

ELIOT HISTORICAL SOCIETY ANNUAL REPORT
2021-2022

The Historical Society had quite a busy year even with the restrictions placed upon it, from time to time, by the pandemic. While weather was nice, we held our monthly meetings outdoors and then switched to online ZOOM meetings during the winter weather. Programs included - Punkintown, The Old Town Hall and Gym - The Rogers' Cemetery restoration - Wreaths Across America.

Unable to utilize our usual ways of fundraising, we did receive a very generous donation from *The Fabulous Find* of Kittery that allowed us to hire Tom Ashline Builders, of Eliot, to replace the leaking roof on the #8 Schoolhouse Museum and Williams Painting of York to give the building a new coat of paint.

The historical displays at the Elementary School were changed out several times, focusing on the history of Eliot Festival Day, the Railroads and Trolleys, Governor John F. Hill, Eliot's Veterans/Wreaths Across America, State Road historic homes and places, and the old Town Hall and Gym.

Our website and communication abilities are in the process of being updated and expanded. Grants are being submitted to finish some projects at the # 8 Schoolhouse and expand our reach further into the community with hopes to engage the middle school students, much as we have been able to do with the elementary school, through displays, tours, and offering to find and/or provide speakers on various subjects.

The schoolhouse was open through the summer months and by appointment and will re-open June 2022 through September. We are always looking for volunteers who want to learn more about the history of our town and share it with others.

During Eliot's Maine Bicentennial the Society was very active helping with displays, the open house day and giving tours at the elementary School.

Our Adopt a Cemetery Program continues to provide healthy exercise and opportunity for community service, as we care for the many of the 169 ancient, private cemeteries in our town. The past summer/fall we had several groups of volunteers who worked at the Remick, Rogers, Neall, Spinney and Tetherly cemeteries. A good activity for groups of friends and families, we offer it also for high school students seeking community service credits.

The Society, with additional funding from the Mt. Pleasant and Brooks Memorial cemeteries is putting together a website where the public will be able to search all the burials in Eliot for location and information and should be of help to the town in keeping track of the status of its private cemeteries.

The Society also has a liaison to the "Clamshell" group. This group, made up of area historical Societies, on "both sides of the river", looks for ways to collaborate as we get ready for the 400th anniversary of the Piscataqua Plantation and beyond.

We thank the citizens of Eliot for their support this past year and we invite you to join us in any of our activities.

More information can be found at our website at: <https://eliothistoricalsociety.org>

You can also find us on our Face book page: <https://www.facebook.com/eliothistoricalsociety.org/>

Or email us at: info@eliothistoricalsociety.org

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