



Jan 2004

December, 2005

President's Message;

On Thursday, January 12th the Springfield Historical Society will hear Dr. Robert Goodby discuss the history of native Americans in New Hampshire. He is Associate Professor of Anthropology at Franklin Pierce College and has been engaged in a long-term program of archaeological research in the Monadnock Region. He has demonstrated that this area was homeland for the Abenakis for over 400 generations. The meeting will be at 7pm in the Springfield Town Hall and refreshments will be served. All are welcome to attend.

THANK YOU to the following:

Ed Belfield, did a great job organizing the volunteers this summer at the Museum and has some plans for next year to be announced later. He is part of the Museum Committee also made up of Nancy Bower, Dickie Hopper, Ann and Peter Neilson. They have been organizing, filing, and also coming up with good ideas that will improve the museum. We are very fortunate to have their help. Nancy Walker has volunteered to be Genealogy Curator and handle any genealogical requests that the society might receive. Muriel Tinkham does a wonderful service as advisor with her wealth of knowledge of Springfield, and where answers can be found.

Fred and Terry Davis are always finding items in their collections that would help the museum. We thank them for the old Town Reports going back into the mid/late 1800s that will fill in where we have some reports missing.

Once again, Don Garlock, our vice president, came up with a well received program about the Shakers of Canterbury, NH. Darryl Thompson, the speaker, had lived with the Shakers for thirty-eight years and had some great stories with interesting slides accompanying them. The January program sounds quite interesting.

Thanks also go to Trudy Heath and Robbie Heath for purchasing and installing the dehumidifier in the museum. It was badly needed.

Ellie Carpenter Farr, who grew up in Springfield, and is known as The Chair Lady in the Hanover area, has generously volunteered to cane two of the old chairs in the museum.

*** Springfield Historical Society Treasurer's Report, October 11, 2005 ***

Checkbook Balance, July 11, 2005		\$9,361.60
Income:		
Books.....	\$ 80.00	
Cards/CB.....	42.00	
Donation.....	3.00	
Dues.....	285.00	
Interest.....	1.48	41148
Expenses:		
Newsletter, Postage, Supplies.....	\$162.13	
Speakers.....	206.60	
SPNH.....	53.49	
Dehumidifier.....	179.99	
Dunbar Library (Ella Reney).....	75.00	677.21
CHECKBOOK BALANCE OCTOBER 8, 2005.....		\$9,095.87
CERTIFICATE OF DEPOSIT.....		\$3,314.32

Thankyou, Trudy Heath, Treasurer, for your report.

*****Amending the Springfield Historical Society Constitution*****

Since the beginning of the Society, the Board, according to our constitution, has always chosen the officers for the coming year. We have decided that it would be better if there were a separate Nominating Committee. To do so, it is necessary to amend the constitution and by-laws. The members present will vote on this at our January 12th meeting. Currently, Article III, Sec. 5 of the by-laws reads: The Board of Directors shall have the power to conduct all affairs of the society. THEY SHALL SELECT CANDIDATES FOR OFFICE, ETC. ETC.

The Board of Directors recommends the following change: The Board of Directors shall have the power to conduct all affairs of the society. THEY SHALL SELECT A NOMINATING COMMITTEE OF THREE WHO WILL SELECT THE CANDIDATES FOR OFFICE BY APRIL 1st. IN TIME FOR NOTIFICATION OF THE MEMBERS PRIOR TO THE ANNUAL MEETING IN JULY. THE BOARD SHALL decide questions of policy that for any reason cannot be acted upon at a meeting of the society and perform such other functions as designated in the by-laws or otherwise assigned to it. At any meeting of the board of directors, five members shall constitute a quorum. The board of directors, through the chairperson, shall issue an annual report of each annual meeting.

**** Other areas where the Society could use help ****

As mentioned previously, we have had some wonderful volunteers step forward and are busy with projects. There are other areas where we could expand, if any of our members were interested in doing so. Some are listed below.

Recording oral history of the older residents and part-timers. (You'd better hurry, because we aren't getting any younger!!)

Helping surveying cemetery stones with Patsy Caswell and Betty Broadley.

Finding ways to encourage young people to become involved.

Having/sharing ideas of interests that would improve the society for ALL ages.

Thinking big! Organizing a web site.

Clipping Springfield news items. Patsy does the Argus, Bev Bacon does the Valley News. How about other papers?

Joining a committee to update the Constitution and By-Laws that was last done in 1995. Three or five people are needed. It is not difficult, but a few changes need to be made.

SPRINGFIELD'S OWN HISTORY MYSTERY OF ISRAEL CLIFFORD!

During the Summer 2005, I happened to be looking through some old copies of the New England Historical & Genealogical Register, and was pleasantly surprised to find mention of an article about Springfield's Israel Clifford. We had been trying to find him for sometime in Old Pleasant View Cemetery because all but two of the American Revolutionary Veterans who lived or moved to Springfield are supposed to be buried there. We still have not found him, but the article by two decedents told us more about Israel and his family.

In the late 1700s, the northern part of New Hampshire, Maine, and Vermont was the frontier and records are scarce. It was more important to clear land and settle families than keep records. There are discrepancies in the Clifford information. Charles McDaniel in The History of Springfield, claimed that Israel Clifford, Ebenezer Loverin, Timothy Quimby were the first settlers in 1772. Langlois and Wambold in Identification of Israel Clifford of Protectworth (Springfield), NH, 1790, had lot #5 in Protectworth being granted to Israel Clifford, JR, November 1779. "in consideration of becoming a settler there." Israel JR's wife, Judith was granted 50 acres by the Portsmouth trustees for being the first woman settler in Protectworth. Israel, Sr. and son, Tristram receiving grants of land for becoming settlers in Protectworth in 1782. (The deeds were not necessarily recorded right away.)

Throughout the 1780s and 90s, Israel Clifford Sr. and Jr. were involved in Protectworth (Springfield) government. By March of 1781, town meetings were held in Protectworth, rather than Portsmouth. Israel Sr. was survaer [sic] of highways and Israel Jr. was a selectman. Israel Jr. also served in 1785. In 1788, Israel Jr. was the moderator at town meeting and on the committee to see to the building of the meeting house. In 1781, Israel Jr. was still moderator and Israel Sr. was a selectman. At the 1794 town meeting, Israel Jr. was elected selectman by proxes [sic] and also was the fence viewer. Both Father and son were listed on the first Record of Inventory and Taxes in 1794, the year of Springfield's incorporation.

During the Revolutionary War, Israel Clifford served with Capt. Henry Dearborn's company. The family was living in Deerfield, NH at the time. In 1776, he and son Tristram received money for traveling 140 miles from Deerfield, NH when they served with Col. John Waldron's Regiment. Between 8 August 1771 and 30th Oct 1777, a Tristram Clifford served in Capt. Nathan Sanborn's Co. in Bennington, VT, under General Stark. On 21 December 1779, Israel Clifford of Deerfield petitioned the state for reimbursement of the expense of bringing home and nursing son Tristram after he fell ill in the army. Tristram was a minor under 21 years of age. One wonders why son, Israel Jr is not mentioned as having served in the war. Tristram is not listed in McDonald's History of Springfield as a veteran of the American Revolution.

Israel SR. was probably born in Kingston, NH on 21 February 1728-29. He married first, Deliverance Bushwell. Their children were Deliverance, Israel Jr, Tristram, and Dorothy born 1760-5. Dorothy married Reuben Hoyt and are buried in Old Pleasant View Cemetery. Near their graves is one for Tristram Hoyt who is probably their son and named for her brother Tristram Clifford. There may have been other children. Israel Clifford's second wife was Lydia ____ and they probably married between 1780-1785. They had at least one daughter, Mary born 1784-5, who married Ephraim Davis 29 December 1808 in Springfield. There may have been others.

The date of Israel Clifford Sr. death is presently believed to be 1807. His last real estate transaction was in 1801 with John Thorn. He is not on the 1810 census. By 1812, his wife Lydia and son, Israel Jr. were petitioning to administer his estate due to his having been dead at least four years. In 1798, Israel Jr. and his wife Judith had purchased 100 acres of land and moved to Cornith, VT. Judith sold her property in Springfield to Reuben Hoyt, Israel Jr's brother-in-law. Israel Jr. died in 1822. He was probably buried in Cornith, VT. Tristram died sometime between 9 November 1796 and 15 August 1797 when his wife, Penelope Clifford filed for administration of his will. In late September 1799, Israel SR. had sold off Tristram's property. Part of it was purchased by Penelope. She had married David Perrin who administered the estate for Penelope.

Patsy Heath Caswell

Used for references were Charles McDaniel, *History of Springfield from History off Cheshire and Sullivan Counties*, c 1886, and *Identification of Israel Clifford of Protectworth (Springfield, NH) 1790* by Andrew Langlois and Alan R. Wambold. c. 2003 by The New Hampshire Society of Genealogists. Inc. As mentioned previously, there are discrepancies between the two sources. What is interesting is the way the researchers Langlois and Wambold came together when they met over the internet while working on the movement of a family to the frontier of the north. Wambold was tracing the parentage of his ancestor Israel Clifford of Cornith, Vt. Langlois was tracing the migration of the Clifford Family from Hampton, NH through the 1700s north to the frontier of NH.. They combined their efforts into the research found in the above paper.

Springfield Historical Society Membership
July, 2005 – June 30, 2006 **RED DOT DUES NOT RECEIVED**

Types of Membership:

Individual \$15.00 _____	Lifetime per person \$125.00 _____
Family of 2 or more \$25.00 _____	Business, your discretion _____

Name _____

Street/PO Box _____

City/Town _____

State and Zip _____

If you have a summer/winter address, please give both.

PLEASE MAIL TO THE FOLLOWING:

Trudy Heath, Treasurer, Springfield Historical Society, PO Box 6, Springfield, NH 03284.

ORDER SHEET

A COLLECTION OF SPRINGFIELD STORIES \$15.00 + POSTAGE \$2.00 _____

A PICTORIAL HISTORY OF SPRINGFIELD \$15.00 + POSTAGE \$2.00 _____

BOTH FOR \$25.00 AND POSTAGE \$4.00. _____ MAIL TO ABOVE ADDRESS.