



Silver knife made by Paul Storr with London hallmark, 1797, found in Dublin. • The two buttons in the center photo are quite rare New Hampshire militia buttons of 1850, found on the Old Town Farm • The Jaffrey Sesqui-centennial medal pictured on the first page was found near the Bible Center. It's now in the Society's collections, kindly donated by Steve.

Summer

# Jaffrey Historical Society

Civic Center, 40 Main Street, Jaffrey, NH 03452

2016

## Annual Meeting

**Thursday, August 11, 2016, 7 pm. Jaffrey Civic Center.**

*Digging up the Past—The History Under Us*

**Steven Baldwin**

STEVEN BALDWIN was born and raised in Jaffrey, graduating from Conant High School in 1977. He's an alumnus of the New Hampshire Police Academy and studied criminal justice at NHTI, attended the Northwestern University Traffic Institute and trained as a Crime Scene Investigator. He joined the Hancock Police Department in 1987 and after 22 years of service retired as Police Chief.

A few years ago he purchased a metal detector not realizing how closely related it would be to police work. It's quite simple searching for history that has been lost or buried for hundreds of years—it's an investigation. Steve says that "when I encounter an interesting place to detect it becomes a scene from history, for instance an old farm field bounded by stonewalls. View the corners as places where a farmer turned oxen; a depression in the field where a barn may have stood; a well where one stopped to drink; and the largest tree on the property where shade was taken. These are all places that will yield relics and tips from the past. Metal detecting is much more than walking a beach looking for jewelry. A detector is an excellent tool for searching what lies beneath the ground. Technology has advanced to where I can tell the difference in metal composition, size and depth of an object. Lastly, detecting has two sides: hobby and sport...and both are very exciting. But for me I have found another that is truly rewarding: I have been very successful in finding lost items and returning them to whom they belong."

*Things are never lost forever!*

• See a Gallery of Steve's photos on the last page!



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## Looking ahead —Upcoming Programs & Events

**THURSDAY AUGUST 11:** Annual Meeting, Steve Baldwin *Digging up the Past* • **SUNDAY OCTOBER 16:** Annual Autumn Outing TBD • **THURSDAY DECEMBER 8:** JHS-Civic Center Christmas party • **THURSDAY FEBRUARY 9, 2017:** Pot Luck • **THURSDAY APRIL 13:** TBD • **THURSDAY AUGUST 10:** Annual Meeting, Phil Cournoyer on *W.W. Cross* (tentative) • **SUNDAY OCTOBER 15:** Annual Autumn Outing TBD ♡

## News of your Society

GREETINGS TO ALL,

OUR APRIL program on tall-case clocks by **Scott Edwards** (of Peterborough's SCOTT'S CLOCKS) was well-received and quite educational. Scott used our Laban Ainsworth clock as a teaching aid. You can see the slideshow at <http://www.rs41.org/jhs/edwards.pdf>.

At this year's Annual Meeting our speaker will be **Steve Baldwin** [see front page]. He was due to speak next year but because of the ill health of **John Peard**, who was to speak on RED'S OF JAFFREY, he has agreed to present his program on metal detecting this year. We wish John well and perhaps his talk can be re-scheduled to another time.

The **Dean Murder Project** is progressing a step at a time. We're looking ahead to August 2018 and the hundredth anniversary of this famous unsolved crime. (The main working website is at <http://www.rs41.org/jhs/dean.htm>) The scanning of original documents continues. Progress can be seen at <http://rs41.smugmug.com/Jaffrey/Dean-Murder>. Mark Bean, Bill Driscoll and I spoke on the subject at the Cheshire Academy of Lifelong Learning and are due to speak at the Keene Library in August.

The Society co-sponsored with the Jaffrey Cemetery Committee a walking tour of **Conant Cemetery**. It was scheduled for June 11th but was postponed to the 18th because of rain. You can see the tour guide at <http://www.rs41.org/jhs/conanttour.pdf>

We co-sponsored, as usual, the Reading of the **Declaration of Independence** on the 4th of July in the Meetinghouse. It was particularly well attended this year.

August is the Society's month for the Civic Center display cases. Our exhibit this year will feature the **'Buddies Monument'**—Viggo Brandt-Erichsen's World War I memorial. The secondary focus will be the recent Conant Cemetery walking tour.

I look forward to seeing you at our Annual Meeting on August 11th at the Civic Center.

Rob Stephenson, *President*

PS: If you receive a membership envelope with this newsletter it means that your dues haven't been received yet. Please renew your membership!



**Jackie Johnson**, right, inspects the various items donated by **Bett Fuller Chase**, now of Laconia, who visited with her husband.



Tour guide **Emily Preston** relates the many accomplishments of **John Conant**, the namesake of the Conant Cemetery, during the Walking Tour on June 18th.



**Betty Shea** holding portraits of her parents—Homer & Louise Belletete—which she recently donated to the Society.

### Little Red Schoolhouse

Jackie Johnson, *Chair*

OUR HISTORIC one-room schoolhouse is now open on weekend afternoons in July & August from 2 to 4pm until Labor Day. You can arrange a visit at other times by contacting **Jackie Johnson** at 532-7379. ☺

### Membership

Marcie Manning, *Chair*

WE ARE SORRY to report the death of member **Lloyd Soderberg**. And we welcome as a new member **Peter Davis**. Our membership now stands at 160. ☺

### Acquisitions & Accessions

Dick Boutwell, *Chair*

RECENT ACCESSIONS include: • An oil painting by Ellie Gagnon entitled 'Winter Fun', donated by Helen Coll. • Portraits of Homer & Louise Belletete [see photo]. • Grange ephemera and framed ancestor photographs donated by Bett Fuller Chase [see photo]. ☺



The Archives has a steady stream of researchers seeking out a wide range of Jaffrey-related. The two on the left are researching railroads, assisted by **Bruce Hill** and **Dick Boutwell**.

### Monadnock No. 4

Bill Driscoll & Dave Kemp, *Chairs*

WORK CONTINUES on our early pumper, *Contoocook*, at Jaffrey's Fire Museum. **Dave Kemp** is now restoring the wheels. He and **Bill Driscoll** should have it ready for an open house and demonstration in 2017. THE MONADNOCK 4 brochure may be seen at <http://www.rs41.org/jhs/monadnock4.pdf> ☺

### Officers & Committee Chairs

*President:* Rob Stephenson • *Vice Presidents:* Joe Manning & Betty Shea • *Treasurer:* Kent Royce  
*Corresponding Secretary:* vacant • *Recording Secretary:* Charles Turcotte • *Accessions:* Dick Boutwell  
*Exhibits:* Helen Coll • *Genealogist:* Paul St. Pierre • *Hospitality:* Pam Royce • *Little Red Schoolhouse:* Jackie Johnson  
*Membership:* Marcie Manning • *Monadnock No. 4:* Bill Driscoll & Dave Kemp • *Publicity:* vacant

### Directors

| <u>2013-2016</u> | <u>2014-2017</u> | <u>2015-2018</u> |
|------------------|------------------|------------------|
| Jackie Johnson   | Peter Sawyer     | Archie Coll      |
| Susan Leach      | Diane Schaumann  | Bruce Hill       |
| Fran McBride     | Peggy Ueda       | Emily Preston    |
| Jereme Underwood | Dennis Wright    | Dan Shattuck     |

### Past Presidents

Mark Bean • Dick Boutwell • Helen Coll • Bill Driscoll • Owen Houghton  
Dave Kemp • Marcie Manning • Kent Royce

### Trustees of the Trust Fund

Mark Bean • Betty Royce • Harvey Sawyer