

ELIOT HISTORICAL SOCIETY

DECEMBER 2023 NEWSLETTER

Monthly Meeting/ Annual Meeting: December 11 - We will be electing officers and one member of the Board of Directors for the coming year. Please make every effort to attend! For our program we will have our annual "Show and Tell". You are invited to bring an item(s) to talk about.

7:00 PM: In person and by ZOOM @ McPherson Hall, First Congregational Church, 1361 State Rd.

Zoom link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89970965186?pwd=b0JaVFgyOFRnNW11WjRLZFVSRDNLdz09>



President's Prattle

by Tracey Graffam-Dickson

The holiday season has arrived! Bringing with it, the seasonal gatherings with friends & family, wonderful church fairs, theatrical events, and some lively music too. These festive traditions have long been a part of our New England Holiday heritage. As a respite to the hustle and bustle of the season, I have been indulging myself when a few moments allow, some reading of one of Maine's favorite authors, Sarah Orne Jewett. Her book, "The Country of the Pointed Firs", came to me as a gift from a beloved aunt, who currently lives "up in the county". We both share a love of reading, and I was thrilled to have received an illustrated copy beautifully enhanced with the artwork of Douglas Alvord, a revered writer and illustrator in his own right. As I sip my tea and read about the unforgettable Maine characters of Mrs. Todd and her mother, Mrs. Blackett of Green Island, I am transported back to a time when travel was slow, and gathering together was cherished. I wonder what spruce beer tastes like and wish I could smell the "fine fragrance" of pennyroyal, freshly gathered into an "aromatic nosegay". I think how fortunate we are that Ms. Jewett chose her calling as a writer, which was an unusual choice for a women in the 1800s. Educated at Berwick Academy and well-traveled throughout America and Europe, Jewett wrote numerous stories about life in Maine, including "A White Heron" which has been translated into many languages and is loved throughout the world. Jewett is just one of many popular Maine authors; whether you love poetry, horror, or humor, we are rich with wonderful writers we can call our own. From Henry Wadsworth Longfellow to Stephen King or Tim Sample, poems and stories of Maine have captured many imaginations throughout the years. How fortunate we are to call this place our home. As we make our way through this festive season, I wish for you that you will be surrounded by family and dear friends and where time will slow down, and together you can enjoy some good laughs and a good

1

Address: PO BOX 3, Eliot, ME 03903

Website:

www.eliothistoricalsociety.org

Phone: 752-0174 (Rosanne)

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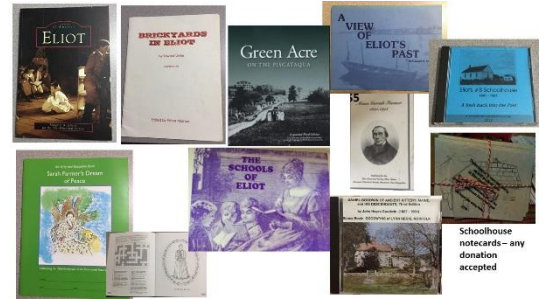
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story or two! After all, it is a Maine tradition! And don't forget to join us for our Annual Holiday Share – I can't wait to see what stories the evening will bring. Until then... Season Greetings to all our members and friends of the Eliot Historical Society!

Tracey



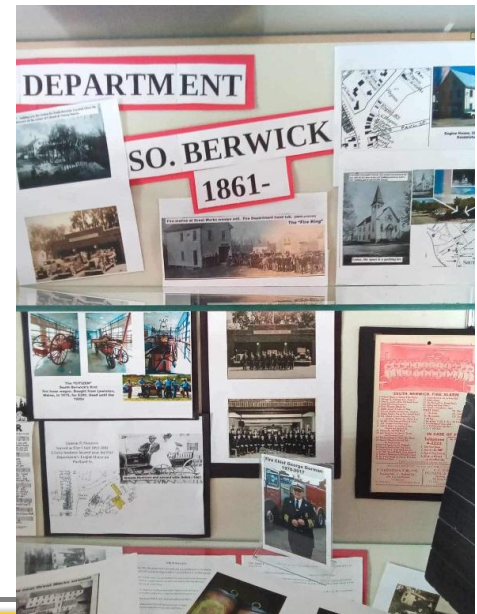
If you're looking for a gift for the history lover on your list, perhaps we might be able to help you out. Town and local history, postcards, note paper, commemorative plates, history CDs, children's marbles, chalkboards, and activity books, and collectables are available.



Jan has her "book mobile" full and ready to deliver or meet up with you in Eliot. She will also bring to the December meeting! Just give her a call! 207-450-6874.

Our display at Marshwood Great Works School, focuses on the Fire

Departments of Eliot and South Berwick. Included are timelines for each department, the Fire Chiefs, pictures of the various fire houses, vehicles, and Fire Chiefs over the years, along with notable fires and department memorabilia, including badges and dress hats.



2

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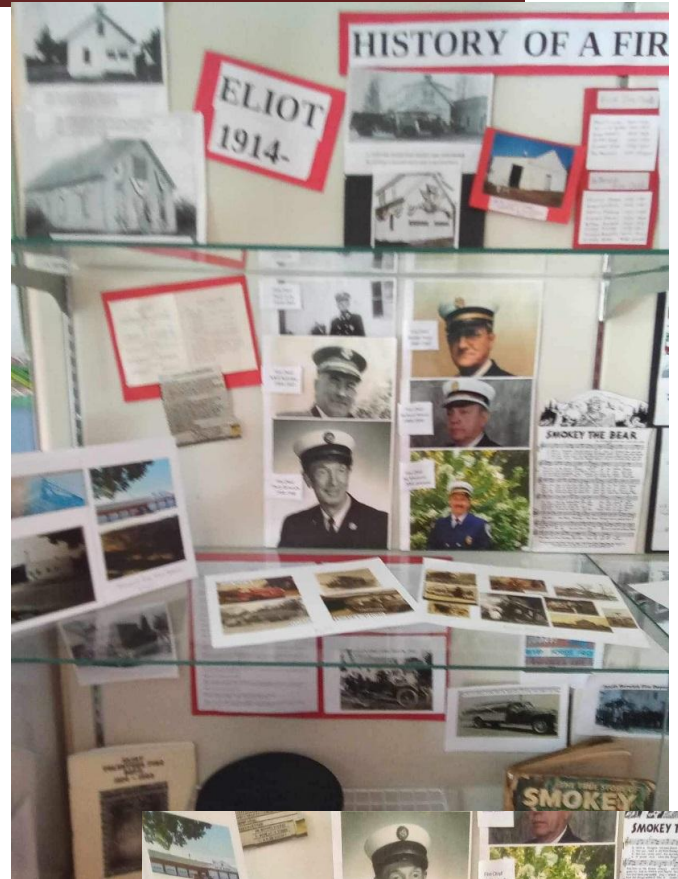
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With our thanks to the **Fire Departments of Eliot and South Berwick, Old Berwick Historical Society** and South Berwick resident **Rick Becker** for sharing their pictures and information.



3

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In celebration of Veteran's Day, the students and staff of Eliot Elementary School, with the coordination and help of EHS's **Jan Cerabona**, thoughtfully placed flags around the school's flag pole.



Shortly after the event it snowed, giving a



beautiful look to the field of colors of our Flag. Since these pictures were taken, many more flags have been added. Take a look as you drive by. A lovely tribute!

The plan is to leave them up through the *Wreath's Across America* event on December 16th, until the end of December (weather co-operating!).

York Woods Tree and Products Company of Eliot, in partnership with *Wreaths Across America*, will be at the Mount Pleasant/Brooks Cemeteries at **NOON on Saturday, December 16th**, to Remember and Honor

our veterans through the laying of Remembrance wreaths on the graves of our fallen heroes and the act of saying the name of each and every veteran aloud. Please join this event and help honor those who have served.

4

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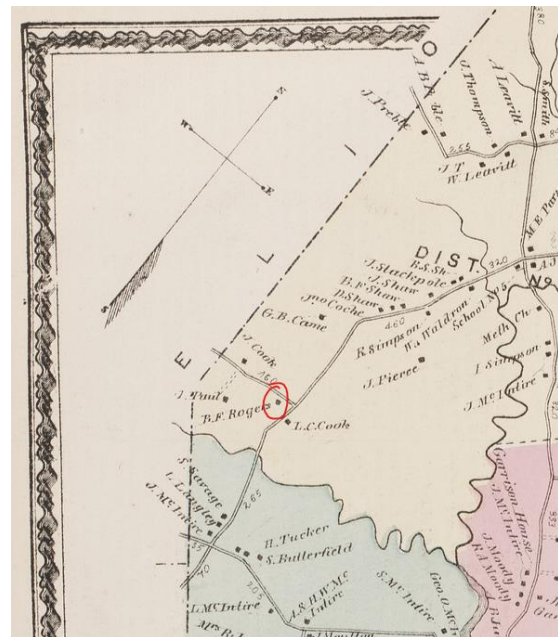
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Within literally minutes of our newsletter being sent out, **Mark Lyman** wrote to us and gave us the answer to the Rogers' family picture. He found the picture and others, in one of Eleanor Pearsall's scrapbooks. We had thought the serviceman in the picture might be a Rogers but he was not!

The picture was taken at the John Rogers farm on Frost Hill. Eric was able to locate the farm on the 1872 Map of York, Maine. Benjamin Franklin Rogers (1837-1901) gave his part of the home to his sister Ann Cook and most of the rest of his estate to his son John B. Rogers (1866-1960). [Book 513 Page 545] John B. Rogers married Agnes Parsons on 3 November 1895.



The serviceman is actually Roger Shorey (1924-2000) who was the father of Mrs. Kathleen Avery. Her husband, Rev. David Avery, was pastor of the First

Congregational Church of Eliot, holding the distinction of being the second longest serving pastor since the Rev. John Rogers. Rev. Avery retired after 36 years.



5

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Roger Emerson Shorey was the son of Clifton and Virginia Emerson Shorey. He graduated from Dover High School and lived in South Berwick and Dover before moving to the old Rogers farm. He served in the Army Air Corps and Air Force from 1942-1949. He was in the Southwest Pacific for 2 ½ years and attained the rank of Sergeant. He was a captain and charter member of the York Militia and was a speaker on Colonial topics for schoolchildren and adults. A life member of the South Berwick Rod and Gun Club, he was an expert on evaluating guns. He enjoyed lobstering and hunting and was noted for building flintlocks and cannons and collecting and repairing many types of rifles and handguns. Children: John Shorey, Kathleen Avery, Sharon Gerald, Susan O'Brien, Christine Shorey. [Newspaper Obituary]

FORM APPROVED
Budget Bureau No. 33-7012-42

REGISTRATION CARD (Men born on or after July 1, 1924, and on or before December 31, 1924)
(Also for the registration of men as they reach the 18th anniversary of the date of their birth on or after January 1, 1943.)

SERIAL NUMBER 1. NAME (Print) ORDER NUMBER
W-18-A Robert Emerson Shorey 11226-A

2. PLACE OF RESIDENCE (Print)
92 Grove St. Dover Strafford N. H.

3. MAILING ADDRESS
Same as line #2

4. TELEPHONE None 5. AGE IN YEARS 21 6. PLACE OF BIRTH Portland Maine

7. NAME AND ADDRESS OF PERSON WHO WILL ALWAYS KNOW YOUR ADDRESS
Mr. Robert Shorey 14 Mt. Vernon St. Dover, N. H.

8. EMPLOYER'S NAME AND ADDRESS
Unemployed at present.

9. PLACE OF EMPLOYMENT OR BUSINESS

I AFFIRM THAT I HAVE VERIFIED ABOVE ANSWERS AND THAT THEY ARE TRUE.
DSS Form 1 (Rev. 11-16-42) e10-21030-4 (OVER) Roger E. Shorey

In this other picture, from Eleanor's scrapbook, are Roger Shorey, Alex Hathaway (a hired hand) and John Rogers. Eleanor's note says that Alex would walk from there every evening to Goodwin's Garage (Eleanor's father's business) and that her father would open the garage just for Alex so he could buy some cigarettes and candy.



My memories as a child was visiting the John Rogers Farm and seeing the yard back of the house covered with wooden racks with burlap coverings covered with fish. John would sun dry them then pack them in salt - The salt he had panned from the river. He also had many bee hives and always sent us home with some honey.

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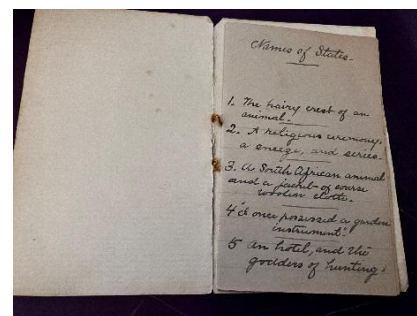


Edna Paul Fogg. The boy in the back left, in the picture above and the boy to the left of her in the picture here are my grandfather Moses N. Paul, her brother. Edna said she had to



hold his hand and practically drag him to school, talking with him all the way, as they hiked from Rosemary Corner, through the fields and over the hill, up to the #3 School on Brixham Road

There were three great aunts and one 2nd cousin that lived in my mother's home, as she was growing up. They all were teachers in Eliot's one-room schoolhouses and in other towns as well, so I'm always coming across items related to their life and their years teaching in Eliot. This is a little handmade book that one of them had. Perhaps she made several for her students or maybe it was used at a Methodist Church Epworthian meeting. We'll never know. From the descriptions can you name the States? - Rosanne



1. The hairy crest of an animal
2. A religious ceremony, a sneeze, and series.
3. A South African animal and a jacket of course, woolen cloth.
4. "I once possessed a garden instrument".
5. A hotel, and the goddess of hunting.

7

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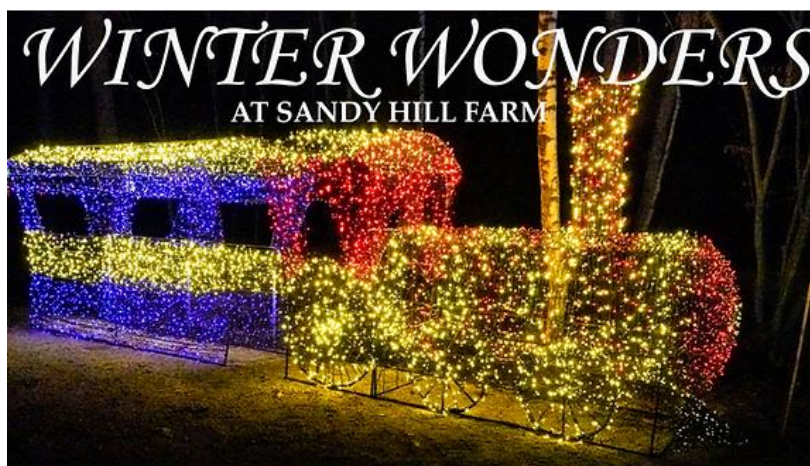
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6. A large surface of ice floating in the ocean and a man on horseback.
7. Atmosphere, a Roman numeral, a belt, and an article.
8. The governor of Algiers, a garment, and a letter.
9. You, and an old sailor.
10. Sick, forever, and an uproar.
11. An exclamation, elevated, and a letter.
12. Part of a leg, a valuable metal, and a conveyance.
13. A weekly household task, and a heavy weight.
14. Raw mineral, a letter, and a nutshell.
15. A girl's name, to scatter seed, and a sailor.
16. A small valley, and to be informed of.
17. A fashionable game, and a large body of water.
18. To dye, and to make a difficulty of little things.
19. To study over, an article used to confine the hair, a letter, and what is done to a boy's hair.
20. What the Selectmen do to us every year.



If you haven't yet had the opportunity to see the fantastic light show at Sandy Hill Farm, you still have time! The display goes until January 1st. It is something you don't want to miss. Tickets are available online at [Buy tickets – Winter Wonders 2023 – Sandy Hill Farm, Multiple dates](#)

[and times \(tickettailor.com\)](#)



8

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