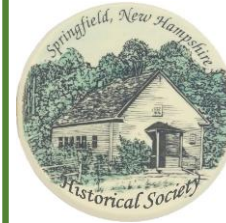


:OL

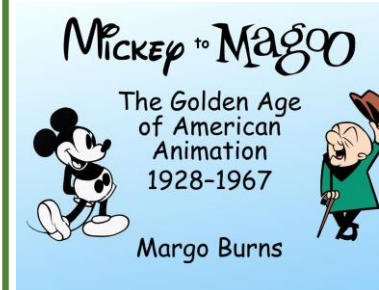
Springfield Historical Society  
PO Box 6  
Springfield, NH 03284



# Springfield Historical Society Spring 2020 Newsletter



The Historical Society's plans for 2020 offers something for everyone.  
Save these dates! Mark your calendars!



**Thursday, April 16, 7:00 PM**

Margo Burns, who got rave reviews for her talk on New England witchcraft trials last year, will once again wow the audience with the wonders of classic cartoons. From the 1920s to the 1960s, movie-goers saw a cartoon before every film. Come see an animated history about the studios and artists who made them. At the end, the audience gets to choose a whole Bugs Bunny or Mickey Mouse cartoon to watch. At the Springfield Meeting House! Co-sponsored by NH Humanities.



**Saturday, April 25, 3:00 PM**

## Rubber Ducky Race



Purchase a flock of ducks at the Springfield Town Office for \$5 each and watch them cruise down the Morgan Pond Brook at Twin Lake Villa. Maybe one of your birds will win a prize of \$150, \$75 or \$25. Sponsored by Sugar River Bank!

**Thursday, July 9, 7:00 PM**

## Springfield Historical Society Annual Meeting and fiddle music by the Sugar River Band.

The group plays traditional music from New England and Sweden on fiddles, piano, and accordion. Contra dance music is influenced by Celtic, English, French-Canadian and Cape Breton styles. The band plays across New England and its members have been featured performers at Revels North productions, the Ralph Page Dance Legacy Weekend at UNH in Durham and the New England Folk Festival. Band leader Jane Orzechowski, was the 2019 recipient of the New Hampshire Governor's Folk Heritage Arts Award. *Donations would be appreciated.*

**Saturday, July 11**

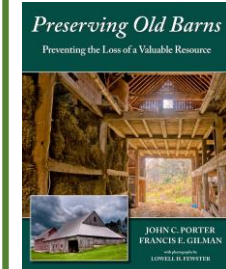
## Ramble Round the Lake 5K Run

Registration at Town Office before July 11, at Springfield Historical Society on July 11 opening at 8:00. Race starts 9:00. Fees \$20 per person, \$30 per couple, \$40 per family. Lots of prizes! Fun for the whole family and friends!



**Thursday, October 15, 7:00PM**

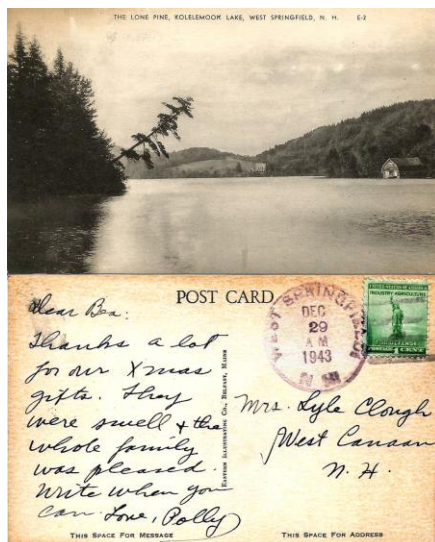
## The History of Agriculture as told by Barns



Co-sponsored by the NH Humanities Council, speaker John Porter grew up on a farm in Lebanon NH, studied aspects of farming at UNH and Cornell, retiring from UNH faculty in 2009, publishing a second edition of "Preserving Old Barns" in 2019. The evolution of barn architecture tells the story of New Hampshire agriculture. Barns changed from the early English style, to Yankee style, to gambrel and then pole barns to adjust to the changes in agriculture. This presentation is a walk through time, with photo illustrations of barns from around the state.

*Held in the Springfield Meeting House.*

# 76 Year Old Springfield NH Postcard Mystery Solved



As a member to the Upper Valley Philatelic Society (stamp collecting), I had a chance to attend the fall 2019 stamp and postcard show in Quechee, VT. One of the dealers specialized in collecting postcards from every post office in the state of Vermont. Some of his post cards were also from New Hampshire. He just gave me a West Springfield postcard for free, but it has a mystery! It was sent by “Polly”. I want to give this card or a copy of it to a descendant of either **Polly** or **Mrs. Lyle (Bea) Clough** or copies to both because the family ought to have a handwritten artifact by one of their ancestors. No Cloughs are listed in a 2016 printed book of telephone numbers in Canaan, but there are in Grafton. How can I find out more information about Polly and Bea Clough?

The postcard depicted in this article reads:

*“Dear Bea:*

*Thanks a lot for our XMass gifts. They were swell and the whole family was pleased.*

*Write when you can. Love, Polly.”*

At my recent presentation of a history of America as reflected in its post stamps, I passed this postcard around for everyone to see. One member of the audience, Fred Davis, started to hear a faint bell stirring in his memory but could not pinpoint it. When I saw him a few days later, he mentioned that his mother-in-law, Pauline Bailey Rudner Philbrick went by the name of “Polly”. She was the postmaster of the West Springfield Post Office when the card was sent!

There is another cross-reference to Polly in the form of a poem. In a well-researched article, written around the late 1930s, called *The Country Store* by Fairfax Downey who was an author, historian and longtime resident at the time. The last four lines of a poem at the end of the article read:

*“While Polly put the sugar up,  
A hearty toast we’ll pour.  
So come lift high your cider cup! -  
The good, old country store.”*

This poem was featured in a printout on the *Country Store* written by Downey from memories that may have been recited to him by longtime resident Verna Philbrick Cote of Springfield. Verna also worked at the country store along with Polly. The West Springfield Post Office was located in the country store.

So now to find out more about the addressee – Mrs. Lyle Clough of West Canaan, NH.

I tracked down a Clough living in Grafton, NH. Though his memory of long-ago relatives was patchy, he remembered a Bea Spencer who married a Clough on June 30, 1928 and who died on August 1, 2003. Without deeper ancestry investigation, it is possible to assume Bea Spencer was the “Bea” written by Polly on this card.

**Note:** The stamp used on this postcard was from the **National Defense set of 3 stamps designed by Franklin Roosevelt**. While president, Roosevelt designed more than a dozen stamps and approved 200 more.



# Springfield Historical Society Membership

**NOW IS THE TIME FOR PAYING YOUR DUES. PAYMENT DUE BY JUNE 30 2020  
TO MAINTAIN YOUR MEMBERSHIP THROUGH JUNE 30 2021.**

Individual \$15 \_\_\_\_\_ Family \$25 \_\_\_\_\_  
Individual Lifetime \$125 \_\_\_\_\_ Business (your discretion) \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Summer/Year Round Address

Winter Address

Street/PO Box \_\_\_\_\_

City/Town \_\_\_\_\_

State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

E mail \_\_\_\_\_

### Springfield Historical Society Publications

To order, mail your request and check to:

*Springfield Historical Society*, PO Box 6, Springfield, NH 03284. Add \$5.00 for postage.

"A History of Springfield" by Charles McDaniel \$10 \_\_\_\_\_

"A Collection of Springfield Stories" \$15 \_\_\_\_\_

"Pictorial History of Springfield" \$15 \_\_\_\_\_

(The last two may be purchased together for \$25) \_\_\_\_\_

### Donations are always welcome:

Scholarship Fund \_\_\_\_\_ Memorial Fund \_\_\_\_\_ General Fund \_\_\_\_\_

In memory of \_\_\_\_\_

*Please make check payable to Springfield Historical Society  
PO Box 6, Springfield, NH 03284.*

***Thank you for your continued support!***