

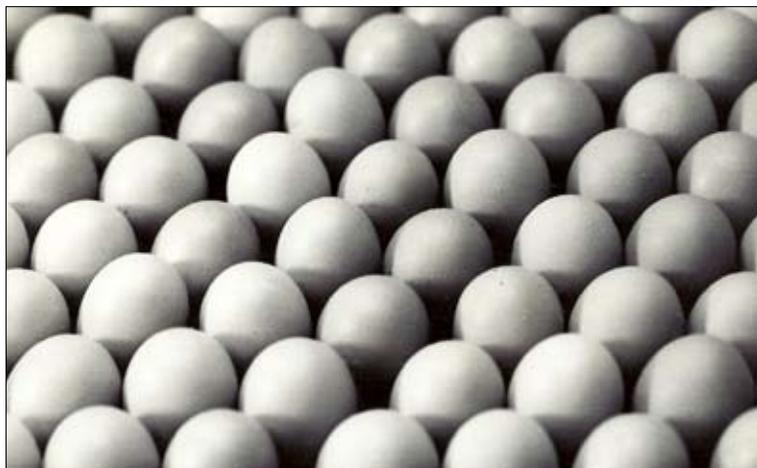
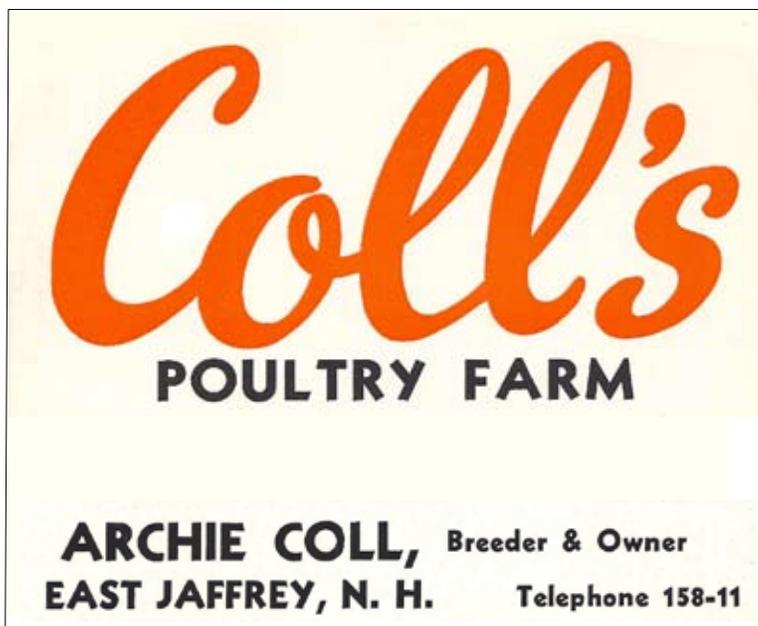
Coll's Poultry Farm

Reflections on Jaffrey's agricultural history

Presented by Archie Coll, Jr.

ARCHIE COLL, SR., was the 5th of 10 children born to Zoel and Fedora Coll who had both emigrated earlier from Canada. He was born on August 7, 1911, in the former Ensign Wilder house in Ballou City in the western part of Jaffrey. He graduated from Conant High School in 1930 with a diploma and two certificates in poultry raising. Three months after graduating he and his father bought the Clark Pierce Farm on Nutting Road. Archie converted the former dairy farm to a poultry operation, building large laying houses and other facilities. Starting with 130 chickens, in time the Colls developed the largest poultry business ever seen in Jaffrey with an ultimate capacity of 30,000 hens. Later the production of hatching eggs was added. In 1944 a new hatchery was built with a capacity of 24,000 baby chicks a week which were shipped throughout the country.

Archie married Eva Sirois, the “girl next door”—actually across the road, at Overview Farm—in 1935, and they had three children: Philip (who married Catherine Saville), Archie, Jr. (who married Helen Van Blarcom) and Betty (who married Kent Royce). 🐔 🐔 🐔



**Thursday,
August 14, 2014.
7 p.m.**

Jaffrey Civic Center

**The Annual Meeting will precede the program.
Refreshments following.**



Archie Coll, Jr. was described in Vol III of the Town History as “one of the enterprising young farmers of Jaffrey.” Indeed, he was and remains so today. The poultry business started by his father continued under his leadership and later was supplemented by the farm stand. He has been active with the Farm Bureau Federation, New Hampshire Poultry Growers, New Hampshire Vegetable Growers and the United Church of Jaffrey.

News of your Society

GREETINGS TO ALL,

CLOSE to 90 members and guests came together to attend **Paul Wainwright's** June 12th talk on New England Meetinghouses. What better place to hold it than in our own Meetinghouse.

Also at the Meetinghouse: The 14th annual READING OF THE DECLARATION on the **Fourth of July**. The Society is one of the four sponsors of this patriotic and well-attended event.

Our **Hearse House** project continues to progress. Several members met with **Jim O'Neill** and **Larry Pimental** of SAU47 to discuss the possibility of having students in the Building Trades Program build the house at no cost to the Society. Our role: provide the materials. This would lower the overall cost greatly and would as well make it more of a community undertaking. The next step is to produce the necessary plans and drawings. The Officers and Directors recently voted to make up to \$5,000 available from the accrued income of the endowment for the project when and if it's needed. No formal fundraising campaign has commenced yet but the Society certainly welcomes donations or pledges for the project at any time. (You will find some further information at <http://www.rs41.org/jhs/hearse.htm>)

Our **Dean Murder Project** is also continuing to develop. **Sean Driscoll, Jr.**, is now scanning much of the material in the Society's collection. He's working on the original FBI records at the moment. These scans are being entered into a database and will soon be added to the Society's temporary website at <http://www.rs41.org/jhs/dean.htm>. And **Sean Driscoll, Sr.**, is working this summer to develop a stand-alone JHS website by expanding and revising the www.JaffreyHistory.org website that was launched a few years ago. **Mark Bean** and I are about to meet with documentary filmmakers to try to determine whether a Dean Murder documentary is feasible and worth doing. The idea of producing a theatrical production of some sort on the murder is also percolating. So although the centenary isn't until 2018, we're well on our way seeking out possible ways of recognizing the anniversary.

The Society is planning an open house at **Monadnock 4**, our firehouse museum on Main Street opposite The Monadnock Inn. It will be on Saturday afternoon, August 16, from 1 to 3 pm. **Bill Driscoll** and **Dave Kemp** will oversee the event and we hope to "unveil" a new brochure on the building and its collections. **Dennis Wright** is due to paint the red door; and we just gave the trees a good trim. You can see from the photo that they needed it. Some treework was also done around the **Little Red Schoolhouse**. Remember that the Schoolhouse is open during the summer on Saturdays and Sundays from 2 to 4 pm. Stop by and step back in time. And thanks to those of you who serve as docents.

We mentioned in the last issue that the Society now has a Facebook page. So far we only have 18 "likes" but the number will grow over time. The address: <http://www.facebook.com/JaffreyHS>. We mostly post short reminders about our meetings and the occasional item of interest.

The Jaffrey Fourth Graders made their Spring visit to the Little Red Schoolhouse, the Meetinghouse and Melville Academy on May 29th. **Dick Boutwell**, **Bill Driscoll**, **Joe Manning** and **Travis Shattuck** oversaw this annual event for the Society.

The Society will have a display at **Riverfest** on the last Saturday in July, the 26th. Drop by and say hello!

Our sister society in **Hancock** has given us a nice collection of 19th century photographs featuring the **Duncan** family which will be a welcomed addition to our many Duncan photographs and postcards.

Our Treasurer (**Ken Duquette**) and our Membership Chair (**Marcie Manning**) remind the handful of members who have yet to send in their dues, to do so as soon as possible.

At our program meetings we're fortunate to have some refreshments that appear anonymously for which we're thankful.

We are sad to report the death of our member **JoAnn Harvey**.

I look forward to seeing you on the 14th of August at the Society's Annual Meeting and the program following on Coll's Poultry Farm.

Rob Stephenson, *President*

Upcoming Programs

SUNDAY OCTOBER 19, 2014: Annual Autumn Outing: A visit to the MILFORD HISTORICAL SOCIETY, a walk around the Oval and a visit to **Sam and Jason Hackler's** NEW HAMPSHIRE ANTIQUE CO-OP. Followed for those interested by dinner at MILE AWAY. 🍷 🍷 🍷



At the Meetinghouse to hear **Paul Wainwright**.

Monadnock 4, the Society's Fire Museum in Jaffrey Center. Pictured is the 1931 Seagrave above which is the new sign fashioned by Walt Hautanen.

There will be an **Open House** on Saturday, August 16, between 1 & 3. The new Fire Museum brochure will be launched and there'll be refreshments.



Something to look forward to: The **Milford Historical Society**, our destination on the Autumn Outing on October 19th. We'll also be visiting Sam & Jason Hackler's NEW HAMPSHIRE ANTIQUES COOPERATIVE and—for those interested—dinner at **Mile Away**, the Milford restaurant. www.mileawayrestaurant.com



Bill Driscoll holding forth on the Dean Murder with the 4th Graders at the Meetinghouse.