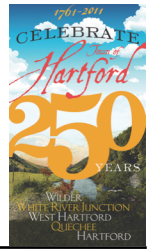




Hartford Historical Society

The Garipay House • 1461 Maple Street
Hartford Village, Vermont 05047

HARTFORD • QUECHEE • WEST HARTFORD • WHITE RIVER JUNCTION • WILDER



Volume 34, No. 3

SOCIETY NEWSLETTER

July-August 2021

Winsor and Bertha Brown Breathe New Life Into the Old Coolidge Farm



The *Rutland Daily Herald* published a brief note on June 2, 1934 that Winsor C. Brown had purchased the N.P. Wheeler farm on what is now Route 5 south of White River Junction. Wheeler was the former owner of the Hotel Coolidge and the words Coolidge Farm covered one side of the barn. The farm had been vacant since his death in 1930. “It was very run down,” says Winsor Brown’s oldest son David. Winsor bought it for back taxes and named it after his wife’s hometown of Ballardvale, Massachusetts.

Winsor Brown had married schoolteacher Bertha Hall in 1933. Winsor and Bertha came from farming backgrounds and, with modest loans from both families, they bought the old Wheeler place. Ballardvale Farm was a mix of old buildings and when Winsor visited a local bank for a loan to fix things up, one of the local bankers reportedly said, “Nice young man. Too bad he bought a farm that nobody’s ever succeeded at.”

But Winsor Brown had graduated from the Stockbridge School of Agriculture at the University of Massachusetts and interned with one of his professors, J.D. Abbott of Rockingham, VT. After that, he managed a large farm in Massachusetts for two years where he applied what he had learned at Stockbridge and resolved never to raise turkeys on his own farm. Winsor understood the science and business of farming, and he loved all of it.

Ballardvale Farm, foreground, in the 'Sixties. Winsor and Bertha Brown raised five children in an old former schoolhouse near the road. Around the curve is the Howard Johnson's restaurant that Winsor and partners opened in 1948. Winsor provided the land in exchange for stock in the company. In the 'Fifties, the Brown family raised hay on much of the land in this photo, including the site of the drive-in theater.

Continued on page 4.

From the Editor . . .

Is there a sugar house near you? If so, please let us know so we can document this tasty part of Hartford's history. Stories and photos to come in future issues.

Speaking of sugar, the Society recently received a stunning watercolor painting of a local sugar house from Chip Stevens who is descended from well-known Hartford residents Roland Sevens and Annie Morris Stevens. It is intended to be sold for the support of the Society and you are welcome to see it, by appointment, at the Garipay House.

Talking with David Brown is like going back in time. This issue, he remembers his parents, Winsor and Bertha Brown, who turned the old Coolidge Farm into a resilient family venture that spanned from the Great Depression to the interstates. They also brought Howard Johnson's to Hartford in 1948.

The Society sends our sympathy to the family of Joyce Miller who died on June 13 at age 86. Joyce was a resident of the Jericho district where she ran a

dairy farm for forty years with her husband Raymond and son George. She was a loyal member of the Society and served on the Board from 2006 to 2011.

We really appreciate our volunteers. Want to help organize the HHS collection? Scan photos? Collect oral histories? Help with computer entry? Do some light cleaning? Please contact Pat Stark. We'd appreciate it immensely.

Is your mailing address yellow? If so, we hope you will take a minute to join or renew your membership using the PayPal form on our website. We appreciate your support and welcome you to get involved with the Society.

Pat Stark asked me to give special thanks to Frank Weigel for moving, mowing, sorting, painting, and doing a variety of other helpful tasks around the Garipay House. "He's great," she says.

Scott Fletcher, Editor

Capitalism and Temperance

Reprinted in the Landmark, August 26, 1882

Let the liquor men go along quietly; let them take out their license and obey strictly the law; let them provoke as little attention as possible to their business; let them ward off opposition by seeking to conciliate rather than antagonize the moral sentiment of the whole country, and their business will go on with as little disturbance and annoyance as it is possible to do. But let a financial collapse of the distilling interest occur now, or in the near future, and it will scare every capitalist and businessman from ever re-engaging in the distilling business. Then, with the temperance element rampant, and no capital to fight it with, prohibition could be enforced, and in ten years there would not be left a distillery, a brewery, or a saloon in the whole United States.

The Mission Statement of the Hartford Historical Society

To acquire, identify and preserve
information and artifacts related to
Hartford's past and communicate knowledge
of local history through programs,
publications, and other interaction with the
community.



Hartford Historical Society

Post Office Box 547, Hartford, VT 05047-0547

<http://www.hartfordhistory.org>

info@hartfordhistoricalsociety.com

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Hartford Cane Presented to Dick Schwartz, Age 99



On May 27, Mary Nadeau of the Hartford Historical Society presented the Hartford Cane to Dick Schwartz celebrating his stature as Hartford's oldest resident. Dr. Schwartz was born on May 31, 1922. The presentation at the Valley Terrace community was attended by Dick's oldest daughter, Kate Mortimer, as

well as many of his friends and neighbors.

Dr. Schwartz had a distinguished career as an engineer who helped develop radar during World War II. He later did groundbreaking research in electronics at RCA for which he received three patents.

During the late 1950s, a Philadelphia lawyer, Samuel Dash, contacted Dr. Schwartz with a proposal for a book about electronic eavesdropping. The book, entitled *The Eavesdroppers, Civil Liberties in American History*, examined the subject from scientific, legal and historical viewpoints. It later became a source of reference for the U.S. Senate's Watergate investigation, and Dash was called upon to testify before the Senate.

Milestones from 1922

President – Warren G. Harding
Vice President – Calvin Coolidge
First successful treatment of diabetes with insulin
Eskimo Pie ice cream bar invented
First issue of the *Reader's Digest* published
Warren Harding installs first radio in the White House
Construction began on Yankee Stadium
Twenty-ton meteorite lands in Virginia
Lincoln Memorial dedicated
Warren Harding delivers first presidential radio speech
King Tut's tomb discovered
Bolsheviks win the Russian Revolution
Water skiing invented
The term "Jazz Age" coined by F. Scott Fitzgerald
Silent movies were popular entertainment
Ford automobiles took over the nation's roads
Flappers!



Top to bottom, Dick Schwartz has been added to the Hartford Cane plaque displayed at the Garipay House. Dick Schwartz with his oldest daughter, Kate Mortimer. Mary Nadeau offering a toast. Dick Schwartz still has a twinkle in his eye at age 99.



From left, Gordon Brown packs eggs. Ballardvale Farm in 1958. Brown family on the porch in 1956. Clockwise from top right, Winsor, John, Marilyn, Linda, Gordon, David, and Bertha.

Ballardvale Farm had a dairy barn with hayloft and a hog barn. The main residence was an old school house next to the road that had been moved onto the property years ago from over on the Old King's Highway. It was a very early building framed with peeled poles. Another old building on the farm housed hired help.

When they moved into the old school, Winsor and Bertha had no children and no livestock. But soon the farm was home to three boys, two girls, a flock of chickens, and some forty Holsteins. Winsor had learned to prefer Holsteins at Stockbridge. There was also a garden and Winsor was soon selling cauliflower and Blue Hubbard Squash to local stores. Every fall, he took at least one truckload of vegetables to the farmer's market at Faneuil Hall in Boston.

Firewood was another early cash crop. Winsor sold it for ten dollars a cord, delivered. "He was always looking to earn a little more money," David recalls. "Dairy farmers only got a milk check once a month, and sometimes it wasn't enough."

David remembers being told about a huge setback his parents faced around 1936, the year he was born. "We had about thirty milkers out in a pasture that was near a cornfield, and the corn frosted. Well, the cows got out and ate the frosted leaves and got prussic acid poisoning. When my father went out to the barn to milk, many of them weren't even standing and the rest had to be sold for beef. It was a disaster."

Fortunately, Winsor knew a cattle dealer named Walter Clark in Union Village. "They went to Canada," says David, "where they bought some Holsteins to supplement the herd and get a milk check. My father paid him back over time."

Winsor took an analytical approach to everything. He had always been a good student and David Brown credits his grandmother, Edna Cargill Brown, for helping Winsor become proficient at math and

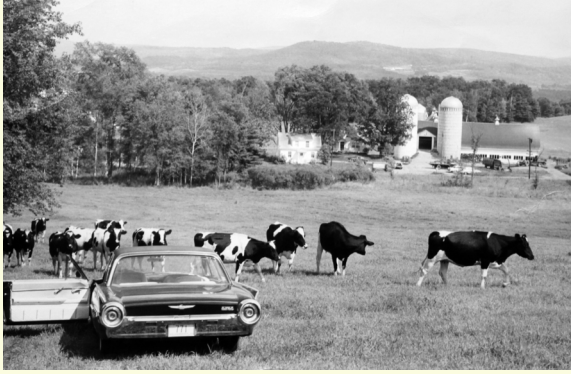
graduate from high school a year early. Edna had majored in math at Cornell College.

"My grandmother definitely taught him how to solve problems," says David. "When we needed to know the capacity of a silo, we would pace out from the side to create a right triangle, then we'd figure that it's forty feet high and twenty feet in diameter, so we could figure the square feet in the circle and finally the cubic feet. Then we would know how much silage it would hold. Next, we'd calculate how much silage we were going to get out of a field and whether it would fill the silo. He always had us thinking."

Another calculation was needed to find the proper setting for the fertilizer spreader. "You only wanted to put so many pounds to the acre," David recalls, "and we were handling 80-pound fertilizer bags. So he'd have us put maybe five pounds in the spreader and then push it across a canvas on the driveway so we could set the thing to put out the proper amount. We were always thinking about these things."

In 1939, *The Landmark* reported that Winsor Brown had built a "Connecticut-style" brooding house in which he was raising six hundred chicks. The twenty-four square-foot building was insulated with sawdust and heated by two wood burning brooder stoves. "We'd keep chickens for a year," David says, "then we'd sell them and get another batch."

When World War II started, Winsor Brown expanded production to twelve hundred chicks. This called for more buildings and a fenced-in chicken range across the road. Winsor crossed Barred Rock roosters with Rhode Island Red hens to produce broilers without pinfeathers. "In springtime when the grass turned green, the baby chicks would be feathered out," David remembers, "so we put them over on the range. We made little A-frame houses for them out of wood and chicken wire."



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Vermont's youngest milkmaid is probably young enough to lay claim to the title for the whole country. She is Sudona Hanfield, two, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Raymond Hanfield, who live at Ballardvale farm in White River Junction, owned by Winsor Brown. Sudona makes a nightly trip to the barn where she helps with the milking of a special cow. She can recognize the cow in pasture and won't have anything to do with the other animals in the large herd. She is the youngest of nine children in the family.

Holsteins graze near a visitor's T-Bird. From The Landmark, 1938. From the Barre Daily Times, 1952.

World War II increased demand for broiler chickens, so Winsor bought roosters and started shipping fertilized eggs by train to Wilmington, DE, where they were hatched and raised. Every week, Winsor drove fifteen or twenty cases of eggs to the White River depot. Each case had thirty-six dozen carefully wrapped eggs. Egg packing was one of many chores the Brown children helped with. David remembers many monotonous hours filling egg crates and listening to the *Lucky Strike Hit Parade* on the radio. Eggs were stored in the basement of the house where they were warmed by a coal-fired heater.

"My mother did all kinds of things with cracked eggs," David says. "We had omelets and so on because they would be thrown away otherwise." Bertha Brown cooked for her family and hired helpers on a kerosene stove with two burners on top and two more to heat the oven. She baked constantly and there was always something cooking on the stove.

Bertha also did laundry for everyone on the farm and, "farm laundry is dirty laundry," says David. He recalls that his mother was meticulously organized and each day brought different activities between meals. "You never saw her sitting down," says David.

Early in the war, Winsor Brown heard about a company in Enfield, NH, that needed pine boards to make ammunition boxes for the army so he looked around to buy a sawmill. "Well," David says, "in 1928, there was a flood in Tunbridge that washed a sawmill into the White River. My father and my uncle heard about it and pulled it out of the river. Then they brought it back to the farm, cleaned it up, and hooked it up to an old Gar Wood chain drive dump truck. The truck's driveshaft connected with the saw through a universal joint and they ran it by pulling a rope tied to the truck's throttle."

David recalls that the truck's steering wheel was disconnected so he and his brothers could sit in the cab

and pretend to drive while their father cut lumber for ammo boxes, chicken houses, and other farm projects. Winsor also restored a shingle mill that he salvaged from the river.

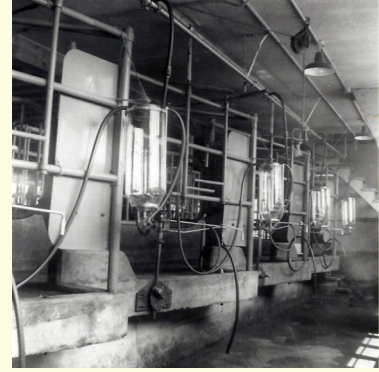
As able-bodied men were being drafted into the service, Winsor went to the draft board in Woodstock to see how many men could be deferred to help him maintain the farm. He was told that he and four additional men would qualify for deferments, but Winsor decided he just needed two helpers. "He did it with mechanization," says David.

"I'll give you an illustration," he continues. "A typical Vermont farm at that time used a two-bottom plow pulled by a small tractor. My father went to the bank and said, 'I need a crawler tractor that will pull a three-bottom plow and I need to be able to pull a 14-foot disc harrow.' They looked at him like he was crazy and told him that a crawler tractor was intended for construction rather than farming.

"He said, 'No, that's what I need. The land has a lot of heavy clay, it's steep, and a normal tractor won't get the job done.' So, he finally convinced them by figuring the acres per hour he could plow with a three-bottom plow and the increased crops he could produce in our short growing season. He showed that he could get the crop in the ground in the last couple of weeks in May and have it knee high by the fourth of July." After using his new crawler and plow for a year, Winsor was able to take a pro forma sheet to the bank showing that his projections had been correct.

During the war, farm tractors weren't available so Winsor built what he called a "doodlebug" out of a 1938 Ford truck. He put a second transmission in it and shortened the wheelbase so it was the same length as a tractor. "He went to a construction site and got a pair of dump truck tires, chained them to the rims, and put them on the rear," says David. With two

Continued on page 6.



David and Gordon Brown in the farmyard with a toy tractor built by their uncle. David Brown haying. In 1950, Winsor Brown built a milking parlor where two people could milk six cows at a time.

transmissions and those chains, it had more traction than a tractor and could pull a 200-bushel manure spreader. David remembers that, after the war, tractor dealers started to come around with new machines and his father would say, “Well, I’ll buy it if it’ll do what my doodlebug does.”

In 1944, Winsor Brown was mentioned in the *Vermont Standard* for having the most productive dairy cow in Windsor County. In 1946, Ballardvale Farm was one of the stops on a regional 4-H tour of successful poultry farms. That same year, Winsor Brown was one of nine Vermont Holstein breeders admitted to membership in the Holstein-Friesian Association of America.

In addition to running a busy farm in wartime, Winsor Brown served as chairman of the local OPA Price and Rationing Board. Based in an office in the Gates Block, he helped residents understand pricing policies, some of which continued after the war. In 1946, Winsor placed a notice in *The Landmark* inviting local residents to a meeting where he would explain ongoing lumber price controls.

Winsor joined the board of the White River Rotary Club in 1945 and was elected president in 1947. In 1948, he served on a committee that helped organize a medical insurance program for local residents.

That same year, Winsor became a partner in the firm Cashman-Cairnie that issued stock to build a Howard Johnson’s restaurant in White River Junction. The restaurant opened on July 21, 1948 on land formerly owned by Winsor Brown across from the Veteran’s Administration Hospital on what is now Route 5. The Browns dined at the restaurant on special occasions and David recalls having many flavors of Howard Johnson’s ice cream in the family freezer. Winsor added a filling station next to the restaurant in 1952 at a cost of \$8,420.

In 1950, Winsor Brown was elected to the Hartford School Board and became chairman of the Ways and Means Committee, which organized fund raising events. As chairman of the school board, he was instrumental in planning the Hartford Memorial School, one of Vermont’s first middle schools, and spoke at the dedication.

David recalls a milestone event for Ballardvale Farm that happened at breakfast one morning in 1950. “Breakfast was always when we decided what was going to happen that day or week,” he says. “We’d talk things over and then have a vote, which made us feel that we were participating in the decisions. Anyway, Dad said, ‘Which is it going to be—chickens or cows?’ Well, it was no discussion—cows.”

Turns out that was Winsor’s way of telling the family that things were going to change. Soon the chicken operation was gone and a new barn along Route 5 housed a milking parlor for another fifty head of cattle. “The milking parlor had stalls where six cows could be lined up at the same time,” says David. “Milking required two people. When you walked along the stalls, the cows’ udders were right there chest high and you didn’t have to squat down like you do in a regular barn. The milking equipment came right down in each stall where you needed it.

“When one cow was finished, she left by the exit gate and went back to the barn by herself because there was silage there. Then you’d put a fresh bowl of grain in the stall for the next cow and she’d walk right in the entrance gate. We had a chalkboard to keep track of how much milk each cow gave. The more milk they gave, the more grain they got. The ones who were really milking got extra grain back in the barn.”

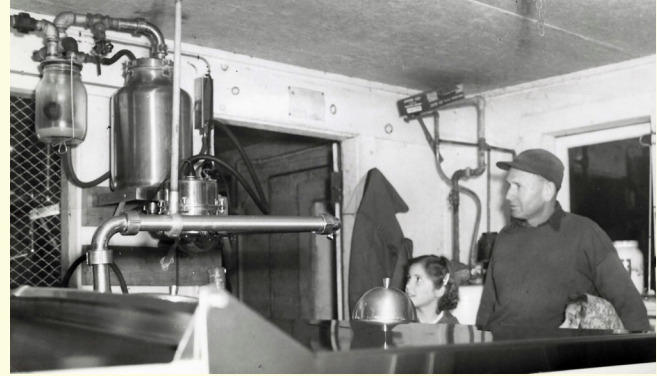
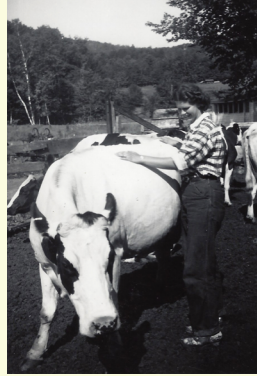
Doubling the herd allowed Winsor to afford a bulk milk cooler, which provided a competitive advantage and would eventually be required in all dairies. These

Brown to Speak On Program in Hartford

(Special to The Herald)

WHITE RIVER JUNCTION, Nov. 8.—Winsor C. Brown of White River Junction, who will describe the planning and construction of the new Hartford Memorial School, will be among the speakers at the regional school meeting to be held Thursday from 8 to 10 p. m. in the Memorial School.

"Working for Better Schools" is the theme of the meeting, which is sponsored by the State Department of Education. The session will be one of a series of 10 meetings throughout the state this month. All persons in Hartford and surrounding towns are invited to the meeting. A question period will follow the talks.



Left, from the Rutland Daily Herald, 1953. Patricia Ames, an intern from Stockbridge School of Agriculture, with a Holstein named Mollie. Winsor Brown with daughter Marilyn in the milking parlor.

expensive units forced many dairy farmers to either expand or go out of business. "My father said the only way we can pay for a bulk cooler was to produce more milk. It was a huge decision."

The larger herd required more food so Winsor built temporary silos out of snow fencing. Then he bought a metal silo at an abandoned farm in Massachusetts, removed thousands of bolts, trucked it home, and reassembled it. He later built two more silos.

Winsor had previously leased a hundred acres on the former site of the White River Junction fairgrounds and now he added forty more acres to the south along Route 5. Gradually, he added several fields in Norwich for hay production and grazing. Ultimately, Ballardvale Farm encompassed over seven hundred and thirty acres including some woodland.

In 1954, Winsor received the "S" award from his alma mater, the Stockbridge School of Agriculture, for outstanding achievement in agriculture. He also became active in the Windsor County Farmer's Exchange and was frequently mentioned in local papers for having the most productive dairy cow in the Central Pomfret Dairy Herd Improvement Association. In 1955, he received newspaper coverage every month for cows producing over 70 pounds of butterfat a day. In February 1956, one of his cows exceeded one hundred pounds a day.

That summer, Winsor invited local farmers to learn about fertilizing techniques at Ballardvale Farm and demonstrated a new hay crusher. Clearly, Winsor had made the old Coolidge Farm a success. Not only that, in 1957 he became a partner in a new Howard Johnson's restaurant in Rutland that the newspaper noted was equipped with a \$20,000 microwave oven.

In 1959, Winsor Brown was elected to the board of the Bellows Falls Cooperative Creamery. This was a challenging time for many small dairies trying to

compete with larger farms using bulk tanks. He was re-elected to the board and named president in 1963.

In March 1964, Winsor announced changes at Ballardvale Farm. Construction of Interstate 91 would take eighty-six acres from the farm so he planned to reduce his herd to one hundred and sixty Holsteins that would be divided between the current farm and another one to be purchased by his son Gordon elsewhere in Vermont.

In July 1964, Winsor announced the last shipment from Bellows Falls Cooperative Creamery to First National Stores, its largest customer for the previous forty-two years. The creamery work force would be substantially reduced but local customers would continue to be served and there were no plans to close the business.

But the end of the Bellows Falls creamery came late in 1965 when the board voted to be absorbed by the United Farmers of New England, which would transport milk directly from farms to stores. While many dairy farmers sold their herds, Winsor rebuilt his herd to a hundred and fifty head and his son Gordon established a new dairy farm in Brandon, Vermont.

In 1968, Winsor opened a seventy-two-unit motel in White River Junction next to his Howard Johnson's restaurant. Bertha Brown served as secretary of the new corporation for ten years. Winsor also became a partner in a Howard Johnson's restaurant in Brunswick, Maine.

Like her husband, Bertha Brown was active in the community. She died in January 1979 at age seventy-one. Winsor Brown died the following October, also at age seventy-one. He deeded a piece of Ballardvale Farm to each of his children and gave the Town of Hartford one hundred acres on Hurricane Hill for use as a Town Forest. Winsor and Bertha now rest in a private cemetery on the hill above their farm.



Fire Destroys Venerable Cascadnac Grange Building

The historic former Grange building on Maple Street in Hartford Village was destroyed by fire during the early morning on April 27. The cause of the fire is under investigation.

The building was built in the late 1800s and was known as the E.J. Pease Grain Store until 1936 when Sherman Manning sold the building to the Cascadnac Grange for one dollar. Older photos show the building with a second story, a gabled roof parallel to the main street, and an ell on the west end extending back toward the river.

The Cascadnac Grange #507 was organized in 1931 with over forty charter members and took its name from the Abenaki word for “white river.” Early meetings were held in the former Watson Hall in Hartford Village and later in A.D. Child’s former store in the Pease Block.

The Grange hall was a lively community center for over sixty years hosting a variety of dinners, dances, and meetings. Local resident Les Gibbs, whose father and grandparents were charter members, remembers that the wooden floors were good for dancing.

Construction of a water pipe underneath the Grange building made the floor unstable, so the building was sold in June, 1999 and meetings were moved to the Fellowship Hall of the Greater Hartford United Church of Christ. Later, meetings were held in the Wilder Club and Library. In 2002, The Cascadnac Grange #507 and University Grange #335 of Norwich surrendered their respective charters and formed the Upper Valley Community Grange #581, meeting in Norwich.



Top, the curtain from the Cascadnac Grange was moved to the Wilder Club and Library where it is in storage. One sponsor on the curtain was Ben Franklin Stores, a chain of five and dime stores launched nationwide in 1927. Walmart founder Sam Walton started in retail with a Ben Franklin store. The company went bankrupt but the name was purchased and is still in use. The Grange building, above center, in 1945. Built in the late 1800s, the building had an elevator to move grain between floors. In 1999, the Cascadnac Grange began holding their meetings at the Greater Hartford United Church of Christ.

The National Grange of the Order of Patrons of Husbandry was founded in 1867 to promote the economic and social well-being of families in agricultural communities.

Society Receives Painting of Center of Town School

Wayne Whitney of Sierra Vista, AZ recently gave an oil painting by Upper Valley resident Norman Rhodes to the Society. It is a rendering of a photograph taken during the dedication of the Center of Town Monument in 1911. The painting shows residents in front of the schoolhouse as well as a 1911 Cadillac motorcar from Miller



Automotive. Wayne and his family lived next to the Center of Town Cemetery from 1960 to 1976. At right is a mural that Norman Rhodes painted on a glass window on the rear facade of the Gates Block. It shows scenes from Hartford's history including the Hartford woolen mill, the Quechee post office, the White River Junction train station, and the Junction House hotel. The mural has been covered due to a crack in the glass.



Society Adds Member to Honor Roll

By Mary Nadeau

The Hartford Historical Society's Honor Roll was created nearly two decades ago to honor and recognize individuals who have made significant contributions to the Town of Hartford, especially in preserving and furthering the knowledge of our town's long and colorful history.

At this year's Annual Meeting, held on May 23, the membership enthusiastically endorsed Scott Fletcher, our newsletter editor, as the Society's newest Honor Roll inductee. After volunteering to take on the responsibility for the design and layout of our newsletter several years ago, Scott later assumed the role of editor, principal researcher, and writer. Accomplished in all three areas, he has elevated the publication to an unprecedented level of excellence. The editorship has provided him with the opportunity to make personal connections and develop friendships with residents of our community, which Scott sees as an added bonus.

Another of Scott's significant contributions is his ongoing work in developing and maintaining the Society's website, keeping it informative, easy to navigate, visually attractive, and an effective vehicle for raising public awareness of the Society and its activities.

Scott is a native of Southern California, where his career included serving as a Research Associate at Pepperdine University (he was a founding editor of an



Scott Fletcher photographs the vacant, former home of Hartford pioneers Daniel and Olive Hazen, which was built circa 1790 and was the birthplace of notable resident Noah Bartholomew Hazen. Fletcher has edited the society's newsletter since 2016.

online journal), Portal Administrator at Pepperdine, Director of Web Production & Design at UCLA Anderson School of Management and, most recently, as a Web Producer at Dartmouth's Tuck School of Business before his retirement.

Scott and Mary Fletcher relocated here in 2013 and have loved Vermont from the beginning. They live in the, "old Levi Pitkin place," in Hartford.

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Hartford Historical Society
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Memberships run for a calendar year (Jan-Dec).

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 Life - \$250 [any individual over age 60]
 Patron - \$100

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THANK YOU!

Yesterday's News

(Bethel) The two-year old daughter of Albert Lincoln swallowed six brass buttons last Friday. On Sunday they were all recovered, *per vias naturales*, in a good state of preservation. *Vermont Journal*, March 3, 1883

A cat in Rutland having killed seventeen chickens belonging to a physician, the owner took the creature to the doctor to be killed. The animal bit the doctor so badly that he had to take to his bed, and the owner was so badly bitten that he was laid up for two days. The cat still lives, though often under fire of shot guns. *Vermont Journal*, 1876

The annual telephone operators' ball at Gates's opera house, February 5, proved to be one of the most successful social events of the season. The hall was decorated in blue and white, the company colors. Across the entire front of the stage appeared the words "Number please" in large blue letters against a white background. Other decorations were in the form of blue and white streamers and huge bells. Former employees of the local exchange and many friends from out of town were in attendance. Financially the affair beat all records, there being a substantial balance left over expenses for division among the operators. *Burlington Free Press*, Feb. 7, 1916

Scott Clough, telephone operator at Strafford, walked from that place to Sharon recently, for exercise. *The Landmark*, Oct. 16, 1919

A board walk has been put down in front of the stores in the Gates block. The walk was much needed, but why it was not extended so as to take in the entrance to the post office and the Opera House and offices, is a mystery. *The Landmark*, Dec. 11, 1891

Mr. Lincoln said once that the best story he ever read in the papers of himself was this: Two Quakeresses were traveling on the railroad, and were heard discussing the probable termination of the war. "I think," said the first, "that Jefferson will succeed." "Why does thee think so?" asked the other. "Because Jefferson is a praying man." "And so is Abraham a praying man," objected the second. "Yes, but the Lord will think Abraham is joking," the first replied conclusively. *Green-Mountain Freeman*, June 25, 1879

NORWICH, VT.
Feb. 16, 1885.
Mr. Earle:
will you please stop my paper. i dont like it. i paid up to january and wont pay another sent if you send it till dooms day. should think Ozora Davis made you bout as meny items as Miss Reyneids did, Where was he last week.
[Will this highly educated and interesting gentleman please give us his name, so that we may be able to stop the paper? He has forgotten to sign his name to his message. We should be pleased to stop the paper, losing from January to now—eight weeks in all. Give us your name. please.—ED.]

Mr. Hazen Savage of Hartford owns a chicken with four legs, all of which are full-size and useful. *The Landmark*, May 21, 1870

The only noticeable exercise of the day was the cavalcade of horses in the afternoon. There were some very fine spans and single teams, but as a whole the horses exhibited hardly came up to what the county has done in the past. It is to be hoped that the discussions of the last year and the efforts of some of our most intelligent and observing breeders to improve the stock of the state, will be rewarded with success, that we may hold that position, which naturally is our right. This can only be done by breeding from the best animals, instead of the poorest as the majority of farmers practice. It is time this fundamental fact was impressed upon the minds of every man who attempts to raise an animal. *Vermont Standard*, Sept. 27, 1866

Those who were compelled to exercise their pedestrian powers on the village sidewalks last week, did so with great danger of a fall. The crossing from the corner of Gates block to E. H. Bagley's store is a particularly bad spot and sand or coal ashes judiciously applied at this point, would be greatly appreciated by every one. *The Landmark*, Feb. 5, 1892

The woman with triplets who named them Wood, Row and Wilson was the best Democrat I've ever heard of. Columnist Dan Cady in the *Northfield News and Advertiser*, 1932

Hartford Historical Society

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HHS Calendar

THE GARIPAY HOUSE MUSEUM is open by appointment only. Please call 802/296-3132 or email us at info@hartfordhistoricalsociety.org. Phones/email are checked twice a week.

MONTHLY BOARD MEETINGS are open to the public on the first Monday of the month at the Garipay House at 6 p.m. (Please check for exact date.)

Saturday, August 14, 2021 - "Ice Cream Social." 1-4 p.m. at the Garipay House. Come and enjoy a wonderful intergenerational event with your entire family! There will be a wide variety of games set up for all ages and abilities to encourage everyone to participate and have fun. Ice cream and beverages will be provided. Members of the Hartford Historical Society will be available to lead tours of the museum. Presented with the Hartford Library. Parking available at the library.

The **Genealogy Center** on the second floor of the Hartford Library is open by appointment. Please call Carole Haehnel at 802/295-3974 or email her at: chaehnel151@comcast.net. Interested in helping residents explore their family histories? Please contact us at info@hartfordhistoricalsociety.com.

Websites

Hartford Historical Society: <http://www.hartfordhistory.org/>

Hartford History Timeline: <https://www.tiki-toki.com/timeline/entry/1456118/History-of-Hartford-Vermont/>

Very Vermont - Stories from the Green Mountains: <https://veryvermont.exposure.co/very-vermont>