

Newport Historical Society Monthly Board Meeting
December 8, 2015
The Bairds' residence, Freewill Farm, North Newport

1. **Call to Order** by President Cathryn Baird, at 5:30 p.m., following a wonderful potluck dinner.
2. **Members present:** Cathryn Baird, Jackie Cote, Larry Cote, Dick Gassett, Jerry Hagebusch, Priscilla Hagebusch, Jayna Hooper, Biddy Irwin, Laura Kessler, Dean Stetson, Ann Stout.
3. **Public Forum:**
Dean Stetson presented his newest invention, branded peanuts, *Advernuts*®. The branding is done through the use of a laser, and may feature logos, names, messages for business or personal purposes. Dean is looking into the use of a facility at which he may carry out a commercial operation. Once production capacities are in place, more information will be available at Advernuts.com
4. **Minutes** of the November 9, 2015 board meeting were approved unanimously.
5. **The Treasurer's Report** was shared by Jackie Cote, with the following account summaries reviewed in detail:
 - i. Accounting Summary of 11/1/15 – 11/31/15
 - ii. Main Operating Account, Fiscal Year ending 9/30/16
 - iii. Nettleton House Account, FY ending 9/30/16
 - iv. NHS Budget Comparison Operating Account – Income, 10/1/15 – 9/30/16
 - v. NHS Budget Comp. Operating Acct. – Expenses, 10/1/15 – 9/30/16
 - vi. NHS Budget Comp. Nettleton Acct. – Income, 10/1/15 – 9/30/16
 - vii. NHS Budget Comp. Nettleton Acct. – Expenses, 10/1-15 – 9/30/16

The NHS has 181 paid members, 19 of which are new.

Cody Lemire, winner of the gift certificate for 5 free grinders at Coronis' Market, donated the cash amount of his certificate (\$25.00) to the Newport Food Pantry.

The NHS was honored to receive a bequest of \$5,000.00 from the estate of Virginia Parker.

Dick Gassett made a motion to accept the Treasurer's Report, seconded by Biddy Irwin.
Approved unanimously.

6. **The Fundraising Report** was given by Jackie Cote.
A decision was reached to sell the Queen Pageant ornaments previous to the Christmas holiday instead of waiting until the Winter Carnival in February. Ornaments will be made available for sale at the Library Arts Center's Gallery of Gifts). Joan Dodge has painted 100 ornaments with the Carnival Queen image; NO additional Queen ornaments will be available for sale prior to February's 100th Winter Carnival, although more will come available in coming years. If, in the event, the NHS sells out of these ornaments over the course of the Carnival, we will take the names and phone numbers of interested parties so that we may let them know once more Queen ornaments come available.

Jackie will send a courtesy Queen ornament to Bruce Maxham, who is the boy pictured in the scene because Bruce is the individual who donated the necessary funds to the NHS for the guns on the Soldier's monument on the common.

7. **The Marketing and Publicity Committee** initiated a discussion about possibly making calendars for the NHS to sell. Ann proposed making them and ordering them through VistaPrint and having them ready for June. A further idea to consider is a "Newport Architectural Element" poster, similar to the poster of Claremont's architecture.
8. **The Museum Director's Report** was shared by Larry Cote. Dunkin Donuts donated \$500 for the flooring project in the upstairs bathroom-turned-storage room. This money will cover the cost of the vinyl flooring, which is scheduled to be installed December 14th. Dick Gassett has donated his labor to repair the walls and the flooring underlayment in this storage room.

The NHS will seek a quote from Goodrich Oil to replace the current hot water heater with a smaller one. An "on-demand" system may be a possibility.

Museum traffic in November/December is up. The flyer detailing all of the items available for sale at the NHS seems to have had a positive effect in generating sales.

A number of spontaneous donations have been received, contributing to the total of 1,640 items donated to the NHS in 2015 by 67 individuals.

Thanks was expressed to the Museum Committee and docents for assistance with keeping the museum open to the public. The NHS is always looking for new docents to help staff the museum on Sundays, between the hours of 10 a.m. and 2 p.m. Training will be provided, and it is a great opportunity to learn more about this great town!

9. **Old Business:**
An update was given on the Jones' proposal (see November minutes): The NHS cannot accommodate the entire collection. If Mr. Jones should decide to donate one item, the NHS would be pleased to consider that individual item. A letter stating the NHS's decision on this matter was sent by Cathryn to Mr. Jones.

Biddy will go to the next Winter Carnival planning meeting at the WCNL studio to find out about participation venues for the NHS.

The NHS is considering a float for the Winter Carnival parade – perhaps "Sports through the Centuries," as the NHS has a plethora of pertinent artifacts with which to carry out such a theme.

10. **New Business:**
Dick Gassett spoke about his support of the Sunapee Historical Society's interest in moving into the old Abbott Library, which would give the SHS a permanent location from which to operate, as opposed to their seasonal venue in the old Livery Stable. Would the NHS consider sending a letter on behalf of the SHS to the Sunapee town selectmen to advocate for the benefit of having

a year-round, climate-controlled environment from which to promote the history of the town of Sunapee? Cathryn will draft a letter after the Holidays.

Ann reported that Sharon Wood heard the NHS's "History Minute" on WCNL recently and was very enthusiastic. Ann thought to email Steve Smith at WCNL to see if those recordings could be put onto a CD for sale/donation by the NHS. Steve and Ann will talk further about this in 2016.

11. The meeting adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jayna H. Hooper, Secretary