



MOUNT HOLLY COMMUNITY HISTORICAL MUSEUM

Volume 20 Number 1 June 2013

Our mission is to enlighten our community with an understanding of our past to promote an objective vision of the future.

Visit our website www.mounthollyvtmuseum.org

Mount Holly in the Civil War

On April 12, 1861 the War Between the States began with the firing on Fort Sumter. Following that event, Abraham Lincoln issued the first call for a volunteer army of 75,000 who were to serve for a term of three months. Each state was requested to provide troops to comply with this proclamation, the State of Vermont immediately reacted by calling up existing militias and filling out the ranks with additional volunteers. This was the first of a number of troop call ups by the Federal Government during the war. Vermont regularly met or exceeded their enlistment quotas. Assisting in this effort, not surprisingly, were the citizens of Mount Holly.

At the beginning of the war, the population of Mount Holly was 1,520 consisting of 801 male and 719 females. Over the course of the war, approximately 130 of the town's men joined the Army, 8 joined the navy and 13 men were drafted, but avoided going into the army by paying a commutation. This amounted to 17% of the total male population and it would be a much higher percentage of the eligible male population.

At this point 150 years ago the Civil War had been going on for over two years and Mt. Holly had already seen 95 men enlist. The war produced unprecedented casualties and Mount Holly was not spared. By this time, fourteen Mt. Holly citizens had died, but the interesting fact was that only one had been killed in action. Melville B. Warner a private in Co. I of the 5th Vermont Infantry Regiment was killed on June 29, 1862 in the battle of Savage's Station during the Peninsular Campaign. During this battle the 5th Vermont Volunteer Infantry Regiment suffered the greatest losses, in killed and wounded, of any Vermont regiment in any one engagement during the war. Warner was 19 years old at the time of death and is believed to be buried in a grave marked "Unknown Soldier" in the Seven Pines National Cemetery, Sandston, VA.

ENROLLMENT LIST, OF PERSONS LIABLE TO MILITARY DUTY IN THE TOWN OF MT. HOLLY.			
PROVOST MARSHAL'S OFFICE, 1st District of Vermont, Rutland, December 1, 1863.			
In obedience to the orders of the Provost Marshal General of the United States, the following list of persons enrolled as liable to do military duty in the town of Mt. Holly is hereby published, that any person so enrolled may appear before the Board of Enrollment and claim to have his name stricken off the list, if he can show to the satisfaction of the Board that he is not, and will not be at the time fixed for the next draft, liable to do military duty on account of			
1st, Alienage,	24, Non Residence,	31, Unsuitableness of age,	4th, Manifest permanent physical disability.
Persons who may be cognizant of any other persons liable to military duty, whose names do not appear on this Enrollment List, are requested to notify the Board of Enrollment, that such persons may be properly enrolled. These may also avail themselves of the privilege of appearing before the Board of Enrollment and claiming to those to be enrolled is to be taken, as to age, as on the 1st day of July, 1863; in all other particulars as on the 16th day of May, 1863.			
The Board of Enrollment is instructed to hear cases, under this order, until the 20th day of December, 1863, after which no cases will be heard.			
Those who were drafted and exempted by reason of having entered the service, furnished a substitute, paid commutation money, being non-residents, aliens, or under twenty years of age, have been stricken off the roll.			
Those who were drafted and exempted by reason of being over thirty-five years of age, have been transferred to the Second Class.			
Those who were drafted and exempted for all other causes, are designated by a star. (*)			
Those who were drafted and failed to report, are designated by a dagger. (†)			
C. R. CRANE, <i>Captain and Provost Marshal,</i>		Board of Enrollment.	
A. C. BROWN, <i>Commissioner,</i>		B. F. MORGAN, <i>Surgeon,</i>	
FIRST CLASS.			
Allen, Asabel	Dawley, Darwin	Hemenway, Wesley C.	Pierce, Lorenzo
Andrews, Clark J.	Earl, Harrison	Hemenway, Rollin*	Pingrey, Henry C.
Bombard, Henry A.	Earl, Rufus	Hammond, Levi C.	Rhodes, James E.
Benson, Henry	Frost, Leland	Howard, Henry V.	Raymond, Jesse W.
Benson, Austin L.	French, Luther F.	Johnson, Eli H.	Simonds, Hiram
Bixby, Joseph J.	Freeman, Daniel C.*	Jaquith, Henry A.	Starr, Elisha
Billings, Franklin*	Fish, Alvah	Jackson, Cyrus	Thomas, Joseph W.*
Billings, William	Goodell, Horatio N.	Kimball, Martin O.	Tarbell, Albert J.
Barber, Caleb L.	Graves, Daniel A.	Knight, Charles H.	Tarbell, Marshall
Bixby, Austin D.*	Gibson, Henry	Livingston, Martin S.	Tarbell, Daniel P.
Bixby, Asa S.	Graves, John	Martin, Wesley*	Tucker, Leumas*
Chaffee, Harrison S.	Graves, George W.	Martin, Charles W.	Tuttle, James P.
Cady, James	Goodell, Franklin	Martin, Thomas M.	Underwood, Warren A.
Constance, Warren	Glynn, Henry L.	Martin, Ira D.*	Watts, Wm. G.
Cook, Aaron	Grover, James C.	Marsh, Charles W.	White, John E.
Clark, Stephen E.	Haskell, Jeremiah	Mead, Wesley S.*	Wilson, Patrick
Dodge, Martin	Holden, Edson	Pillsbury, Spencer	Wilder, Mahlon*
Dickeman, Alonzo W.	Holden, Wilber D.	Parmenter, Frederick	Wing, Andrew A.
Dudley, Harvey L.	Holden, Hibbard	Parmenter, Benjamin F.*	Wells, Alexander, 2d
Davenport, Joseph M.	Haskinson, Wm. B.	Priest, John R.	Wilcox, Daniel G.
Dickerman, Milan	Haskinson, John P.	Pingrey, Joseph P.	Wing, Charles
Dickerman, Judson B.	Hemenway, Charles	Peluso, Oscar M.	
SECOND CLASS.			
Archibald, Thomas H.	Davenport, Elijah W.	Fuller, David W.	Tucker, Charles
Barber, James	Dana, Thomas	Hill, Lewis	Tire, Perry
Buswell, Ezra P.	Dickerman, Merritt H.	Pratt, Oscar F.	Wheeler, Lyman A.
Buswell, Cyrus	Eddy, Anson	Pratt, Isaac M.	Warner, Hiram L.
Barrett, Joel L.	Eddy, John W.	Pratt, Lorin F.	Williams, John
Benson, Merrill	Ezell, Nelson C.	Pske, Henry	Williams, Charles O.
Chilton, Edward S.	Eddy, David E.	Pratt, Leander	Wilcox, Harlow T.
Collins, Morris	Forbes, Walter	Smith, George	Wilcox, Homer S.
Constantine, Franklin	Foster, Wm. W.	Smith, Patrick	Wilcox, Willott G.
Caryl, Aaron	Foster, Emerson D.	Tucker, Sylvester	Wheeler, Oscar F.
Dawley, D. L. Fayette			

Of the remaining 13 deaths, twelve were caused by disease. It was common for soldiers from small towns who had never been in large groups before to be exposed for the first time to pathogens that their bodies had never encountered before. The boys from Mt. Holly were not immune to this situation. The last death was due to an accidental discharge of his gun.

Now it was June 1863 and the Army of Northern Virginia and the Army of the Potomac were beginning a march that would culminate in the battle that marked the high water mark of the southern efforts at Gettysburg, PA. (continued on page 2)

The majority of Vermont Regiments were at Gettysburg, but not all participated directly in the conflict. One Vermont brigade, however, did play a critical role in the battle. That was the Second Vermont Brigade and their role in stopping Pickett's charge was critical to the overall success of the Union Army.

The Second Vermont Brigade consisted of the 12th, 13th, 14th, 15th and 16th regiments and was led by Brigadier General George J. Stannard. There were thirteen men from Mt. Holly in the 14th Vermont Volunteer Infantry Regiment (VVI) with the majority posted to Co. H. The men of the 14th VVI had originally been raised as a nine month unit, and were now reaching the end of their enlistment and the men were looking forward to going home. However, as the Battle at Gettysburg became imminent, they were ordered to join with the troops forming for the battle. To do this, the 14th VVI marched 120 miles in 6 days, reaching Emmetsburg, Md., on the 30th. After a brief rest it continued on but reached the battlefield too late on July 1 to share in the first day's fighting and instead encamped for the night in a wheat field to the left of Cemetery hill.

Late in the afternoon of July 2nd, the brigade was called into action on the left center, to repel the attack of Gen. A. P. Hill. A Union artillery battery had been captured and was re-taken by the Thirteenth Vermont. Another was in peril and was saved as the Fourteenth double-quickened to its rescue. The regiment remained in this position during the rest of the engagement.

In the opening cannonade of the third day by the Confederates, the Fourteenth had several non-commissioned officers and men killed by the explosion of a battery caisson, near which they were lying. Colonel Nichols obtained permission to move the Fourteenth forward about ten rods from the main line, where they lay during the terrific cannonade. When the bombardment ended, what has come to be known as Pickett's Charge began. Over seven thousand Confederate troops, moved down upon the position of the Fourteenth, where they lay concealed on the ground, until the Confederate line was within sixty yards. The men rose at command and gave a staggering and unexpected volley in the face of the charging column. This caused the direction of the advancing charge to change, and swing off to the north, leaving their right flank exposed to the right of the Fourteenth. It was at this time that General Stannard saw his chance for a flank movement, and delivered it with such fatal effect upon Pickett. The Fourteenth moved a short distance by the flank to the north, and obliquely from the main line. The Thirteenth, followed by the Sixteenth, changed front to the first company and moved out at right angles from the line and charged forward. The

Fourteenth kept up a rapid fire at close range and closed up the pen in which Pickett's right wing was caught and crushed.

After the main charge was repulsed, General Wilcox's Brigade was seen coming down in front of the position of the Fourteenth. The Sixteenth was coming back to get into line to receive the charge, but Colonel Veazey saw an opportunity to strike them on the front, which he did in splendid style. Four companies of the Fourteenth, A, F, D and I, under Lieutenant-Colonel Rose, formed on his left and assisted in capturing most of the Rebel Brigade. So it fell to the lot of the Fourteenth, with the other regiments, to uphold the honor of Vermont on this hotly contested field, and at this critical time in the battle. Amazingly, none of the 13 men from Mt. Holly were killed or wounded in the course of the battle, which was pretty astounding.

After repulsing Pickett's Charge, the Fourteenth joined in the pursuit of Lee and made some hard marches. One, on the 7th of July, was thirty-five miles, ending in rain, mud and darkness, on the top of the Catocin Mountain after midnight. Finally, on July 18 the regiment was released from the pursuit and the men gratefully started for home. They were mustered out in Brattleboro, July 30, 1863.

The war continued for another two years and the casualties for Mt. Holly continued to mount with the final tally being:

Mount Holly Casualties

Killed in Action	1
Died of Disease	19
Accidental Death	1
Died in service	3
Died of wounds	2
Died in prison	1
Total dead	<u>27</u>
Discharged for disability	13
Discharged for wounds	3
Total discharged	<u>16</u>
Wounded Returned to Duty	<u>24</u>
Total Casualties	<u><u>67</u></u>

Of those wounded and returned to duty, 25% were wounded more than once. (continued on page 3)

During the course of the war, six soldiers were taken prisoner, of whom five were paroled and returned to duty. The sixth, John Clark, died and is buried at the infamous Andersonville Prison in Georgia.

Francis P. DeVine Jr.

Education Committee News

The museum has been very involved in supporting and enriching education in the community. Grades K through 6 all came to the museum this year. Because the third grade Social Studies program is Mount Holly Studies, there were two programs for the third grade, one in the fall and another in the spring. The new program we added this year was for the sixth grade. The program is Making a Living in Mount Holly. This program focuses on work other than farming. Also Dennis Devereux went to school and presented three programs to the sixth grade.

The winners of the **Historical Writing Contest** read their pieces and received their cash prizes on June 15th. The winners this year are as follows:

Grade Three

- First Place - Sadie Kobak**
- Second Place – Trinity Nye**
- Third Place – Connor Lopiccolo**

Grade Four

- First Place – Hailey Pierce**
- Second Place – Josh Cohen**
- Second Place – Aisy Kelley**

Grade Five

- First Place – Greg Eaton**
- Second Place – Claire Alosi**
- Third Place – Abby Crowley**

Grade Six

- First Place – Emily Perham**
- Second Place – Logan Hill**
- Third Place – Jarrett Staples**

The graduating sixth grade students were given a student membership to the museum and James Holden's Book, Mount Holly, Its Early Days at graduation.

At the recent Black River High School Scholarship Awards, Alexis Palmer was recognized by the Museum.

The Historical Society also has financially supported Marc Turco, Aiyanna Forton and Jacob DeArruda, the Mount Holly Students from Black River High School who represented Vermont in the National History Project Competition.

Pictured below are the kindergarden students at Perkins House



Judy Nevin, Education Committee

Thank You Scott Crawford

There is a kind and generous member of our Mount Holly Community who works quietly, thoughtfully and artistically on many of our local gardens. He does so because, as he says, "I'm a member of this community and just want to contribute what I can." Scott designed the gardens at the Perkins House Museum and Mary VanDyke's Memorial Garden at the Community Center/Library. He also did all the stone work on the Memorial Garden and maintains all of these gardens every spring and fall with his wonderful crew.

Come see his work on the gardens at the Star Lake beach, Perkins House, and Mary VanDyke's Memorial Garden. (continued on page 4)

We want to thank Scott for his generosity of spirit and the thoughtful giving of his time and materials for the past 5 years. He owns **SaltAsh Nursery** in Mount Holly. Be sure to visit him there.

Dottie Finnerty



Perkins House

FESTIVAL OF LIGHTS

ANNUAL BENEFIT DINNER AND AUCTION

DECEMBER 7th, 2013

THE ROUNDHOUSE AT JACKSON GORE

The Festival of Lights is a very successful fundraiser for the Museum. We are fortunate to have so many kind and generous donors and supporters of this event, which typically takes place at Okemo Mountain's Jackson Gore in December. It's a wonderful and exciting way to begin the Holiday season. Local talented artisans, restaurants and businesses have been participating in this event for many years. The one of a kind beautifully decorated wreaths, which are locally produced, are always in demand, creative gift baskets and donated bid items for the auction are always greatly appreciated.

The monies raised help support and maintain the buildings, but more importantly it supports the educational programs to Mount Holly Students and other local schools. We sponsor and offer scholarships to students at Black River High School Senior Awards, donate to History Day, Farmfest and provide assistance to other charitable needs.

The Festival of Lights is scheduled for December 7, 2013 at Jackson Gore. **So, please, mark your calendars and we look forward to seeing you there! Thank you for your continued support!**

Linda Guerrero and Doris Reiser
Festival of Lights Co-Chairs

Vermont State Fossil Report

The Museum Board hopes to have our mammoth tusk designated as the state's co-fossil. The tusk and tooth were discovered in 1848 when workers unearthed them near a swampy area while trying to reach bedrock to build the railroad tracks. Not knowing what to do with their find, they gave the fossils to the University of Vermont.

Board member and state representative, Dennis Devereux, is the lead sponsor of House Bill H.188 that would have the tusk and tooth adopted as the state's co-fossil, and join the Charlotte whale which was designated in 1993. The whale, discovered in 1849, likely got confused in the St. Lawrence River area and ended up being grounded on the shore of Lake Champlain.

Dennis presented the bill to the General, Housing and Military Affairs Committee last February, and understood that many important bills were already assigned to them. Our hope is that this committee can finalize the bill next year.

Railroad enthusiasts are very familiar with the discovery, and know that the last spike was driven in a ceremony in December 1849 near the Summit Station to complete the Burlington to Boston section. The story goes that the mayors of both cities brought water from Lake Champlain and Boston Harbor which was poured onto the engine's cow catchers and they then proceeded to drink rum.

The tusk and a cast of the tooth are on permanent loan and displayed at the Perkins House. We plan to erect a state historic site marker to commemorate finding the fossils, the adoption of them as our state's terrestrial fossils, and the driving of the last spike.

2013

MUSEUM SUMMER SCHEDULE

2013

Museum Open For Browsing July and August ~ Saturdays 12 - 2 pm and Sundays (after program) 2 - 4 pm
Note Special Times on Calendar. All Programs, unless otherwise noted, begin at 2 pm.

Saturday, July 6th Open for browsing before and after the parade, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.
Sunday, July 7th Open for browsing, 2 – 4 p.m.

Saturday, July 13th Open for browsing, noon to 2 p.m.
Sunday, July 14th **Village Cemetery Walk with Dennis Devereux** at 2 p.m.
Meet at Perkins House.

Saturday, July 20th Open for browsing, noon to 2 p.m.
Sunday, July 21st **1830-1840 History Talk by Dennis Devereux** at 2 p.m.
Perkins House

Tuesday, July 23rd **Annual Meeting...Pot Luck Dinner and Program** 6 p.m. at the Odd Fellows Hall in Belmont

Saturday, July 27th Open for browsing, noon to 2 p.m.
Sunday, July 28th **Stenciling Talk by Nancy McKeegan** at 2 p.m. Perkins House.
Tuesday, July 30th **Unpopular Mammals Talk by Peter Smith** at 7 p.m. Perkins House.

Saturday, August 3rd Open for browsing, noon to 2 p.m.
Sunday, August 4th **Mystery Tour with Dennis** at 2 p.m. Meet at the Blacksmith Shop.

Saturday, August 10th **“FARMFEST”** Village Green and Perkins House noon to 4 p.m.
Sunday, August 11th Open for browsing

Saturday, August 17th Open for browsing, noon to 2 p.m.
Sunday, August 18th **Cheese making Talk by Ken Hart** at 2 p.m. Blacksmith Shop.

Saturday, August 24th Open for browsing, noon to 2 p.m.
Sunday, August 25th Rain date for cemetery walk with Dennis at 2 p.m.

Saturday, August 31st, **Baked Ham Fundraising Dinner** at the Odd Fellows Hall 5 p.m.

Visit our website: www.mounthollyvtmuseum.org

Join us on **FACEBOOK**

Mount Holly Community Historical Museum

In Memoriam

Elise Durr The Mount Holly Historical Society mourns the loss of board member, Elise Durr. Elise served on the board for many years. She was one of the creators of the very successful program, now known as FarmFest. Her gentle spirit and creative work ethic will be greatly missed.

Richard Nye He was an enthusiastic supporter and participant of our projects and events. He and his wife, Pat were the very first to give the museum a donation toward our expansion and renovation project at Perkins House when it was still only a model and dream! He followed that donation with several more very generous gifts that helped not only fund that project but inspired others to give, as well.

2013 Summer Highlights

Everybody loves a Parade and the summer season at the Museum begins on Saturday, July 6th, the same day as the annual Town Parade and BBQ that celebrates Independence Day!

The museum will be open for browsing before and after the parade from 10 am until 1pm. The museum will also be open on Sunday, July 7th from 2-4 pm. There is a new cheese vat display in the Blacksmith shop and the commemoration of the 150th anniversary of the Civil War continues with the Civil War Display at Perkins House. Featured are artifacts used by Mount Holly soldiers during the war.

Mount Holly Historian, Dennis Devereux, will lead a Walking Tour on Sunday, July 14th, of the large Mechanicsville Cemetery in Belmont. On July 21st Dennis will present another chapter of Mount Holly history in his continuing series that focuses on the 1830-1840 period. On Sunday, August 4 Dennis will lead a Mystery Tour...clue...."earliest roads".

On Sunday, July 28th, at 2 pm Nancy McKeegan, will present a program about stenciling techniques. Her wonderful work can be enjoyed at the Library and in Perkins House.

Learn more about the not so cute and cuddly animals found in the Mount Holly area. "Unpopular Mammals" is the title of the presentation by Natural Historian, Peter Smith. This is an evening program.

On August 10th the tradition of "FARMFEST" continues with sheep shearing plus textile exhibits and hands on demonstrations.

Crowley Cheese maker, Ken Hart, will discuss the art of cheese making on Sunday August 18th.

Saturday, August 31st,
Baked Ham Fundraising Dinner
at the Odd Fellows Hall
Labor Day Weekend. First seating at 5 pm.
All You Can Eat ~ Served Home Style.
Adults \$10 ~ Children 11 and Under \$5.

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