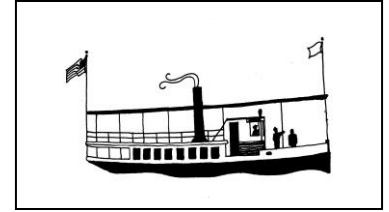


Sunapee Echoes

Sunapee, New Hampshire Historical Society, Inc.
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sunapeehistoricalsociety.org
e-mail: sunapeehistory@gmail.com
603-763-9872
Summer 2021



What's Happening?

Have we had enough rain for you? While some was a relief, we are tempted to say “Enough is enough—at least for a while!”

History Cruises. We were very lucky that the skies cleared on July 5th and provided the perfect evening for our first History Cruise of the season. Now we are looking forward to our next one—also sold out—on August 9th. This event has proved to be so popular that we have just scheduled a third one on August 16th. All three will follow the same route and include discussion of the oldest buildings in the Harbor, along Lake Avenue to Burkehaven, past the islands to the Yacht Club and back to the Harbor. Please alert your interested friends to the August 16th sailing and encourage them to make reservations. Thanks go to the *Sugar River Bank* for underwriting cruise booklet printing expenses!

Sunapee's Infrastructure. On July 22nd, Barbara will tell us the story of our town's evolving priorities and infrastructure over 150 years. (At the Museum at 7pm.) We will not be able to maintain distance, so mask-wearing is encouraged (required for the unvaccinated).

The Bride Wore Purple. On August 5th, Astrida Schaeffer, renowned expert, will discuss fashion in the late 19th century using examples from our collection, including the spectacular 1868 purple silk wedding gown of Susan Johnson Stocker. Please see below for details and note that the *Livery* will be the location for this program.

Grand and Not-So-Grand: Places to Stay at Lake Sunapee. On August 19th, Lucy Mueller will present fascinating stories of tourist cabins to grand hotels. (At the Museum at 7pm following our annual meeting.)

Annual Meeting. As usual, we will review the year's events, summarize our finances, and hold elections. (At 6:30pm on August 19th at the Museum.) This year, we have two new directors to elect. Howard Sargent and Carolyne Gatesy have accepted our invitation, and will be on the ballot. We extend our great thanks to Sandy Alexander and Rosemary Gates who are stepping down after years of service. They will be missed!

The Museum. Come in and see new exhibits on hotels, marinas, a fishing camp, and a 20-ft map of Sugar River history. Here are Barbara and Jo Hill in our new Museum “Scenes of Sunapee” gallery posing with props depicted in the Peter Tria painting behind them of Joe Hill and Mickey Ruggles at the transfer station. And don't forget to check out our c1805 Sunapee tall clock at the Archives



Come see us!

Becky



The Bride Wore Purple

Thursday August 5th, 7pm at the Livery, Sunapee Harbor

Curator, Astrida Schaeffer, will discuss fashion of the late 19th century using vintage Sunapee clothing as examples. This program is supported by a grant from New Hampshire Humanities.

Free; donations welcome.



Did you know? ...

Until 1903, refuse was disposed of on a Sunapee resident's own property or along roadsides. Ugh! By the beginning of the 20th century, sanitation issues and unsightly conditions prompted the town to take action. Health Inspector Albert Felch led a town effort to establish a "Village Dumping Station" on the south side of the Sugar River below the Lake Sunapee Wood Pulp Company's pulp mill, and the town outlawed dumping in offensive locations. Construction debris and other large items were disposed of at a site on the opposite side of the river—a site known euphemistically as "Rubbish Park."

By 1916, the dump had grown and was an issue for nearby homes. At town meeting that year, voters decided to move the dump to a less offensive location off the George's Mills Road at the intersection with Garnet Street (now Dewey Beach Road). The old dump was forgotten until the 1980s when it was rediscovered during excavation for the new town offices. When the workers ended their day, curio collectors scoured piles of dirt for old bottles and other collectibles!

From 1916 to 1957, the dump was located on the George's Mills Road site. Household trash was burned there several days a week with tires, metal, and appliance carcasses set aside for burial or salvage. Old timers may remember the joys of smashing glass in the ravine at the edge of this dump!

The large items dump on the south side of Main Street continued in use until 1943. With gas rationing for the war effort, the Lake Grange picked this site for their annual fair instead of Grantham. Volunteers cleared the area for use as a fairground, making a presentable gateway to Sunapee Harbor. It later became the site of Micro-Precision.

Road improvements to NH Route 11 through town in 1955 exposed the town dump to the new road, so the dump was moved again. Land was found on Avery Road, and the third Sunapee Town Dump opened in 1957. This dump operated in much the same way until open air trash burning was prohibited. The Sunapee Selectmen moved to establish the Sunapee Transfer and Recycling Station to the north of the old dump, and it opened in 1978. The third dump was capped to contain contaminants, and ground water monitoring wells were drilled within and around the dump site, now a grassy knoll.

This information was drawn from Volume 2 of Barbara's *Sunapee's Historic Buildings and Places* and more details can be found there. She'll be presenting the story of the evolution of Sunapee's infrastructure, including dumps, at our program on Thursday evening, July 22nd, at 7pm at the Museum. Come and learn about hog reaves, aid to paupers, the advent of phones, electricity, and more.



Pulp mill under construction, 1888. Site of Sunapee Village Dumping Station, 1903-1916.

Multi-media. In addition to a variety of new printed materials—books, trail maps, pocket history booklets—available at the Museum this summer, we'd like to call your attention to a couple of on-line opportunities to learn about Sunapee history.

- Our Sunapee Harbor Historical Walking Tour available on the Clio app or at theclio.com. We're still tweaking it a bit. Please try it and tell us what you think!
- Video excerpts from two of our new books—Historic Buildings and Places and Take Home a Souvenir—on our YouTube page or via the link on our website.

Take a walk with us through the early stories of Sunapee Harbor

Download the CLIO app



and search under "Tours" by either Location or Title *Sunapee Harbor Historical Walking Tour* ~ Enjoy!



603-763-9872

- Follow the numbered pins on the map
- Enjoy the pictures of then and now
- Read the back story of Sunapee Harbor's historic buildings & places

In Memoriam – Rachael Osborne We are sorry to have lost our dear friend Rachael at the age of 104. Although living most recently in Merrimack, she was a long-time Sunapee resident who made a point of staying in touch and visited the Museum whenever she could. We are grateful for the photo albums she let us scan and the questions she answered—all part of helping us to understand Sunapee's history.

When you use their services, please thank these businesses for their support:



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Dexter's Inn



**SUNAPEE
★CRUISES★**



And when ordering from Amazon, please use the **smile.amazon.com** website and list the Sunapee, NH Historical Society as your chosen charity. Thanks!



If you've already renewed your membership or contributed for this year, thank you!

2021 MEMBERSHIP – RENEWALS – CONTRIBUTIONS

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NEWSLETTER

- Send future newsletters by e-mail
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Please make checks payable to:

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Thank you!

Sunapee Echoes

Sunapee Historical Society
PO Box 501
Sunapee, NH 03782

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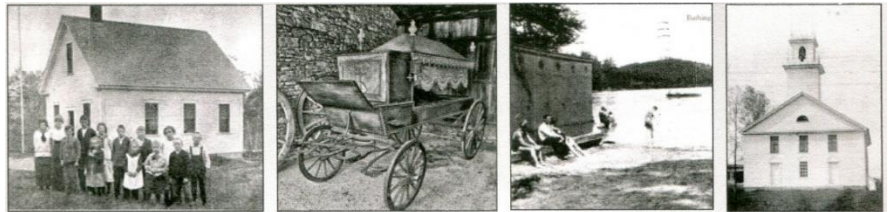
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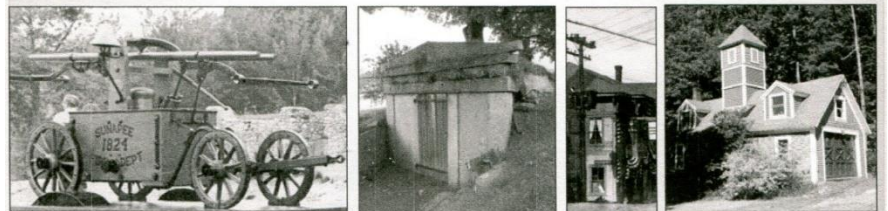
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**INFRASTRUCTURE:
How Sunapee
Became a Town**



An illustrated talk by Barbara Chalmers, July 22nd at 7 pm
Sunapee Historical Society Museum, Sunapee Harbor