

Reminder: There is no meeting in July. Mark your calendar for our August 6th annual cookout at 5:00pm at the Eliot Boat Basin. The grill will be going if you'd like to use it. You are welcome to bring something to share, if you would like. P.S.: Always looking for news so if you have something interesting you'd like to share please let me know! Pictures and write-ups are always welcomed.

News and Events

#8 SCHOOLHOUSE to Hold Monthly OPEN HOUSE



Though the efforts of Society member Jan Cerabona the Historical Society will be holding monthly open house events at the #8 Schoolhouse on Greenwood Street. Jan, assisted by Barbara Kumin will open the doors from 11am to 2pm to greet people and share with them the history of schoolhouses in Eliot and other aspects of Eliot

history through displays at the school curated by Collections Chair Julie Johnson. Following an open house that Jan did for the children and their parents at Eliot Elementary School in May, she saw the great need and potential of opening the building to the public and offered to have **the building open on the last weekend of each month from now and through Eliot Festival Days in September.** At the May open, which included Memorial Day, Jan said that she had a wonderful time talking with those who came in over the three days. Some had their own stories to tell, information to share and for some they were able to reconnect with the Society. She is hoping that this event will blossom and grow and that for Eliot



Festival Day there will be activities for adults and children. If you would like to assist with the open house days and/or help with the planning for Eliot Festival Days in September please contact Jan at jcerab2805@aol.com or 439-0932.



OPEN HOUSE
JUNE 30 – JULY 1
11AM – 2PM
#8 SCHOOLHOUSE
GREENWOOD STREET



At our **May meeting** **Town Manager Dana Lee** spoke with us. Dana grew up in Falmouth and following in the footsteps of his father joined the Army. After discharge he went to undergraduate school and was planning to go into social work but his life took another turn. He first worked for the city of Auburn as an intern logging the capital assets of the town before being hired, at the age of 27, as town manager for Mechanic Falls in 1962. He has the distinction of having been the youngest town manager. Given one weeks “orientation”, which consisted of traveling around the town he stayed there 16 years. He first had his encounter with Tax Increment Finance District (TIFD) projects when he was hired by the town of Poland to straighten out a financial problem they were having, which he did. Then the town of Buckford asked him come there as an interim town manager. Following the graduation of his sons he looked to go to the southern part of the state and seeing the town manager job posting for Eliot he thought that our town would be a good place to live and work. He said he has found Eliot to be a great town with good people and really enjoys being part of the community.



Working as town manager for various places over the years he’s seen the different ways that towns view the job of a town manager. Some Select Boards are very “hands on” and others have given him much more autonomy. In Eliot, for example, depending on the make up of the Board it has gone back and forth between the two styles. He explained that you have to be very flexible as a town manager, filling in to help other departments where needed and you have to try and be impartial when dealing with matters that arise. He spoke about the upcoming TIFD vote and expressed that he hopes we can find a way to heal the division that this project has caused; that we have much more in common than this one issue that is keeping us apart. He praised the new **Aging in Place Committee** and hopes the citizens will support the work that they are doing. They have some fine people with good ideas. The Aging in Place Committee has a survey out that they hope ALL citizens will take the time to fill out. The survey is available at the town hall or online and everyone is welcome to attend their monthly meetings.

June 12th: Elections/Referendum/Budget voting:



**State of Maine Primary Election & Referendum
Annual Town Meeting Election & Referendum
MSAD #35 Budget Validation Referendum***

When: Tuesday, June 12, 2018
Opening Ceremonies & Election of Moderator: 7:30AM to 8:00AM
Polling Hours: 8:00AM to 8:00PM

Location: Marshwood Middle School Gymnasium



At our **June meeting** members were invited to share memories of courtships and weddings. In addition to the couples that were there single members shared their courtship and wedding memories or the story of their parents and grandparents. Pictures and wedding booklets were passed around, much to the delight of those in attendance. Pictured here are the couples in attendance.



Eliot American Legion recognizes citizen's contributions

The American Legion Post #188 held a Recognition Award ceremony at the Fogg House in April honoring those who had gone above and beyond to care for Eliot's monuments to its veterans. First was Eric Fernandes, whom Ruth Drake-Benedict had hired to spruce up the WWI monument on the grounds of the William Fogg Library which had been long neglected. Eric, however, accepted no money for the work, donating his time, equipment, and plantings.



Ruth then gave a few words honor to Eric, thanking him personally for the work he had done and presenting him with a flag. The flag came from a friend of hers, Delores Takarewski who, when she learned that Eric didn't have a flag for his camp, she and her son Joseph offered to give her late husband Joseph's flag to Eric.



Paul Johnson was also recognized for the work that he has done to see that the flagpole at the Mount Pleasant Cemetery is always looking its best.



Ruth presented the flag to Eric and acknowledged the support given by Larry Kent who, with his wife Jessie, was in attendance.

The final event of the evening, which was a complete surprise to Ruth, was the awarding of a certificate to her for seeing a need and taking it upon herself to see that it be taken care of.

On May 20th Baran Place residents and friends gathered to pay honor to our veterans. Recently the flag pole underwent some repairs and Steven LaBrecque, whose company manages the Baran Place



property, provided new US and State flags and the residents organized a special service to rededicate the flag pole in recognition of Memorial Day. Veterans Fred Proctor, and Robert Fisher raised the flags, followed by the singing of the National Anthem, and then the singing of God Bless America, led by veteran Ed Benoit.



York River Study Committee: Watershed Stewardship Plan

The York River Study Committee recently presented its draft of a Watershed Stewardship Plan to the Eliot Planning Board and gave a tour of a website where the significant data that they have collected is brought together in an interactive mapping format. The Watershed Stewardship Plan document identifies key actions that communities can take to help protect the outstanding historic, natural, and cultural resources of the York River Watershed. The stewardship objectives and key actions are intended to protect important resources for current and future generations. These recommendations have been developed over the last 18 months after extensive review of watershed data, reports and comprehensive plans, and discussions with community groups, resource experts, and watershed residents. Later this year, the Study Committee will be seeking endorsement from the four watershed communities to pursue Partnership Wild and Scenic River designation for the York River and its major tributaries in the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System Designation would provide the financial resources, technical assistance, and local administrative structure to help implement recommendations in the York River Watershed Stewardship Plan. It is hoped that a warrant article will be placed by the Select Board on the November ballot. The Study Committee invites you to review the document at their website <http://www.yorkrivermaine.org/> They will also have a table at our June 12th elections so please stop by.