



19TH CENTURY

ANNUAL APPRECIATION REPORT 2022-2023



20TH CENTURY



21ST CENTURY

THANK YOU to everyone who supported MHS during our 125TH ANNIVERSARY YEAR!

We send our sincere gratitude to you all for helping us to celebrate and to share our progress over the decades.

From the first gift of a Revolutionary-era cannonball from Mrs. J.D. Fay in 1899 to our latest gifts in 2023, MHS has grown and prospered. Our gratitude is enormous for the efforts of all those who persevered over the last century and a quarter to keep the promise of the founders in 1897: to collect and preserve the history of our town. It is our privilege to continue their work and share it with you.

Our celebrations this year reminded us of all that we cherish. From **History Day** in June to the **Victorian Picnic at Dellwood** this fall, we enjoyed sharing items from the collection and stories of Manchester's history with community members.



Ted Hopkins, with his son Ed and Eric Severance, were on hand to talk about our 19th century fire pumper, known as Little Eli. The reason for this name is yet to be discovered.



Fragment of a Continental Shell fired from the battery of either Capt. Furnival, or Capt. Fellows at the Marshall House, Saratoga sometime between the 9th and 12th of October 1777. In the cellars of this house Madame Riesdel had taken refuge at the time.



The very popular pie-judging contest



Some bottles and cases from the Equinox Spring Water Co. 1890-1925



A beautiful day for a picnic in early September at Dellwood Cemetery. Costumes were optional but encouraged!



Our collaboration with other community groups continued this year. We once again partnered with Green Mountain Academy for Lifelong Learning for two events, which can be seen on the GNAT-TV website. Our curator, Shawn Harrington, gave a talk on the history of Burr and Burton, and with Board member Bill Badger described the evolution of Manchester Center.

In September Curator Shawn Harrington put together an inspiring and much-appreciated installation at Burr and Burton for their Alumni Weekend.





COLLECTION Rare Finds Now in Digital Format

MHS was truly delighted to receive from Kathy Wright a number of cassettes, microcassettes, and VHS tapes from an early 2000s oral history project conducted with her MEMS students following a workshop given to the students by Greg Sharrow from the Vermont Folklife Center in Middlebury. Two of the items were a VHS video recording and a microcassette tape recording of Mildred Wilcox Orton, who grew up on the Wilcox farm in Manchester. She married Vrest Orton and together they founded the Vermont Country Store in 1946. We sent the tapes to George Blood LP, a leading provider of archival audio and moving image preservation, located in Fort Washington, PA. The results are spectacular! Her shared recollections included descriptions of growing up on the farm with her two brothers, E. Roger and Howard, and attending the village school and Burr and Burton Seminary. A truly unique perspective on life in Manchester during the 1920s and 30s.

We were also delighted to receive from former Board member Tim Stevenson the only existing copy of a 16-mm film of Manchester shot in 1976. This has also been sent to George Blood LP for a digital conversion. We are more than a little excited to see what this film will show us about a memorable year in Manchester's history.



Working with the past gives us a glimpse of the strength and tenacity of the people that make Manchester a wonderful part of Vermont. Future generations will enjoy the history. -FLO EWASKO, VOLUNTEER



ANNUAL GIVING LIST 2022-2023

October 1, 2022 through September 30, 2023

The Manchester Historical Society is very grateful to all our supporters who helped us exceed our Annual Giving goal in our last fiscal year. Thanks to you, our loyal and generous supporters, we raised \$103,856.

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ANNUAL GIVING LIST 2022-2023

October 1, 2022 through September 30, 2023

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Our thanks to the following for their generous collaboration and support:
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Irene Cole Design
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Vermont Folklife

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1897 LEGACY SOCIETY

The 1897 Legacy Society honors the generous donors who have made a planned gift to MHS. We are so grateful to them for sharing our love of Manchester history and our commitment to making sure our community's stories are available to future generations.

Michael Heinel
Sharron and Frank Kropa
Lyman Orton and Janice Izzi
Barbara and Mike Powers
Ruth Stewart
Frederica and Mark Templeton

When you support the Manchester Historical Society with a gift from your estate, you become a member of a special group of individuals who recognize the ongoing value of MHS and the importance of its place in our community's future. If you would like to know more about how to make a legacy gift, please contact Frederica Templeton by email info@manchesterhistoricalsocietyvt.org or by telephone 802.549.4582.

Every effort has been made to ensure the accuracy and completeness of our annual report. Errors do happen, however, so do let us know if there are any mistakes or omissions by calling us at 802.549.5482 or by email: info@manchesterhistoricalsocietyvt.org.



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The mission of the Manchester Historical Society is to collect, preserve, interpret and present the story of Manchester through the research collection, exhibitions, programs, and publications.

I have been a volunteer for the last seven years and have enjoyed every moment of it. My experiences have run the gamut from reading heartbreaking Civil War letters to cataloging the paint brushes used by Luigi Luccioni. The best part is meeting all the people who drop in seeking their family histories or to donate items. Every Friday brings a new adventure! -HELEN GAWLIK, VOLUNTEER

Neighborhood Get Together

The Richville Road gang got together in September to reminisce and share stories of what it was like to grow up in this section of Manchester in the 1960s and 70s.



Left to right: David Markey, Tom Molloy, Steve Winchip, Marie and Bill Hawkins, Herbie Hewes, [new neighbor], Cheryl Batchelder Whitbread, Brett Batchelder, Nicole Chabot Winchip, Brett Torrey, Kathi Frost Bierwirth, Andy Shaw, Jill Batchelder Burkett. Seated: Linda Bushee and Sandra Frost.

IN MEMORIAM

Nathaniel Boone
September 29, 1927 –
August 20, 2023

Cecile (Hilliard) Torrey
April 15, 1929 –
October 23, 2023

Howard A. Wilcox
October 13, 1942 –
May 21, 2023

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1897 SOCIETY



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