

CONCORD HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Nancy Rivers, Secretary

The 2015-2016 Concord Historical Society officers are: President, Connie Quimby; Vice President, Beth Quimby; Secretary, Nancy Rivers; Treasurer, Nicole Leone and Membership Secretary, Stephanie Gochie.

We opened the Town Hall and museum to welcome Concord High School Alumni on Saturday, May 23, 2015, and many historical society members participated in the Memorial Day weekend parade and commemorations.

On September 26, 2015 the annual Open House celebrated 100 years of logging history. The weather was great, and there were exhibits and demonstrations on Folsom Common as well as in the Town Hall and museum. We are very grateful to the folks who spent all day outside splitting and boring logs, smithing and demonstrating trapping techniques. In the Town Hall, crafts and arts from 100 years ago were demonstrated by very talented crafts people.

Helen Pike presented the museum with an enlarged photo of men riding on a stack of 12 foot logs. She spoke about logging history and traditions, drawing anecdotes and "tall tales" from Robert Pike's books and memorabilia.

Beth Kanell brought "Lumber King" George Van Dyke to life through entertaining stories about his rise and fall in the logging industry. We enjoyed a fascinating film of remnants of logging now under water and overgrown along the river banks.

Jo Ann Gilman and Suzie Shute brought back "the old days" in traditional songs and music to the delight of a toe-tapping full house. These four presentations marked a change in how the Town Hall is used during Open House. Seating was arranged for an audience which grew dramatically throughout the day as people stayed to learn about logging history and enjoy the entertainment.

At the annual meeting, which followed the Open House on September 26, we discussed our efforts during the summer to update the mailing list and to e-mail newsletters to members who prefer to receive them electronically. We welcome feedback on Historical Society activities. E-mail comments and suggestions to President Connie Quimby at conquimbo@hotmail.com, or mail to Concord Historical Society, P. O. Box 301, Concord, VT, 05824.

The next Open House will be held on September 24, 2016, and the theme will be "Transportation".