

Jaffrey Historical Society

Autumn

Civic Center, 40 Main Street, Jaffrey NH 03452

2012

Annual Autumn Outing

Sunday, September 30, 2012

We're off to Westminster, Vermont!

WE'RE OFF TO Westminster, on the Connecticut River. There's a lot of history there. Have you ever heard of the 'Westminster Massacre?' Come along on our annual outing and learn about it from our hosts—members of the Westminster Historical Society. **Pat Haas** will welcome us in the Society's Museum in the Town Hall. Her daughter, **Jessie**, will tell us about the Massacre (she's written a book on it) and other bits of Westminster history (her very thick history of the town has just been published). So we'll be in the hands of experts. Over in Westminster West our hosts will be members of the Congregational Church.

→ For those who are interested we will then travel north from Westminster West to Saxtons River where we'll enjoy an early dinner at the **Saxtons River Inn** on Main Street. The Inn has an extensive and reasonably priced menu. You can see it at <http://www.saxtonsriverinn.com/Menu.html> It would helpful to know ahead of time how many would like to do this so please let Rob Stephenson know if you're interested at 532-6066 or rs41@comcast.net

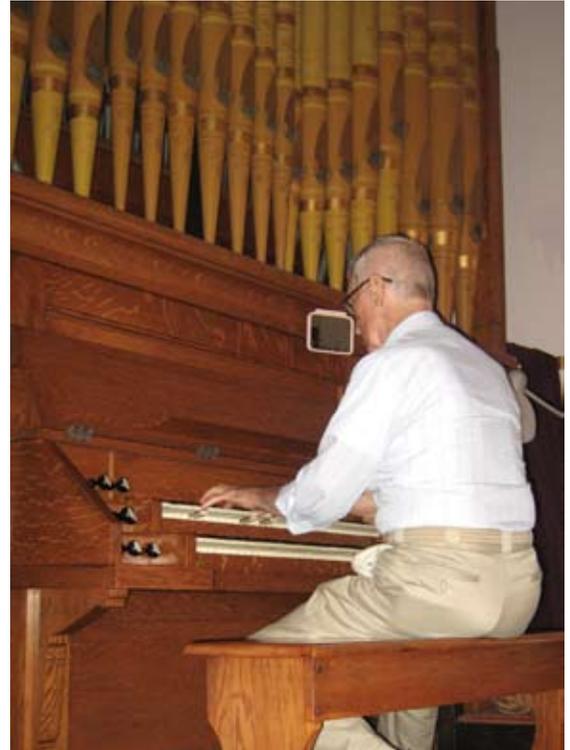
COME to the **Jaffrey Civic Center** at 1 pm when we'll congregate, arrange some carpooling, and head on our way. Or go on your own, arriving at the **Westminster Town Hall** by 2 pm. The Historical Society's Museum is on the second floor. The Town Hall is on Rt. 5 in the center of Westminster, on the west side of the road. One can hardly miss it. (You can get there by going north from Brattleboro, or by going south from Westminster Station, where you cross the river a bit north of Walpole.) Once there—after some orientation—we'll split into three groups: ONE, to marvel over the collections of the Society in the **Museum**; TWO, to walk north up to **The Old Cemetery**; and THREE, to walk south to the historic **Bradley Law Office**.

At around 3pm we'll remount our metal steeds and head west to—where else but **Westminster**



West! Here we'll walk through the **West Parish Old Cemetery** and congregate at the **Congregational Church** where we'll see the organ that once graced Jaffrey's **Baptist Church** which stood beside our present Post Office. That organ has an interesting history: When the church was dismantled, the organ went off to **Dick Boutwell's** house in Richmond. Years later, it was donated & transported to the organ-less Westminster West church, where it is today. (The church has an interesting history, too, which we'll learn about.) We'll then be in for a treat when Dick once again fires up the "King of Instruments"

and gives us all a concert to remember. Following that, we'll have refreshments provided by the our Westminster hosts. You won't want to miss this memorable outing!



The Congregational Church of Westminster West with the West Parish Old Cemetery in the foreground.
Richard Boutwell playing his old organ again. It used to be in Jaffrey's Baptist Church.

News of your Society
from our President, Marcie Manning

Greetings to all,

I HOPE you'll come along on our Autumn Outing. And looking ahead, remember our traditional holiday evening at the Civic Center in December, a pot luck supper in February, a speaker in April and our Annual Meeting in August. Details on these will be forthcoming in mailings—and e-mailings. If you received this by US mail and have e-mail and would prefer that medium, send me your e-address and I'll add you to the list. It will save the Society a bit of money and make the logistics faster and easier. Perhaps we'll have a website soon. Any volunteers to help?

Some members might be interested to know that all of the old VHS tapes in the Archives have been reformatted into DVDs. The large collection of audio tapes, some going back thirty or more years, is currently being digitized onto CDs. All of these DVDs and CDs, now in the new format, may be borrowed from the Society.

The current exhibit displayed in the basement of the Civic Center shows artifacts related to the 114 years of railroading in Jaffrey. Be sure to check out these exhibits when you are at the Civic Center, through November.

Our Annual Meeting held in August was a great success. Mark Bean related the interesting history of D.D. Bean & Sons which has been such a part of Jaffrey life over all these years. A video of his presentation may be viewed at

<http://www.rs41.org/JaffreyHistoricalSociety/Mark%20Bean.m4v>

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If you have any comments or suggestions please e-mail me at mcm9210@gmail.com

Marcie Manning, *President*