



HIRAM NEWSLETTER

VOLUME 92 WINTER EDITION CREATED BY TERRY DAY
APPROVED BY MUNICIPAL OFFICERS

FEBRUARY 2022

Look Who's Running.....



Selectman, Assessor, Overseer of the Poor:
3 year term

Hale, Corey

Harmon, Kenneth E.

Road Commissioner – 3 year term

Pierce, Gary

Sawyer, Gregory

M.S.A.D. #55 School Board Director – 3 year term

All write-in votes

+++++

There will be a meet the candidate night on:

THURSDAY, FEB. 17, 2022

7:00 P.M.

AT THE

HIRAM TOWN OFFICE

PUBLIC IS WELCOME TO

ATTEND AND MEET THE

CANDIDATES THAT ARE

RUNNING FOR THE ELECTED

POSITIONS



ANNUAL TOWN MEETING

ELECTION – FRIDAY
MARCH 4TH, 2022

POLLS OPEN 4 P.M. – 8 P.M.
AT THE TOWN OFFICE

Absentee Ballots available at
the town office

TOWN MEETING – SAT.
MARCH 5TH, 2022

9 A.M.

At the Sacopee Middle School

Follow current CDC guidelines re:
masking



TOWN MEETING WARRANT

ARTICLE HIGHLIGHTS

These are summaries of some of the articles that will be voted on at the annual town meeting on March 5th, 2022 at 9 a.m. at the Sacopee Middle School.

ARTICLE 4. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$91,000.00 for the Sacopee Rescue Unit per their request as follows:

Sacopee Rescue operating account	\$ 81,000.00
Sacopee Rescue reserve account	\$ 10,000.00

Totaling	\$ 91,000.00
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Municipal Officers recommend raise and appropriate \$81,000.00 for operations and \$10,000.00 for reserve for SRU.

The Rescue Unit Board has been meeting with the municipal officers of all 4 towns for the past year to resolve some of the issues that have been brought to everyone's attention. The increase would allow the rescue to pay a full-time chief/responder and another part-time advanced EMT on duty. The increase is also due to all supplies increasing in cost and insurance increases.

ARTICLE 20. To see if the Town will authorize the Municipal Officers to enter into a contract for a period of not more than 3 years, for the purpose of providing winter road maintenance, on such terms as they deem to be in the Town's best interest.

Municipal Officers recommend to do so.

The plow contracts will be going out to bid again this summer and this article allows the municipal officers to enter into a three year contract with the awarded contractor.

ARTICLE 21. To see if the Town will vote to appropriate the funds received from Coronavirus Local Fiscal Recovery Funds (aka American Rescue Plan Act or ARPA funds) from the federal government in accordance with Federal and State law.

Every town/city in Maine will be receiving or already have received these funds from the federal government. The board will then need to discuss and decide on what allowable projects these funds can be spent on and bring it to a public hearing for your approval once decisions are made.

ARTICLE 32. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$120,450.00 for the following solid waste accounts:

Solid Waste Account	\$ 105,450.00
Tri-Town Waste reserve	\$ 15,000.00

Totaling	\$ 120,450.00
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Municipal Officers recommend: raise and appropriate \$120,450.00 (Note: tipping fees have increased twice since last town meeting and tonnages have increased)

The Tri-Town Waste Board has been working very hard to keep cost down for the taxpayers of the 3 towns, unfortunately the tipping fees at the facilities your trash, demo debris and bulky waste is hauled to have increased twice in the last year and will be increasing at least once this year along with increase in tonnages being brought into the station. Therefore, they had to increase the budget to accommodate the increase costs.

ARTICLE 33. To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$566,500.00 for the purpose of road work within the town as follows:

Large Road Projects	\$ 10,000.00
General Road / Paving	\$ 250,000.00
Winter Roads	\$ 306,500.00

Total	\$ 566,500.00
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Municipal Officers recommend: raise and appropriate the sum of \$566,500.00 (Note: Increase in winter roads is for increase in salt prices and upcoming contracts)

General road/paving stayed the same for 2022 even though the price of paving will most definitely increase, we will have to do less paving, there are no large projects on the books as of yet so it was reduced to \$10,000, the big increase is in winter roads, salt prices went up \$3.00 a ton and the unknown amount of new contracts.

Continued on next page.....

TOWN MEETING WARRANT

ARTICLE HIGHLIGHTS continued.....

ARTICLE 34. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$38,000.00 from the surplus account for the purpose of having New Settlement and Tearcap roads engineered so that the town will have engineered plans to put out to bid for repairs or reconstruction at a later time.
Municipal Officers recommend to do so.

This article is to pay for engineered plans for New Settlement Road and Tearcap Road in their entirety. There is a private firm that would be conducting the survey and putting the engineered plans together. There may be grants available for the funding at a later date that is why it is saying to take the funds from the surplus account.

Articles 37-49 Are articles that the Planning board and CEO has been working on for over a year to try and clarify our zoning ordinance and include some of the new state laws/requirements that are now in effect. A copy of each of these articles will be in the town report and you may call or email the town office and we can email you a copy.

Article 50. Is to adopt a Solar Ordinance to regulate small, medium, and large solar installations in town. This ordinance is also available by email or you may come to the office a pick a copy up.

Hope to see you at town meeting! These are your tax dollars being voted on. Each vote affects your property taxes. Come on out and vote!





Having trouble paying your property taxes?

Maine's Property Tax Deferral Program may help

April 1 is the deadline for applying to Maine's State Property Tax Deferral Program! Those age 65 and older and/or permanently disabled, earning less than \$40k/year, may qualify. Must have liquid assets below \$50k (\$75k if applying jointly).

This is part of Governor Mills' Maine Jobs & Recovery Plan, helping Mainers age safely and securely in their own homes. Full details and applications can be found at the Maine Revenue Services website, <https://www.maine.gov/revenue/taxes/tax-relief-credits-programs/property-tax-relief-programs/deferral-program>. Applications are also available on our website, townofhiram.org, and at the town office.

Applications must be sent **by April 1** to the town office (address below), where information regarding your residence is verified. Applications are forwarded to Maine Revenue Services. Maine Revenue Services determines eligibility for the Property Tax Deferral Program.

See reverse for answers to more frequently asked questions about the Property Tax Deferral program.

Phone: (207) 625-4663

Email: tday@townofhiram.org

16 NASONS WAY

Maine State Property Tax Deferral Program

What is the State Property Tax Deferral Program?

The State Property Tax Deferral Program is a program that allows certain individuals to defer (postpone) payment of the property taxes on their homesteads until they pass away, move, or sell their property. During the period when the taxes are being deferred, the State reimburses the municipality for the deferred taxes. The deferred tax, plus interest, is then required to be repaid to the State by the individual or their estate when they pass away, move, sell the property, or move the property (if mobile or floating home) out of Maine. The program is run by Maine Revenue Services (MRS) on behalf of the State of Maine.

Who qualifies for the program?

To be eligible for the program, you must be at **least 65 years old OR unable to work due to a disability**. In addition, you must have **income of less than \$40,000** and **liquid assets of less than \$50,000** (or \$75,000 if filing a joint application).

What are liquid assets?

Liquid assets are anything of value that can be converted to cash in three months or less, including:

- Bank accounts and CDs;
- Money market and mutual funds;
- Life insurance policies;
- Stocks and bonds; and
- Lump-sum payments and inheritances.

Does my property qualify for the program?

In addition to the requirements above, to be eligible for the program you must **own and occupy** the property as your principal residence, and you must be receiving a **homestead exemption** on the property. You must own your property in fee simple (in other words, there can't be any limitations on your ability to sell or encumber the property), and there must be **no municipal liens** on your property.

How do I apply for the program?

You must file an application with the Hiram Assessor between **January 1 and April 1**. The application is available on the MRS website and at Hiram Town Office. The Assessor will verify certain information, then forward the application to MRS for

review. MRS will review your application and may request additional information from you to confirm your eligibility for the program.

You only need to apply once, unless your circumstances change. Once your application is approved, you may continue to defer the property taxes on your homestead in future years as long as there is no change in circumstances that might lead to disqualification or removal.

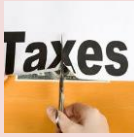
What does deferral mean?

Once you are accepted into the program, the ***State of Maine will pay the property taxes on your homestead directly to the City of Bath.*** The ***State will also place a lien on your homestead*** as security for the taxes paid on your behalf, plus interest. MRS will send you a notice each year with your current balance. You can continue to defer payment on the taxes and interest until certain repayment events occur.

When do I have to repay the deferred taxes?

You can request that your property be removed from the program at any time. You will be responsible for paying all of the deferred taxes plus interest when the property is removed. In addition, any of the following repayment events will also require removal of the property from the program and you or your estate will be required to repay the tax and interest on all deferred years:

- You pass away;
- You sell the homestead;
- You no longer use the property as your homestead, unless you are absent for health reasons; **OR**
- You remove the property from the State.



EXEMPTION FORMS DUE BY APRIL 1ST, 2022



If you have already filed there is no need to file again.

HOMESTEAD EXEMPTION – \$25,000 off your valuation

VETERANS EXEMPTION – \$6,000 off your valuation NEED A COPY OF YOUR DD214

**WIDOW OF VETERAN EXEMPTION- \$6,000 off your valuation
NEED A COPY OF YOUR SPOUSES DD214 AND DEATH
CERTIFICATE**

**BLIND EXEMPTION – \$4,000 off your valuation- MUST
PROVIDE DRS. LETTER**

**NEW* PROPERTY TAX DEFERRAL PROGRAM- taxes are
deferred until they pass away, move, or sell their property.
State reimburses the municipality for the deferred taxes.**

All of these forms can be found on our website
TownofHiram.org to see what the qualifications are for
each or you may call or email and we will send you a copy.



CODE ENFORCEMENT OFFICER INFORMATION



Please note that the town's website for "Code Enforcement, Building and Plumbing Information" has been updated. There is a new Building Permit Application Form and the Information Sheets have been updated as well.

If you're going to start a building project, please review these ahead of time and feel free to contact me with any questions.

My email address is on the website as well : hiramceo@townofhiram.org

My cellphone number is 207-256-2410

The office number is 207-625-4663.

Best way is emails so that I have a written copy of your questions and an email to respond to.

Thank you

Guy Lehouillier

Certified CEO, Plumbing Inspector

YOUR IN THE DOGHOUSE NOW!!

If you have not licensed your dog(s) for 2022, there is a \$25.00 late fee charged per dog on top of the registration fee! This is state law. Unless it is a new dog to you, then it is just the registration fee and you would need to bring in the current rabies certificate and neutering/spaying certificate if the dog has been fixed.



Get your dog(s) licensed
Keep under control



Against the law to run at large

Put both town and rabies tags on the dogs collar in case they get loose and are found, they can be identified by the tags.

ONE OF THE BEST WEEKENDS COMING UP!!



FREE FISHING!

FEBRUARY 19TH AND 20TH, 2022



GET OUT THERE AND ENJOY THE FRESH AIR WITH FAMILY AND FRIENDS 😊



MOOSE LOTTERY

NOW OPEN!



Go to State of Maine website

Inland fisheries and wildlife

Licenses - moose lottery

DEADLINE IS 11.59 P.M. MAY 12, 2022

DRAWING WILL BE IN THE SUMMER

Please help us better serve you

If you are coming into re-register something (cars, boats, ATV etc) if possible please bring in the old registration. For vehicle registrations please check to see that you have a valid insurance card and the current mileage before coming into the office this will help us better serve you. ***If you have an SR22- you need to call the office in advance so that we can call Augusta for verification and approval to process your registration.***



Registration Helpful Hints



The State is starting to crack down on the bill of sales for motor vehicles, snowmobiles, ATV's and boats. They are requesting what they refer to as a valid bill of sale. A valid bill of sale fully describes the vehicle being purchased – the year, make, model, color and VIN; it also contains both the seller and buyers information, including names, signatures and addresses for all parties. If the title transfer is incomplete and you have a valid bill of sale we may be able to process the registration using the documents you have.

When registering a previously owned snowmobile, ATV or boat if it has been registered in Maine before please try to bring in the sticker number and year from the previous registration this is extremely helpful trying to locate the vehicle within MOSES



****REMINDER****

IT IS AGAINST THE LAW TO SHOVEL, PLOW, BLOW, OR PUSH SNOW INTO A PUBLIC WAY!!!

**ACCORDING TO:
MRSA Title 29A SS 2396**

4. Snow. A person may not place and allow to remain on a public way snow or slush that has not accumulated there naturally.

THIS CAN CAUSE AN ACCIDENT THAT YOU COULD BE LIABLE FOR!



!!NOTICE!!

Notch Road has posted signs of “NO THRU TRUCKS”!

There was a public hearing held prior to doing so with those present expressing many concerns about large trucks using Notch Road as a short cut from Rt. 113/Pequawket Trail to Rt. 160/Brownfield Road. Many times, people have been forced to go into the ditch due to the road being narrow and the trucks so large. Making it dangerous for vehicles and pedestrians on the road. Therefore, the Municipal Officers voted to post the road to no thru trucks, hoping this would stop the use of the crosscut, but it seems it has not. This does not prohibit people from having their property worked on with construction vehicles, logging operations, etc, but does prohibit large trucks to use it as a pass through/shortcut. We have been told by the Sheriff Dept. and State Police they cannot enforce the signage unless there is a weight limit posted with it.

The Municipal Officers do not want to have to do this but if trucks continue to go against the signage they will be forced to post a weight limit on Notch Road and law enforcement will be contacted.



WE ASK FOR ALL TO COOPERATE AND NOT GO AGAINST THE SIGNAGE.



TRI -TOWN WASTE FACILITY



The new construction is nearly complete and we wish to thank everyone for being so patient and understanding during the construction period. Especially, thankful to the manager, Joe McNulty, and the attendants: Mike Cote and Tim Caldwell for handling the construction to the very best of their ability and keeping things running smoothly.

The scales will be up and running this spring once the snow and ice are clear and they can be balanced and programmed. The new recycling placement seems to be working well and convenient not to have to climb stairs anymore.

We ask for your continued patience and understanding as we finish the construction and get the scales up and running. It will take time and patience to learn the new system but we feel it will benefit all of you.

Transfer Station hours are:

Tues, Weds. And Fridays 10-3 p.m.

Sat. 8-4

Sun. 9-4

Closed Mon. & Thurs.

Manager: Joe McNulty

Attendants: Mike Cote

Tim Caldwell

Driver: Dennis Lowd

Spare Driver: Scott Chapman

Station Tel Number: 625-7633

Office Number : 625-4663

Terry Day/Secretary/Treasurer



ECOMAINE'S LIST OF RECYCLING DO'S AND DON'TS

DO RECYCLE

PAPER

- All clean cardboard, paperboard, & pizza boxes (NO FOOD)
- Newspaper & inserts
- Magazines
- Mail & catalogs
- Paper bags
- Office paper, envelopes, & window envelopes
- Wrapping paper
- Phone books
- Books
- Paper plates (clean)
- Milk & juice cartons
- Drink boxes & aseptic containers ("Tetra Paks")
- Shredded paper (put in clear plastic bags)

PLASTIC

- Water bottles
- Milk jugs
- Detergent bottles
- All rigid containers marked #1-7 (except Styrofoam)

METAL

- Tin cans
- Aerosol cans (empty)
- Aluminum cans & foil
- Pots & pans

GLASS (ALL COLORS)

- All glass bottles & jars

All rigid containers must be EMPTY (not perfectly clean)

DON'T RECYCLE

PLASTIC BAGS & WRAP

- Trash & shopping bags (empty or full)
- Plastic wrap or film
- Bubble wrap or mailers
- Tyvek or plastic envelopes
- Bread bags
- Potato chip & snack bags
- Sandwich baggies
- Animal food bags
- Frozen vegetable bags
- Pellet bags
- Newspaper bags
- Boat wrap or tarps

BATTERIES

- alkaline
- button-cell
- rechargeable & lithium-ion

- Styrofoam (even if it's #6)
- Paper towels, napkins, or tissue
- Needles & sharps
- Large metal parts
(car, boat, truck, etc.)
- Gas tanks
(propane, helium, oxygen, etc.)
- Wood & lumber
- Pipes (metal or plastic)
- Clothing & shoes
- Bedding & pillows
- Furniture
- Light bulbs (any type)
- Garden hoses
- Hangers (metal or plastic)
- Diapers (baby or adult)
- Food or plants (compost these)
- Kitty litter
- Knives & blades
- Toys
- Vinyl siding
- Wax-coated paper & boxes
- Rope, string, chain

do not bag recyclables
No garbage



No plastic bags or film
Return to retailers



No clothing or linens
Use donation programs



No "tangles"
No cords, electronics, hoses, ropes, etc.



No hazardous waste
No explosives – No sharps



No food or liquid
Empty all containers

THREE RULES OF PLASTIC RECYCLING

1. It must be rigid plastic – nothing that can be crumpled
2. It must be a container – like a bottle, jug, or box
3. It must have a #1-7 recycling symbol

HIRAM CULTURAL CENTER

Community Conversations

The Hiram Cultural Center embarks on the exciting journey of improving its programs and services for the Soldiers Memorial Library and The Arts Center at 8 Hancock. We want to ensure that the work we do as a library and arts center is in alignment with our community's dreams and needs.

What kind of community do you want to live in? How is that different from what you see now? How can these answers shape the services and offerings of our library and arts center?

These are the very questions we seek to ask our community in 2022. By partnering with YOU, our neighbors, we want to provide a space for you to connect with the neighbors on your block, share your aspirations together, and make an impact in your community.

For more information or to be part of the conversations project please contact:

Andrea Guimond

207-256-2272

Email: andrea.guimond@maine.edu

Online fillable form: <https://formsmarts.com/form/27tn>

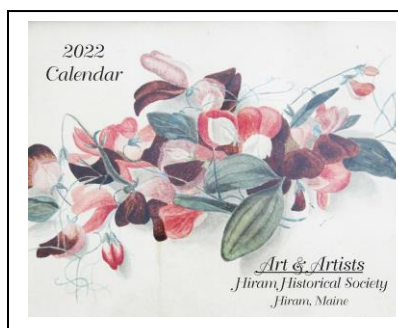
IF UNABLE TO USE THE ONLINE FORM, YOU MAY CONTACT ANDREA TO GET A PAPER COPY OF THE SURVEY AND PAPER COPIES WILL BE AVAILABLE AT THE LIBRARY AND TOWN OFFICE



HIRAM HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Although the Great Ossipee Museum is closed until May, we have been busy!

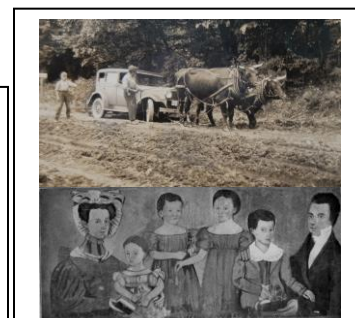
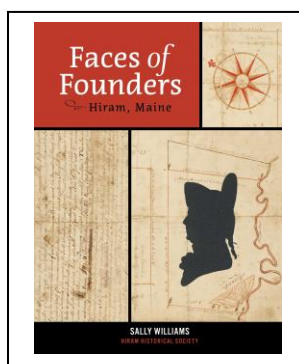
Publications: We published the 2022 calendar *Art & Artists - timeless beauty in color* – for sale at Soldiers Memorial Library and Hiram Town Office - \$20, and through the Society's website (plus shipping).



One of the many photos in the 2022 calendar. This one is by Evie Hanson, a commercial artist who worked in Portland and lived in Hiram.

We published *Faces of Founders: Hiram, Maine*, a glimpse into the lives and personalities of 45 founders and their wives and children and grandchildren. You will recognize some of the names! Its 332 pages include photos old and new many in color, researched charts for permanent reference, and stories told for the first time. It establishes connections with many towns in New England and the west, which at the time could mean New York, Ohio, or farther to Michigan. Reviews are highly favorable! See comments on our website.

Available at Soldiers Memorial Library, Hiram Town Office, Spice & Grain, Weston Farms, Bridgton Books, Letterpress and Nonesuch Books and other bookstores in Portland, also online at our website, Amazon.com and Maine Authors Publishing (plus shipping). \$39.95



Sample photos: roads; rare portrait Mary Jane Barker family before heading west

These are our new publications. Come see our other booklets, maps, DVDs, and cards.

INTERVIEWING Activities of Hiram Historical Society:

In a snowstorm in December 2021, Mary Hannaford and Sally Williams interviewed Bill and Marilyn Johnson of **Apple Acres** about their lives before they became involved with Leighton Johnson's dream and their exciting experiences while managing the several orchards and farm stores, rescuing photographs from the fire in 1981, and rebuilding their home and business. We will edit the video and make it available.

Earlier in 2021 we filmed descendants of Nathaniel W. Adams, 1822-1908, and his wife Eliza K. Chadbourne, 1825-1910. You may know the descendants – Judy Pendexter Sargent, formerly of South Hiram, and Grace Adams Berestecki and her daughter, who traveled to the Museum in August. Their ancestors were founders of the largest orchard in Hiram on the site of the present **Apple Acres**. Nathaniel Adams was the son of Joseph Adams, one of the first settlers on the Waters Grant (now Durgintown) and Dorothy Warren Adams, daughter of the beloved Revolutionary War Col. Nathaniel Warren Adams. Nathaniel and Eliza's children included Priscilla Adams, a long-time teacher in Hiram schools.

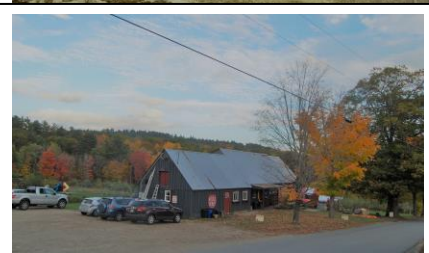
We were thrilled to add gifts our guests brought – see them in the Museum when it reopens in May. Another relative, Russell Glatzer of South Hiram, kindly let us copy two historical photographs – a vintage photo of the Barton house on River Road, and a beautiful clear photo of the Adams homestead (it burned in 1981).



Vintage photo of the Barton house, 40 River Road



The Barton house today



Apple Acres store October 2021

Hiram Historical

Society would like to do more interviews like the ones above, at Great Ossipee Museum, private homes or other places

Do you know of people with memories of Hiram who might share their stories?

Please let us know.

Contact any Hiram Historical Society members:

Sally Williams, President – 207-615-4390, gardenlit@gmail.com;

Ellie Stein, Vice-President – 603-848-1249, ellieenergy1@gmail.com;

Priscilla Howard, Secretary – 207-625-8074, priscilla.howard038@gmail.com;

Donna Ward, Treasurer – 207-625-4790, dward98221@roadrunner.com;

Mary Hannaford, Member at Large – 207-625-9344, mjhannaford@hotmail.com;

Trustees Ken Kimball, Dianne Jewett, Bill Johnson Sr., Sue Moulton, Bruce Nason, Sylvia Pease, and additional Steering Committee members and volunteers Maryagnes Gillman, Eugenia Gregory, Lynn Terpstra.

We mourn the loss of Eleanor Twitchell, a beloved teacher, founder, and trustee for many years, who died on December 8, 2021.

Join us for the next season of free programs

Stay with us as we explore our community and our heritage

Programs include

- * An antiques appraisal day with Kathy Libby of Libby's Antiques in Cornish
- * An exhibit of watercolors of Hiram people and places painted by Mary Cobb and Mary Burnell, who are hard at work creating them now!
- * Revealing the recipient of the 2021 Hubert W. Clemons Award for Outstanding Service to the Town of Hiram.
- * Reviving the antique apples talk and cider tasting for mid-July that was cancelled two years ago!

More is in the planning stages. Stay tuned for details!

www.hiramhistoricalsociety.org

BREAKING NEWS

FACES OF FOUNDERS TV2 Class of 2021 SAD55 High School production with Hiram Historical Society is on Youtube as of Friday February 12, 2022 - <https://youtu.be/JIkTPt5CaJ8>

High School students in the TV2 Class of 2021 read profiles of 15 founders of Hiram, Maine - pioneers all, war heroes some, scoundrels a few. The teacher/moderator reads facts, followed by students in costume portraying the men, women, and children in their own voices free from the restraints of the book *Faces of Founders: Hiram, Maine* published to high acclaim in 2021. The partnership with Hiram Historical Society and this production was unique in the state of Maine. Music is by professional musicians: David Sturtevant, Hiram, who sings and plays "O Hiram, Maine" written for Hiram's Sesquicentennial in 1964, by Paul Wadsworth, a descendant of founder General Peleg Wadsworth; Katherine Rhoda, Hiram, sings and plays "Out of the Dark" a hymn written by Samuel Wadsworth Longfellow, a grandson of the General and a brother of Henry Wadsworth Longfellow. The video is 45 minutes long!