

NEWS FROM NICKWACKETT



VOL. 19 NO. 4

THE RUTLAND HISTORICAL SOCIETY NEWSLETTER

DECEMBER 2012

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ANNUAL MEETING

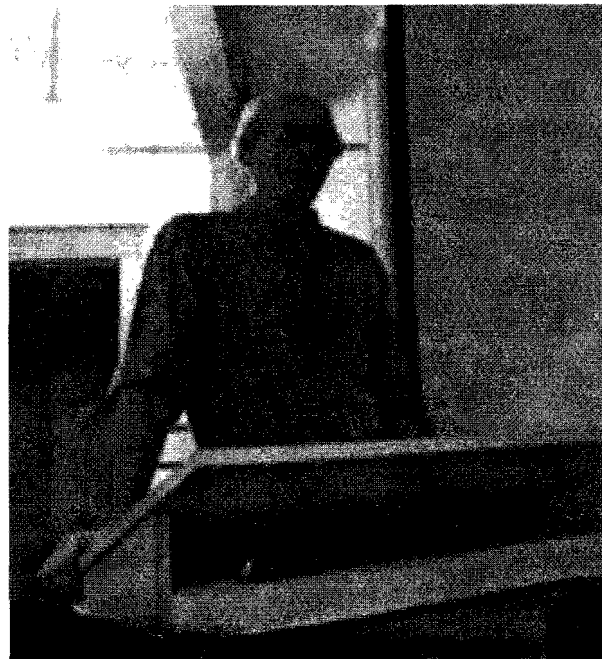
The Annual Business Meeting of the Rutland Historical Society was held on Thursday October 25 at the Society at 96 Center Street. The meeting began with reports and the election of officers and directors. The nominees elected were:

- Pres. Carolynn Ranftle
- V.P. Chuck Piotrowski
- Sec. Rosemary Bradley
- Trea. Tom Carpenter
- Dir. (2 yrs) Lloyd Davis
- Dir. (2 yrs) Fred Remington
- Dir. (2 yrs) Randy Brown.

(The continuing Directors are George Bradley, Pam Johnson and Bill Powers.)

Pam Johnson was elected by the Board of Directors to Chairperson of the Board.

The business portion of the meeting was followed by a presentation entitled "Vermont Civil War Battle Flags" by Don Wickman, which was well received.



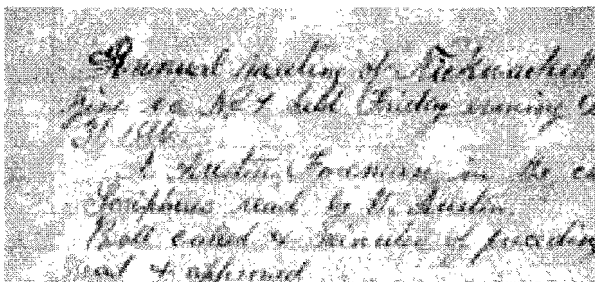
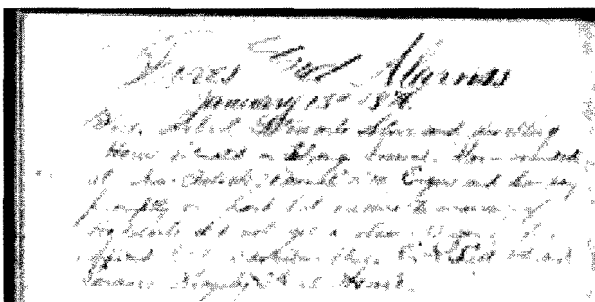
Don Wickman addresses the Rutland Historical Society.



NICKWACKETT BOOKS

Recently the Historical Society was privileged to receive two original Nickwackett Engine Co. 1 log books from the Austin family. The first contains minutes of the company's regular meetings from 1886 to 1890, when A. Austin was Foreman and Henry Austin was Steward. The second book is an account of Fires and Alarms answered from 1874 to 1879.

It is wonderful to be able to add to the story of the Nickwackett Firehouse. We are indeed grateful to have the books and hope to publish some of their contents in the future.



Nickwackett Engine Co. 1 log book pages.

“HISTORICALLY SPEAKING” ON CHANNEL 15 IN RUTLAND

The Society produces a new program each month. The series includes interviews and historical pictorial material in a rather flexible TV magazine format. The programs can be seen Wednesdays at 4:00 PM, Thursdays at 1:30 PM, and Fridays at 7:30 PM. DVDs of past episodes can be obtained from Rutland Regional Community Television, 1 Scale Avenue, Suite 108, Rutland, VT 05701-4460. They are \$10 for each episode. Make checks payable to RRCT. Include \$2.50 for shipping and handling. Personal pickup is available. Call (802) 747-0151 for further information. Consult the Society website (rutlandhistory.com) for a complete listing of past shows.

To watch the current or previous episode of “Historically Speaking” in streaming video on your computer: (1) go to the Society website (rutlandhistory.com), (2) click on “Historically Speaking,” and (3) click on the second paragraph which will link you to the Video On Demand Library on the PEG-TV website. In the search box at the top of the video player, type in “Historically Speaking” then click on the magnifying glass button to the right. You should get a choice of the two most recent programs.

Episode # 97 (a rerun) –The Rutland Creek Path - Susan Schreiber of the Rutland Regional Planning Commission is the guest for this episode. Susan briefly relates the history of the development of this pathway from Giorgetti Park to the College of St. Joseph. She also reports on the rapid progress of the project to the engineering of the first two segments of the path. Jim Davidson of the Society and host for the episode shares images of 16 identified historical sites along the pathway which provide a wonderful glimpse of Rutland’s economic, recreational, religious, and cultural history.

Episode # 123 – “Who is Julia?” is presented by Michael F. Dwyer of the Rutland Historical Society. This genealogical mystery will hold the viewer spellbound. It also serves as an engaging guide for anyone who is thinking about getting involved in a family search. Michael follows a path of names mysteriously connected throughout Julia’s family. He finally reaches an obvious conclusion as to who Julia really is.

COMMITTEE CORNER

President

Carolynn Ranftle –
855-8219

Board Chairperson

Pam Johnson –
345-0603

Curator

Jim Davidson –
773-7525

Membership Secretary

Robert Perkins –
773-0184

Society Historian

Mary Segale –
773-2326

Chairpersons:

Collections Committee

Tom Carpenter –
773-3626

Human Resources Committee

Pam Johnson –
775-7074

Program Committee

Jim Davidson –
773-7525

Publications Committee

Jake Sherman –
775-2784

Research Committee

Rosemary Bradley –
773-9411

Website Committee

Doreen McCullough –
776-5232

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. William Notte - Editor

VOLUNTEERS' BUZZ

Volunteer hours finds the Society abuzz with activity. If you were to stop by Wednesday or Thursday afternoon or Thursday evening you would find people in all areas of the building engaged in a variety of activities. During the past year this included sorting and organizing a new large multi-container collection, organizing and inventorying oversized posters, maps, and photos, assigning names to basement inventory items for quick finding, perusing newspapers and other material for our weekly column and weekly television segment, analyzing computer and network data, creating a detail inventory with photos of our military uniforms, organizing biographical files, scanning documents, photos and negatives and processing them to create and organize digital images and documents for easy finding and viewing, and the continuous work of processing new donations which requires identification, filing, and cataloging. And last, but not least, organizing our internal documents so we don't forget our own history.

And all this does not include time in additional hours answering research requests, authoring publications, maintaining the website and creating and hosting programs of all kinds.

And this goes on all year round. Many, if not most historical societies across the state, have limited or seasonal only activities. By contrast, volunteer activity at the Rutland Historical Society never stops.

GIFTS FOR THE HOLIDAY SEASON

The Society will be closed on Monday the 24th and Monday the 31st of December. We will be open all Saturdays of the holiday season. We expect to have our calendar for 2013 available before Christmas. The cost is \$2.00 each making it a nice inexpensive gift. We also have the digital disc with the 1884 map of the greater Rutland area for \$10.00. We also highly recommend the reissue of "Rutland in Retrospect" on disc for \$20.00. The captions on this item are PDF searchable and the photos can be increased to 200% or more without loss of detail. Stop by and see a demo of this item.

Of course, a membership to the Historical Society always makes a nice inexpensive gift. It's a great choice for the history enthusiast on your list or a hard to shop for family member.

FROM THE MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY

Is it time to renew?

Please check the date above your name on the mailing label.

- If the date on your label is 2011 or earlier your grace period has expired and this is the last Quarterly you will receive unless you renew by January 31, 2013.

- If the date on your label is 2012, your dues for 2013 are now due. Please use the membership form on this page.

- If the date on your label is 2013 or later, your dues are up to date. Thank you.



Rutland Historical Society - Membership Form

96 Center Street, Rutland, VT 05701-4023

Phone: 802-775-2006

First Name

Last Name

Street Address or Post Office Box

City or Town

State

ZIP Code

Phone (optional)

Email Address (optional)

\$8 Student \$8 Senior (62+) \$10 Regular

\$20 Contributor \$50 Sponsor \$200 Lifetime

Second Person at same address (if any). No additional fee.
(Not available for Student or Lifetime memberships.)



SOCIETY ACTIVITIES

On September 26, the Society hosted the Rutland Stamp Club. Jim Davidson presented a brief program about society digitization efforts.

On October 2, the Rutland Free Library and the Society co-sponsored "Preserving Your History: A Gentle Introduction to Digitizing Your Photos and Documents" by Jessica Weitz. The Society continues to meet monthly with a committee from the Rutland Free Library to explore ways that the two organizations might enter into partnership activities.

On Saturday and Sunday, October 6th and 7th, the Society held the traditional "Art in the Park weekend sale," which was very successful. Over \$700 was added to the Society's funds. Many members brought items from their homes, garages, and attics for the sale.

Additionally, on October 9 Jim Davidson presented a program for the Rutland AARP group at Templewood. On October 12, Jim presented a program on early Irish history in Rutland at the Interfaith Breakfast at Grace Church in Rutland. On October 14, the Society presented the video "David Sawyer's World" for the Italian-American Club's annual brunch.

On October 27, the Society participated in the Halloween Parade. The parade is an excellent opportunity for the Society to play a role as a member of the community and gives the Society an important physical presence before a very large number of people.



Historical Society members ready for the Halloween Parade.

WEBSITE REPORT

Historical Resources: A Baseball section has been added to our Historical Resources page. The Rutland Royals were members of the Northern League from 1938-1941. During World War II the league suspended activity. These scrapbooks have clippings of each game each year, and some photos as well. The file for each year is PDF searchable. The site also features a team picture taken in 1939.

Where is it? "Rutland Tidbits" by Helen Davidson isn't gone. It's been moved to our Historical Resources page. Note our new "web enhanced" version which enables a faster download time. You can now perform a word search of all 600 tidbits at once. We think you'll enjoy reading all of Helen's informative tidbits on Rutland's history.

Historical Moving Images: Did you note the name change? The Web Committee felt that since future plans involve putting additional historical films online, that the category name of Historically Speaking no longer applied. The new name of Historical Moving Images will now encompass our Historically Speaking Episodes and eventually our Moments in Time series.

Our Web Master continues to upload episodes of Historically Speaking to the Internet Archive website. To date, 69 episodes have been uploaded. Go to Historical Moving Images and click on the maroon episode number to view these programs online.

The Web Committee, on a continual basis, has reviewed each section of the web page to ensure its accuracy and timeliness. Please feel free to contact us if you note any inaccuracies.

THE FACILITIES OF THE RUTLAND
HISTORICAL SOCIETY ARE OPEN

ON:

MONDAYS 6-9 PM

SATURDAYS 1-4 PM