



TO:

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### MARK YOUR CALENDAR !

**July 10<sup>th</sup>** *Ramble Round the Lake 5K Run*

**July 14<sup>th</sup>** *SHS Annual Meeting, Pot Luck & Live Music*

**July 17<sup>th</sup>** *Bake Sale, Hot Dogs & Root Beer Floats*

**July 24<sup>th</sup>** *Lamb Petting and Sheep Raising Lecture*

**July 31<sup>st</sup>** *Sara Ellis Art Show*

**August 7<sup>th</sup>** *Revolutionary War Camp Reenactment*

**August 14<sup>th</sup>** *Family Photos & Bake Sale (Chocolate!)*

**August 21<sup>st</sup>** *Food Preservation Presentation*

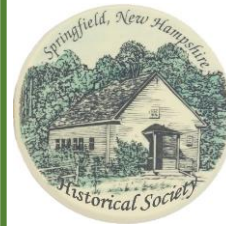
**August 28<sup>th</sup>** *Maple Syrup Making Lecture*

**September 4<sup>th</sup>** *Apple Cider Making & Bake Sale*

**October 13<sup>th</sup>** *Speaker: Our National Thanksgiving: With Thanks to President Lincoln and Mrs. Hale*

**November 6<sup>th</sup>** *Sip-A-Soup Lunch*

www.historicalspringfieldnh.org



# Springfield Historical Society Summer 2021 Newsletter



## Message to Members from the Board President

Can it really be July already? The summer is flying by, full of wonderful celebrations and gatherings. I am so proud that the Springfield Historical Society is helping restore Springfield's community spirit after a 14-month hibernation. The events on every Saturday offer something for everyone. And each week we make progress in further organizing, protecting and presenting Springfield's heritage in the Museum.

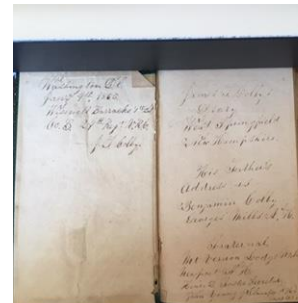
This issue details some of the treasures discovered and the special events, held and upcoming. Two, I would like to highlight in particular:

- **Wednesday, July 14** – Celebrate the Springfield Historical Society! We kick off at 5:00 with Springfield's famous Potluck Supper, followed by a short annual meeting where we revel in 2020-21 achievements and launch our barn raising project! Fun music tops off the evening!
- **Saturday, August 7** – Experience a Revolutionary War reenactment. The First New Hampshire Regiment will set up camp by the Museum and demonstrate the life of the regiment soldiers and wives.

These are only two of the special events planned EVERY Saturday through Labor Day! And of course the Museum will be open both Saturdays and Sundays. We look forward to welcoming you and your family and friends!

Jim Bednar

## Museum Finds



Civil War Diary circa 1863



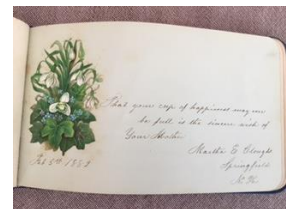
Family Bibles circa 1700's



Old Photos - Unknown



Autograph Book circa 1881



### MISSION STATEMENT

SHS is the responsible steward of Springfield's legacy by preserving and sharing Springfield's cultural heritage from the beginning through today to ensure current and future generations know, understand and appreciate our history.

## Help Us ... Raise the Barn



In October 2020, SHS hosted a New Hampshire Humanities lecture in the historic Meeting House – its first since the pandemic started. Some 30 people spread out in the hall to hear John Porter describe the history and beauty of New Hampshire barns. Sitting in the back, John's presentation got the creative juices going and an idea began to form. The SHS's new mission statement calls for us to "preserve and share Springfield's cultural heritage." Springfield's heritage is founded on agriculture. The back room of the Museum has a conglomeration of agricultural items but given their importance – the SHS needs a barn to highlight them! And what better way to bring Springfield's heritage to life than to organize a real barn raising!

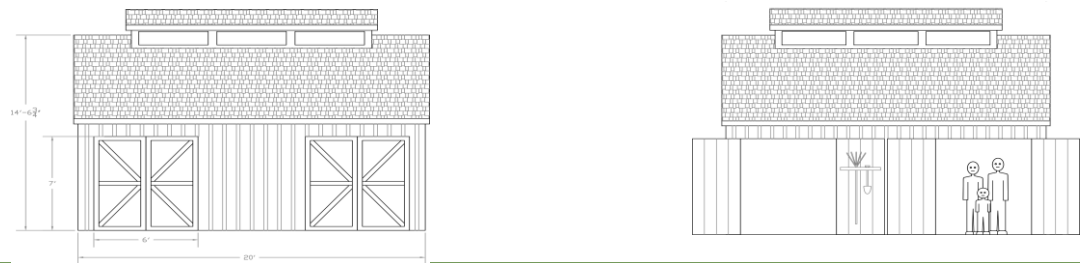
As the idea floated around town, it started to get some real traction. Keith and Sue Cuttings offered to cut some pine for the siding; the Jacques of Twin Lake Village offered hemlock for the framing; Kevin Roberts offered to do the foundation excavation; Mike Tully was ready to lay the foundation. David Fidler and Paul Seyfried agreed to co-chair the team of Springfield carpenters that were going to build the idea into reality.

With the volunteers lining up we needed drawings. Dan Saulnier stepped forward with his engineering talents to sketch out the idea. The main goals: maximize display area and keep it simple. The two swinging doors open out to bring in the light and display agricultural items. The 14 X 20' building is kept simple with no electricity, heat or plumbing.

In March 2021, the talk of the town was how poorly the sap was running which highlighted the importance of maple sugaring to Springfield. And thus came the suggestion of adding a symbolic cupula to the barn's design in honor of Springfield's many sugar houses.

With sketch in hand, Dan and I moved forward to get town approval – in June the Select Board endorsed the idea and in July we expect the Zoning Board approval. In July we have two (!) architects putting together the detailed blueprints – Frank Anzalone of New London and Mark Cowdrey of Andover. July 14, we hope the SHS members will endorse the plans as well. Assuming we raise the funds, we aim to lay the foundation this fall and raise the barn in early summer of 2022.

The famous TV line "I love when a plan comes together" seems to be an appropriate ending of this first chapter. We hope the barn becomes more than a building, but a project that helps enhance Springfield's community spirit after its pandemic hibernation. Please join in any way you can – financially, physically and enthusiastically! **We can't do it without you!**



## 2021 Springfield Historical Society Scholarship Winners

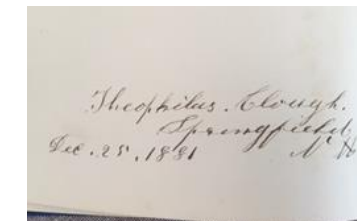
The Springfield Historical Society is grateful for the community's support which enabled us to present 7 scholarships to Springfield students to help them with their college expenses and continuing education. During our season opening events over Memorial Day weekend most of the winners were able to join us at the Museum for the presentation of the awards.

Congratulations and good luck to each one of them!



2021 Springfield Historical Society Scholarship Recipients  
From left to right: Greg Bruss (Scholarship Committee Member), Noah Munholand, Ezra Munholand, Megan Heath, Abigail Patten, Pixie Hill and Trudy Heath (Scholarship Committee Members).  
Missing from photo: Nolan Grant and Kennedy Geary.

## Exciting Discoveries Feature



The story of the autograph book highlights the diversity of items in our little museum. While further study is needed, the book seems to be from the Clough family with the owner's mother being Martha E. Clough. Entries come from Vermont as well as Springfield and date back to 1881. How the book ended at the museum is also quite a story. In March 2021 David Rothschild of Amsterdam, The Netherlands sent a Facebook inquiry asking if anyone in Springfield had an interest in the book, which he had found in 1992 when cleaning out his brother's apartment in New York City. David mailed the book from Holland and in May it arrived safely and in excellent condition. Come take a look at this precious 140-year-old book on your next visit to the museum!

### **Tell us your story!**

We are always in search of good stories to share with our members just email Poul at [peheimann@gmail.com](mailto:peheimann@gmail.com)

  
[www.historicspringfieldnh.org](http://www.historicspringfieldnh.org)