NH Chronicle Features Renowned Keene Muralist Barry Faulkner

One of Keene’s favorite sons, muralist Barry Faulkner (1881-1966), was featured this month on NH Chronicle. Barry Faulkner is known widely for murals he painted at the National Archives in Washington, Rockefeller Center in New York, and many other buildings including several locations in Keene. The NH Chronicle piece highlights Faulkner’s murals that have hung for 75 years in the Senate chambers at the New Hampshire state capitol since they were painted in 1942. One of them depicts the first commencement of Dartmouth College in 1771. Another shows Daniel Webster as a young boy reading the U.S. Constitution. A third shows the artist Abbott Thayer and his circle in his studio. A fourth shows General John Stark preparing for battle in the Revolution.

Martha Cox, a painting conservator from Shapleigh, Maine, appears in the NH Chronicle story. She restored the Faulkner murals in conjunction with preparations for the celebration of the state capitol’s 200th anniversary this year. Cox says she loved working with Barry Faulkner’s art. “His use of color and active brushwork make for engaging and dynamic images,” she says. “His attention to detail even at this scale is so wonderful.” Cox’s job was to remove over 75 years’ worth of dirt and grime that had accumulated on the murals. It took Cox six weeks of careful work to restore the vibrancy of colors that the murals had when Faulkner painted them. Cox read Faulkner’s autobiography to become more familiar with the artist and his work. She recalls, “The enthusiasm he had for life, for his work, his family, his friends, and his hometown of Keene is so pronounced. It was truly a delight to read about all of this at the same time that I was working on his murals.”

The NH Chronicle story also features an interview with Carl B. Jacobs, Jr., who is a Keene City Councilmember, a trustee of the Historical Society of Cheshire County, a local musician, and Barry Faulkner’s great-nephew. In the NH Chronicle piece, Jacobs talks about Faulkner’s murals at the National Archives. “I think that’s something,” says Jacobs, “that in one room there is the Constitution and the Declaration of Independence and two murals by a guy from Keene, New Hampshire. I just love that.”

Jacobs enjoyed the NH Chronicle story. “I received many comments on how well done it was, and how new aspects of Barry’s life were brought to light for people,” he says. For example, the David Letterman show used to open with a shot of Faulkner’s mosaic at Rockefeller Center and pan up the building. Jacobs will be giving a talk on Faulkner this spring as part of Keene State College’s CALL Program (Cheshire Academy for Lifelong Learning).

Many connections to Barry Faulkner can be

(Continued on Page 2)
Barry Faulkner (Cont. from Page 1):

found at the Historical Society of Cheshire County. Visitors to the Historical Society can view a mural that depicts the opening of the Cheshire Railroad in 1848, and an oil study for the 79-foot-long mosaic at Rockefeller Center in New York City. The collections of the Society contain a number of Faulkner’s paintings, drawings, studies for his famous murals, and many documents and original manuscripts related to his work and family.

The Historical Society’s website (www.hsccnh.org) has a Keene self-guided walking tour of Faulkner’s sketches, paintings, and artifacts. In addition to the Historical Society’s headquarters, there are three other public spaces in the city where one can view Faulkner murals and large-scale drawings.

The Historical Society’s Museum Shop sells two books on Barry Faulkner. Barry Faulkner: Sketches from an Artist’s Life is a collection of autobiographical sketches and illustrations assembled by William L. Bauhan Publisher in collaboration with Barry Faulkner’s niece, Jocelyn Faulkner Bolle. Steps to Great Art: Barry Faulkner and the Art of the Muralist is co-written by Carl B. Jacobs, Jr. and Alan F. Rumrill. It contains illustrations, a chronology of Faulkner’s career, and a CD with audio recordings of radio talks Barry Faulkner did.

Coming in October

Iron Roads of the Monadnock Region, 1843-2017
A history of the railroads in the Monadnock Region

Railroad historians Bradford G. Blodget and Richard R. Richards, Jr. have been working on their railroad book for seven years in collaboration with the Historical Society of Cheshire County. Blodget and Richards have collected over 750 photographs of historical significance, and the book will contain detailed maps and tables of the rail lines of the Monadnock region in New Hampshire, Vermont, and Massachusetts. The authors have painstakingly researched the history of the railroads and the communities they served.

Look for our Kickstarter.com Crowdfunding Campaign in February to help finance the publication of Iron Roads of the Monadnock Region. Contributors to the Kickstarter Campaign can receive rewards such as signed copies, posters, and even a tour of Monadnock railroad locations with the authors.

Sign up at our website to receive updates on the publication of Iron Roads of the Monadnock Region: www.hsccnh.org.
Identity & Race in 1940s Keene

A display of artifacts related to the Albert Johnston family of Keene and Lost Boundaries, the Louis de Rochemont Hollywood film inspired by their story.

A POP UP EXHIBIT
ON VIEW
JAN. 29- FEB. 16, 2019

Historical Society of Cheshire County
246 Main Street, Keene, NH
www.hscchnh.org. 603.352.1895

Identity and Race in 1940s Keene is sponsored by Charter Trust Company

The Lost Boundaries Reunion
Wednesday, February 6, 7:00 pm

Filmmaker and historian Larry Benaquist will discuss his 1989 documentary The Lost Boundaries Reunion based on interviews with Dr. Albert Johnston’s family following his death in 1988.

Monadnock Historical Societies Forum Roundtable
Thursday, February 7
9:30 am-1:00 pm.
Horatio Colony House Museum
199 Main Street, Keene

The Horatio Colony House Museum will host the winter session of the Monadnock Historical Societies Forum with a traditional roundtable discussion followed by a tour of the Horatio Colony Museum. Please RSVP by contacting Jennifer Carroll at 603-352-1895 or dired@hsccnh.org.

Thank You for supporting our Museum Shop
Just a reminder the Museum Shop is open for your shopping needs year round.

Tuesday, Thursday and Friday 9-4
Wednesday 9-9
and the 1st and 3rd Saturday of the month 9-12

Calling All Bakers!
A loaf of fresh baked bread brings happiness to even devils. ~Finnish Proverb

Show the world how much you love Finnish bread, whether you call it nisu or pulla. Become a contestant in the Historical Society of Cheshire County’s 3rd Annual Great Finnish Bread Bake-off to be held on Saturday, May 18th from 1:00 to 3:00 pm at Troy Elementary School in Troy, NH.

Registration forms and bake-off rules are now available online at www.hscchnh.org or at the Historical Society, 246 Main Street, Keene, NH.

For more information contact: Jennifer Carroll, Director of Education, at 603/352-1895 or dired@hsccnh.org.

Electronic Version of Newsletter Now Available
If you are interested in receiving the newsletter electronically, please email the Historical Society at hssc@hsccnh.org or call 603-352-1895.
Support the mission of the Historical Society of Cheshire County
There are a number of ways to give.

Stocks and Securities

Did you know that we can accept charitable gifts of stocks and publicly traded securities? Making a charitable gift of stocks and publicly traded securities directly to the Historical Society of Cheshire County can be a smart tax strategy. When you donate appreciated securities that you have owned for longer than one year, you receive the same income tax savings you would by making a gift of cash or by check, but you also avoid tax on the capital gains built up in donated securities. Additionally, your income tax deduction is based on any increased value of the stock at the time of transfer, instead of your cost basis.

To learn more about donating gifts of stock to the Society please feel free to contact us. To make a donation of stocks, bonds or securities directly into the Society’s endowment, you can initiate a transfer using the following account information:

Transfer to: Charter Trust Company, Contact Marcie Mackenzie, 603-856-5218
DTC Account Number: DTC #2039
Account Name: Historical Soc Chesh Cty General #740
Account Number: 8000006003

IRA Charitable Rollover

If you are over 70 ½, you can donate directly to the Historical Society of Cheshire County through the IRA Charitable Rollover without paying taxes on your distribution. And your gift goes toward all or part of your required minimum distribution (RMD). You benefit even if you do not itemize your tax deductions. This program allows for distributions of up to $100,000 total per year. Gifts can be made from Roth or traditional IRAs.

To do so, you can instruct your IRA advisor to send some or all of the money from your required minimum distribution directly to the Historical Society of Cheshire County without first taking it as income. The mailing address of the Historical Society of Cheshire County is: P.O. Box 803, Keene, NH 03431. The tax ID number is 02-6007201.

The Alan F. Rumrill Endowment

The Alan F. Rumrill Fund was established in 2018 in recognition of Alan Rumrill’s 35 years of service to the Historical Society of Cheshire County. The purpose of the fund is to support the position of a staff historian at the Society for years to come. We are well on our way towards our goal of raising $200,000 for the fund.

Engrave your name in history. Buy a brick at the Bruder House.

In February of 2018 the Historical Society of Cheshire County acquired the Bruder House on Main Street in Keene to accommodate its expanded range of educational and cultural programs for the public.

When you buy a brick to be installed at the Bruder House and the Wyman Tavern, you can honor your family, friends or an historic figure for generations to come. For $100, you can purchase a 4” x 8” brick with three lines of engraving of up to 21 characters per line. For $200, you can purchase an 8” x 8” brick with six lines of engraving.

For more information on any of these ways to give, contact Rick Swanson, Development Director at 603-352-1895, devdir@hsccnh.org, or go to www.hsccnh.org.
At the events, film historian Larry Benaquist will provide insight into the introduction of ‘talkies’ in Keene’s theatres and more about the history of the films.

**The Singing Fool**  
**Wednesday, April 10**  
**7:00 pm**

Warner Brothers released *The Singing Fool* starring Al Jolson, on September 19, 1928. It was shown at the Colonial Theatre in Keene that year. This film, the follow-up film to *The Jazz Singer*, was even more successful than its predecessor. *The Singing Fool* has all of Jolson’s songs in synchronized sound, and many of the dialogue sequences as well as the music track.

**The Trespasser**  
**Wednesday, April 17**  
**7:00 pm**

Released on November 1929, *The Trespasser* screened at the Scenic Theatre in Keene on December 17th and 18th, 1929. Ninety minutes in length, this was Gloria Swanson’s first talking film and it was a tremendous success. *The Trespasser* is a melodrama in which Gloria is a secretary who marries a wealthy but weak-willed young man whose father forces his son to annul the marriage; however, she has a son, and gossip starts that she is a “kept woman.”

**Bus Trip to Naulakha**  
**Tuesday, April 2, 11:00 am.**

Travel with the Historical Society of Cheshire County into the world of Rudyard Kipling. This annual bus trip begins with an early lunch at Kipling’s Restaurant and Pub in Brattleboro, VT, before heading to the home of Rudyard Kipling in Dummerston. “Naulakha” (jewel without price) is where Kipling wrote his famous works *Captains Courageous* and *The Jungle Books*. Take a private tour of the home and enjoy a special presentation of Just-So stories by Rudyard Kipling himself!

The bus leaves promptly at 11:00 am from the parking lot of the Historical Society. Plan to return around 3:00 pm. Reservations are $30 per person for transportation, tour of the house, and the performance. Participants pay for their own lunches. For reservations call (603)352-1895 or visit www.hsccnh.org.

**True Tales from the Monadnock Region**  
**Cheshire Academy of Lifelong Learning**  
**Keene State College**

Starting **Friday, March 8**, at 10:00 am and running for eight weeks until **April 26**, the Historical Society of Cheshire County will sponsor CALL classes on the theme of “True Tales from the Monadnock Region.” Local historians will speak each week on subjects ranging from the history of Paleo-Indians in the region to the history of summer camps, Jonathan Daniels, and Barry Faulkner.

To register or for more information, go to www.keene.edu/academics/conted/call, or contact Heather Jasmin at the Continuing Education Department of Keene State College, continuing-ed@keene.edu, or (603) 358-2942.
Robert Wellwood: Volunteer Extraordinaire, 1988-2018

At the 2018 Volunteer Appreciation Reception, the Historical Society of Cheshire County recognized Robert (Bob) Wellwood for thirty years of service at the Historical Society. Thanks to his dedicated work, the Society has an extensive collection of obituaries from the *Keene Sentinel*, dating back to the early 1980s. This collection is a valuable resource for genealogical research.

Bob and his wife, Sue, were also volunteers at the Wyman Tavern for many years, serving as docents and educators to school children and adults who toured the tavern.

Since Bob could not attend the reception, Alan and Rick paid him a visit to present him with a certificate of appreciation. The Historical Society has also designated a brick to be added to the pavilion at the Bruder House in his honor, which will read “Robert Wellwood Volunteer Extraordinaire, 1988-2018.”

Spring Egg Workshop

Doreen Monahan of the Elegant Hatchery will present a class in egg decorating on March 6th at the Historical Society in Keene from 4:30 to 8:00 pm. Participants have a choice of making two darling quail eggs. Eggs are carved ahead of time; you will decorate with fimo caned flowers and fine gold braiding. You will also enhance the egg with Swarovski crystals and extra fine glitter. Visit our website for more information and pricing. Register for this class by emailing Doreen Monahan at: eleganthatchery@gmail.com or texting 530-933-3432. Make sure you receive confirmation as we want you to receive the colors and eggs you want.
Thanks to the Historical Society’s 2019 Business Members and Sponsors

Airport Storage
Budget Blinds
John G. Burk & Associates
C&S Wholesale Grocers
Carbone’s Windows & Awnings
Carriage Barn Bed & Breakfast
Cheshire County Federal Credit Union
Clear Solutions
Colony House Bed & Breakfast
Dead River Company
Douglas Cuddle Toys
Dunkin Donuts
Elm City Brewing Company
European Precision Chiropractic
Frazier & Son Furniture
Green Energy Options
Green Mountain Taps
Greenwald Realty
Hamblet Electric
Ingram Construction
Keene Eye Care
Mascoma Bank
Craig McBeth, DMD
Melanson Company,
Monadnock Food Co-op
Monadnock Paper
Monadnock Tent & Event
NH State Council on the Arts
Norton & Abert, PC
Poodiack Wealth Management
RiverMead
Scully Architects
Silver Direct
SVE Associates
Toadstool Bookshop
William Marconi Italian Club
Yankee Bottle Club

If your business is interested in becoming a business member or sponsor of an event or program at the Historical Society of Cheshire County, please contact Rick Swanson at 603-352-1895, or devdir@hsccnh.org.

We are proud to support the Historical Society of Cheshire County.
February 2019

January 30 through February 16, Exhibit Hall, Identity and Race in 1940s Keene Exhibit

Wednesday, February 6, 7:00 pm, Exhibit Hall, The Lost Boundaries Reunion: Discussion with Larry Benaquist

Thursday, February 7, 9:30 am, Horatio Colony House Museum, 199 Main Street, Keene, The Monadnock Historical Societies’ Forum Roundtable

March 2019

Wednesday, March 6, 4:30 pm, Faulkner Room, Egg Workshop with The Elegant Hatchery

Friday, March 8, 10:00 am, Keene State College, CALL Program begins. “True Tales from the Monadnock Region” (8 week class)

April 2019

Tuesday, April 2, 11:00 am, Historical Society of Cheshire County, Bus Trip to Naulakha

Saturday, April 6, 1:00 pm, KSC Mabel Brown Room, Student Union Center, Hindu Festival of Color-Holi

Wednesday, April 10, 7:00 pm, Keene Public Library, The Singing Fool: Film and Discussion with Larry Benaquist

Wednesday, April 17, 7:00 pm, Keene Public Library, The Trespasser: Film and Discussion with Larry Benaquist

Save The Date for these upcoming events:

Wednesday, April 24, 7:00 pm, Annual Meeting

Friday and Saturday, May 10 and 11, Book Sale

Saturday, May 18, 1:00 pm, Finnish Bread Bake Off

Saturday, June 15, 10:00 am, Wyman Tavern Festival

Thursday & Friday, June 27-28, Teachers Workshop

Monday through Friday, July 22-26, 18th Century Kids Camp

Saturday, August 3, Wyman Tavern Brew Fest

Friday, September 27, Auction of Historic Proportions

Friday, October 4, Candlelight Open House