



The Bartlett Snow Roller—Restored 2015

# The Historical Herald

P.O. Box 514 Bartlett, New Hampshire 03812

www.BartlettHistory.Org

Facebook: Bartlett Historical-Society

Bartlett Historical Society's Quarterly Newsletter

Winter 2018 Issue

(2018:1)

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

Our capital campaign to raise the funds to renovate the St. Joseph Church in Bartlett continues to drive forward with news on several topics. First, we continue to be blessed with individuals as well as local businesses making donations to the effort. Many people have extended their generosity and given a second and some, a third, donation to the campaign. These donations continue to demonstrate the strong support for this museum project as we begin turning to the community foundations and businesses for additional support. With that said, we are continuing to seek individual donations. If you know someone who is interested in historical restoration projects, please ask them to get in touch with us. We truly enjoy talking about this project and the future museum.

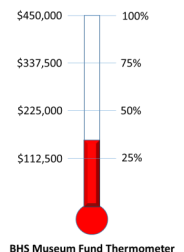


Second, in our last newsletter, we mentioned the possibility of receiving the 2017 Seven to Save designation and being listed on the State Register of Historic Places — there's good news on the back page!



Third, we have mentioned that our former church building is showing its age, especially the south facing roof which is leaking very badly. To remedy this situation, Bill Duggan, a local contractor and good friend, installed a 30' x 60' heavy duty tarpaulin over that roof face as a short term measure to prevent further water damage. Installing a new permanent new roof will be one of the first tasks in the renovation project. Thank you to Bill and his crew for their help. Also, in December 2017, we engaged an architectural firm plus a structural engineer to do a formal condition assessment of the building. This assessment, which will be completed by February

2018, is a requirement for any application to the State of NH for LCHIP (Land & Community Heritage Investment Program) or Moose Plate grants. The initial comments from the professionals mirrored those of our local contractors who have looked at the buildings. They said "this building, while aging, is a well build." The key is they all felt that it is "well worth the effort to save this building!" We couldn't agree more.

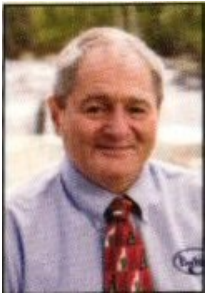


Finally, where are we now? Donations, while still slow in coming, have started to increase in number again and we continue to gain ground toward our campaign goal of \$450,000. Currently, we are at \$141,000 in cash and pledges (90% in cash). We are looking forward to a positive 2018 with donations and support for the project. We'll keep you informed.

Thank you to all who have made recent contributions to this effort and who continue to encourage us to keep driving forward. A lot of positive energy has been expended on the project. We are energized to keep striving for our goal of opening a great museum for Bartlett and Valley. [Donors from 10/01/2017—12/31/2017]

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## President's Message:



2017 has come and gone and we have accomplished much this year. Working on our primary undertaking, to raise the funds for the Bartlett Historical Society Museum, we have now raised one third of the funds targeted in our capital campaign. We extend our most sincere thanks to those who have contributed. We still have a distance to go to reach our financial goal so we can do the work to renovate St. Joseph Church into the society headquarters and museum. More on this later. In other 2017 activities, our quarterly programs this year have been well received – interesting topics and good audience response. We also held our first yard sale; it was a great success as were our other activities. While 2017 was a great year for BHS, we can't sit back on our laurels.

We are kicking off 2018 with a program that was the talk of the town when we did in April 2017—*"Memories of Bartlett."* This year's program will be on Sunday, January 21<sup>st</sup> at 2:00 p.m. in the lower level of the Union Congregational Church on Albany Ave and Route 302. As we did last year, we have assembled a great panel of folks with a lot of local background. The 2017 program was a blast and our 2018 program promises to be the same. We hope you can join us for this sure to be fun filled event to see who remembers the "facts" correctly or who just might be stretching the truth a bit. Check this newsletter or our Facebook page for this and other happenings in 2018.

We need to brag a little here and let you know that the St. Joseph Church building was selected by the NH Preservation Alliance as one of the recipients of their 2017 Seven to Save designation sponsored by the NH Preservation Alliance. Please check out the back page of this newsletter for the whole story.

Now, more on our capital campaign. Our campaign goal is to raise enough money (\$450,000) to do a complete renovation of the church. We started off very well, with the receipt of donations from \$5.00 to \$20,000. However, and there's no way to sugar coat this but since that early push, the pace of donations, while steady, has slowed. It is important to note that we have reached the financial level we are at today because of the support of so many people receiving this newsletter. Still, we are encouraging people who have yet to donate to the project to step forward and add your name to the growing list of people who have said *"Here's my donation, I want to help."* Saving this building and opening the museum will benefit the Bartlett community. As someone said to me *"this building isn't getting any younger"* so please help us preserve this great piece of the Valley's history. The sooner we reach our campaign goal, the sooner we can begin working to preserve this treasure. We thank those who have given for their continued support and encourage those who have yet to make this important commitment to step forward and make their tax deductible donation to the campaign.

Finally, on behalf of the Board of Directors of the Bartlett Historical Society, I wish each of you a very happy, safe and healthy new year.

*Norm Head, President*

President BHS

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### Changes in BHS Board of Directors

At our October 2017 Annual Meeting, some changes were made on the BHS Board of Directors. With the retirement of Bert George, Hannah Chandler was elected as our Vice President. Replacing Hannah in the role of Treasurer, we welcome Stephen Libby. Stephen is an employee of Alvin J. Coleman and Sons, Inc. and handles registrations and motor vehicle records for all of the Coleman companies. He is also the current bookkeeper and past treasurer for several non-profit organizations. We also welcome J. Hadley Champlin as a new Director. Hadley is the former police chief of Bartlett retiring in 2017 with a 33 year career in law enforcement. Hadley's wife, Anne Pillion, is a member of our BHS Advisory Committee. Hadley is also on the Board of the Carroll County Child Advocacy Center. We look forward to working with Stephen and Hadley in 2018 and beyond. Norman Head, Phil Franklin and Kathleen Howard remain in their roles as President, Secretary and Curator, respectively.

## Bert George—New BHS Life-Time Member

Bert George is one of Bartlett's treasures. He is an accomplished retired military officer, a civil servant of Bartlett, a wealth of knowledge about the history of Bartlett, and most importantly, a devoted family man. In October 2017, Bert announced that he was stepping down from his position as Vice President of the Bartlett Historical Society. We accepted his resignation with regret. At our Annual Meeting, Norm Head read the following proclamation to the audience and Bert:



Bert George (left); Norm Head (right)

*"In honor of his dedication to the Bartlett Historical Society and devotion to the preservation of the history of Bartlett, NH, we convey upon Clarence Bert George the status of Board of Directors Emeritus and install Bert as a Life-Time Member of the Bartlett Historical Society."*

*Bert was one of the original members of the Bartlett Historical Society when it was first organized in July 2004 and was an integral of the society when it was reorganized in 2006. Over these past eleven years, Bert has been a vital member of the society's board of directors helping grow the society in both memberships and its collection of Bartlett's historical treasures. Bert's knowledge of Bartlett's history has been invaluable as has his leadership in the society.*

*As Bert steps into his Emeritus status, we honor him for his years of service and the great many contributions he has made to this society. While his shoes will be hard to fill, we have the examples of his wisdom and experiences to help guide us as we look to the future.*

*Thank you for your service to the Bartlett Historical Society."*

Bert has said that he will continue to attend historical society meetings and be involved where needed. We continue to appreciate everything he does for this society and the town. Thank you, Bert.



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### St. Joseph Church—Our Future Bartlett Historical Society Museum

If you know of anyone interested in helping support the restoration of an historic building, please have them contact us.



We'd enjoy talking with them.

Norm Head 603-986-6278 Normiejoe@gmail.com	Phil Franklin 603-374-5023 Phil@BartlettHistory.org
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*Bartlett Historical Society is a 501 c 3 organization.  
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## **2018 Bartlett Historical Membership Drive**

In our fall 2017 newsletter, we announced our 2018 BHS membership drive. Response to that announcement has been tremendous with 57 people renewing their memberships and 23 people joining BHS as new members. We thank all who have responded to this drive so far. We hope to hear from the remaining 2017 members who have yet to renew their memberships and encourage people who are not yet members to consider joining this growing organization.

BHS is a relatively small society when compared to our neighbors in Conway and Jackson. Even though we are small in number, we have big plans to grow our organization and make our collection of Bartlett artifacts more accessible to everyone. Our plans for 2018 include our continued drive to obtain the funds to renovate the St. Joseph Church building, continue our sponsorship of speaking programs on historic topics and host other events for people to attend. Our President, Norm Head, has said many times that this is YOUR historical society. Without your support, we would not be in existence so we thank you again for your support.

For 2018, we have maintained the same membership dues as we have for the past few years. They are:

- Individual Members       \$20.00
- Parton Members           \$50.00
- Business Members       \$100.00

Your membership helps us:

- Generate this newsletter four times a year
- Bring in interesting guest speakers for our quarterly presentation on historic topics
- Allows us to obtain "Bartlett artifacts" that appear online and bring them "home", and
- Helps us cover our society's operating expenses (e.g. insurance, association fees, office supplies, etc.)

Your membership should also give you the satisfaction of being a part of an organization that is focused solely on preserving and protecting the history of this town plus providing educational opportunities for people to learn more about Bartlett's past. When we get into our museum, we plan to be able to display the history for all to enjoy and expand our educational offerings.

Thank you.

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



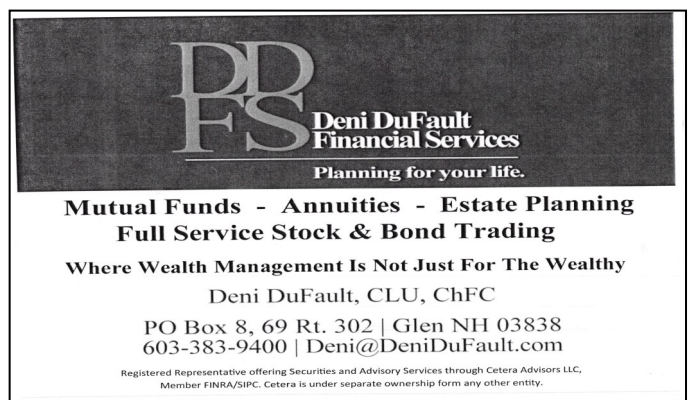
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## **2018 Program Lineup**

***January 21, 2018—Memories of Bartlett—Back by Popular Demand!!***

***Only this time on a Sunday afternoon at 2:00 p.m.***

Last April, we assembled a panel of local historians and story tellers from Bartlett. We heard many great personal stories and some folklore that may or may not be true but the stories were told. Nearly 100 people listened, laughed and, at times, participated with recollections of their own.

This year, we decided to kick off our 2018 presentations with a new panel of local folks who can tell their own stories of growing up in Bartlett. The panel will include Bobbie “Elvis” Holmes, Roger Labbe, Jimi Emery, Steven Limmer, Gene Chandler, Vin Bailey, John Ludgate, Carol Saunders, Pat Roberts, and Leslie Parker. Please join us for another for an afternoon of recollections, stories and, maybe, some tall tales. Guaranteed, we’ll be talking about this event all year.

Union Congregational Church, Lower Hall, Route 302 & Albany Avenue, Bartlett, Time: 2:00 p.m.

## **The Rest of the 2018 Program Lineup**

### **Wednesday, April 4: World News Unscripted: Presented by John Swayze**

John was a world correspondent and anchor for CBS and NBC radio. He will tell us stories of his years covering major world events, talk about how today’s news reporting differs from yesterday’s news and how history is recorded through journalism.

Bartlett Elementary School, Cafeteria, Route 302, Bartlett, Time: 7:00 p.m.

### **Wednesday, June 13: The History of the Balsams: Presented by Rick Tillotson**

Rick will present the story of the Balsams, in Dixville Notch. We’ll learn about the start of the resort, its glory years and years of trouble. Finally, we’ll hear about its revival.

Bartlett Elementary School, Cafeteria, Route 302, Bartlett, Time: 7:00 p.m.

### **Wednesday, August 15: The History of St. Joseph Church: Presented by Phil Franklin**

Phil has developed an interesting history of the church starting in 1888 going to today. Come to learn more about this church that was the first Catholic Church in the Mount Washington Valley.

Bartlett Elementary School, Cafeteria, Route 302, Bartlett, Time: 7:00 p.m.


### **Wednesday, October 17: Ghosts & Haunted Houses: Presenter to be named soon**

We’ve all heard about different houses that have a spooky story about them in the Valley so just in time for Halloween, we’ll learn more about your favorite ghosts and goblins.

Bartlett Elementary School, Cafeteria, Route 302, Bartlett, Time: 7:00 p.m.

***All of our programs are free & open to the public. Donations are gratefully accepted at the door to help cover the costs of each presentation.***

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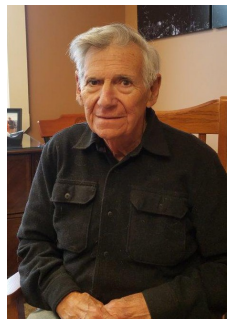
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## John Cannell

### **An Interview with a witty, energetic entrepreneur and baseball player**

**November 28, 2017**

By Phil Franklin



On November 28, 2017, Norm Head and I sat with John Cannell and his wife, Vicki, to chat about John's life and stories of living here in Bartlett. It was a delightful two hours that passed before we knew it. In that two hour span, we learned so much about this witty, hardworking and very engaging man.

#### Family Background

John is the son of Lydia Grady Cannell and Raymond Cannell. His mother was born on Prince Edward Island, Canada in 1900 but lived in Boston. Her ancestors came from Scotland. John's father was born in the Glen section of Bartlett in 1884. His ancestors came from the Isle of Man (a self-governing British crown dependency island in the Irish Sea). They eventually settled in Falmouth (now Portland), ME where they lived for about 100 years before moving to other parts of the country. Raymond and Lydia met at a dance in Jackson. They were married in 1923. John was born on February 2, 1930 at the family homestead in Glen. He was delivered by Dr. Harold Shedd and his assistant Gladys Carter.

The Cannell family's Glen homestead included an animal barn, a hay barn, eight rental cabins for tourists (the second such cabins in NH), a collection of local animals for people to see (i.e. bears, deer, fox, hawks & eagles), a gasoline station with six different brands of gasoline, a blacksmith's shop, a store and restaurant. John's family made their living from the growing tourist trade and John continues that tradition even today. John's father was also in the logging and timber business. At one point, he owned 1,700 acres of land on different parcels throughout the area. During WWII, John's father and a man named Myron Eastman had a contract with the U.S. government to supply lumber for ammunition boxes. These wooden boxes had a top lid and rope handles on the sides. Mr. Cannell and Mr. Eastman would pile their lumber by the railroad tracks behind what is now Dairy Queen. It would be loaded on rail cars to be shipped to a factory that made the ammunition boxes that would eventually end up in WWII battle zones.

From all accounts, Raymond Cannell and all the members of his family were very hard working people. John picked up this work ethic at age four and was always working on one project or another for the family. Working for his parents, he said he didn't receive a weekly pay but they did give him money periodically for his work. John said that he saved all of his money from a young age. That is how he was able to buy a bicycle from Fred Swasey at the age of 15 for \$15.00. He said that he has always been frugal with his money because it was hard earned money.

Thinking back to his youth, John recalled that things were limited (rationed) during of WWII. As a Boy Scout, John did some message delivery work for people. He said the family listened to the Lowell Thomas radio news program nightly from his grandmother's (Minnie Cannell) living room. The program aired from 6:45 p.m. – 7:00 p.m. Mr. Thomas would occasionally visit the White Mountains to go skiing at the invitation of Harvey Gibson. When in town, Mr. Thomas would broadcast from the Eastern Slope Inn dining room. John said he had the good fortune to see one of these live broadcasts. John also recalled that it was while he was sitting in his grandmother's living room that he heard the announcement that the United States had entered WWII after the bombing of Pearl Harbor by the Japanese. The announcement interrupted a football game that John was listening to at the time. John said that their hotel dishwasher, John spoke very fondly about his time growing up in Bartlett. Several stories came from this time period. John recalled that his grandmother, Minnie, came to Bartlett from New York and started the family store and a tea room that soon became a restaurant. She would bring John a penny every day for his chores and,

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John Cannell continued ...

to this day, when John finds a penny on the ground he thinks of his grandmother. He told of a man named Walter Locke who worked for John's father. Mr. Locke was a handyman who worked for the Cannell's for 25 years. Mr. Locke and John became great friend as Mr. Locke watched over John as he was growing up. John also told us about Wilfred Davis. Mr. Davis worked with John's father in the Cannell's haying operation on the farm. He said that Mr. Davis initially received \$1.00 per day when he worked but years later as he ended his employment, he was making \$21.00 per week. This led to John telling us a story about their beautiful hay barn. The hay in the barn was pitched in, not baled. John had the job of pitching hay into the barn and out of the barn when it was needed for the animals. He said that in the winter, the bears from their tourist zoo would hibernate in the hay. John said that when he was pitching the hay out of the barn, he always feared sticking a bear with the pitchfork. Fortunately, in all of the years John was pitching hay, he never encountered a bear.

In 1937, the state of NH plotted the course of a new version of Route 302 directly through the family homestead. That caused the Cannell's to move out of Glen to an area that we now know as the Scenic Vista in North Conway and the Intervale section of town. His family restarted the store, hoteling and restaurant businesses in Intervale. He said that he had a room at the inn but when it was full, he would sleep on the kitchen floor by the stove to keep warm.

The 50 room Cannell family hotel, the Intervale Inn, burned on John's birthday in 1948. John said that he had a chance to get to his room in the hotel and collect a few things before they burned but the one thing he left behind was his collection of baseball cards. He said that the collection had many notable and, today, valuable cards. That collection was lost. After the fire, the family relocated to the land across the street from the current location of the Cannell Country Store. This parcel of land was eventually bought by the state after his mother wrote the governor and offered it to the state. The state then built the Scenic Vista site that exists today. John donated another 20 acres of land adjacent to the site with the provision that the state keep the trees cut low so the view of the Presidential Range would not be obstructed over time (which, John added, did not happen).

#### Tracing the Family Heritage

John told us that he has traveled to Scotland about 10 times to visit his mother's side of the family. Many of them now live in the Boston, MA area. He also traveled to The Isle of Man and located the Cannell family homestead. Researching the family genealogy at Malew Parish, he located the earliest recording of his ancestors, Philip & Jane Cannell, from the 1600's.

Of his own family, John said that he raised five children. They are Stephanie who still lives in the area; Mary Ann living in VA; Katherine living in Boston, MA; Christy living in South Portland, ME and he had one son who is deceased. He also has eight grandchildren.

#### John's Youth & Education

John told us that he didn't have many friends when he was growing up primarily because there weren't

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



Greta's phone # 603 738 4958

John Cannell continued ...

many kids in the area. He didn't know many kids from Bartlett Village and he said his parents told him to "stay away from Bartlett girls!" Why he received this direction is unknown. He did mention, though, the names of Bob Butland and Delia Chestley and then, his lifelong friend, Ed McGuiness. John said that he obtained the nickname of "Crow" because he had jet black hair. He attended school in Bartlett through 2<sup>nd</sup> grade at the Glen School (which is now the Margarita Grill restaurant and moved from its original location). This was a one room schoolhouse where, teacher, Helen Sawyer taught five grades.

With the move to Intervale, John continued and completed his grade school education in the North Conway Elementary School (he recalled that Tinker Willie was his bus driver for elementary school) and continued his high school education at Kennett High School. To get back and forth to Kennett, John took the train for the five mile ride each way. The train was not always on time so he was occasionally late in arriving. After high school, John enrolled in the University of New Hampshire. He wanted to be a veterinarian but he said he was "not smart enough." Still, he studied agriculture and graduated in 1952. While at UNH, John joined the ROTC program and also got involved in sports.

John said he was not a skier but certainly recognized the importance of skiing to the area. He noted that he used to await the arrival of the ski trains from Boston and carried the tourists bags to his family's Intervale Inn (he also added that this prevented him from playing basketball during high school). He also got to know Hannes Schneider, the famed European ski instructor. When Mr. Schneider was in town in the summer, John was his caddie on the golf course. John remarked that Mr. Schneider tipped him \$0.75 for caddying a round of golf. John played freshman football at UNH but that ended after an injury sidelined him. He told a story of a game that was to be played against Phillips Exeter while he was injured. Rather than going to the game to cheer on his teammates, John made his way by train to Yankee Stadium to see the last two games of the major league baseball season. The trip cost him \$31.00 and he laughed saying "no one missed him." Baseball was John's biggest sports interest. He had played in high school, joining the Bartlett VFW Team for three years with his friend Clint Burke. He continued his baseball career after high school by joining the UNH baseball team. While he would eventually be cut from the UNH baseball team that didn't end his baseball career.

#### A Passion for Baseball

Back home, staying in the family hotel, was a baseball talent scout who was looking for players for the Minnesota Phil's baseball team of the C or D minor league system. John met the scout, one thing led to another and John was on his way to Minnesota to play for the Phil's in 1951. He said he played third base, outfield and pitcher. He hit .262 and had two homeruns. After his short stay with the Phil's, he played for teams in Portland, ME and has continued playing or being involved in baseball locally ever since. As recently as 2017, John was playing for the Redstone Hills RV team. He said that on two occasions, he was needed to fill in for an absent player so he took the field and played his position.

John is a long time NY Yankees fan. He explained that his following of the Yankees started in 1947 when he was on a school bus. The driver, Herbie Williams, was listening to the World Series on a small transistor radio – the NY Yankees vs. the Brooklyn Dodgers. John started listening with him and from that time on, he was a Yankees fan. This explains his college trip to Yankee Stadium.

In 1947, a group of WWII veterans started the North Country Softball League in 1947. The unique thing about this league was that they played in Schouler Park under the lights – nighttime baseball in North Country! John told us that he organized a high school team, the Intervale Tigers, so they could have the experience of playing baseball under the lights. He said that teams from all over came to play night games. John also was a player on the North Country All Star team. They also played under the lights from the early 1950's to 1975. John said he played every year that the team was together. He has also been an umpire for many years. His favorite coach was Bob Burns but that was while he was umpiring.

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John Cannell continued ...

John's baseball career continued to expand in the 1970's as he attended fantasy baseball camps and eventually worked for the Red Sox and Twins teams at their spring training camps and fantasy baseball camps. His fantasy camp experiences as a player were in 1979 and 1984 where he spent a week each time in Winter Haven, FL. In 1979, the fantasy camp players were met at the airport by team representatives and loaded on to a school bus to go to the ballpark (he said they also loaded 105 cases of beer on the bus as well). On the bus was none other than Johnny Pesky. John would meet other notable players including Ted Williams and Bobbie Doerr. At the fantasy camp ballpark, he wanted to be sure he was able to play so he told the team he was a catcher (in both camp experiences), even though he had never played the position before in his first camp. He played every inning for the week in each fantasy camp. In the 1980's and 1990's, John was a spring training umpire at the Red Sox training camp.

When John talks about baseball, you can see the gleam in his eye. We closed this part of the conversation with John's recollection of the time Babe Ruth was in North Conway. John said that he didn't get a good look at him but did see "The Babe" at the second show at the North Conway movie theater. John also mentioned that his parents and grandparents never saw him play any sports games as they were always working. The one game that he managed to get his father to attend was one that he was umpiring; he said his father was not impressed. It didn't surprise us when John said that he played in games this year. He looks like he could grab his glove and spikes and get out to 3<sup>rd</sup> base today.

### Making a Living

Earlier in the interview, we talked about his family's farm, store, restaurant and lodging facilities. John followed in the family footsteps in that regard. At one time, he said he bought the Cox farm in the Moat area of town (near the current Moat Mountain Restaurant), along with 150 head of cattle for milking. He said that he didn't want to raise beef cattle because he didn't like to hurt or kill animals so he went into the dairy business. He connected with the New England Milk Producers Association who bought his milk at a discount. John didn't have a good way to get his milk to market so he had to truck his milk to the nearby rail station and load it on the train for transport to markets. After a while, this became too much so he dropped out of the dairy business. In this adventure, John said that he bought his first John Deere tractor at the age of 21 years old. As a side note, John still owns land behind the restaurant today. On that land is the grave site for the Willie family from Crawford Notch. This family was killed in August 1826 in a landslide. The family members that were found after the slide were buried in this North Conway cemetery. John takes care of this cemetery to this day. Continuing with another story, he said he got his driver's

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### **A Few Words About Our Newsletter Sponsors**

In this first edition of our 2018 newsletter, we call attention to the people and businesses who sponsor this publication. New sponsors in 2018 are Kringle's Pizza & Country Store, Coleman Rental & Supply and Patch's Market. They join a group of generous ongoing sponsors including Kathleen Sullivan-Head, Matty B's, EG Chandler, Inc., Iron Mountain Water Services, Inc., Deni DuFault Financial Services, Truenorth.vet, Greta George, and Sky Valley Motel. We thank one and all for their outstanding support.



**Sky Valley Motel**  
1088 Route 302  
Bartlett, NH 03812  
603-374-2322

*Photo taken from  
Route 302 looking  
west towards Mt  
Carrigain. 1949*



**Kathleen Sullivan Head**  
Certified Residential Specialist  
Direct 603-986-5932  
Office 603-383-4407 x1  
Direct Fax 603-687-0017

Licensed in New Hampshire & Maine 

John Cannell continued ...

license at 16 years old and this led to another story. Apparently, John would occasionally take the farm truck and drive to high school – without a license. One day in 1947, the town of Brownfield, ME caught fire. Even though he had his leg in a cast from a sports injury, John managed to drive his father's truck to school that day. With the Brownfield fire raging only a few miles away, the school called an assembly and asked for volunteers to go fight the fire. John was "volunteered" to drive the would-be fire fighters over to Brownfield. He said he got them there, dropped them off and left before he got into trouble.

Back to earning a living, John built the Intervale Motel in 1963 and took over his father's store, the Cannell Country Store, in 1977. This store was started by his grandmother, Minnie Cannell, in Glen in 1884. These enterprises have given John his living and ability to pursue his baseball passion for many years. John is still active in the store and motel to this day and shows no signs of slowing down.

#### Community Service and Politics

John served on the Conway School Board from 1966 – 1974 and was the Chairman of the school board for five of those six years. He said that while he was in this position, the school budget was always under \$1,000,000 but when it went over that mark, he felt it was time to resign from the school board. Another notable point of John's community service is that he has been a volunteer at the Conway polling station since Eisenhower was President of the United States. He said that he works on the ballot box now but spent 20 years at the check list prior to his ballot box duties. When he started working at the polls, he said that you knew everyone who came through but now, that is no longer true. All-in-all, though, he said the people are nice when they come to vote.

Speaking of politics, John said that he is a registered Democrat. This is in contrast to his mother who was a staunch Republican. He said that he recalled when FDR was President, his mother would have several of her Republican friends over to the house and they would sit in the living room talking anti-FDR politics. At one such meeting, young John marched into the middle of the group and called them all "hypocrites." Why, he couldn't recall, but from that day forward, he has been a Democrat.

John also, as a part of the North Conway Outing Club, ran the skating rink that used to be in Schouler Park. He stopped this activity when the rink was turned over to the town of Conway.

#### Wrapping Things Up

We asked John who the biggest influences of his life were. His immediate answer was that his father was top of the list. He said that, even though he differed in political viewpoints with his parents, he was always able to talk with them about politics and the events of the day. He said that their advice to him was that "he shouldn't work so much." He talked very fondly of his grandmother, Minnie Cannell. He also mentioned other people of influence including his teacher, Helen Sawyer, who got him interested in reading and Bertha James, his 5<sup>th</sup> grade teacher, who got him interested in arithmetic and one other teacher who influenced his life being Mac McKean.

He told us that he is very proud of his family and his wife, Vicki. He said that he is very happy with his life and would only change one thing, that being he would start doing things earlier in his life. He still enjoys his work at the store and motel and still enjoys traveling to Florida in the winter. He said he has never smoked or drank alcohol and looking at John today, he looks as fit as an athlete half his age.

In closing, John said that he would like to be remembered as "a good guy." After listening to this life's story, we have no doubt that that is how John Cannell will be remembered.

Norm and I would like to thank John and Vicki for sharing John's life story with us. He is another treasure of this Valley and someone to whom we can say it was a pleasure to spend this time with you.

## **BHS News Flashes**

BHS was very busy final quarter of 2017. Here's a wrap-up of all the activity.

### ***Harnessing History: On the Trail of NH's State Dog – The Chinook by Bob Cottrell***



At our October 2017 Annual Meeting presentation, an audience of about 65 people listened to Bob Cottrell as he walked us through a very interesting talk on the Chinook dog. We learned of the pedigree of Bob's (sadly deceased) Chinook, Tug; we learned about how the Chinook was bred, their use in expeditions to the north and south poles and, more importantly, their connection to NH. Bob's slide show contained numerous photos of the Chinooks at "work" (running), maps of the expeditions, historic photos of the NH origins of the breed and some family photos with Tug. We thank Bob for his informative and entertaining presentation.

### **BHS at the Holiday Craft Fair**

BHS had a table at the Holiday Craft Fair that was sponsored by Bartlett Recreation on November 4, 2017 at the Bartlett Elementary School. Many people stopped by the table to talk about our museum project and purchase Christmas cards. BHS Board members Norm Head, Hadley Champlin, Kathy Howard and Phil Franklin were at the table to greet people. We extend our special thanks to Annette Libby, Bartlett Recreation Director, for her support of BHS.



### **Joseph's Spaghetti Shed Dine-to-Donate Evening**



On November 13, 2017, Bartlett had its first measurable snow fall of the year and, of course, we had scheduled our Joseph's Spaghetti Shed Dine-to-Donate evening. Being hearty New Englanders, we held the event as planned and it was attended by 65 people, almost 10 more than last year. People came from all over the Valley and one couple even came up from MA for a great dinner and to support our cause. Our raffle was a hit again this year. In total, we received \$600 in donations between the raffle and Beth Carta-Dolan's generous 20% contribution from her evening's receipts. Proceeds from this event will be applied to the BHS Museum Fund. We extend a special thanks to Beth for her ongoing support and her staff for a wonderful evening – great food and outstanding service. We look forward to holding another Joseph's Spaghetti Shed Dine-to-Donate evening in November 2018. In the meantime, it's a great "locals" restaurant for casual dining on homemade Italian food and desserts

### **Breakfast with Santa**

Santa made a special appearance at the Breakfast with Santa event on December 2<sup>nd</sup>. Our police chief, Chris Keaton, brought Santa to the event in his police cruiser with lights flashing and the siren blaring (the reindeer and sleigh were up on Bear Notch where there was still a little snow). Santa greeted about 75 smiling children along with their parents and grand-parents. He listened to numerous gift wishes, his elf gave out a small present to each child and each child had their picture taken with Santa. Along with the visit from Santa, a crew of volunteers from Bartlett Recreation and the Bartlett Historical Society prepared a great breakfast for everyone. While the event was free to all who attended, many people gave donations at the door. We appreciate their generosity. The proceeds will be split between the Bartlett Recreation Department and Bartlett Historical Society Museum Capital Campaign.



A special thank you to all of the volunteers who helped with the event – The Murphy Family. Mike, Rachel & Ryan; Judy Dashiell; The Young Family, Jason, Katie, Jake & Hayleigh; Jerry McManus; Hadley Champlin; Chief Chris Keaton; Phil & Sue Franklin; Norman Head; Mike, Hannah & Karl Chandler; Kathy Howard; Bert & Greta George; Jon Hebert; Shannon Nartowicz; Annette & Stephen Libby. Thank you to the following local stores for their donations to the event – Patch's Market; Kringle's Country Store; Yesterday's Restaurant; The Chandlers / North Country Wholesale and Grant's Store. Also, a note of appreciation to the Bartlett Elementary School administration for the use of their building. We've already talked with Santa about another appearance next year so stay tuned for December 2018.



The Bartlett Snow Roller—Restored 2015

# The Historical Herald

[www.BartlettHistory.Org](http://www.BartlettHistory.Org)

Facebook: Bartlett Historical-Society

## 2017 Seven to Save & State Register of Historic Places

The end of October was a very exciting time for our organization. We have received one important designation and are awaiting final word on a second designation for the St. Joseph Church building. Both of these designations will bring state-wide attention to the building and our museum project.

Seven to Save: The St. Joseph Church building was selected as one of the 2017 Seven to Save buildings by the NH Preservation Alliance. The Seven to Save designation is a significant achievement as it is a very competitive selection process that looks at historic buildings from across NH. The selection of our building as one of the 2017 designees further validates that the historical society is on the right track by driving this preservation project.



Seven to Save Plaque



Norm Head (left) and Phil Franklin at the Seven to Save reception

According to the NH Preservation Alliance website, the “Seven to Save designation attracts attention to, and helps forge possible solutions for, threatened landmarks ... Our committee (NH Preservation Alliance) looks at the property’s historical or architectural significance, severity of the current threat, and the extent to which a *Seven to Save* listing would help in preserving the property.” The BHS nomination for this building included an extensive amount of historical documentation, descriptions of future plans, a current condition statement and other details for the review committee to consider.

We are very pleased that the St. Joseph Church building was selected in this challenging process. By designating this building as one of the 2017 Seven to Save, the renovation and preservation project being undertaken by the Bartlett Historical Society will receive state-wide notice. We remain committed to seeing this project through to a successful conclusion. This designation is another step in the right direction.

State Register of Historic Places: The Bartlett Historical Society was notified in late October that our nomination of the St. Joseph Church building for inclusion on the State Register of Historic Places has been accepted. The review committee of the NH Division of Historical Resources has determined that the building is eligible for placement on the State Register. We have one final hurdle to clear before we make any big announcement, however. The last hurdle is one more review of our application by a final approval committee. They will meet at the end of January 2018. All indications are, however, that we have provided sufficient information in our application to pass the final review and see the building approved for inclusion on the State Register of Historic Places. We are not counting our chickens before they hatch, though, so no celebrations just yet. Fingers are still crossed on this one!

### **Bartlett Historical Society—Board of Directors**

Norman Head, President	Hannah Chandler, Vice President
Stephen Libby, Treasurer	Kathleen Howard, Curator
Philip Franklin, Secretary	J. Hadley Champlin, Director

### **Board Volunteers & Advisors**

Bert George, David Eliason, Michael Chandler, Annette Libby,  
Susan Franklin, Anne Pillion

*The Board of  
Directors of  
BHS wishes  
everyone a Safe  
and Happy New*