

**MEETING OCTOBER 1<sup>st</sup>: MEMORIES OF ELIOT**: For the evening's program we will gather to share our memories of Eliot. Perhaps you have pictures which you would like to have identified or just share some of your own memories of living in Eliot or of people, places, or events. Join us for this fun evening as we explore the history of our town. Refreshments will be served by Bob and Rosanne Fisher.

Anyone interested in providing future programs of this nature, is encouraged to call Program Chair, Carolyn Bogh, at 207-439-2404.



***ELIOT FESTIVAL DAY***

***SEPTEMBER 29<sup>TH</sup>***

***10AM – 3PM***

***SEPTEMBER 30<sup>TH</sup>***

***11AM – 2PM***

The open house events this past summer have been very successful in both attendance and the sign up of new members, as well as donations and sales. Therefor we have decided that instead of a booth this year we will have a special open house at our #8 Schoolhouse with special activities for children.

We are looking for a few people to help with the book/item sales and the children's activities and to greet people. If you would like to help please let Jan 748-0932 or Rosanne 752-0174 know.

We are also looking donations of colored yarn for one of the children's activities and a case of small (pint) bottles of water.

There will be an organizational meeting at the schoolhouse on Monday, September 17<sup>th</sup>, from 2-4 PM to clean the schoolhouse, and organize the sale items and activities. Items can be dropped off at that time.



There will be a memorial service for **Paul Rousseau**, past president of the Historical Society, on Saturday, September 22<sup>nd</sup> at 11AM at the Brooks Memorial Cemetery. His family has extended to us an invitation. For more information call Paul Johnson @ 439-2542.

Paul served the Society well and moved us into the future, helping to revise our by-laws. He also worked to make sure the history of our town was brought to the forefront during the town's Bicentennial, helping to organize historical talks. He loved his hometown, to which he was able to return for several years before moving south to his retirement home.

## AREA NEWS AND EVENTS



In case you might have missed it – **Skip and Margie Brown** had an exciting visitor to their backyard garden in August. Wondering why her cat came in from the backyard all upset she looked out to see a 3 foot long lizard! At

first she thought it was an alligator. A call to 911 brought the South Berwick police who eventually found the fully grown Savannah monitor lizard!



**President Paul Johnson** reported at our September meeting that he had been contacted by the town manager concerning the cemeteries in Eliot. He will be working with the town to set up a database and exploring funding options.

Society member, **Debbie Scribner**, as her special project, with the support of the Society, will be offering citizens an "Eliot Flag". It is a 3x5 flag with Eliot's town seal. The cost will be \$50 and only pre-orders will be taken. Visit her booth at the Eliot Fire Station on September 29<sup>th</sup> (Eliot Festival Day) or at the #8 Schoolhouse on Greenwood Street during our open houses on Sat and Sun.



Our apologies to all who joined us for our September meeting. In the midst of a standing room only crowd the power went out! Cell phones provided the lighting while we enjoyed the refreshments for which we thank Skip and Margie Brown and Ruth Drake-Benedict. We will try and re-schedule our presenter Claire Bloom, to talk with us about the USS Constitution as soon as we can.

## Dive into the Archives! Workshops at Counting House Museum



The **Old Berwick Historical Society** will be hosting a four-week series of workshops designed to introduce attendees to the many ways the Counting House Museum's archives can be used to do local research. Workshops will run weekly at the museum on **Tuesdays: Sept. 18, 25 and Oct 2**. They begin at 10am, and will go approximately an hour. Weekly attendance is not required, and there is no registration.

“People often wonder what is inside all of our gray archive boxes,” says John Demos, the workshop leader and collections committee member. “If you are curious about how to research your family history, or want to find the story of your house, this is the perfect chance to find out how we answer similar requests for information.”

Demos will use real examples of family and property searches, and demonstrate how to use the museum's resources to find answers, or as often happens, more clues to follow. He will also pull out a several treasures from the archives to show what other great things are hidden there. On the 4th week, the focus will be on learning to use the computer and database to aid a search.

The Counting House Museum is located at 2 Liberty Street, South Berwick. FMI visit [www.oldberwick.org](http://www.oldberwick.org) or call 207-384-0000.

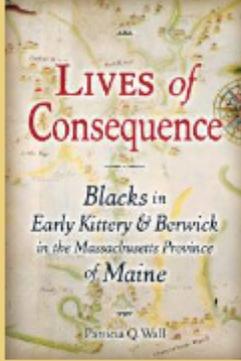
### **September 13 at 6:30pm – NEW HAMPSHIRE'S DROWNED**

**FORESTS.** Archaeologist Peter Leach will speak about New Hampshire's drowned forests with specific reference to Odiorne Point and Jenness/Rye beaches and Rye's sunken forest. Rye Congregational Church, 580 Washington Road. Sponsored by the public Library and the Rye Historical Society.

## Panel Discussion

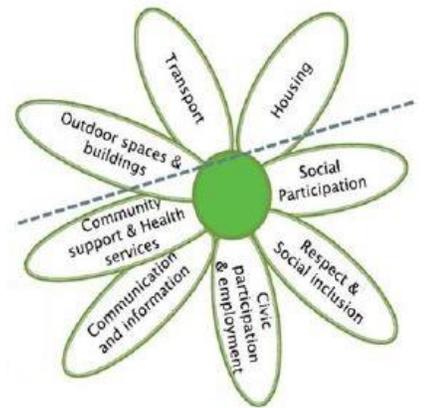
### ***From Slavery to Community Building: Black Will and Family***

**Saturday, September 15<sup>th</sup> at 10am**



Local author Patricia Q. Wall, Eliot Historical Society member Rosanne Adams, and Berwick resident Paul Boisvert will be hosting a special panel discussion at the **Counting House Museum** about the lives of Black Will and Black Will, Jr. (as they are commonly referred to in primary sources such as deeds). Patricia will share an overview of slavery in the area based on the research from her book "Lives of Consequence." Rosanne will be talking about her search for Black Will's property in Eliot, and the community that was drawn to it. Paul, who now owns Will, Jr.'s land, will be discussing life in the Blackberry Hill area of Berwick when Will, Jr. lived there. They will also touch upon Will, Jr.'s move to Bailey's and Orr's Island and the community that grew there. A question and answer session will follow. Black Will (late 1600's- circa 1727) is one of eight characters featured in the *Forgotten Frontier* exhibit, open through October.

**September 19<sup>th</sup> – How to have a good death-** Baran Place meeting room, Beech Road, 6:00pm. Presented by ***Eliot Aging in Place Committee*** and ***Amedisys Agency***. How we define a good death differs for each individual, just as a good birth plan differs for each prospective parent. Whether one chooses to forgo intense medical interventions and focus on quality time or elects to continue trying new therapies right to the end, we need to define what a good death looks like and create a plan that supports that vision. Leaving these critical decisions to a care giver or loved one is not only an emotional burden to them, but it also may mean that your wishes are not followed. Join Cristina Hepburn and Chrissy Gemme, Beacon Hospice Community Liaisons, for this informative discussion about dying well.



**September 27 – Archaeology and Slavery in the North: Hands-on History Written in Stone and Bone.** 7:30pm at the Berwick Academy Arts Center. Presenting compelling findings from a three-year excavation project at the Royall House and Slave Quarters in Medford, Mass., home to the largest slave-holding family in the colony. Dr. Alexandra Chan will examine the role of material culture, architecture, and landscape in complementing and enhancing traditional documentary histories about what it

was lie to be black and enslaved in colonial New England, as well as discuss the nature of Master-Slave relationships at this site. Presented by the Old Berwick Historical Society. Free – donations gratefully accepted.

### **THIS AND THAT**

There is a new APP available for iPhone/iPad entitled **THE SALEM WITCH TRIALS**. It is described as a comprehensive and interactive digital reference to the largest and most famous witch hunt in American history. It includes over 450 events in the witchcraft crisis of 1692-1693, plus more than 100 events in the years leading up to and also following the trials. The app also includes biographical information on more than 350 individuals, from Reverend Samuel Parris to Rebecca Nurse and Judge Samuel Sewall. Over 200 events are geo-referenced, so you can use it as a guide to trace the activities of 1692-1693. You can even search for accusations of the use of specific acts and aspects of witchcraft from a list of more than forty such crimes, ranging from black cats and spectral attack to references to the devil's book.

Every event includes references to one or more of the forty primary and secondary sources, used to construct the app. Indeed, the app is designed to serve as a companion to Emerson Baker's *A Storm of Witchcraft*. The app is a visual database as well, showing over 100 current photos of the sites of 1692, as well as historic sketches and portraits of individuals. So, you can use the guide to visit the events of the witchcraft crisis – either in person, or from the comfort of your home.

#### APHORISMS\*

\*Aphorism is a statement of truth or opinion expressed in a concise and witty manner

- I read that 4,153,237-people got married last year. Not to cause any trouble, but shouldn't that be an even number?
- I find it ironic that the colors red, white, and blue stand for freedom until they are flashing behind you.
- Money talks ... but all mine ever says is good-bye.
- You're not fat, you're just easier to see.
- If you think nobody cares whether you're alive, try missing a couple of payments.
- Money talks ... but all mine ever says is good-by