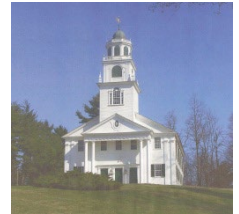




Westmoreland Park Hill Meeting House & Historical Society

NEWSLETTER

Westmoreland, NH 03467



Summer / Fall

2022

Officers: Sharon Combes-Farr and Patti Seymour, Co-Directors; Janet Hurley, Treasurer; Jean Prior, Clerk/Secretary; Walter Carroll and John Harris, Property Managers; Deb Stavseth, Archivist; Sally Albrecht, Membership Director.

Message from the Co-Directors

We would like to send a huge thank you to Emilia and JJ Prior for their 4 years of dedicated service as co-directors of our Society. Their knowledge of and passion for history were evident, and they led our organization during a period (2018-2022) that will certainly be one for the history books!!! Sharon Combes-Farr and Patti Seymour were elected as the new co-directors at the annual meeting held on July 31, 2022. We have big shoes to fill!

We are an active organization so please mark your calendar and join your neighbors at a few of these fun and informative events.

Sunday, August 28, 3 pm on the Park Hill Common: Westmoreland Town Band and Ice Cream Social. Free, donations to the Society accepted.



Westmoreland Town Band

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Sunday, Sept 18, 3PM at the Park Hill Meeting House: Robert Goodby, archaeologist, NH Humanities to Go program, “12,000 years ago in the Granite State” Discussing the ancient Native American archaeological site at the Keene Middle School

Robert Goodby is a professor of Anthropology at Franklin Pierce University in Rindge. He holds a Ph.D. in anthropology from Brown University and has spent the last thirty years studying Native American archaeological sites in New England. He is a past president of the New Hampshire Archeological Society, a former Trustee of the Mount Kearsarge Indian Museum in Warner and served on the New Hampshire Commission on Native American Affairs. In 2010, he directed the excavations of four 12,000-year-old Paleoindian dwellings at the Tenant Swamp site in Keene, and his book *A Deep Presence: 13,000 Years of Native American History* was published in 2021 by Peter E. Randall Publisher.

More than 12,000 years ago, small groups of Paleoindians endured frigid winters on the edge of a small river in what would become Keene, New Hampshire. In 2009, an archaeological survey for the new Keene Middle School discovered the remains of their stay and brought to light one of the oldest Native American sites in New England. The remarkably intact site produced evidence of four separate dwellings containing over 200 stone tools and fragments of burned animal bone. These early people,

rather than being isolated stone-age nomads, were part of a social network that extended across much of northeastern North America. The discovery and excavation of the site was required by the National Historic Preservation Act, a frequently maligned piece of legislation that in this instance worked to save an irreplaceable piece of the human story in the Monadnock region.

Sunday Sept 25th at 4PM on the Park Hill Common



Come hear Gypsy Reel play high energy stirring music rooted in the Celtic tradition but garnered from the whole world. Their music is an exciting synthesis of world rhythms and influences from 3 continents. Their newest studio album, 'Red Red Rose' features music from the tradition and original material from the band. Their tours of the States, Canada and the UK have gained them rave reviews – 'Ended the set in a frenzy', 'Gypsy Reel rocks stage at Charleston Spoleto Festival' 'Fine sparky playing – bags of originality'. The line-up includes hot banjoist Claudine Langille, formerly of 'Touchstone', the sensational Irish/American fusion band that won critical acclaim on both sides of the Atlantic, Graham Parker – eclectic fiddler extraordinaire, Camille Parker who has captivated the hearts of audiences across the globe with her mandolin & bodhran and her singing in French, Spanish and English, Silas Hamilton on standup bass and Reagh Greenleaf, formally with the Clancys, on bodhran and vocals.

We are looking for underwriters for this event. Please contact Sharon Combes-Farr (sharon.combesfarr@gmail.com).

November 13 at 3PM (location to be confirmed): Jenna Carroll, director of education at the Historical Society of Cheshire County in Keene, presents "Jennie Powers, the Woman Who Dared" a NH Humanities to Go program

Jennifer Carroll has been managing historical societies and museums in New England for 25 years. She holds a Master of Arts Degree in Historical Administration from Eastern Illinois University, and a Bachelor of Arts Degree in History and Women's Studies from the University of New Hampshire. Carroll has worked as both a curator and executive director of museums, and currently serves as the director of education at the Historical Society of Cheshire County in Keene where she coordinates over 150 public programs per year. Additionally, she is also an adjunct professor at Antioch University New England where she teaches Place-Based Social Studies and serves on advisory/planning committees for the Keene International Festival Committee, the Monadnock Historical Societies Forum, and the Little Sisters Fund. She is the 2019 recipient of Keene State College's Presidents' Community Partner award.

as well as Keene Sentinel's Extraordinary Women of the Monadnock Region award in 2017. Jennifer lives in West Swanzey, NH with her husband and two daughters.

Jennie Powers: The Woman Who Dares

Jennie Powers took a stand against social vices in New Hampshire and Vermont in the early twentieth century. She was a humane society agent in Keene from 1903-1936 and one of the first humane society agents to become a deputy sheriff in New Hampshire. Jennie was known across the country as "The Woman Who Dares" cited by the Boston Post newspaper in 1906 as having arrested more men than any other woman in America. As a photographic activist, she used her camera to document animal cruelty, family violence, and wide-spread poverty in New Hampshire's Monadnock region and beyond. This one-hour illustrated presentation from Jenna Carroll introduces us to Jennie's life story, the work of humane societies at the turn of the twentieth century, and the politics of the Progressive Era (1890s-1920s) from a local perspective.

Westmoreland Historical Museum Committee

The first meeting of the Westmoreland Historical Museum Committee met at the Park Hill Meetinghouse on Wednesday evening, July 6th at 7 pm with 11 members out of 20 present. A little background was given about Jan Carpenter, the former archivist, and it was noted that she left about \$127,000 to the Historical Society. Jan Carpenter's will states that the bequest to the Westmoreland Historical Society is "to be used for the acquisition and set-up of a proper storage and display (museum) area; and for continued manuscript and/or pamphlet publishing, preservation of archival materials and artefacts." The museum is likely to be installed in the 1st floor of the Park Hill Meeting House.

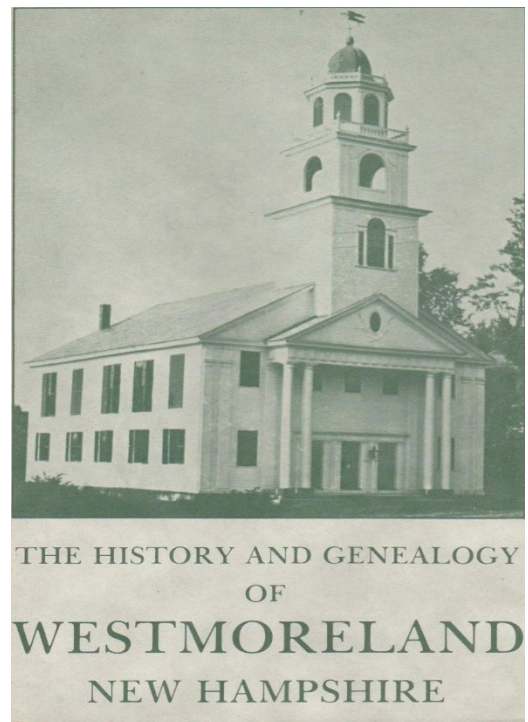
How much do you know about our town history?

Do you want to know more about (in)famous residents, natural history, or infrastructure growth of Westmoreland?

Are you interested in genealogy?

If so, please consider joining the
WPHMH&HS

<https://www.facebook.com/WestmorelandNHHistory/>



MEMBERSHIP AND DONATION FORM
THE WESTMORELAND PARK HILL MEETING HOUSE AND HISTORICAL SOCIETY

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Individual Membership	\$ 10.00	Individual Lifetime Membership	\$100.00
Household	\$ 15.00	Household Lifetime Membership	\$150.0
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

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!



Westmoreland Park Hill Meeting
House and Historical Society
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