

## Newsletter of The Falmouth Historical Society

Volume 1 Number 1  
March, 2012

### FALMOUTH HISTORICAL SOCIETY BUILDS STORAGE AND DISPLAY BARN

The Society received a grant approval of \$30,000 from the Davis Family Foundation on September 30, 2010, to build the barn. Fred Howe began work on sketching out the barn design, both exterior and interior. Fred and Rod Duckworth then put bid requests out to secure construction proposals with two builders and accepted the bid from Larry Pyle Carpentry.

In late January we began the process of preparing a request for approval from the Town of Falmouth Zoning Board of Appeals; meeting with various people to generate a final request. On April 27, 2011, we received approval from the Zoning Board of Appeals.

Fred and Rod then started the process of preparing a request for approval from the Town of Falmouth Planning Board; again meeting with various people to generate a final request. We received this approval on June 7, 2011.

While we were working on Town approvals Fred and Rod secured final proposals from an electrical contractor, a security firm and a painting contractor through multiple bids from each area.

The Building Permit was issued in June, 2011 and Larry Pyle began the construction

process and the construction was completed on October 26, 2011.

The Town Code Enforcement Officer made a final inspection on November 2 and granted a Certificate of Completion.

In mid-December The Davis Family Foundation awarded The Society a grant of \$15,000 to complete the construction of our storage and display barn. By December's end the electric and a security hookup aligned with the main museum were in place. Staining of the exterior and other finishing details will be done in the spring.

Rod Duckworth and Carol Kauffman  
December 31, 2011



FHS Barn and Storage Facility

*Save the Date!*

**June 23, 2012 is Opening  
Day at The Museum.**

**Officers and Directors**

President ..... Carol I. Kauffman  
Vice President..... Scott McLeod  
Secretary ..... Maytha Southard  
Treasurer ..... Fred Howe

**Directors**            Janice Delima  
                              Mayer Fistal  
                              Sheri Fistal  
                              Suzanne Geyer  
                              Patricia Halpin  
                              Mary Honan  
Beverley Knudsen  
                              Donna Little  
                              Mark Stevanovic  
                              John Zinn

**Immediate Past President**  
                              Rod Duckworth



**Our Offices in winter at Whipple Farm House**

**Newsletter Editorial Board**

Editor.....Carol I. Kauffman  
Art Editor ..... Hannah L. Russell  
Reader ..... David Merrill  
Technical Support ..... Galyn Shaw  
Circulation..... Fred Howe

March, 2012

Dear Members and Friends,

Spring is on the horizon and your Society is as busy as ever. We are planning the dedication and opening of the Museum scheduled for Saturday, June 23<sup>rd</sup>, at 10 a.m. More details will follow in the next newsletter.

Meanwhile the Finance Committee has overseen its first annual appeal which began in October 2012. Currently the sum raised is approximately \$4600.00. Your participation is appreciated. It is never too late to include The Falmouth Historical Society in your Financial planning. Fund raising is difficult these days in terms of the economy.

Plans for the Spring Card Party are well under way. Mary Honan and Sherri Fistal and their committees are working hard to make this success. Admission is \$12.00. Light lunch will be served followed by any table game of your choice.

Cribbage players are welcome; bridge is not the only name of the game. Plan to come out and support The Society. Call 781-4727 to make a reservation by March 26<sup>th</sup>.

Our hats are off to our Program Committee. Attendance was great at the January and February programs. Plan to come out to the Library on April 10<sup>th</sup> to hear our own Hannah Russell discuss dollhouses and dollhouse miniatures.

In closing I want to wish everyone “Happy Spring!”

*Carol I. Kauffman*  
President



*Tuesday, April 10, 2012*  
**The Making of a  
Dollhouse/Miniatures**



**Hannah Russell** will discuss the replica of the Deacon Bailey House as well as explain how she has created dollhouse miniatures in the past.

**7:00 p.m.**  
**The Russell Room at  
The Falmouth Memorial Library**

*Saturday, May 5, 2012*  
**How The Falmouth Trail System  
was Created**



**Robert Shafto** of the Falmouth Conservation Corps will be our speaker. Come out and bring your family and friends as we look forward to summer and hiking adventures.

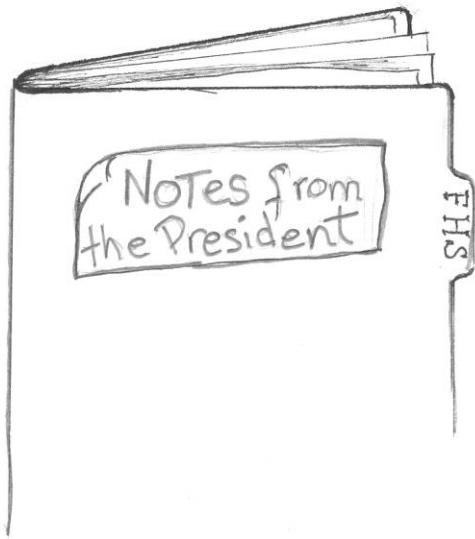
**9:30 a.m.**  
**The Russell Room at  
The Falmouth Memorial Library**

**Spring Card Party**  
**FRIDAY, MARCH 30, 2012**  
**11:30 A.M.**  
**Holy Martyrs Church**  
**266 Foreside Road**  
**Light Lunch and Beverage Served**  
**Door Prizes and Opportunities**  
**\$12.00 per Person**

**Reservations Deadline: March 26th**  
**781-2705 or 781-4727**

*Proceeds go to The Falmouth Historical Society*

## The Society Receives Gift from The Graves School Fund



In December 2011 **Robert Gerwig**, trustee of the **Graves School Fund** approached David Merrill. He shared that he and the other trustees, **Charles Abrahamson and Richard Fortune** wished to give the monies remaining in the fund to The Falmouth Historical Society. The Society accepted the gift of approximately \$10,445.00 with sincere appreciation. At the January board meeting of The Society, the proposal suggested by the finance committee to place half the amount into the endowment fund and the other half into the Museum account for continuing maintenance and repairs was adopted.

The history of the fund dates back to 1879 when Crispus Graves and his son, Ebenezer, drove by the Graves School at Pleasant Hill. Both men were so impressed by the children's manners that

they decided to donate a sum of money to be used to help educate the children living in School District 5. Back in the 19<sup>th</sup> century, Falmouth was divided into small communities, each having its own schoolhouse. Falmouth students attended high school in Portland or North Yarmouth. Pleasant Hill was a farming community and the money was most appreciated to help with transportation and other expenses needed to go to high school.

A vote of thanks is again extended to the trustees of the Graves School Fund for this gift. Perhaps if Crispus and Ebenezer Graves could be with us today they would be happy to know the final outcome of their fund was to continue to "*preserve Falmouth history for those creating it*".

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### Welcome New Members

Holly & Larry Winger  
Lucy Ellis & George Bokinsky  
Martha Frost  
Louise Theadores  
William Norbert  
Ted & Pam Asherman  
Galyn Shaw  
John & Suzanne Serber  
Julie Rabinowitz  
Andi Jackson-Darling

New members are very important to us and we extend to you a hearty welcome! Do plan to come out to our activities and meetings. Do not hesitate to chat with any Board member about The Society. Your questions and suggestions are important.

### From Our Genealogy Corner

Alvin Hamblen Morrison, PhD, a new resident of Ocean View, has graciously donated a portion of his

personal collection to our Genealogy Library. To be known as the "Morrison Collection". The collection contains the six volumes of the "Province and Court Records of Maine" which includes all the surviving court records from 1636 to 1727 and the eighteen volumes of "York Deeds" which includes land transactions from 1636 to 1737.

This gift includes a complete set of the "Documentary History of the State of Maine", including the Baxter Manuscripts, as well as numerous other books about early Maine and Mainers.

This collection has been placed in the living room area of Whipple Farm House where it will be available to all researchers. These are a great addition to our small collection and we are most grateful.

(Submitted by Ann T. Morton, Volunteer Researcher)

*The Falmouth Historical Society*  
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207-781-4727

## Need a Ride to Meetings?

Co-Membership chairman Sherri Fistal is aware that The Society has members who do not drive at night or perhaps do not drive at all. Do give Sherri a call at 781-2527 and let her know the you would like a ride to a scheduled Society event. Please be kind to Sherri; and give her a few days to find you a ride.

At the same time we ask members willing to drive others to a meeting or event to let Sherri know you would like to join her "Volunteer Transportation Provider List"!

## Maine Community Foundation Senior Foundation Officer Visits with FHS Finance Committee in January



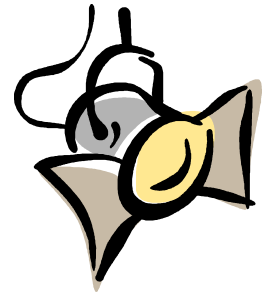
Liana Kingsbury, Mark Stevanovic, Finance Committee Chairman and Scott McLeod, Society Vice President

On January 10, the Finance Committee met to discuss goals for 2012 as well as to receive an update on our endowment fund which is held by The Maine Community Foundation. Our endowment funds were transferred to MCF in June, 2010. There is currently approximately \$34,000 in our Endowment Fund. Remember each time you renew your Society dues, the sum of \$5.00 is transferred into the Endowment Fund. The long term goal is for The Society to reach \$100,000 for The Falmouth Heritage Museum Endowment Fund. Anyone wishing to make contributions to this fund should contact Mark Stevanovic at 207/532-3416.

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The Falmouth Historical Society is a tax-exempt organization as permitted by Section 501(c)(3) of the Department of Treasury Internal Revenue Code.

It is important for The Society to express gratitude to the many volunteers who work diligently to keep The Society running smoothly. In this issue the *spotlight* is on *Nancy Merrill* who manages our office at Whipple Farm House.



With very little exception this member unlocks the door at 9:15 a.m. every Tuesday morning and closes up again at noon. Most mornings pass quickly for her. Nancy makes the coffee, answers the telephone, keeps the files current upstairs and assists visitors to find what they come looking for. Nancy does all this in addition to co-ordinating the activities of the Collections Committee.



Nancy with Charles Sawyer at WFH in December  
One Tuesday morning in December 2011 Charles Sawyer dropped in to see Whipple Farm House as it is today. In fact Charles and his twin sister, Louise spent part of their childhood living at WFH! Nancy gave Charles a guided tour of the upstairs while Charles told Nancy some tales about the house as well!



For many years Nancy served as Hospitality Chairman and a term as Membership Chairman. At our February meeting Nancy can be seen in the photo above behind the Dow Violin Exhibit at our *Longfellow and Ole Bull: The Poet and The Virtuoso* program. Good job Nancy!

# Breaking News!

## Town of Falmouth Transfers Ownership of 1925 Reo Fire Truck to The Society



**Volunteers prepare to unload  
The 1925 Reo fire truck**



**“I am in the barn at last!”**

It was a cold and crisp December morning when a small group of volunteers and onlookers approached the Museum Campus on Woods Road.

There had been a light snowfall when some retired firefighters drove up to the barn entrance with their treasure on a flatbed. For years the town kept the antique, chemical fire wagon stored in The Pleasant Hill fire station. Now the building had been sold and the truck needed a new home. So it is that The Falmouth Historical Society has a new addition for its new storage facility. We thank these individuals for the love and care they gave the 1925 Reo Fire Engine over the years. Its estimated value is in excess of \$10,000. This gift will benefit the community. Do plan to bring your grandchildren out to see it this summer! And you will enjoy it too!

### **HELP WANTED!**

The Society is in need of more volunteers to help us accomplish our mission. We not only have an office to care for at the Whipple Farm House; we have the Museum Campus as well.

If you have some time to give to short-term projects we would appreciate your sharing your time and talents.

Here are just a few of our needs:

- Volunteers to file, keyboard on the computer, and assist the Archives Team during office hours 9:15 a.m. to noon every Tuesday at the Whipple Farm House. Receptionists are always needed here!
- Later this spring we need folks to help us with spring cleanup at the Museum grounds.
- Garden in our flowerbeds. We have grape vines and an herb garden.
- May; into June is spring cleaning time. No one wants to see a display in a dusty interior!
- Help is needed in setting up the Sales Room as well as the new displays.

**Please contact Carol Kauffman at  
781-4140 or 781-4727. I will be most  
happy to talk with you.**