

# NEWS FROM NICKWACKETT



VOL. 23 NO. 1

THE RUTLAND HISTORICAL SOCIETY NEWSLETTER

APRIL 2016

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## TREASURER CHANGE

In late December, Treasurer Randy Brown advised the Society that due to health issues, he needed to resign his position as Treasurer, as well as research and Monday night hosting positions.

Tom Carpenter, presently a member of the Board of Directors and Chairperson of the Board, had spent over 26 years as Treasurer. He stepped in to temporarily cover the Treasurer's position. Rosemary Bradley agreed to cover the Monday night hosting slot. Research Committee members and others took on additional research responsibilities.

For three months the Society actively sought a new Treasurer. Curator Jim Davidson contacted possible applicants for the position. Tom Carpenter interviewed four persons who showed an interest, to discuss the role and duties of the Treasurer. For a variety of reasons, they all ultimately offered their regrets.

A plan was developed in which Helen Davidson, who has had experience with the Society as past President, Secretary and Research positions, has offered to be Treasurer. Michael Messier, a past Board member, who has an extensive background as a corporate financial officer, agreed to serve as Assistant Treasurer to Helen. At the April Board Meeting the two person position was approved to provide the services of Treasurer. Helen will attend Board meetings and keep records of financial dealings. Michael will

handle reports and technical support. They will soon meet with Tom Carpenter to review the tasks, roles, and transition details.

The Society thanks everyone who pitched in to cover during Randy's absence and wish him a rapid return to good health.

## LOYALTY DAY PARADE

On Sunday May 1, 2016 Rutland will host the 53rd Annual Loyalty Day Parade. The Rutland Historical Society, which has participated in the parade for over 20 years, will again provide a float and music, unless weather prevents it.

Member Gerry Coursey will provide the vehicle and trailer with access to power this year.

Last year the response from the crowd along the parade route was observed as folks danced or clapped showing their recognition and enjoyment of the music.

This year we will again play a range of popular music including jazz from the 1920s, big band music from the 1930s and 1940s, rock 'n' roll from the 1950s, and polkas and Herb Alpert and the Tijuana Brass from the 1960s.

**PLEASE REMEMBER  
YOUR  
DUES FOR 2016.**



## 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 4PM, Thursdays at 1:30PM, and Fridays at 7:30PM. 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](http://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](http://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 # 145 – The Rutland Newsliner** – Jake Sherman of the Rutland Historical Society is the guest on this episode which provides an overview of the Society's December 2015 Calendar and the Society's CD of over 500 pages. The "Newsliner" CD offers a complete collection of the Rutland Railroad's in-house magazine which was published from 1952 to 1960. The magazine includes much railroad information and numerous pictures from years before 1952. Fortunately the pictures are well identified. Jim Davidson hosts the program.

**Episode # 146 – Rutland Area Vermont State Historic Markers** – Guest Tom Carpenter of the Rutland Historical Society locates and talks about each marker in the Rutland area. An interesting tale concerns a marker at the location of the old Statehouse and Court building that stood on the north side of West Street. For about 30 years this marker had been missing. The missing marker was recently found in the stolen property locker of the New Jersey State Police. A marker will be restored to its original location near the top of West Street hill.

**Episode # 147 – Rutland Women in History – 2016** – Carolyn Ranftle, Vice President of the Rutland Historical Society, presents a Powerpoint program about a number of Rutland women whose stories bring to light the lesser known individuals of local history. Jim Davidson hosts the program.

## COMMITTEE CORNER

**President**

Pam Johnson – 775-7074

**Board Chairperson**

Tom Carpenter – 773-3626

**Curator**

Jim Davidson – 773-7525

**Membership Secretary**

Robert Perkins – 773-0184

**Society Historian**

Mary Segale – 773-2326

**Chairpersons:****Collections Committee**

Ron Hemenway – 775-6581

**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



## 2015 DONORS \$50 OR MORE

Anderson, Thomas M.  
 Austin, Claire W.  
 Brown, Randy  
 Burnett, Frederick & Marie Ann  
 Casella Waste Systems  
 Cioffi, Ernest  
 Clifford Funeral Home  
 Credit Union of Vermont  
 Cresci, Chris & Andrea  
 Crowley, John & Judith  
 D'Auria, Francis DMD  
 Garrett, Patricia  
 Giffin, Clifford E. & Shirley L.  
 Gunion, Mary Clement  
 Guyette, Richard J.  
 Heritage Family Credit Union  
 Hinchey, Angela  
 Hinsman Jr., Dr. John & Glenda  
 Holden Insurance  
 Holton, Barbara  
 HOP Energy  
 Initial Ideas  
 Johnson, Norman & Theresa  
 Kiefer-Cioffi, Chris  
 Lee, Pat  
 Lopes, Raymond & Kathleen  
 Louras, Gus  
 McCormick, Dr. & Mrs. Thomas E  
 Mellick King, Rosalie G. Messier,  
 Mathew & Michael Minett, Pat  
 Lee & Rick  
 Murphy, Michael & Madeline  
 McNeil, James and John  
 Noble Jr., Robert & Nancy Olney,  
 Frank  
 Pitaniello, Gregory  
 Ross, Jane M.  
 Smalley Contractors  
 Spalding, Christian P.  
 Wing, Mary C.  
 Wolk, Arthur & Florence  
 Woshinsky, Oliver

## NEW LIFE MEMBERS

Giffin, Barbara  
 Hinson, Jean A.  
 Messier, Michael

## FROM THE PUBLICATION COMMITTEE

### Oops!!

We offer apologies for a typo in the membership form in the last issue. The Life Membership is, as in the past, \$200. A corrected form is printed here.

### 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 Life (individual only)

\_\_\_\_\_ If making an additional donation, please check here and enter the donation amount.

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



## WEBSITE REPORT

A link to the Google Street View of the Society building has been placed in the "What's New" section of our website. Thanks to Carolynn Ranftle for alerting us to the fact that it is now available.

More of the Proctor High School yearbooks have been uploaded to Internet Archive. The "Proctorian" has been scanned and uploaded from 1938 to 2015. Prior to the "Proctorian," a publication called the "Sutherland" was published. There are four of those that have been scanned by Clifford Giffin, and uploaded to Internet Archive. Kudos to Clifford and Mr. & Mrs. George Hooker for scanning all of the Proctor Yearbooks.

The Proctor Library is still on the lookout for the elusive 1942 Proctor yearbook. We are also hoping to find other copies of the 1952, 1953 and 1980 yearbooks to scan as some missing pages were found in the originals.

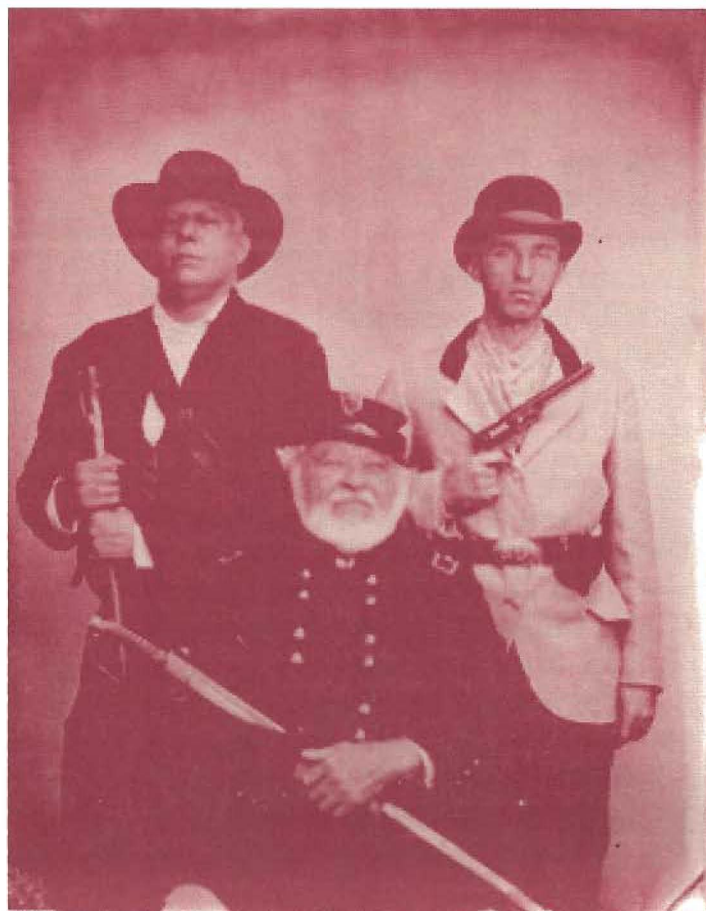
Rutland Historical Society Quarterlies Vol. 44 #1-4 (2014) have been scanned and are now available on the website.

We are working on placing the works of Julia C. R. Dorr on our website.

## FENIAN PROGRAM

The Fenian Historical Society has planned a series of activities in the Rutland area on Friday, Saturday, and Sunday, May 20-22. The Vermont Department of the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War will be holding their annual meeting in Rutland on Saturday, May 21st. The two organizations are coordinating their programs. Details for the programs, times, and locations have not been finalized.

This year is the 150th Anniversary of the 1866 attack on Canada by the Fenian Brotherhood. The Fenian movement was a secret plan to capture Canada and hold it as a ransom for the freedom of Ireland. Many Civil War units were totally Irish and used the Civil War training, experience, and equipment for their plan to invade



Vermont's Irish Rebels

Canada after the war. There was a secret chapter of the organization in West Rutland which carried on meetings and training.

During the Civil War Captain John Lonergan led a company called the Emmet Guards. Many West Rutland Irishmen belonged to this unit.

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

**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