

NEWS FROM NICKWACKETT

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RUTLAND HISTORICAL SOCIETY NEWSLETTER

APRIL 1998

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SUMMER DANCE SERIES WITH THE MUSIC OF THE GREAT DANCE BANDS

This summer the Program Committee of the Rutland Historical Society will begin a series of Friday night dances featuring the music of the great dance bands from the 1930's to the 1960's. The programs will provide recorded music of two great bands each Friday evening from Friday 26 JUN 1998 through Friday 21 AUG 1998. The programs will run from 7 to 9 p.m. on each date.

Through co-sponsorship by the Rutland Recreation Department, the dances will be held at the Godnick Senior Citizen Center off Deer Street in Rutland City. Lemonade or punch will be provided. There is no charge for admission. Both listeners and dancers of all ages are welcome.

The plan for the summer of 1999 is to solicit audience input for choices of bands by asking listeners and dancers to select 9 out of this year's 18 bands for next year and 9 from a list of 18 additional bands for next year's program. This will provide something old and something new for each season. During the brief intermission between bands each Friday, a sample of music from two of the bands on the new list of 18 will be played. This will allow everyone to sample the bands before voting at the end of the season.

The recorded music will be provided from the extensive collection of Program Committee member, Jim Davidson and will be pre-taped for each evening.

1998 FRIDAY DANCE PROGRAM

- 26 JUN Glenn Miller &
Harry James
- 3 JUL Sammy Kaye &
Benny Goodman
- 10 JUL Tommy &
Jimmy Dorsey
- 17 JUL Les Elgart &
Artie Shaw
- 24 JUL Guy Lombardo &
Ray Anthony
- 31 JUL Billy Vaughn &
Duke Ellington
- 7 AUG Les Brown &
Lawrence Welk
- 14 AUG Bert Kaempfert &
Xavier Cugat
- 21 AUG Glen Gray &
Ray Conniff

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IS YOUR LAST
MAILING UNLESS
YOU RENEW
IMMEDIATELY**

**WE WOULD HATE
TO LOSE YOU**

ACTIVITIES WITH THE SCHOOLS

On 2 and 3 FEB Jim Davidson, Carmine Pacca and Elaine Purdy of the Society made presentations to over 200 students at the Rutland Intermediate School. Carmine dealt with the pre-history of Rutland and Vermont. Jim described conditions in Vermont during the French and Indian War. He also talked about the Crown Point Road, the original charter of Rutland and the probable reason for Rutland's name. Elaine Purdy, a direct descendant of James Mead, told about his early settlement in Rutland. After the program, the three speakers displayed maps, artifacts and pictures that pertained to their presentations and answered student questions.

In March the same members of the Society returned to the Rutland Intermediate School to address the Fourth Grade about life in the 1920's. A lively question and answer period followed.

Also in March, Carmine Pacca and Jim Davidson conducted a walking tour for over 50 Eighth Grade students from the Rutland Town School. The tour of Center Street, Merchants Row and Washington Street outlined the history of Rutland through an observation of Rutland's architectural heritage on the above streets.

ACTIVITIES FOR SENIOR CITIZENS

In February Jim Davidson made a presentation on "Doing History" at The Meadows for their Lyceum Series.

In March the Brandon "Elders On the Go" visited the Society's exhibits by afternoon appointment.

TOM CARPENTER SPEAKS TO RUTLAND SOUTH ROTARY

Tom Carpenter spoke to the Rutland South Rotary at their breakfast meeting at the Howe Center on Thursday 2 APR 98. Tom described early banking in Rutland and Vermont. In particular, he discussed the Bank of Rutland, Rutland's first bank, which was established in 1824. He also discussed the history of American paper currency. Tom also noted that the Rutland Historical Society had had its first home in the old Bank of Rutland building.

SONS OF UNION VETERANS VISIT SOCIETY

On 11 MAR 98 the Society hosted a short reception for SUV members and guests. The Society had a special display of SUV and Grand Army of the Republic materials that are in the Society's collections. Guests were also invited to see the stained glass windows from the GAR Memorial Hall.

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

Finance Committee
Tom Carpenter - 773-3626

**Historic Preservation
Committee**
Ann Singiser - 773-8172

Library Committee
Ann Glagola - 775-1302

Membership Committee
Helen Davidson - 773-7525

Personnel Committee
Mary Segale - 773-2326

Program Committee
Pat McCormack - 747-0243

Public Relations
Kendall Wild - 773-8687

Publications
Jake Sherman - 775-2784

Research
Dorothy Whitford - 773-3219

President
Elaine Purdy - 773-6819

Society Historian
Mary Segale - 773-2326

LIBRARY AND ARTIFACTS COMMITTEES



Three members of the Library and Artifacts Committees pause for the camera at a Wednesday morning work session. (l to r) Ann Glagola, Eleanor Elwert and Mary Segale.

The Library Committee is responsible for the processing and cataloging of books in the Society's collections. The Artifacts Committee is responsible for the processing and cataloging of the various three-dimensional objects in the Society's collections. The Library and Artifacts Committees meet and work together most Wednesday mornings from 9 to 12. Members include Ann Glagola, Chairperson of the Library Committee, Eleanor Elwert, Chairperson of the Artifacts Committee, Patricia McCormack and Mary Segale. In addition to work on these committees, Eleanor serves as a Saturday afternoon host for the Society's public hours, Patricia is Chairperson of the Program Committee and Mary is on the Society's Board of Directors. Jim Davidson from the Archives Committee meets with this group to maintain communication and coordinate activities between the two groups.

The Archives Committee is responsible for the paper, photographic and map elements of the Society's collections. Often one committee or the other will process material that is the primary responsibility of another committee if the item appears in a collection that is being processed. The committees keep in close communication and consult frequently on policies and procedures so that all processing is done in a thorough and consistent manner. The Archives Committee meets regularly on Thursday evenings from 7-9 p.m.,

Currently the Library and Artifacts committees have focused on photographing the complete textile collection, primarily clothing, and accessories and revising the cataloging of the material.

FREEMAN MARKER TO BE DEDICATED

A new Vermont Historic Site marker commemorating the life of Martin H. Freeman of Rutland, first black college president in the United States, will be dedicated Saturday, 25 April 1998 at 11:00 a.m.

The Rutland Historical Society and the Vermont Division for Historic Preservation have worked together on the project which was sparked by the Society's Freeman Quarterly. The author of the Quarterly, Dr. Russell W. Irvine of Atlanta GA will attend and offer a brief tribute to Freeman. Representatives of Rutland's Grace Congregational Church and Middlebury College,

insitutions which greatly influenced Freeman's life, will also attend. Rutland Mayor Jeffrey Wennberg will offer a welcome.

The marker is located at 46 North Main Street on property of the First Vermont Bank and was erected with their cooperation. The public is cordially invited to attend.

LOYALTY DAY PARADE

The Rutland Historical Society will enter its early Rutland Street Car float in the Loyalty Day Parade on Sunday 3 MAY 1998. The First Republic Brass will again offer music from the street car. The Society will commemorate the 100th anniversary of the Spanish-American War in its decorative motif.

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

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

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