

NEWS FROM NICKWACKETT

VOL. 3 NO. 1 RUTLAND HISTORICAL SOCIETY NEWSLETTER MARCH 1996

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NEW EXHIBIT

"The Formation of Proctor and West Rutland (1886)" is the Spring exhibit of the Rutland Historical Society. The exhibit explores the historical background of sectionalism in the old Town of Rutland. It also deals with the issues that brought the old Town of Rutland to division into multiple towns in 1886. The exhibit includes maps and pictures of many of the people who played roles in the formation of the Town of Proctor and the Town of West Rutland from the old Town of Rutland.

ANONYMOUS GIFT TO G.A.R. WINDOW FUND

The Rutland Historical Society was the recent recipient of an anonymous donation of \$425 to assist in the restoration of two stained glass windows from the old G.A.R. Memorial Hall. This gift brings the total funds raised for this purpose to \$578 which is about two-thirds of the monies needed to restore both windows. With this in view, the Board of Directors has sent both windows for restoration work. It is to be hoped that the remaining \$302 required may be raised through further entries in the Civil War Memorial Book (see *News from Nickwackett* Vol. 2 No. 4 December 1995 page 3 for details) and general contributions to the restoration fund (see *News from Nickwackett* Vol. 2 No. 3 page 2).

SPRING PROGRAMS

The Program Committee of the Rutland Historical Society has announced its programs for this Spring. They are:

TUES 19 MAR "The Blizzard of 1888" - a presentation by Peter Cooper featuring slides, narration and music. This program will be held at the Fox Room of the Rutland Free Library on Court Street in Rutland. The program will start at 7:00 p.m.

WED 17 APR "The Formation of Proctor (1886)" - a panel discussion. This program will be held at the Proctor Free Library meeting room in Proctor. The program will start at 7:30 p.m. The public is encouraged to participate in the panel discussion with questions and/or comments.

WED 24 APR "The Formation of West Rutland (1886)" - a panel discussion. This program will be held in the Selectmen's Meeting Room at the Town Hall in West Rutland. The program will start at 7:30 p.m. The public is encouraged to participate in the panel discussion with questions and/or comments.

**IMPORTANT !!!
PLEASE READ
MEMBERSHIP
DRIVE ARTICLE
ON PAGE 3**

LOYALTY DAY PARADE

The First Republic Brass will again provide music from the trolley car float of the Rutland Historical Society. Look for it at the Loyalty Day Parade which starts at 2:00 p.m. on Sunday 5 MAY.

TENTH RUTLAND TRUCK SHOW

Old trucks, old tractors, and old gas engines are invited to the Tenth Rutland Truck Show on Saturday and Sunday 11 and 12 MAY at the Rutland Fairgrounds. The program is sponsored by the Green Mountain Bull Dawg Chapter (A.T.C.A.) and the Vermont Gas and Engine Association and the Vermont Towing Association. Admission and registration are by donation. For details telephone (802) 775-6576 after 5:00 p.m.

ARCHIVES COMMITTEE

The Rutland Historical Society Archives Committee meets regularly on Thursday evenings for work sessions from 7 - 9 p.m. Interested persons are invited to join these work sessions. For further information please call Chairperson Alan Shelvey evenings at 775-4168.

THANK YOU TO DENNIS CHARLES

The Exhibit Committee, on behalf of the Rutland Historical Society, would like to thank Dennis Charles for his loan of numerous Civil War artifacts and the installation of a tent and camp site as centerpieces of the Society's recent Civil War exhibit which concluded 15 FEB. These items contributed a crowning touch to this exhibit.

GIFTS AND BEQUESTS

The day comes when you must plan the disposition of your estate. One of the possibilities for distributing your estate is to consider giving a portion of it to the Rutland Historical Society. Gifts to non-profit charitable institutions are permitted by our tax laws and they permit you to take advantage of tax deductions allowed by law. By contributing to a non-profit charitable institution, such as the Rutland Historical Society, you are determining the future of at least a part of your estate and may also greatly reduce the amount of Federal and State estate taxes. Consult you estate planner for more information on how to maximize your gift and your benefits.

COMMITTEE CORNER

Chairpersons

Archives Committee

Alan Shelvey - 775-4168

Artifacts Committee

Eleanor Elwert - 773-3417

Building Committee

Morris Tucker - 773-7356

Exhibit Committee

Jim Davidson - 773-7525

Historic Preservation Committee

Ann Singiser - 773-8172

Library Committee

Ann Glagola - 775-1302

Long-range Planning Committee

Bob Beauchamp - 773-9281

Membership Committee

Helen K. Davidson - 773-7525

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Donald Wickman - 775-4350

Public Relations

Ken Wild - 773-8687

Publications

Elaine Purdy - 773-6819

Research

Dawn Hance - 775-4406

President

Don Bordeau - 775-2761

Society Historian

Mary Segale - 773-2326

MEMBERSHIP DRIVE

Why? Making a sizeable increase in the membership of the Society is crucial to stabilizing our publication costs which are a large part of our annual budget. We wish to hold the line on our membership costs without reducing either the quantity or quality of our publications. In fact we would like to increase both. How can we do this without increased cost to the individual member? The key lies in the fact that as we increase our membership we can decrease the per member cost of the publications we provide. For example, if we had 5,000 members rather than 500 members our per member cost would be about half the current cost. Thus increased membership is a way that each member can help the Society and at the same time help to hold down the cost of individual membership.

Who? Make a list of people that you know who you think might be interested in joining the Society and receiving our publications. Consider your own family and relatives - those in Rutland and the local area and those away. Consider your neighbors and friends and your associates at work.

How? Ask potential members if they now belong to the Society. If not, ask if they would like to belong. Share some of your publications as samples. Copy or clip the membership blanks below and give them to those interested. For close friends or family, consider making the first year a gift membership. If you are uncomfortable with asking people if they are members, call Helen or Jim Davidson at 773-7525 and we can check for you. If you know people who might become members but are uncomfortable asking them, call us at 773-7525. Give us a mailing address and/or phone number and we will make a contact for you. It will be very much appreciated if we can use your name as a reference.

Goal - Each member to get at least two new members !

RUTLAND HISTORICAL SOCIETY
96 CENTER STREET
RUTLAND, VT 05701-4023
TEL: (802) 775-2006

"serving the towns of Proctor, Rutland, West Rutland and Rutland City"

MEMBERSHIP FORM

NAME _____

- Check if M/M applies [One subscription to a Mr./Mrs. will bring full membership benefits to each.]

STREET/BOX NO. _____

CITY/TOWN _____

STATE _____ **ZIP CODE** _____

[9 digit if you know it]

TELEPHONE _____

CHECK TYPE OF MEMBERSHIP:

- STUdent(18 & less) \$8 SPONsor \$50
 SENior(62 & up) \$8 LIFEtime \$200
 REGular \$10 MEMorial
 CONtributing \$20 gift \$200

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RUTLAND WRAPPER AND SKIRT COMPANY

A recent article in the *Rutland Herald* regarding the dismantling of the Olney Apartments on West Street in Rutland prompted a letter to the Society from Elaine M. Peterson. The following is excerpted from her letter

"My mom started working there [in the factory] at age 14 when it [the Rutland Wrapper and Skirt Company] opened in 1903. She learned to make collars and finally went to attaching them to shirtwaists. [She] worked from 6:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. at \$4.00 a week."

"[She] would take [the] trolley from West Rutland early as she had to walk [up] the hill to be at work at 6:00 a.m. In later years it went to piece work. Then at times she made more. The trolley was 5 to 10 cents per day to ride. She worked there until she was hired in West Rutland."

Thank you Elaine.

NEXT QUARTERLY

The next Quarterly (Volume XXVI No. 1) will be mailed around 1 April 1996. The issue is devoted to a history of the Rutland Hospital and its 48 pages make it the largest the Society has ever published. A special thank you is given to the Rutland Regional Medical Center, and especially Peggy Flanagan, Communications Director of the RRMC, without whose assistance the Society would be unable to publish such a sizeable issue.

**A "95" ON YOUR MAIL-
ING LABEL SAYS YOUR
DUES ARE OVERDUE**

DUES SCHEDULE

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

RUTLAND HISTORICAL SOCIETY, INC.
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Jim Davidson - Editor

Check the number and code on the mailing label.

A red circle indicates that your membership will conclude with this mailing. Please remit your dues immediately.