



OLD BRISTOL HISTORICAL SOCIETY

An Occasional Newsletter of the Society - Spring 2012

2012 Calendar for Old Bristol Historical Society Events

Date	Day	Time	Event
June 2	Saturday	9 am-2pm	Cleanup Day and Noon Wiener Roast
June 10	2nd Sunday	2-4 pm	Open House at McKinley School Genealogy Group
June 16	Saturday	9 am-noon	Paddling by Historic Sites on the Tidal Pemaquid River – Walter and Nancy Johansson
June 24	Sunday	6:30 pm	Program: The Pemaquid Trail Community - led by Dick Hood
June 30 & July 1	Saturday Sunday	9 am-4 pm 9 am-2pm	Antique and Curios Sale
July 8	2nd Sunday	2 - 4 pm	Open House at McKinley School
July 15	Sunday	5 pm – 6:30	Potluck Supper & Annual Meeting-McKinley School - Speaker: George Daughan - “1812: The Navy’s War”
Aug. 5	Sunday	6:30 pm	Speaker: Calvin Dodge - “Clipper Ships Built in the Doris Metcalf Shipyard, Damariscotta”
Aug. 12	Sunday	2-4 pm	Open House at McKinley School - Old Bristol Days - “Early American Artifacts” - Craig Elliott, et al
Aug. 26	Sunday	6:30 pm	Speaker: Peter Hope – “Special Places: Round Pond & Loud’s Island” at Round Pond School House
Sept. 9	2nd Sunday	2-4 pm	Open House at McKinley School
Sept. 16	Sunday	6:30 pm	Speaker: David Andrews - “Old Bristol and the Civil War”



Old Bristol Historical Society Officers and Directors - November, 2011

1,2 Co-Presidents	Pete and Kay Hannah	8 - Director	Marilyn Chadwick
3 - Vice President	Wayne Chadwick	9 - Director	Kenneth Coombs
4 - Secretary	Bronwen Lane	10 - Director	Robert McLaughlin, Esq.
5 - Treasurer	Kathy Wright	11 - Director	Daniel C. Purdy, Esq.
6 - Past President	Peter Hope	12 - Director	Mary Lee Rushmore
7 - Director	Carol Brightman		

Building Committee Report

During the summer and fall, the building Committee addressed short term needs of the McKinley School Building aiming to prevent, or at least retard, further deterioration. A contractor was hired to remove several trees to improve air circulation around the building.

Temporary repairs were done to the wooden back foundation wall so that animals could not enter and screens were placed over the open vent windows in the foundation.

Further needs of the building include cleaning, painting and repair to portions of the walls and ceiling. Improving the heating system and potentially insulating the building will be costly and the board will be asked to consider conducting a study of short and long term building use, improvements needs and cost estimates to potentially be followed by establishing a building fund and search for grants to assist in restoring and preparing the building for long term and year-round use.

At last November's board meeting the committee discussed with the board the long term needs for the building, including the leveling and squaring up of the structure, a permanent rear foundation wall, replacement of the shingled roof, installing a vapor barrier beneath the building, the possible replacement of some or all of the clapboards, relocating a number of the existing perimeter capstones to their proper position, and painting the structure.

Robert McLaughlin, Chair
Alexandra Wilson,
Pete Hannah

Open Houses at McKinley School

We aim to have an open house at the school from 2 to 4 p.m. every second Sunday of the month, from June through September, to which all are welcome. These will provide the opportunity to become better acquainted with the OBHS and view old photos of the town and other materials available here.



McKinley School, Harrington Road
Pemaquid Falls

Our genealogy group will be present for the June 10th open house. Our open house on August 12, the last Sunday of Old Bristol Days, will feature Early American Artifacts brought in by Craig Elliott and other local collectors. Please let us know if you have any to share.

New Signs Around Town

While driving about town perhaps you have noticed several new signs placed by the OBHS. Peter Hope is the idea man behind them and the erector. One, just south of the town line on Rt. 130, identifies the town of Bristol and it's early incorporation date of 1765. Others were erected to identify the previously unmarked Elliott Cemetery in Round Pond, the Erskine Cemetery on Fogler Rd. in Bristol, the Herbert Yard in the village of Bristol Mills, and the Poole-Greenlaw Cemetery between Bristol Mills and Round Pond.

Thank you, Peter.

Clean-up and Cookout

The OBHS has a full calendar of events for the summer. It is hoped many will join us at 9 a.m. at McKinley School for a kick-off clean-up session on June 2. Bring your rakes, rags, and organizing skills to help spruce up our “home” and join in a noon cookout. It will be a good opportunity to get involved in our organization and meet others with similar interests.

Antique & Curios Sale

Our Antique & Curios Sale, a 2-day sale planned for the weekend of June 30, will be the first fundraiser we have held in many years. We hope it will be a big event of the summer.



The SALE will be held rain or shine Saturday, June 30 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. and Sunday, July 1 from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. at McKinley School and at the barn (Capt. William Poole house, pictured above) belonging to Kathy Wright and Jeff Eilenburg which is diagonally west across the road from the school. We hope that our members and friends will contribute some of those old antiques hidden around in their homes that they no longer use or need. As the time nears, information about delivery will be available in the Lincoln County News or call 677-2865 or 563-8300. We will also be in need of volunteers preceding and on the days of the sale.

Recreational History

On June 16th the tide will be right for our first outdoor venture ever which we hope will appeal to families as well as individuals. Walter and Nancy Johansson will lead us through 17th-20th century history in our canoes and kayaks from the landing at Pemaquid Falls down the tidal portion of the Pemaquid River to Fish Point. Sounds interesting and fun.

Sunday Evening Programs

Our Sunday evening programs at McKinley School will begin on June 24 with a discussion about the Pemaquid Trail Community, led by Dick Hood. This is somewhat of an extension of Phillip Crocker's very well received talk last September about the Pemaquid Beach Community. Following a Potluck Supper and Annual Meeting on July 15, naval historian, Dr. George C. Vaughn, will speak about his new book, “1812: The Navy's War,” which provides new perspectives to this important war that began 2 centuries ago.

On Aug. 5 our Sunday evening programs continue with another regional historian, Calvin Dodge, who will share his knowledge about the grand clipper ships built in the Doris Metcalf Shipyard, Damariscotta. Our August 12 speaker, former OBHS President, Peter Hope, will discuss his inspiration and research, as well as some tidbits of his recently published book, “Special Places: Round Pond and Louds Island.” Fittingly, this program will be presented at the Round Pond Schoolhouse, whose association is co-hosting this event. The final program of the season will be “Old Bristol and the Civil War.” South Bristol historian, David Andrews, will be taking us back 150 years or so with the information he has gleaned regarding the local involvement of our townspeople's in the Civil War. At that time Old Bristol included South Bristol and Bremen as well as Bristol.

Bristol Historical Resource Survey

Ken Coombs informs us that steady progress is being made on the Architectural Surveys of Round Pond and Bristol Mills. He and Rose-Marie Ballard plan to check and complete the maps and the listing of information on the properties with the goal of having the current projects completed by late spring. This survey will provide a basis for further inquiry about the older homes and buildings of these areas and provide an overview by district. Once completed it is hoped other areas will be surveyed.

Genealogy Group

The Genealogy Group, consisting of 6 or so regular members, resumed its monthly meetings in the fall, and has recently been meeting at the home of Susanne Holmes. Efforts are being made to sort some of the genealogical materials available. The group will be having their June meeting at McKinley School during the Sunday Open House to which all are invited. In the meantime, inquiries regarding the group can be made to Kay Hannah at 563-8300.

Membership

It will be noted for anyone wishing to mail dues that OBHS has a new P.O. Box. It is hoped all will fill in the necessary material on the form unless your information remains unchanged or it is acceptable as printed on your check. We find we are limited on available e-mail addresses so please fill this in if you have one so that you can be contacted regarding special notices. Thank you for your support.

Special thanks to:

- *the officers and board members of OBHS for their faithful participation at meetings and services offered
- *the members of the Building Committee for helping us get to the bottom of our needs and initiating action
- *Mark Alderson and Ryan Cox for adding to our necessary understanding of these needs
- *Peter Hope for his initiation and establishment of new signs for 4 cemeteries and the entrance to town
- *Phil Averill for sealing the chimney at McKinley School
- *Dan Purdy for placing a rain gutter over the main entrance
- *Phillip Crocker for his creation and donation of his map of the Pemaquid Beach Community, c.1928
- *Chip Griffin, Boothbay Harbor, for a copy of each of his books, "Coming of Age on Damariscove Island" and "I'm Different"
- *Scott & Marianna Broaddus of VA for the handwritten booklet, "An Oration delivered at Bristol, Maine, July 4th, 1822, in Commemoration of the 46th Anniversary of American Independence" by Ino F. Gardner
- *Dan Dalrymple, Rockland, for the booklet of early Bristol Tax Records of 1817 kept by John Fitch, Walpole
- *William Smith for his donation of a local 1916 handwritten school album
- *Gordon Fossett & Craig Elliott for the public sharing of their old photos and postcards on the last Sunday of Old Bristol Days
- *Laura Sproul Stubbs for her decorations of the American flag and a Christmas wreath on McKinley School this past year
- *Carol Ann & Paul Ring for formatting and printing this newsletter
- *Jeanne Rottner for its mailing

Thoughts from the Presidents

At the Annual Meeting of the Old Bristol Historical Society on July 10, 2011, outgoing president, Peter Hope, was sincerely thanked for his 8 years in office as our first president and presented with a small oil painting of the Harrington Meeting House created by local artist, Lily Mayer. New officers and several new members were elected to the Board of Directors, which since then has been busy with our many agenda items.

On August 14 at the first meeting of the newly elected board, the importance of involving more people in OBHS and especially the area's young people and their families was discussed as being a high priority for our organization. We would particularly like to involve the youth of our community in learning about and sharing the rich history of Old Bristol. We would also like to reach our region's new residents and our summer visitors with informative events that nurture an appreciation of our heritage. We have planned a full schedule for the summer with events and speakers we hope attracts all interested people.

During the fall we turned some major attention to our home-site, the McKinley School at Pemaquid Falls, regarding both short and long-term issues which Bob McLaughlin addresses in this newsletter's Building Committee Report. We can and are doing some of the work on our own, and during Cleanup Day we will do some yard work, cleaning and organizing in preparation for summer. The funding required for this 1850's building motivates us to include an ambitious Antique and Curios Sale in our summer events and we will likely need to look at grant writing and other funding as time progresses.

Last summer's good attendance to hear our speakers and our 65 paying members in 2011 are encouraging. We look to entice more of you to help keep us vigorous, progressive, and moving ahead. We ask you to share your ideas, concerns, and historical interests to allow us to grow and move toward becoming the vital resource we have the potential of being.

The goal of the OBHS is collecting, preserving, and sharing the history of Old Bristol (originally: Bristol, S. Bristol, Bremen, and parts of Damariscotta). We have a unique and utterly fascinating history worthy of these endeavors. We are grateful to be involved with such a worthwhile organization.

Pete and Kay Hannah

2012 OLD BRISTOL HISTORICAL SOCIETY MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION New _____
Renewal _____

Name _____ (Only need to fill in following info. if new member or changes.)

Address _____ Seasonal Address _____

E-mail _____ or Phone _____ (dates _____)

Thank you for sending dues of \$10 Single or \$15 Family made out to: Old Bristol Historical Society
P. O. Box 87
Bristol, ME 04539

Tax-exempt under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code
Please remember that our continued efforts depend upon your generous support.

OBHS in Need of a Treasurer

Our current treasurer, Kathy Wright, finds that she has limited time available to serve in this office and would like to be relieved of her duties as soon as a replacement can be found. This officer serves on the board that meets 6 times annually and primarily has the responsibility of keeping accurate financial records for our organization, deposits member dues and other income, and disburses its required funding. Please phone one of the officers if you have any interest in helping us in this capacity.

**Old Bristol Historical Society
P. O. Box 87
Bristol, ME 04539**