



Historical Society of Cheshire County

Collecting, Preserving, and Communicating the History of Cheshire County

VOL. 35, NO. 3

SEPTEMBER 2019

Walldogs Magical History Tour Rolls On



The Trinity Bicycle mural with bicyclists and the Railroad mural nearing completion. Walldogs Festival, June 2019



On May 16 of 1848, thousands of people gathered in downtown Keene for a huge celebration. They had congregated to greet the first passenger train to roll into Keene. With the train's arrival came the local introduction to the nation's most modern technology. The impact of the railroad on the community cannot be exaggerated. It made Keene what it is today – the economic center and only city in the region.

Thousands of people gathered in downtown Keene 171 years later for another celebration. This assembly came together in June 2019 to celebrate history, art and community spirit by participating in the Walldogs Magical History Tour mural festival. The visiting Walldogs group, made up of more than 200 muralists and sign painters from around the world, converged on Keene to celebrate the city's heritage by creating 16 artistic wall murals throughout the downtown area, including one that salutes the impact of the railroad. The Walldogs were joined by more than 100 volunteers and thousands of festival goers from near and far. The result was a true festival atmosphere that was fun, educational, historical, and meticulously organized.

The Historical Society was honored to be part of the 20-month planning and preparation process that brought the "history tour" to the city. The 4-day

festival was a wonderful event for Keene, but the excitement did not end when the Walldogs left town. The city now has 16 pieces of quality public art that illustrate the community's unique history. The Historical Society will take a lead role in showcasing this combination of art and history and sharing it with tourists, local residents and students of all ages.

The Society will prepare curriculum for local schools and classes for adults focusing on the 16 historical topics illustrated in the murals.

We will also offer walking tour booklets and hope to assist with the development of a Keene Walldogs tour computer app for use on mobile devices. Most directly and immediately, the Society will offer 2-hour guided mural walking tours. Details about upcoming tours are posted on page 9 of this newsletter. We hope you will join us for a fun and informative tour where you will learn more about Keene's extraordinary history.



Historical Society of Cheshire County



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*Bob Weekes and Alan Rumrill at the opening of the exhibit,
"Canvassing the White Mountains: Icons of Place"*

Bob Weekes Remembered

The Historical Society of Cheshire County lost a dear friend, tireless worker and enthusiastic supporter with the recent passing of former board member Bob Weekes. Bob first arrived at the Society about 30 years ago when the organization was featuring an exhibit entitled "Made in Keene." Bob was an active collector of the types of items that made up the exhibit – products made in Keene and advertising for those products. He immediately became involved with the Society by loaning items for the exhibit.

Bob had a successful career on Madison Avenue, retiring in 1988 as an executive vice president of an advertising firm there. Bob and his family had a long connection to the Monadnock Region, which they made permanent upon his retirement by moving into an 18th century farmhouse in Richmond.

Bob was active in Historical Society exhibits, events and activities for several years prior to joining the board in 2006. His involvement increased dramatically when he took on the leadership of the Society's Marketing Committee. His advertising background and guidance was essential in taking the organization to a new level of marketing and visibility in the region. Bob launched the "Tavern Keeper" program in support of Wyman Tavern activities, directed several delightful skits for the Society's annual "Auction of Historic Proportions" - whose name he coined - and was instrumental in the expansion of the Society's mission and the move toward a cultural heritage center focus. He served on the board until 2012.

Bob's collecting interests went beyond historic Keene advertising and products; he collected those types of items for the entire Monadnock Region, as well as local glass, New Hampshire paintings, and other items as well. He took great pleasure in sharing those items and interests with other collectors. He was, in fact, the driving force behind one of the organization's most ambitious and successful exhibits ever, entitled "Canvassing the White Mountains: Icons of Place." The exhibit consisted of a breathtaking collection of White Mountains and Monadnock Region artwork.

Bob Weekes encouraged the staff and the board to push their limits, to try new things and to move in new directions if it was for the good of the organization. The expiration of his term did not end his involvement with the Society. He continued to be a valued advisor, mentor, consultant, and friend for the remainder of his life.

Wyman Tavern Brew Fest 2019: Congratulations to The Outlaw Brewing Company and The Brewers of Nye Hill Farm



Ted Harris helps Nye Hill Farm's Sue Benik pour samples of The Statesman, a ginger lime wheat ale, which won People's Choice for best brew at the Wyman Tavern Brew Fest. Photo by Country Brew Tours.



Rick Horton's brewery, The Outlaw Brewing Company took home People's Choice honors for best brewer at the Wyman Tavern Brew Fest. Photo by Maggie Rice.

For the second year in a row, two brewers from the Monadnock region have taken home the People's Choice honors at the Wyman Tavern Brew Fest. The People's Choice award for best brewer went to The Outlaw Brewery from Winchester, New Hampshire. The Outlaw brought its Watermelon Wheat beer, its Experimental IPA with a blast of black licorice, and its Peanut Butter White Stout. The best brew award went to the Brewers of Nye Hill Farm in Roxbury, New Hampshire for their ginger lime wheat ale called "The Statesman."

About 550 people turned out to sample some of New England's finest craft beers and to support the Historical Society of Cheshire County. Twenty-four craft beer brewers, two local distillers, a meadery, and a cider orchard provided samples of their products for guests to taste. The event was a roaring success, raising about \$18,000 after expenses.

New this year at the Brew Fest was a series of cooking demonstrations emceed by Keene cooking icon Luca Paris. Joining Luca were Chef Geo from The Stage, Sushant Dhuri from Royal Spice, and Jordan Scott from Machina Arts. A big theme was cooking with beer as one might expect.

We deeply appreciate the support of our presenting sponsors: Amoskeag Beverages and Monadnock Broadcasting Group. Thanks also to major sponsors: Bulldog Design, Mascoma Bank, The Melanson Company, and Monadnock Tent and Event. And thanks to additional sponsors: Adventure Limousine, the Brewers of Nye Hill Farm, Brewtopia, Clark Mortenson Insurance, Copper Cannon Distillery, Elm City Brewing Company, Filtrine Manufacturing, Frogg Brewing, Great Brook Media, Green Mountain Tap Handles, Greenwald Realty, Hannaford Supermarket, Ingram Construction, Keene Eye Care, Keene Sentinel, Monadnock Brewing, Monadnock Food Co-op, New England Sweetwater Farm and Distillery, Norton and Abert P.C., The Outlaw Brewing Company, Roadtripping Photobus, Daniel V. Scully Architects, Street and Savory Food Truck, T-Bird Convenience Stores, and the William Marconi Italian Club.



Brew Fest Chefs (left to right): Perpy Dhuri from Royal Spice, Jordan Scott from Machina Arts, and Luca Paris from Luca's Mediterranean Café..

The Bruder House Welcomes Hundreds of Visitors

In its first three months of operations, the Historical Society's newest facility, the Bruder House, has been embraced by the community. About 300 people visited the Bruder House at its June 1 opening day, and since then over 1,500 people have attended programs there. The Bruder House has already been used for the launch of a book, an 18th century festival, visits by schools, a summer camp, workshops on traditional crafts and hearth cooking, a meeting of a local foundation, presentations, cooking demonstrations by local chefs, and even a wedding.



*Shape Note Singing at the Wyman Tavern Festival, June 15, 2019
Photograph by Aaron Lipsky*



Bruder House Grand Opening, June 1, 2019



*Emilia Whippie-Prior led a Hearth Cooking Workshop
on August 15, 2019.*



*18th Century campers weaving on
the Bruder House porch, July 2019*



*Luca Paris doing a cooking demonstration
at the Brew Fest, August 3, 2019*



Stoddard Village, 1865

History Meets Exercise: The Cheshire Walkers and the Historical Society Collaborate

**Cheshire Walkers Stoddard Center Tour
Wednesday, September 11, 2019. Free. 9:30 am.**

Alan Rumrill will lead another Cheshire Walkers historical walking tour of Stoddard Center. This 1.5 mile roundtrip tour is on easy footing and will include topics like businesses and churches, architecture, and the Civil War. Parking located in the parking lot just past the Congregational Church.

More History Meets Exercise: The History of Gym Class

**Wednesday, September 25th, 2019. 7:00 pm. Free.
Keene Family YMCA
200 Summit Road, Keene.**

Rebecca Noel explores the sometimes alarming, sometimes hilarious backstory of what we now know as gym class. Physicians have worried since the Renaissance that the sedentary, scholarly life makes people sick. They focused on varying concerns over time: digestive woes, melancholy, tuberculosis, spinal curvature, and reproductive weakness. The problems increased with access to education during the Enlightenment and into the 1800s.

Tracing this idea from Europe to the United States, from scholars to children, and from boys' to girls' education, the presentation shows how these fears inspired schools to get children moving. The (optional) interactive aspects of the presentation will include audience testing of historic exercise schemes, some done in pairs. The program concludes with audience discussion of the relevance of this problem to our own times—like the Enlightenment, a moment in history when many more people live the sedentary lives once limited to a few scholars. This free public event is sponsored by New Hampshire Humanities.



*Girls' Calisthenics class at Woodrow Wilson High,
Washington, DC, 1943*



Monadnock Historical Societies Forum Roundtable

**Thursday, October 10, 2019.
9:30 am-1:00 pm.**

The fall session of the Monadnock Historical Societies Forum will be held at the Jaffrey Historical Society, located at the Jaffrey Civic Center on Thursday, October 11th from 9:30am-1pm. The forum will begin with its traditional roundtable discussion, followed by a tour of the Society's newest exhibit. Please RSVP by contacting forum coordinator Jennifer Carroll at 603/352-1895 or dired@hscn.org.

The Historical Society of Cheshire County presents:

Auction of Historic Proportions



Friday, September 27, 2019

If you are looking for a fun way to support the programs of the Historical Society of Cheshire County, the Auction of Historic Proportions is your ticket. Over 100 items are available in silent and live auctions and raffles.

New this year is a selection of “bucket list” trips provided in partnership with the American Fundraising Foundation – AmFund. Four amazing trips will be available to bidders who want to support the programs of the Historical Society. Each trip is for two people, including air and accommodations, with three years to take the trip and no blackout dates. Bidding starts on the auction website September 1 and continues on through the live auction on September 27.

Pleasures and Treasures of Tuscany. For food, fun, and laughter, there’s no better place than Tuscany where, on your incredible trip, the two of you will see incomparable treasures and art in Florence, and learn to be spectacular chefs during a cooking class in an authentic Tuscan kitchen. Your deluxe villa accommodations are right in the heart of a vineyard.



Castles of Ireland. The two of you will live like kings and queens on your magnificent trip to green and glorious Ireland. Your rental car will take you to four- and five-star castle accommodations at Cabra, Lough Eske, Abbeyglen, and Dromoland Castles.

Sedona Spa Getaway. The two of you will escape to the breathtaking beauty of red rock country at the Sedona Rouge Resort and Spa, a Triple-A Four Diamond property, and an oasis of personal pampering. There are great restaurants and shopping, and your trip includes a day at the Grand Canyon.

San Francisco and Wine Country Escape. Your trip takes you to a cozy bed and breakfast in the rolling hills and breathtaking vineyards of the Napa and Sonoma Valleys. You’ll ride the famous Wine Train to a beautiful winery where you’ll enjoy a sommelier tour and wine tasting.

Many of the other items in the silent and live auctions have special connections to Cheshire County, and some of the items are one-of-a-kind experiences. For example, the winner of the “Rent-a-Rumrill” can have the Historical Society’s director Alan Rumrill present a program on the historical topic of your choice for your friends, your class reunion, or the group of your choice.



Grand Raffle

TO BENEFIT THE HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF CHESHIRE COUNTY



Wooden Chair made by the Burdett Chair Manufacturing Company, Keene NH. Circa 1880's. New seat by Meg Ellen Kupiec of Rowan Tree Crafts.



"Peonies" by Photographer Medora Hebert
Framed 36.5" x 26.5"



Wall quilt by fiber artist Anne Francisco
45" wide x 54" long



Drawing at the
Auction of Historic Proportions
Friday September 27, 2019
Need not be present to win
603/552.1895 www.hscen.org
Raffle Permit # RF-2019-062

The Auction of Historic Proportions will be held at the Historical Society's headquarters on **Friday, September 27** from 6:00-9:00 pm. Tickets are \$50. In the weeks leading up to the event, bids for auction items can be made at the Historical Society's website: www.hscen.org. This year, a new "buy it now" option will be available for some items.

Music at the Auction will be provided by the Twentieth Century Pops, a five-piece band that plays the American popular music of the era 1920 to 1970. Back by popular demand for his second year as auctioneer is Brandt Onorato of Moggie's Auction Service.

Drawings will be held for three raffle items: an exquisite 36.5" x 26.5" photograph by Medora Hebert; a Burdett Chair Mfg. chair from Keene circa 1880s that was restored by Meg Kupiec of Rowan Tree Crafts in Walpole; and a quilt by Anne Francisco. Raffle tickets are \$10 each, or three for \$25 at the Historical Society and you need not be present to win. Purchasers can choose which of the three items they want to win.

Here are a few examples of items in the silent and live auctions:

- A Walldogs walking tour with Alan Rumrill
- Portrait session with Steve Holmes
- Two-night stay in Greenwich Village near the High Line
- Barry Faulkner walking tour with Carl Jacobs
- Annual oil burner service by Davis Oil
- Granite post with number and street address from Keene Monument
- Tour of regional craft breweries with Country Brew Tours
- Cooking class for 8-10 people with Chef Linda Stavelly
- Two bottles of 1978 Bordeaux wine

Many thanks to the Auction Committee: Jane Lane, Susan Landers-Gilbert, Susan McGinnis, Kathy Halverson, and Kitty Mervine. And thanks to our sponsors: Poodiack Wealth Management Group, C&S Wholesale Grocers, People's Linen Service, Kristin's Bistro and Bakery, Moggie's Auction Services, In the Company of Flowers, Frazier and Son Furniture, Norton and Abert, PC, and Re/Max Town and Country.

Please save the date – **Friday, September 27** – for a fun evening to support programs that "help people find their place in history."



Programs at the Wyman Tavern and Bruder House Fall 2019

Colonial Myths: Busted!

A unique tour to discuss all of those falsehoods we learned on historic house museum tours in the past.

Saturday, September 14, 2019. 2:30 pm. Wyman Tavern. \$5 admission.

Take a specialized tour through the historic Wyman Tavern (1762) while debunking common myths that many of us have learned about the 18th century. Think “Well, people were shorter back then.” Tickets available online at www.hsccnh.org. Entrance to Wyman Tavern Museum is through the Historical Society of Cheshire County’s Bruder House at 349 Main Street in Keene. Free parking is available on Bruder Street.

Sewing an 18th Century Apron

Lesson 1: Wednesday, September 11, 2019. Bruder House. 6:30-8:00 pm.

Learn basic sewing while making your very own 18th century apron during this 3-day workshop with instruction by Emilia Whippie Prior. Students should bring their own linen or Cotton (1 yard), thread, needles, pins, and scissors.

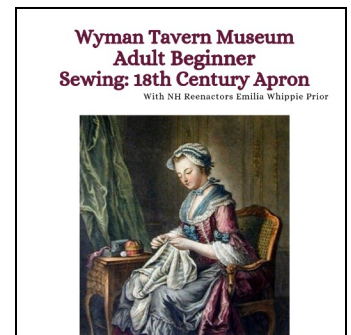
Cost is \$35/person total for three classes. \$25 for HSCC members.

Lesson 2: Wednesday, September 18, 2019. Bruder House. 6:30-8:00 pm

Participants must have completed Apron workshop Lesson 1.

Lesson 3: Wednesday, September 25, 2019. Bruder House. 6:30-8:00 pm

Participants must have completed Apron workshop Lesson 1 and 2.



Wyman Tavern & Horatio Colony House Museum Annual Candlelight Open House on Main Street

Friday, October 4, 2019. 7:00-8:30pm.

Journey back into the 18th and 19th centuries on Friday, October 4th between 7:00 and 8:30pm. Two of Keene’s historic Main Street homes, the Wyman Tavern and Horatio Colony House Museum, will be open by candlelight. This great family event offers an opportunity to view the warmth and charm of these two Keene landmarks as they were before electricity – lit only with candles, with reenactors stationed in various rooms of each home. Visitors can play Colonial games of chance, listen to music, and learn about the houses. This collaborative event is free and open to the public. Separated by about two blocks, both museums are within walking distance of each other. For further information about the Wyman Tavern, contact the Historical Society at 352-1895 or view its website at www.hsccnh.org. For information about the Horatio Colony House Museum call at 352-0460 or visit its website at www.horatiocolonymuseum.org.



*18th Century
Campers out
and about town
in July 2019,
bartering at the
Monadnock
Food Co-Op
and Fire Dog
Breads*





MAGICAL HISTORY WALKING TOURS:

Join us for a Magical History Walking Tour. Hear the stories behind many of the beautiful Walldogs murals in downtown Keene. Learn some of the amazing but true stories of the people, places and businesses that have contributed to Keene's rich history and character. Space is limited to 25 people.

Advanced registration is required; a rendezvous point in downtown Keene will be disclosed prior to event. Tickets are \$10/person and can be purchased at www.hscnh.org. You must bring a printed copy of your ticket or show it on your smartphone to the tour guide. See our website for more information: www.hscnh.org.

Friday, September 6, 2019. 3:00-5:00 pm

Saturday, September 14, 2019. 10:00 am-12:00 pm

Sunday, September 22, 2019. 2:00 pm-4:00 pm

Sunday, September 29, 2019. 10:00 am-12:00 pm

Sunday, September 29, 2019. 1:00-3:00 pm

Saturday, October 5, 2019. 10:00 am-12:00 pm



Alan Rumrill led a tour of murals during the Walldogs Festival in June 2019. Over 100 people attended.

Photograph by Aaron Lipsky



Keene International Festival Saturday, September 21, 2019 Keene Recreation Center

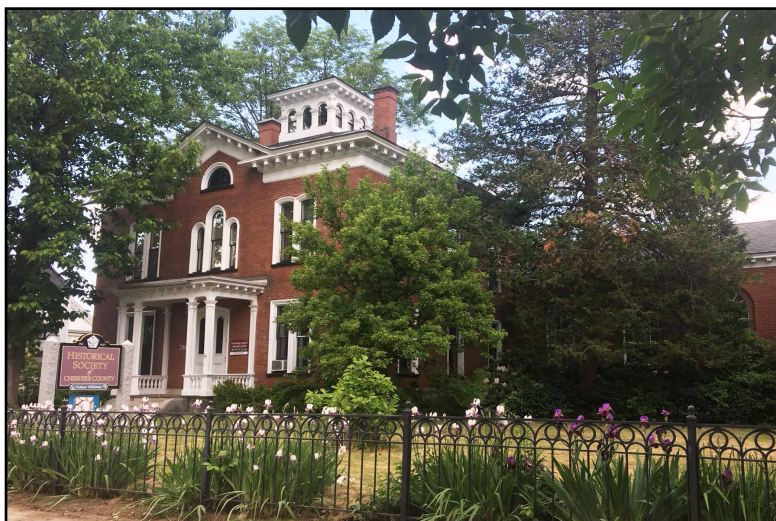
Celebrate the rich cultural diversity of the greater Keene community at the **2nd annual Keene International Festival on Saturday, September 21, 2019**. This free family-friendly celebration will feature local folks performing dances, demonstrating crafts, games and activities, and selling food from their native countries. The festival was created to highlight Keene as a welcoming place to live, work and raise a family.

The schedule of events is a reflection of the city's diversity, as community members volunteer their time to showcase their own cultural heritage. For information, visit the Keene International Festival Facebook page or contact

keeneinternationalfestival@gmail.com.



Keene State College Professor Patricia Pedroza Gonzalez performs a Mexican Mosaica dance at the 2018 Keene International Festival



Renovations at Historical Society Headquarters this Fall

The Historical Society Headquarters in the Ball Mansion is currently under renovation. The building at 246 Main Street **is open**, but there will be no exhibits, programs, or museum store until renovations to the spaces involved are complete. The Wright Room is open to researchers, and visitors are always welcome.

Plans for renovation include a new museum store location at the front of the building, a permanent exhibit located in the foyer, a Cheshire County history exhibit in the hallway, a sound system for the hearing impaired in the exhibit hall, the creation of the Jonathan Daniels

Center for Social Responsibility in the space formerly used for the permanent exhibit, and various energy-saving and security upgrades.

For safety during the renovations, we ask that visitors use the ramp and enter the building from the back parking lot, since much of the work will take place in the hall and the front of the building. The administrative assistant's office and information desk will temporarily be located in the exhibit hall during construction.

Rental space will be available at the Bruder House and on the Wyman Tavern grounds while renovations are underway at the Ball Mansion. Call the Historical Society for rates and availability.

We thank you for your patience as we complete the work for which so many donated generously during the recent Capital Campaign. Celebrate the completion of this work with us in Autumn 2019.

The Historical Society thanks the 2019 Wyman Tavern Keepers

Susan and Thomas Abert
 Rebecca and Wayne Barton
 Phillip Russell "Rusty" Bastedo
 Larry and Tammy Benaquist
 Chris and Mary Booras
 Jennifer Chillrud
 Betty and Mike Christiansen
 Richard and Betsey Church
 Jack and Nancy Crawford
 Richard and Patricia Dugger
 Robert and Alfrieda Englund
 David Frechette and Sydney Croteau-Frechette
 Henry Frechette and Judy Hodge
 Tom and Elke Hanna
 Roger and Nancy Hansen
 Donall and Joyce Healy
 John and Jean Hoffman
 Carl and Ruth Jacobs
 Peter, Cornelia and Cathy Jenness
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 Kendall and Molly Lane
 Margaret Langford
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 Daniel and Michal Mariaschin

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 Marilyn Wyman Riley
 James and Sharon Rousmaniere
 Marie Royce Ruffle
 Richard Scaramelli
 Arthur and Lynn Simington
 Edwin "Smokey" and Sharron Smith
 Jeanie Sy
 Richard Talbot
 Kimball and Maria Temple
 Robert and Lianne Therrien
 Anthony and Barbara Tremblay
 Jan Van Den Beemt
 Jeanne Williams
 Peter and Martha Wright
 Bob and Lisa Wyman
 Margaret Ziegler

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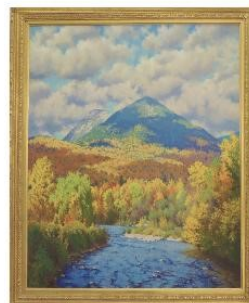
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Historical Society of Cheshire County
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603-352-1895 – www.hsccnh.org
Hours: Tues., Thurs., & Fri.: 9 am - 4 pm
Wed.: 9 am - 9 pm
First and Third Sat., 9 am– 12 pm

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Calendar: Complete List of Events at Historical Society Website: www.hsccnh.org

September 2019

Wednesday, September 4, 9:30 am, Historical Society parking lot: Cheshire Walkers Tour of the Walldogs Murals.

Wednesday, September 11, 9:30 am, Parking lot beside Stoddard Congregational Church: Cheshire Walkers Stoddard Center Tour

Wednesday, September 11, 18, 25, 6:30 pm, Bruder House, Sewing an 18th Century Apron

Saturday, September 14, 2:30 pm, Wyman Tavern, Colonial Myths Busted Tour

Tuesday, September 17, 7:00 pm, Marlborough Community House Auditorium, “The Story of the NH Glass Industry, 1780-1886,” presented by Alan Rumrill

Saturday, September 21, Keene Recreation Center, Keene International Festival

Wednesday, September 25, 7:00 pm, Keene Family YMCA, 200 Summit Road, Keene: “The History of Gym Class”

Friday, September 27, 6:00 pm, Historical Society of Cheshire County: Auction of Historic Proportions.

October 2019

Friday, October 4, 7:00 pm, Wyman Tavern and Horatio Colony House Museum Candlelight Open House

Thursday, October 10, 9:30 am, Jaffrey Civic Center, Monadnock Historical Societies Forum Roundtable

Tuesday, October 15, 7:00 pm, Marlborough Community House Auditorium, “Jennie Powers: The Woman Who Dares,” presented by Jennifer Carroll

Fall Magical History Walking Tour Schedule:

Friday, September 6, 3:00 to 5:00 pm

Saturday, September 14, 10:00 am to 12:00 pm

Sunday, September 22, 2:00 to 4:00 pm

Sunday, September 29, 10:00 am to 12:00 pm

Sunday, September 29, 1:00 to 3:00 pm

Saturday, October 5, 10:00 am to 12:00 pm

Reservations are required for tours. Tickets available at www.hsccnh.org