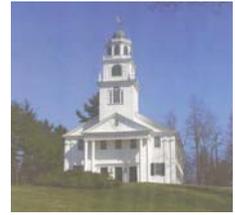




Westmoreland Park Hill Meeting House & Historical Society NEWSLETTER

Westmoreland, NH 03467

www.westmorelandhistoricalsociety.org



September

Vol. IV, No. 4

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

It's been a year since we "officially" merged the Westmoreland Historical Society and the Park Hill Meeting Society – and what a great year it's been! Our Fall and Spring programs gave us interesting information about people and events from our area including perspectives from the great grand-daughter of a former US president to a bridge that connected Westmoreland to Vermont. We were glad to see such a strong showing of the members on July 24 for the annual meeting where we all showed off our culinary prowess.

This coming year is certain to be another great one for WPHMH&HS. Be sure to look at the upcoming schedule of activities and put them on your calendar. Please remember to pay your annual (or life time so you don't have to remember again next year) membership dues. We're always interested in speaking with members who want to get further involved, and if you have an idea for future spring/fall program topics, please let us know. We look forward to seeing you in September.

Mark Your Calendar

DATE	EVENT	TIME	LOCATION*
Sunday, August 28	Executive Meeting	3:30-5:00 p.m.	Corner School
Saturday, September 3	Tag Sale	9:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m.	Meeting House
Tuesday, September 6	1st Fall Program	7:00 p.m.	Corner School
Sunday, September 11	Fall Work Day	1:00-4:00 p.m.	Corner School and Meeting House
Monday, October 3	2nd Fall Program	7:00 p.m.	Fellowship Hall
Sunday, October 23	Executive Meeting	3:30-5:00 p.m.	Stuart's House
Monday, November 7	Final Fall Program	7:00 p.m.	Fellowship Hall
Sunday, January 8	Executive Meeting	3:30-5:00 p.m.	Stuart's House
Sunday, February 12	General Meeting & Potluck	4:00 p.m.	Town Hall
Sunday, March 18	Executive Meeting	3:30-5:00 p.m.	Stuart's House
Monday, April 2	1st Spring Program	7:00 p.m.	Fellowship Hall
Sunday, April 29	Executive Meeting	3:30-5:00 p.m.	Stuart's House
Monday, May 7	2nd Spring Program	7:00 p.m.	Fellowship Hall
Saturday, May 12	Perennial Plant Sale		Meeting House Lawn
Sunday, May 20	Spring Work Day	1:00-4:00 p.m.	Corner School and Meeting House
Monday, June 4	Final Spring Program	7:00 p.m.	Corner School
Sunday, June 10	Executive Meeting	3:30-5:00 p.m.	Corner School
Sunday, July 22	Annual Meeting & Potluck	4:00 p.m.	Meeting House

*Unless otherwise advertised

FALL PROGRAMS

Committee: John Harris, Paula Page and Jim Ranson

Westmoreland Park Hill Meeting House & Historical Society Fall 2011 Programs

Tuesday, September 6, 7:00 pm Corner School



History of Westmoreland

This presentation will be given as part of the Keene State College CALL fall program on Monadnock Town Histories. This illustrated talk will focus on early settlement and the changes from those early times until present day. John Harris and Jim Ranson will be the speakers for this special presentation for our historical society.

Monday, October 3, 7:00 pm Fellowship Hall



The Great Sheep Boom and Its Enduring Legacy on the New Hampshire Landscape

A New Hampshire **Humanities to Go** Program

In the early 19th century the New Hampshire countryside, including Westmoreland, became home to thousands of sheep. Steve Taylor, onetime NH Commissioner of Agriculture, will talk about how this came about, the economics of the time and how it changed our landscape.

Monday, November 7, 7:00 pm Fellowship Hall



The County Complex: Farm, Nursing Home, Jail

This documentary film produced by the Reflections Project about the Cheshire County Farm features some of the residents of Westmoreland. Following the film John Harris will be available to take questions.

Updates on Society Properties

Meeting House Roof

The meetinghouse roof is finished and beautiful. Ted Ferguson brought his meticulous craftsmanship, and attention to detail, to bear on the project. If you saunter up Esty Road and turn around and look back you will see the pattern and texture of our magnificent semi-weathering gray roof. As it weathers over the years it will shed off layers and take on different hues. Some reddish, some lighter or darker. We can thank Jim Edmonds for mixing the vein lots, so the roof will age evenly. There is nothing in the modern catalog of roofing materials to match it in beauty or durability. A new slate roof is a cost effective roof, when you figure in its longevity.

Storage Shed at Corner School



Our new shed, designed to look like an original building that once stood behind the Corner School, has recently been delivered and set-up by Millbrook Farm Woodworks. It will be used to store the garden tools and equipment which until recently has been taking up space inside the Museum area of the school house.

Anyone wishing to help with restoring the Museum to its previous condition please call Jan at 399-7075.

From the Closet: Jan Carpenter

WHO DO YOU THINK YOU ARE? ... to borrow from the popular NBC TV show.

Our Society is considering forming an informal group of people who are currently or think they might be interested in finding out more about their ancestors. If you are a beginner at genealogy, come and learn. If you are an old hand at genealogical research, come and share some knowledge and experiences. At the first meeting we would decide what type of group would be most beneficial, when and where to meet, etc.

Please call and share ideas or email me (399-7075 – Daisymandme@Webryders.net).

Stenciling in Brick Church Rediscovered



Recently, while some scraping and painting was being done on the interior of the Westmoreland United Church, better known as the Brick Church, old stenciling was discovered in the form of red and green lines. Two long-time members of the church, Thelma Messer and Don Hall, tell me there were at least two biblical quotations painted on the walls and the two original windows behind the altar were uncovered and restored, they believe, sometime in the 1940s.

This church building has seen many changes over its 173 years. It was originally built in 1838 after the previous building had been destroyed by fire.

Plans are being made to leave a small area of this original decoration visible for future historically interested visitors to see.

Mill Exhibit at the Historical Society of Cheshire County

Each historical organization in the County that participates in the Roundtable group at HSCC is being asked to search for artifacts, photographs, documents and anything else that may pertain to the water-powered mills that were or still are in their town. We are asking if any of our members have such items and would be willing to loan them for the exhibit to open in November 2012. Please let us know or if you have questions - call 399-7075 or Tom Haynes at HSCC 352-1895.

Town Hall Historical Designation

The next time you have occasion to visit the Town Hall, take a minute to check out the plaque on the front corner of the building and the certificate on the inside wall.

Town Hall Restoration Committee

The Selectmen have recently appointed several people to a new committee with the task of determining what the building needs in the way of repairs/restoration/updates to improve its appearance and cost of operation. We all can appreciate the fact that there are insulation, paint, broken and loose windows, and other areas of concern. It is our hope that this volunteer committee can come up with a list of needs, determine the costs and make some recommendations for getting the work done so we can all be proud once again of our historic Town Hall.

From Town Papers, Documents and Records Relating to Towns in New Hampshire, published by authority of the legislature of New Hampshire, 1875.

WESTMORELAND [Formerly called Great Meadows: was settled in 1741.]

Petition of Inhabitants. The Petition of the Inhabitants now resident at the Great Meadows on Connecticut river with other the inhabitants below on the said River, to the Gentlemen Petitioners for the Equivalent Land lying on the western side of the said River, conven'd at Worcester May the 13th, 1752.

Gentlemen – We have made this place the constant and settled place of our abode for several years before the last French and Indian War and have sustained many distressing losses from the French and Indian enemy during the time and continuance of the sdwar; Particularly our houses were burned, our cattle kill'd, some of our persons captivated and others put to death; we were confined to the small enclosure of a Garrison or Fort in which we were harried with the continual Incursions of the Enemy; wee were deprived of the advantage of our cropps by reason of the constant lurking of the Enemy, and not having souldiers sufficient for so small a number of Inhabitants to remain unmoveable were obliged to withdraw and desert our habitation which we enjoy'd peaceably not as tenants to any gentlemen whatsoever, but in freehold as others of his Majesties faithful and loyal subjects; and upon our leaving our Fort immediately the Enemy burn'd the same down to the ground to our greater Damage with near the one half of our goods then present on the spott. After our departure we remained in the wars for subsistence for ourselves and familys who was then without habitation.

[This document continues and is signed by six residents with the names of Perry, Davis, Alexander(2), Gibson and Wright and is dated May 4, 1752]

Tag Sale

**@ Park Hill Meeting
House**

Saturday, 9/3

9am - 3pm

rain or shine

(indoors and outdoors)

**All proceeds to benefit the Park
Hill Meeting House and
Westmoreland Historical Society**



If you haven't renewed your PHMH&WHS membership for 2011-2012 this will be your last newsletter.

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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