

ELIOT HISTORICAL SOCIETY NEWSLETTER OCTOBER 2025

Next Meeting: Monday, October 13th. McPherson Hall, First Congregational Church. 6:30pm and by ZOOM. We will continue the discussion that some of our members had, recently, about their experiences as students of Eliot High School. **Zoom link:**
<https://us05web.zoom.us/j/2034163951?pwd=0CyJcarpTklwWkDBbBODxWCI2biFNe.1>

On October 2nd members, **Don Webber, Connie Corrigan, Frankie Thomas, Bill Morgridge, Sally Hartford, Julie Johnson, Jan Cerabona and Sharon Walker**, along with other graduates – **Deborah Berthiaume, Linda Spinney, David Newson, Laureen Remick,**



and **Gail Zamarchi** - met with the 3rd grade students and their teachers, Dana Landry, Donna Whitman, and



Jake Nesbitt, at Eliot Elementary School. The day started with each of the groups, being escorted through the building on a tour given by three of the students from each of the 3rd grade classrooms. At the sit down, graduates told stories and answered questions and asked a few of their own as they all learned about the



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similarities and differences of being in the old part of the elementary school, in what was Eliot High School, from 1940-1966. It was wonderful to see the excitement and interest that the students have and to hear some really neat stories. As one Eliot High School graduate said, “It was a great walk down memory lane”.



There are so many opportunities, as members of the Eliot Historical Society, to participate in the sharing of Eliot's history. Everyone can, in some way, find a place to offer their talents. You can read about some of those ways in our newsletters. Behind the scenes, there is always a need for grant writers, as well. If there is something that you read about that interests you, please let us know, so we can contact you, when the need arises!

News

ELIOT FESTIVAL DAY saw is at the downtown festival activities this year. **Paul and Julie Johnson** set up and manned our booth and reported that there were many people who stopped by, picked up a brochure and seemed to be very interested in our “Adopt a Cemetery” program. Some of these same people also visited us at the #8 Schoolhouse.

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THE NEWLY RENOVATED

TOWN HALL is now open and we have been provided with a display case where we can showcase items from our collection. Julie Johnson, our collections chair is in charge of the displays. Be sure to take a trip to the town hall and check it out.



WE ARE ASSISTING WITH THE MEMORY WALK that the town has provided space for on the town hall grounds. For our part, we need to find people to prepare our snow roller and “Silent policeman” for installation. If you are interested please contact Rosanne for more information (207-752-0174).



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

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Eliot, ME

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THE COUSENS CEMETERY ON

CEDAR ROAD was the focus of cleanup by the youth group of the Church of Latter Day Saints this fall. A dedicated and hardworking group, they cleaned it up in about 45 minutes going above and beyond by cleaning up well outside the cemetery, clearing a path to it and dragging the brush to the side! It is so nice to see youth involved in community service projects. Thank you and job well done!



DOINGS AT THE SCHOOLHOUSE

SEPTEMBER PICNIC – We now know why we don't have our annual picnic in September (at least one of the reasons). It's a lot cooler at 5:30PM in September, than it is in August! Those who were able to attend had a nice time catching up with what was happening in our lives. We also took the opportunity to take a group picture, holding the "check" from **FABULOUS FIND**. Speaking of, we received over \$8000!



The number of summer visitors

to the #8 Schoolhouse has slowly been increasing, each year and if the number of this summer's visitors is any indication, we hope the upward trend will continue. Jan and Rosanne open the schoolhouse for two days each week from Memorial Day (May) through Eliot Festival Day (September) and Jan also opens at other times, by appointment. This summer, our visitors included several people from the neighborhood, who had seen but never before stopped in; former 2nd grade students and their parents; people from or with Eliot connections, stopping in to donate family items; and people, from away, searching for information about their family members who lived in Eliot, as well as our Historical Society members and supporters. The William Fogg Library has been connecting people with us and we've been busy, hosting people as well as conducting research on their behalf.



RECENT ACQUISITIONS

*It was a joy to connect with old friends and meet new ones, when they came in to see the schoolhouse, or messaged us, having items to donate to our collection. Many of these included school books, which were then either put on the shelves or set aside for other use. **Before you throw things out, please contact us! The displays we do cover a lot of different subjects, so we just might be looking for what you are ready to toss.***

NICK CERABONA has loaned us his Eliot High School yearbooks, giving us an almost complete collection (missing 1956) and several of the Marshwood High School yearbooks.



DEB CROSIER

stopped by with some old school books. We often have the opportunity to use books and children's games in our displays.



ALISON GLEASON PETERSEN, who works at the Seacoast Waldorf School, donated a desk for the school. It appears to be a 1950/60 desk.



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ELEANOR HANNIGAN brought us an original picture and some copies of the dedication of the WWI monument at the William Fogg Library. Her late husband, Jack, is in the photograph. It has come just in time for our upcoming Veteran display at Eliot Elementary School!

ESTHER MORROW donated old school books, postcards, publications, newsclippings and photographs.



WENDY GILBERT had a wonderful old desk and a small student blackboard, which she offered to us.

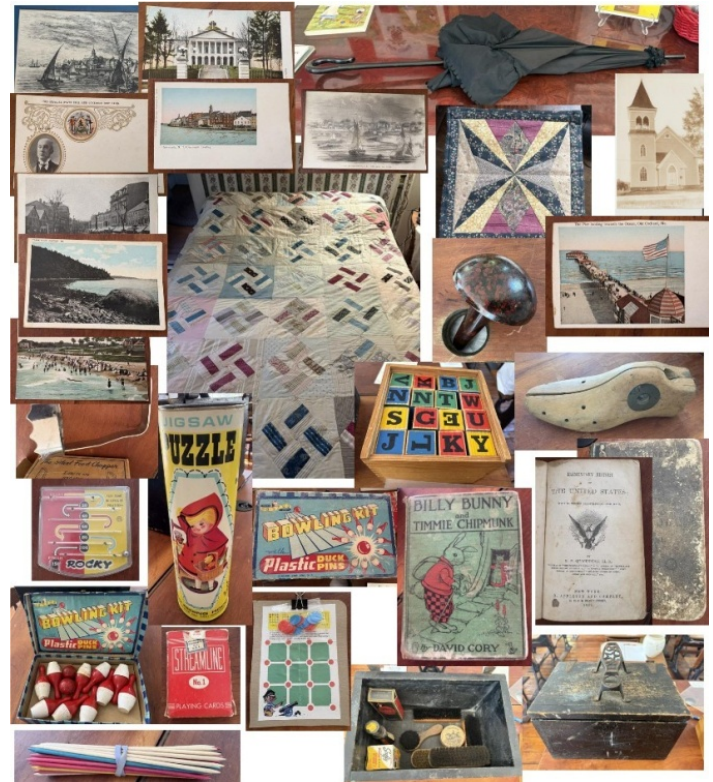
JOHN RICHARDSON, in his travels about, picked up some Eliot items for us!



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SUSAN LESALLES brought us some items belonging to the Hilt, Douglas, Fernald and Brooks family members. These include a quilt done by the family woman, in the early 1900's; a quilt piece done by Jean Hilt; some postcards, children's games, a shoe shine box.



**LINDA
(MARTIN)
PRITCHETT**, Eliot High School, class of 1964, brought us a picture taken outside the old Eliot High School (built 1906). If anyone has seen this before, and perhaps can identify the year, etc. please let us know.