



bedford historical society

Bedford, New Hampshire - August 2023

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Annual Meeting, Wednesday, September 20, 2023, Bedford Town Hall, 7:00 PM

Our annual meeting will be Wednesday, September 20, 7:00 PM, at the Bedford Town Hall. BHS Director Ron Carvalho will be our guest speaker. See you then!

The roster of BHS officers to be voted on at the Annual Meeting is as follows:

President, Claire Day
Vice President, Gwen Broder
Secretary, Volunteer needed!
Treasurer, Rebecca Acorn
Joyce Kasiaras, Director

The BHS board is making a recommendation to the membership that annual dues

be raised beginning October 1. It has been many years since we have had an increase, and our expenses keep mounting. Therefore, at our annual meeting, we will ask the members for a vote on increasing an individual membership from \$20 to \$25, a family membership from \$30 to \$35, and a patron from \$60 to \$65. Corporate memberships will remain at \$100.

Fall Painting Day at Schoolhouse no. 7



Our beloved Schoolhouse no. 7 is in need of exterior painting. We have set aside Saturday, October 7, for our volunteer group to tackle the job. A rain date will be determined later. If you can help out, even for just a couple of hours, we will put you to work! Work begins at 9:00 AM.

Latest Progress on Future Community Center

The Stevens-Buswell Community Center Committee is delighted to report the latest progress on the work at Bedford's future community center. LeBlanc Heating began installing the heating system for the building in February. Most of the ductwork was installed back in 2015 so that was a huge help for this expensive project. Two new air handlers, an oil-fired boiler for backup, and a new oil tank have been installed and will be fired up for the 2023-2024 heating season. With the new heating system, we will avoid construction delays due to cold temperatures inside the building!

An important project that will be undertaken in the near future will be insulating the

building, primarily the attic and the lower level walls. Previously, the exterior and interior walls of the main floor were insulated. However, prior to addressing the insulation, some additional electrical work is needed.

Also in February, R4 Renovations, a local company owned by Josh Zylac, completed 11 feet of sill repair on the North Amherst Road side of the building. Having the deteriorated sill replaced and sealed from future water damage is a big relief.

Alex Rohe of Aroostook Custom Builders, another local company, has finished installing the many doors on the main floor, a big project. In addition, Sullivan Construction in Bedford recently assisted our efforts to revise our earlier construction estimates.

On the fundraising side, we are thrilled to announce a very generous donation from Dave and Heather Michaels! They have been supportive of our project for many years and have made a significant donation to secure the naming rights for the office on the main floor. Thank you, Dave and Heather!

We now have the Bill and Lois Earnshaw Room, the Daugela Room, and the Dave and Heather Michaels Office! A limited number of rooms and spaces remain available for naming. Please contact us if you would like to learn more about

this opportunity to honor someone, your family, or a loved one's memory by making a major gift!

Additionally, we have many opportunities for sponsoring special projects in the building, such as the audio-visual system, the restoration of the original blackboard or schoolhouse lights, a moveable divider or moveable stage for the Earnshaw Room, the sign over the front entrance, or a coffee station for the reception area. We have lots of suggestions so please don't hesitate to contact us for more information at the Bedford Historical Society by going to <https://bedfordhistoricalnh.org/stevens-buswell-community-center-bedford-nh/> on our beautiful new website! As always, donations of any size are appreciated. Please reach out to us if you would like to join our committee to help get us to the finish line with Bedford's community center project!



New doors in the Earnshaw Room

Thanks to Dee Caron

Our longtime member, friend and valued officer Dee Caron has left our group. We thank Dee for her expertise in support of the BHS and SBCC over many years. Dee has been our bookkeeper, website guru, BHS on-line store/PayPal master and BHS Secretary. Last Christmastime, she donated a beautiful handmade gingerbread house to BHS for a raffle at our Christmas Boutique. Thank you so much Dee and Good Luck! We will miss you.

BHS and SBCC Need Secretaries

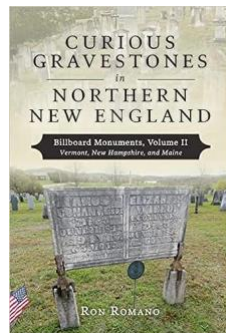
With Dee Caron's departure, both BHS and the SBCC need a secretary to record meeting minutes. These minutes need not be expansive but a simple record of topics discussed and any votes taken. We will even help edit them if provided in a rough draft format. Can you help??? Please let us know.

Spring Speakers at the Bedford Town Hall

We have completed three months of fascinating speakers sponsored by the Bedford Historical Society. In March we hosted our very own Clairia Monier who gave us a heartwarming picture of her Bedford childhood and education, which led her to

much professional success. Imagine Clairia's immigrant parents from Italy and Poland and the strength, enterprise, and vigor they possessed to farm successfully in Bedford, New Hampshire! Clairia is our very own Bedford treasure.

In April we were treated to Ron Romano from Portland, Maine, whose passion for New England gravestones has resulted in several books on the topic. His research and histories were captivating about the people the markers memorialize. Ron was a humorous and lively speaker who made us all appreciate the treasures left to us by earlier generations. One of these unusual grave markers resides



in our Bedford Center Cemetery. We purchased several of his books, which you may borrow from the Society.

Finally, in May we were treated to Kim Chandler Varney's overview of New Hampshire's beloved covered bridges. Do you know the real reason the bridges were covered? Yankee frugality is the answer: A covered bridge will last 100 years, while uncovered, it will last but 25 years. Kim's photographs were spectacular, and her talk left us wanting to explore all of the bridges throughout the state.

Thanks to Joyce Kasiaras, Gwen Broder, Dee Caron, Susan Tufts-Moore, Beverly Thomas and Claire Day who provided us treats for the evenings. Also, special thanks to our own Bill Jennings for his constant enthusiasm for all that we do and his professionalism in taping our events. Both Clairia and Ron's talks are available for streaming anytime on BCTV.

BHS Spring Clothing Drive



Thanks to all who helped us with our Annual BHS Clothing Drive. The clothes support the Epilepsy Foundation in their stores (Savers), and a small amount of funds come back to the Society. Special thanks to Gwen Broder who handled all the details. Also thanks to Rich Moore, Meredith Potter, Claire Day and Bobby Potter who helped move clothes when the bin filled up.

**Bedford Historical Society
Current Board**

Claire Day – President
[Email Claire Day](#)

Gwen Broder – Vice-President
[Email Gwen Broder](#)

Unfilled – Secretary

Rebecca Acorn- Treasurer
[Email Rebecca Acorn](#)

Beverly Thomas – Ex-Officio
[Email Beverly Thomas](#)

Joyce Kasiaras – Director
(2020-2023)

Ron Carvalho – Director
(2021-2024)

Susan Tufts Moore –
Director (2022-2025)

**THANKS TO OUR
CORPORATE MEMBERS**



THE FRANK MASSIN AGENCY, INC.

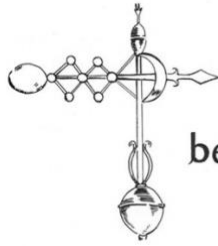


**BEDFORD
VILLAGE
INN**

The Bedford Historical Society is an IRS 501(c)3 organization. All dues, donations, and gifts are 100% tax deductible.

BHS Friends—We Hope That You Will Renew Your Membership

We know that everyone gets lots of requests for donations to worthy causes. But as you're reading this newsletter, you are already a supporter of our modest, yet important Bedford Historical Society. Please remember to renew your membership by October 1. Our membership application is attached to this newsletter.



bedford historical society
24 North Amherst Road • Bedford, New Hampshire 03110

Membership Form

Date: _____

Please complete and return this form to the address listed below.
Membership dues may also be paid online on our website, www.BedfordHistoricalNH.org

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Phone: (Home) _____ Phone: (Cell) _____ Email Address: _____

Membership Levels

Please circle chosen membership level

1. Single - One individual \$ 20.00
2. Family - One couple & any children under 18 years of age \$ 30.00
3. Patron - Any person or group \geq \$ 60.00
4. Corporate Membership - One business \$ 100.00

Corporate Membership benefits include:

- A link to your website on our supporters page on our website and other social media.
- Table or banner at one of our events.
- Company logo with a link to your website in our newsletters.

Please consider an additional donation to support one of the following:

Matthew Patten Fund \$ _____ BHS General Fund \$ _____

Stevens-Buswell Community Center Project \$ _____

Please make checks payable to: Bedford Historical Society - Mail to: 24 North Amherst Rd, Bedford, NH 03110

Volunteer Opportunities

Buildings and Grounds/Maintenance ___ Cataloging/Filing ___ Website/Social Media ___
SBCC Committee: Fundraising/Events ___ Clothing Drive ___ Building Committee ___
BHS Meetings Transportation: Need ___ Can Provide ___

The Bedford Historical Society is an IRS 501(c)3 organization. All dues, donations and gifts are 100% tax deductible.
For Information, go to <https://BedfordHistoricalNH.org>

Thank you for supporting the Bedford Historical Society!