Issue Thirty

Under the Hump

UPCOMING EVENTS

Tuesday, May 14 meeting at CBMS, 7 pm

- Our annual plant sale has begun! Order your plants now and think Spring!
- Take part in Duxbury's 250th celebration events! See inside...

CAN YOU IDENTIFY THIS SOCIETY MEMBER?







SOCIETY BUSINESS

F ollowing the business meeting, Mary Gow and Kitty Werner, authors of *Draw Logs From Dowsville...The History of the Ward Lumber Company*, will discuss their book, the Ward family, and the business they operated originally from Ward Hill.

Town Meeting 2013

The Duxbury Historical Society says "thank you" for the success of our Town Meeting potluck lunch. We thank our members and citizens of Duxbury for their support and participation. It was, once again, both popular and successful with GREAT food and good friends. We raised \$556.75 from lunch and morning coffee sales.

Special thanks to Janice Sherman, Shawn Perry, Megan Perry, Sam Perry, Eulie Costello, and Kelly Welch. A great big thank you to Crossett Brook Middle School for the use of the kitchen.

~Mary Welch

Chairperson, Food Committee

Local History Project

Skip Flanders and Don Welch have been assisting Thatcher Brook Primary School to form a website and database for local history within the two towns. Skip and Don have (each) 60 of our town people to research and present a history of each person to the 3rd and 4th grade students and their teachers for their project. Even though the research is time consuming, this will be a worthwhile and very rewarding endeavor for the school in the future.



PAGE 2

UNDER THE HUMP

SOCIETY BUSINESS

Archival/Preservation Committee Report

Members: Eulie Costello, Debbie Sweetser, Lori Morse, Bonnie Morse, Mark Morse

We have catalogued the following DVDs received from the Video Taping Team: Interviews of Lynn & Lucille Lewis, Kathryn Hallock, Becky & Bert Green, Francis Vaughn, Ruth Lewis, and Iola Atwood. Also, videos of Feb. 2013 society meeting and 2013 Flood Dinner.

To date we have fully transcribed 78 family genealogies and another 60 are partially completed. These are available in paper format and are digitalized as well on the society's computer. (There are hundreds of families yet to be transcribed). We are also in the process of scanning many family photos to be added to our family genealogy digital folders.

Donation Artifacts/Documents

Donald Welch – Notebook compiled of information and photos regarding Duxbury School District #1

Jim Murphy – 1917 CVRR maps depicting holdings in Duxbury; photos of North Duxbury Train Station & Post Office; photo of Bolton Train Station; postcard with North Duxbury P.O. Cancellation Stamp.

Monetary Donations

Alan Young * Shelly Welch & David Fuka

We Are Looking For...

We have a small collection of High School Yearbooks. If you have any you may wish to donate to us, it would be greatly appreciated. We have no yearbooks from Harwood. We currently have Waterbury Yearbooks for 1949, 1950, 1957, 1959, 1960, 1961, 1965, & 1966.

Take A Hike

Duxbury has many areas of town that at one time had communities and roads that have since been abandoned. Have you ever wondered what that area of Duxbury looks like now? Do you like taking a hike and looking at cellar holes and learning a little history in the process? If you have an area of town that you know some of the history of, would you be willing to share? If you like to hike and want to learn some local history a "History Hike" might be for you. If anyone is interested in creating a hiking group maybe we can discuss it at the next meeting and decide how the group should take shape. Bring your ideas.

Video Project

Do you have to time to record, edit, and present a 45-minute video program for the society? Probably not! Do you have 5 minutes to record a video clip for use in a program? Probably! We have a nice new video camera and if we all contribute a little bit we could have some nice programs for our meetings and information for our archives. My hope was to have people contribute a few minutes with a story or recollection on different subjects. If we take video clips that are related we can make video programs out of them. By picking several topics and recording interviews on video as well as make copies of any photos or documents that you might have, we could potentially have a lot to work with. Before and after the meetings I will have the camera ready to record and if you have a story to tell or a photo to copy, we will be glad to collect it from you.

The first four subjects that I would like to start collecting material for are:

1927 Flood - Did your relatives have a story that was recounted to you that you would be willing to share? It was so long ago that many of the people that endured the flood are gone now. Can we collect some of their stories that they relayed and preserve them?

Horses - Something I'm familiar with because my family has always had a horse business in Duxbury. At one time just about every farm family had at least one horse. Did your family have a horse that knew the route through the sugar woods and every stop that should be made? Horses have always had personalities and purpose through the years. Share a story about your equine.

Morses - You can't travel through Duxbury without meeting a Morse. They are one of the founding families of Duxbury. When did they come here and from where? How is this one connected to that one? I am sure all the information is out there for a very interesting video. Would you be willing to share a few minutes to record a video or bring some pictures? **Ancestor Occupations** - What were some of the occupations in your family from years gone by? Occupations over the years have changed and some are now obsolete. Do you have an interesting story or photo to share?

Start a New Topic - If you have a topic that you think we can get a collection of stories/photos to create a video please bring your ideas.

~Maureen Harvey

/ISSUE THIRTY

DUXBURY CORNER

By Maureen Harvey & Skip Flanders

Many people don't realize that Duxbury actually starts when you cross the Winooski River out of Waterbury. It very quickly turns to Moretown and then back to Duxbury when you make the right hand turn and cross the Crossett Brook.

The original Grange was on the right-hand side of the road as you crossed the bridge. It was a long established gathering place for the community with meetings twice a month. They would have a business meeting, program,



Mary Alice (Kilby) Freeman on a sled with the Dillingham Grange in the background, around 1946. Pete Pollander owned the house at the right which is now Captain Finlay's.

and food. It was also the spot for dances with entertainment provided by Bud Truax, Don Fields, and others. The Grange burned in 1958 and they moved up Route 100 to the location that the Green Mountain Alliance Church now occupies. There are still 26 members today that meet in Waterbury Center.

Francis Vaughn lives on the site where the Grange used to be. He came to the area from Hinesburg in 1942 and lived there with his wife of 47 years, Roberta Boyce, until her death 13 years ago. After the fire Francis bought the burnt out property and built his house on the same foundation with the help of his father. A few years later they added an apartment on the back. They used some of the lumber from the burned structure and more from the Ravlin mill on the other side of the brook. His parents had also moved up from Hinesburg and lived with Fred Ravlin after his wife Nellie died.



Two photos of the grange after the fire.

His father and brother-in-law, Ross Green, worked at the Hospital farm up the hill. They had a crew of eight to ten men working to rebuild the barn after the fire. He was working with them when they just finished the roof and were handing down lumber. They were handing down the planks to him on the staging and he would throw them to the ground. One of the planks had a nail in it and it caught on his mitten. The weight of the plank pulled him off the staging and he fell 20 feet to the ground and broke his back in two places. They brought the bosses car up and sat him up which they never should have done. They should have laid him down, but at the time no one knew better. Francis was taken to the doctor's office and there wasn't such a thing as an ambulance, so they took

UNDER THE HUMP

PAGE 4

DUXBURY CORNER

him in the hearse to the Mary Fletcher Hospital. He had a full body cast for six months which was very hot in the summer. Francis eventually graduated to a brace and was able to return to work a year later. After that he continued carpentry work but went on to a project in Stowe.

Just beyond his home was the location of Wade Morse's gas station where Snowfire is today with Grace and Bill Griffith's home on the corner. Their home was demolished and is now the parking lot of the Snowfire. She was a chiropractor and had an office in her home. Ruth Lewis was one of her customers and remembers her as a friendly, hardworking woman.

That corner is in Moretown and had a grocery store on Route 2 that was, at separate times, run by Keith Hooker and by Howard and Etta Danyew. The other store in the



Howard and Etta Danyew's store. Located on southwest corner of Route 2 & Route 100 – 1930s.

area was Smith's Store across the river in Waterbury, run by Harold and Hazel Hanley. Back then you could even call the store and get a delivery. The Arkley's lived on the other corner and the barn was later occupied by the Feed Bag which is now Juniper's Fare. Beyond there were the Fairgrounds that were used decades before for the annual fair.

When you turn the corner and head back to Duxbury you would come to the house of Wayne and Ruth Lewis. By the time they moved to Duxbury Corner in 1948 with their two-year-old son Mitchell, the covered bridge across



The covered bridge across the Crossett Brook.

the Crossett Brook was gone and had been replaced by the cement bridge. She lived there until she moved to her current home down Route 2 in Gallagher Acres. When Route 100 was moved and built through the old farm property on the other side of the cemetery, the Lewis house was put on a truck and moved to Atwood Road. It is now the home of E. Bruce and Cathy Nelson. The new road that went through changed Duxbury corner from the main drag to a side street.

Wayne Lewis worked at Derby Ball for 25 years making skis and then joined his wife Ruth at the hospital working in the laundry for 27 years. Ruth kept the house going and augmented the food supply by picking dandelions, fiddleheads, and milkweeds. Her family would eat them, but her brother-in-law would have nothing to do with them. He said if a cow wouldn't eat them, then neither would he. Picking blueberries, blackberries, and garden bounty were common food supplies for the day.

Right behind the Lewis house was the home of Fred and Nellie Ravlin and the mill which is now the home of Jerry Paige. They also had lumber on the other side of the road near what is now Cobb Hill road. The Ravlins were very involved in the community and well-liked. Nellie had a job as a reporter and was always busy with town affairs.

Helen Green, who's husband Ross worked at the hospital farm, was on the school board with Fred. The family became close especially after Fred's wife Nellie died. The Green children would spend time there and Cindy was the happy recipient of a rocking horse handmade by Fred. He was very well-liked in the neighborhood and many of the neighbors were of great support to the widower.

[/] Issue Thirty

DUXBURY CORNER



Cindy Green on her rocking horse made by Fred Ravlin.

The road was raised when the direction of Route 100 changed. The first large house coming onto Main Street from the Moretown side now sits downhill and back from the road. It used to be right on the road and was the home of Minnie Morse. At one point it was a TB hospital and it was also used as a birthing hospital.

Carrie and Forrest Harvey lived nearby and owned the house across the brook. The Bobars lived on the street as well as the Staffords and Eastmans. Further down was the home of George Patterson with Jack and Mona Patterson across the road. Years later they would build the mobile home park that was there until hurricane Irene came

Cindy Green visiting Fred Ravlin at the mill.





Two photos of the Ravlin Mill on Crossett Brook at Duxbury Corner.





Carrie and Forrest Harvey's house.

through. The cemetery had a dual entrance on the Main Street instead of the entrance that they have from Route 100 that they have today.

The dentist, Dr. Kennedy, lived beyond them in a home that was later occupied by Fremont Fiske. The Casey's lived in the home on the corner and the Grows were across the road. The Grows provided musical performances in the area. Anna Grow was a wonderful piano player. Her husband Frank was a jokester as well as a fiddle player and their daughter LuAnn was a singer. At the time Frank was partners in Frank and Bud's Garage in Waterbury. She was the bookkeeper at her husband's garage as well as being an auditor for the town.

You then come to the actual corner of Duxbury Corner. The school was on the corner and housed grades one through eight for many years. When Harwood Union was built, the seventh and eighth grades went to middle school there. Much later it was closed and the kids went to Thatcher Brook and Crossett Brook schools. The town sold the building and it is currently privately owned.

Pearl Williams, Mrs. Dolloff, Anna Lamos, and Ruth Phillips were some of the teachers there. Anna Lamos spent many years there and every kid was called "Hon" or "Honey." They had the usual country school happenings

PAGE 5

PAGE 6

UNDER THE HUMP

DUXBURY CORNER



The school before it was damaged by fire and had the doors moved to the center.

with an occasional field trip or potluck picnic.

On the other corner was the home of Lynn and Lucille Lewis or as Lynn would say, Duxbury Corner Recreation Hall. In addition to their own gang of seven kids, they would have their kids' friends there as well. If they ever needed anything from school they would make a quick trip across the street to make the request. Her kids were quick to volunteer her supplies and services whether it be a roll of toilet paper, bar of soap, the flat iron for pressing leaves, or the use of the oven to dry the clay cutouts.

Lynn and Lucille Lewis were married in 1953 and moved to the Corner in September of 1955 when their oldest daughter Cindy was three months old. The home that they live in was almost swept away by the flood of 1927. It was originally located near where the Cubit home is today. The house was toppled by the waters and became entangled in the telephone cables. The cables kept



The house on its side due to flood waters.

it from being swept downriver in the current of the Winooski. The McGraths who owned the house at that time tipped it back up and moved it to its present location today, at the corner of Main Street and River Road. Kathryn Sherman was a McGrath and she grew up in that home.



The McGrath house with the Sherman children in front. The home was purchased in 1955 by Lynn and Lucille Lewis.

She later married Howard Sherman and had a couple children born in that home. Kathryn's children would later visit their grandparents in that house.

Lynn started working for Green Mountain Power on June 1, 1948 at Plant 19 in Essex that sets down the hill from the road with the dam behind it. Elton Sherman was the boss of the crew and told Lynn that they had an opening at the Montpelier Plant. The pay increase wasn't much but the thought of having weekends off for baseball made it an opportunity he couldn't turn down. At that time they were playing all over the state and to not have a conflict with work was a real bonus.

The school was a central hub at the corner and Lynn's love of baseball didn't have to go far to coach the little league team on the field behind the school. He went on to coach the Senior, Legion, and Babe Ruth teams for a total of 27 years of coaching. They would play Waterbury, Middlesex, Moretown, Waitsfield, and Warren. The Duxbury team won the League five years in a row which prompted one of the spectators to ask Lynn if maybe next year it might be another town's turn to win. He said, "We'll see." It wasn't.

In 1946 the draft was voted in so he and his friends enlisted in the Guard so that they would have the hope of keeping their jobs. They were over in NY for two weeks of training in the summer. They got the announcement that

PAGE 7

/ISSUE THIRTY

DUXBURY CORNER



This house was a Tuberculosis hospital as well as a birthing center. Later, the home of Gerald Welch.

they had been called up for the Army and were sent off to Camp Pickett in Virginia. He and Warren Noyes drove a 3/4 ton Dodge and it would go five miles and quit. Kenny Longe would come along and give them a push. After awhile Captain Burton left them behind and the battery went ahead. Needless to say, they were late getting to the camp. Their route took them through Baltimore and when they came around a corner they saw a restaurant with a howitzer sticking out of it. One of the trucks didn't quite make the turn so their trip ultimately had a better outcome than the crew hauling the howitzer.

Looking out their back yard they wouldn't see a tree. It was routinely farmed and the cows and the mowing kept the fields clear and wide open up to the top of the hill. Lucille's parents later bought land up the street and it was garden space for a number of years before they built their house. Her parents started building around 1960. Back then the men would barter services and help each other out when it came to construction. Her mother would come down to take the kids for a walk. Holly always wanted to go up the hill to see the pigs. Occasionally the pigs would get out and go for their own walks.

Lucille would witness some close calls at the intersection when she was at the hanging clothes on the line. Lynn would often go out and find hub caps, beer cans, glass, or some other car part that was left behind on the turn. When they first moved in, it wasn't banked the way that it is now. They planted a lilac bush and for four years in a row it was run over just like their mail box. After some time Lynn called Howard Sherman and told him he wanted to put in a stone wall to keep the weekend party goers from coming across the lawn into his porch. Howard wanted to know if there had been a wall there before. Lynn said there was a bag of concrete and four stones. Howard thought that would make Lynn's construction an addition to an existing structure so, by all means, go ahead. The skier Billy Woods



The Catchapaw Home as it looked years ago.

came down through sending a pedestrian into a ditch and taking out all the mailboxes. He came running in and wanted some of Lucille's toothpaste to cover the smell of his latest beverage. Billy was one of the more colorful people going around the corner (or should we say, almost going around the corner).

One of the patients Ann C. was allowed to walk around the area would take photographs and have them made into postcards. She gave Lucille one of her neighbor Sheldon's horse tied in the yard eating the lawn. For a young couple that didn't have a lawn mower it was a perfect arrangement.

Life was busy on the corner of Duxbury Corner. In a future issue, we will visit some more residents of the corner and head up the hill to visit the farm and beyond.



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Petunias - Dark Purple	\$3		4.5" Hybrid Petunia - Purple	\$5			
Petunias - Light Purple	\$3		4.5" Hybrid Petunia - White	\$5			
Petunias - Red	\$3			Verbena			
Petunias - Pink	\$3		4.5" Hybrid Verbena - Pink	\$5			
	of Impatiens		4.5" Hybrid Verbena - Purple	\$5			
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Impatiens - Red	\$3		4.5" Spike Grass	\$5			
Impatiens - Lilac	\$3		4.5" Vinca Vine	\$5			
Impatiens - Cranberry	\$3			ing Baskets			
Impatiens - Pink	\$3		Hybrid Petunia - Pink	\$23			
Impatiens - Salmon	\$3		Hybrid Petunia - Purple	\$23			
Impatiens - Mixed	\$3		Hybrid Petunia - White	\$23			
	k of Marigolds	-	Fuchsia - Pink	\$23			
Marigolds - Yellow	\$3		Fuchsia - Purple	\$23			
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Full Flat	of Impatiens		Astilbe - White	\$10			
Impatiens - White	\$24		Astilbe - Pink	\$10			
Impatiens - Red	\$24		Astilbe - Red	\$10			
Impatiens - Lilac	\$24		Coreopsis - Yellow	\$10			
Impatiens - Cranberry	\$24		Coreopsis - Red & Yellow	\$10			
Impatiens - Pink	\$24		Bleeding Heart - White	\$10			
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Wave Petunia - Purple	\$25	1	Dianthus - Hot Pink	\$10			
Wave Petunia - Pink	\$25		Dianthus - Pink	\$10			
Wave Petunia - Rose	\$25	1	Dianthus - White	\$10			
	Geraniums						
4.5" Geraniums - Pink	\$5	1					
4.5" Geraniums - Red	\$5						
4.5" Geraniums - White	\$5						
Total Column One			Total Column Two				

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8" Perennials						
Astilbe - Pink	\$16					
Astilbe - Red	\$16					
Astilbe - White	\$16					
Creeping Phlox - Blue	\$16					
Creeping Phlox - Pink	\$16					
Creeping Phlox - White	\$16					
Creeping Phlox - Red &White	\$16					
Hardy Geranium - Blue/Purpl	\$16					
Hardy Geranium - Pink	\$16					
Hosta - Green	\$16					
Hosta - Green & White	\$16					
Black Eyed Susan	\$19					
Veronica - Pink	\$19					
Sedum - Pink	\$19					
Balloon Flower - Blue	\$19					
Baptisia - Light Blue	\$19					
Coreopsis - Red	\$19					
Coreopsis - Pink	\$19					

Total Column One	
Total Column Two	
Total Column Three	
Order Total	

Please make your check payable to: Duxbury Historical Society and return no later than 5/17

Your Plants will be delivered to you by a Historical Society Member on May 22nd

The address of the plant delivery location:

Select a Delivery Route

North Duxbury - Camel's Hump

Duxbury - Route 100

Waterbury Village

Waterbury Center

Please give my plants to Historical Society Member

Other

Where would you like to have the plant placed if you are not home at the time of delivery







DUXBURY HISTORICAL SOCIETY CONTACT INFORMATION

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If you have any comments or contributions for the newsletter we would love to hear from you.

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www.DuxburyVT.com

Don't forget the next meeting - May 14 Crossett Brook Middle School - 7 pm

DUXBURY HISTORICAL SOCIETY NEWSLETTER 804 VT ROUTE 100 SOUTH DUXBURY, VT 05660