

# **ELIOT HISTORICAL SOCIETY**

**Minutes of Meeting for October 6<sup>th</sup>, 2008  
John F. Hill Grange Hall, Eliot, ME**

**President, Denny Lentz called the October meeting to order and welcomed everyone. There were 23 in attendance. Denny recognized visitors including Chuck & Alice Goehrig from FL who are in Eliot looking for information on Alice's Eliot ancestors.**

**Secretary's Report Dorothy Hansen read the minutes of the September meeting. Several corrections were made and the minutes were then approved.**

**Treasurer's Report Julie Johnson read the Treasurer's report showing debits of postage and Grange rental and a credit for sales on Eliot books giving a general fund checking balance of \$1,512.60. There was an electrical bill paid bringing the #8 School House Fund to \$965.22. Interest brought the savings account to \$12,108.36.**

**Correspondence Report Peggy sent a thank you to Helen & Paul Goransson for donating Seacoast Repertory opening night tickets to the Historical Society. She also sent a thank you to Mr. Shapley and his crew for picking up brush cleared from the Maple Ave. cemetery. Denny said he was sending a thank you to the town of Eliot for the appropriation check.**

**Membership Report Judith will be collecting dues of \$5 for the calendar year of 2009. There was a discussion and a suggestion was made that members who haven't paid might be reminded by a phone call.**

## **COMMITTEE CHAIR REPORTS**

**Program Carol Zamarchi said she is putting together the program for next year and would appreciate any ideas or people who would be able to do future programs. Please call Carol with any suggestions.**

**Collections Julie said that her committee would be regrouping soon and meeting at the firehouse. Eric asked how things have worked with the storage at the firehouse. Julie said there had been some space concerns, but the chief seems to be willing to keep our things for the time being.**

**Building Paul said that Zip and Denny have worked at the Grange trying to get rid of the buckle in the floor on the lower level. Paul did some weed whacking**

around the Grange and did some gardening at the school. Ray Faulkner volunteered to help on future projects.

**PR/Publicity** Dick Bogh reported for his wife that Carolyn sent information to 3 newspapers about the monetary award we received from Kennebunk Savings Bank. She also sent a thank you to Andrea Rohde for “readers” that she donated to the schoolhouse.

**Fund Raising** Carol said she still had 28 tickets yet to be sold for the opening night at the Seacoast Repertory Theatre for \$20 each.

**Bi-Centennial** Zip said that he and Denny attended the planning meeting. They are interested in any suggestions. They have talked of putting historical pictures of Eliot on a CD for sale. They still hope to do a complimentary trolley tour of houses or cemeteries. Eric Christian said that there were various activities leading up to the formation of Eliot. The Historical Society could do a kickoff event in 2009 denoting 200 years since the process actually began.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

Denny said that the Society received a thank you letter from the Great Works Land Trust for our membership renewal.

It was suggested that people on the refreshment list be given a reminder call before their turn to serve. Cindy Sullivan volunteered to make the calls.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

Denny said he would like to develop and enhance our web site. Perhaps pictures and snatches of our programs could be added. Eric said he would start working on it soon. Roberta Beavers said that the Raitt Historical Farm could be of interest on the web site because two Maine statewide events are held there.

Denny asked if anyone would be interested in a Quarterly News Letter. The discussion showed some interest.

There was more discussion about recording interviews with our interesting senior citizens. Dick Bogh said that he, Carolyn and Ray Faulkner attended a workshop on how to do interviewing for recording oral history at the Counting House in South Berwick by the Old Berwick Historical Society.

**Denny said thank you to Cindy and Julie for adding new plants at the #8 schoolhouse.**

**Roberta reminded us of the “Lighting Up Ball” put on by the South Berwick Historical Society on November 1<sup>st</sup> at 7:30. Tickets are \$35 per person or a table of 10 for \$30 each.**

**Carol Zamarchi came forward to talk about the Stories of Eliot. She has spent considerable time talking to Ed Vetter known for his Eliot photographs and documents. In researching Carol said Ed has said many times as an example one should take a current picture of the house and then work backward on the research. Diaries are good for capturing history. Carol read several 1930s entries from Effie Brown’s diary. She read one entry about happenings in Europe in 1938 dealing with Hitler. Locals found Effie to be an eccentric lady who made many trips to her summer place on the Piscataqua River in Eliot. Carol said the committee for Eliot’s 175<sup>th</sup> anniversary had made some 20 signs naming the well-known corners at various intersections in town. Carol read the list and located many of these old familiar ‘corners’. Unfortunately most of these historical markers have since disappeared. Carol shared some entertaining Eliot stories and displayed many pictures from around town. Her talk prompted society members to share memories and information.**

**Respectfully Submitted  
Dorothy Hansen, Secretary**

**NEXT MEETING—Monday, November 3<sup>rd</sup>**

**NOVEMBER’S REFRESHMENTS—Julie & Paul Johnson**