

# Nashua Historical Society

Issue No.2

Fall 2016

www.nashuahistoricalsociety.org

# Scholarship Recipient - Shane LeGraw



The Nashua Historical Society carried on the tradition of awarding the Edmund M. Keefe Memorial Scholarship to an outstanding student who attends a Nashua high school. On Thursday, July 21, NHS held a reception to honor this year's recipient. Shane LeGraw.



At the time, Shane had just graduated from Nashua North High School where he had been on the honor roll consistently. He had been junior class president, and he played on the varsity football and basketball teams. Shane's favorite class was AP history. In the fall, he began his college career at St. Anselm College where he is majoring in history and political science.



Proud parents, blahblahblah



Presenting the Award to Shane

#### Abbot-Spalding House 1 Nashville St. Nashua, NH 03064 Florence H. Speare Museum 5 Abbott St. Nashua, NH 03064 (603)883-0015, (603)889-8515 fax

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#### PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

As our members are well aware, the motto of The Nashua Historical Society is "preserving the past for the future." The Society is so very fortunate to have two museums to showcase and to support that mission.

Since our summer newsletter, we've had maintenance

work done on the exteriors of the Abbot-Spalding House and the Florence Hyde Speare museums. Some of it was planned; other areas in need of attention were discovered as work progressed. We are fortunate to employ contractors who have worked on the buildings in the past and respect the importance of their proper upkeep. We are grateful to Buildings Chair Joe Comer and Finance Chair Bill Ross who are monitoring the situation for us. On behalf of the Society, I extend sincere thanks to Chris Thompson of the Milford Historical Society who met with a few of us on August 30 at the end of his workday and introduced us to implementing PayPal on our website as they have on theirs.

Lastly, is it autumn or is it fall? According to www.slate.com, the terms spring and fall were first introduced in the 16th century. Whatever you call it, I hope you enjoy it.

Joanne Ouellette, President

## Save the Date!

Please save January 28 for The Nashua Historical Society after-the-holidays party. We will be having a potluck beginning at noon and entertainment.

# **Rotating Exhibit at the Speare Museum**

We are very pleased that Robert Garneau is exhibiting a portion of his stamp collection with us. The exhibit is in the front hall of the Speare Museum. Robert has many interesting and unique stamps, including The Penny Black which was the first postage stamp issued. Please stop in to view this impressive collection that will be on display through the rest of 2016.



The Penny Black

Issued in
Great Britain
in 1840.







# **Rotating City Hall Exhibit**

Did you know that The Nashua Historical Society has a rotating exhibit at the Nashua City Hall? The next time you are in Nashua, please look at display case on the first floor by the elevator. The next exhibit that will be featured is an interesting look at the history of Nashua hospitals from the 19th century until today.

3

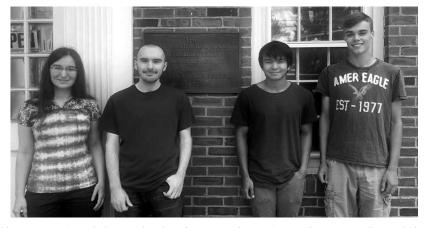
## In Remembrance

One of the ways that The Nashua Historical Society honors members who pass away is by writing their names in a memorial book. Recently a new memorial book was purchased. In addition to having a calligraphy artist write the name of the deceased member in the book, he also writes the name of anyone who makes a donation of \$10 or more to the Society in someone's memory. These donations help to fund our programs and preserve our artifacts.

At this time, we remember the following Nashua Historical Society members who have passed away this year:

Miriam H. Swanson Robert S. Ainscow Griffin T. Dalianis

#### **Summer Interns**



This summer NHS was lucky enough to have four summer interns: Sara Jauris, Bryan Herring, Putd Singhsri and Ethan Rose. These interns were energetic and brought a lot of enthusiasm to the museum. They did an outstanding job on all of the projects they were assigned. We look forward to having them back when they have a college break.

# **Kids Into Drama Event**

On September 24, The Nashua Historical Society opened an exhibit of the Kids Into Drama archive. Kids Into Drama (KID) was a drama troupe in Nashua from 1981 to 1988.



The troupe was begun by Bob Haven as a graduate school project that grew beyond



the initial project.





Bob Haven wrote a book about the history of KID, titled Kids Into Drama, K.I.D. 1981-1988. Bob presents Beth McCarthy with a check for a portion of the proceeds that will go toward archival supplies that will support the collection.

This year is the 35th anniversary of the beginning of KID and to celebrate, Bob Haven invited all 250 alumni back to Nashua for a dinner at the Nashua Country Club on Friday night and then they were invited to the Society for the formal presentation of the collection on Saturday morning.













Taking a moment to sign the guest book and enjoy the many "Thank You" comments.



The alumni were excited to be reunited and to have a chance to reminisce over the photos, t-shirts and other memorabilia.



## What Stories Do You Have to Share?

We are always looking for ideas for newsletter articles. Our members have some great stories and memories of Nashua. We would love for you to share them with us so we can include them in the newsletter. Please write up one of your Nashua memories and email it to Nashuahistorical@comcast.net. If, like many people, you think you do not have a talent for writing, call Eileen at the Society and set up a time to meet with her, and you can write it together.

6

# The Milford Historical Society's Open House

The Milford Historical Society provided the Nashua Historical Society with a unique collection of photographs and a booklet at a recent invitation only open house at their Carey House Museum. Representatives from many of the Historical Society's throughout the State gathered. The expected activity was that as a group we would be working together to identify photographs by city/town. These photographs were snapped by former Milford Cabinet photographer, Patty Rotch. Those photographs belonging to your city/town would then be gifted to Historical Society of origin as the Milford Historical Society had received these materials as a gift and needed assistance sorting. Upon arrival, it became clear what the expectations were for this Carey House Museum open house. Socialize yes, but also to begin to improve upon the communication among all representatives of the different New Hampshire Historical Society's. Being together encourages the sharing of information and learning from one another about all aspects relating to the running of a historical society. The open house attendees left feeling that by assisting each other we can all benefit.

The Carey House Museum is a treasure to be proud of. Thank you to the Milford Historical Society representatives for the collaborative opportunity, and the gift of numerous images.



Royden Sanders. (2nd in from left). viewing an early computer and printer.

Hammar Hardware

opens new store on

way toward Milford

and Amherst from

Nashua.



These images included President Jimmy Carter attending a 1978

Nashua High School event.



Nashua Sewerage Disposal Plant



Ken Jones Ski & Tennis Shop 12/23/76 Joseph Yourk, Alison Jones, Michael McManus, Mark Hokanson, Mark Fancy, Sandy Sanford, Ken Jones, Gil Talbot, and Jay Jones, Dale Sheets, Marty Fancy, Ginny Mammone are not in the picture.

Also included was a booklet. "The Granite State Monthly, New Hampshire State Magazine" Volume 54, July 1922. No 7, featuring an article on the Daniel Webster Highway.

**Programs** 

Two of our three fall programs have been presented and have been very well received. The first program was on the Wheelwright Deed which was presented by Dick Howe. Register of Deeds in Lowell. Massachusetts. Dick took the audience on a journey through the controversy that has surrounded the deed.

Our second program was An Evening of Mountain Mysteries presented by Marianne O'Connor. Marianne took us on a tour around New Hampshire telling us about the haunted places we can hike. She also told us about the New Hampshire Big Foot that lives in the mountains. Do you believe? Our Refreshment Committee got in on the spooky theme with their decorations. (see below)

Our final program of the fall will be French Canadian Music and its Cross-Cultures presented by Lucie Therrien on Sunday, November 13 at 2 p.m.



The Nashua Historical Society wishes you a very Happy Thanksgiving!



Beth McCarthy, Curator