



Westmoreland Park Hill Meeting House & Historical Society NEWSLETTER



Westmoreland, NH 03467

www.westmorelandhistoricalsociety.org

July

Vol. IV, No. 3

2011

Officers: John Harris & Stuart Sadick, Co-Directors; Jan Hurley & Dawn Lincoln, Treasurers; Jan Youga, Clerk/Secretary;
Bill Campbell & Walter Carroll, Property Managers; Jan Carpenter, Archivist.

Message from the Co-Directors

The integration of the Westmoreland Historical Society and the Park Hill Meetinghouse Society has progressed smoothly during this first year with only minor proposed changes to the bylaws following the integration. Attendance has increased at our monthly program meetings, too. This spring the topics included perambulating, exploring how and why selectmen continue to walk town lines, remarkable underwater footage by Annette Spaulding of the Connecticut River bridge that collapsed when an elephant attempted to cross in 1820, and a vivid recreation of the life of Charles Ross Taggart, a talented musician and storyteller from Topsham, Vermont. This third program, featuring Adam Boyce, was presented in the Park Hill Meetinghouse, and attended by almost 50 residents. Thanks to the program committee for these memorable evenings, and we urge you to join us on Sept. 6, Oct. 3 and Nov. 7 for another set of engaging programs.

Work also continues on our historic properties in addition to our historical programming. As most of you know, Park Hill is getting a new slate roof this summer thanks to an LCHIP grant. We are fortunate to have Jim Edmunds, who has conducted numerous repairs, and Sid Fitzgerald, who is documenting the roofing project, in addition to Ted Ferguson, our roofing contractor. The Corner School has a new stone marker thanks to Bill Campbell and Dave Bressett, and improved lawns and gardens with the help of several volunteers on spring work day.

Annual Meeting and Potluck at the Park Hill Meeting House
Sunday, July 24, 2011 **4:00 p.m.**

AGENDA

1. Approval of minutes of the General Meeting from February 13, 2011
2. **Financial reports**
 - a. Corner School
 - b. Park Hill Meeting House
 - c. Joint Account
 - d. Income and operating expenses from last three years
3. **Discussion and Approval of Revised Bylaws**
 - a. Approval of Slate of Officers and Terms
4. **Property reports**
 - a. Park Hill Meeting House
 - b. Corner School
5. **Membership Dues 2011-12**
6. **New Business**

Please let Sally Albrecht (358-9803) know what you are bringing to the potluck.

General Meeting Minutes
Westmoreland Park Hill Meeting House and Historical Society
February 13, 2011

Present: Stuart Sadick, Walter Carroll, Dawn Lincoln, Jan Hurley, Kathy Cox, Terry Cox, Ernest Hebert, Bill Campbell, June Hammond, Maitland Hudson, James Bryant, Susie Harris, Nancy Fiskin, Judy Fitzgerald, Syd Fitzgerald, Patti Seymour, Jan Carpenter, Bert Edmonds, Elaine Kaliski, Jan Youga (clerk)

Clerk's Report

Minutes of the Annual Meeting July 25, 2010 were approved.

Treasurers' Reports

Dawn Lincoln reviewed the financial reports of the Corner School and the joint account for the WPHMHHS, and Jan Hurley reviewed the Park Hill Meeting House financial reports.

Property Managers' Reports

Corner School (Bill Campbell)

- The storm windows were completed.
- A small piece of the sill needs to be replaced. This should cost under \$500.
- We need to make sure to keep the vegetation away from the building so the water drains away from the building.
- Bill Campbell raked the snow off the roof.
- We are looking at getting a granite sign for the building. The granite will be donated by Bill, and Keene Monument will do the engraving. The building will then be able to be identified from the road.

Park Hill Meeting House (Walter Carroll)

The Meeting House received \$60,000 from LCHIP, just in time since these funds are scheduled to be cut from the State budget. The \$60,000 in matching funds we needed to provide came from the Steinhauser bequest. These funds will be used to replace the slate roof. The State has approved the specs for the roof. They will inspect the work as it progresses. Walter will also send them specs for the other projects: painting the east wall, repairing the ceiling downstairs, and repairing the lumber room floor. Work will start after mud season and be completed by June 15.

New Business

1) Emergency Spending

The motion was made that, other than in an emergency situation, the officers may spend up to \$5,000. This motion carried. It was also agreed that, in an emergency, either the Executive Committee will call a general meeting, if this is possible, or the officers will be allowed to use their judgment in the spending of funds.

2) Membership dues

We currently have categories of individual, family, or lifetime. The lifetime is for an individual. Some members were confused as to whether lifetime referred to a household. We discussed whether we should we have both an individual and household lifetime membership. The dues could be \$100 for an individual lifetime membership and \$150 for a household lifetime membership. If a household has already given \$200, \$50 could be refunded to them. We did discuss the possibility of leaving it at \$100 per person; however, the motion to offer a Household Lifetime membership at the rate of \$150 passed, with 1 abstention and 1 no vote.

3) Bylaws

It was suggested that we establish a committee to look at the Bylaws written last year to establish the joint organization. There are some changes that need to be made, but it was determined that the Executive Committee could propose the necessary changes and then bring revised Bylaws to the Annual Meeting for a vote.

Review of Dates

Historic Society Roundtable: February 17 in Swanzey

Town Meeting: March 9 at 7:00 p.m.

Executive Meeting: April 10 from 3:30-5:00

Spring Workday: May 22 from 1:00-3:00 p.m. at both the Meeting House and the Corner School

Annual Meeting and Potluck: July 24 at 4:00 at the Meeting House

FINANCIAL REPORTS

Park Hill Accounts July 1-December 31, 2010

Category	Total	
Income Categories		
Cook Books	\$320.00	
Deposit	\$3,000.00	Transfer from Fidelity
Donation	\$15.00	
Dues	\$140.00	
Interest earned	\$0.01	
Tag Sale	\$1,524.38	
UCC	\$179.84	
Total Income Categories	\$5,179.23	

Expense Categories		
Annual non-profit filing fee	\$75.00	IRS 501©3
Bank Charges	\$4.00	
business filing fee	\$27.00	State of NH business filing fee
Lawn Maintenance	\$132.00	
Maintenance	\$2,840.00	M.E. Matthews for foundation work
Joint account w/Hist. Society	\$130.00	Membership dues
Utilities	\$307.00	
Total Expense Categories	\$3,515.00	

Grand Total \$1,664.23

Fidelity Account July 1 \$37,636.08
 Sept. 30 \$41,769.82 \$4,133.74

Westmoreland Historical Society						
Activity for Oct/Nov/Dec 2010						
Checking Balance 10/01/10	\$5,490.13					
	Amount	Notes			Amount	Notes
Joint Starting Balance	-\$200.75			School House Starting Balance	\$5,690.88	
Joint Income:				School House Income:		
Membership	\$330.00			Cradles of Liberty	\$15.00	
Donations	\$50.00			Homes of Westmoreland	\$170.00	
Research	\$0.00			Maps of Westmoreland	-\$30.00	
Interest	\$1.59			Cemetery book	\$30.00	
2011 calendar	\$818.80			Shipping	\$0.00	
Total Joint Income	\$1,200.39			Total School House Income	\$185.00	
Joint Expenses:				School House Expenses:		
Programs	\$40.00			Electricity	\$40.05	
Newsletter	\$0.00			Victrola	\$86.45	
Membership	\$0.00					
Website	\$305.00					
Postage	\$2.41					
Office supplies	\$21.00	Checks				
Total Joint Expenses	\$368.41			Total School House Expenses	\$126.50	

Mark Your Calendar

2011-2012 Calendar of Events Westmoreland Park Hill Meeting House and Historical Society

2011		
Sunday, August 28	Executive Meeting	3:30-5:00 p.m. Meeting House
Saturday, September 3	Tag Sale (see below for more detail)	9:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m.
Tuesday, September 6	First Fall Program	7:00 p.m.
Sunday, September 11	Fall Work Day	1:00-4:00 p.m.
Monday, October 3	Second Fall Program	7:00 p.m.
Sunday, October 23	Executive Meeting	3:30-5:00 p.m.
Monday, November 7	Final Fall Program	7:00 p.m.
2012		
Sunday, January 8	Executive Meeting	3:30-5:00 p.m.
Sunday, February 12	General Meeting & Potluck	4:00 p.m. Fellowship Hall
Sunday, March 18	Executive Meeting	3:30-5:00 p.m.
Monday, April 2	First Spring Program	7:00 p.m.
Sunday, April 29	Executive Meeting	3:30-5:00 p.m.
Monday, May 7	Second Spring Program	7:00 p.m.
Saturday, May 12	Perennial Plant Sale	9:00 a.m. Meeting House
Sunday, May 20	Spring Work Day	1:00-4:00 p.m.
Monday, June 4	Final Spring Program	7:00 p.m.
Sunday, June 10	Executive Meeting	3:30-5:00 p.m.
Sunday, July 22	Annual Meeting & Potluck	4:00 p.m. Meeting House

ANNUAL TAG SALE September 3, 2011; 9-3 p.m.

DROP OFF DATES: Saturday, June 18th, July 16 & August 13 at the Park Hill Meeting House from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.

QUALITY ITEMS ONLY!

PLEASE! NO clothing, bikes, computers, electronics, tires or skis

Bylaws
Westmoreland Park Hill Meeting House and Historical Society

Article I: Purpose

The purpose of the Society shall be to preserve and maintain the Park Hill Meeting House and the Corner School House as significant historic landmarks and to promote the use of these buildings for community activities and as museums. The Society also seeks to preserve the history of Westmoreland through the acquisition of books, papers, maps, and artifacts; to establish a genealogy and history library; and to preserve Westmoreland's historic features through historic designation and grants.

Article II: Membership

Membership in the Society is open to any individual or organization committed to the purpose of the Society and upon payment of annual dues. Annual dues are due by July 1 of each year and are as follows: Individual: \$10, Household: \$15, Organization: \$25, Individual Lifetime: one time payment of \$100, Household Lifetime: one time payment of \$150. Members in good standing, eligible to vote at general meetings, shall be up-to-date on their dues.

The Society will hold two general meetings for members each year, one in February before Town Meeting Day, and one in July, which will be the Annual Meeting. Notice of these general meetings will be sent to members at least two weeks prior to the meeting.

Article III. Finances

- A. The Park Hill Meeting House Society and the Westmoreland Historical Society will remain independent financial institutions, with separate records and accounts, and will maintain individual non-profit 501(c)(3) status.
- B. Funds held in the separate accounts, earned as a result of ventures or investments prior to July 2010, as well as donations and fees designated for one of the buildings, shall remain in the separate accounts and be used for maintenance and improvements of the designated building.
- C. Dues, undesignated donations, and proceeds from fundraising ventures will be used as revenue to finance operating expenses. Funds needed to finance these expenses not currently available in the joint funds will be allocated equally from the two separate accounts. There may be specific income related to events or fundraisers that will be designated for either of the properties by the Executive Board.
- D. The fiscal year will run from July 1 to June 30.
- E. Auditor(s), appointed by the Executive Board, will examine the books of the Treasurers and render an opinion. Audited Annual Financial Reports will be presented at the Annual Meeting.

Article IV. Executive Board

The Executive Board will meet every two months, more if necessary. The Executive Board will appoint substitutes to fill any vacancies on the Board or Committees.

All members of the Executive Board will serve two-year terms. The Executive Board will be elected in July at the Annual Meeting. At the end of the Director's two-year term, the Assistant Director will become the Director. The Director and Assistant Director, the Corner School Property Manager, the Park Hill Treasurer, and the Clerk will be elected in even numbered years; the Park Hill Property Manager, the Corner School Treasurer, the Membership Director, and the Archivist will be elected in odd numbered years. The Executive Board will present a proposed slate of officers, and nominations will also be taken from the floor, during the Annual Meeting. All members in good standing are eligible to vote and to serve on the Executive Board. A majority vote is required for election. A quorum shall be a majority of the Executive Board and no fewer than 10 members in good standing. The Director shall conduct the election.

The Board will consist of the following officers:

A. **Director:** The Director will preside over meetings, conduct routine business, appoint standing and ad hoc committees, and have general oversight over the work of the Society.

B. **Assistant Director:** The Assistant Director will assist the Director, be the acting Director in the Director's absence, and oversee and report upon the activities of the Standing Committees.

C. **Clerk:** The Clerk will take minutes and keep records of all meetings; answer correspondence; and, upon instruction from the Directors, issue notice of meetings to be held. Minutes of the Executive Board will be sent to the Executive Board members within two weeks of Board meetings. For the semi-annual meetings, minutes of the preceding meeting and an agenda of the upcoming meeting will be sent to all members at least two weeks prior to the meeting.

D. **Treasurers:** There will be two Treasurers, one for the Corner School House and Joint Funds and one for the Park Hill Meeting House. The Treasurers will keep a detailed record of all money received and disbursed. The Treasurers will prepare and present an up-to-date report at all meetings of the Executive Board. A detailed written summary report will be presented at the semi-annual meetings. The Treasurers will collect dues and report membership information to the Membership Director.

E. **Membership and Communications Director:** This director will maintain an accurate list of members, send email or letters in receipt of dues payments and donations, notify contacts regarding upcoming events, notify members of dues payable, and provide an up-to-date mailing list to the newsletter editor.

F. **Property Managers:** There will be two Property Managers, one for the Corner School House and one for the Park Hill Meeting House. Property Managers will conduct and/or oversee all routine maintenance and improvements (approved by the Executive Board) of the grounds and buildings and keep watch of same, reporting to the Society any misdemeanors, damage, or needed repairs.

G. **Archivist:** The Archivist will identify; sort; catalog; and, when possible, archivally preserve historical material currently held by the Society and acquired by the Society in the future.

Membership lists, minutes, and financial reports will be archived on the Society's computer twice a year after the General and Annual meetings.

Article V: Standing Committees

Standing Committees of three or more people each are appointed by the Executive Board and will serve two-year terms in odd numbered years.

A. **Program:** This Committee will plan, organize, and promote programs relevant to the purpose of the Society, with a recommended number of six programs per year.

B. **Newsletter:** The Newsletter will be published four times a year, once before the semi-annual meetings, once to announce spring programs, and once to announce fall programs. This committee will also support publicity for events of the Society.

C. **Ways and Means:** This Committee will propose and oversee fundraising projects.

Article VI: Amendments to the Bylaws

The Bylaws of the Society will be reviewed every three years by a committee of three or more assigned by the Executive Board. The Bylaws may be amended by a majority vote of members in good standing present at the Annual Meeting. Notice containing proposed amendments must be sent to members two weeks prior to the meeting.

Proposed July 24, 2011

Property Reports

Meeting House

The Spring Work Day attracted a dozen volunteers to the Meeting House many of whom worked past the four o'clock quitting time. The seasonal turning on of the water resulted in the discovery of a burst pipe under the kitchen sink. This is being attended to by Jim Edmonds, our resident plumber. The auditorium, lavatory and kitchen were cleaned. Thanks to Michaela Hurley, Jan Hurley, Judy Fitzgerald, Syd Fitzgerald, Darrell Corak, Jim Edmonds, Darwin Corak, and Walter Carroll for their hard work.



The ten monster shutters from the building's east side were scraped and painted. These had been removed by the Village Painters and will be reinstalled by them after they paint that side.

Work on our beautiful new roof of semi-weathering gray slate is continuing apace, and just in the nick of time! The old roof was springing leaks faster than we could place buckets under them. Financed with the help of the Steinhäuser legacy, and an LCHIP grant, the new roof should last the community a century or two. By fall, when all our current projects are completed, we will have a pretty spiffy meetinghouse as a centerpiece for our community.

Corner School

The Corner School House recently received some much needed repairs to the sill by Bill Hatt. We thank him for doing it quickly and for less than we expected. We have a new engraved granite sign so people driving by now know what that little red building really is! We have also added a granite bench to the grounds. Upcoming projects include installing a shed so we can remove lawn care equipment from the building, re-glazing the windows, and scraping and repainting the building. Several helped at the school house on Spring Work Day by weeding, planting, mulching, sweeping and dusting. Thanks to Jan Carpenter, Dawn Lincoln, Bill Campbell, Carrie Campbell, Patti Seymour and Greg Seymour for all of their hard work.



MEMBERSHIP AND DONATION FORM
THE WESTMORELAND PARK HILL MEETING HOUSE AND HISTORICAL SOCIETY
JULY 1, 2011 TO JUNE 30, 2012

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP CODE _____

PHONE _____ E-MAIL _____

Individual Membership	\$ 10.00	Individual Lifetime Membership	\$100.00
Household	\$ 15.00	Household Lifetime Membership	\$150.00
Organization or Business	\$ 25.00		

Please accept my additional tax exempt (501(c)(3)) donation of \$ _____.

Make your check payable to The Westmoreland Park Hill Meeting House and Historical Society.

Mail check to: Westmoreland Park Hill Meeting House and Historical Society P.O. Box 105 Westmoreland, NH 03467

Time and Talent

Please check any and all ways you are willing to help out with the public events and tasks of the Corner School and the Meeting House. Most activities are for a few hours once a year.

cleaning/painting baking general maintenance serving on a committee publicity
 annual tag sale open house guide planning events phoning

Other talents and expertise you have that you are willing to share to help the Society:

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!

Westmoreland Park Hill Meeting
House & Historical Society
P.O. Box 105
Westmoreland, NH 03467

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