

## **ELIOT HISTORICAL SOCIETY - Minutes of the meeting – November 2, 2015**

President Rosanne welcomed all at about 7 p.m. There were at least 28 people here.

**Secretary's Report** –The minutes of the October meeting were approved with three corrections to make.

**Treasurer's Report** – The report for the month of October was read and approved. To summarize, as of end-month, there was \$29,306.01 in savings, \$9,355.30 in checking, and \$10,877.95 in the certificate of deposit (see attached). Credits included proceeds from the Kennebunk Savings Bank's community grant of \$2,300 and total interest on all accounts of \$5.88. Expenses included the monthly payment to Eliot Rent-A-Space of \$155, reimbursements for books and the website expenses, and the electric bill.

### **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**Correspondence** – Helen Sullivan will send a card to Fran Hartford who suffered a stroke but is recovering nicely. Cards may be sent to 1810 State Road.

**Programs** – Carolyn Bogh reminded us that in December is the annual holiday party and show and tell. Also, John Richardson has an extensive collection of military memorabilia and will give us a presentation of that in the future.

**Fundraising** – Cindy Lentz announced that our current fundraiser is a raffle of an antique crocheted bedspread that was donated by Margie Brown who prepped it to look perfect for the raffle. Tickets were sold that evening and would be sold at the polls the following Tuesday where we will have a table set up for that, at the MHS Holiday Fair and at the next meeting, at which time we will draw the winning ticket. Margie also donated an antique tablecloth, and this will be raffled in April when we do our antiques appraisal. She also announced that there will be a luncheon on December 11th at a restaurant in York. The group that usually goes is the fundraisers group, but others are welcome as long as they let Cindy know for when she makes the reservations.

**Collections** – Julie Johnson reported that more items have come in from Ed Vetter's family. Also, Denny Lentz described a unique addition to the collection. Tim Pickett found an antique snow roller in a barn he was cleaning out and the owner, Karen Andersen, donated this to the EHS. Before the advent of snow plows, when the snow became too deep it was not plowed but flattened by a heavy wheel that acted like a

steamroller in the way it compressed the snow to provide a smoother driving surface for the vehicles on the road, many of which attached ski-like runners so they could move along the road when pulled by horses. A report and photos of the snow roller are attached. The next question for us is where to keep it for the public to see. Someone suggested the Raitt Farm as a place where this could be put on display.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

The flagpole is up at the Schoolhouse. Also, we received a request from Cheryl Goodwin to see our slide show of the work done at the Remick cemetery which we presented last month.

The business portion of the meeting adjourned at approximately 7:30 p.m.

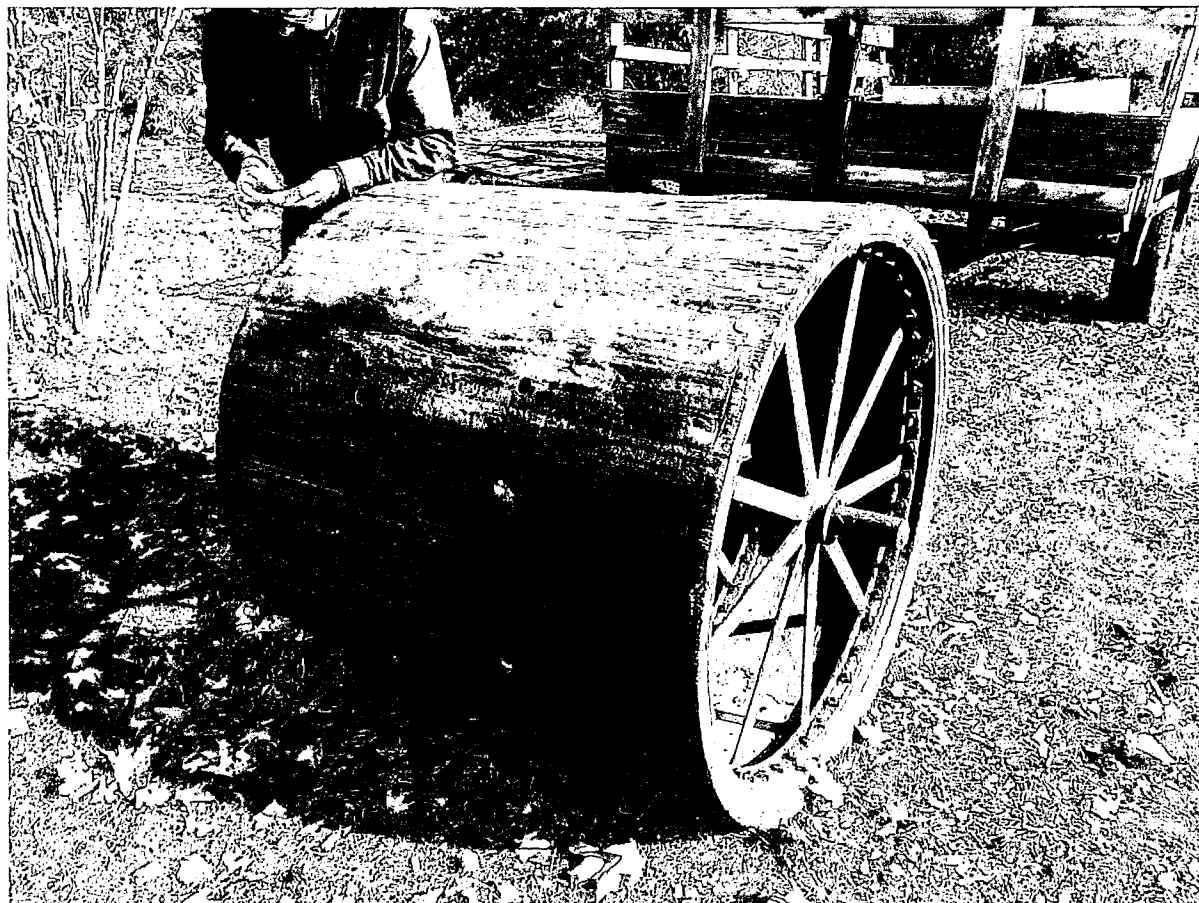
We thanked Cindy Lentz and Carolyn Bogh and Helen Sullivan for providing and helping with the refreshments. Others pitched in and served up the cake and ice cream as we went back in time and celebrated our 21 birthdays.

## **Program**

As they wished, each person in attendance recounted what was happening in their lives and the world when he or she turned 21. We heard about young men going off to war, wives left home with babies, young love in bloom, the thrill of being old enough to drink, college memories, the first real jobs people had, military training and first cars people owned, and various anecdotes about adventures folks were involved in when they were 21. Each person's story was interesting and entertaining in its own way. Although we heard some romantic stories this time around, Carolyn Bogh is considering having our February program be based on Valentine's Day, where people talk about how they met their loved one.

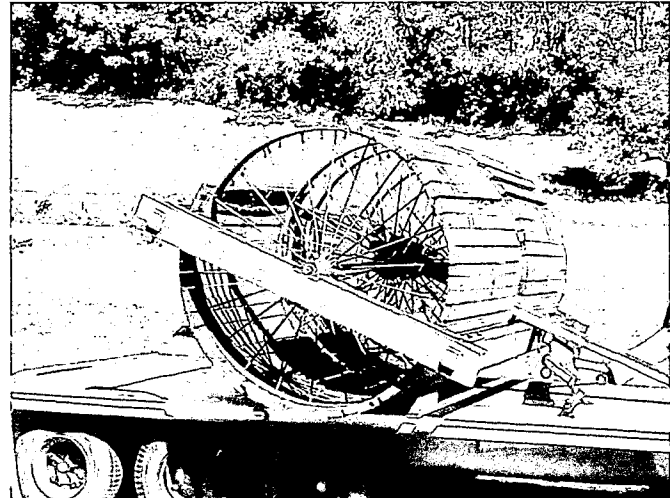
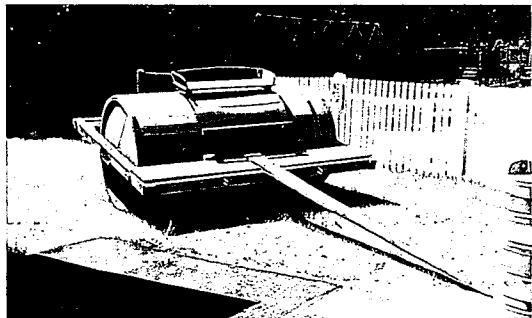
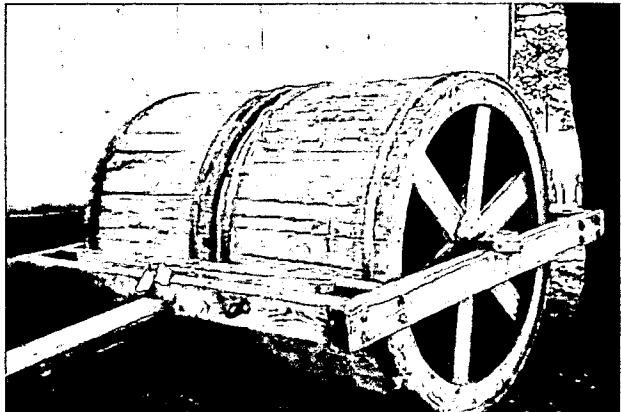
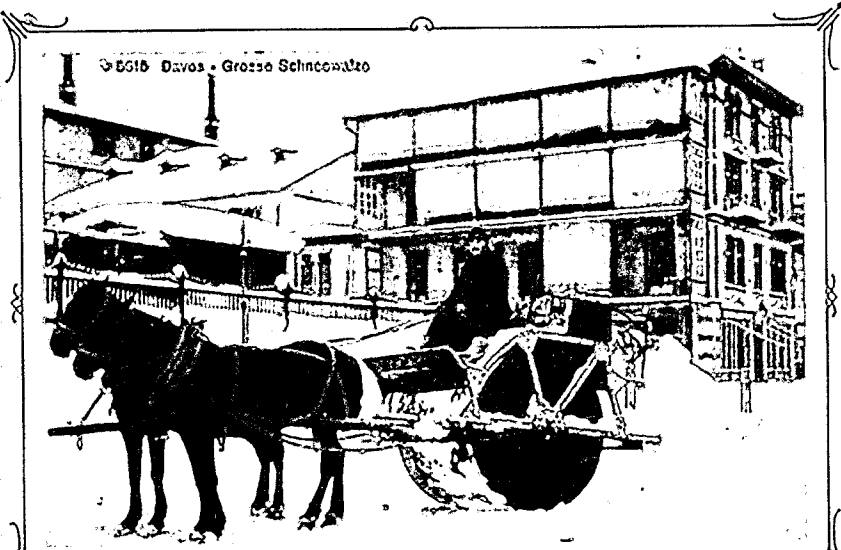
Respectfully submitted, Helen Goransson, Secretary

The *Eliot Historical Society's* newest acquisition: A snow roller, from the farm of Karen Andersen of 118 Hanscom Road. In 1872 it was the home of Simon Emery.

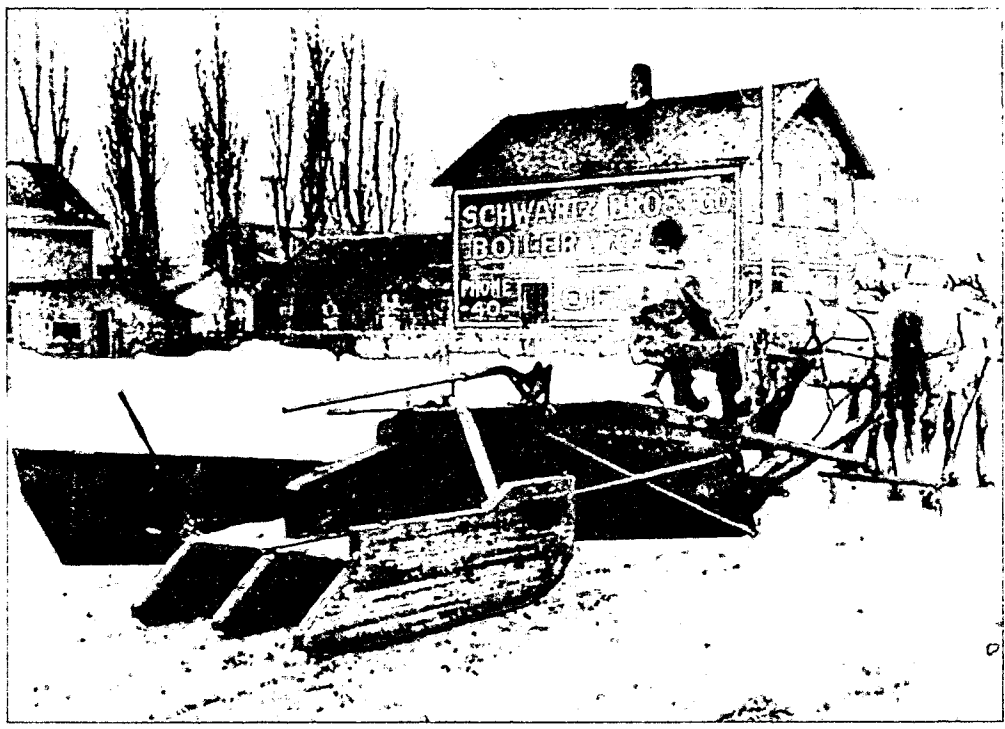


Well before the age of plow trucks on our roads during winter to get rid of the snow, snow was welcomed in the winter. Why? Because transportation was by horse and cart or wagon. During the winter the wagons would don ski-like runners to make the going easier. To help with traction the "snow roller" was invented. It packed the snow down and allowed smoother travel over the roads. The more snow packed down, the better!

The snow roller was essentially a large wide wheel weighed down by bricks and/or aided by people "riding" it and then pulled by horse or oxen.



By the mid 1800s a horse drawn plow was invented for use where there was a need for cleared roads.



And of course with the coming of the automobile there was now a need to clear the roads and so more efficient plows were invented.

