

The Historical Herald

The Quarterly Newsletter of



The Bartlett Snow Roller—Restored 2015

PO Box 514
Bartlett, NH 03812

www.BartlettHistory.org

Winter 2024 Edition (2024:1)

The Bartlett

Historical Society

The Campaign Continues...Thank You For Your Continued Support

The continued generosity shown by the hundreds of donors for our Bartlett History Museum project is simply overwhelming. With the support provided by every donation we have not only saved a local historic landmark but are also bringing the building back to a useful life as a place for historic preservation and education. Every donor to this project can say that they were a part of creating a new museum; every donation is valued and used as efficiently as possible – we’ve gotten good at “stretching our dollars.” We’ve recently received generous grants from the Goldberg Charitable Foundation, the Ham Charitable Foundation, and the NH Charitable Foundation. Thank you to all our donors. For those still considering a donation to this project, we are still looking for support to get us over the finish line.



What’s been happening over the past three months? A number of smaller items have been completed and removed from our checklist. The big project underway is the preservation of the building’s original 1890 wood floor. The wear seen from the past 134 years is now being called “character.” We are now slowly going over every inch of the roughly 1,900 square feet of the floor to scrape or sand off layers of loose paint and glue, remove all the foreign metal, and fix any damaged parts of the floor. The results of the before and after are dramatic and show that this is worth the effort.

What’s next? We are planning a productive winter with interior renovation work as the focus. We had to delay installing the donated plank flooring in our foyer, lavatory, curator’s workspace, and back exit area so this is now top priority at the first of the year. Our general contractor, Bill Duggan, is scheduled to take on the major task of installing all the interior wood trim over the winter months. When this is completed, we’re back to painting the interior, completing the electrical and plumbing installations, handling final finish details, and preparing to get displays assembled (another big task). There are a couple of exterior tasks that will be completed in the spring. It can’t be said enough, this work is all possible because of your generosity. Thank You!

Campaign Update: To date, with the generous donations of 589 individuals, foundations, and businesses, many having made multiple donations, we have raised \$555,249 out of the recently revised \$615,000 campaign goal! Project expenses to date are about \$439,382; of that total, \$429,366 in real capital value has been added to the building. We are estimating that we need to raise \$60,000 to complete Phase 2 and open the museum. We are and will continue to stretch every donated dollar as far as possible to complete the renovation. *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.

Museum Donors: 09/23/2023—12/19/2023

George and Ruth Abbott	Roger Burdwood	Deni DuFault	Norman and Kathleen Head
David and Cheryl Alander	Mike and Hannah Chandler	Emerald Tree Experts	Stephen & Mary Kandrotas
Francis and Mary Alberto	David and Susan Clark	Bill & Bonnie Estey	Donna and William Kennedy
Anonymous	Elizabeth Conway	Bill and Ruth Fabrizio	Bill King
Doug and Candy Armstrong	Rev. Frances Cox	Deb Ferland	Pauline Lombardi
Donald Aubrecht and Mary Nodine	Dave and Francine Cronin	Margaret Fish	Dennis Maiorino
Ellen Bates	Myles and Christine Crowe	David Flynn	Joe Malone
Kate Battenfelder	David Crutchley	Samuel and Linda Frank	Richard and Susan Mariano
Patty Belcik	Paula Dalton	Mary Franklin	Robert and Julie McGowan
Christine Benoit	Matt and Jen DeAngelis	Barbara George in Memory of Bert George, Ben George	Bob and Ann McGraw
Ed and Kathleen Bergeron	Rebecca DeGeorge	Jodi George-Couillard	Louise Merrill
Joe Berry	John Doherty	Paula Graham	Paul Miraglia
Arthur and Suzan Boucher	Chuck and Linda Donovan	Jim and Linda Hastings	Henry Mock
	Jo-Ann Driscoll		<i><u>Continued on Next Page</u></i>



President's Message

Welcome to 2024! On behalf of our BHS Board of Directors, I wish everyone a happy and healthy new year. Winter seems to be struggling to get its frozen feet on the ground and while we've had some snow, it's been rather mild overall. Still, we have three more months ahead of us.

As I look back at 2023 from a BHS perspective, I see another year of progress made and growth for the historical society. We welcomed 253 new and renewing members; we hosted four very interesting and well attended presentations; in June, we had another very successful golf tournament along with other successful fundraising events throughout the year; we expanded our collection of items and stories that tell of the history of Bartlett, Hart's Location and Livermore; and we made tremendous progress on our museum renovation effort. All these things occurred because of your support as members and donors. We've included a recap of 2023 in this newsletter and will have our Annual Report available in early 2024.

We have placed a good deal of emphasis on collecting oral histories from people, giving them a chance to "tell their story." Often, I hear that "nothing important happened in my life" or "I don't have much to say" when I ask people to tell me their story. Everyone has a story to tell and it's those stories that help us "build" the historical record for our three towns. People make the history. If you know of someone who you think we should talk with or you, yourself, would like to meet with me, please let me know so we can add your story to our collection.

As you've read on the front page, our museum project took some major steps forward in 2023. Working with our General Contractor, Bill Duggan, we are narrowing down the list of outstanding tasks to be completed so we can open the museum. The good news is there is a light at the end of the tunnel. This entire project has been completed with generous donations from hundreds of individuals, businesses, and foundations. The transformation from the run-down structure we started with in 2016 to what we have today is astounding. Our museum will be a community asset, open to anyone who is interested in our local history. If you'd like to contribute to the project, please see our BHS website for instructions on how to donate. And thank you again for all your continued support.

Throughout this newsletter you'll see the advertising for various businesses. These are our newsletter sponsors. Their support helps us defray the cost of publication. In 2024, we'd like to welcome two new sponsors, The Berry Companies and El Reparo Mexican Restaurant. Thank you to all of our newsletter sponsors for their continued support.

As we closed the year, one of our Directors, Rob Foppiano, informed the rest of the Board that he would be stepping down from his position at the end of 2023. I would like to thank Rob for his service to the BHS Board and wish him well in his next adventure.

A reminder that our 2024 BHS Membership Drive is now underway. We sent out a mailing to all 2023 members and donors in November announcing this annual event. For those who have already renewed their membership or joined as a new member in 2024, I thank you for your continued support. There's more information on how to join BHS or renew your membership on the back page of this newsletter.

Finally, on behalf of our BHS Board of Directors and myself, I would like to thank everyone for their continued support of BHS and our museum project. If you have any questions, comments or ideas about BHS or Bartlett, Hart's Location or Livermore history, please let me know by dropping me an email at Phil@BartlettHistory.org. Thank you again for your support.

Sincerely,

Phil Franklin

President, Bartlett Historical Society
Phil@BartlettHistory.org

A color version of this newsletter is available on our website at www.BartlettHistory.org

<u><i>Donors continued from P. 1</i></u>	Don and Beverly Phillips	Fred and Sandra Schaaff	Joy Tarbell and Eddie
Richard and Sylvia Munyon	Gail Prelli and Charles Bierce	Arden Schoen	Minyard
John O'Neil	Stefi Reed Hastings	Brian and Michelle Spero	David and Marilyn Wajda
Michael & Catherine Pakaluk	Wayne Ruggles	Carol Swanson	Donald and Susan Wells
Steve and Pam Pamer	Ellen Russell	Irene Szymanski	Mike Wiley
Chris and Vicki Perley	Glenn and Sonni Saunders		Charlie and Arlene Zaccaria

2023 BHS Annual Report Overview

As we close the books on 2023, we are in the process of assembling our 2023 Annual Report. Final numbers for things such as donations received and expenses are still being developed and will be finalized on December 31, 2023 at the end of our fiscal year. A full 2023 Annual Report will be available on our BHS website by January 7, 2024.

We are still operating BHS with two sets of accounting books, one for our Operational activities and one for our BHS Museum Fund with the approval of our accountant. This accounting approach keeps our capital museum expenses separate from our day-to-day operational expenses. At the end of the renovation project, we will close the BHS Museum Fund account and work with one operational accounting process.

Operational Results

- ⇒ BHS Board of Directors: We have continued to have the good fortune to have a diversified, strong, forward-thinking BHS leadership team. As the year comes to a close, Director, Rob Foppiano has announced that he will be stepping down in 2024. We will be searching for his replacement.
- ⇒ Curator Activities: Our Curator, Kathy Howard, has continued to review and catalog the items in our BHS collection of artifacts. Cataloging gives us a detailed inventory of all of the artifacts under BHS ownership.
- ⇒ Historical Research: We opened several small research projects and continued to maintain a list of projects that will be prioritized once we get into the museum. One project that generated some very interesting results was the study of the Stanton family in town. We met with descendants of the family, combining genealogical information, sharing photos, and visiting the sites of the Cave Mountain and Stanton Farms sites. This topic will receive further study. We also met with a couple of other families with Bartlett descendant connections.
- ⇒ Membership: BHS membership in 2023 hit a new high at 253 members. This represents a 7% increase in membership from 2022. Many of our new members were previously non-member museum donors.
- ⇒ Education & Information: We published our four quarterly newsletters. Feedback on all was that they were well received. In the process, we added four interviews to our collection of oral histories. We also hosted four presentations in our Quarterly Presentation Series. These presentations are well attended with an average of 50—60 people at the events.
- ⇒ Finances: We continue to have adequate funds to meet all of our operational expenses. Primary sources of income continue to be membership dues, donations, and fundraising. We continue to maintain appropriate insurance coverage for all of our potential liabilities. We remain in “Good Standing” as a non-profit organization with the NH Department of Justice, Charitable Trust Division.

Bartlett History Museum Renovation Project

- ⇒ A considerable amount of progress was made on the renovation effort through available funding and volunteer efforts. The list to the right provides an inventory of the completed in 2023.
- ⇒ We continue to have excellent support from our General Contractor, Bill Duggan. He and Phil Franklin consult regularly on the project and continue to work as a team to keep the project moving forward.
- ⇒ A Fourth of July Open House welcomed about 105 people into the building to see our progress and discuss plans for the museum as well as next steps in the renovation. All were pleased with the progress.
- ⇒ We continue to use our donated funds as efficiently as possible but are always subject to material and labor cost increases. Work plans are in place for 2024.

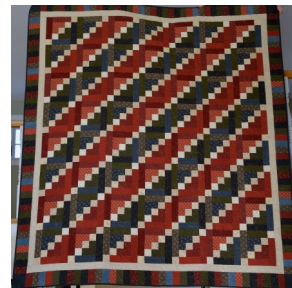
<u>Museum Renovation Projects</u> <u>Completed 2023</u>
Building Residing
Sheetrock Installed
Walls Painted - 1st Coat
Next Phase of Electrical Install
Stained Glass Light Boxes Install
Front Landscaping Installed
1890 Floor Prepped for Paint
Building Painting
Ceiling Insulation Installed
New Back Exit Door Installed
Chandeliers Installed
Flag Pole installed

2023 BHS Quilt Raffle—And the Winner Was ... !

Just before the start of our October 18th presentation, we held the drawing for the winner of our 2023 BHS Quilt Raffle. This was the third quilt made and donated by our BHS Treasurer, Sue Franklin. The quilt was won by Dick Leavitt, one of our longtime BHS members. Dick was in the audience for the event and proudly accepted the quilt. In total, we raised \$873 with all funds being directed to the BHS Museum Fund for the renovation of our future Bartlett History Museum building.

We extend our thanks to all of our members and non-members who participated in the raffle. Your support is greatly appreciated.

What's the 2024 raffle prize going to be? We've been thinking about that and we might give Sue a break as we come up with a different prize. Stay tuned for the announcement in the spring BHS newsletter.



Would you like your BHS Newsletter by Email or our paper style?

Recently, several members and donors have requested that we email our newsletter to them. So, we're extending this offer to everyone. If you would like to receive your BHS newsletter via your email, please let us know by dropping us an email at BartlettHistoryNH@gmail.com or check the "email newsletter" box the 2024 BHS Membership form and we'll add you to our "Newsletter Email Distribution List." However, if you don't have email or want to keep receiving the newsletter in paper/hardcopy format, we'll keep mailing it to you via the US Postal Service.



Coleman Rental & Supply, Inc.
1388 NH Route 16, Conway, NH
Tel # 603-447-8416

A full service equipment and tool rental
store serving the Mount Washington Valley
area for over 30 years.



CAT Equipment



Generators



Rollers



Lifts

How Can You Donate to BHS?

There are several options:

Cash or Check; Credit Card; Gift-in-Kind; Stock Transfer, Matching Gift from your employer, Memorials, Estate Designations

Donations to BHS that are designated to the Museum Fund or those that are undesignated are currently funneled to the Museum Fund. Donations designated to the General Fund are directed to our operating fund.

All donations are greatly appreciated and we thank you for your continued support.

*Bartlett Historical Society is a 501 (c) 3 organization.
All donations may be tax deductible*

**SPECIALIZING IN
CONDOMINIUM MANAGEMENT**

EG CHANDLER INC

Now Accepting New Associations

In-house financial services, dues billing, budgeting,
full service grounds and building maintenance with
our staff or your existing vendors

**Contact erik@egchandler.com
for a free consult and proposal**

**IRON MOUNTAIN
WATER SERVICES CO.**



Professional Water Quality Solutions

Consulting • Service Contracts • Sales • Product Application
State Certified Plant Operations • Residential • Municipal

Scott Hayes
Project Manager

PO Box 135
Jackson, NH 03846

(603) 383-4948 scott@ironmountainwater.com fax: (603) 383-4937

Can You Help Us Answer Some Questions?

A while back, Phil Franklin was attempting to write a book on the history of Bartlett, Hart's Location and Livermore. The book had a heavy dependence on historical photographs. After a significant amount of work it became apparent that the photos that were being assembled were not of the type or quality that the publisher required for their publication. So, unfortunately, Phil's book contract was cancelled.

However, he still has all of the photos that he collected. Among those photos are several showing people whom we cannot identify or some groups or organizations in our three town area. We'd like your help in identifying people and filling "gaps" that we have in our local history. This will be a longer term project but one that we can accomplish even if you have only a small bit of information on a topic.

Below are some photos with questions next to them about who is in the photo, when it might have been taken, or background on the organization represented in the photo. If you can shed light on any of these mysteries, please drop us an email at BartlettHistoryNH@gmail.com or directly to Phil at Phil@BartlettHistory.org.



This photo was taken on Company Hill (Albany Avenue) in Bartlett. Who are the three boys in the photo, when was it taken, what was the dog's name, whose house is in the background? We presume they were sliding down the snow packed road.

What stories do you have about sledding, skiing or winter sports in our towns?



There were two CCC camps in the area, one in Bartlett, one in Hart's Location. We believe this is photo of one of the work crews from one of the CCC camps. First, does anyone know who these young men are, and second, does anyone have a history of the CCC camps in the area? What projects did they work on, did the young men interact with town folks, aside from the chimney that still stands at the Hart's Location camp, do any artifacts still exist from the camps?



This photo was taken in Hart's Location and is of the crew who worked on the Charles H. Morey peg mill. The mill is in the background. It was located on the site of the former Crawford House Hotel, today a parking lot for Davis Path hikers across from the Notchland Inn. Does anyone have any information about this peg mill. The book *Hart's Location in Crawford Notch* displays the photo on page 118 but there's no description of the mill or any details about its history. It's also a mystery to folks I've talked with in Hart's Location.

We have many more of these types of photos and questions. Another topic that we'd like to gather information on is the Boy Scout and Girl Scout troops that were in Bartlett.

Please let us know what you know. Thanks!

BHS Quarterly Presentation Series News

Recap of Our Final Presentation in 2023

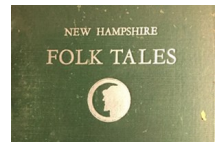
Hauntings in the Valley and Spirits in Our Former St. Joseph Church Building with Kelly Rogers from Luna Paranormal

On October 18, 2023, we held our final presentation for the year at our future museum building. This was fitting because the topic for the event was hauntings in the Valley and our museum building was one of the highlighted locations. The event was attended by 65 individuals. Kelly Rogers and her assistant Linda took us through an explanation of the paranormal world and highlighted several experiences they have had at various locations in the Valley. They have done four investigations in our future museum with mixed results in connecting with spirits. They showed images of a stick figure child as well as an adult from two different visits to our museum. The good news is all reports indicate who ever is in our building from the spirit world is happy with the work we've done. We thank Kelly and Linda for this interesting presentation.

2024 Quarterly Presentation Series!

Sunday, January 7, 2024: The Mammoth Road: NH Folk Tales as an Avenue to Local History & Culture, presented by Erin Moulton, NH Humanities Speaker

Folk Tales are passed from generation to generation, often embellished in the telling. Still, we can often learn about our history from these tales. Erin will tell stories compiled by the NH Women's Federation.



Bartlett Congregational Church Sanctuary, Route 302 and Albany Avenue, Time: 2:00 p.m.

Wednesday, April 17, 2024, Hiking in the White Mountains, presented by Ed Parsons, local hiking enthusiast and Conway Daily Sun columnist



The White Mountains, including our National Forest, are covered with hiking trails offering different challenges. Ed will talk about his experiences as he has hiked these trails, offering thoughts on sites and "trail attractions." Ed is a regular columnist for the Conway Daily Sun on the subject of "Hiking."

Bartlett Congregational Church Sanctuary, Route 302 and Albany Avenue, Time: 7:00 p.m.

Wednesday, June 19, 2024: Circus and Stage Performing—Insights from Spiff and Sam, presented by Rob and Marion Owen, Professional Clowns and BHS members

Rob and Marion (Spiff and Sam) will entertain us with the story of how they became circus and stage entertainers, clowning, performing magic, juggling, and inventing skits to let people forget their cares and laugh. We featured them in our fall 2023 newsletter and now they've agreed to tell us more about their clowning experiences and their work in the Valley.



Bartlett Congregational Church Sanctuary, Route 302 and Albany Avenue, Time: 7:00 p.m.

Wednesday, October 16, 2024: Yankee Ingenuity: Stories of Headstrong and Resourceful People, presented by Jo Radner



Jo shares a selection of historical tales-humorous and thought-provoking-about New Englanders who have used their wits in extraordinary ways to solve problems and create inventions. The talk will include discussion with the audience, and may introduce a brief folktale or a poem about inventiveness and problem-solving.

Bartlett Congregational Church Sanctuary, Route 302 and Albany Avenue, Time: 7:00 p.m.

Thank you to our Hosts at the Bartlett Congregational Church

We continue to extend our thanks to the leadership and congregational of the Bartlett Congregational Church for the use of their facility for BHS meetings and presentations. Their support has been invaluable.

Glenn Saunders

Always There For You ...

by Phil Franklin

On November 27, 2023, I had an engaging conversation with Glenn Saunders in his office at White Mountain Oil and Propane (WMOP) in North Conway. While Glenn is most often associated with the family's business, there is a lot more to his story than just heating oil, propane, and burner service. Glenn is also very civically involved in the community ... a tradition that he carries forward from his parents and that his sons are carrying forward to this day.



A Brief Family History

Glenn and his family have deep roots in the area dating back to 1800s, working and living in the Mount Washington Valley (Eastern Slope Region). The Saunders' have a large family tree, but we focused on that branch associated with Glenn and his wife, Sonnhilde (Sonni). Glenn was born in 1940 and lived with his parents and siblings in a house almost immediately next to the current location of WMOP. Glenn and Sonni have two sons, Mark and Kirk, both have joined the WMOP business. They have four grandchildren.

Glenn's parents were Forrest Proctor "Ben" Saunders and Ethel Head Saunders. Along with Glenn, Ben and Ethel had two other children, Scott (a graduate from the University of New Hampshire) and Terry (Turcotte) (a graduate from Mount Ida College in Massachusetts), both now deceased. Ben was involved in several civic organizations including the North Conway Community Center serving as president in its early years, the North Conway Parks Commission, and the Lower Bartlett Cemetery Committee among many other non-profits. Ben and Ethel were also avid hikers, Appalachian Mountain Club members and members of the 4,000-Footer Club in New Hampshire.

Glenn's paternal grandfather was Guy Saunders. His first wife was a member of the Proctor family in Jackson. They had three children, Phyllis, Forrest and June, but sadly, Guy's first wife, Celia, died at a young age. Marrying again, he had two more children who grew up in Bartlett, Norma and Robert, with his wife Nellie Matilda Squire Saunders. Guy worked for the Maine Central Railroad at the Bartlett Village Station. Glenn added that Guy's father, Spurgeon Saunders lived in Intervale. He was unfortunately killed in an on-the-job railroad accident.

On his mother's side of the family, Glenn's grandparents were Cecil and Grace Head. They were both Eaton and Conway natives, respectively. Cecil was in the funeral business. Glenn also mentioned his great grandfather, Mark Head. Glenn has two toolboxes that once belonged to Mark. By looking at the types of tools in the boxes and stories from his grandfather, Cecil, he believes that Mark was a machinist at the Livermore sawmill. Glenn is trying to assemble a bit more information on the family connection with Livermore.

Education, the Military and Studying in Austria

Glenn attended Kennett High School, where, aside from his studies, he played football, basketball, and baseball throughout his high school career. Graduating from Kennett in 1958, he attended Bowdoin College in Brunswick, Maine. While there, in 1960, he participated in a program titled the Experiment in International Living. In this program, he traveled to Austria, living with a local family during his stay. There were eleven students from various colleges across the USA in the program, each living with a different family in the same geographic area in Austria. This allowed the students to meet and make friends with other Austrian students of their age, experience family life in Austria and travel to other European locations. During this adventure, he met Sonni for the first time simply as friends.

After graduating from Bowdoin in 1962, Glenn was awarded a Rotary Fellowship that allowed him to further his studies in 1963 and 1964, again, in Austria. He reconnected with his original host family, went over early to improve his fluency in the German language, and reconnected with his Austrian friends, including Sonni. In the interim between his first and second visit to his host family, the family's father had had a stroke and was now disabled. As a result, Glenn pitched in to help with chores and building projects around the family's home. He also kept seeing Sonni, their relationship blossomed, and in August 1964, they were married in Austria.

... continued on next page



Glenn Saunders continued ...

Also, while at Bowdoin, Glenn joined the ROTC (Reserve Officer Training Corps) with the US Army. He had deferred his active-duty requirement to take advantage of his Rotary Fellowship but with that complete, he now needed to report for duty in El Paso, Texas. Glenn was assigned to the HAWK missile Air Defense Artillery program (HAWK = Homing All the Way Killer). While in El Paso, Glenn attended basic and advanced training programs for the operation of the missile. The HAWK missile was deployed in 1959 by the Army as a medium range surface-to-air missile with a semi-active homing or radar capability. When this training was completed, Glenn, along with Sonni, were stationed in Germany, a manageable train ride from Sonni's hometown. When Glenn was occasionally recalled to Texas for further training, Sonni was able to head back home by rail. He resigned from the service in 1968, returning to North Conway where he and Sonni have lived ever since.



HAWK Missile
Battery

History of White Mountain Oil and Glenn Joins the Family Business

White Mountain Oil, the original name of the company, was established in 1941 after Ben Saunders left the funeral business where he had been working with his father-in-law. The company was originally an Atlantic Ridgefield service station located, ironically, across the street from where the current headquarters of WMOP are today. Glenn said that along with pumping gas and selling heating oil, the company also did basic service work on cars. Ben also started selling "bottled gas" (propane) in the mid-1940s that was delivered to his station by the Lewiston Bottled Gas Company in 100-pound cylinders. Considering the weight of these cylinders, Glenn said that in the summer they were moved with dolly carts and in the winter, they'd tie a rope to them and drag them across the snow.

At the time, homeowners were beginning to switch from heating their homes with coal to the new oil technology. Ben Saunders and his employees started installing oil furnaces in the evenings and that meant they could sell oil to the new furnace customers, so the business expanded. Ben hired more employees. Glenn mentioned the names of Burton Patch and Vernon Smith as two of those workers, two men from long-time local families.



WHITE MOUNTAIN OIL & PROPANE

In 1948, Ben moved the service station down Route 16 to a location next to the current Schoolhouse Motel. He continued servicing vehicles, pumping gas, and expanding his heating oil business but also added a showroom for new appliances. With business continuing to be profitable, Ben moved the operation again in 1954 to its current location on Route 16 across from Whitaker Woods.

There, they purchased some adjacent properties and have built the headquarters for WMOP, still called White Mountain Oil though ... the "and Propane" comes later. At their new location, they were no longer pumping gas or servicing cars, the focus was home heating fuels and servicing heating equipment.

Glenn joined the business in 1968. His brother Scott had signed on in 1965. Together the two brothers with their father managed and continued to expand the business. Business expansion occurred by acquiring smaller oil companies in the area, adding storage facilities for large quantities of gasoline, propane, heating oil and kerosene at different locations in the area while increasing their customer base. Glenn said that they were usually approached by the owners of smaller companies to see if the Saunders' were interested in purchasing their company but, on occasion, they would be proactive and make an offer as well. ... continued on next page



Serving the Valley Since 1933

603-356-0757

Kathleen Sullivan Head
Certified Residential Specialist
Licensed in NH & Maine

C: (603)986- 5932
O: (603)383-4407
104 Main Street, PO Box 255
Jackson, NH 03846
KathleenSH@BadgerPeabodySmith.com

BadgerPeabodySmith.com



Glenn Saunders continued ...

Companies that were purchased over the years included the Jennis Oil Company (along with its employees), a couple of Chevron oil locations in the 1970s, and the James Howard oil business in Bartlett along with their employees Ruth (Howard), Lloyd Chandler, Peter Marcoux and Peter Morton. In the later part of the 1990s, While Mountain Oil became White Mountain Oil and Propane. Glenn said that their propane sales alone match the sales of gasoline, oil and kerosene combined. In 2004, they added an office in Lincoln and another fuel storage facility in Compton as their business expanded into those locations. Going back to staffing for a moment, Glenn mentioned that to find good, qualified service workers today they are turning to the high school technical training program and offering opportunities to new graduates. This has worked out well for everyone hires. The company has grown from 14 in 1968 to 50 employees covering all aspects of their business.

WMOP Management Changes

When I asked when his father, Ben, retired, Glenn said, "He never did!" He just walked away from the business and let his two sons make the decisions. He would attend monthly management meetings and ask good questions. Scott and Glenn figured that Ben was pleased with their management and leadership of the company, so they just kept going.

Glenn said that when the time was right, he approached both of his sons, Mark and Kirk, offering them the opportunity to join the company but on the first pass, neither one took the offer. Kirk, Glenn and Sonni's younger son, graduated from the University of New Hampshire with a mechanical engineering degree. He and a friend decided to move to Colorado for the skiing but after their arrival they determined they needed real jobs. Kirk worked for a propane dealer outside of Denver, he helped United Airlines straighten out their baggage handling system at the new Denver airport, and worked for a British company who was rehabbing old train cars for excursion railroads. When WMOP was installing a new oil storage facility in Redstone, Glenn asked Kirk if he would like to come back to work on that job. While being one of the crew for that effort, he became involved in other things related to the operation of the company but still wasn't an employee until his father made the second offer to join the company. In 1997, Kirk joined WMOP as a new employee.

Similarly, Mark had a position with a company that was making experimental scrubbers for coal fired power plants. He was doing well at his position and as the company was getting ready to move beyond the experimental stage to put the scrubbers into production, the economic downturn between 2007 to 2009 put everything on hold. The company was considering a move to the mid-west, a move that Mark didn't want to make and, ultimately, the company sold the technology, so Mark found himself needing work. Kirk decided

... continued on next page

100 Years Ago ...

Despite being in a business decline, a new school was opened in Livermore staffed by two teachers for 20 students. The school cost \$3,323.

In Hart's Location, the husband of "Madam" Florence Morey, Charles Morey, who was once called the "Czar of Hart's Location" and was the town clerk and selectman suddenly disappeared in April 1924. The family offered no explanation for his departure but it was assumed he and Florence were not getting along.



Kringle's Pizza & Country Store
A Little Bit of Everything
Beer/Wine, Pizza, Subs, Wraps, Salads, Groceries
Gluten Free Pizza



Breakfast 6am-11am
603-383-6669 
Take Out or Eat In
Open 7 days/nights
VISA/MC/D • ATM • FREE WIFI
KringlesNH.com
Rt. 16 (1/2 mile north of Story Land) • Glen, NH



800-332-6636

www.seasonsnh.com

info@seasonsnh.com

PO Box 930
Glen, NH 03838

603-374-2361
Fax 603-374-2414

Glenn Saunders continued ...

to talk with Mark about joining the family business. After some discussion, in 2011, he accepted as well.

In early 2000, Scott, Glenn's brother decided to retire. Scott was well liked in the company and, in the tradition of his family, was very involved in the community. From an article written by Mark Guerringue in the Conway Daily Sun on October 4, 2001, we learned that Scott was "active and instrumental in the success of many community organizations and over the years served as president of (the) Mount Washington Chamber of Commerce, The Gibson Center and Rotary." Sadly, Scott died suddenly in 2001.

Today, Kirk is the president of WMOP, Mark is the company's vice president and Glenn is the treasurer.

Petroleum and Gas Trade Association Participation

The heating oil and propane industry has several different associations covering regional and national interests. Ben Saunders became involved in the National Gas and Petroleum Association. Glenn noted that these types of associations allow leaders of similar companies to meet, share ideas in a non-competitive fashion, and work to support technological and safety advancements in their industry.

Taking Ben's lead, Glenn became a member of the Propane Gas Association of New England and the National Propane Gas Association (NPGA). He was active in both organizations and was eventually asked to take a role on the board of directors for them working on various committees. From 1993 – 1994, he was the president of the National Propane Gas Association.



When asked about his role as president, he simply said he was a "messenger" but in reality, he was carrying forward a proposal to enact national legislation for a government authorized marketing program for the association. In this role, he helped get senators aligned to sponsor the legislation. The measure was passed and became law in 1995. The passing of this legislation allowed for the founding of the Petroleum Education Research Council, an organization that develops marketing programs, safety education programs for the industry and consumers as well as providing funds for industry research. Glenn served as Chairman of the Council in the late 1990. As an NPGA emeritus member of the board of directors, Glenn meets with his fellow past presidents annually.

Glenn added that Mark and Kirk have both been involved in the trade associations, although not to the level that he had. Mark is on the Board of Directors for the Propane Gas Association of New England. Kirk is on committees with the National Petroleum and Gas Association, and Propane Educational Research Council.

Local Philanthropy and the Bob Morrell Award

Again, following family tradition, and out of a sense of duty to the community, Glenn donates a large amount of time to various non-profit causes in the region. He credits his parents for generating his interest in the non-profit world – "My father's interests became mine." Glenn is an Advisor for the Robert and Dorothy Goldberg Charitable Foundation and a committee member of the Henney Historical Fund. As did his father, Glenn served for several years on the Board of Directors of the North Conway Community Center. Glenn noted that he used to spend a lot of time there in his younger days. He is also on the Pope Memorial Library Committee of Donated Funds. This group oversees how the library manages its investments. He is also a member of the board of the Damon O'Neal

... continued on next page



Glenn Saunders continued ...

Scholarship Fund. O'Neal was a talented Kennett High School skier who had Olympic potential. He died in 1959 on the slopes of Sugarloaf Mountain in Maine while training for the Alpine Junior Nationals competition. The fund was started in 1999 and annually gives out about \$4,000 in scholarships to Kennett High School senior student athletes.

Glenn was a co-founder of the Kennett High School Sports Hall of Fame. He has also served on the board of directors of the Ham Arena and Gibson Center among several other non-profit roles. As we closed our conversation, Glenn noted that he was also a member of the Conway Planning Board and was a part of the committee that established the planning and zoning regulations for Conway adding that many things have changed since those regulations were implemented.

Not to be left out, Sonni has an active volunteer history as well. She serves as a teacher's aide at the John H. Fuller Elementary School, was the president of the North Conway Public Library (now Pope Memorial Library) and was a member of the Mountain Garden Club.

We should also note that White Mountain Oil and Propane as a company is a very generous organization to community non-profit causes. They have been a significant contributor to our Bartlett History Museum project. Glenn said that they keep an eye on what is happening in the community and select projects that they believe will benefit the community with their support.

In 2021, the Saunders family, Glenn, Sonni, Mark and Kirk, were awarded the Mount Washington Valley's Economic Council Bob Morrell Award for civic entrepreneurship. The late Bob Morrell was the co-founder of Story Land and Heritage NH as well as a founder of the Mount Washington Valley Habitat for Humanity and the White Mountain Bank. He was a strong community leader for the promotion of the Mount Washington Valley.


Every September, the approach of fall and beginning of football season is celebrated in North Conway by the Mud Bowl football tournament and the Mud Bowl Parade. In 2022, the Saunders family were the Grand Marshals for the parade, again, honoring their support for activities in Conway and the region.

As we closed our conversation, Glenn talked about his views on the future of philanthropy in the Valley. He said that we are extremely fortunate to have two very generous and supportive charitable foundations supporting local non-profits, the Goldberg Foundation and the Ham Foundation. He also noted that he sees the local businesses providing support, but he is not seeing much support come from the large chain businesses that are in the area, viewing them as organizations from outside the region. He added that we are also very fortunate to have several philanthropic individuals locally. Summarizing, he concluded that the ability for any of these supporting organizations to give to the local non-profits all depends on the economic success of the region. With that in mind, non-profit organizations also have a responsibility to plan for times when it may be harder to secure funding. Thinking on his words, this presents both challenges and opportunities for the non-profits and donors.

... In Closing

We covered a lot of ground in our conversation; Glenn shared many things about himself; he gave us a view into the foundations of the Saunders family's very successful and respected business, and we learned of Glenn's and his family's commitment to the non-profit organizations in our Valley. It is very apparent that "family" means a lot to Glenn and adding the family's support to the community is also very important to him. I would like to express my thanks to Glenn for taking the time to meet with me and share his story. Glenn certainly lives the motto of his company - "Always there for you ..." in more ways than one.

Since 1977



PATCH'S MARKET
Route 302 • Glen NH • 383-9742 • 5am -11pm, 7 Days
CONVENIENCE STORE • DELI RESTAURANT

Breakfast and Lunch Cooked to order
Relax right here or take it with you!

Suppling Skier's Needs...When They Need It!
Groceries • Beer & Wine
Tobacco • Newspapers

Gas & Products



Matty B's
BARTLETT, NH
MOUNTAINSIDE CAFÉ



The Bartlett Snow Roller—Restored 2015

The Historical Herald

www.BartlettHistory.Org

Facebook: **Bartlett Historical-Society**

2024 BHS Membership Drive

Our 2024 BHS Membership Drive is underway. Responses to our November membership announcement have seen over 100 people join BHS or renew their memberships. Our BHS membership year is January 1 to December 31. Membership in our Historical Society is very important because with your active support, we can continue our stewardship of and research into the rich histories of Bartlett, Hart’s Location and Livermore. Your philanthropic support of BHS enables us to:

- ◆ Keep our members informed and up to date on BHS activities, plans, accomplishments
- ◆ Demonstrate to foundations and other donors (with real numbers) that ours is a viable historical society worthy of their support
- ◆ Generate *The Historical Herald*, our BHS newsletter four times a year
- ◆ Engage interesting guest speakers for our quarterly presentations on historic topics
- ◆ Obtain “Bartlett artifacts” that appear online, bringing them “home”, and
- ◆ Cover our operating expenses (e.g., insurance, association fees, office supplies, etc.).



For 2024, we have maintained the same membership dues as we have for the past few years.

Individual/General: \$20.00	Patron: \$50.00	Business: \$100.00
-----------------------------	-----------------	--------------------

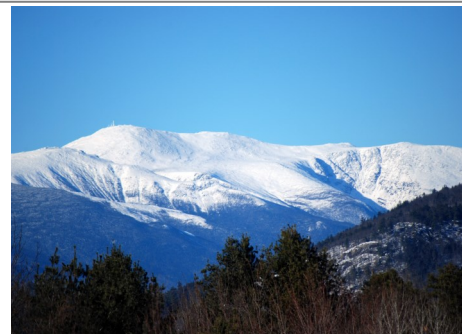
Please continue to be a part of, or join those who already are a part of, this growing and active historical society. In 2023, our membership grew to a new high of 253 strong with members in all the New England states plus twelve other states across the country. In 2024, we look forward to thanking our renewing members for their ongoing support and welcoming many new member “historians.” Your support helps us “live” our mission of preserving and unraveling the mysteries of our local history while offering opportunities for everyone to learn about that history. Why? *Because History Matters!*

There are two easy ways to join BHS or renew your BHS membership:

- ⇒ Online Membership Processing at <https://www.bartletthistory.net/membershipjoinrenew> for mail-in memberships or secure online credit card membership processing
- ⇒ From our website, print the 2024 Membership form, complete the information requested and mail it back to us with your membership dues.

We look forward to welcoming you as a BHS member and we thank you for your support

Bartlett Historical Society—Board of Directors	
Philip Franklin, President	Hannah Chandler, Vice President
Susan Franklin, Treasurer	Kathleen Howard, Curator
Scotty Mallett, Secretary	
2 Open Director Position	
<u>BHS Advisory Panel</u>	
David Eliason, Michael Chandler, Norman Head, George Howard, Anne Pillion, Hadley Champlin, David Shedd, Rachael Brown	



Snow capped Mount Washington & northern Presidential Range