

The Historical Herald

The Quarterly Newsletter of



The Bartlett Snow Roller—Restored 2015

PO Box 514

Bartlett, NH 03812

www.BartlettHistory.org

Winter 2021 Edition (2021:1)

The Bartlett

Historical Society

The Campaign Continues...Thank you for your Continued Support

Thank You. With your support, our campaign to renovate and reopen our Bartlett History Museum, the historic former St. Joseph Church building, continues to move forward.

People from near and far have commented about how nice the new roof and front of the building looks. On a rainy day, it's a joy to be able to be in the building and not need an umbrella over your head. A great many people have offered their continued

encouragement for the project and our drive for a successful opening of the museum. Recently a gentleman from Jackson said to our BHS president, Phil Franklin, "The historical society has done a great job with this project so far, now you we need to complete the project." We couldn't agree more!



We have taken the first step in Phase 2 of our project by leveling the front foyer structure of the building, installing a new concrete sidewalk that now slopes to the road and installing a new set of granite steps at the front door. We are now working to raise the funds to allow us to continue the renovation momentum.



In November 2020, we received two grant awards. The Robert and Dorothy Goldberg Charitable Foundation of Portland, ME awarded a \$7,500 grant to BHS for our museum project. They have previously awarded us \$5,000 in both 2018 and 2019 for the project. We have extended our thanks to them for the generosity. The state of NH also awarded a \$4,178 grant as a part of their COVID-19 relief for non-profit organizations. NH was the only state that offered non-profits support for fundraising losses due to the pandemic. We greatly appreciate their support.

As we closed 2020, we received several generous donations toward this project, many with 2021 membership renewals. We also received a matching challenge from a BHS member and well respected local businessperson. They will match \$10,000 in donations with \$10,000 of their money. Phil Franklin has included a letter in this newsletter that will explain more about our fundraising effort for 2021. We accomplished a great deal of renovation work in 2020 and ended the year with a lot of momentum in donations. Let's keep that momentum going and celebrate the opening of our new museum in 2021.

Campaign Progress: To date, with the generous donations of nearly 400 people, grants and businesses, many having made multiple donations, we have raised \$272,783 out of a \$535,000 campaign goal. Our expenditures for capital improvements, building maintenance and administrative costs are about \$200,000. We are estimating that we need to raise \$275,000 to complete Phase 2 and open the museum. *How can you help get us to this goal?* First, any donation you can make to the project is greatly appreciated. Second, if you know of anyone who is interested in adding their name to our growing list of donors, please contact Phil Franklin, at Phil@BartlettHistory.org. Thank you.

Donors from 09/16/2020—12/31/2020

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President's Message

2021 is upon us. Happy New Year and hopefully a better new year for everyone!

Looking back on 2020, we (BHS) had a busy year with highlights including an increase in our membership of 12% including 34 new members. Because of your donations, we took a significant step forward with our museum building renovation by strengthening the building and installing a new roof. We also continued our 8th grade Bartlett History program with the Josiah Bartlett Elementary School. Our hope is that 2021 is as active and forward moving as 2020.

We are now in Phase 2 of our museum project. This phase will focus on all of the work needed to get the building ready for a grand opening of the museum. Our BHS Board of Directors has asked us to make a strong effort in the first half of 2021 to raise the remaining funds needed to complete the renovation. In this newsletter, you'll find a letter announcing a matching donation challenge from one of our members and a special request for support to allow us to complete our museum project. Please remember that all donations, small and large, help us get closer to the day of a ribbon cutting to open this museum.

As we noted in our museum summary comments on the cover page, in November 2020, the Robert and Dorothy Goldberg Charitable Foundation of Portland, ME awarded a \$7,500 grant to BHS to be put toward our museum renovation project. On behalf of BHS, I have extended our thanks to them for the generosity.

In 2020, we needed to cancel three of our four quarterly presentations due to the COVID-19 virus and our concerns for the safety of our audience. Searching for a safe way to continue our BHS Quarterly Presentation Series in 2021, we are going to use the Zoom meeting platform on the Internet. Our first presentation will be on Sunday, January 24, 2021 starting at 2:00 p.m. with a review of our BHS 2020 Annual Report followed by a short presentation by Scotty Mallett, our BHS Railroad Historian. There's more information on this in this newsletter. We'll be getting Zoom information and instructions out to everyone soon. We see Zoom as a safe meeting option and a way to have members and donors from outside the Bartlett area join us and participate in our presentation series.

Beginning this year, we will be writing and publishing a more extensive BHS Annual Report. As we grow in membership and broaden our scope of preservation and education, the BHS board feels it is important to generate an annual report to provide everyone with a view into the accomplishments, management and direction of BHS. I will provide a review of the 2020 BHS Annual Report in the January 24 Zoom meeting. We will make copies of the report available on our website.

Our 2021 BHS Membership Drive is still moving forward. If you are a BHS member and have not yet renewed your membership for 2021, please look for the membership form in this newsletter and return it with your dues. If you are not yet a BHS member, we encourage you to join this growing historical society. So far for 2021, we have 12 new members – please take a moment to join BHS.

Along with our General and Patron members, we have several Business members and Newsletter Business Sponsors. Local business support is very important to BHS. In this newsletter, we have devoted space to recognize these Business members and Newsletter Sponsors. Please make these businesses your first “go-to” choice for goods and services. Let them know you appreciate their support of BHS.

Finally, in past newsletters I've written that if you have a question, an idea that can help BHS be “better” or a comment about something you've read or heard about our historical society, please let me know. Several people have contacted me with ideas and their help has been well received. This also gives me an opportunity to chat with members and donors. Our BHS email is BartlettHistoryNH@gmail.com and my email is Phil@BartlettHistory.com. We appreciate your continued support.

Sincerely,

Phil Franklin

President, Bartlett Historical Society
Phil@BartlettHistory.org

Bartlett Snow Roller Facelift

Our Bartlett Snow Roller is proudly displayed in the Bartlett Village Water Precinct Park at the corner of Route 302 and Albany Avenue (a.k.a. Bear Notch Road). In October, Phil Franklin with the tremendous assistance of Mike Tamulis, owner of the former Lindsey's Paint & Wallpaper store, applied a new coat of penetrating oil on the roller as well as painted the seat giving the roller a fresh, restored look.



Bartlett Snow Roller

The story behind this effort starts when Mike and Phil along with our museum renovation general contractor, Bill Duggan, met to discuss paint and stain options for the interior of our future BHS museum. While we are a distance off from painting the interior, Mike has offered to help with donations of the paint and stain needed for the finish work. After that meeting, Mike and Phil ventured around the corner to the



Mike Tamulis (left) & Phil Franklin working on the roller

snow roller where Mike checked the condition of the finish and wood. He advised us that the roller could use a good coat of penetrating oil to stop the infiltration of water into the oak planks on the roller. He also offered his help in doing the refinishing effort. In the end, Mike donated several gallons of penetrating oil, the paint for the seat and his time to the refinishing effort. Mike's help was invaluable and we thank him for his time, effort and the supplies to make this refurbishment of the roller possible.

Some of you may be wondering "What is a snow roller?" Prior to the 1880's, winter meant isolation for many northern families as deep snow blocked the road. Snow plows were yet to be invented. No one knows who invented a snow roller but in the late 1800's the idea was launched to hitch oxen or horses to a rolling device that would essentially pack the snow as the roller passed over it. The invention of the snow roller allowed sleighs to slide over the packed snow. Most northern towns had snow rollers as they became very popular allowing people more freedom to travel in the winter months. Roller teams were assigned to stretches of road that were five to six miles long; each roller had a driver and a team of men to work ahead of the roller to shovel drifts out of the way. Towns employed Snow Wardens whose job it was to ensure that the roads were packed properly, that snow was shoveled into covered bridges for sleighs to pass through the bridges and to maintain the snow roads throughout the winter season. In the late 1920's, snow plows were invented and attached to trucks and tractors. This spelled the end of the era of the snow roller. Bartlett's first snow plow appeared in 1927 on the front of a tractor. Today, the snow roller is a rare antique as few survived after being cast aside in favor of the plows.



Snow Roller in Action—
Livermore, NH 1921
(unfortunately, we don't
have one of a Bartlett
roller in action)

The Bartlett snow roller was donated to the historical society by Francis Savard of the Intervale section of town. A roller frame was in the woods on his property. His donation came with the provision that the historical society restore it and display it. In 2015, the restoration effort was completed by members of the society. The water precinct commissioners invited BHS to display the roller in their park. Our roller draws the attention of many people as they pass through town. Our bet is that it is one of the most photographed pieces of antiquity in the area. If you're in the area, stop by and have a look at this "modern" piece of snow management equipment. You can read more about the 2015 restoration on our BHS website.

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8th Grade Bartlett History Project—Enters its 3rd Year!

We are about to enter into our third year of working with the 8th graders and their faculty at the Josiah Bartlett Elementary School on the Bartlett History Project. In planning meetings, our principal faculty contact, Jennifer Lord, told us that the faculty and a group of students are anxious to get the program underway for 2021. COVID-19 restrictions are preventing visitors from entering the school building. This new twist changes how our BHS representatives, Phil Franklin and Hadley Champlin, will participate in the program. Where they would normally be in the classroom, they will now be seen on a projection screen via the Internet working remotely with the students. Through this link, Phil and Hadley will provide direction and counsel to the students as they research their chosen history topics. We plan to kick-off the 2021 program in mid-January.



Railroad Committee Update

Research into our Bartlett and Hart's Location railroad history is continuing. There are a great many angles to explore when considering this topic. Scotty Mallett and a couple of volunteers have already amassed a good deal of information on the Bartlett railroad hub. This information is available on our BHS website.

Over the latter part of 2020, Scotty has been profiling the men who brought the railroads into Bartlett and through Crawford Notch. Two key players identified through this research are Samuel J. Anderson, the President of the former Portland and Ogdensburg Railroad and his brother, John F. Anderson, who engineered the laying of the tracks through Crawford Notch. Future plans are to research the Bartlett and Albany (logging) Railroad. In this research, we've asked Scotty to keep an eye out for any information on the Bartlett Land and Lumber Company that was started in 1870. If you have information on Bartlett railroad history, Scotty is willing to do a Zoom meeting or can be contacted at 603-383-3040, by USPS at PO Box 35, Glen, NH 03838 or email at Scottymallett@gmail.com.



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building, please have them
contact us.



We'd enjoy talking with them.

Phil Franklin
603-374-5023 or 860-638-7966

Phil@BartlettHistory.org

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BHS 2021 Quarterly Presentation Lineup!



2021 Presentation Series – Switching to ZOOM!

With the COVID-19 virus still very active everywhere, the BHS Board of Directors has decided that we need to adjust how we meet for our 2021 Quarterly Presentation Series, at least for the time being. For the safety of everyone we are going to use the Zoom platform over the Internet for our January presentation.

Sunday, January 24: BHS Annual Meeting and Scotty Mallett will present “A Snapshot of Bartlett’s Railroad History”

1. BHS Annual Meeting (2:00 p.m.—2:30 p.m.): Phil Franklin will provide an overview of the status of the society looking back on 2020 covering our general operational activities, our museum project status, our overall financial status. We will also elect our 2021 BHS Board of Directors.
2. Snapshot of Bartlett’s Railroad History (2:30 p.m.—3:15 p.m.): Scotty Mallett, a well known local railroad historian and BHS member, will provide an overview on the research he has been doing on the history of the railroads in Bartlett. Bartlett was once the railroad hub for the Mount Washington Valley and the railroads were central to the growth of the tourism industry in the area.

Location: Zoom Internet Meeting Platform, Time: 2:00 p.m. (Instructions for Zoom Access and the meeting link will be sent in mid-January)

Wednesday, April 21 “NH Fish & Game—The History Behind this State Department”



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This program, requested by a BHS member, will provide an overview of the work of the Fish & Game Department. We’ll hear about their work as law enforcement officers to their management of the forests and wildlife throughout the state of NH. This will bring the *Northwoods Law TV* program to life for us!

Location TBD, Time: 7:00 p.m.

Wednesday, June 16: “A Vigorous, Full-Blooded, Ardent Club: The History of the Appalachian Mountain Club” by Becky Fullerton, AMC Archivist



Founded in 1876, the AMC’s mission is to foster the protection, enjoyment and understanding of the outdoors. Becky will tell us about the long history of the AMC and their work in the White Mountains.

Location TBD, Time: 7:00 p.m.

Wednesday, October 21: “A Century of Railroading in Crawford Notch” with Ben English



From the 1860’s to the late 1950’s, the railroads played a major role in the growth and vitality of the area. Ben, a railroad historian and BHS member, will tell us about the rise and fall of the railroads in our area. (Rescheduled from October 2020)

Location TBD, Time: 7:00 p.m.

Even though we are switching to the Zoom Internet meeting platform, all of our programs are open to the public. We hope that by using the Internet technology our presentations will be attended by people from places outside the Mount Washington Valley.

Donations at the door? - Well we’ll work that out another way.

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Museum Renovation Update

The final museum renovation work completed in 2020 focused on the front of the building. This work was a small portion of the Phase 2 work that is before us. This portion of the Phase 2 effort involved four steps:

1. Level the Front Foyer of the Building: The foyer of the building is a roughly 8' x 12' structure. Over the years, it had tilted quite a bit as it was built on wooden blocks (rotting over time) that were sitting on the ground. Our General Contractor, Bill Duggan and his crew, jacked the foyer up and installed concrete piers under the front corners so the foyer is now level and stable.
2. Replace the Roof Over the Foyer: As with the main roof of the building, the foyer also had five layers of shingles on it. It now has one layer of new shingles.
3. Replace the Front Sidewalk and Precast Front Steps: The old front sidewalk was sinking into the ground. In the summer after a rain storm, we had a pool in the walkway; in the winter that froze to a skating rink. The front steps were a precast concrete structure that was crumbling. Both the walkway and steps were removed. We raised the height of the new concrete front walk and pitched it toward the road—water now flows away from the building. Stan Szetela, a local mason contractor and museum supporter, had his crew install a new set of granite steps.
4. Regrading of the Ground in Front of the Building: With the new walkway raised several inches, we also needed to raise the grade of the land in front of the building plus set the grade so it pitched away from the building foundation. Bill Duggan's crew including Phil Franklin spread and packed about 20 cubic yards of base sand to properly grade the land. In the spring, loam will be spread and a lawn planted.

Before the cold weather hit, Phil scraped the front doors and applied a new coat of paint. This temporary measure gives the front of the building a clean look (the front doors will be replaced in the renovation).

Next Steps for the Front of the Building: In the spring, we plan to have the overgrown crabapple tree professionally trimmed, spread loam and plant a lawn, and get some foundation landscaping in place. One of our BHS members has volunteered to organize a landscaping plan and get some plants in the ground.

Finally, it's worth repeating, all of this work was possible because of your generous donations to the project. This museum will be an asset to the community and the community will make it possible. Thank you.



The new concrete sidewalk installed with a pitch to shed water to the road—just poured



The new granite front steps at the entrance. Railings are yet to be installed. Base layer of grading is seen as is the new lattice work at the foyer's base

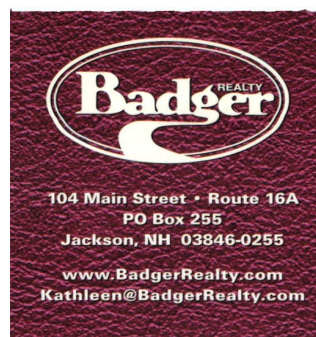


Front doors painted, the front of the museum building has a new look



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Ellen Hayes

A Talented Musician, Among Many Other Things

By Phil Franklin

For this edition of The Historical Herald, we had the chance to talk with a longtime BHS member, Ellen Hayes, in her living room on an unusually warm November day, at least warm for northern New England. Joining Ellen and me in the conversation was Sue Franklin, my wife and our BHS Treasurer.



Ellen Hayes

The Sanborn Family

Ellen is a lifelong resident of Bartlett. She was raised by her parents, Lillian and Leon Sanborn, in a comfortable, little white house on Forest Avenue in Bartlett Village, not far from where she lives now. Born in 1939, Ellen grew up with her twin sister, Evelyn and another sister plus three brothers. Her sister Evelyn and her husband Ray Bailey now live in the family homestead.

Ellen's mother, Lillian, was involved in the school system where she turned her musical talents into plays and variety shows that were put on by the students. Lillian also was the choir director for several different choirs over a 35 year span at the Bartlett Union Congregational Church. Ellen said that her mother loved to work on crafts and was an excellent seamstress, sewing all of Ellen's and Evelyn's cloths as they grew up. Lillian died in 1995. Ellen's father, Leon, grew up in the Intervale section of Bartlett. He worked for the railroad as a "Car Knocker." A Car Knocker is both a train car repairman and inspector. The job still exists today and is quite demanding as this person needs to know all of the railroad regulations, must be able to make decisions at derailment sites and other railroad events, and is basically responsible for the safe operation of the railroad. Ellen said he was always working. In addition to his railroad work, he also sold Hot Point appliances and was an electrician. He died in 1973 from emphysema, not from smoking cigarettes or a pipe as he never smoked but from inhaling the coal dust from the old steam locomotives.

The "Bartlett Village Family" and School Days

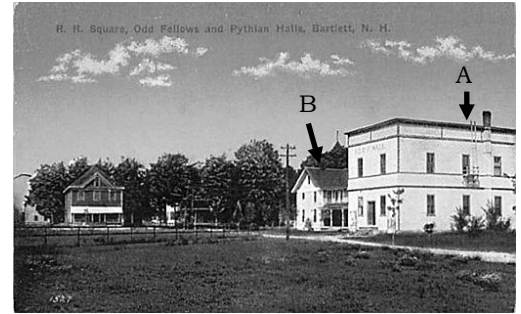
Ellen described life in Bartlett Village as being "like a family." Everyone watched out for their neighbors, it was safe and kids were encouraged to be out playing and people worked hard to make a living. Ellen said that she and Evelyn were inseparable. She added that they were "shy" and as a result had a small group of friends in her elementary school days. The group of friends grew quite large as she went through high school. She mentioned Jackie Ainsworth Cook and Caroline Johnson as just two of her many pals. She and Caroline are still in regular contact today. Caroline married a man named Joe Boyle. The Boyles are also members of BHS. As a side note, the Boyle's donated to the historical society the oldest known photograph of the interior of our St. Joseph Church building. That photo has been a big help to us as we have been making plans for the finished interior of our future museum.

Ellen attended Bartlett Grammar School for her elementary school days and Bartlett High School for grades nine through twelve. She added that she really disliked school. While she said she had no favorite class or subject, she did mention that her favorite teachers were Lucille Garland in first and second grade, and Alice Davis in third and fourth grade. Mrs. Davis used to bring the students to her house to do craft projects. She also mentioned Mary Gagnon as a favorite English teacher. Ellen's mother helped out at the grammar school by directing small variety shows in which the students played different roles. Ellen graduated from Bartlett High School in 1957, the second to the last graduating class from that school. After the 1958 graduating class in Bartlett, local high schoolers attended Kennett High School in North Conway. Following her high school years, Ellen and Evelyn attended Pierce College secretarial school in Concord, NH in 1957 and 1958, developing another group of friends while living in Concord.

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Ellen Hayes continued ...

Outside of elementary and high school, Ellen was a member of the local 4-H club. She told us that is where she learned to sew. Her sewing skills carried over into her adult life where she made her clothing and taught sewing classes in her basement for several years. Ellen told us that while Evelyn enjoyed playing basketball, she was not interested in formal sports. She preferred her music. Although she added, she loved skating in the winter on the Peg Mill Pond and on a rink that was set up in what is today the Bartlett Village Water Precinct Park, then a property owned by Bartlett entrepreneur, G. K. Howard. This park is on the corner of Route 302 and Albany Avenue (a.k.a. Bear Notch Road). She recalled that she attended plays and watched movies at the theater in the Odd Fellows building located on School Street near Albany Avenue. She recalled acting in a high school play that was performed on the Odd Fellows stage. She said she played the part of a “dumb blond” (even though she was a brunette). Audience members said she was the star of the show. She also said she tried skiing one year but that didn’t go so well so she ended her skiing career after that year. Her husband, Carroll was a ski patrol member at Attitash so Ellen was able to ski for \$1.00 a day as a benefit of Carroll’s work for the slope. She added that her daughters are both very good skiers, starting on the slopes at a very young age.



An undated postcard showing the Odd Fellows Hall (A) and Hellen Hayes' lodging house, The Maplewood (B). Photo taken from the Bartlett Village Railroad Square (today, Railroad Square contains a Bartlett soldier's war memorial & soccer field)

Musical Talent

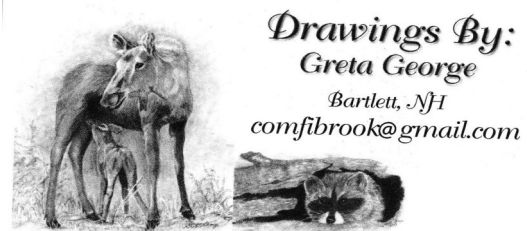
Ellen’s mother was a musician, a pianist to be exact. At the age of nine, Ellen started to learn how to play the piano and became progressively proficient at the keyboard. By the age of fourteen, Ellen played the piano at Sunday services for the Bartlett Union Congregational Church. While in Concord at the secretarial school, she was asked to fill in for the organist of a church in Concord. She had never played the organ before but was eventually convinced that if you can play a piano, you can play an organ. And so it was that Ellen jumped in and played the organ in Concord and, realized that the adage was correct, she could play the organ. Eventually, the Bartlett Congregational Church acquired an organ and Ellen played the organ for services from that point forward. She’s still their organist today, 67 years later. She currently plays on an Allan Digital Organ at the Bartlett church although she commented that she loved playing the pipe organ as a guest organist at other churches in the valley. She said that a pipe organ was and is far too expensive for the Bartlett church.



Ellen’s Organ at the Bartlett Union Congregational Church

Ellen remarked that when she started learning to play the piano, she would practice for hours because she loved making the music. Through the years, she told us of how she continued to practice on the organ to be sure her music was perfect. In church, she played music to fit the season, somber music for Lent, uplifting music for Advent and Christmas. Her most favorite piece is the Beethoven’s Piano Sonata #14, better known as the “Moonlight Sonata.” It’s easy to see how the gentle flow and gracefulness of this sonata matches Ellen’s quiet and very inviting personality.

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Greta's phone # 603 738 4958

Ellen Hayes continued ...

Ellen's talent at the keyboard brought her to several different churches where she played for the congregations and other events such as weddings and funerals. Aside from the Bartlett Congregational Church, she enjoyed her role as organist for the Jackson Community Church, a role she held for 37 years. The Reverend Marshall Stevenson recruited her to play in Jackson in 1962. Sadly, when a shift in the music program occurred in 1999 at the Jackson church, she was forced to end her role as organist for the church. She also played at the St. Joseph Church in Bartlett for three years in the late 1980's. Yes, the same building that will be our BHS museum. It happened that in 1986, there was a major fire in the Bartlett Congregational Church that caused severe damage. Being a very tight, supportive community, the members of the Catholic church opened their doors to the Congregationalists to provide them a place for their Sunday services. Ellen confirmed for us that the organ for St. Joseph's was located in the small choir loft above the entrance to the church. She also played for three years at the Glen Baptist Church. In her words, she "played all over the Valley" noting many different churches where she played in concerts or as the guest organist. Ellen's musical talent also found her in the senior choir of the Bartlett Congregational Church in the 1960's. In the pamphlet, *Walking Together In Brotherly Love, A History of the Congregational Church in Bartlett, N.H.*, Ellen is pictured with the choir. In that photo, her mother and choir director, Lillian Sanborn, is also seen. Her sister, Evelyn, is seen in yet another choir photo from the early 1960's with Ellen and Lillian in the same photo. In Ellen's living room today, her mother's piano has a prominent location in the room.

Marriage, the Hayes Family and Jobs

In August 1959, Ellen Sanborn married a local young man named Carroll Hayes. They started dating when they were about 14 years old. Ellen and Carroll lived in Carroll's mother's (Hellen Hayes) house on Route 302. This place was once a local inn in the 1930's called the Elmcrest Cottage. Living there, they had a small barnyard where they raised a cow and two pigs. Ellen laughed telling the story of how one day she received a call from one of her neighbors telling her, with some displeasure, that their pigs had escaped their pen and were rooting up the neighbor's lawn. Ellen painted a picture of her, pregnant at the time, chasing pigs back home. She said she didn't know how she managed to corral the pigs but they made it home. She also remarked that she made her own butter in a churn. While living there, two daughters were born into their family. One daughter, C. J. (Hayes) Valladares, lives in Fryeburg, ME. Her son, Jordan, is Ellen's only grandchild. Their other daughter, Karen (Hayes) Meyers, lives in Barrington, NH and is the innkeeper at the Three Chimney's Inn in Durham, NH. Sadly, Carrol and Ellen separated in 1973 and divorced in 1976. Ellen said that while they are no longer married, they have remained close friends ever since. After their separation, Ellen lived in a rental house in Bartlett for a while and then moved into her current home.



Elmcrest Cottage
circa 1960's

the

As another side note, Hellen Hayes was one of Bartlett's most interesting residents. For many years she ran a boarding house on the corner of School Street and Albany Avenue. She called it "The Maplewood." There she catered to the railroad workers who were passing through town. She also started the town's Fourth of July parade that today is named in her honor, the "Hellen Hayes' Memorial Fourth of July Parade." Ellen told us that she had a wonderful relationship with her mother-in-law. Helen's story is one that we'll have to cover in another article.

Over the years, Ellen has held many different positions with companies in the Valley but never had one career path. She named several places where she's worked including the Christmas Farm Inn, Skidaddlers Ski Club as a cook, the Jackson Corner Store and Rite-Aid. Ellen worked at the Kearsarge Peg Mill for several years. Aside from the railroad, the peg mill was the other major employer in Bartlett Village for many years. Ellen said that she worked on the "pointer" machines and "splitter" machines on the peg making production line. She commented that she nearly lost some fingers while working on the splitter machine that cut the peg wood; the knives just brushed her fingers but she escaped unscathed.

... continued on next page

Ellen Hayes continued ...

For 23 years, she was engaged with the RSVP (Retired & Senior Volunteer Program) in Conway. Her most important service, though, has been caring for her sister, Evelyn, who has been struggling with cancer for the past year. Fortunately, in recent weeks, there have been very positive signs but she still continues to struggle with the disease. While helping with Evelyn's care has been both mentally and physically taxing, Ellen's spirit and faith have helped her be there for her sister.



Ellen (right) and sister, Evelyn, at the service for our friend, the late Bert George; Masked as a precaution against the COVID-19 virus

Photography and Other Hobbies

Ellen also revealed that she has an eye for photography. She was a member of the one time Bartlett Jackson Camera Club. Another photography enthusiast was Reverend Frank Graichen. He was installed as the minister of the Bartlett Congregational Church in 1979. At that time, the Bartlett and Jackson Congregational Churches were yoked or united (that is how she came to be the Jackson organist). Ellen said that the club with Reverend Graichen would go out on photo shoot field trips after church services on Sunday. Her favorite types of photography were of landscapes and flowers. She used a Minolta 201 SLR camera with several different types of inter-changeable lenses. Since this was still the era of real film, versus the digital era today, Ellen learned how to develop her photos using the various chemicals to turn the film negative into a printed photograph. For a time, Ellen's works were displayed for sale in a Jackson gallery. She added that from time to time, a check would arrive for the sale of one of her photos. She also commented that this was a very time consuming hobby because aside from the time needed for developing the film, you also needed to mount and frame the "best" photographs for display.

Another of Ellen's talents is baking and cooking. When we held our BHS Giant Yard Sales, Ellen and Evelyn would always surprise us with some sort of baked delight. She always made sure that everyone on the yard sale crew had a chance to sample her baked items. Once we all did a "taste test," the items would be put up for sale – and they didn't last long once people realized how good they were. Ellen was also active in the February, Saturday night dinners that were put on at the Congregational Church. These community suppers were open to the public and were the place to be on a cold Saturday evening in February. Longtime friends spent the evening catching up on things as they didn't get out much in the winter; if you were new to the area and attended supper event without knowing anyone as you entered the room, you were certain to have made a few new friends before you left the room. Ellen, along with a couple of other ladies in the parish, were known for their cheese cakes that they made for the suppers. Unfortunately, those suppers ended in 2015.

... In Closing

I thought I'd share a short "author's story" story about meeting Ellen and Evelyn. When my wife and I first moved into Bartlett in 2014, on Friday evenings, we would occasionally go out for dinner to a local restaurant in Bartlett Village. Ellen and Evelyn seemed to be there on the same evenings. While we had met the sisters briefly through historical society events, we were still fresh faces in town but getting involved in the community. I recall one evening saying "hello" to them as we were seated near Ellen and Evelyn. Ellen looked up at me, appeared to be thinking about who I was and finally, in a nice tone said, "Oh, you're the new guy!" That broke the ice and we had an enjoyable conversation for a few minutes while chuckling about her comment. Whether you've known her for many years or just a short period of time, Ellen greets you with her warm smile and has a nice thing or two to say. When I called her to ask her if she'd be willing to do this interview her polite response was "why me?" I told her that several people asked me to see if she'd be willing to tell her story. Fortunately, she agreed. Over the years, I've had the great fortune to know get to know Ellen much better and I've hopefully shed some of that "new guy" moniker. Our conversation in the interview was filled with laughter and some serious moments. From listening to her story, you got a real sense of Ellen's caring for her family, friends and her community.

I'd like to thank Ellen for sharing her story with us. As always, it was a great experience getting to hear the story of someone who is so well respected in the community.

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Thank You for Your Support of BHS

The Bartlett Historical Society has a number of Business Members and Newsletter Business Sponsors. Their support for our general operations or our newsletter publication is greatly appreciated. Each of these businesses has many other organizations asking for their support. We are very grateful that they have chosen to lend their support to BHS. In an effort to recognize their support, we have decided to highlight our Business Members and Newsletter Business Sponsors.

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The Bartlett Snow Roller—Restored 2015

The Historical Herald

www.BartlettHistory.Org

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2021 BHS Membership Drive

Response to our 2021 BHS membership drive has been great. Over 100 members have renewed and we have received 12 new memberships. Thank you to those who have responded so far! For those who have not yet renewed or joined as a new member, we have again enclosed a 2021 BHS Membership form in this newsletter. Our membership year is from January 1 to December 31. Please take a few minutes to fill out the form and send it back to us to be counted as a members of this growing and very active historical society.

We've often mentioned that we have members across the country. To show just where we have members, we've placed a star on each state with one or more members. Wouldn't it be great to see 50 BHS stars on this map of the USA?!



Your membership helps us:

- ◆ Demonstrate to foundations and other donors (with real numbers) that ours is a viable historical society worthy of their support
- ◆ Generate this newsletter four times a year
- ◆ Bring in interesting guest speakers for our quarterly presentation on historic topics
- ◆ Obtain “Bartlett artifacts” that appear online bringing them “home”, and
- ◆ Cover our society's operating expenses (e.g. insurance, association fees, office supplies, etc.).

Membership in BHS should also give you the satisfaction of being a part of a non-profit organization that is focused on preserving the history of Bartlett, Hart's Location and our surrounding Valley plus providing educational opportunities for people to learn more about the region. When our museum finally opens, we will display our collections of historic artifacts for all to enjoy and expand our educational offerings.

To those who are our current members, please consider renewing your membership now for the 2021 calendar year. For those who are receiving this newsletter and are not members, please consider joining and becoming a member of the Bartlett Historical Society. As always, we *Thank You* for your support.

Membership form and information can be found at :<http://bartletthistory.org/bartletthistory/join.html>.

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Winter has arrived!