



CONTENTS

- 01: New Additions
- 02: Recent Events
- 03: Jaffrey Time Capsule
- 04: Annual Meeting News

"...To study, interpret, protect, and promote the history of Jaffrey, New Hampshire."

NEW ADDITIONS TO THE MUSEUM!

By Peter Lambert

June was a remarkable month for your Jaffrey Historical Society. The JHS has recently acquired several very important artifacts, which we will proudly be displaying in our area in the Jaffrey Civic Center.

On June 4, Bob Warfield, son of Robert and Virginia Warfield, visited Jaffrey and donated to us three birds from his own personal collection – this is in addition to the five he had purchased from a private collection in Massachusetts and donated to us.



Left: Wood Duck, gift of Bob Warfield. Photo: Peter Lambert
Right: Blue Jay, gift of Jaffrey Public Library. Photo: Bruce Hill

Additionally, the Jaffrey Public Library has given the JHS their own collection of 14 Warfield Birds, along with the display case they had been using. Though a prominent feature of the library for many years, the library needed more space to carry out its recent change in direction and purpose. In their desire to ensure that the birds would still be prominently and safely displayed in town, the trustees decided the JHS was the most obvious recipient.

The Library recently acquired a grant to completely digitize the Amos Fortune collection – soon the manumission papers, deeds, records, and other miscellaneous papers will be accessible in digital form all over the world! To that end, Amos Fortune's lantern and tools have been returned to us, and they have also given us possession of Amos Fortune's own pocket compass. These will also be displayed in our collection – perhaps in the SECOND display case the library has thoughtfully given us! In one remarkable month we received 22 carved birds, two beautiful display cases, and Amos Fortune's compass. We are proud to be the guardians of Jaffrey's history!



Jaffrey DPW employees helped move two large display cases from the Library to the JHS on June 30. Thank you, DPW! Photo Credit: Peter Lambert



Amos Fortune's pocket compass is now in the possession of the JHS. It will soon be on display along with his lantern. These artifacts formerly "lived" at the Library. Photo Credit: Jeanne Duval

REMINDER: Please send changes of address, current email, etc to Marcie at: mcm603532@gmail.com

RECENT EVENTS

The Jaffrey Historical Society was pleased to host the **Historical Society of Cheshire County (HSCC) springtime Roundtable** on June 12, 2025. This event brings together leaders from many historical societies around the region to talk about what projects they're working on, promote their events, or ask questions and get feedback about virtually any issue confronting directors. The HSCC also held an archival materials training session that was well-attended. The Monadnock Historical Societies Forum Facebook page lists out many history activities to attend for family fun. Thank you to the JHS volunteers who helped set up, host, and provide refreshments for our regional visitors. – Meg Gourley



Members of the HSCC Roundtable met at the JHS in June.
Photo Credit: Meg Gourley

The 25th Annual **Reading of the Declaration of Independence** on July 4th was a huge success! Thank you to everyone who showed up, participated, organized, or was otherwise involved in this very special event!



Dave Kemp and his daughter Becky brought the Seagraves fire engine to the meetinghouse on July 4. Photo: Tara Castiglione, TEAM Jaffrey

Pete Davis recently stepped down as JHS Treasurer. Pete served for four years with dedication and distinction. Thank you Pete! Peter Maki has taken his place on an interim basis until the August 2025 officer election.



Photo Credit: Rick Stein

On June 4, the JHS honored **Bob Warfield** with a reception for his dedication and generosity in preserving and donating his parent's works of art. The plaque honoring him will be permanently displayed in our collection. Thank you, Bob!

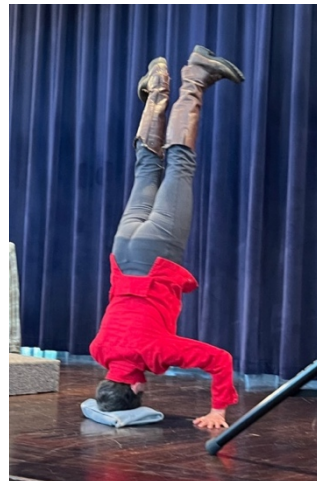


Photo Credit: Peter Lambert

On June 17 the JHS co-sponsored a commemoration of the **250th anniversary of the raising of the Jaffrey Meetinghouse**. Though inclement weather precluded the firing of a cannon, the event featured a poem by Cassius Webb, the playing of Fisher's Hornpipe, and a "promenade" around the meetinghouse. The show was stolen by Neige Christenson, re-enacting John Eaton's 1775 headstand on the ridgepole, and David & Cathy Torrey portraying Rev. and Mrs. Laban Ainsworth. Special thanks to Rob Stephenson, Sean Driscoll, Toni Gildone, and the rest of the organizing committee for a job well done!

Jaffrey Time Capsule - The Jaffrey Outing Club -

By Meg Gourley

Many JHS members will remember the Jaffrey Outing Club. First organized in 1931 as a non-profit to give healthful recreation through the winter months to the youth of Jaffrey, over 300 people signed up as members. A skating rink was set up at Cheshire Pond, with a warming hut. From these humble beginnings, the club grew rapidly and became best known for the 3-day winter carnival held in February every year.

The carnival kicked off with the Grand Carnival Ball on Friday nights. Typically, a popular act came to play the union hall. In 1936, it was Jerry Goodrich and

his Bermudians. The following year it was the Boston act of Schoolboy Joe Lewis. Selection and coronation of the carnival queen takes place on the first night. Some of us may even have been the carnival queen, albeit probably not in 1936!



The early winter carnivals became well-known in the area and drew large crowds. Admission was 50 cents and got you a button and a program. In 1935 the event featured skating, skiing, snowshoeing, coasting, obstacle races, horse racing on ice, swimming and diving exhibitions, hockey, a wood chopping contest, and the finals of the New England Sled Dog Championships. On Sunday Feb. 24 of that year, through the cooperation of the Boston & Maine railroad, "Snow Trains" came to Jaffrey, four from Boston and one from Worcester.

In addition to the above-listed activities, on Sunday there was also a "sports costume" dance and square dancing. The sled dogs returned, and they held a massive bonfire before the departure of the snow trains

at 6:00 pm. 1935 also saw the grand opening of the new 1.5-mile ski trail down Mt. Monadnock.

Lest you wonder about swimming and diving in mid-February, it occurred. The Manchester Brownies Troop came and dove from a 40-ft ladder. In 1936, they added motorcycle runs thru flames and crashing a barrier. This was also the year that Edmund Carey deeded his farm to the Outing Club, a 100-acre tract today known as Carey Park.

At the 1937 carnival, Johnny Newton and his 14 Swingsters played the carnival ball, and the queen was chosen by three judges. In 1938, an 1800-ft toboggan chute was constructed in Carey Park, and a ski jump. There was a lighted skating rink on the property and a warming hut that sold sandwiches and beverages.

As active members of the Jaffrey Outing club "aged out" and interest in its activities waned, they disbanded in 1972 and gave Carey Park to the Town of Jaffrey. JHS has a lot of information about the first few years of the annual Jaffrey Winter Carnival, but if anyone has any memories or ephemera about the event from the 1960s or early 1970s, we would like to know about it.

COMING
ATTRactions

ANNUAL
OUTING

Sunday, October 19

Hancock, NH

We have not been to Hancock since 1993!

This date is tentative – please stay tuned for more details!

UPCOMING DATES

August 7: Executive Committee Meeting

August 14: Annual Meeting, 6pm, Civic Center

See page 4 for details

September 4: Executive Committee Meeting

September 11: Board of Directors Meeting

October 2: Executive Committee Meeting

October 19: Annual Outing - Hancock

November 6: Executive Committee Meeting

ANNUAL MEETING

Thursday, August 14 - 6 pm



This year our Annual Meeting will occur at the Jaffrey Civic Center on August 14. We'll have light refreshments starting at 6 pm and start the business meeting soon thereafter. When the business meeting is completed, we will walk down the block and get a special tour of the new Town Offices in the former Monadnock Bank building by Jaffrey's Town Manager, Jon Frederick. Please join us!

At the Annual Meeting we will be voting on a few Board members, officers, and on several amendments to the bylaws. You must be present to vote. Here are the proposed bylaw changes:

ARTICLE FOUR

At the end of the second paragraph add: *The President shall appoint two members of the Society, who may be Board members but not officers, or outside auditors, to audit once a year in July all financial transactions and make a written report of their findings to the President and the Executive Team by August 1st each year. The auditor appointments shall not be considered Board members.*

ARTICLE SIX

Replace the sentence "The Treasurer shall have charge of the current funds of the Society, and shall meet from them all duly authorized expenditures." with:

The Treasurer, President, and Immediate Past President shall be signatories on the Society's checking account and have authority to deposit and expend funds from said account when so authorized by vote of the Board of Directors.

ARTICLE NINE

Replace the sentence "Of the income from such funds, Ten Percent (10%) shall always be added to the principal and the remainder shall be added to the general funds of the Treasurer, or at the option of the trustees, held in the Trust Fund for later use by the JHS." with:

Of the income from the funds, ten percent (10%) of the primary fund, referred to as the General Fund, shall always be added to the principal and the remainder shall be held by the Trustees in an accessible reserve sub-account to be known as the Board of Directors Fund (BODF) within the Endowment Fund. Said remainder may at any time be transferred to the general operating account for specified expenditure, by a two thirds (2/3) affirmative vote of the Board of Directors present at such announced meeting to cast a vote.

ARTICLE ELEVEN

Replace the words "permanent funds" with:
Principal of the Endowment Fund.

Jaffrey Historical Society Officers and Directors

President: Peter Lambert

Vice Presidents:

Sean Driscoll - Vicki Arceci

Recording Secretary: Meg Gourley

Corresponding Secretary:
Lyn Lambert

Treasurer: Peter Maki

Directors

2022-2025

Jeanne Duval - Jackie Johnson

Fran McBride - Ray Record

2023-2026

Lyn Lambert - Cathy Proulx

Karl Putnam - Diane Schaumann

2024-2027

Judith Goff - Bob Schaumann

Betty Shea - vacant

Genealogist:

Carolyn Garretson

Trustees of the Trust Funds

Clay Hollister (2022-2025)

Betty Royce (2023-2026)

Mike Shea (2024-2027)

Archivists

Dick Boutwell

Bruce Hill Assistant

JAFFREY HISTORICAL SOCIETY
40 MAIN STREET
JAFFREY, NH 03452

