



Preservation Education

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A display of items from the Equinox Spring Water company drew much interest as did the dramatic presentation by Mary Jo Greco of photographer and Manchester resident Clara Sipprell (top left) and our 19th-century stereoscope and stereograms (bottom left).

Manchester History Day A GREAT SUCCESS

As part of our celebration of the 125th anniversary of the founding of the Manchester Historical Society, we held Manchester History Day on June 10 at the Manchester Community Library. This was the first time MHS has put together a day's worth of activities and presentations for the community, and we were delighted to have so many friends join us for what we hope will be an annual event.

The theme of the day was 1897, the year MHS was founded. MHS Curator Shawn Harrington assembled a number of items from the collection for display, including bottles and crates from the Equinox Bottling Company that was in existence from the 1890s up until the 1920s. You can now see this display at Manchester's Town Hall.

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There were also a number of sports items such as golf clubs and fly-fishing rods, reflecting the importance of these two sports in Manchester at that time. Making a special appearance was our refurbished 19th-century hand-pumper used in the Village to put out fires in the 1880s and 1890s.

A mural showing places of historic interest in Manchester drawn by our board member Irene Cole was available for visitors of all ages to color. Also on display was an assortment of penny candy that would have been in existence in 1897. As a special treat, Mary Jo Greco from The Dorset Players gave a dramatic presentation as Clara Sipprell, an important American photographer who lived in Manchester for many years. The Manchester Lions Club came by and whipped up some old-fashioned cotton candy for us to enjoy.



However, the hit of the day was the pie-judging contest. Leroy Hayes, Steven Nichols, and board member Eric Severance graciously volunteered to test a dozen donated pies and come up with winners in several categories. The winners were Rachel Ax for the Best Fruit pie; Lorie Zeif for Best Crust; Megan Rose for the Prettiest Pie; and Megan Muter for Baker's Choice. ALL the pies that were entered could have won!!

The Manchester Historical Society, located in the lower level of the Manchester Community Library, is open Fridays 1-3 pm and by appointment.



Our thanks to everyone who helped us make this a very enjoyable day!

- Travis Wood and Penny Charbonneau from the Manchester Lions Club for the cotton candy;
- Board member Irene Cole for her gorgeous mural, which will make an encore appearance at the June Streetfest;
- Mary Jo Greco from The Dorset Players who portrayed photographer Clara Sipprell;
- Vermont Kitchen Supply, H.N. Williams, and Willoughby's for the pie contest prizes;
- Vermont Country Store for the c. 1897 candy (brands that were available, not actual 125-year-old candy) and Mother Myrick's Confectionery for additional candy;
- The Manchester Community Library for kindly hosting our event and Assistant Director Paige Vignola for her generous assistance.
- Willoughby's Depot Eatery for coffee and donut holes;
- Board member Eric Severance for bringing Little Eli out of storage.

You can always find more interesting history and up-to-the-minute MHS happenings on social media.

Ask us a question about local history and we'll do our best to find an answer.



To make a donation please visit manchesterhistoricalsocietyvt.org/support



Memory Tree

Visitors were invited to record their favorite memories of Manchester and hang them on our Memory Tree.

Here is a sampling of those memories:

"I remember the gravel pit, owned by the Dupree family. I remember target practice and riding my four-wheeler within its confines." -UNSIGNED

"I remember every November when Manchester virtually shut down to go Deer Hunting! I couldn't sleep for a couple of days before. I never bagged a deer."

-MIKE POWERS

"Remembering Howard Wilcox, who recently died. He was transported to his funeral in the new Wilcox Ice Cream truck." -PATTI TRUDELL

"I fondly remember the pool when it was next to the elementary school and recall that the water always seemed cold!!!" -KIM RIZIO



FREE SELF-GUIDED AUDIO TOUR

DISCOVER THE RICH CULTURAL, SOCIAL, AND ARCHITECTURAL HISTORY OF MANCHESTER
THERE'S A STORY HERE!



Focus your camera on the QR code and then click the link.

or find it on your desktop at

<https://www.manchesterhistoricalsocietyvt.org/walking-tour>



Learning Local History

One of the highlights of our curator's year is leading the MEMS kids on an annual history walk down Main Street. Teachers from grades 2 through 4 reached out to MHS several years ago for this walk and talk, which started out being led by former board member Judy Harwood. Shawn Harrington has continued this annual event for the past eight or so years, with a brief interruption during Covid. The response from the students is always delightful.

Challenging History Trivia Night in March

WE ARE GRATEFUL to all who joined us for this evening of cheerful competition. With five teams and an audience to cheer them on, we all learned quite a bit about our community and our state as we tackled six rounds of questions. Special thanks to the Manchester Community Library and Paige Vignola for arranging the Hunter Room for us; to MHS Board members Katy McNabb and Courtney Callo for emceeing so expertly; to MHS Curator Shawn Harrington for a set of questions about Manchester in our founding year of 1897; and to MHS Board members Mike diMonda, Frederica Templeton, Sarah McClintock, and Bill Badger for their support. We are indebted to the following businesses for providing prizes and refreshments for the evening:

Willoughby's Depot Eatery, Art Licensing International, Above All Vermont, Mother Myrick's Confectionery, Northshire Bookstore, TPW/The Coffee Bar, and Ben and Jerry's.



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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.

Save the Date! You are cordially invited to attend
A Victorian Era Picnic
in celebration of our 125th Anniversary
Sunday, September 10, 2023
to be held in the afternoon at Manchester's historic **Dellwood Cemetery**
Noon-Two pm
Pre-ordered box lunches will be available through Thyme Tables catering.
Order details will be available in late August.

For the Love of Vermont

ON VIEW at SVAC: SATURDAY, JULY 22–SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 5, 2023

OPENING RECEPTION at SVAC: SATURDAY, JULY 22 FROM 4–6 P.M.



Equinox Hotel by Harry Shokler

The Lyman Orton Collection, presented as two, simultaneous exhibitions is an unprecedented collaboration by two of Vermont's most celebrated museums—The Bennington Museum from July 1–November 5, 2023, and Southern Vermont

Arts Center from July 22–November 5, 2023—with each show featuring a unique selection of artwork.

The shows feature over 200 works of art that capture Vermont's unique character, people, traditions and landscape from the 1920's–1960's. More than 65 artists will be represented including Rockwell Kent, John Clymer, Churchill Ettinger, Paul Sample, Mead Schaeffer, John Atherton, Marion Huse, Luigi Lucioni, Kyra Markham, Bernadine Custer, and others.

The Manchester Historical Society will have artifacts on display to compliment the exhibition pieces featuring local scenes at the Southern Vermont Arts Center in Gallery 4.

Thank you to our 2022-2023 CORPORATE SPONSORS for their interest in Manchester's history and their generous support.

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