



## **Newsletter July 2025**

Our museum is open to the public every Saturday from 11 to 2 from Memorial Day weekend through Columbus Day weekend. We'd love to have you stop by!

In addition to our regular Saturday hours, we would be happy to meet you at the museum at your convenience. Don Bagley (vice president) has often opened the museum for school tours. His number is 603.764.9469. Others who can accommodate you are Luane Clark (trustee and curator) 603.764.5839, and Donna Campbell (president) 603.764.5872.

### **Exhibits**

Some of our more permanent exhibits include the Morse Museum collection, the military history corner, the Norris Cotton display case, and more. Did you know that a record number of Warren's eligible males volunteered to serve in World War II? Stanley "Mac" Mackenzie was the station master at the time (the depot was where the Health Center now is) and was therefore in a unique position to take photos of the town's servicemen as they went off to war.

You will find treasures on the wall and on the shelves such as Fred Gleason's Eastman box camera for making glass slides, which was state-of-the art technology prior to the advent of film for capturing images; baseball making equipment from Warren's early cottage industry days; rugged wooden snowshoes used by horses pulling log loads out of the woods, and more.

Displays that have found their way into the Will Nicol blacksmith shop addition include the town's first fire engine (a chemical one) and other fire-fighting equipment garnered through the ages; a railroad paraphernalia section (from the establishment of the Plymouth to Warren line in 1851, to accommodate the popular tourist trade, to the last railroad run of 1954), and a Girl Scout display case presentation, among others.

## **Archives**

Our museum uses Past Perfect software to create a searchable database complete with a scan of each item catalogued, so we can pull up a picture of the item in question. With more and more data at our fingertips, we are able to cross reference facts and make connections, which is fun and rewarding. Have a specific question? Sit down with us at the computer and see if we can shed some light on it.

### **Recent Acquisitions (partial list)**

Grandfather clock, from the early to mid-1800s, with hand-painted face by collector Clinton Bartlett, who was Patricia Clough's husband. Patricia was the daughter of Ted and Edith Clough of Wentworth. Edith's sister Zoe was the wife of August King, a progenitor of what became King Forest Industry enterprises, so this is one of the many Warren-Wentworth connections! Thanks to Don Bagley for being at the right time at the right place for this.

Well-traveled barracuda caught by Ira Morse in the Gulf of Mexico in 1928, is 48" long and 7" deep. Phil Morse III tells of this mounted fish staring at him in his bedroom for many years. Long before that, it traveled around to be on display at random shoe stores, when Ira Morse was in the shoe industry. Again, thanks to Don and Donna Bagley for follow through on this one.

Warren's early dispatch system is predicated on a red telephone that was installed at the Glenclyff Home for the Elderly. The number was 989-3389. If there was a fire or medical emergency requiring an ambulance, a person called this number. There were several other red phones placed in strategic homes around town, with a special line connecting them all. All persons with red phones waited until the third ring, at which time everyone available picked up to learn of the situation and coordinate their response. This is a gift of Don and Donna Bagley.

The Moosilauke Reader, Volume 5, entitled "Moosilauke! Where Long Shadows Fall," was kindly donated by authors Robert W. Averill and Kris Pastoria. Published in 2024, it is 444 pages of fascinating stories about the mountain and its environs. I found the section on the Gravity Railroad and its connection to William R. Park, Jr., and Warren's Mead and Mason Mill quite interesting.

Lydia Belyea collection: Paul Belyea brought in a treasure trove that his mother had cherished: from a locally made (Willing Workers) quilt owned by Flossie Derosia to pamphlets of Warren attractions, newspaper clippings, and other memorabilia, all carefully dated. So far, I have input/documentated 99 of those items into the database.

Glenclyff school/church bell salvaged from that historic public building before its sale to private owners, courtesy of Andy Ball.

**Recent Discovery** is a card from Bailey's Tavern, which was built in the mid 1800s and is now Rustic Gatherings. The undated card advertises boarding by the day or the week, hot and cold water, and electric heat. The "hotel regulations" include:

- Guests are requested not to speak to the dumb waiter.
- Guests wishing to do a little driving, will find a hammer and nails in the closet.
- If your lamp goes out, take a feather out of the pillow; that's light enough for any room.
- Don't worry about paying your bill; the house is supported by the foundation.

**A Big Thanks to Janice Sackett** who has been our historical society president for many years. She asked to step down this year. You may find her hosting the museum open hours on some Saturdays, still. We thank Janice for her long-term commitment and dedication to the historical society. She and her husband, Chuck Sackett, Sr., created many DVDs of local historical interest that are in our collection and have been shown in the past at fund-raising suppers.

**Welcome, new president Donna Campbell,** whose interest and enthusiasm bodes well. She brings the Cushing history and all its connections with her!

**A Big Thanks to Cyndy and Pete Conrad** who have taken on both the conceptual and practical aspects of maintaining our established displays and creating some new ones, a very vital part of the life of an ongoing museum. Besides her rock-solid dedication and reliability, Cyndy brings her Bancroft history and all its connections with her!

**Ongoing:** Cyndy and I volunteer several hours every Wednesday at the museum, working with the software that enables us to make our records permanent and accessible. Cyndy has been doing this for 8 years; I started in 2013, so 12 years now. So far, we have documented 1,253 photographs, 1,192 paper archives, 548 objects, and 84 books. There are 2,514 names of people in our database!

There is still much to be done. We have undiscovered treasures yet to be processed from the estates of Esther Witcher, Sandra Hair, Eudora Hibbard, and Judy Lupien Gibson, for example.

We find ourselves needing to upgrade our computers to accommodate Windows 11, and will be targeting some of our fund raising toward that end. Any help would be gratefully appreciated. Our mail address is: Warren Historical Society, PO Box 114, Warren NH 03279. Our museum's physical presence is right behind the missile between the church and the town offices in the center of town. You can't miss us. Come on by. *Luane C*

\*\*\*\*\*

Often, we have to research items that are donated. Some items are very challenging if it is something we don't recognize and there are no markings to start with. It can also be fun and educational during the research process.

Not long before my husband and I were going to visit family for Christmas in Arkansas, an item was donated to the historical society. I told Luane that I would accession it when I returned. It was set aside to be worked on in the new year. I thought it was probably an antique ice cream maker because it was a bucket with a crank handle. While on vacation, I went to one of my favorite antique shops that I always check out while in Arkansas. Over the years I have come home with several "treasures" to add to my collections.

It was about in the 5th booth I was surprised to find the exact metal bucket with crank handle. What a valuable occurrence, for I found out what the item actually is. The item, that I had not inspected before my trip, has a hook attached to the crank handle (obviously not for making ice cream). It is an early 1900s bread maker. Just like the modern bread makers, it mixes, kneads and raises dough although you do have to crank it yourself. This bread maker can make up to 4 loaves and was awarded a gold medal at the 1904 St. Louis Exposition. *Cyndy C*

\*\*\*\*\*

I encourage you to take a walk through our museum and step back in time. It is always a treat for our staff to hear stories and facts that you may have to share. Please feel free to contact us at the museum if you have any information or items you would like to add to our collection.

We are in the process of planning a few events to raise money to help with the expenses of maintaining the building and updating our computer system. The membership list is being updated and a new membership drive is being implemented. If you would like to become a member please contact any of the above mentioned members. The yearly membership fee is \$10 and the Life-time is \$100. *Donna C*