

# NEWS FROM NICKWACKETT

VOL. 12 NO. 4 RUTLAND HISTORICAL SOCIETY NEWSLETTER DECEMBER 2005

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

Page 1

Big Clearance Sale

Election Results

Page 2

"Historically Speaking" On Channel 15 In Rutland

Annual Meeting

Committee Corner

Page 3

Robert Cassidy Honored By Society

Halloween Parade

First Night

Successful Sale

Visits To The Society

Society Outreach

Page 4  
Web Site Progress

Encyclopedia of Rutland History

Reception Planned

Second Annual Elwert Essay Contest

## BIG CLEARANCE SALE

The Society has a large number of most back issues of its *Quarterly* magazine which take up much needed storage space. Therefore the Society is announcing a quantity clearance sale beginning 15 December 2005.

Anyone purchasing a minimum quantity of ten (10) or more back issue *Quarterlies* at a single purchase will receive them at fifty cents (\$0.50) each. The back issues may be a mixture of titles or all of one title. This offer will apply as long as back issues are available. Issues that are or become out of print may be obtained in photocopy form but at one dollar (\$1.00) per issue. Shipping will still be one dollar (\$1.00) per order.

The 2006 calendar will still be two dollars (\$2.00) per copy.

This offering at twenty-five per cent (25%) of the original price is a wonderful opportunity to fill in missing issues. A fine collection of good reading can be assembled for holiday gifts at a huge discount.

The Society welcomes your visit to browse for your selections. You may also check issues on the Society web site in the Publications section at [rutlandhistory.com](http://rutlandhistory.com).

The Society also has *The History of Rutland, Vermont, 1761 - 1861*, a 690-page hardback book with a map package, which is available for thirty dollars (\$30.00). There are some copies of *Early Families of Rutland*, a 464-page book with a map package, available in paperback for thirty dollars (\$30.00). If shipping is desired for these books, please add three dollars (\$3.00) per book.

There are other books and video programs available as well as gift memberships. Stop in at the Society or check online at [rutlandhistory.com](http://rutlandhistory.com) under Publications, Historically Speaking or Membership for what is available and prices.

## ELECTION RESULTS

At the Annual Business Meeting of the Society on 20 October 2005, the following officers and directors were elected by the membership:

Pres. Dorothy Whitford

V.P. Michael Dwyer

Sec. Jacob Sherman

Treas. Thomas Carpenter

Dir. (2 yrs) Helen Davidson

Dir. (2 yrs) Robert Perkins.

Dir. (2 yrs) Chuck Piotrowski

Continuing Directors are:

Mary Fregosi, Carmine Pacca

and Patty Pickett (Brogren)

**DUES FOR 2006 ARE  
PAYABLE NOW.  
CHECK YOUR  
MAILING LABEL  
FOR THE YEAR FOR  
WHICH ALREADY  
PAID.**

**CAN YOU  
VOLUNTEER TO  
HELP IN SOME WAY  
AT THE SOCIETY?**

## "HISTORICALLY SPEAKING" ON CHANNEL 15 IN RUTLAND

The Society produces "Historically Speaking" on cable Channel 15. A new program is produced each month. The series includes interviews and historical pictorial material in a rather flexible TV magazine format. The programs can be seen every Wednesday at 4:00 p.m., Thursday at 1:30 p.m. and Friday at 7:30 p.m. Videotapes of the following episodes can be obtained from Channel 15, Rutland Region Community Television, 1 Scale Avenue, Suite 108, Rutland VT 05701-4460. They are \$10 for each episode. Make checks payable to the above. You must provide a self-addressed padded bag with postage or \$1.50 for shipping and handling. Channel 15 provides the tape. Personal pickup is available. Call (802) 747-0151 for further information.

Episode # 67 - Jim Davidson hosts Larry Kelley, Family Researcher, in a discussion about the Kelley Family that in the early 19th Century settled on and owned most of what is today the Creek Road. For years the road from the Dorr Bridge south to the Town Line was called Kelley Road because the land was donated for the road by the Kelley Family. The long gone Park Street covered bridge was also originally called the Kelley Bridge. Larry offers many stories of the area that have been found in his research of the Kelley Family.

Episode # 68 - Jim Davidson hosts Michael F. Dwyer in a program devoted to ten tips for family researchers when they get stuck in their research. In a lively interchange, Michael shares some key strategies for getting past the "stone wall" that researchers run into sooner or later. These tips are the practical "down to earth" advice from a long experienced genealogist.

Episode # 69 - Michael F. Dwyer hosts a program entitled "Young Eyes Look At Long Ago Proctor". Michael interviews his guests, Proctor Elementary School teacher Maureen Dobart and her students, now in the 3rd grade, about their local history projects from last year. Students include Christopher Clain, Noelle Flanders, Jazmin Goetz and Cody Landon, who present their actual models and stories about Proctor one hundred years ago.

## ANNUAL MEETING

The Annual Meeting and dinner on Thursday 20 October 2005 at Fellowship Hall of Grace Church was well-attended by over 40 people. Newly elected director, Chuck Piotrowski, presented an excellent power point program on the preservation and care of family historical items. His presentation was entitled "Turning Your Junk Into the Stuff of History".

## COMMITTEE CORNER

### Chairpersons

#### Archives Committee

Tom Carpenter - 773-3626

#### Artifacts Committee

Ann Glagola - 775-1302

#### Building Committee

Morris Tucker - 773-7356

#### Exhibit Committee

Jim Davidson - 773-7525

#### Finance Committee

Tom Carpenter - 773-3626

#### Historic Preservation Committee

#### Library Committee

Ann Glagola - 775-1302

#### Membership Committee

Mary Segale - 773-2326

#### Personnel Committee

Mary Segale - 773-2326

#### Program Committee

Michael F. Dwyer - 483-6993

#### Publications Committee

Jake Sherman - 775-2784

#### Research Committee

Patty Pickett - 438-2759

#### Society Historian

Mary Segale - 773-2326

#### President

Dorothy Whitford - 776-1018

#### Board Chairperson

Mary Fregosi - 459-2723

## ROBERT CASSIDY HONORED BY SOCIETY

Robert Cassidy was given a certificate of appreciation and a covered bridge picture at the Annual Meeting for his valuable contributions to the Society.

Robert became a member of the Society in 1994 while a high school student. In 2002 he became a Life Member. Upon graduation from high school he became a member of the Vermont Air National Guard. In the meantime Robert has nearly completed a degree in history at Castleton State College.

Robert has served both his country and the Society with distinction. He was involved with lighting for exhibits at the Society and shoveled snow from the Society walks on many a cold day. Between juggling college and his Air Guard activities, Robert has served as a member of the Society's Board of Directors for four years from 2001 to 2005 and has worked at the Society's exhibits at the Vermont History Expo on numerous occasions.

Robert has become a local and statewide covered bridge expert. He was the chief designer of a recent Rutland covered bridge exhibit at the Society that was also shown at the 2005 Vermont History Expo.

Often people say, "I don't have time". Robert is a wonderful example of "I can make time" for a community need.

## HALLOWEEN PARADE

Society participants in the Halloween Parade on 31 October 2005 dressed as vampires and carried a sign proclaiming "We Want New Blood". Nearly 600 recruiting flyers were distributed to a huge crowd of onlookers.

## FIRST NIGHT

Jim Davidson will play a variety of recorded popular music from the 1920s to the present at the Asa Bloomer State Office Building lobby on 31 December 2005 as Rutland celebrates First Night. The Society has been a participant in First Night for a number of years. From 5:00 p.m. to 10:15 p.m. popular music of the past will help usher in a New Year.

## SUCCESSFUL SALE

The Society's sale on 8 and 9 October 2005 was quite successful as numerous unneeded items were sold. The weekend increased the Society's coffers by over \$700.

## VISITS TO THE SOCIETY

On 3 October 2005 the 3rd Grade class from Christ the King School visited the Society for a program on historical maps and their use. On 26 October 2005 a local Boy Scout group visited the Society for a program. On 8 November 2005 a group of 4th Grade teachers visited the Society for a demonstration of the ELMO, the Society's visual presenter, which enables a series of still photos to be put on video tape to build a video program. Narration can also be added. This equipment may be used at no cost. On 11 November 2005 the Society hosted a regional meeting of the Vermont Historical Society for dissemination of information about Expo 2006.

## SOCIETY OUTREACH

On 4 October 2005 Jim Davidson visited the Stafford Technical Center to assist a TV production class with information on Rutland's history. On 12 October 2005 a group composed of Jim Davidson, Lloyd Davis, Carmine Pacca and Elaine Purdy visited the 6th Grade at the Rutland Intermediate School to present a program on the Rutland home front during World War II. Jim Davidson made a presentation for the Society on "The Green Mountain Boys" for an Elder Hostel group in Goshen on 13 October 2005. On 28 October 2005 Jim Davidson made a presentation on Rutland Economic Development from 1865 to 1915 for the 6th Grade at the Rutland Intermediate School. On 17 November Jim Davidson shared the "Historically Speaking" program on "Civil War Uniforms" with 40 cub scouts and their parents at the Rutland Town School. On 18 November Helen Davidson addressed the Fortnightly Club at Grace Church on her six years of writing "Tidbits From Then and Now" which is published in *Sam's Good News*. On 19 November 2005 Jim Davidson led a walking tour of the Southwest neighborhood with historical commentary.

## WEB SITE PROGRESS

The Society web site and its free message board in particular, are receiving a great deal of use. As of 10 December 2005 there have been over 56,000 "hits" on the site. The month of November alone had 8700 "hits".

The committee is currently working on a number of updates of information and will soon offer a search function so that the viewer can search the whole site by a word or phrase.

The site reaches worldwide as an order for publications was received from Japan.

## ENCYCLOPEDIA OF RUTLAND HISTORY

An Ad Hoc Committee, chaired by Chuck Piotrowski, the Society's newest director, has been working diligently on the development of an online encyclopedia of Rutland History. They are following a model produced in Cleveland, Ohio for the Cleveland area. Those interested in viewing the Cleveland model can see it at <http://ech.cwru.edu>. The Committee has already prepared a timeline, is working on some sample entries and an overall design for the Rutland encyclopedia which will include articles on historical topics and biographies from Rutland's history. The committee plans to have the encyclopedia in operation on the Society web site by early next year.

*NEWS FROM NICKWACKETT* is a quarterly newsletter produced by the Publications Committee of the Rutland Historical Society, 96 Center Street, Rutland, Vermont 05701-4023. Tel. (802) 775-2006. Jim Davidson - *Editor*

## RECEPTION PLANNED

Plans are being made to commemorate the completion of the first year of operation of the Society's web site on Monday 13 February 2006 from 6 to 9 p.m. at the Society.

## SECOND ANNUAL ELWERT ESSAY CONTEST

Students in the area of the "old Town of Rutland" are reminded of the 2nd Annual Elwert Essay Contest. Prizes: The contest offers a 1st prize of \$100, a 2nd prize of \$50 and a 3rd prize of \$25. Eligibility: The contest is open to middle school students, grades five through eight, in any public, private or home school within the original Town of Rutland (i.e. Proctor or Rutland Town or City or West Rutland.) Topic: A notable event or person in the history of greater Rutland. Requirements: 500 to 700 words, typed or word processed, with a list of works used (bibliography). Submit before 15 MARCH 2006 to: Michael F. Dwyer, Otter Valley Union High School, 2997 Franklin Street, Brandon VT 05733.

**REMEMBER 2006 DUES  
ARE PAYABLE NOW.  
CHECK YOUR MAILING  
LABEL FOR YEAR  
ALREADY PAID**

## DUES SCHEDULE

Sponsor \$50.00	Students	\$8.00
Contributing \$20.00	(18 & under)	
Regular \$10.00	Senior citizens	\$8.00
	(62 & up)	
Life Membership (Individuals only)		\$200.00
Memorial Membership		\$200.00

**THE FACILITIES OF THE  
RUTLAND HISTORICAL  
SOCIETY ARE OPEN ON:  
MONDAYS 6 - 9 PM  
SATURDAYS 1 - 4 PM**