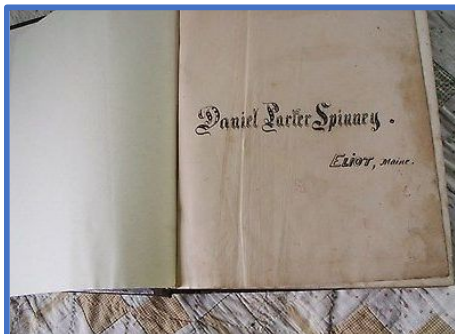
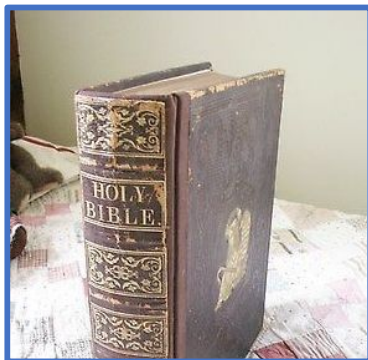


Upcoming Meeting - September 13 – 5:30pm Eliot Boat Basin

While the good weather is still with us, we are going to have one more meeting at the Boat Basin. We will meet earlier to take advantage of the light and you are invited to bring a picnic supper. There will be NO grill or shared food. Hope to see you there!



August picnic pictures



Can you help?

A descendant is looking for the family Bible belonging to the DANIEL PARKER SPINNEY and ANN MARY SPINNEY FAMILY. Daniel Parker Spinney married cousin Ann Mary (Spinney) Spinney in 1854. This Bible contains the records of Daniel and Ann Mary and of her parents as well. It appears that the Bible passed from Daniel and Ann Spinney to their son Frank Herbert Spinney. One piece of very old paper contains the birth records 1824-1847 of the ten children FRANCIS SPINNEY (father of Ann Mary Spinney) and his wife Mary Rogers Paul. The bible was sold several years ago and its whereabouts are unknown. **If you have any knowledge of where this bible is now located or a copy of what it contains, PLEASE let me know.**

NEWS and EVENTS



Dr. Anne Perry, who was in town for some Green Acre programs, and filming with husband Tim, made time to come to the August 13th open house at the William Fogg Library. She then joined the festivities the next day at the Old Home Picnic. She recreated her role as Sarah Jane Farmer, who was secretary of the Eliot Library Association and raised money for a public library in 1888-89, through two *Midsummer Fetes* and was the founder of Green Acre.



It's not too late to submit your item for the town's TIME CAPSULE which will be sealed on September 25th at 2 PM @ the Hammond Park gazebo.

You may leave them at the Town Hall or William Fogg Library or call for a pickup. 748-0932 or 752-0174



Don't miss out on the opportunity to own an

Eliot Town Flag

Pre-orders being taken now!

\$50



3' x 5' nylon flag with canvas border and grommets

Pre-orders are still being taken so it's not too late to get your town flag!! Contact Deb (439-5233), Jan (748-0932) or Rosanne (752-0174) or sign up at the William Fogg Library



The **Old Home Picnic** sponsored by the Eliot Maine Bicentennial Committee went off without a hitch thanks to all the volunteers who helped with setup, cleanup, and manned their stations during the event.



We hope to have more pictures in our next newsletter and welcome those you might have taken. These show the "Honor Wall" which recognize the Fabyan Drake Good Citizenship



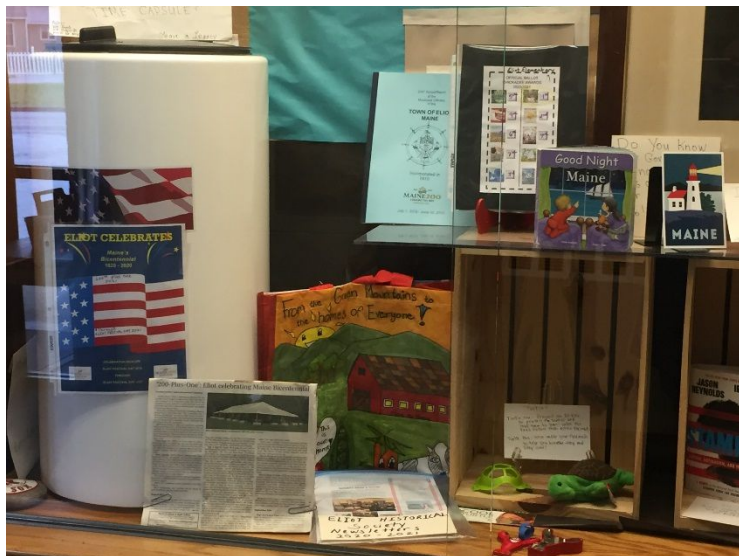
Award recipients (1954-2020) and the display in the Elementary School, which included artwork showing a timeline of Eliot history by the grade 2 classes, Maine books and the display case

of contributions for the Time Capsule. If you missed it, the "Honor Wall" will be up again for Eliot Festival Day.



3 | A V E





Hard to believe that it's been over 10 years since our restored schoolhouse has had a painting but as we have noticed the building is surely showing "her" age.

In the past, members have done the painting but we now find that we are not able to do the work so president **Paul Johnson** polled membership and consulted with our Board of Directors about getting some bids to do the painting. Everyone agreed and the Board chose **Williams Painting** out of York to do the work

4 |

Address: PO BOX 3, Eliot, ME 03903
Website: www.eliothistoricalsociety.org
Phone: 752-0174 (Rosanne



Steve Williams and Chris Brown scraping the paint.

September 4 –

The #8 Schoolhouse will be open 10 am -2 pm.



We'd like to thank **Brenda Campbell** for her recent donation. Two very nice small desks that fit right in with the others. It's nice to have more seats for students to sit in when they visit again, after this pandemic is over.

September 25 - Eliot Festival

Day We're all keeping our fingers crossed that we can celebrate this year and bring to a befitting close Eliot's Maine Bicentennial celebration, as well!

Stop by the **Eliot Historical Society booth**, order a town flag and visit. And don't forget: 2pm – Sealing of the Time Capsule at Hammond Park.

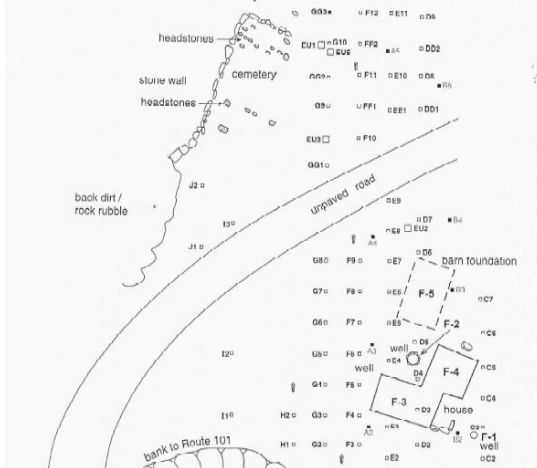


SPEAKING OF CEMETERIES

It wouldn't be possible to get through the summer without speaking of cemeteries! Even though the Maine Bicentennial has taken up the majority of our time, **Jan Cerabona** and I did happen to get out to two (!) cemeteries on August 20th. **Andrea Swan** of Florida had contacted EHS looking for information on the Neall and Furbish cemeteries whose families are associated with two of the Scottish prisoners of war from the Battle of Dunbar and part of her family lines. Her August visit to the area included a stop at the Counting House in South Berwick to talk with John Demos who is putting together information on the many prisoners who had been brought to this area following

the war. Jan and I met Andrea at the Neall cemetery, off Woodside Meadow Road.

The oldest inscribed grave that we saw here is that of Katherine Neall who died in 1749 and there are some 20th century burials as well. It



is near the site of the old Neall Garrison and a

recently discovered Paleoindian archeological site. The land was originally granted from John Heard to John Neall in 1676 and eventually came into the possession of Neall’s son Andrew.

I hadn’t been back here since 2010 and the area was so

overgrown that if it hadn’t been for “persistent” Jan and her bushwhacking skills I don’t know that we would have ever found the old gravestones! Jan wasn’t going to let Andrea go home without finding the object of her visit. Using only our bodies to push back the brush and vines we went over the area several times before Jan saw what she was looking for – the tallest of the old weathered stones – that of

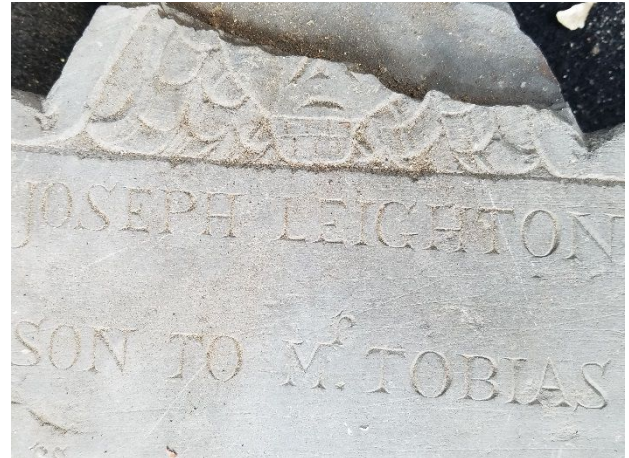
Katherine Neall.



We have plans to come back in the fall to make a path to it and clear it out as much as we can. If you’d like to become a member of the cleanup team please let us know.

On our other “adventure” a few weeks earlier, **Kate Saunders** contacted us to let us know about a gravestone in the basement of her family’s home in Lowell, Massachusetts. It was the stone of Joseph Leighton.

Kate wrote that the house had been in her family since before 1900 and purchased by her 2x great aunt Kate who converted it to a two-family home. The house was built in the mid to late 1800's and prior to that the area was farmland and part of Chelmsford, Mass. At this point it is unclear how the stone came to be in the house, but we are "on the trail".



Her friend, Amy, had done some research and discovered that the young boy Joseph, who died on April 25, 1735 and was the son of Tobias and Grace (Staples) Leighton, had family here in Eliot. I checked our cemetery records and found that other members of

Joseph's family were buried in the Samuel Leighton cemetery on Goodwin Road.



On August 1st Jan and I met with Kate, her husband Andres and friend Amy who had sleuthed out the Eliot connection with this stone. We then took a ride to see the cemetery, where most probably

this came from, and then to the #8 Schoolhouse. Paul and Julie were there showing some friends around and Paul took temporary possession of the stone, on behalf of the historical society, for storage until we can return to its proper place.



Major Samuel Leighton and members of his family are buried here, including Tobias (son of John and Oner Leighton), his wife Grace (Staples) Leighton and their daughter Mary. Grace (first wife), son Tobias and daughters Mary and Susannah all died within months of each other in 1736, and Joseph, a year earlier. Kate, who is an epidemiologist, intrigued by so many members of the family dying around the same time, did some research. She found that there was a large diphtheria epidemic in New England in 1735-1740, that appears to have started in Kingston, NH and rapidly spread. To be continued.....





“The Benches Writing Contest” To celebrate our town’s new benches at the Eliot Boat Basin and two new benches that will be installed at the William Fogg Library, Eliot residents, ages 8 to 108 are invited to submit an original essay, short story, or poem with a Public Bench as a central component.



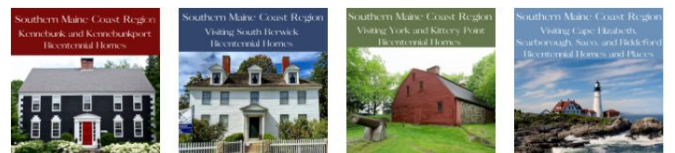
Writing Contest Rules: The original essay or short story or poem must be no more than 800 words. There is no fee to enter the contest. The deadline for submission is

Tuesday, September 21, 2021, at 5:00 p.m. Entrants must include their name, age, and contact information on their submission. Submissions may be emailed to AIP@eliotme.org or dropped into the blue AIP drop box at Eliot’s Fogg Library. Winners will be named in five categories: ages 8-10, ages 11-13, ages 14-18, ages 19 to 50, and ages 50 and older. Each winner receives a \$50.00 gift card to Barnes & Noble. Winners will be announced at Eliot Fall Festival Days on Saturday, September 25, 2021. Contest judges include AIP members and local writers.

In addition, all children are invited to color a one-pager celebrating “New Benches in My Town!” The coloring page is available by the AIP drop box at Fogg Library. Children are asked to bring their finished coloring page to the AIP booth at Eliot Fall Festival Days on Saturday, September 25, 2021, to be displayed. There is no prize for the coloring page but plenty of applause.

DRIVE ME HISTORIC TOURS

Maine Preservation has launched Drive ME Historic Tours in commemoration of Maine’s bicentennial. They are available on the Maine Preservation website through this year. <https://www.maine Preservation.org/tours-1>



Ranging from 30 minutes to 4 hours, the interactive tours highlight historic homes and places that existed when Maine established statehood in 1820. The maps share Maine’s way of life 200 years ago by telling the stories of those who lived and worked here and how these places played an important role in forming Maine’s cultural identity.

- THE MAINE BEACHES REGION
- MAINE’S LAKES AND MOUNTAINS REGION
- GREATER PORTLAND AND CASCO BAY REGION
- MID-COAST REGION
- KENNEBEC AND MOOSE RIVER VALLEY REGION
- THE MAINE HIGHLANDS REGION
- DOWNEAST AND ACADIA REGION

