

**January 2007**

**The President's Message:**

The Springfield Historical Society is establishing a scholarship fund for students who live in Springfield. We are planning to present our first scholarship in the Spring of 2007. Hopefully, we will be able to do this on an annual basis without draining our working capital. If you would like to help us by donating to the scholarship fund, please send your donation (NOTED SCHOLARSHIP FUND) TO Stuart Wade, Treasurer, Springfield Historical Society, PO Box 6, Springfield, NH 03284. Thanks go to the Scholarship Committee, Trudy Heath and Julie Slack.

**Nominating Committee:**

We need a third member to help Don Garlock and Janet Booker on the Nominating Committee. It is a short term task and your participation will be appreciated. You may contact Don Garlock or Patsy Caswell. (heathcaswell@msn.com)

**Thank yous:**

Terry and Fred Davis donated some more material of interest. One item is a 1861 Springfield Town Report. We are wondering if it is the first. My how times have changed! There was also information on the Goss Family who once lived in Springfield.

Lorena Love donated an attractive Certificate of Appreciation from the Howard Memorial Church Vacation Bible School, dated July, 1966.

Ed Belfield and Peter Neilsen once again moved the museum material back to the NH Room in the Libbie Cass Library for the winter. Peter also built a base for the map cases so now we will be able to store and display our maps properly.

The society was pleased to accept two portraits, one of Dr. David Goodhue, the other of his daughter, Lucia. They were donated at the October meeting by two of his great grandchildren, Barbara Cushion Agel and Katherine Cushion Lancaster, in honor of Dr. Goodhue's grandchildren, David Henry Goodhue, Ruth Ainsworth Goodhue, George Goodhue, Mabel Goodhue Cutting, and Katherine Abby

Goodhue Cushion. Unable to be present at the dedication were greatgrandchildren Edith Cushion, Arnold L. Cushion, and Lois Goodhue. The library is named for Dr. Goodhue's daughter., Libbie A. Cass.

Another exciting event that has not been formally done, yet will be in the Spring, is the gift of an antique quilt by Lyla Waddell. It had belonged to her ancestors, the Rev. and Mrs. George Tyrell. More information will be

forthcoming later.

Thank you to all who contributed to the memorial fund in Betty Broadley's name.

**Deceased:**

The Springfield Historical Society has lost two dedicated members. Beverly Bacon died October 1st. She lived in White River Jct. VT. Due to poor health, she could not make it to our meetings the last few years. Beverly grew up in Springfield. She clipped Springfield articles for us from THE VALLEY NEWS. The other loss was Betty Broadley who died October 6th. She was not a native, but loved the town and her farm on Nichols Hill. Betty helped me with the survey of the grave stones in Old Pleasant View Cemetery. (If there are other people I should know about, please let me know.)

**Care of the Museum:**

The Museum Committee has been working to get the museum into shape to make it more user friendly and also to protect our collection which is growing. The building needs paint and repair which we hope will be done in the Spring. Peter Neilsen presented the information to the Selectmen at the October meetng, making them aware of our building problems. The museum is town property.

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**SPRINGFIELD HISTORICAL SOCIETY SCHOLARSHIP CRITERIA**

1. Must be a Springfield resident.
2. Must have been accepted at an approved school for further education.
3. Must write a letter of application describing your educational plans, your high school experience, and your purposes and/or needs for this scholarship. You should include a brief summary of the years you have lived in Springfield and any involvement you and/or your family may have had in the town. The letter must include your full name and address as well as your parents (guardians) names and addresses.
4. Preference may be given to students whose family members belong to the Springfield Historical Society.
5. Applications are due by APRIL 30th. Please send the paperwork to Julie Slack, 355 Shad Hill Road, Springfield, NH 03284 or Trudy Heath, PO Box 297, Springfield, NH 03284.
6. Presentation will be made at Senior Night, Kearsarge Regional High School

or as appropriate.

## THE MIRACLE MAN OF THE WESTERN FRONT VARAZTAD H. KAZANJIAN

How many of us living in Springfield in the 1940s-1970s realized what an important role the quiet and unassuming Dr. Kazanjian had played in saving people or restoring their injuries so that could lead a normal life? Dr. and Mrs. Kazanjian and their family lived at Foxstand during the summers and holidays. They also had a small cottage on Lake KOLELEMOOK that has since been purchased and updated by Nancy and Robert Bower.

Dr. Kazanjian was born in Turkish Armenia on March 18, 1879. He came to the United States to get away from the terrible strife in his homeland. He was sixteen years old when he settled in Worcester, Massachusetts. He went to work in a wire factory and discovered he was very good with the use of his fingers which was going to be very important to his future career. He attended night school and took correspondence courses. While in Armenia, he had attended a missionary school. In 1900, Varaztad Kazanjian became an American citizen and decided to become a dentist. He went to Harvard Dental School and there became interested in fractured jaws and congenital deformities which were treated at the clinic. By 1905, he was practicing dentistry and teaching as an associate in Prothetic Dentistry at Harvard. He headed the department in 1912.

In 1915, the First Harvard Unit was organized to serve with the British in World War 1914. Dr. Kazanjian was appointed the Dental Chief of the outfit. A clinic was established in Camiers, France. As his skills became known, increasing numbers of casualties with maxillofacial injuries were sent to him. He was at this post until February 1919, treating more than 3000 cases of gunshot, shrapnel, and other severe injuries to the face and jaws. That is where he earned the title, "The Miracle Man of the Western Front."

In recognition of his service during World War 1914, Dr. Kazanjian was invested as a companion of the Order of Saint Michael and Saint George by King George V in Buckingham Palace.

When Dr. Kazanjian returned to the United States, he rejoined Harvard Dental School, but also decided to enroll in Harvard Medical School to complete his training in the types of surgery he had been performing on the Western Front. He went on to become Harvard's first Professor of Plastic Surgery, publishing more than 150 articles on plastic and reconstructive surgery. He concentrated on deformities of the face and jaw. Dr. Kazanjian and Dr. John M. Converse wrote what became THE standard reference in the field, THE SURGICAL

TREATMENT OF FACIAL INJURIES. He believed that each patient's problem needed an individual solution.

Over the years Dr. Varaztad Kazanjian was President of the Association of Plastic Surgeons and received recognition both in the United States and abroad. He maintained his surgical practice treating people all over the world and served on the staff of major Boston area hospitals such as Massachusetts General Hospital. Dr. Kazanjian died at age 95 in 1974.

Patsy Heath Caswell

(Reference material was found at Armeniapedia.org. , [www.massgeneral.org/](http://www.massgeneral.org/) the Mass General website and [http://www.miracle man of the western front.com.](http://www.miraclemanofthewesternfront.com))

\*\*\*There will be a new biography published in January 2007, entitled MIRACLE MAN OF THE WESTERN FRONT, DR. VARASTAD KAZANJIAN PIONEER SURGEON, by Dr. Hagop Martin Deranian, DDS.

#### OTHERS WITH SPRINGFIELD CONNECTIONS

There are others of you out there who know of people who chose to live in Springfield, either full or part time, who should be brought to the attention of all of us. I know you are out there! Please send me some information.  
[caswellheath@msn.com](mailto:caswellheath@msn.com).

#### Springfield Historical Society Officers, 2006-2007

President, Patsy Heath Caswell

Vice President, Don Garlock

Secretary, Donna Denniston

Treasurer, Stuart Wade

Board: Bob Nulsen

Muriel Tinkham

Julie Slack

Museum Committee:

Coordinator, Julie Slack

Ed Belfield

Nancy Bower

Ann Neilsen

Peter Neilsen

SPRINGFIELD HISTORICAL SOCIETY SCHOLARSHIP FUND

I would like to donate to the Springfield Historical Society 2006-2007 Scholarship Fund, \_\_\_\_\_

Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Please make the check payable to the SHS Scholarship Fund. Mail to Stuart Wade, Treas. PO Box 6, SHS Springfield, NH. 03284. Thank YOU!

GREAT PRESENTS !

A COLLECTION OF SPRINGFIELD STORIES, \$15.00 \_\_\_\_\_

A PICTORAL HISTORY OF SPRINGFIELD, \$15.00 \_\_\_\_\_

Both for \$25.00. \_\_\_\_\_

Mail to Stuart Wade, Treasurer, SHS, PO Box 6, Springfield, NH, 03284. Thank you!