

NEXT MEETING: SEPTEMBER 15, 2009: 7PM AT STARKSBORO TOWN OFFICES

Starksboro Historical Society
Meeting Minutes
June 19, 2009
Starksboro Town Offices, 7:00-8:30PM

Members Present: Jim Lockridge, Olive Phillips, Cynthia Kling, Sarah Adams, Elsa Gilbertson, Robert Stokes, Ruth Beecher

1. Jim proposed an **overarching theme for tonight's meeting**: what can SHS do beyond programs? Ideas presented: explore ideas that could grow over time, bring local history to the forefront, expand walking tour of Starksboro with connections to Meeting House. Then he shared brochures from St. Johnsbury's walking tour.
2. **VMGA update**: Elsa said that VMGA is having hard times financially so they are relying on a new grant to fund the Renewal/Building Accomplished Museum program with which we are involved. As part of our partnership, we were supposed to have an intern this summer or fall as well as more workshops but since it is grant dependent, we will either have these later, OR money will be refunded (SHS gave \$300 toward this partnership).
3. **Program update**:
 - The Lake Between* program on March 20 was excellent. About 40 people attended, including folks in period attire. Thanks were given to Elsa for putting this program together and to Ruth for running the tech equipment.
 - Jim Rowe/John Stark* program on May 15 was also excellent. A lot of folks from out of town came, again almost 40.
4. **SHS in progress**:
 - Storytelling* – several SHS members are contributing to Starksboro's Art and Soul town-wide program. Cynthia Kling, Robert Stokes, and Audrey Thompson are involved with one storytelling project; and Ruth Beecher and Linda Barnard are involved with another storytelling project. We hope to get these storytelling projects archived to preserve Starksboro memories.
 - Accessions* – EmmaLou, Olive, Cynthia and Kevin did some updating with the cemetery/photo exhibit, but more work is needed.
 - Starksboro Cemeteries* – this is a work-in-progress. Olive and Robert agreed to spearhead this project with Cynthia and EmmaLou. Olive and Robert said they will get text and images to Jim, who offered to lay it all out for a possible library installation in October. **They decided to get the text and images to Jim some time in August so he can prepare it all.**
 - Wayside Exhibit* – Jim continues to work on this and has 2 of 3 exhibits laid out. Creamery is completed; Lewis Creek Valley is almost completed;

Village Stores is in progress with images collected from town but help needed with storyline/text for exhibit.

5. **Upcoming programs:**

-October 14 we're co-hosting with Jerusalem Schoolhouse Lecture Series to learn about Mike Winslow's book *Lake Champlain: A Natural History*. SHS will give \$40 to support the Lake Champlain Committee where Mike is a staff member.

-Brown Hill History Day planning is in the works (Cynthia).

-Instead of adding new programs, we decided to put our energies toward community outreach and preparing displays for above-mentioned areas:

**Storytelling Project* (Robert, Cynthia, Audrey; Ruth, Linda)

**Cemetery Project* (Robert, Olive, Cynthia, Emma Lou)

**Wayside Exhibit* (Jim): 2 out of 3 exhibits have been laid out. Creamery is completed; Lake Champlain Valley in general is almost completed with Lewis Creek Association providing the text; Village Stores is next. Jim is requesting assistance – he has collected images from town but could use help with text to pull it together with storyline of exhibit. Jim will send current PDFs for editing.

**Community Connections* (Cynthia will be our liaison with the Art and Soul project to hopefully bring others into the mix from SHS, Jerusalem Schoolhouse, and Village Meeting House)

**November Presentation* – each group will prepare a display for the town-wide Art and Soul 'event'. We need to know when, where, and how we can bring our audience. If any of our displays are ready in time, it was decided that the Annual Ham Dinner would be a great venue to showcase our work.

6. **January 29, 2009 Minutes:**

Minutes were approved with correction that this is Sarah's third term as treasurer.

7. **Treasurer's Report:**

Sarah submitted the 2009 report. We have \$1151.68 in our bank account. We currently have 15 lifetime members, which is more than half of our membership in the middle of our 4th term of office: 06, 07, 08, and 09.

8. **Other Business:**

We received a tin type of Hoel Sayler, son of Harvey Sayler, which was given by a Hinesburg man to SHS. Cynthia will give it to EmmaLou to include with accessions.

Sarah will put out that membership dues are due in January.

9. **Future Topics:**

Walking tour of Starksboro with connections to Meeting House

Permanent location for our SHS museum

Fundraising ideas for SHS museum

Membership list – do we send minutes to folks who are not paying members?

Vermont History EXPO at Tunbridge is on hold this year but will be held in 2010. Do we want to have a presence? We need lots of people to help run the exhibits we put up. We could use the displays we create as discussed in items 3 and 4 above. Sarah will ask Linda if she wants to be the Jerusalem Schoolhouse connection.

10. **Next Meeting:**

September 15, 2009, 7PM at Starksboro Town Offices – business meeting.

Respectfully submitted,
Ruth Beecher