

HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Let us reiterate that the mission of the Shaftsbury Historical Society is to preserve and promote the history of our town, your town--Shaftsbury. We have many historical facts and places to pass on to present and future generations and we are ever mindful of the work involved.

As you may know, we are limited to the months and hours we can be open in our present museum, due to lack of heat and other areas that require attention and costs. Maintenance of any building is costly and cannot be ignored. Our memorabilia and displays require attention and care of they will be lost; some are irreplaceable.

We have been working with State agencies for grants and other preservation areas and are delighted to report that we have been successful in attaining some of our goals. With the shared interest of the Galusha family, the Vermont Land Trust and conservation board, we expect to enjoy the Gov. Galusha Homestead as a base. We will report more later when all details are finalized. A lot of work, dedication, and interest has been put into this endeavor for many months. Your continued interest and support will be needed.

This year we happily awarded our Galusha/Vaughn Scholarship to James Weber. We were impressed with his zeal and determination to reach his long-time interest in becoming a firefighter. James had a definite career goal, the academic grades, consistent community service, and volunteerism we looked for.

Ken Coonradt, Chaplain of American Legion Bennington Post 13, and other Legion members, spoke on and demonstrated flag etiquette. We hope to have Ken return with this enlightening performance. Don't miss it.

Through the Vt. Humanities Council we were able to have Helene Lang present the life of Beatrix Potter. This was held again at the Shaftsbury Methodist Church which is handicapped accessible, and we thank the church once more for their hospitality.

Victor Rolando delivered his interesting discussion on the Burden Iron Works. This is a subject that Victor has become known for with his knowledge, expertise, and interest.

Our Curator, Wolf Roxon, continues to develop new, interesting displays and has managed to constantly improve the condition and layout of the museum. He has been preserving many photographs that were packed away and invites you to come look at them and, hopefully, identify some that have not been marked.

We are constantly planning new promotions, despite our limited space and conditions. With your continued interest and support we will be able to fulfill our mission so your town's history will live on and continue into the future.

Respectfully submitted

Norman D. Gronning, President