**Issue Forty Three** 

August 2016



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#### UNDER THE HUMP Duxbury Historical Society, Inc

## SOCIETY BUSINESS

## Archival/Preservation Committee Report

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

We continue reviewing all of our non-family file folders, transcribing of family genealogical files, and cataloging artifact donations. Our last meeting was dedicated to preparing for the Vermont History Expo in Tunbridge. We do not meet during July and August unless we are requested for research purposes.

## **Donation Artifacts/Documents**

Richard Lindsley -

- Framed Photo of Jesse T. & Angeline (Crossett) Perry
- Framed Photo of Jesse & Angeline Perry's younger children

Don Welch -

- Sheet Music: <u>Duxbury Days of Yore</u> by Dorothy Deane (Catchapaw)
- Photocopy print of 'Don Fields and the Pony Boys.'
- Photo of Rena Mae (Corse) Phillips.
- Newspaper announcements regarding the estate of Van D. Hills.
- Photo of Frank & Anna (Messier) Grow commemorating their 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary.

Skip Flanders -

- Two circa 1885 newspaper articles relating to the demise of the Winooski St. Covered Bridge.
- 1917 South Duxbury School Teachers Christmas Booklet.

Duxbury Cemetery Assoc. -

• Granite cemetery marker base to be used to hold Dillingham Grange Plaque.

## Jill Smith -

- 1974 Duxbury Planning Commission newsletter
- 1968 Property Tax Receipt
- 1974 News articles (2) relating to Rocky Vermont

## Town of Duxbury -

Crossett Hill Association building sign.

Bob Wimble -

 Poem titled <u>March Weather</u> authored by Bob Wimble.

## Julio Antunes -

• Genealogy & Photos relating to the Corse family.

## Carol Perry -

Newspaper Articles (22) relating to the 1927 flood.

## Helen Davis -

- DVD entitled <u>Sugarwoods</u> featuring Ray & Ralph Davis.
- DVD produced by the Washington County Farm Bureau featuring a quilt created by Helen Davis.
- An advertisement promoting a Waterbury Center #237 Grange Program featuring "Vermont Humor" by Keith Wallace and Helen Davis's quilt exhibition in 1995.

## Ramona Godfrey –

- Photos (2) of the newly built Crossett Hill Association building.
- Biographical booklet of members of the General Assembly of the House of Representatives in 1965 (Frank Griffin representing Duxbury).
- Frank Griffin's National Grange membership certificate.
- Newspaper clipping of Dillingham Grange #281 program which honored the 25<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary of Gurden & Stella (Hills) Merchant.

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SOCIETY BUSINESS



#### Waterbury High School Alumni Reunion

On June 18, 2016, the Duxbury Historical Society provided appetizers and dinner for the bi-annual Waterbury High School Alumni Reunion. It was held at the Crossett Brook Middle School. We served 175 people. The proceeds from this dinner totaled \$1,766.33, making this evening quite a success. We couldn't have done it without the many Duxbury Historical Society members and friends who worked tirelessly to make this evening so much fun and successful. Sincerest thank you, Mary Ethel Welch, Food Committee Chair





## 2016 Vermont History Exposition

The 2016 Vermont History Expo was held on June 18 & 19 at the Tunbridge Fairgrounds. This year's theme was H20: The Power of Water in Vermont History. Our historical society presented an exhibit on mountain waterpower. We showed a model of a Lane circular saw mill and presented information on its significance to Duxbury. The model was loaned to our historical society for display at the 2016 expo by Lamell Lumber Corporation of Essex Center, VT.



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## RUTH HUDON

Ruth Hudon celebrated her 100th birthday on May 28, 2016!

Moments, Memories, and Milestones





Ruth's parents, Theresa and Ivan Ainsworth, with Lucille at the farm in Woodbury, VT.

Ruth as a child.

R uth (Ainsworth) Hudon was born on the family farm on May 28, 1916 in Woodbury, Vermont. Her parents were Ivan and Theresa Ainsworth. She immediately surpassed her first milestone by surviving birth at only three pounds. Ruth had only one sibling, her younger brother, Gerald who later operated the family farm.

One of her most enjoyable pleasures was riding her horse, Topsey, after walking home from school. Topsey was one of the farm's draft horses that worked daily on the farm and usually took Ruth on long rides throughout the trails and woods.

Ruth attended Woodbury Elementary School and graduated from Woodbury Center High School. She met her future husband Franklyn Hudon while they both attended the same schools in Woodbury. He later worked on the Ainsworth farm. The couple married in June of 1934, had two daughters, Lucille and Barbara, while living in Woodbury.

After living a stint in Connecticut, they moved to Waterbury, Vermont. Frank worked for the Eldridge Mill and Ruth found employment at Demeritt's Canning and Clothespin Factory. She also worked at VSH in the sewing room for 12 years.

During WWII Franklyn served his country proudly in the US Navy while Ruth cared for Lucille and Barbara plus took care of their home on Hill Street. / ISSUE FORTY THREE Duxbury Historical Society, Inc.

## RUTH HUDON



Frank, Ruth, Lucille, and Barbara in Woodbury, VT.



Gerald Ainsworth at the farm in Woodbury, VT.

In later years, Frank and Ruth purchased property in Duxbury Corner, now 318 Main St.. At first this was their garden space and in 1961, Frank built a new ranch style home for the family. He had at this stage in his life earned a well-known and respected talent as a carpenter; a trade he learned while rebuilding parts of damaged ships during the war. Frank continued in his trade as a high-quality finish carpenter who was always in great demand for his talent.

Ruth's love for her beautiful flower gardens was a true passion and it was so evident when driving through Duxbury Corner. Their home was such a remarkable and beautiful setting. She also loved to keep her cookie jar filled for her grandchildren's daily visits. Ruth's family and her church were very important to her especially after Frank's death.

She continued on for several years in her beloved little home, as she called it, with much of her family close by. The weekly bible studies were held at her home which she just loved! She eventually moved into an assisted living local home where she remains quite comfortable and convenient for visits from her family, friends, and neighbors.

On May 28, 2016, Ruth passed the century mark with a family party and many visitors before and after her 100th birthday! With Lucille and Barbara's families that consisted of 10 grandchildren, 18 great-grandchildren and 16 great-great grandchildren—and still growing—she considers herself lucky, and with good reason.

Ruth has reached a milestone—one that she deserves with her passion for her town, state, country, and even more her love for her family, friends, neighbors, church, and mankind alike. Our hearts go out to a wonderful loving lady that Duxbury and the community is proud to say they know her and "thanks" for being a grand lady, friend, and neighbor. PAGE 6

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## RUTH HUDON



Frank and Ruth on Hill St. in Waterbury, 1940s.



Lynn and Lucille Lewis with Ruth on her 100th birthday.



Frank and Ruth cutting an anniversary cake.



Ruth with her family on her 100th birthday.

The Duxbury Historical Society thanks the Hudon family for providing information and photos for this publication.

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Front: Shirley Marshall. Left to right: Randy Ricker, Winooski Lodge; Mike Marshall; Bruce Humphrey, Winooski Lodge.

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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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Don't forget the next meeting - Aug. 14 Crossett Brook Middle School - Noon

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