

The Historical Herald

The Quarterly Newsletter of



The Bartlett Snow Roller—Restored 2015

PO Box 514
Bartlett, NH 03812

The Bartlett

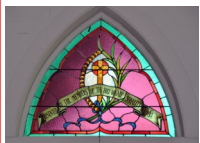
www.BartlettHistory.org

Historical Society

Summer 2022 Edition (2022:3)

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

Thank You to all who have given to our museum renovation project. Your support continues to help us drive forward with the renovation effort for our future Bartlett History Museum. We recently appealed to all of the property owners in Bartlett for their support of this project, much like we did in 2016 when this campaign started. As a result, a number of new donors have responded to our request for support and the responses are still arriving through online donations and in our BHS mailbox. In this appeal, we said that in 2016, we asked for support on the faith and belief that donations would get this project moving. Now, in 2022, we are no longer asking for support on the promise that we will use the funds for the renovation but, rather, we are able to show the tremendous amount of work that has been completed. The continued support from all of the new donors plus those who have previously donated will get us to that opening day.



Reaction to Our Project From Recent Visitors: In this newsletter, you'll read that we met with leaders of several regional historical societies. After the meeting concluded, we invited them to have a tour of our museum in its current state. As with so many other visitors, these folks hadn't seen the building nor our work but when they did, they were quite impressed. Phil Franklin explained the process that we've gone through to get to our current state of renovation. Many questions were asked and, in the end, our historical society peers congratulated us on our work and encouraged us to keep moving forward.

Renovation Update: We have made the big decision to reside the building, removing all of the vinyl and old clapboards, fix the water damage found when we removed the old window trim and install new clapboards. We have purchased that lumber and are applying a coat of finish paint before the siding is installed. Also, we have installed the crushed gravel base for our mobility ramp. As soon as we have the concrete slab in place to support the ramp, we'll get that in place also. Work on the stain-glass windows is underway. We've included a story on that process in the newsletter. As we make progress, we'll keep you updated.

Please visit our website to see a photo essay of the renovation progress.

Campaign Progress: To date, with the generous donations of hundreds of individuals plus foundations and businesses, many having made multiple donations, we have raised \$392,515 out of a \$585,000 campaign goal! Our expenditures for capital improvements, building maintenance and administrative costs are about \$330,070; of that total, \$280,000 in real capital value has been added to the building. We are estimating that we need to raise \$192,500 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.

Museum Donors: 03/19/2022—06/25/2022

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President's Message

Summer has made its way to the mountains but from the temperature it still feels like the cool spring is hanging on. Of course, 65-degree temperatures that we're experiencing as I write this letter would be considered a heat wave in the middle of winter. It's all relative! A lot of very positive things have occurred at BHS over the past three months.

We concluded our formal 2022 membership drive with 230 members joining or renewing their membership. Thank you to all of our returning members. We truly appreciate your continued support. And, the same applies for our 31 new members; we welcome you to the Bartlett Historical Society. Thank you for joining and showing your support for our mission as a historical society.

We had two presentations from our 2022 Quarterly Presentation Series since our last newsletter. In April, Ray Hodgkins presented the history of his family covering both their extensive military history as well as their family's contributions to Bartlett. In June, Michael Bruno from Bethlehem enlightened us on the topic of the New Hampshire historical markers that are seen throughout our Granite State. These markers show our state's emphasis on honoring the history around. Both presentations were well attended.

In May, the Black Cap Grille in North Conway hosted another dining benefit event with BHS as their non-profit for the evening. This is the third time the Black Cap Grille management has given us the spotlight for the evening. We packed the restaurant again and raised \$738 during the event. We thank the Black Cap Management for their support.

In June, we had our second BHS Golf Tournament. We couldn't have asked for a better weather day; all of the golfers had a great time in the club house area as well as on the course. This is fun tournament so while there's competition, it's a friendly round of golf. We've devoted the back page of this newsletter to a recap of the tournament and list the generous sponsors and donors to the tournament.

Work continued on the renovation work at our museum. In our last newsletter, we said we were faced with a decision on the exterior siding of the building. This was a big decision and after consulting with our General Contractor, Bill Duggan, and discussing the adjustment in direction with our BHS Board of Directors and some of our BHS Advisors, we decided to take the big step to reside the building now versus pushing the project off for two or three years. Several people echoed the phrase "Let's do it right the first time" and so we have altered our plans and continue to push forward. Benjamin Franklin (no, we're not related) is credited with saying "Energy and persistence conquer all things." We have both Energy and Persistence so maybe we'll adopt Mr. Franklin's observation as our motto for this project.

In closing, I hope you have a wonderful summer. Our BHS plans are to continue to work on the museum renovation, do some planning for 2023 and take a little time to enjoy family and friends. As always, we appreciate all of the support we receive from our members and donors. 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

03/19/2022—06/25/2022 Museum Donor List Continued

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Repairing and Refurbishing Our Stained-Glass Windows

One of the most unique and treasured features of our future Bartlett History Museum are the stained-glass windows that date back to the early 1890s. With the support of a generous grant from the Robert and Dorothy Goldberg Charitable Foundation, we are having the windows refurbished and placed into specially made light-boxes to protect them as well as to back light them for illumination day or night. These stained-glass light-boxes will be prominently displayed in the museum.

We thought we'd share a brief note on the process of refurbishing the windows and who is honored on each window.

Refurbishing the Windows: There are eight stained-glass windows in the building (16 sashes). The process of refurbishing these window sashes is being repeated 16 times, once for each sash. This is a very delicate process as these windows are fragile. The good news



Worker sands off layers of paint

is that, for their age, the windows are in relatively good shape, still, each one needs work before it can be placed in its light-box. The process starts with each window sash being carefully sanded and scraped to remove old paint; old glazing is also removed, repairs are completed as needed and new glazing compound is applied. Next, an oil primer paint is applied to the wood followed by the application two coats of latex paint. Last, each pane of glass is cleaned to remove grime or paint drippings from previous painting efforts. All of this work alone is estimated to take about 80—85 hours. Meanwhile, the light box frames are being designed and each pair of sashes will be custom fit into the its new light-box frame (in previous renovations, some of the window sashes were trimmed to fit new aluminum window glides that allowed them to be raised and lowered so each window sash is slightly different in size). LED light strips are being installed behind the glass in each light box frame to illuminate each set of windows.



Bishop Bradley Window



Rev. Lacroix Window

Who is Honored with Each Window: In the lower sash of each window set, a name is in a stained glass panel to commemorate a donor or honor a church official. Through information obtained with research done by Ruth Abbott, a BHS member, plus additional research by our Curator, Kathy Howard, here's a *very brief* synopsis of what we know (we hope to find more information on each person listed below; if you have information on any of these people, please let us know):

Honoree	What We Know of Them	Honoree	What We Know of Them
Joseph Perry	Born on Prince Edward Island, Canada, 1866, he was a carpenter who helped build the church; Great, Great Uncle of Bartlett's Rick Nealley	George Lemieux & Edward Therieau	Mr. Lemieux: Born in Canada in 1869; Lived in Bartlett with his wife and six children Mr. Therieau: Born in Canada in 1878 and was single
Rt Rev Bishop	This window is in honor of Bishop Denis Mary Bradley, Bishop from 1883—1903; He cosigned the loan for the building in 1889	Rev C.S. Lacroix	Born in Canada in 1862, Father Lacroix was Pastor from 1902—1909
Pierre Levesque	We have no information on Mr. Levesque	J. (James) C. Donahue & Wife	Born in Canada in 1868, Superintendent at the Livermore lumber operation; His wife was Mary Daley; she died in Livermore in 1910
Frank McGee	Born in Canada in 1873, he was single, lived in Jackson	Eugene Cote & Richard O'Mera	Mr. Cote: Born in Canada in 1870; Lived on River Street, Bartlett; Grandfather of Bartlett residents Wilfred & Alfred Cote Mr. O'Mera: Born in 1856 & boarded with Joseph Perry

Bartlett Historical Society Website Upgrades

www.BartlettHistory.org

Over the past couple of months, we have made some changes to our Bartlett Historical Society website. Dave Eliason, our volunteer website editor, handles all of the upgrades, posting of new information and “modernization” of the site. We greatly appreciate his volunteer service. So, what’s new at BHS online?

First, our Bartlett History Museum project information pages have been completely updated with current information about the project and a photo gallery that covers the history of the project.



Second, we now have online capabilities for new and renewing memberships as well as making donations to BHS. Sue Franklin, our BHS Treasurer, developed a safe and secure process using the *Square* online payment application to handle online transactions. This is a big step forward for BHS. Thank you to Sue for all of her work getting this process working and implemented.

Finally, Dave’s been doing some reorganizing on the site to make things easier to find and read. He’s also added several photographs on different topics. This is all a part of our effort to make our site better for everyone to explore and learn more about the history of Bartlett, Hart’s Location and Livermore.

BHS Initiates Meeting of Regional Historical Societies

Over the past several years, our BHS Board of Directors has talked about topics such as sustaining and growing membership, engaging younger people in the society, the use of social media as a means of promoting an interest in local history, fundraising ideas, and many more topics. We all agreed that these are topics that are likely common to all historical societies.

With this in mind, we invited leadership members of several regional historical societies to join us for the purpose of discussing common topics. In response, twenty two representatives from eight historical societies met in May to discuss ideas for growing and retaining our membership and engaging younger people in our pursuit of local history. The meeting was quite successful with a great exchange of ideas and realization that we are all working toward the same goals. As we concluded our first meeting, we agreed to schedule another meeting for September. Several attendees remarked that they had been thinking about doing this type of meeting for some-time and thanked us for taking the step to make it happen.

100 Years Ago ...

In 1922, a pair of entrepreneurs named Donahue and Hamlin of Bartlett built the Willey Camps and concessions in Hart’s Location. The site, operated with state permission, included two log buildings plus others for sleeping quarters, eating and rest room facilities and a building for auto supplies. The two main log buildings are still in use today as a tourist stop by the Willey House Historical Site and Willey Pond.



Drawings By:
Greta George
Bartlett, NH
comfibrook@gmail.com

Greta’s phone # 603 738 4958

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2022 BHS Quilt Raffle

Our 2022 BHS Quilt Raffle is going strong. Raffle ticket sales have been steady with purchases made by mail and at BHS sponsored events. The quilt was made by Sue Franklin, our Treasurer and a master quilt maker. In response to a question about the retail value of the quilt, Sue estimated that it would be priced at about \$1,000—\$1,200. Our 2022 quilt is queen-sized in colors of blue and green with brown accents. A color picture of the 2022 quilt is on our BHS website at www.BartlettHistory.org.

Our 2022 Quilt Raffle tickets are available by sending in a ticket request to BHS, Quilt Raffle, PO Box 514, Bartlett, NH 03812. Please include the number of tickets you'd like to purchase and a check or credit card information for those tickets (sorry but we haven't advanced our online capabilities to include this raffle ... yet). We'll mail the tickets back to you at your return address. Tickets will also be available at all BHS events.

The drawing date for the quilt is October 19, 2022 at our final 2022 Quarterly Presentation Series event. Tickets are:

- * 1 for \$5.00
- * 5 for \$20.00
- * 15 for \$50.00.

All proceeds from the raffle will be directed to the BHS Museum Fund for the renovation of the former St. Joseph Church building, transforming it into the Bartlett History Museum. Questions on the quilt can be directed to Sue at the email address BHSTreasurer1890@Gmail.com. We thank you for your support.



Here, Sue is holding the quilt over the balcony railing in her home



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Donations to BHS that are designated to the Museum Fund or 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.

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2022 BHS Quarterly Presentation Lineup!

Our 2022 presentations continue to entertain audiences. Below are recaps of our 2nd and 3rd quarter presentations. As we continue to hold our presentations at the Bartlett Congregational Church, we express our sincere thanks and appreciation to the church leadership for allowing us to use their building for BHS presentations and other activities.

2nd Quarter Presentation Recap—“The History of the Hodgkins Family” by Ray Hodgkins



Ray Hodgkins (R) chats with Colonel (Retired) George Howard (USAF)

On Wednesday, April 20, 2022, Ray Hodgkins presented the story of his personal history and that of his family to an audience of BHS members and a few other guests. The Hodgkins’ family has a long history here in Bartlett as well as a fascinating legacy in their service to four branches of the United States military. He talked about his father’s service as a selectman in Bartlett and offered many other family stories. Ray is a retired Army Colonel who, with his wife, Ramona, has made Bartlett his retirement home renovating their family homestead that was once The Garland, a local inn. We thank Ray for sharing his family’s story with us.



Ray dons his combat helmet as he starts his talk

3rd Quarter Presentation Recap—“Cruising New Hampshire History” by Michael Bruno



Mike Bruno

New Hampshire roadsides offer a unique way of learning about the history of the state. There are 273 historic site markers scattered across the state telling of historic events, locations and people. On Wednesday, June 15, 2022,

Michael Bruno, the author of a book that highlights 255 of these marker gave a very interesting talk on the history of the markers, noting several of the more unusual ones and some of his favorites. Bartlett has only one marker and that one is located on West Side Road by the Lady Blanche House.



Lady Blanche House Marker

Wednesday, October 19, 2022: New Hampshire’s One-Room Rural Schools: The Romance and The Reality with Steve Taylor (NH Humanities speaker)



In the 1700s, 1800s and even early 1900s, one-room school houses dotted the countryside. Bartlett had six schools across different town villages. Today, most are gone but a couple are still here, in disguise and used for other things. Steve will talk about the “lasting legacies of the one-room school and how they echo today.”

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

All of our programs are free and open to the public. We gratefully accept donations at the door. All donations are directed to our Bartlett History Museum project for the renovation of the former St. Joseph Church building. Please join us for these interesting presentations.

What Topics are of Interest to You?

We’re already starting to think of ideas for some different presentations for 2023. While we think of ideas, the door is still open for ideas from our members and donors. Every year, we look to present various topics that cover local as well as regional history. Before we start confirming presenters from the list that we’ve developed, let us know what’s on your mind for presentation topics and we’ll see if we can find a presenter for that topic (no guarantee, however). Let us know by emailing us at BartlettHistoryNH@Gmail.com or Phil Franklin at Phil@BartlettHistory.org.



At Home with Mary & Ron Nudd

By Phil Franklin

On June 3, 2022, I had the opportunity to have a conversation with Mary & Ron Nudd in their home here in Bartlett. When I approached them about doing this interview a couple of weeks prior, Mary said they would be happy to talk with me but “you know we haven’t lived here that long.” The length of time someone lives here isn’t a criterion for telling your story; the fact that you are part of the community is what counts. So, we had a very pleasant conversation in their dining room. I first met the Nudds shortly after my wife and I moved to Bartlett in 2014. They impressed me as a very casual couple who liked to chat and cared about the people around them. I wasn’t wrong!

Coming to Bartlett



Mary & Ron Nudd

Mary and Ron came to Bartlett from Exeter, New Hampshire where they lived until 2013 when they made the hard decision to move away from their long-time hometown. Mary said that the decision was prompted by money. Simply, the cost of living in Exeter was getting too much as taxes and the overall prices in this growing southern New Hampshire community were continually rising. Being retired, they needed to find a place to live that was more affordable. While they had offers to join family and friends in other parts of New England and even one invitation from a friend in Utah, they wanted to stay in New Hampshire.

The search for a place to live turned northward as Ron and Mary were both familiar with the northern New Hampshire area. Ron used to go north to Stark, New Hampshire to hunt, fish and go snowmobiling. He had a hunting camp in the forest in Odell, New Hampshire on land that was owned by the International Paper Company. This camp was once a Tally Shack used by the loggers to count the timber cut from the forest. Over time, he gave up the camp because the rent on the building was getting too high. Ron and Mary have a very close friend in Jackson, Dave Ouelette, who helped in the initial search for their new home in Bartlett. Dave used his network of local folks to help identify a home that would suit Ron and Mary’s needs. He connected them with Kathleen Sullivan-Head, a well-respected local realtor and BHS member. After looking at a couple of other houses, the Nudds chose their current Bartlett home. Ron and Mary both agreed this is the perfect home for them as it is just the right size. Ron commented, though, that in Exeter, he could mow his lawn in about twenty minutes, here it takes him about three hours.

Being new in town, Ron and Mary said they only knew a couple of people when they moved in but through working at Story Land, becoming members of the Bartlett Congregational Church, Mary’s knitting group and Ron’s work at the Transfer Station, they became a part of the community. Mary said that she’ll chat with people in the grocery store and other places because she just likes to talk with people. Ron is also a very affable person who enjoys a good story, hearing them and telling them.

Ron and Mary are proud of their New Hampshire heritage – eleven generations for Mary; three generations for Ron. Mary’s parents were Mary Sanborn Monahan and Joseph Anthony Corbett (no relation to the Monahan family that lived in Hart’s Location). Her grandfather was from Ireland and the lineage of her family in New Hampshire traces mostly through her mother’s side of the family. Ron’s parents were Florence Hilton Yell and Norman Russell Nudd. Ron believes his generational family came from Massachusetts but he can only trace his New Hampshire heritage back to his grandfather.

Marriage and Family

Mary was a Valentine’s Day baby born on February 14, 1944; Ron was born on August 25, 1942. Mary commented that there were three other kids in her high school class with the same birth date. For both Ron and Mary, this is their second marriage. They were married on September 4, 1971 and shortly they’ll be celebrating their 51st anniversary. Mary had a son in her first marriage, Ronald Joseph, but he has since

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Mary and Ron Nudd continued ...

passed away. Together, Mary and Ron had a daughter, Joanne Nudd, who now lives in Dixville, Maine. They have two grandchildren; Mary's son's son is named Joseph and their daughter's son is Robert Joseph. Mary commented "a lot of Josephs." They also helped raise four other children who came into their home periodically through a "swiveling door" and they are all adults today.

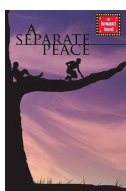
Mary lived on the family farm in East Kingston and Ron lived in Exeter (East Kingston and Exeter are neighboring towns). They both went through the Exeter school system. After high school, Mary went on to train to be an LPN spending 18 months in a nursing program. She commented that today, those 18 months in nursing school would have earned her an RN but times change. After high school graduation, Ron entered the working world getting a job at Phillips Exeter Academy in Exeter.



Phillips Exeter Academy Emblem

Careers and Different Working Paths

Mary's career took her to several different locations as a nurse. In the late 1950s, she was working in Boston when she decided to "see the world" and enlisted in the US Navy. After completing Navy Core School medical training, she was offered two choices for her duty station, going to serve in Viet Nam when it was still French Indochina or caring for an admiral's wife in the Great Lakes area. Not knowing anything about Viet Nam, she chose the Great Lakes and the admiral's wife. Tragically, one evening, the family house caught fire (Mary was not in the house at the time). The only survivor of the fire was the wife as the rest of the family including the admiral and their other service help perished. Following this incident, she was again offered the opportunity to go to Viet Nam. Instead, she took an Honorable Discharge after two-and-one-half years of Naval service. Following her discharge, she took nursing positions at Exeter Hospital and then in the Rockingham County Jail followed by the Hillsborough County Jail. While serving in the correctional system she said she felt safe with the inmates because there was always a guard escorting them. While you never wanted to know what an inmate did to get into prison, she said that she did meet some of the Whitey Bulger "Winter Hill" Gang from the Boston area who were housed in the jails. She also worked in the Riverwoods Nursing Home, was an ER nurse and eventually worked in a doctor's office. After moving to Bartlett, Mary worked in Story Land from 2014 - 2015 and at the Covered Bridge Shoppe in the Glen section of Bartlett until COVID hit in 2019. Now fully retired, Mary likes to sew and is a member of a knitting group in Bartlett. Mary is also a Greeter at the Bartlett polling station. With a laugh and smile, "She loves telling people where to go" - Greeters direct the voters to the polling check-in desks and Mary is one of the best.



A Separate Peace book cover with the plot centered tree

Ron worked for the Phillips Exeter Academy. Initially, he worked in the laundry and then moved into the maintenance department where, among other things, he fixed broken parts on the wooden furniture in the school. He really enjoyed working for the Academy. One of the more unusual things that he did at the Academy was guard a tree during the filming of the movie, *A Separate Peace*. This John Knowles book was converted into a movie and filmed at the Academy. A portion of the plot centers around a tree from which one of the main characters falls and is seriously injured.

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Mary and Ron Nudd continued ...

The movie producers wanted to be sure that the tree was not vandalized during filming so Ron and a friend were hired to watch the tree overnight. They didn't get in the film though. Ron also served as an Exeter fire fighter for 20 years. Ron asked if I heard the story of how he drove a fire truck through one of the fire station bay doors. Ron said that one night while responding to an emergency call the door to the truck bay was open when he started out but a dispatcher pushed the button to lower the door as he was leaving the station. He said that the lowering door caught the truck and was destroyed in the process but he didn't know it until he returned from the call. The Exeter Fire Department needed a new bay door after that incident. This career ended when he needed to have a triple bypass for a heart condition. He had been on a fire call for an infant and needed to run up and down the stairs of a house three times in that call. Upon getting the infant to the hospital, the doctors saw that he was in distress but he refused treatment. Before going back to work, he was ordered to undergo a stress test which Ron said "lasted 22 seconds" before they lifted him off the treadmill and sent him to intensive care. In Bartlett, Ron also worked for Story Land running the Tea Cup and Tractor rides among other things from 2014 - 2016. He also worked at the Bartlett-Jackson Transfer Station. Now in full retirement, Ron says he likes to "tinker" in his workshop.

Generational History

Earlier we mentioned that in considering a new place to live, Ron and Mary both wanted to stay in New Hampshire as their roots were here. Mary commented that "New Englanders don't transplant well." So, staying close to Exeter was a prime consideration in moving to Bartlett. The stories of Ron's and Mary's family lives are decidedly different from one another.

Ron's family life as a tough one. He had two older sisters, one a half-sister and the other a full blood relative, both were 18 or so years older than Ron. Ron had a very close connection with them but both are now deceased. His father, Norman, had three sisters, Doris, Mae and Barbara but his relationship with them was strained. Norman became an alcoholic and didn't provide much support for the family. His mother, Florence, was a hard-working lady who worked in a handkerchief factory and did housekeeping for people. Ron worked on local farms throughout his youth. Ironically, he knew Mary's family and would occasionally ride in the truck from Mary's family farm delivering produce to Boston's markets. When Ron's father died when Ron was 21 years old, he became the sole support for his mother. As a result, Ron didn't go into military service.

Mary's family lived in a large fifteen room multi-generational farm house. She said there were always three or four generations in the house at any one time. The original farm was 260 acres and owned by her grandmother. Upon her grandmothers passing, the farm was split with some acreage going to her uncle and some to her parents. When Mary's parents died, she and her siblings sold their parents' land. Her uncle's farm is still in operation today being run by her uncle's grandson.



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... continued

Mary and Ron Nudd continued ...

As we've noted, Mary's family history revolves around her mother's side of the family tree. Her grandfather came from Ireland as a result of the potato famine. When he arrived in America, he went to the University of New Hampshire to expand his knowledge of farming. As a result, their farm had a variety of animals as well as different kinds of produce. Mary said it was a "truck farm" because they trucked produce and farm produced goods to Boston for sale.

Farm Living

Mary recalled working on the East Kingston farm and remarked that her first job as a child was picking strawberries. There was always something to do on the farm and both Ron and Mary said that you never said "you didn't have anything to do" because someone would find something for you to do. Like many farming families, the children were expected to work from the time they were little. Mary explained that the job she disliked the most was when her grandfather was "putting a field under" (sowing the seeds to allow a field to go fallow for a year as a part of crop rotation). The children needed to walk a certain distance from their grandfather as he cast the seeds. They also needed to keep up with him as he moved quickly; the children were there to keep a straight line in their walk; their grandfather used them as markers so their grandfather didn't waste seed on an area that was already seeded.

Mary told the story of how she went to nursing school and her cousin to college on the proceeds of the sale of a bull. Mary and her cousin were born around the same date. When they were born, the family sold one of their bulls and put the money away as a college fund. When it came time for the two to go to school after high school, the proceeds from the bull had earned enough interest that the bull paid for their schooling, so to speak.

Mary and Ron both told the story of the visits from the tax man to the farms. Cows were considered taxable so the more cows you had, the more you paid in town taxes. When the tax man was coming, a number of cows were herded from one farmer's pasture to another and then back again when the tax man visited the other farm. This way, the number of cows taxed was always low. Ron added that when the tax man came, a number of local children would appear in Mary's family house - more dependents, less taxes.

Passage of Time and Generations

As time passed and Mary's parents and grandparents passed on, the decision to sell their portion of the family farm had to be made. The fifteen-room farm house and land were eventually sold to a neighbor but this was a tough decision for Mary and her siblings. Mary said that there was a thought in the family that she and Ron might want to move into this big house but she knew that was not going to happen. When the decision was finally settled with all of her siblings to sell the house, family members went through the house and took various items that they wanted as keepsakes. The new owners remodeled and repaired the house. Today, the house looks quite different from the original farm house but the lines of the old house are still present after the remodeling.

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Mary and Ron Nudd continued ...

Clocks Ticking Throughout the House

When you walk into Mary & Ron's house, you immediately hear the sound of clocks ticking all around you. On the half hour, the cuckoo clock bird chirps his tune. Ron calls him his "buddy;" I asked if he had a name; Ron laughed and said "no." There are all sorts of clocks in the different rooms. A beautiful banjo clock hangs in the dining room with three other clocks. There's a Regulator clock in another room and spiral mantel clock above the fire place. Mary's grandfather's pocket watch that he received from the railroad upon his retirement in Boston graces the same mantel. Mary's father's family came from Boston where they lived three doors down from Bunker Hill. Mary noted that several clocks that were in her family are now spread across the countryside as the family members took their favorites as family remembrances. While many of the clocks in this collection came from Ron and Mary's family, others were "prizes" that Ron rescued from being discarded at the Transfer Station. He said that in the trailer where people drop off items for others to reclaim, he found a couple of old clocks that, with a little work, are now keeping perfect time. A Sunday morning chore for Ron is to go around the house winding all of the clocks.



Banjo Clock

The Olympic Torch



On the wall in their living room, Ron and Mary have a plaque with an Olympic torch. Ron said that following a skiing accident in which he hurt his knee, he decided to take a class. During that class or as a result of the class, his instructors took it upon themselves to nominate Ron and another man to each carry the torch as it passed through Nashua, New Hampshire in 1996. He said he ran carrying it for about a quarter mile. After the event, some of the people he worked with at Phillips Exeter purchased the torch for him. It was mounted on a plaque with a photo of Ron carrying the torch. The other gentleman was the person who found an authenticated original copy of the United States Constitution in the attic of a old building in Exeter. The Revolutionary War Museum in Exeter now owns the document. It is be viewed only on the Fourth of July.

Traveling About the World

Ron and Mary have been on several adventures in the United States. Mary's been to the southwest a couple of times. Ron joined her on her second trip to Utah where Mary has a friend from one of her past jobs. They've toured several national parks including Arches and the north and south rims of the Grand Canyon (Ron took a mule ride to the canyon base). They loved the north rim as it is more remote than the well-touristed south rim. The took a one day guided rafting trip down the Colorado River. They've traveled through the northern mid-west, stopping at Mount Rushmore and other sites eventually traveling back home at the end of that five-week trip through Canada. They've explored the Canadian Atlantic Provinces, especially enjoying Nova Scotia. Mary went on a trip to China (Ron decided to stay home). Traveling with a group from Exeter, they saw the terracotta soldiers, Beijing, Tiananmen Square, the Forbidden City, the Great Wall of China and many other sites. Mary commented that there was a striking disparity between the ultra-rich and ultra-poor in China. Ron and Mary also traveled to Ireland, taking a bus tour for the first part of the trip but traveling on their own for the second part of the trip. Ron said he "learned to drive on the wrong side of the road" while Mary navigated. She'd have to tell him to get on the other side of the road and roundabouts were quite an experience. Ron said it was a good thing the Irish drivers were patient and let him back out of the roundabouts as he would enter them from the wrong side and come into on-coming traffic.

... And In Conclusion

While I see Ron and Mary about town and at historical society events, this time spent with them was incredibly enjoyable as they were kind enough to tell me, now us, about their lives. If anyone listens to the recording of this interview in the future, they will hear laughter, funny stories, kidding between themselves and some serious sides of their lives. This was the first time I've interviewed a married couple and I must say, it didn't feel like I was interviewing two separate people but rather, two people who could finish each other's sentences. We had a delightful conversation and I thank both Ron and Mary for their time with me.



The Bartlett Snow Roller—Restored 2015

The Historical Herald

www.BartlettHistory.Org

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2022 Golf Tournament Wrap-up

On June 11, 2022, a picture perfect day, we held our second BHS Golf Tournament. Thirty six golfers teed off at 12:00 noon and took about two hours to complete the nine hole course at the Linderhof Country Club. All in all, it was a very relaxing and fun day. Following the round of golf, we had a bar-b-que lunch at the club house and that was followed by a raffle and auction. All of the proceeds from the tournament, \$3,700 in total, are being directed to the BHS Museum Fund for our future Bartlett History Museum.

The overall tournament winners were the foursome of Hadley Champlin, Ellen and Randy Chapman and Ray Hodgkins (pictured at the right).



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**Cool water of the Saco River;
 Wading and soaking pools among
 the rocks**