In April 1884, two Keene High School seniors engaged in a healthy school debate on the subject of women's suffrage. Eighteen-year-old Emma Lord outlined three main points in favor of women receiving the right to vote. First that the equality of mankind extended to women as well as men. Second that the statement ‘a woman’s sphere is in the home’ was not an accurate portrayal of women's role in society. And finally she stated:

“Another argument in favor of women’s suffrage is her influence. You will all admit that every person, whether rich or poor, high or low, learned or ignorant possesses and influences; the pastor over his people, the teacher over his pupils, the mother over her child. Of all these a mother is the most abiding… you often hear aged men speak of their mother’s influence, and add that they never would have been what they are now, had it not been for the restraining influence of a mother’s love. As a woman's judgement is often considered superior to that of man, would not our public offices be filled with better and nobler men were she allowed to vote?”

George Clark’s rebuttal was rather short:

“A great many evils would result from women's voting, such as these: suppose a husband and wife should not happen to agree upon the subject under discussion, what then would be the result? The household would become a scene of strife and perhaps the children would participate in the wrangling. And thus a great many women would be left homeless and have to seek their own living. If women were allowed to vote the husband might come home and find his wife over at his neighbor’s house talking politics. So I think women are greatly out of their sphere when they go out voting. Therefore, as the man is stronger than woman, and hence by nature destined to rule, and as woman’s sphere is at the home, I am persuaded that women should not be allowed to vote.”

The arguments that these two teenagers posed were not new. Already by 1884, the debate about women’s suffrage had played out on both a national scale and on a local level. Thirty-six years earlier, Elizabeth Cady Stanton gave her famous “Declaration of Sentiments” speech in Seneca Falls, New York, calling for women’s rights in thirteen areas including the right to vote. Stanton’s speech sparked a movement that would last decades.

Coincidentally, it would take another thirty-six years after the Keene High School debate for women to gain federal suffrage. One hundred years ago, in June of 1920, the US Congress passed the 19th amendment, guaranteeing women the right to vote. To become law, at least 36 states needed to ratify the amendment. On August 18th, Tennessee became the 36th state. The deciding vote came down to 24-year-old conservative politician, Harry T. Burn, a known anti-suffragist. Just as young Keene High School student Emma Lord could have predicted, Burn received a letter from his 70-year-old mother, Febb E. Burn, imploring him to ‘be a good boy’ and pass the amendment. Always respectful of his mother’s wishes, Burn surprised everyone when he voted to pass the amendment, signing it into law.

(Continued on page 2)
This year the Historical Society of Cheshire County is embarking on an adventure to celebrate the suffrage centennial and to enhance our understanding of local women’s history. Thanks to the support of New Hampshire Humanities, the Putnam Foundation, and many individuals throughout the region, the Society has created a women’s history program series. In May, *The Not So Good Life of the Colonial Goodwife* presentation will make you laugh or make your skin crawl as Ehris Urban & Velya Jancz-Urban share the history of many taboo female-related topics in our culture’s past. On July 8th, Ehris Urban & Velya Jancz-Urban will return with their presentation *Suffragettes in Corselettes* about (you guessed it) the history of underwear at the turn-of-the 20th century.

On August 11, the Historical Society and Keene State College’s Women’s Studies Department welcomes you to participate in a reading and discussion of Elizabeth Cady Stanton’s famous 1848 speech *The Declaration of Sentiments*. On August 12, learn about NH’s role in the suffragist movement with Liz Tentarelli’s presentation *Votes for Women*.

In the fall, the series continues with Dr. Beth Solerno’s presentation, *Sister Societies*, examining 19th century women’s organizations and their impact on society. And, film historian Larry Benaquist is working with the Historical Society to showcase a series of films related to famous New Hampshire women in history.

As if that weren’t enough, the Historical Society will soon roll out an *Empowered Women in Cheshire County’s History* web page. Staff and volunteers have also been researching and developing a *Badass Women of Keene* walking tour that will complement the Society’s already popular Walldogs mural walking tours this summer. This ‘Humanities on the Go’ program will walk visitors through women’s suffrage from a local perspective.

---

**The Not-So-Good Life of the Colonial Goodwife**

**Wednesday, May 20, 7:00 pm**

Wyman Tavern Museum

On Wednesday, May 20, at 7:00 pm, Ehris Urban and Velya Jancz-Urban will present a program about women in Colonial America. Life was not all spinning wheels and quilting bees. This program explores the engrossing “taboo” subjects omitted from history. Ehris and Velya’s enthusiastic delivery is funny and frank. Laugh, grimace, and honor our fore-mothers’ journeys while learning about the little-known issues faced by New England’s colonial women. This program is supported in part by the Putnam Foundation.

**Springtime Open House at the Wyman Tavern**

**Saturday, May 23, 10:00 am**

Families are encouraged to come and help us plant our kitchen garden for use this summer. Special Colonial-era guest, Hepsizbah Crossfield will make an appearance to show visitors how women cooked by an open hearth in the late 18th Century. The Wyman Tavern will be open for tours. Admission is $10/adult, $5/child and include a tour of the tavern, a take-home plant and a sample of the day’s meal. Tickets may be purchased online at hscchnh.org or by calling 603-847-9785.
2019 Annual Report
Director’s Message

“Change over time” is a theme that is often employed by the staff of the Historical Society to illustrate the impact of history on our lives and our environment. Such change often goes unnoticed for years or even decades. Some change is more obvious, however, such as the significant changes and ongoing transformation of focus at the Historical Society of Cheshire County over the past year.

The Historical Society was founded in 1927. Over the last 92 years the organization has survived by redefining its focus several times to remain relevant and meaningful to the residents of southwest New Hampshire and to all who are interested in the region’s history. That process is ongoing, with the assistance of our members and the general public.

Today people are interested in hands-on, immersive history that they can participate in, rather than static history museums where you look, but don’t touch. Consequently, the Historical Society now offers living history, hands-on activities, workshops, and festivals that invite people to take part in the activities that are occurring. Furthermore, the Society continues to expand its focus on cultural heritage, connecting history with the region’s rich heritage of music, art, crafts, land conservation, and more.

The organization continued its multi-cultural programming in 2019 with a Finnish bread bakeoff and Finnish marketplace event, the Keene International Festival, and the annual Holi Fest in cooperation with the Keene India Association. 18th century programming was expanded and refined over the last year with specialized tours at the Wyman Tavern, lectures, living history presentations, hands-on activities, kid’s camps, hearth cooking demonstrations, and our day-long celebration of 18th century life – the Wyman Tavern Festival.

Keene’s “Magical History Tour” Walldogs mural festival was a highlight of the year, for the Society and for the City of Keene. The four-day festival that resulted in 16 historically themed wall murals in downtown Keene took many months to plan and implement. The outcome was a weekend of fun and artistic creativity, with hundreds of sign painters and artists, and thousands of spectators, congregating downtown to share their talents and enthusiasm. The Magical History Tour will continue as the Society expands upon its popular Walldogs walking tour schedule and develops curriculum to use the murals educationally.

2019 was a year of physical change at the Society as well. We now have three facilities on Keene’s Main Street. The Bruder House, our new educational facility adjacent to our 1762 Wyman Tavern, was completed and celebrated with a grand opening on June 1st. The renovated 1839 brick Bruder House now offers an attractive educational and event space, visitor center, warming kitchen, modern restrooms, collections storage, farmer’s porch, and outdoor fireplace and pavilion for events and hearth cooking activities. 2,500 people attended events at the Wyman Tavern and Bruder House during the year.

The Historical Society headquarters was also the site of facilities renovations for the second half of the calendar year. Renovations to the facility included extensive roof and masonry repairs, exterior and interior painting, window, door and plaster repairs, HVAC installation, and electrical and mechanical systems upgrades. More visible changes included the installation of permanent exhibits in the main lobby, an all-new museum store, and the development of space for the Jonathan Daniels Center for Social Responsibility.

History and cultural heritage inform our lives every day and the Historical Society strives to create activities that bring history to life for people of all ages. We did that by presenting 174 public programs in 2019, and we encourage you to come to future programs to touch, play, study, interact, and learn at the Historical Society of Cheshire County.

Historical Society Facts 2019

- Members: 545
- Number of Programs: 174
- People served: 13,214
- 29% of the people served were children (3,778)
- Volunteers: 146
- Website visitors: 21,000

Photo by Medora Hebert
Many Thanks to our Generous Donors

Founders $5,000+
Robert & Deborah Aliber
Richard and Judith Kalich
Thomas & Barbara Putnam
Tim Robertson

Historians $1,000-$4,999
Pat & John Colony
John Cooney
Robert & Alfred Englund
Tom & Elke Hanna
Elizabeth & Peter Hansel
Dr. & Mrs. H. Roger Hansen
Ruth and Carl Jacobs, Jr.
Peter, Cornelia, and Cathy Jenness
Lance and Christine LaClair
Margaret Langford
Dr. & Mrs. Steven Larmore
Daniel & Michal Mariaschin
Peter Nordberg
Robert & Judith Perry
Chris & Gaynelle Pratt
Jim & Judy Putnam
June Rawlings
James and Sharon Rousmaniere
Richard Scaramelli
Dr. Arthur & Lynn Simington
Edwin & Sharron Smith
Kimball and Maria Temple

Curators $500-$999
Dilly and Bob Trebilcock
Don and Dorrie Upton
Robert Wellwood

Archivists $250-$499
Larry & Tammy Benaquist
Edward Bergeron, Jr.
John E Bunce
Richard & Patricia Dugger
Sybil DuPuis
H. Kimball and Nancy Faulkner
Charles & Charlotte Faulkner II
David & Sydney Frechette
Mark and Alice Funk
Ken Greatbatch
Donell & Joyce Healy
John & Lynda Hunt
Robert T Kurtz
Jane Lane
Susan & Gary Murata
Marie Royle Ruffle
Katherine Snow & Paul Ledell
Richad Talbot
Robert & Lianne Therrien
Anthony & Barbara Tremblay
Rebecca and Wayne Whipple
Jeanne Williams

In memory of: Lane Brown, Lois Goodhue, Frank Harlow, John W. Harris, Mark P. Hayward, Sr., Rita Kingsbury, Robert Weekes
In honor of: Beverly Marston, the family of George and Ruth Taaffe

Foundation Support

AmFund (The American Fundraising Foundation)
Ann Faulkner Jacobs Fund
Frances R. Dewing Foundation
Faulkner Family Fund
Historic New England
IBM International Foundation
The Kingsbury Fund
Ladies Charitable Society
The Madeleine G. Von Weber Trust
New Hampshire Charitable Foundation
NH LCHIP (Land & Community Heritage Investment Program)
New Hampshire State Council on the Arts
New Hampshire Humanities
Theresa Narkiewicz Schneider Trust
The Putnam Foundation
Thomas P. Wright Fund

John & Susan McGinnis
Brandt Onorato
Lee & Paula Page
R. Winfield and Joan Raynor
Brian and Reinette Reilly
Marilyn Jewett Wyman
Riley
Christopher & Lael Schwabe
Patti & Greg Seymour
Martha and John Silander
Rick Swanson and Wendy Bruneau
Jeanie Sy
Jan Van Den Beemt
Robert & Joanne Webster
Jan Weekes
Peter & Martha Wright
Mary Wright
Bob & Lisa Wyman
Ms. Margaret S Ziegler

For a complete set of donors, please go to our website:
www.hsccnh.org

Hearth cooking at the Bruder House Pavilion
Financial Information as of December 31, 2019

Operating Budget

Ordinary Income/Expense

Income $402,987
Expense $402,598
Net Ordinary Income $389

Other Income

Publication Fund $25,517
Special Purpose Contributions $120,620
Special Purpose Interest $5,868
Dividend Income $93,640
Capital Gains/Losses $102,623
Unrealized Gains/Losses $395,710
Total Other Income $743,978

Other Expense

Fiduciary Fees $25,190
Foreign Tax Paid $708
Endowment Fund Transfer Out $183,444
Publication Expense $32,227
Special Purpose Expenditures $740,463
Total Other Expense $982,032

Net Other Income ($238,054)

Net Income ($237,665)

Balance Sheet

Dec. 31, 2019

Current Assets
Checking/Savings $4,029,866
Other Current Assets 0
Total Current Assets $4,029,866

Fixed Assets
Deposit on Bruder House $811,122
Property & Equipment $1,490,086
Artifacts $100,000
Land $85,000
Accumulated Depreciation - $913,951
Total Fixed Assets $1,572,257

Total Assets $5,602,123

Liabilities & Equity

Liabilities $10,039

Equity
Special Purpose Funds $309,843
Net Assets—Unrestricted $3,472,63
Net Assets—Perm Restricted $1,032,231
Net Income $766,386
Total Equity $5,592,084

Total Liabilities & Equity $5,602,123

Mission: to collect, preserve, and communicate the history of Cheshire County.

Bruder House Grand Opening Celebration, June 1, 2020
Jonathan Daniels Center Project Update

The development of the Jonathan Daniels Center for Social Responsibility is underway. Since starting in early February, a whirlwind review of source materials - as well as the various books, movies, iconography and programs that bear Jonathan Daniels name or include references to his life and death - has been ongoing. Conversations with organizations where collaborative opportunities seem likely, such as St. James Church in Keene, the New Hampshire Black Heritage Trail, and local schools, colleges and universities, have been initiated. These conversations, as well as those with the JDC committee and Historical Society staff, are helping to shape and inform the immediate and long-term programming and funding for the Center.

The coming year will be a busy mix of developing the museum space into an interactive, reflective and forward looking destination, while implementing activities, educational opportunities and projects that embody the legacy of Jonathan Daniels. Please stop by to say hello and ask questions if you are visiting the Historical Society!

Mary Jensen, Project Manager

Our Wonderful Volunteers

Harry, Angie, and Lee Ackerman
Rebecca Ainsworth
Tom & Daniel Amarosa
Anthony Amirtham
Jeff and Pam Arpin
Becky Barton
Kevin Beauregard
Craig Bell
Larry Benaquista and Lisa Bergmann
Christine Benson
Ted Benson
Edward Bergeron, Jr.
Ken, Nick and Lisa Bergmann
Brad Blodget
Lauren Bolduc
Robert & Priscilla Borden
Peter & Maria Bradshaw
Al Brodgon
Kathleen Brooks
Doug Brown
Taylor Buchalter
Ritu Budakoti
Crystal Card and Lauren Bolduc
Dorothy Carrien
Anita Carroll-Weldon
Emil Cashin
Freda Chabot
Greg Cheeney
Bruce Cheeney
Raine Clark
Mary Cornog
Mike Cox
Emily D’Arcangelo
Theresa Derry
Ramya DineshKumar
Drew Dodson
Bill Dow
Alicia Drakiotes
Marsha Dubois
Cheryl Eastman
Rachel Eschle and Michael Giacomo
Anne Farrington
Michael Fazio
Charles Felix
Sylvia Felix
David & Sydney Frechette
Mark and Alice Funk
Javier Garcia
Matthew Garland
Janet Genatt
Linda Groiss and Sam Bergeron
David Gruender
R.P. Hale
Kathy Halverson
Tom & Elke Hanna
Susan C Hansel
George Hansel
Roger Hansen
John Harris
Tim Hatton
Tom Haynes & Carin Torp
Mark Hayward
Ernest & Medora Hebert
Paul & Becky Hendricks
Philip Henry
Debbie Hickey
Vesta Hornbeck
Tricia Hurley
Carl Jacobs, Jr.
Neil Jenness
Jane Johnson
Alex Johnson
Candace Kao
Alison Keay
Megan Burke Kidder
Ingrid Knittle
Sarah Kossayda
Meg Kupiec and Wayne Miller
Alexis Ladebush
Susan Landers Gilbert & Sarah Handford
Martha Landry
Jane Lane
Lark Leonard
Jay Lepple
Gail and Bob Lester
Aaron Lipsky
Carol Littleton
Cathy MacDonald
Laura Mack
Sandra MacLean
Dennis Marcom
Susan McGinnis
Suzanne and Richard Merkt
Barbara and Mark Mervine
Chuda Mishra
Fiona Morris
Susan Murata
Stacey & Michael Nachajski
Bob Oberlander
Sharon Oliver
Janet Parsons
Dominic Perkins and Deirdre Chretien
Martha Pinello and Peter Beblowski
Hans Porschitz
Chris & Gaynelle Pratt
JJ Prior & Emilia Whippie
Prior
Gary & Cathleen Puffer
Erika Radich and Len Fleischer
Ron Raiselis & Tara Vose
Jamie Reeves
Reinette Reilly
Marylise Reilly-Fajal and Laura Reilly
Sylvie Rice
Maggie Rice
Dick Richards
James Roussanierre
Marie Royce Ruffle
Kim Rumrill
Jennifer Rumrill
Don & Kathy Scott
Jay Shanks
Jeff “Shep” Shepherd
Barney Sherwin
Lisa Sieverts
Martha and John Silander
Art and Lynn Simington
Sandra Sliwak
Edwin & Sharron Smith
Jonathan & Laurie Smith
Katherine Snow
Linda Stavely
Al Stoops
Nat Stout
Dave Sutherland
Rob Therrien
Matthew Therrien
Tony Tremblay
John Walter & Sandra Van de Kauter
Jan Van Den Beemt
Richard & Sandra Neil Wallace
Alexa Wallace
Randall Walter
Anne & Michael Ward
Rebecca and Wayne Whippie
Bud Winsor
Pat Wright
Richard & Patrice Wright
Louise Zerba
Gretchen & Liz Ziegler
Business Partners

Airport Storage  
Aloha Keene  
Amoskeag Beverages  
Brewers of Nye Hill Farm  
Budget Blinds  
Bulldog Design  
John G. Burk and Associates  
C&S Wholesale Grocers  
Carbone's Windows  
& Awnings  
Clark-Mortenson Agency  
Clear Solutions  
Colonial House Bed & Breakfast  
Cox Woodworking  
Creative Encounters  
Daniel V. Scully Architects  
Davis Oil  
Dead River Company  
Douglas Cuddle Toys  
Dunkin Donuts  
Elm City Brewing Company  
Elm City Carriage Barn Bed & Breakfast  
European Precision  
Chiropractic  
Fenton Family Dealerships  
Filtrine Manufacturing Company  
Frazier & Son Furniture  
GFA Credit Union  
Great Brook Media  
Green Energy Options  
Greenwald Realty Associates  
Fred H. Hamblet Electric  
Hamshaw Lumber  
Hannaford Supermarket  
Ingram Construction  
In the Company of Flowers  
Keene Country Club  
Keene Eye Care  
Keene Monument  
Keene Sentinel  
Koulopoulos, Vona & Company  
Kristin’s Bistro & Bakery  
Lip Smackin’ Goodies  
Mascoma Bank  
The Melanson Company  
Moggie’s Auction Service  
Monadnock Broadcast Group  
Monadnock Food Co-op  
Monadnock Garden Club  
Monadnock Tent & Event  
Moore Nanotechnology Systems  
Norton & Abert, P.C.  
People’s Linen  
Poodiack Wealth  
Management Group  
Prime Roast  
Remax Town and Country  
Rivermead  
Savings Bank of Walpole  
Silver Direct  
Seppala Construction Company  
Silver Ranch Airpark  
Street & Savory LLC  
T-Bird Convenience Stores  
Thai Garden  
Toadstool Bookshop  
True North Networks  
West Wind Fine Art  
Whitney Brothers  
William Marconi Italian Club  
Yankee Bottle Club  
Yankee Publishing

2019 Tavern Keepers

Thomas and Susan Abert  
Rebecca L Barton  
Phillip Russell Bastedo  
Larry and Tammy Benaqust  
Mary Booras  
Chris J. Booras  
Jennifer Chilrud  
Mike and Betty Christiansen  
Richard and Betsey Church  
Jack and Nancy Crawford  
Richard and Patricia Dugger  
Robert and Alfreda Englund  
David and Sydney Frechette  
Henry M Frechette  
Tom and Elke Hanna  
Dr. & Mrs. H. Roger Hansen  
Donall and Joyce Healy  
John E. and Jean W. Hoffman  
Ruth and Carl Jacobs, Jr.  
Peter, Cornelia, and Cathy Jenness  
Megan Burke Kidder  
Kendall & Molly Lane  
Margaret Langford  
Dr. and Mrs. Steven Larmorn  
Daniel S and Michal Mariaschin  
Hayden McClure  
Monadnock Garden Club  
Susan and Gary Murata  
Lee and Paula Page  
Chris and Gaynelle Pratt  
June Rawlings  
R. Winfield and Joan Raynor  
Marilyn Jewett Wyman Riley  
James and Sharon Rousmaniere  
Marie Royce Ruffle  
Richard Scarabelli  
Dr. Arthur and Lynn Simington  
Edwin and Sharron Smith  
Jeanie Sy  
Richard Talbot  
Kimball and Maria Temple  
Robert and Lianne Therrien  
Anthony and Barbara Tremblay  
Jan Van Den Berent  
Jeanne Williams  
Peter and Martha Wright  
Bob and Lisa Wyman  
Margaret S Ziegler

Donations and Buyers Needed  
20th Annual Used Book Sale

May 8, 10:00 am to 6:00 pm  
May 9, 9:00 am to 1:00 pm  

The Historical Society’s 20th Annual Used Book Sale will be held in the Exhibit Hall of the Society on Friday, May 8 and Saturday, May 9. Any lover of books should be able to find something of interest – art books, architecture, cookbooks, travel, hardcover fiction, children’s books, and much more. Most books will sell for $1.00. **We need more books but not until after we re-open after April 6th!** For more information, or to arrange to donate books, please call 352-1895. Please donate and buy used books to support the programs of the Historical Society.

18th Century Kids Camp

July 20-July 26  
9am-3:30am daily

Camp A: for students entering 3rd-5th grade  
Camp B: for students entering 6th-8th grade

Campers become a tradesperson who once lived in Keene, each day learning something new about their character based on real evidence and working with professional tradespersons to make their own products.

Register online— www.HSCCNH.org
Calendar: Complete List of Events at Historical Society Website: www.hscnh.org

All events subject to change or cancellation based on current health concerns. Check the Historical Society for additional events and for programming updates related to COVID-19.

May 2020
Friday, May 8, 10:00 am to 6:00 pm and Saturday, May 9, 9:00 am to 1:00 pm, Exhibit Hall, Used Book Sale

Wednesday, May 20, 7:00 pm, Wyman Tavern Museum, The Not So Good Life of the Colonial Goodwife

Saturday, May 23, 10:00 am, Wyman Tavern Museum and Yard. Open House and Workshop

Save The Date: Events for the Summer

Saturday, June 20, 10:00 am to 3:00 pm, Wyman Tavern Grounds, Colonial Faire

Monday, June 29, Exhibit Hall, World War I Teacher Workshop

Wednesday, July 8, 7:00 pm, Exhibit Hall, Suffragettes in Corsellettes

Monday, July 20 through Friday, July 24, Wyman Tavern Grounds, 18th Century Kids Camps.

Saturday, August 1, Wyman Tavern Grounds, 12:00 to 5:00 pm, Wyman Tavern Brew Fest

Tuesday, August 11, Time and Place TBA, Reading and discussion of Elizabeth Cady Stanton’s Speech, The Declaration of Sentiments

Wednesday, August 12, 7:00 pm, Exhibit Hall, Votes for Women talk and discussion

Thank You for supporting our Museum Shop

Just a reminder the Museum Shop is open year round for your shopping needs.