled through the wilderness or came north following the path provided by Lake Champlain. The frozen lake would have provided a great natural highway for them during the winter months and many took advantage of it. More than likely they planned their trip so they would arrive in time for the spring planting season. John reported that they encountered 4 feet of snow that winter.

When John's family arrived they did not immediately move to their home on Sanderson Road. Instead they lived near the point of Arrowhead Mountain near what is now Route 7. In September 1804, John bought their farm from a man named Absalom Taylor, who owned many tracts of land in Milton. For \$500, along with 100 acres of land, John acquired a plank house and a log barn that were also on the property. The family lived in this plank house until it burned in 1831 and the current house was built as a replacement.

John and Phoebe Sanderson had 5 children. The first child died in infancy. The oldest of the



*Loren at 17 with his father Charles, 45, in 1942.*

four surviving children, Levi Sanderson, ran the farm after his father passed away in his late 80s, in 1827. Levi had 9 children of his own of which 5 died, all before the age of 4. One of the luckier ones, who lived, was named Charles Proctor Sanderson. He continued the farm beyond the passing of his father who also lived into his late 80s. As a side note, Charles Proctor also lived into his late 80s. It seems as though if a Sanderson can live past childhood, they seem to live a very long time.

In the 1840s, the livestock on the farm consisted mostly of sheep. It is believed that there were 200 sheep on the farm at one time in addition to some cows and horses.

Charles Proctor's son Charles Lucius continued the farm with his wife Katie Mills. In 1890, Charles Lucius and his wife lost 3 of

their children to diphtheria. They were 9, 5, and 2 years old when they died. One of the surviving sons – named in the tradition of prior Sandersons – Charles Orlow Sanderson, was born in 1897. Charles Orlow was Loren's father.

Charles Orlow married Mamie Thompson in 1921 and Loren was born in 1925.

Speaking with Loren and the history of this farm taught this city girl some things about farming. One of the more important lessons was that cows are cows and heifers are heifers; the two are not to be confused. While many non-farmers like me may assume that all the bovines in the field are called cows, a real farmer knows that cows are only those that are milked.

Loren tells the story of a woman who came to his door one day to tell him that there was a cow in the road. He looked out the window and exclaimed, "Ma'am that's not a cow but just a little heifer."

When the cows were milked, milk was brought across the road from the barn, into the milk room attached to the house. Later in the day, the cream was skimmed off. The remaining skim milk was sent through a spout in the floor, through troughs to the hogs' pen next to the house, for them to enjoy. Butter was made from the cream, and a man would come to the house and buy it. He would bring it to Burlington, and then possibly off to Boston.

Ice storage was possible by using ice cut from the lake, which was delivered to the farm by horses and sleds. This happened until 1933 when an electric milk cooler was installed. A gasoline motor provided electricity until after World War II. Loren remembers the lights dimming as the motor ran low. While the motor provided enough electricity for the basics, it was not enough electricity to power everything they may have wanted. Loren's grandmother bought a vacuum and a flat iron. She was proud to own them, but they were just for show since she could not use them.

In 1932, the cattle got tuberculosis and all of the cattle were driven off to the railroad tracks to be brought to Boston for slaughter. This was a very sad



*An aerial photo of the Sanderson family farm taken in the early 1980s.*

*continued on page 6*



The monthly meeting of the Milton Historical Society is held on the first Wednesday of each month at the Museum at 7:30 pm unless otherwise noted. We have an entertaining program, a business meeting, and refreshments. All are welcome to attend. Special and related events are also listed. Schedule subject to change.

Wed. August 6, 2008

Refreshments: Jane FitzGerald  
& Allison Templeton

Wed. September 3, 2008

Refreshments: Everybody furnish  
Beverage: Refreshment Committee

Sat. September 13, 2008

Sun. September 28, 2008

Refreshments: Everybody furnish  
Beverage: Deborah Dolby & Peter Martin,  
Refreshment Committee

Wed. October 1, 2008

Refreshments: Rick & Peggy Stowell,  
Gordon & Perry Thom

Wed. November 5, 2008

Refreshments: Paul & Doris Mears,  
Ernie & Margaret Turner

Wed. December 3, 2008

No Refreshments

Sun. December 7, 2008

Refreshments: Everybody furnish  
Beverage: Refreshment Committee

Wed. January 7, 2009

Refreshments: Everybody furnish  
Beverage: Refreshment Committee

Wed. February 4, 2009

Refreshments: Bring own treats  
Beverage: Bill & Jen Kaigle, Beverly Quebec

Wed. March 4, 2009

Refreshments: Jim & Linda Ballard,  
Loren Sanderson

Wed. April 1, 2009

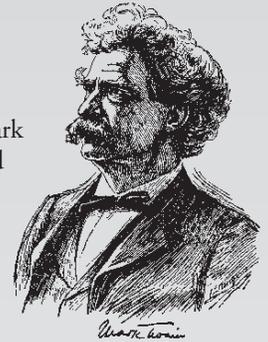
Refreshments: DeeDee & Ron Plouffe, Lorinda Henry

Wed. May 6, 2009

Refreshments: Everyone furnish  
Beverage: Doris Mears & Gwen Brown

**Lake Champlain – What’s Going On?** Presented by Mike Winslow, Staff Scientist with the Lake Champlain Committee.

**“Mark Twain Talks”** Bern Budd presents a *History Alive* performance of Mark Twain. Long before he had white hair and wore his famous white suit, Twain toured the country — and the world — entertaining packed house every evening with his wit, wisdom, and musery. This award winning show, which has entertained audiences aged 10-100, is based on those live performances. Twain’s humorous, wise, and slightly irreverent counsel is as needed today as it was then. *A Vermont Humanities Council presentation.*



**Rokeby Museum Tour & Picnic** Perched on a hill in Ferrisburg, Rokeby provides an intimate record of two centuries of Vermont family life and agriculture. The house and farm nurtured and survived the growing up and growing old of four generations of the Robinsons — a remarkable family of Quakers, farmers, abolitionists, authors, and artists. This National Historic Landmark and "Underground Railroad" site tells two stories simultaneously — of the Robinsons in particular, and more broadly, of Vermont and New England social history from the 1790s to 1961. **Meet at the Milton Museum at 9 am. Bring a food item to share. Rain date: September 14.**

**30th Anniversary Society Celebration** The Milton Historical Society celebrates its 30th Anniversary with an afternoon of fun, good food, music and special exhibits of Milton's past. Come visit the Museum from 12-4 pm and share in this milestone with us!

**“My Life as a Journalist”** Reporter Ed Shamy of *The Burlington Free Press* shares his often entertaining life experiences in journalism.

**Stock Car Racing in the Northeast** Milton teacher Bill Ladabouche takes us on a journey through the History of Stock Car Racing, with special emphasis on racetracks and drivers in the north-eastern U.S. Relive the excitement hearing the stories about Milton's own Dragon Brothers racing at Catamount Stadium. Bill is currently in the process of authoring a book on legendary Harmon “Beaver” Dragon.

Beaver Dragon



Business Meeting and Preparation for Holiday Cheer Celebration.

**Holiday Cheer Celebration** Come visit the Museum and see the many Holiday Exhibits. Lots of great food and special music will be provided. 1-4 pm.

**Potluck Supper and Movie** Join us for a relaxing night of good home cooked dishes followed by the movie *In Days Gone By — Vermont Country Ways*. **\*\*PLEASE NOTE THAT THE SUPPER BELL WILL RING AT 6:00 PM\*\***

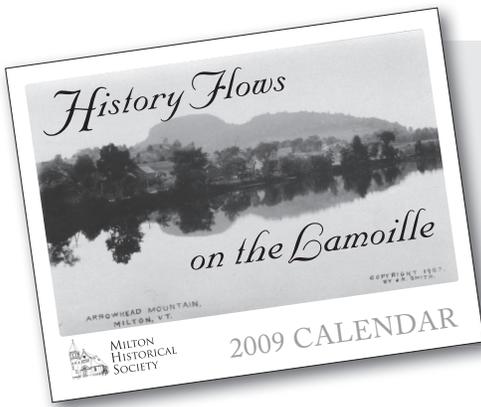
**Ol’ Time Movie Night** Join us as we watch the movie *Smoke Signals*, depicting the story of a young Indian man named Thomas who is the nerd of his reservation, wearing oversize glasses and telling stories nobody wants to hear. When his parents die in a fire in 1976, Thomas is saved by Arnold, who soon leaves his family and his tough son Victor. After Victor hasn’t seen his father for 10 years, he gets word that he has died. Thomas offers him funding for the trip to get Arnold’s remains, but only if Thomas can go with him. Thomas and Victor hit the road for an interesting adventure. *Bring your favorite movie treat to share during intermission!*

**Town Meeting History — Communal Liberty** Presented by Frank Bryan, UVM Professor of Political Science.

Business Meeting & Election of Officers

**27th Annual Junior Historians Awards Night** This year’s topic focuses on Lake Champlain to coincide with this year’s Quadricentennial (400th Anniversary) celebration.

For further information please call 893-4546 or 893-7387, or email: [miltonhistorical@yahoo.com](mailto:miltonhistorical@yahoo.com)



## 2009 Calendars Available Now!

The 2009 Milton Historical Society Calendar highlights how the ebb and flow of our history has been closely linked to activities along the Lamoille River, which flows from northeast to southwest through town.

Calendars are \$8.00 each or 2 for \$15.00 and may be purchased at the Museum or by calling 893-7387. They will also be available at the Town Clerk's Office beginning in September.

*All proceeds benefit the Milton Historical Museum.*

## Celebrating 30 Years! *continued from page 1*

participated in workshops, slide presentations, action exhibits, parades, and provided Museum tours to students, local groups, and visitors. For the past nine years, we have participated in the Vermont History Expo and produced an annual newsletter and historic calendar. Several cemetery restoration workshops have

and Milton History Contest. For twenty-six years, many students have been recognized at our Junior Historians Awards Night.

During 1990-91, the Society spearheaded a town-wide effort organizing and planning Vermont's Bicentennial Celebration by recruiting delegates from civic and fraternal

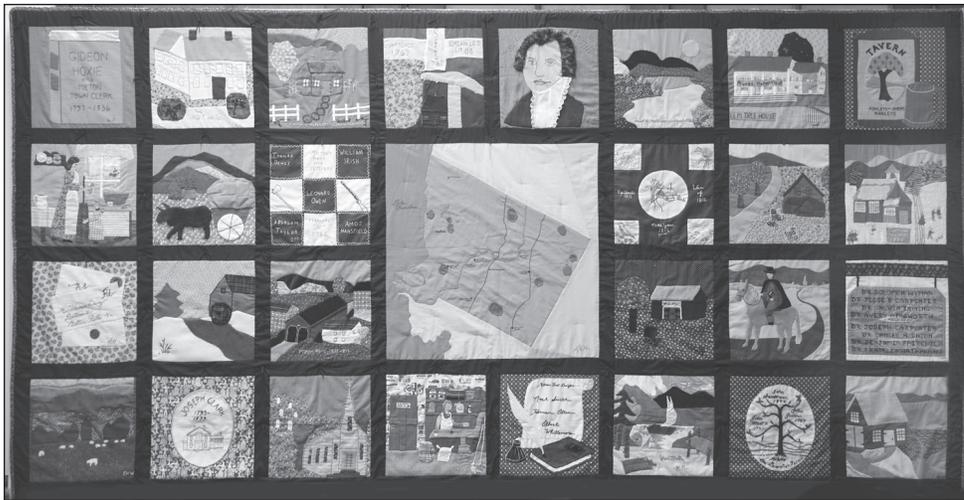
Trinity Episcopal Church was for sale. In April 1999, an item was placed on the ballot and the townspeople voted to purchase the church for the Milton Museum and make the necessary structural repairs. The Society is responsible for cosmetic repairs, such as painting, floors, and windows. We maintain and supervise the Museum and make it available to the public.

In January 2001, we moved into our new space and the Museum opened in May. In July 2004, the Town of Milton and the Historical Society were recognized by the Chittenden County Historical Society for the dedication of the town's voters in purchasing and restoring the historic church for the Museum and for voting to move the Civil War Monument to the Museum grounds.

On September 6, 2004, we held the Rededication of the Soldier's Monument at its new location. Civil War songs were played by the Community Band and an inspiring message by Howard Coffin, a noted Civil War Historian, was enjoyed. Two thousand people had attended the original dedication ninety-five years earlier on September 6, 1909.

The Society would like to thank Milton voters for their support in preserving our history. You are invited to attend our monthly meetings on a variety of topics and watch for our special events throughout the year. A person's knowledge of their town's history develops a greater sense of pride in their community.

*Jane FitzGerald is the Director of the Milton Historical Museum and a Past President of the Society.*



*The Milton Bicentennial Quilt, completed in 1982, is on display at the Museum.*

been held including cleaning and repairing monuments, clearing brush and trees, and repairing and replacing fences. Milton's History book is presently on hold due to increased responsibilities at the Museum and fewer volunteers with available time. Anyone interested in helping out, please join us at a meeting or contact a member.

One of our most rewarding accomplishments is the Annual 4<sup>th</sup> Grade Vermont

groups and helped raise money for special events. This three day "Welcome Home" celebration was one of the largest community events in recent years.

After the Clark Building was returned to the family heirs in 1995 the town was left without a Museum, and the Society's collections were placed in storage. In 1998, we met with town officials, explained our situation and informed them that the historic

## Wish List

- Office Supplies
- More Active Members
- Museum Guides
- Volunteer to Grind Tree Stumps (this will allow us to move forward on some landscaping projects)

*There are many ways that you can get involved to benefit your Historical Society and Museum, and it's FUN! There are current Committee openings; Call for details.*

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## 2007-08 Historical Recap *continued from page 2*

Society conducted a self-guided Walking Tour of the earliest homes and businesses. Programs containing a map, a brief history of each home, and historic photographs served as a guide to this enjoyable afternoon, with more in-depth information and dessert available at a Museum Open House.

Our monthly programs included Bob Manning's "Art as Social Commentary, Art as Propaganda"; Howard Coffin's "Civil War Sites in Vermont"; Ray & Pam Allen's "Evolution of Apple Farming"; Dallan Baker's "History of Blacksmithing"; and Milton diver Ron Plouffe's

"Underwater Archaeology on Lake Champlain", which were well attended.

The beautiful harp music provided by Joan Bunker was enjoyed by all who attended the Holiday Cheer Open House in December. A special Santa collection, "Toy Man" Stan Henry and delicious food made for a great celebration. A limited number of full-color 2008 Commemorative Calendars celebrating 30 years of the Milton Historical Society are still available at the Museum. Watch for special events this year to celebrate this anniversary.

Plan to visit the Museum and check out our recent acquisitions, which include the famous J.W. Farnsworth telephone, a Peterson Dam time clock from Public Electric Light (1929-1953), a Victrola and a milk separator.

Monthly meetings are held the first Wednesday of the month at 7:30 pm at the Museum. Watch the local newspaper for special events or changes. Museum hours are the first and third weekend, April through October, from 1-4 pm. During November through April, call 893-2340 to visit by appointment.

### TRIVIA TIME

*Think we've got it rough today with road repairs? Well, back in 1936 Milton went through some major road construction that would alter the town forever. Where was it?*

*Come to the Museum for the answer!*



### Notice

Revisions to the Society By-Laws have been discussed and made. Copies of the revised By-Laws are available at the Museum, and will be voted on for approval at the September meeting.

## Milton's History In Person: Loren Sanderson *continued from page 3*

day for young Loren to see his family's cows all leave. The family slowly bought a new herd and built the farm back up. In those days a cow sold for \$10-\$20. In today's dollars a cow costs about \$2,000.

Loren's family lost all the cows again in 1976 to a disease called brucellosis. Again, they had to send them off for slaughter. Loren's cow of choice is a breed called the Ayrshire. It is a red and white cow. The neighbors all had different breeds. One neighbor had Jerseys which are brown and another had Holsteins which are black and

white. It made for easy identification when one got loose. People knew whose cows were whose.

Working on the farm was very hard work, which did not leave a lot of free time for fun. As a youngster, Loren enjoyed riding horseback when he did have free time. He remembers Sundays when many of his friends and neighbors did the same and it was like a parade of horses. He often would ride to the village to the "cement road" which is what we now call Route 7. Loren also remembers "kitchen tunks" where a family would have dances in their homes with 2 or 3 fiddlers. Sometimes these families would even charge admission to these parties. Vacations, in Charles Orlow's opinion were one of the laziest things anyone could do. Entertainment often came from membership in the grange. While also providing a great service to the farmers it also provided fun. After the meetings ended, about 11pm, they would have a meal and then dance into the wee hours of the morning. Loren joined the grange in 1943 and has been involved ever since. Holidays

were most often spent with family at the farm. Occasionally it would be at someone else's home but when that happened it was difficult for the family, as it would cause them to be late getting back to do the chores.

Loren's son, Dale, and son-in-law, Jim Ballard, managed the remaining cows on the farm starting in 1996. Jim sold his half of the cows in 2001 and Dale sold his in October 2007. Jim Ballard and Loren's daughter, Linda Ballard, have two sons and two grandsons, making Loren a great grandfather. Loren hopes this is not the end of an era, pointing out his four grandsons and their families.

When asked what he thinks the biggest changes in Milton have been since he was young, Loren replied that it is the population growth. He would often ride to the village on those Sundays and wouldn't encounter even one car on the way.

When asked what he thinks the biggest changes in VT have been he replied, "There are a lot more democrats now."

Democrats, Republicans, Independents alike, we can all appreciate the rich and wonderful history and dedication to the family farm that is a part of Loren Sanderson.



*Loren sits and enjoys reflecting on his family's history at his farmhouse in April 2008.*

# 30th Anniversary Kennedy Rocker Raffle! by Rick Stowell

To honor the Society's 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary, the Society is holding a raffle for a chance to win a beautiful handcrafted "Carolina Rocker", better known as the **Kennedy Rocker**.



The rocker was first recommended by physician Janet Travell in 1955 to John F. Kennedy when he was a young senator from Massachusetts. He was suffering from lingering back problems

from a war injury. She prescribed swimming and the use of a rocking chair as therapy to ease his pain. She believed that a rocking chair relieved tension in the lower back by keeping the muscles moving, contracting and relaxing. As President he so loved the rocker that his aides would bring it on Air Force One when he traveled around the country and the world. He bought additional rockers for Camp David and the Kennedy estates in Palm Beach, Florida and Hyannisport, Massachusetts. Kennedy also gave dozens of the chairs as gifts to friends and Governors of the fifty states. It has been reported that a successful bidder at the recent Sotheby's auction of Kennedy family memorabilia paid \$442,500 for one of JFK's rocking chairs.

Our raffle of this beautifully crafted replica rocking chair started on Monday May 26, 2008 during our Memorial Day Open House continues until Sunday December 7, 2008 where we will draw the winning ticket during our Holiday Open House Celebration. Tickets are a \$1.00 each or 6 for \$5.00 and may be purchased at the museum or by any Society member. Good Luck and Thanks for your support!!



## LOOKING TO THE FUTURE

### How About a Membership Boost? by Jane FitzGerald

Let's help the Milton Historical Society celebrate thirty years of preserving Milton's 245 years of history. Our goal in this groundbreaking year is to increase our membership by at least **50 new members**. Many of our charter members have either moved, passed away or are no longer able to participate. With the demand on the young families of today they are unable to become active members of organizations. We are sending this issue of our newsletter to many people who have family roots in Milton, and who

might consider becoming supportive members. Many of your parents, grandparents or great-grandparents were teachers, doctors, ministers, storekeepers, postmasters, mailmen, creamery and light company employees, town officials and employees, car repairmen, carpenters and last but not least, farmers who have been vital to our community.

The local cemeteries, the final resting place of many of our ancestors, provide valuable history. The preservation of these "outdoor museums" deserves our attention and

assistance.

We would like to welcome you as a new member and we appreciate your interest in Milton's history. The past is the key to the present and a mirror to the future. Let's preserve the past, prepare for the present and plan for the future.

Watch for more details about our 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration at the Museum on Sunday, September 28<sup>th</sup>, 2008 from 12 - 4. There will be special live music, great food, new exhibits and fun for all ages!

For assistance on a genealogy project, contact Bob Sibley at 527-0906 or [bob\\_s90@hotmail.com](mailto:bob_s90@hotmail.com).....If you have a historical program you'd like to see happen, call Bill Kaigle at 893-7387.....If you have photographs or other items you would like

to contribute to the Milton Historical Society, please contact Jane FitzGerald at 893-2340.....Congratulations to Rick Stowell, who was recently presented with the IBM

## bits-O-news

Community Service Award for his efforts with the Society.....Back issues of *Historically Speaking* are available, and let us know if a friend or relative would like to be

added to our mailing list.....Your tax-deductible donations to benefit the Milton

Historical Museum are crucial to its

ongoing success in serving our community. They may be sent to: Milton Historical Society, P.O. Box 2, Milton, VT 05468. *Thank you!*.....A portion of newsletter printing cost donated by Paw Print & Mail of So. Burlington.....Vermont Barn Census - The first Barn Census weekend was August 2-3, 2008. Its mission is to carry out, for the first time, a statewide census of Vermont's barns that will lay the foundation for further efforts to preserve them. Contact Mike Plummer at (802) 828-1220 or sign up for the VT Historic Preservation Barn Census e-mail list to participate in a future Census Weekend: [Mike.Plummer@state.vt.us](mailto:Mike.Plummer@state.vt.us) org. Help document Milton's barns!

### *Thank You, Ben*

Ben Barrows, the Milton Historical Society's first President in 1978, passed away in early 2008. He was instrumental in organizing the Society, and his sharp wit will be missed by all.

# We have several recent additions to the Museum collections for all to enjoy!

- Early 1900s **DeLaval Cream Separator** donated by Harold Jr. and Eleanor Cadreact
- **J.W. Farnsworth Telephone** (left), believed to be the first in Milton. Special thanks to everyone who generously contributed in helping us acquire this amazing artifact of Milton's history.
- **Civil War Volunteer Militia Document** donated by David Derner.
- **Warren Telechron Co. Master Clock**, originally installed at Milton's first Public Electric Light Co. Station on Ritchie Avenue. Donated by Mary Foster from the A.W. Peterson-Foster family collection.



MILTON HISTORICAL SOCIETY  
AND MUSEUM

802-893-1604  
miltonhistorical  
@yahoo.com

*If you are interested in learning about Milton's past and its many events and personalities of the past 150 years, plan to visit the Milton Historical Museum at 13 School Street.*

## MUSEUM HOURS

April - October | 1st & 3rd weekend, 1 - 4 pm  
Year-Round | By Appointment - call 893-2340

*We would also like to invite you to join the Society. Annual Membership begins in April each year, and you may join at any time. Please return the membership form attached to the enclosed Events Calendar, noting your specific interests.*

**MARK YOUR CALENDAR?**  
**September 28th, 2008 Noon - 4 pm**  
Milton Historical Society  
**30th Anniversary Celebration**  
*Live Music ~ Special Exhibits ~ Great Food & Fun*

Return Service Requested

MILTON HISTORICAL SOCIETY  
P.O. BOX 2  
MILTON, VERMONT 05468

