

# WATERBURY HISTORICAL SOCIETY



WINTER 2018

Volume 19, Number 5

## Chimneys at CCC Camp Smith to be Restored

### Winterfest Grant Completes Funding Process

By Cheryl Casey

One pathway, one concrete pad, one interpretive sign, and now one chimney brick at a time, CCC Camp Smith on Little River Road continues its march toward preservation.

With last week's grant awarded by the Waterbury Winterfest Grants Committee, the Waterbury Historical Society, working closely with lead volunteer Anne Imhoff, reached its fundraising goal for restoring all three chimneys at the site.

Imhoff, a long-time member of the Historical Society and resident of Waterbury Village, spent the last year collaborating with the Society's president, Barbara Farr, and the other members of the Board of Directors to raise money.

Winterfest Grants Committee Chair, Rich Hayes, of Waterbury Center,

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## VHS Honors Joneses, Carter

By Cheryl Casey

The Vermont Historical Society presented two major awards to the Waterbury Historical Society, accepted by Bob and Betty Jones and Jack Carter. The awards ceremony took place at the 65th Annual Meeting of the League of Local Historical Societies and Museums (LLHSM).

Mr. and Mrs. Jones, of Waterbury Center, were named for Lifetime Achievement for their dedication to researching, preserving, and programming for the VHS. They have each contributed 50 years of volunteer time to the community. Earlier this year, Mr. Jones was recognized by the Waterbury Fire Department for his 50 years

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L-R: VHS President Barb Farr, VT Parks Operations Specialist Barb MacGregor, Anne Imhoff, Rich Hayes, VT Northeast Parks Regional Manager Susan Bulmer.

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# VHS Awards

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of service to their organization.

Jack Carter, WHS History Center Curator, accepted a Merit Award on behalf of WHS and Revitalizing Waterbury for the newly-designed Community Room at the Waterbury Train Station. Carter directed the vision and work on the room, with funding from both organizations.

The station is a recognized visitors center. Revitalizing Waterbury leases it to Green Mountain Coffee for its café; Amtrak also stops there on its Vermonter line.

The LLHSM meeting was held in Woodstock, VT, on Saturday, October 27. Their annual achievement awards recognize publications, programs, collections, and volunteerism that preserve and share Vermont history.



**Top: (L-R) Steve Perkins of the Vermont Historical Society, Betty Jones, and Bob Jones**  
**Bottom: Perkins, left, and Jack Carter. Photos courtesy of Jan Gendreau.**

## NEXT MEETING AND PROGRAM

January 23, 2019

**Steele Community Room, Waterbury Municipal Building**  
**The Caboose on Henry Hough Road, Featuring an Episode of *Backyard Goldmine***

Just a quarter mile up Henry Hough Road sits one of Waterbury's unique structures - a red, turn-of-the-century caboose. In its first season, local television program *Backyard Goldmine* featured the caboose and its renovations. Join us for a recap of this project and a history of this caboose tucked away in the Worcester Mountains.



## Chimneys To Be Restored

*Continued from page 1*

presented Imhoff and Farr with a check for \$1,000 at the most recent Historical Society Board meeting on October 19 in the Steele Community Room. Susan Bulmer, Northeast Parks Regional Manager, Barb MacGregor, Parks Operations Specialist, and Village resident Natalie Sherman, from Winterfest's leadership team, were also present for the brief ceremony.

The Department of Forest, Parks, and Recreation owns and oversees the site on which Camp Smith is located. Imhoff and her dedicated squad of volunteers have received ongoing support from Bulmer and MacGregor in their efforts to clean up and preserve the Camp.

"It has been a huge pleasure working with Anne and all the committees over the years on this whole project," said Bulmer. "We've had more and more interest in the trail in the last couple of years. It is great to get to that level and still have plans for future development."

To restore all three chimneys, Imhoff needed to raise just over \$7,000. Hayes championed Imhoff's application to the Winterfest Grants Committee after a chance conversation. It turned out that they shared an interest in the CCC Camp, and Imhoff was looking for one last push to close the fundraising gap.

"A chance exchange can lead to an impactful result like this," explained Hayes. "A lot of people don't recognize that if it weren't for the CCC, we wouldn't be enjoying the range of recreational resources we do today."

The Winterfest Committee established the grants program to support recreation of all kinds in Waterbury. "It [Camp Smith] is an important legacy of infrastructure that could have gone a different way in that era. Preserving the chimneys for a bit longer is a nice gift."

The Historical Society solicited donations from members of the community and was also awarded a grant from the Walter Cerf Community Fund, in addition to Waterbury Winterfest.

Farr and Imhoff will next coordinate with Bulmer to schedule the preservation work.

## Save the Date: Vermont History Trivia Coming to Town

The Waterbury Historical Society Outreach Education Committee invites you to join in on an afternoon of fun and fun facts about Vermont history, on February 10, 2019, at 2:00 p.m.

Teams of 6 will compete with each other for prizes and will learn interesting facts about our Green Mountain State. Participants are encouraged to gather their own teams. The questions and answers were prepared by the staff at the Vermont Historical Society. There will also be a round of local history.

Please bring an appetizer to share. Beverages and Ben & Jerry's ice cream will be provided.

There is room for 36 participants, or 6 teams. Pre-registration is required.

### Pre-Registration Information for Vermont History Trivia:

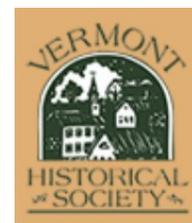
**When:** February 10, 2:00 - 4:30 p.m.

**Where:** Steele Community Room,  
Waterbury Municipal Offices

**What:** Teams of 6, to enjoy beverages,  
Ben & Jerry's and potluck appetizers

**How:** Contact Jane Willard at  
janew01111@yahoo.com or 802-244-  
6330

In partnership  
with:



## SUBMIT CONTENT

To submit a letter to the editor, stories, or photos for an upcoming issue, email the editor at [dulcinea28@gmail.com](mailto:dulcinea28@gmail.com) or send by post to:  
Dr. Cheryl Casey, 1389 Kneeland Flats Rd., Waterbury Center, VT 05677.

Quarterly submission deadlines: February 15, May 15, August 15, and November 15

## New Members

**Joanne Goyette**  
Waterbury, VT

**Margo & Charles Sayah**  
Waterbury Center, VT

**Mary Vecchione**  
Waterbury, VT

## Donations

**Gordon & Theresa Wood**, \$25.00 in support of newsletter

**Tina Sourdif Rutledge**, 6 photos of Waterbury Village Police Department and a 1978 Police Department calendar

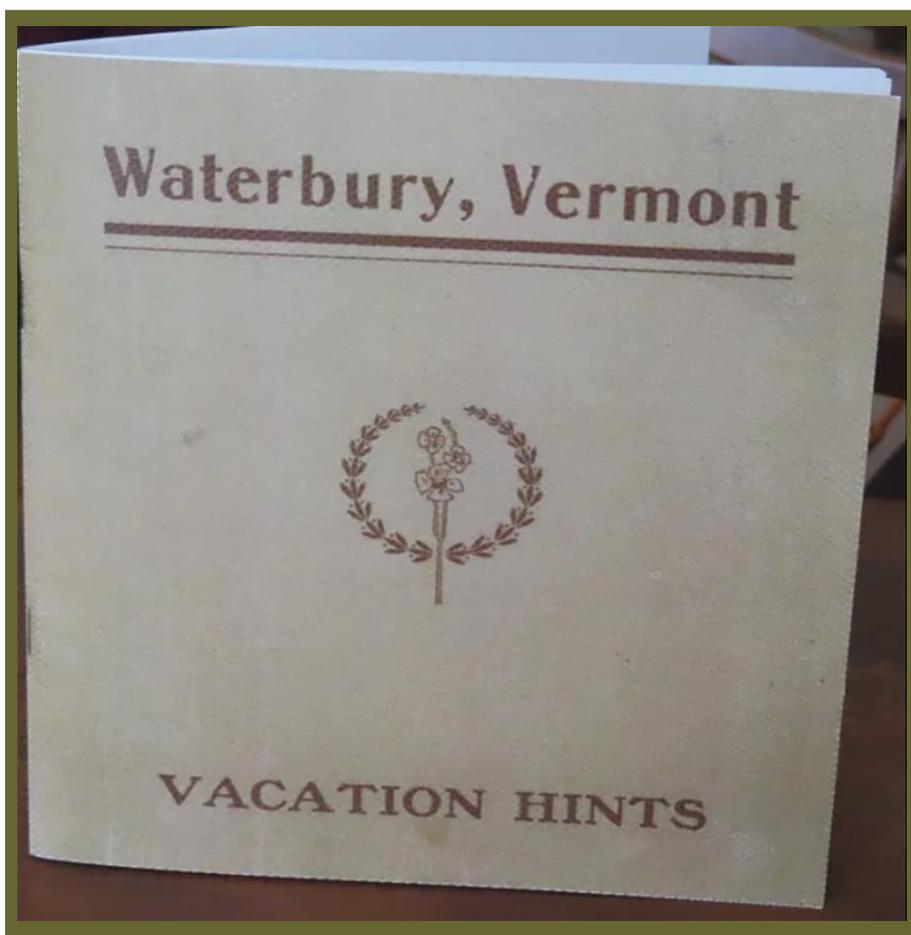
**Brian Lindner**, train wreck photos and reports, slides of Thatcher Brook Inn, printing blocks of the Waterbury Railroad.

**Ramona Nutting**, 12 Harwood Union High School Yearbooks

**Mary Jo Davis**, "Angels of the Waterbury State Hospital" picture

**Alan Grout**, Derby Ball baseball bat

**WHS purchase**, Rialto Theater film poster.



## Turn-of-the-Century Vacation Booklet Reprinted For Sale

A recent sorting of artifacts and papers in the Waterbury Historical Society unearthed a 1906 publication entitled, *Waterbury Vacation Hints*. Inside are 17 pages of editorial content about the highlights of the town and recommendations for how visitors can spend their time. Another 23 pages consist of advertisements from local merchants. Taken together, the text, photographs, and ads paint a fascinating scene of Waterbury as a tourist destination in the early 20th century.

The WHS has reprinted 250 copies of this booklet for purchase. Each booklet is \$7.50.

### To purchase a copy of *Waterbury Vacation Hints*:

- ◆ Visit **Bridgeside Books** on 29 Stowe Street in Waterbury
- ◆ Contact WHS President Barb Farr at the Waterbury Municipal Offices during the morning hours at [bfarr@waterburyvt.com](mailto:bfarr@waterburyvt.com)
- ◆ Send your name and address, \$7.50 plus \$2.50 S&H to the Waterbury Historical Society, P.O. Box 708, Waterbury, VT 05676

# General Business Meeting Minutes and Program, October 24, 2018

Steele Community Room, 7pm—Respectfully Submitted by Cheryl Casey, Secretary

Call to order, Barb Farr, 7pm

I. General Society updates from President Barb Farr:

A lot of material comes in by donation - paper, photos, uniforms, other kinds of artifacts. We have two very part time people to process and catalogue in Past Perfect. Thank you to Jill Chase, who works in the Library and also assists with donations. Our goal is to continue to enter the historical data as well as the new donations. Thanks to everyone for donating. We submitted two nominations for VHS awards, and Waterbury will be receiving two awards - lifetime achievement, and a merit award. You'll be hearing more very soon.

We have partnered with the Rotary, RW and other donors for the railroad art on the bridge over Main Street.

The Society has been a conduit for fundraising for the CCC Camp Smith Chimney preservation, working closely with Anne Imhoff. Anne is coordinating with the State to hire out the work. Tons of volunteers have been involved. Thanks especially to Herschell Murray, who has been up there mowing the trails.

We are busy doing things on a regular basis. We are coming to the end of the membership year, so we are soliciting for 2019 - renewals and new memberships. We're looking to reach 200 members, and we're at 189.

II. Secretary's report - Cheryl Casey:

Gave general overview of July picnic meeting.

Membership forms are available at the sign-in table.

As newsletter editor, Cheryl also reminded people that the newsletter is a benefit of membership, and content, in the form of short articles or letters to the editor, is always welcome.

III. Fundraising Efforts:

Barb Farr explained the Waterbury tourist booklet found amongst the collections. The Society will reprint the booklet and offer it for sale.

Camille Mason found a box of original, old postcards and has donated them for sale. \$1 each or 6 for \$5.

IV. Society Initiatives:

Barb Farr pointed out the mural panels in the back of the Steele Community Room. This mural once hung in Arvad's Restaurant; its other half now hangs in the Train Station Community Room. The painting in the restaurant's upstairs was painted over by the owners of Allium, but has now been restored in the wake of Allium's closing.

V. Treasurer's report - Paul Willard

The Society's finances remain stable and strong.

Please be on the lookout for the annual appeal letter in the next couple of weeks.

VI. Betty Jones introduced the evening's program

Betty first thanked the Program Committee (Anne, Cheryl, Cami, Betsy, Josie). Future programs include: January 23 about the Caboose on Henry Hough Road, April 24 about railroad accidents by Brian Lindner, and July 31 about square dancing.

This evening's presenter is Jason Smiley. Jason works full time in Burlington as a compliance coordinator at Dealer.com. He was born and raised in VT and has been researching the Eddy family for over a decade. A book containing this research is expected to be available for fall of 2019.

One descendant of a branch of the Eddy family was noted to be in attendance.

VII. Summary of presentation:

Jason began by setting the context with an explanation of spiritualism in mid-19th century through early 20th century America. He included short anecdotes of several famous mediums, such as the Fox sisters near Rochester, NY, Jonathan Koons in Athens county, Ohio, and the Bangs sisters in Chicago.

The Eddy family hailed from Chittenden, Vermont. Jason summarized the family tree of Julia (Combs) Eddy and Zephaniah Eddy and their many children, around whom strange behaviors and phenomena seemed to swirl. Sons William and Horatio were the primary participants in spirit communication.

The Eddy's exhibition years lasted from 1859 to 1871. Patrons tied them up to make sure they weren't faking things. In a lot of places, people attacked them or their cabinet as frauds or even devils.

William eventually built a spirit room in the Chittenden family home, where he would hold seances. The brothers were particularly known for materialization, a phenomenon whereby the departed loved one physically manifests themselves.

Col. Henry Steel Olcott came to the Eddy homestead to investigate, on assignment from the NY Sun, in 1874. The Eddy brothers seemed to him like the real deal, so the NY Daily Graphic then paid for Olcott to spend 3 months and do a deep investigation. The Colonel came away a believer in the materializations, despite acknowledging that some things were tricks.

Jason concluded the program with questions from the audience.

Barb Farr thanked the presenter.

Meeting adjourned at 8:33 p.m.

# Featured Figures: Betty and Bob Jones

## A Dynamic Duo of Community Service

By Cheryl Casey

Have you ever tried keeping up with the Joneses? I have, and it's exhausting. However, I firmly believe everyone should at least try, because Betty and Bob Jones are among the finest examples of community service and volunteerism that Waterbury has to offer.

Two thousand eighteen was a big one for this dynamic duo, as they each marked 50 years of service to Waterbury in various volunteer capacities. That's a combined 100 years of volunteer activities. Both are longtime members of the Waterbury Historical Society. Their respective resumes cover almost every area of social life, from the fire department to church to Home Show.

Since joining Bob in his return to his Waterbury Center roots in 1968, Betty has been active all about town. She joined the Historical Society in 1980, devoting hundreds of hours to research about Dr. Henry Janes in particular. She is the current chair of the WHS Program Committee - a post she has held for 12 years - and has overseen the planning and execution of dozens of public programs, from Joe Citro to "The Streets of Waterbury." She also writes a monthly history column for her church, the Waterbury Center Community Church, which she has been doing for some 13 years.

Where Betty goes, Bob goes - in part because Betty doesn't drive, but mostly because this partnership of best friends is like a well-oiled machine. Sixty-four years of marriage will do that. The many volunteer projects they have done together include 14 years at the Expo and 8 years at the Waterbury Home Show. Between the two of them, they have amassed boxes and piles of memories - photographs, notebooks, binders, and brochures - of town life.

Bob, a previous recipient of the Keith Wallace Community Service Award, presented by the Town of Waterbury, began his service with 11 years in the Army and another 11 in the National Guard. He has been Chief of the Waterbury Fire Department and founded the Ambulance Squad. While Betty organizes fundraisers and community dinners at the Waterbury Center Community Church, Bob gives his time as a general handyman. He has also been a trustee and



**Above: Betty and Bob Jones**

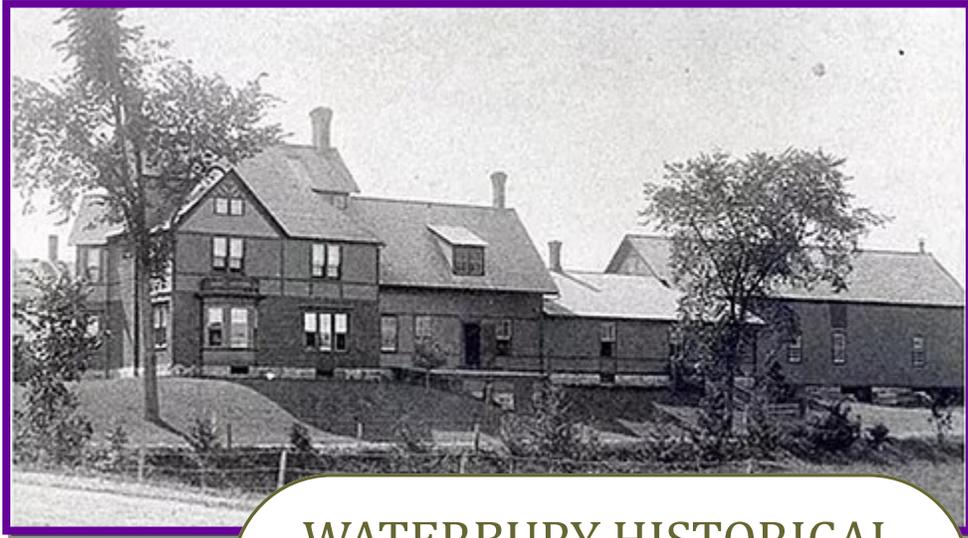
**Below: Betty and Bob with the Lifetime Achievement Award from the Vermont Historical Society.**

youth group advisor.

This past October, the Vermont Historical Society honored the Joneses with a Lifetime/Exceptional Achievement Award for their "advancement and study of local history in their community." Nomination materials refer to Betty and Bob as the "embod[im]ent of] the advancement of community heritage and history.... They seem to be ever moving off to the next community function, volunteer planning meeting, or event publicity opportunity." Betty is perceived to have "the energy of a 25-year old with a passionate curiosity for knowledge of historical facts that contribute to the depth of local residents and events from past to present."

Not having seen 25 for some time, I now better understand why I'm exhausted trying to keep up with the Joneses.





## WATERBURY HISTORICAL SOCIETY HISTORY CENTER

The History Center is open **Monday—Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.** Located on the second floor of the Municipal Building in the newly renovated Dr. Janes house, the museum is free and open to the public. The Historical Society's vast collections rotate through the exhibits, which are carefully assembled by our Curator. Stop by and learn something new about Waterbury's place in Vermont and national history!

### History Center Acquisition Criteria

**Have something to donate to the museum? See if your item(s) meet these criteria:**

- *Relevance:* Well-documented link to the town of Waterbury.
- *Non-duplication:* Unique to the existing holdings of the collection.
- *Duration:* Intent is to officially add the item to the collection for the WHS to keep or sell (where proceeds will only go to benefit the Society).
- *Title and Provenance:* Deed of gift or bill of sale should accompany all items.
- *Restrictions:* Items will not be held by the donor to criteria about use, display, or future disposition.
- *Physical condition:* No extensive conservation required.
- *Rights:* Transfer of item(s) includes all pertinent rights (literary, property, copyright, etc.).
- *Costs:* Management and care of item(s) should be financially viable for the Society, or dedicated funds should accompany the donation of the item(s).
- *Tax law compliance:* Gifts must be in compliance with applicable tax law.

**For more information or to begin the donation process, contact:  
[archivistwhs@gmail.com](mailto:archivistwhs@gmail.com)**



**Donations Welcome** - We are a community organization that deeply appreciates the support and interest of our community. You can donate online at our website below.

### ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP

\$10 per person

\$15 per family (couple and children under 18)

*(Check the mailing label on your newsletter to see when your membership expires.)*

### Please help the Historical Society GO GREEN!

Contact us to opt for email-only delivery. Benefits include cost-saving, paper-saving, and a newsletter in color!



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**[www.waterburyhistoricalsociety.org](http://www.waterburyhistoricalsociety.org)**

**FB: @waterburyhistoricalsocietyVT**

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## About Us

**Board of Directors** - Stephen Van Esen, Jack Carter, Jan Gendreau

**President** - Barbara Farr

**Vice President** - Jim Walton

**Secretary** - Cheryl Casey

**Treasurer** - Paul Willard

**Archivist** - Tracy Haerther

**Assistant Archivist** - Jill Chase

**Curator** - Jack Carter

**Program Committee** - Betty Jones, Camille Mason, Anne Imhoff, Cheryl Casey, Betsy Ayers Shapiro

**Outreach Education Committee** - Jane Willard, Grace Sweet, Skip Flanders, Diane Gardener

**Newsletter Editor & Facebook Community Manager** - Cheryl Casey

**Webmaster** - Paul Willard

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