

NEWS FROM NICKWACKETT

VOL. 2 NO. 2

RUTLAND HISTORICAL SOCIETY NEWSLETTER

MARCH 1995

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**An Unusual
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"Once Upon a Time..." children travelled in carriages. (At left) Arielle Rae LeBlanc, youngest member of the Society, tries out the carriage for fit. (See "An Unusual Occurrence" on page four.)

NEW EXHIBIT

A new exhibit entitled "Once Upon a Time..." will open at the Society on Saturday 1 APR 1995 at 1:00 p.m.

The exhibit focuses on the lifestyles of Rutland's past, particularly between the Civil War and 1920. Topics include early autos, the Rutland City Band, Wayne Bailey and his dog Nero, purportedly the largest dog in the world at that time, and Julia Dorr, Rutland's first lady of letters.

The exhibit also offers items from the world of both men and women. This includes silver, fans, hats etc. A family album of pictures of the time will also be available to the viewer.

SPRING PROGRAMS

The Program Committee has announced its programs for this Spring. All meetings will be held on Wednesdays at the Fox Room of the Rutland Free Library on Court Street. All will start at 7:00 p.m.

WED 29 MAR "How to Read and Date Old Photographs" by Michael Dwyer

WED 5 APR "Life Styles of Early Vermont Women" by Grace Anderson

WED 26 APR "History of the Rutland Herald" by Tyler Resch

WED 3 MAY "History of Lake Bomoseen" by Holman Jordan

At the first meeting on "How to Read and Date Old Photographs", Mr. Dwyer encourages the audience to bring some old photos. Dr. Jordan's presentation is an updated version of his previous presentations on Lake Bomoseen.

TROLLEY CAR FOR LOYALTY DAY PARADE

The Society is working on a horse-drawn Rutland Street Railway replica for the Loyalty Day parade. The replica will be carried on a flatbed provided by Edward Fabian of West Rutland. The replica is designed so that it may be assembled on any good flat surface. It has waterproof awning material for the roof and an awning pipe framework. It should provide an interesting and useful platform for many Society activities in the future. Bob Solari and Mo Tucker are responsible for this project. The First Republic Brass will again provide music from the Society float. Look for it at the Loyalty Day parade at 2:00 p.m. on Sunday 7 MAY.

NINTH RUTLAND TRUCK SHOW

Old trucks, old tractors, and old gas engines are invited to the Ninth Rutland Truck Show on Saturday and Sunday 13 & 14 MAY at the Rutland Fairgrounds. The program is sponsored by the Green Mountain Bull Dawg Chapter (A.T.C.A.) and the Vermont Gas & Steam Engine Association. Admission and registration are by donation. For details telephone (802) 775-6576 after 5:00 p.m.

AMERICAN LEGION DINNER/DANCE FOR WW II VETERANS & SPOUSES

The American Legion plans a dinner/dance for all veterans of WW II and their spouses in September. In connection with this event the Society is seeking memorabilia from this time. This would include both military items and photos as well as home front materials and photos. Please contact Jim Davidson at the Society or 773-7525.

VERMONT LOCAL HISTORICAL SOCIETIES ANNUAL MEETING

The annual meeting of Local Historical Societies of Vermont will take place on Saturday 6 MAY at the Pavilion Building in Montpelier from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. This year's topic is: "Photographs, Films and Videos in Historical Society Collections". There is a registration fee of \$15.00 for members of local societies or the Vermont Historical Society. The fee for non-members is \$20.00. Lunch is available for \$5.00 with notification by 28 APR. Contact Vermont Historical Society at (802) 828-2291.

COMMITTEE CORNER

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Artifacts Committee
Eleanor Elwert - 773-3417

Building Committee
Ron Butterfield - 775-5883

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Jim Davidson - 773-7525

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Elaine Purdy - 773-6819

Research
Dawn Hance - 775-4406

President
Morris "Mo" Tucker - 773-7356

Society Historian
Mary Segale - 773-2326

WORKS IN PROGRESS

The following people are involved in projects involving Rutland's history. If you have an interest in or information on the topic that might be appropriate to share, please contact the individual carrying on the project:

"John Cain: Architect, Builder, Editor, Farmer, Inventor". Kathryn Brownell, 26 Cold River Road, North Clarendon, VT 05759. Tel. (802) 773-4866

"A History of the Automobile: Rutland, Vermont". Cathy Aines, RR # 1 Box 224, Poultney, VT 05764. Tel. (802) 287-2088

Working on a series of video-taped interviews of actors and/or actresses playing roles of historic Rutland persons. Looking for people to play historic people in live video interview. Jim Edge and others, Star Rt. Box 248, Chittenden, VT 05737. Tel. (802) 775-1157.

"Charles B. Mead, Civil War Soldier from West Rutland". Angela Hinchey & Elaine Purdy, 220 Adams Street, Rutland, VT 05701. Tel. (802) 773-6819.

Working on a transcript of "James Armisted Brown Journals: 1858-1860". Jim Davidson, 86 Hazel Street, Rutland, VT 05701-2618. Tel. (802) 773-7525

VIDEO SPECIAL WELL-RECEIVED

The Society's 90 minute special on Cable Access Channel 15 in Rutland was very well-received by members and the general public alike. It appears to have caught the attention and interest of many people who were not aware of the Society and its activities. Stimulating a greater community interest in Rutland's history seems to have been a laudable and achievable goal. Channel 15 has repeated the program a number of times. For those who missed it or do not have cable, the Society plans to offer a showing in the summer.

SOCIETY PURCHASES TAPE RECORDER

The Society has purchased a portable audio-tape recorder. Members who wish to use it to tape oral history are encouraged to contact the Society.

HISTORICAL TRIVIA QUESTIONS ON WSYB MORNING SHOW

The Society provided 50 questions and answers on Rutland history for WSYB's Morning Show which is hosted by Brian Collamore and Jack Healy. Interest has been good and the Society has been asked to provide more challenges for the listening audience.

OH GOSH! MY DUES ARE OVERDUE # 2

Of course, I must have plain forgot.
I hide my head in shame.
Quickly I will mail a check,
Duly signed with my full name.

Jean Ross 3/95

AN UNUSUAL OCCURRENCE

The incorporation of the Rutland Historical Society in 1969 guaranteed that the Society would outlive the life times of its founders.

Nearly 100 people have made the commitment of life membership in the Society. The Society has also encouraged student membership for those 18 and under. Recently these two types of membership had an unusual conjunction in the records of the Membership Committee.

The Society recently received a membership for Arielle Rae LeBlanc, granddaughter of Linda Gee. Arielle was born 4 NOV 1994 and therefore is only four months old. Arielle is the young child posing in the baby carriage picture on page one. Arielle is the youngest member ever to enter the Society.

A few days before this event, the Membership Committee received word that Helen Stafford Crockett had passed away

on 4 NOV 1994. She had been a life member since 1981.

Although 4 NOV 1994 passed very quietly in the Society, it has now been brought home to us what the continuity of membership in the Society means.

OH GOSH! MY DUES ARE OVERDUE # 1

I know, I just plain forgot!
My address label I can see
Is circled in a blush of red;
I'll write a check immediately,
So I won't miss a single Quarterly.

Jean Ross 3/95

If you have a "94" on your mailing label, your dues are overdue. This will be your last mailing unless you act quickly. We don't want to lose you so we have circled your "94" in red to gain your attention.

RUTLAND HISTORICAL SOCIETY, INC.
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Jim Davidson - *Editor*

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