



Worcester, VT Historical Society Newsletter - Summer 2007

P. O. Box 329, Worcester, VT 05682

FOURTH OF JULY ACTIVITIES PLANNED

“Step Back in Time to the 50’s and 60’s” is the theme of Worcester’s annual July 4th celebration, this year to feature an Elvis Presley impersonator and exhibit of Elvis paraphernalia. The parade will begin at 11 AM, chicken barbeque at Noon, strawberry festival at the church annex, 1-3 PM, duck race at 3 PM, activities, games and exhibits all afternoon. The greatest firework show in Central Vermont will culminate the festivities at dusk. Volunteers are needed to assist with many of the events. Donations are still needed for the fireworks. If you would like to participate in any way, please call Judy Knapp (223-8635), Mary Ann Powers (229-9513) or Susan Dodge (223-5822). Those willing to help with set up should meet at Ladd Field at 10 AM on Tuesday, July 3rd.

ROGER HILL TO PRESENT PROGRAM AT ANNUAL MEETING - SEPTEMBER 13, 2007

Worcester’s own Roger Hill, popular regional weatherman, will discuss “1816, the Year Without a Summer” at the WHS annual meeting. There was no harvest in that year in Worcester because there were frosts and snow every month. A pot-luck supper at 6:00 and a short business meeting will precede the presentation. Drinks and dinner ware will be provided.

During the business session, board members will be elected, updates given on renovation progress, and members will vote on recommended bylaw changes noted in full on the next page.

WHS NOW HAS A WEB SITE

Huge thanks to Susan Premo for creating a web presence for the Worcester Historical Society. Our web page will feature upcoming events, information regarding membership, even merchandise offered by the Society. The newsletter will be posted so that you may encourage your out-of-town friends to follow the action! The address is: www.worcestervthistoricalsociety.org.

DOTY SIXTH GRADERS BEGIN A NEW TRADITION WITH THE WHS



Jennifer Forbes prepares to ring the restored bell as outgoing Principal David Wells looks on.

Twelve sixth graders from Doty Memorial Elementary began their graduation day by joining their classmates and teachers on the lawn of the Village School to give the bell in the restored tower of the 1893 schoolhouse a clang. Each student got to pull the rope once as a symbol of passage from Doty to U-32. In addition to Jennifer Forbes, pictured above, sixth graders include Taylor Sicely, Emily Delano, Chianna Calabrese, Sarah Wells, Megan Porter, Lucas Becker-Lowe, Jordan French, Ethan Tyrrell, Zeb Bolduc, Brett Fargo, and Jordon Jones. The Historical Society extends enthusiastic congratulations and looks forward to continuing the tradition with the Class of 2008 next year.



MEMBERSHIP RATES INCREASE

At its June meeting the WHS Board of Directors approved a new scale of membership fees as follows:

Individual membership - \$10

Family Membership - \$20

Life Membership - \$100

Business Membership - \$100

These rates will be in effect for the fiscal year which begins July 1, 2007.

The Board also approved some new categories to encourage larger donations:

Sponsor - \$500

Patron - \$1,000

Benefactor - \$5,000

Such donors will be honored with a life membership and special recognition at the Annual Meeting. The WHS currently has 17 individual members, 8 family members, and 37 life members. All are encouraged to renew their memberships by sending dues to WHS treasurer Judy Knapp at P. O. Box 329, Worcester, VT 05682

TEXT OF BYLAWS REVISION, ARTICLE 3

Pursuant to our Bylaws, the membership is hereby given notice that the following changes will be considered at the Annual Meeting, September 13

#Section 2 - Members: Any person interested in the history of the Town of Worcester, Vermont, who applies for membership in the WHS, and who tenders the necessary dues as set by the Board, shall become a member. A member is entitled to participate in all activities of the WHS, serve on committees, receive newsletters and notification of meetings, and vote on matters considered at any business meeting.

Section 3 - Meetings:

A. Annual Meeting: An annual meeting will be held once each fiscal year for the purpose of electing Board of Directors, and for the transaction of such other business as may come before the meeting. The date shall be determined by the Board and members shall be notified at least 30 days prior to the meeting.

B. Regular Meetings: Monthly or quarterly meetings may be scheduled by the Board during the

fiscal year. These meetings must be published in advance including the time and location of the meeting. Normal business of the organization may be transacted at these regular meetings.

C. Quorum: Those members present at a meeting where proper notification has been given will constitute a quorum. A simple majority of those members present at such a meeting will be required for electing officers and approving other business.

D. Other Meetings: It is recognized that given the nature of the organization meetings of the membership may be held for purposes other than transacting business. Such meetings are considered “non-business” meetings and may be held at the pleasure of the membership, with the consent of the Board President.

The major purpose of the changes are to give the membership at large more involvement.

BRIEFLY NOTED:

- WHS is sporting three display cases donated by the Middlebury College Art Museum. Thank you, Middlebury folks.
- WHS represented at VT History Exp at Tunbridge, June 23-24 with an early 1900’s kitchen designed and created by Cathy and Doug Hull.
- The WHS building at 17 Calais Road will be open to the public the second Saturday of each month during the summer. Drop in and take a look.
- Efforts are underway to restore and move the old “out house” back to the village school.
- WHS has endorsed a project to write a “History of Worcester.” Contact Doug Hull for details.

WISH LIST

- Bronze plaque designating building as National Historical site
- Signage for the front, already designed
- Folding Chairs
- Pull down screen