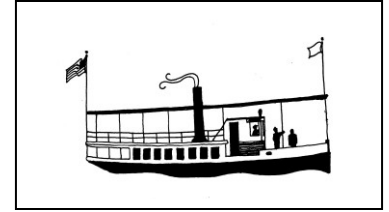


Sunapee Echoes

Sunapee, New Hampshire Historical Society, Inc.
P. O. Box 501, Sunapee, NH 03782
sunapeehistoricalsociety.org
e-mail: sunapeehistory@gmail.com
603-763-9872
Summer 2023



WHAT'S HAPPENING?

Summer is rolling along, and it will be **PARTY TIME** before we know it! Come and celebrate with us at the Livery on August 12th as we mark our 50 years of preserving Sunapee's history. Space is limited, so reservations are needed. Your \$50 per person will help pay for the celebration and launch us on our next 50 years.

We'll dance to local band, The Unusual Suspects, enjoy hearty hors d'oeuvres prepared by Fentons' Catering, have fun bidding on a terrific variety of silent auction items from generous donors, and celebrate with friends as we remember those who worked so hard in the past to preserve Sunapee's rich history. We ask that you BYOB, and we'll have homemade lemonade and bottled water available. Dress is casual, but we hope you will wear 70's outfits!

4th of July on the 1st. We had fun marching in the Independence Day Parade. Thanks go to Fred and Lois Gallup for leading in their antique woodie station wagon and to Gordon Ramspott for leading our cheering friends at the Museum!



John Bateson Photo

History Cruises. In spite of questionable (to say the least!) weather in June 26th, we enjoyed our first history cruise of the season. We were able to switch to the Lake Queen, so everyone was under cover and the rain took a break while we were out. We're keeping our fingers crossed for better weather for our 2nd cruise in a couple of weeks!

Programs. Come to the Museum on July 20th for a program at 7 pm on Sunapee's significant fires. The program will be augmented by Sunapee VFD's antique equipment, so come a little early to enjoy those. See our website for the full lineup of remaining programs.

Annual Meeting. We'll hold our annual meeting on August 17th at 6:30 before our program on Sunapee's natural resources. In addition to reviewing the past year, we will ask for approval of one by-law change so that all 5 directors are elected to 3-year terms. Article IV, Section 2, would then read as follows:

The terms of the five Directors shall be three years with two members being elected in one year, two in a second year, and one in the third. instead of:

The term of three of the Directors shall be three years with one member being elected each year. One additional Director shall be elected for a term of two (2) years, starting with the Annual Membership Meeting of 2009, and each odd calendar year thereafter. One additional Director shall be elected for a term of one (1) year, starting with the Annual Membership Meeting of 2009, and each year thereafter.

Currently, two Directors' terms expire next year, and two the year after. We are pleased that John Dietel has accepted our nomination to join the board as a Director in a term that, with approval of the by-law change, will expire in 2026. Those present at the meeting will be asked to ratify his nomination.

Our by-laws outline a committee structure that we have been unable to maintain because of a lack of volunteers. If anyone would like to help, please let us know!

Keep on enjoying summer!

Becky Fitts Rylander

Did you know?.....The Roads of Sunapee, part 2.

In our last newsletter, we explored the names of Sunapee's roads. As you think about earlier residents of Sunapee and their lives, have you ever wondered what roads were here? Photos from the late 1800s show us glimpses of one-lane dirt tracks where we now have paved 2-lane roads, but Barbara Chalmers's research in town records tells us the chronology of road-building over the years from the beginning of our town in 1768. A few of the early roads, or parts of them, are no longer in use, but most have gradually become what we know today.

With the Province Road in what became Goshen as a foundation, early settlers in South Sunapee soon added others to suit their needs. By 1800 that included a road past Spectacle Pond (Mountain View Lake) to Newport via what is now Bradford Rd with connectors running south to the Province Rd. in Goshen. Newport Mill Rd followed what are now Brook Rd, Harding Hill Rd, and Trask Brook Rd to a mill in Guild. At the same time, settlement moved north. The Road to Springfield, a relatively major thoroughfare, followed the route now delineated by Stagecoach Rd., Winn Hill Rd, and North Rd. A loop to



the Bailey Mill near Sunapee Harbor ran over current Stagecoach Rd from Winn Hill Rd to High St and the mill, up Alpine Court and over the hill to Sargent Rd and back to the Springfield Rd, or what we know as North Rd, with a spur to Croydon (now Ryder Corner Rd). A lesser road served farms closer to the lake (then known as Sunapee Pond) and connected with Springfield Rd via Trow Hill Rd and to the Hearsee Mill and settlers at the north end of the lake via two roads, the first close to the east end of Ledge Pond and the second closer to what became Route 11. The road from Grantham to New London cut across the north end of Wendell/Sunapee* following Prospect Hill Rd and ran over Otter Hill to join Davis Hill Rd.

Over the years, roads were added, improved or abandoned as needed, and Routes 103, 103B, and 11 became the major routes through town. Some of us remember the old alignment of Route 11 before it was straightened, widened, and smoothed in the 1950s to what we know today. In the mid-1900s, Route 11 came from Guild along Wendell Marsh; through the Lower Village; then north on Old Georges Mills Rd, past Seven Hearths (now Mt. Royal Academy) and Bernard Carey's chicken farm to the west of the current road; then close to, but not exactly on, today's roadway past Sleepy Hollow Lodge (now the dance studio and apartments), Trow Rico Lodge (now homes), Trow Hill Rd, and down Muzzey Hill to George's Mills. At the time, the "new" road was hailed as a great improvement. Its long-term effect on the life of our town can be debated, but it certainly made travel to and through town easier.

Map by Barbara Chalmers

*Note: Our town changed names over time and was known as Wendell from incorporation in 1781 to 1850. The lake and mountain were always named Sunapee.

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Thank you!

Sunapee Echoes

Sunapee Historical Society

PO Box 501

Sunapee, NH 03782

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North Road near Perkins Pond Road past 2 schoolhouses—old and newer #3.