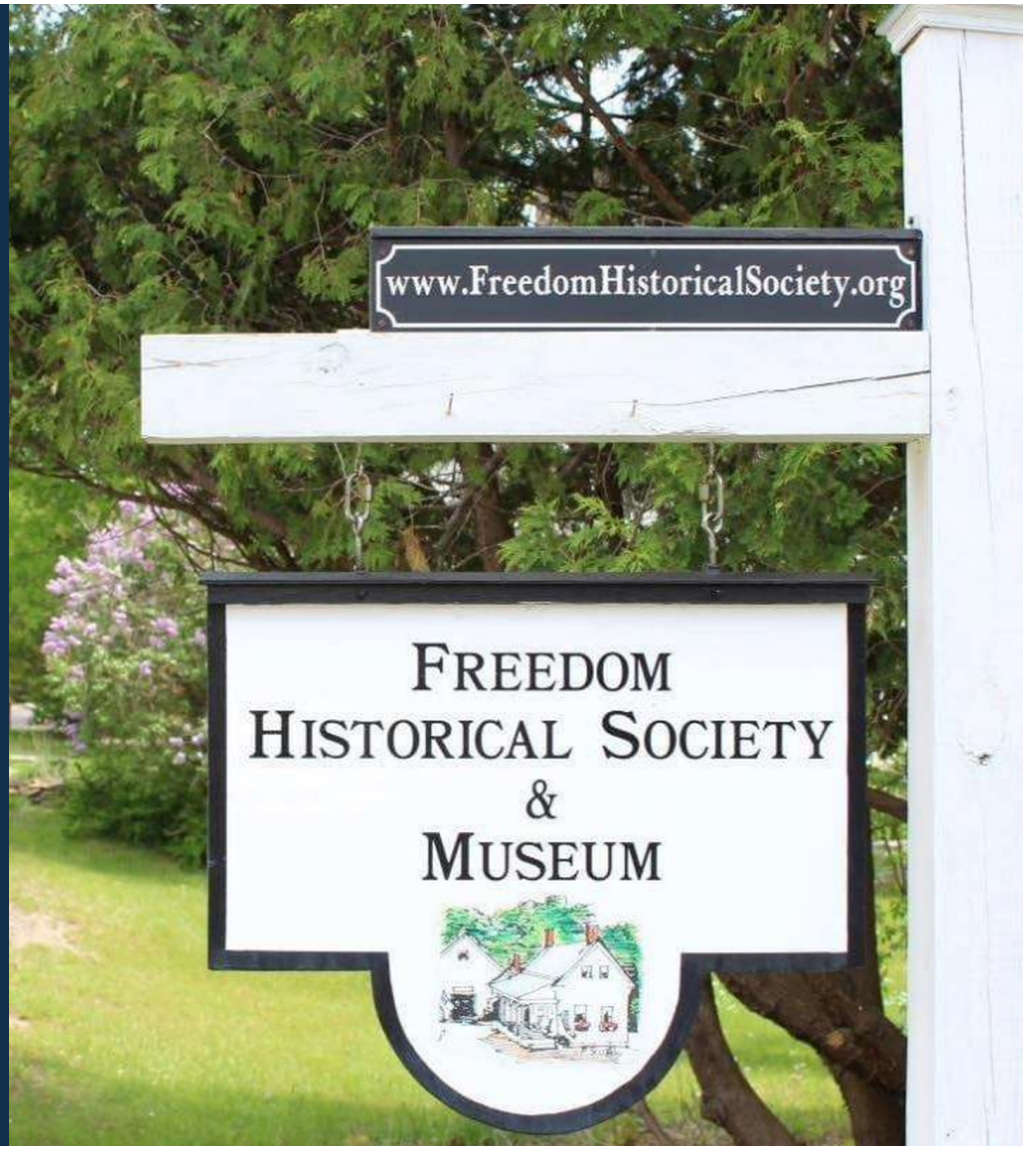
The Freedom Historical Society 2026

Preserving, interpreting, and sharing Freedom stories since 1965.

Annual Meeting | November 5, 2026 | Freedom Town Hall



OUR MISSION & 2026 HAPPENINGS

Preserving, Interpreting & Sharing Freedom Stories

- **Our Commitment:** Preserving the history of Freedom, NH — the story of the people, families, traditions & experiences that shaped the town we know today.
- **How We Share:** We share these stories through exhibits, monthly programs, books, monthly digital newsletters, our website, and our Museum.
- **It Takes a Community:** Freedom's history belongs to all of us — your time, stories, and support are what keep our heritage alive.
- **2026 Season Highlights:** 800+ museum visitors across 54 open days, Summer Camps of Freedom exhibit ($3,633 Henney Fund grant support) & 2 new Allard House exhibits on the American revolutionary War Veterans connected to Freedom and the Freedom Club of Boston.



EXECUTIVE BOARD & DIRECTORS

The 2026 FHS Board Team

- **Co-Presidents:** Kyle Thomas & Roberta MacCarthy
- **Secretary & Treasurer:** Jane Davidson (Secretary) & Jayne Britton (Treasurer)
- **Committee Coordinators:** Moira Epps (Collection Coordinator) & Michael Gaudette (Facilities Coordinator)
- **Executive Board:** Roberta MacCarthy, Kyle Thomas, Jane Davidson, Jayne Britton, Moira Epps, Michael Gaudette
- **Directors:** Kareen Briggs, Brandy Buttrick, Nancy Essex, Anne Gaudette, Linda Habif , Pam Keith, Anne Packard, Lauren Stoddard, Carole Taylor, Steve Thurston & Marcia Trook (plus early 2026 service by Molly Foye, Laurie Eisener, & Amanda Hatch)





COMMON THEME — IMPORTANCE OF VOLUNTEERS

28 Greeter Volunteers Welcomed 800 Visitors

- **54 Open Museum Days:** Thank you to our 28 volunteers who welcomed 800 visitors this year — providing orientation, shared knowledge & friendly hospitality for 54 days.
- **A Community Hub:** Greeters transform every visit into a meaningful experience from the moment a guest walks in (coordinated by Linda Habif).
- **Greeters (A–K):** Justin Brooks, Jayne Britton, Nadine Chapman, Jane Davidson, Laurie Eisner, Bill & Maureen Elliott, Moira Epps, Nancy Essex, Ann Furtado, Anne & Michael Gaudette, Linda Habif, Barbara Hall-Siktberg, Susan/Maggie Hoople, Michele Keenan, Pam Keith, Lucy Kendall, Arlene Knight.
- **Greeters (L–Z):** Felicia Ledgard, Roberta MacCarthy, Barbara McEvoy, Erin Philips, Noel Quinton, John Shipman, Lauren Stoddard, Sarah Tabor, Brian, Carole & Pam Taylor, Kyle Thomas, Steve Thurston, Marcia Trook, Janice Zecher.





CONNECTING PAST, PRESENT & FUTURE

Volunteers Are Historical Researchers

- **Researching & Sharing Our Roots:** Volunteer researchers investigate, document, and share the history of Freedom and its residents — helping us understand our roots and appreciate those who came before us.
- **History Belongs to All of Us:** 'History doesn't belong only to the past. It belongs to all of us!! The stories we preserve today will become the history that future generations of Freedom will inherit.'
- **2026 Researchers:** Karrie Buttrick, Nadine Chapman, Jane Davidson, Moira Epps, Michael Gaudette, Linda Habif, Sue Hoople, Felicia Ledgard & Roberta MacCarthy. Ann Packard, Peg Scully, John Shipman, Lauren Stoddard, Carole Taylor, Marcia Trook, Kyle Thomas, Noel Quinton, Lisa Wheeler & Janice Zecher. Thank you!



GENEALOGY & HISTORICAL RESEARCH — MOIRA EPPS

10 Revolutionary War Veterans & Genealogy Project

- **10 Revolutionary War Veterans:** Collection Coordinator Moira Epps identified & researched 10 veterans who lived in, settled, or had ties to Freedom: David Allard (1726–1831), John Andrews (1761–1840), Daniel Brooks (1761–1836), Moses Harmon (1759–1836), Pelatiah Harmon (1762–1841), Thomas Lord (1757–1843), John Mills (1752–1828), Redman Moulton (1746–1823), Robert Sargent (1762–1836) & Richard Taylor (1753–1842).
- **Published Family Histories:** During Revolutionary War research, several published family history books and narratives were discovered; a list will be available at FHS in the coming year.
- **War of 1812 Veterans:** FHS is continuing to research Freedom's veterans and is finishing reports on two veterans from the War of 1812.
- **Research Scope Policy:** FHS conducts research on individuals related to exhibits.



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MUSEUM COLLECTION — MOIRA EPPS & JANICE ZECHER

Collection Committee Reinstated & 2027 Full Audit Planned

- **Committee Reinstated:** Led by Collection Coordinator Moira Epps, the Collection Committee has been reinstated and reviews all new acquisitions against the criteria in the FHS By-Laws:
- **By-Laws Criteria:** Made in Freedom, NH; Used in Freedom, NH | Owned by a Resident in Freedom, NH. To a limited extent some objects may be typical or representative of those made or used in Freedom
- **Full PastPerfect Audit:** The Collection Committee (Moira Epps and Janice Zecher) will conduct an audit of the entire FHS collection to make sure all items have been input into our database PastPerfect, and to identify each item's location.
- **Organizing the Works Barn:** During the audit, the Collection Committee will work with Moira to organize and simplify the ground floor of the Barn, which is overflowing with artifacts.







ALLARD HOUSE DISPLAYS

New Allard House Exhibits & 2026 Acquisitions

- **Two New Exhibits:** Volunteers produced Freedom Veterans from the Revolutionary War (Coordinator Moira Epps) and The Freedom Club of Boston (Coordinators Peg Scully & Lisa Wheeler).
- **New Acquisitions Display:** Continued displaying new acquisitions (Coordinator Janice Zecher) plus the historic Eaglewicke sign (Bonnie Ainsworth).
- **Cubby Brooks & Towle Gifts:** Accepted former Fire Chief Cubby Brooks's firefighting collection and a 19th-century portraits of Lovell Towle (1801–1891) & Mary Towle (1809–1892) from Rev. Betty Works Fuller.
- **Grandfather's clock** given in 2026 to FHS by the granddaughter of Avis Goss, Jacqueline Goss. The clock was displayed at Avis's home at 35 Elm Street for years. who lived in Freedom on Elm



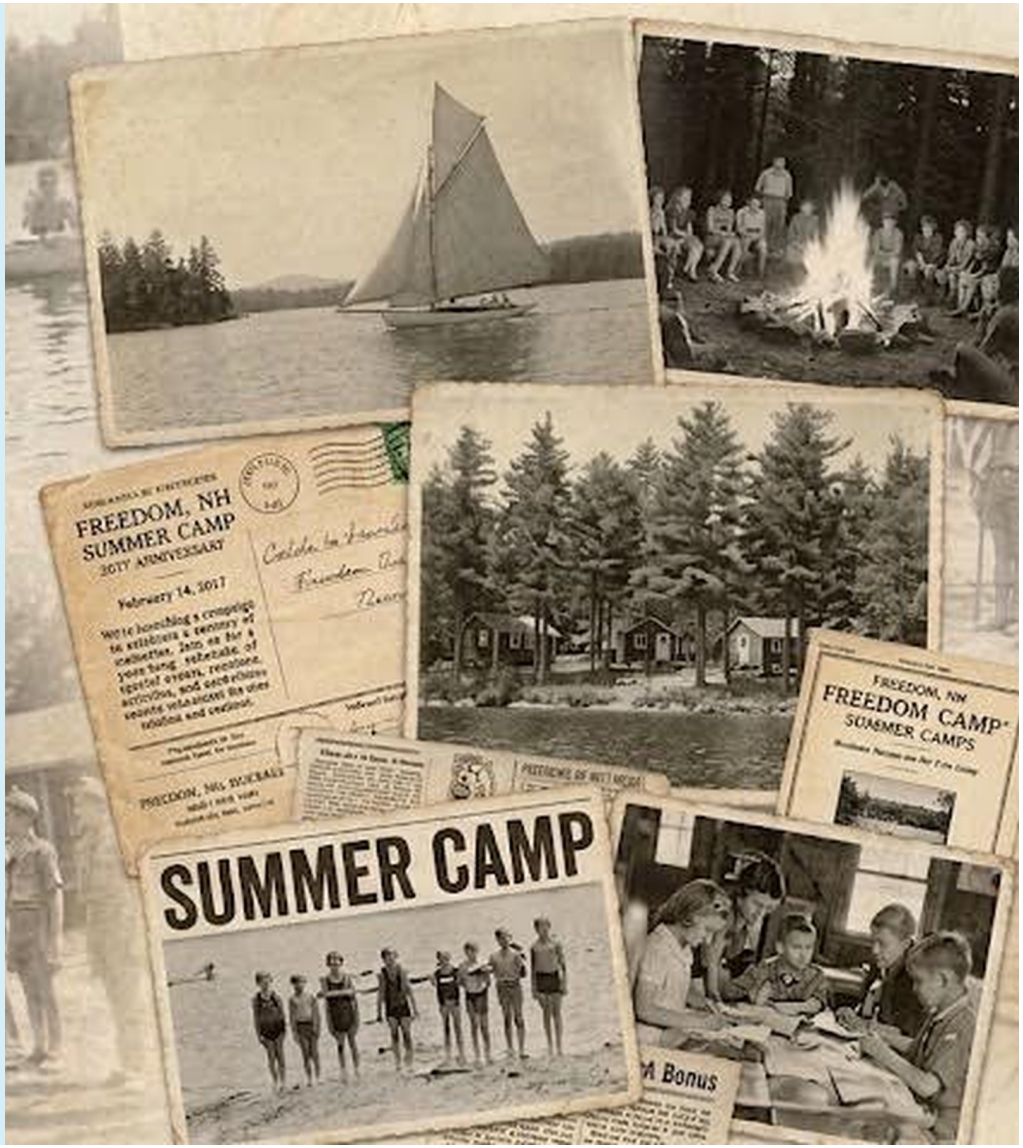




2026 FEATURED EXHIBITION — WORKS BARN

Summer Camps of Freedom Exhibition

- **Coordinators & Production Team:** Coordinated by Kyle Thomas with Noel Quinton, Anne Packard, Lauren Stoddard, Marcia Trook, Michael Gaudette, Jane Davidson, Pam Keith, Carole Taylor & Linda Habif (plus Roberta MacCarthy, Janice Zecher & Laurie Eisener).
- **Grand Opening for First Year:** Saturday, May 23, 2026 (preceded by May 21 Preview Reception).
- **Closing Weekend:** Saturday, October 10 – Sunday, October 11, 2026.
- **Opening for 'Year Two 2027':** May 2027 — expanding legacy camp displays and archival walkabout video.
- **Henney Fund Grant:** Supported by grant from the Henney Fund of Eaton. Thank you.



MOST POPULAR EXHIBIT TO DATE

Summer Camps of Freedom: Then, Now, Always

- **Community Memory in Action:** Demonstrates what FHS can do when research, preservation, community memory & volunteers come together to collect memories before they disappear.
- **History Since Late 1800s:** Documented Freedom's summer-camp history since 1899 with photographs, artifacts & camper stories.
- **700–800 Visitors in 2026:** Our most popular exhibit to date! 'How many of you spent a summer at a camp in Freedom—or know someone who did?'
- **3 Camp Staff & Alumni Events:** Hosted events at FHS with camp staff and alumni from Camp Robin Hood, Luethi-Peterson Camps & Camp Calumet.
- **Monthly Program Series:** Presented evening programs on Camp Calumet, YMCA Camp Huckins & Camp Robin Hood.



FHS 2026 EXHIBIT — MASTER CAMP DIRECTORY

History of Freedom Summer Camps: All 21 Documented Sites

Camps 1–11: Ossipee Lake & Bays

- **Camps 1–3 (Ossipee Lake):** 1. Camp Ossipee; 2. Camp Fessenden & 3. Camp Calumet (at former site of Camp Ossipee).
- **Camps 4–8 (Ossipee Lake):** 4. Camp Wellesley; 5. Camp Winnemont (Wellesley site); 6. Camp Adeawonda; 7. Camp Cody (Adeawonda site). ; 8. Camp Paulipoint
- **Camps 9–11 (Bays):** 9. YMCA Camp Huckins & 10. Camp Robin Hood (Broad Bay); 11. Berry Bay Camp for Girls.

Camps 12–21: Ponds & Upland Roads

- **Camps 12–14 (Ponds & Loon Lake):** 12. Camp Wakuta (Shaw Pond); 13. Camp Copithorne (West shore Danforth Pond); 14. Camp Mahn-Go-Taysee (West shore Loon Lake).
- **Camps 15–18 (Upland Roads):** 15. Skybrooke & 16. Luethi-Peterson (103 Moulton Rd); 17. Camp Adeawonda (322 Youngs Hill Rd); 18. Cragged Mountain Farm (Cold Brook Rd).
- **Camps 19–21 (Freedom Roads):** 19. Camp Talofa (Scarboro/Black Rd); 20. Camp Freedom (Berry Bay site); 21. Camp Capescapes (Shawtown Rd).

2026 EXHIBIT GALLERY — OPENING & CAMP VISITS

A Look Back at the Year of the Freedom Camp Exhibit



- **Camp Robin Hood Visit:** 30 Robin Hood campers & counselors in 'Go Green Go' shirts exploring the Works Barn.



- **Opening Reception Welcome:** Members, camp directors & guests gathered outside the Works Barn on May 23.



- **Friends & Alumni Connections:** Sharing stories and memories across generations at the 2026 summer events.

2026 EXHIBIT GALLERY — DESIGN & CONSTRUCTION

Behind the Scenes: Building the Works Barn Displays



- **New Portable Display Walls:** Custom display walls and upgraded lighting showcasing Camp Cody & Camp Huckins.



- **Framing Archival Photographs:** Exhibit volunteers carefully mounting historic camp photographs and labels.



- **Exhibit Builders at Work:** Co-President Kyle Thomas Noel Quinton installing placards in the Works Barn.

2026 EXHIBIT GALLERY — TIMELINE & ALUMNI EVENTS

Exploring the 1899–2026 Timeline & Camp Reunions







- **1899–2026 Master Timeline:** Examining Noel Quinton's timeline of 21 Freedom summer camps & vintage paddle.
- **Camp Alumni Receptions:** Staff and alumni from Cragged Mountain Farm, Camp Huckins, Calumet, Robin Hood & LPC celebrating at FHS.

2026 EXHIBIT GALLERY — EXHIBITS & TOURS

International Connections & Centennial Camp Displays

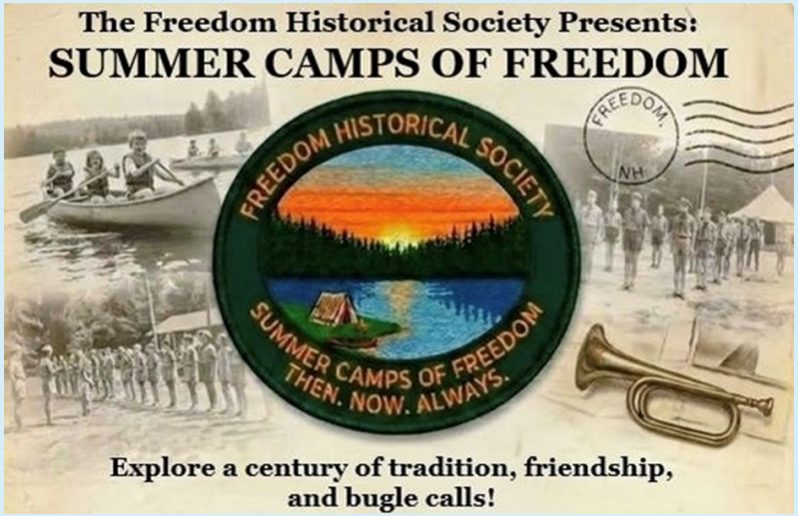


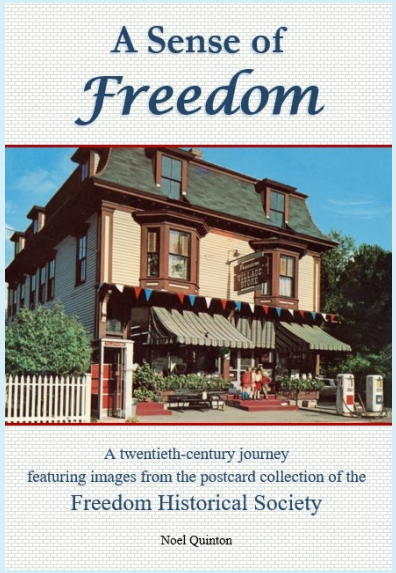
- **Luethi-Peterson World Map:** Interactive global map and painted tiles celebrating international campers since 1948.





- **Camp Robin Hood and Camp Cody Centennial:** Celebrating nearly a century of Broad Bay tradition with alumni and FHS leaders.







2027 CALENDAR & PUBLICATIONS

2027 Summer Camps Calendar, Books & Digital Access

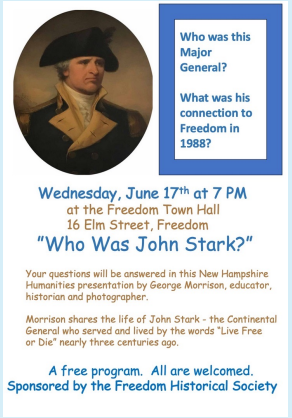
- **2027 Wall Calendar:** We continued telling the story of the 21 Freedom Summer Camps in the 2027 Calendar — Coordinator Anne Gaudette (with Roberta MacCarthy, Bank of NH & camp sponsors).
- **Monthly Digital Newsletter:** Moved our quarterly printed newsletter to a monthly digital format to keep members connected year-round.
- **Online Database Expansion:** Advanced user accessibility of our PastPerfect database by adding more photographs, 'Random Images' (Janice Zecher) & 1964–2025 news index (Moira Epps).
- **FHS Book Series:** Sketches of Freedom Part 2 (2001–2025) by Brandy Buttrick & Pam Keith, Part 1 by Carol Foord, and Noel Quinton's A Sense of Freedom.

2026 SPEAKER SERIES (MARCH–OCTOBER)

Monthly Programs in 2026 — Coordinator Steve Thurston

- March 21 – “The American Revolution: Spirit of Service”
  Screening and discussion led by John Mackey
- April 8 – Preview of FHS Exhibit on History of Freedom’s Summer Camps
  Presented by Kyle Thomas, FHS Co-President
- April 15 – “Redcoats and Rebels: New Hampshire and the American Revolution”
  Presented by Mary Adams
- May 20 – “New Hampshire Folk Tales as an Avenue to Local History & Culture”
  Presented by Erin Moulton
- June 17 – “Who Was John Stark?”
  Presented by George Morrison
- July 29 – “History of Camp Calumet”
  Presented by Karen Vitek
- August 19 – “Camp Huckins – Yesterday, Today, and Tomorrow”
  Presented by Executive Director Heather Kiley and Katie Miressi, Community Programs Director
- September 16 – “Camp Robin Hood – A Centennial Perspective”
  Presented by Chuck Illig, Head Counselor
- October 21 – “A Time Traveler’s Journey Through Carroll County (Compelling Curiosities, Lost Landmarks, Vintage Views)”
  Presented by Noel Quinton







COORDINATED BY MICHAEL GAUDETTE, LINDA HABIF & CAROLE TAYLOR

Maintenance & Garden Care: 2026 Projects Completed

- **Allard House Roof:** Painted the roof of Allard House and the roof area over the kitchen.
- **Basement Restoration:** Pointed stone walls with cement mortar, leveled floor & cleaned out old wood/debris; putting down heavy plastic to reduce moisture.
- **Foundation & Display Walls:** Pointed cracks in foundation around house. Built 5 new museum portable display walls.
- **Electrical, Lighting & AC:** Added 6 new outlets for display lighting & electronic picture frames; purchased a new inverter AC for the resource room.
- **Climate Control & Gardens:** Continued organizing Climate Control Room. Maintained gardens, grounds, window boxes & porch plants.
- **Winterization:** Shut down water for winter. Turned on pipe heaters.











VILLAGE PARTNERSHIPS & YOUTH EDUCATION

Engagement, Community Outreach & School Programs





- **Freedom Organizations:** Worked closely with the Community Club, Heritage Commission, Freedom Village Store, Freedom Library, Freedom Elementary School, Freedom Gallery, First Christian Church, Freedom Antique Gallery, Old Home Week & Effingham Historical Society.
- **Freedom Elementary Visits:** Steve Thurston & Pam Keith partnered with teachers Kareen Briggs & Ellen Caputo to welcome Grades 3–6 and K–2 in October
- **Elm Street Concert (Sept 24):** Our September 24 Evening partnering with the First Christian Church Elm Street concert featuring Latin folk duo Sol y Canto (~$1,000 raised).
- **Halloween & Holiday Traditions:** Continued handing out candy to 200+ trick-or-treaters in Freedom Village and this year there is a Christmas event December 12 at the Allard House.

FREEDOM OLD HOME WEEK — AUGUST 1, 2026

Margie's Lunch: A Beloved Old Home Week Tradition



- **80 Guests Served:** 80 guests plus many volunteers served hamburgers and hot dogs over a 3-hour period.



- **Porch Visits & Museum Tours:** Guests toured the Museum exhibits and shared stories on the Allard House porch.



- **Coordinator & Volunteer Chefs:** Special thanks to coordinator Maggie Hoople and volunteer chefs John Habif & Kevin Eisner!

ANNUAL CLOSING-WEEKEND FUNDRAISER

FHS Yard Sale (Oct 11 & 12): $4,500 Raised in 2 Days!





- **Huge Community Support:** Generous community item donations and enthusiastic shoppers made this a terrific FHS fundraiser.
- **$4,500 Profit in 2 Days:** Held during the final weekend of the museum's season — FHS raised $4,500 in over the October 11 & 12, weekend.
- **Board & Volunteer Execution:** Special thanks to the Board for executing this major event; we plan to continue Community Yard Sales each year.

SECURING FHS FOR THE NEXT 60 YEARS

Planning for the Future: Sustainability & Maintenance Funds

Planning for the Future

- **No Traditional Endowment:** All funding currently comes from variable year-to-year fundraising, memberships & grants.
- **Strategic Growth:** Targeting grant support and long-term planned funding.

Sustainability Fund

- **$100,000 Goal by 2035:** Launched with 2024 concert revenue and a 2025 campaign — nearly $37,500 raised to date!
- **Protecting Operations:** This Fund supports program or operational needs when unforeseen circumstances arise.
- **Future Gifts & Planned Giving:** Secure Bequests & Family Legacy Funds coordinated by Past President John Shipman.

Maintenance Fund

- **Established in 2025:** Created because caring for our historic facilities and collection is essential to long-term success.
- **CSM Robert A. Oram:** Many thanks to CSM Robert A. Oram for contributing to this fund to keep buildings safe & comfortable.
- **Join in Supporting:** Contributions of any size help maintain resources for our future.

2026 Revenue and Expenses (to date)

- **NH Gives Campaign ($8,105):** Raised $8,105 from 51 donors (~$2,000 above 2025) with 100% Board Challenge participation.
- **Grants & Events:** $3,633 Henney Fund support for the Summer Camps exhibit and $4,500 income from the October Yard Sale.
- **Membership & Member Donations** to date are $9556.
- **Total Unrestricted Revenue** $33,658.
- **Total Operating Costs $**28, 622



2027 STRATEGIC ROADMAP

Future Research Projects & Priorities for 2027

- **Collection Inventory & Camp Exhibit Year 2:** Complete the inventory of the entire FHS Collection and produce Year Two of the Exhibit on the History of Freedom Camps.
- **Two New Permanent Exhibits:** Research and develop plans for 2 permanent exhibits: Flax Farming / Linen Production & Weaving on the Barn 2nd floor, and our Indigenous Artifact Collection in the Allard House.
- **Strengthen Historic Facilities:** Maintain & strengthen the lower shed, the snow roller shed (and winter snow roller restoration with Watson Hill ash timber), and exhibit spaces.
- **Holiday Traditions:** Rediscover Freedom's Christmas & seasonal traditions
- **Effingham Roots:** partner with Effingham Historical Society to celebrate our shared roots before Freedom separated from Effingham. Effingham will be 200 years old in 2028! An exhibit is planned.











LONG-RANGE CURATORIAL PLAN (2026–2030)

FHS 5-Year Summer Exhibit Plan & Permanent Galleries

Timeline	Exhibit / Gallery Title	Curatorial Scope & Community Focus
2026 (Year 1)	**Summer Camps of Freedom (Year 1)**	Opened May 23, 2026; 21 documented camps since 1899, 3 camp alumni events & 800 visitors.
2027 (Year 2)	**Summer Camps of Freedom (Year 2)**	Opening May 2027; expanded legacy camp displays, camp stories & walkabout video.
Permanent	**Barn 2nd Floor & Allard House**	New permanent exhibits: Flax Farming & Linen Weaving (Barn 2nd Floor) + Indigenous Artifacts (Allard House).
2027–2028	**Effingham Anniversary & Schools**	Celebrating Freedom's early roots as part of Effingham + History of the Schools of Freedom.
2029–2030	**Historic Recreation & Old Home Week**	Historic Recreation & Entertainment in Freedom (2029) and History of Old Home Week (2030).

STRENGTHENING OUR LEADERSHIP TEAM

Priorities for Board Development & Governance

- **Historical Society Stewardship:** Increase knowledge and awareness of the administration, collection, preservation, research, and financial resources of a small historical society.
- **Program Strategy & Special Projects:** Increase Board involvement in developing future program strategies, growing membership & volunteers, and coordinating special projects.
- **Operational Policies (Every 3 Years):** Review and update the FHS Operational Policies and Procedures on a 3-year cycle alongside annual Bylaws review.
- **Year-End Reviews & Alumni Network:** Continue year-end reviews with each Board Member, supported by our new FHS Board Alumni Group (35+ charter alumni) and Resource Room hybrid Zoom display.



NOMINATING COMMITTEE: PAM KEITH, MOIRA EPPS & STEVE THURSTON

2027 FHS Board & Executive Committee Nominations

2027 Current & New

- **2027 Current Board:** Kareen Briggs, Brandy Buttrick, Jane Davidson, Michael Gaudette, Anne Packard, Steve Thurston, Kyle Thomas & Carole Taylor.

2027 By Vote

- **New Nominated Members:** Patty Haywood, Kevin Jensen, Belinda Madsen, Darcey Gulvin.
- **Nominated Renewing Members:** Jayne Britton, Moira Epps, Nancy Essex, Anne Gaudette & Linda Habif, Pam Keith, Roberta MacCarthy, Lauren Stoddard, Marcia Trook.

Executive Committee

- **Co-Presidents:** Roberta MacCarthy & Kyle Thomas.
- **Treasurer & Secretary:** Jayne Britton (Treasurer) & Jane Davidson (Secretary).
- **Committee Directors:** Moira Epps (Collection) & Michael Gaudette (Facilities & Maintenance).

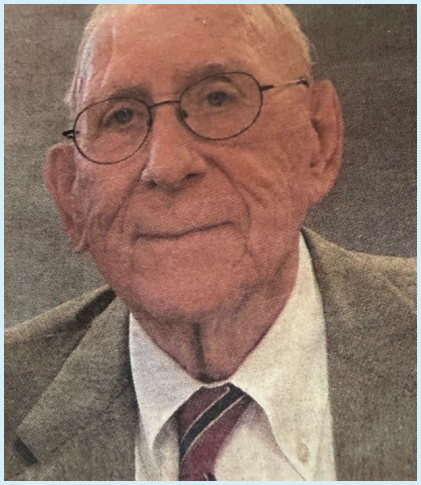
2027 Proposed Bylaw Amendments:

- Add a Vice President Position to the Executive Board/Board of Directors
- Increase the number of Directors from 20 – 21 members.
- Directors on the Executive Committee: Co-Presidents, Treasurer, Secretary, Vice President, Collection Coordinator, Facilities Coordinator

HONORING EXTRAORDINARY SERVICE TO FHS

Special Tribute to Jean Marshall & Jack Middleton





- **Jean Marshall:** Served on the FHS Board for 7 years (since 2017) with deep dedication to Freedom's history. She was a summer resident of Freedom's Berry Bay for 72 years and a full-time resident since 2012.
- **Jack Middleton:** Freedom resident and New Hampshire's oldest practicing attorney. Back in 1965, he was one of the early supporters of FHS and completed all the legal paperwork to make FHS a 501(c)(3) nonprofit!

CELEBRATING OUR MEMBERS & ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Special Thanks to Our Members, Volunteers & Community!



- **Sharing Stories & Friendship:** Members, neighbors, and visitors connecting across generations at our 2026 museum events and gatherings.



- **Dedicated All Season Long:** Thank you to our 210+ members, 28 Greeters, 19 Researchers & community partners for an unforgettable 2026 season!

Community and History

Freedom's History belongs to all of us, and preserving it takes a community.

Celebrating our members, our volunteers, our accomplishments, and our community.

28 Old Portland Road, Freedom, NH | www.FreedomHistoricalSociety.org