

Vol. 8 No. 2

Spring 2016



Provisions

Newsletter for the Lebanon Historical Society



Programs & Events



• Sunday, March 13 •

1 pm—4pm

Antique Appraisal Day

Local professionals will provide history and value estimates.
\$5 per item or \$12 for 3 items.

Limit of 6 items.

No written estimates.

All proceeds to benefit the Lebanon Historical Society
Snow date: Sunday, March 20

• Wednesday, March 16 •

7pm

History Book Club Discussion

“Nothing Like it in the World”
Open to the public
Refreshments

• Monday, March 21 •

6:30pm

“Let’s Talk Vegetable Gardening”

Details and Techniques

Speaker: Bryan O’Hara from Tobacco Road Farm.

Co-sponsored by the Lebanon Garden Club. Free to members of the Historical Society and Garden Club. All others \$4.
Refreshments

• Friday, April 8 •

6pm – 8pm

“Remember When”

Friday Night Open House for Lyman Graduates 1960-1985

View our new exhibit & browse through your old yearbooks.

Enjoy our refreshments or bring your own!



Events continued on Page 4

Indentures in Lebanon

By Donna Baron

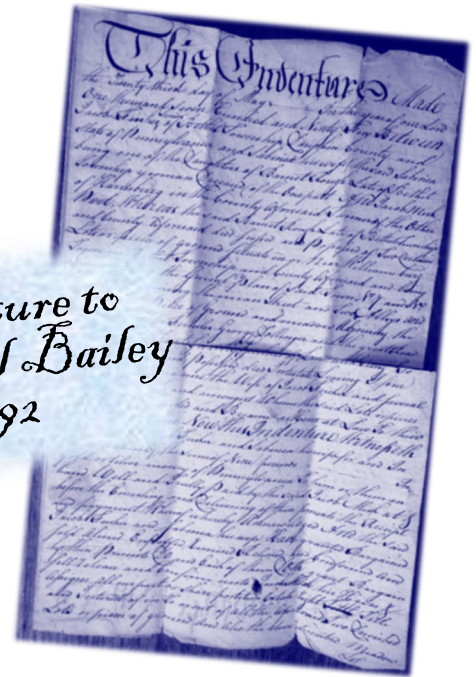
From the State Archives – tracing a poor Lebanon family in the 1790s

On March 19, 1792, Lebanon’s selectmen bound six year old “Jonathan Demmon” as an apprentice to Samuel Bailey. This indenture, which Lyman Memorial High School student Brendan Ruckdeschel discovered while working on his senior project, opens a window on one of Lebanon’s needy mixed-race families. This document also sheds light on a little-remembered part of Lebanon’s education and welfare systems during the 18th and early 19th centuries.

The indenture describes Jonathan as “a poor mulatto male child of Lebanon, son to a Negro man named Pomp, late of Lebanon deceased; by his white wife.”

This unusual set of circumstances suggested that there could be further information about this family in town records, although finding such records is usually a time consuming and sometimes frustrating process.

Fortunately, when investigating Lebanon



Indenture to Samuel Bailey 1792

families of color before 1860, *Black Roots in Southeastern Connecticut 1650-1900* by Barbara W. Brown and James M. Rose, is an invaluable resource. Through years of detailed research, the authors collected

Continued on page 7

**Calling all members to the
50th Annual Meeting
of the Lebanon Historical Society on
Sunday, May 1, 2016**

4:00pm to 6:00pm

Annual business meeting begins at 4:00pm

*Agenda to include: President’s, Treasurer’s & Museum Director’s reports,
Election of Board Members and Bylaws change.
Business meeting followed by a special program celebrating our 50th Anniversary.*

***Members are invited to stay after the meeting to enjoy
refreshments and conversation.***

**The mission of the
Lebanon Historical
Society**

*To encourage a sense
of community, the
Lebanon Historical
Society connects
residents and visitors
with the people, places,
objects and stories
of the Town's past.*

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Margaret McCaw

Ex officio

Alicia Wayland

Museum Director

Donna Baron

From the President

Glenn Pianka

It is a unique challenge to lead a historical society "forward" into the future when our focus and objectives are generally looking "back" at the past. In this, my last printed President's Message of my two terms in office, I must say that I am so proud to be in this seat at this ONE HALF CENTURY milestone. It was a unique group of Lebanon residents who sat down in 1965/66 to plant the seeds of what we now see. We just lost one of those charter members who apparently never lost the vision and bequeathed an admirable gift for our mission.....to me, an attest of love and commitment.

One of my major concerns for our society was its long-term viability. Working hard with our Trust administrators, finance committee and other board members, we are now diligently monitoring the long-term finances, a service formerly performed by our most generous benefactor. Coupled with shorter termed strategic planning, we continue to plot the future of our most outstanding assemblage.

My very first President's Message referred to my "dream project".....that of the Beaumont House being moved to the Historical Society property. That dream, and many others, have come to fruition. Most of you know how much I enjoy work and the satisfaction of creation.

I have stood outside, countless times, with numerous individual members and surveyed with great pride, the "campus" as we have come to know it. My hand has touched every one of the physical buildings that we see and it will be a challenge for me to not have some major project underway.

Putting the physical plant in the situation that it is was most satisfying; however, a house cannot become a home without details, a heart and spirit, and devoted individuals to "keep the home

fires burning." That is the challenge that I know is being met by our most dedicated staff and members, and with God's blessing, I know that Lebanon's story will be preserved and told for many years to come. I thank you all



for one of the greatest privileges of my life.

Welcome to our newest members

Bronze Benefactor

Ron Bartizek
of Pennsylvania

Anthony Neigel
of Norwich

Family

**Mr. & Mrs. Robert J.
Gaucher , Jr**
of Gales Ferry

Individual

Jim Heatherly
of Lebanon

Christine Lataille-Santiago
of Windham

Senior

Leela Aitcheson
of New York

Michael Harris
of Lebanon

Michael & Dixie Goodwin
of Lebanon

Beth & Lou Iacampo
of Lebanon

Walter Stebner
of Lebanon

Director's Message

Donna Baron

"This is NOT what I expected." "What a wonderful historical society." "Our historical society is nothing like THIS!" There are many wonderful aspects to my job as Museum Director and one of the best is being able to serve as proxy for Lebanon and its Historical Society when visitors express their surprise and appreciation for our organization, museum building and historical setting. That Lebanon, a small rural town, not only has such a rich heritage but also has such a vibrant and engaged Historical Society comes as a surprise even to neighbors from surrounding communities.

The compliments that we hear while working at the Museum really belong to all the local residents whose vision foresaw today's organization and whose hard work made it possible. Their imagination and perseverance made this one of the best historical societies in the state. The Historical Society incorporated fifty years ago has become a well-deserved source of pride for the town. Lebanon is a special place with remarkable citizens and this is an unusual historical society.

Our dedicated volunteers are the most important component of the Historical Society's growth and success. For fifty years, several generations of Lebanon volunteers have planned and run the annual outdoor Antiques Show. Once a common warm weather feature across the state, our show is one of only a handful still continuing. This event, which was created to raise funds to build a museum, still provides a major source of operating income for the Historical Society.

As we all celebrate the Lebanon Historical Society's fiftieth anniversary, I hope you will all visit the Museum, attend a program and browse the Antiques Show to help us launch our second fifty years with as much enthusiasm as our founders did in 1965.



The first Historical Society president Mrs. Eleanor Casey hands gavel to incoming president Paul M. Wyeth.

Photo from Willimantic Chronicle

On August 18, 1965 Henry Aspinall, Clarence Geer, James & Arlene McCaw, Carolyn Wentworth, Jean McArthur, Mr. & Mrs. Jared Hinckley, Joseph Pierz, Mr. & Mrs. Leslie Chase and Paul Wyeth held a meeting to organize a local historical society. Officers were elected in September 1965 and bylaws adopted in October. The Lebanon Historical Society was incorporated in July 1966. We are now celebrating our 50th anniversary.

Trivia Answer:

On July 15, 1799, a huge hail storm in Lebanon, Bozrah and Franklin wrecked house windows and roofs and destroyed crops and orchards, bringing down over 2,000 apple trees in Lebanon alone.

Would you be willing to sponsor our newsletter?

Every issue of the newsletter costs \$300 to produce and mail. We are always in need of full or partial sponsorship. If you are interested please contact us at 860-642-6579.

Contact Us:

The Lebanon Historical Society
P.O. Box 151
Lebanon, CT 06249

860-642-6579

**museum@
historyoflebanon.org**

**www.
historyoflebanon.org**

Museum Hours:

Wed. thru Sat.
12pm to 4pm

Research Library
by appointment.

Calendar Of Events



• Sunday, April 17 • 2pm

“Puzzle Jug, Mug & Bowl”

Presenter: Rick Hamlin,
historical potter.
Members free.
Non-members \$2
Refreshments

• Sunday, May 1 • 4 pm—6pm

50th Annual Meeting of the Lebanon Historical Society

Agenda to include:

*President's, Treasurer's &
Museum Director's reports,
Election of Board Members,
Bylaws change, Business
Meeting, followed by a special
program celebrating our
50th Anniversary.*

***Members are invited
to stay after the meeting
to enjoy refreshments
and conversation.***

• Saturday, June 11 • 10am—3pm

“Second Saturday”

Our free fun-filled family day.

Take a ride in an antique
truck or car around the
Lebanon Green.

Watch demonstrations by
craftsmen of all types.

Lots of hands-on
activities too! This event
is free. Hot dogs and
hamburgers will be sold.



Events continued on Page 5

Roads: Goshen Hill Road, Goshen Hill Road Extension, East Hebron Turnpike, Horiska Road and Levita Road

By Rick Kane

A set of Lebanon road names that may seem to have no connection (no pun intended) but one Lebanon resident – Bill Brauch – offered an interesting theory once we announced our intentions to research the origin of Lebanon road names.

Goshen Hill Road is the easy one. It runs from Rt. 87, now Trumbull Highway, to the Goshen Hill section of Lebanon but making a curious stop at a “T” intersection with East Hebron Turnpike before taking a distinct right turn on its way up to Goshen Hill. Goshen Hill Society was centered here at the ‘T’ intersection of Goshen Hill Road and McCall Road where the original Goshen Society meetinghouse was located.

Goshen Hill Road continues to the intersection of Rt. 16 and then continues as Goshen Hill Extension (Bill claims it to be a misnomer since it is still the same road), to the intersection of Levita Road. Bill is correct since the 911 Project in January 1990 when the name change was official and so adopted at the Town Meeting. Land records for homes along that stretch in the early 1900s referred to it as the ‘highway from Goshen to Hebron,’ and even earlier records from the 1700s referred to it as North Pond Road. Amston Lake was once known as North Pond.

Levita Road winds its way from Rt. 16 (on the edge of Colchester) to Rt. 85 in Hebron. Levita Road is named for Morris Levita who was born in Russia sometime between 1895 and 1900 (different years are listed in many

different sources) who arrived in the U.S. with his father Jacob and mother Annie in 1906. His residence in the 1930 and 1940 U.S. Census is listed as Hebron Road, Lebanon which I believe is now Levita Road. Levita Road is identified as such on the 1957 Connecticut Department of Transportation map of Lebanon. So Levita Road was named sometime between 1940 and 1957. Viewing land transfer records during this time period it appears to be still referred to as Hebron Road in July 1952 but Levita Road in a listing for July 1953. I found no record in Town Meeting minutes whereby the name was adopted as Levita Road during that 1952-53 time period.

Horiska Road begins at an intersection of Waterman Road almost opposite East Hebron Turnpike and winds its way to Bozrah whereby the name changes to Stanton Hill Road (the 1868 Beers map of Lebanon shows the road as directly opposite at the intersection of Waterman Road). A State of Connecticut Department of Transportation 1957 map of Lebanon identifies the road as East Hebron Turnpike. The Horiska family (or Horyzcka as originally spelled) originated in Europe (one source states Austria, another Poland) and came to the US in 1908-or 1909, again sources differ, but ended up in Lebanon. Land records indicate the farm land on the corner of Waterman and what we know today as Horiska Road was purchased by Wasyl Horyzcka from the estate of Isaac G. Avery on January 15,

Continued on page 11

Butchering

By Helen Bender

Village Hill was made up of thirteen German families who immigrated from the Ukraine in Russia in the early 1900s , and ten other families who



some were more capable in doing certain procedures. The fat was cut into small pieces and boiled to make lard. Some of the

Top and left: c. 1940 photos of the Laibrandt farm on Village Hill.

meat was boiled and canned; some smoked and some salted down in a



were Austrian, Polish, Jewish and Swedish. Most had small farms with a few cows, a team of horses, pigs, chickens, geese and ducks. Everyone had a large garden for their own use. Garden produce was peddled to individual homes in Willimantic. Milk was bottled and sold this way also. Incomes were very low but the families were self-sustaining, growing their own vegetables and meat.

Every fall after the weather turned cold, it was time to butcher their pigs for winter food. After the pig was killed, water which was heated in a huge/high black pot over an outside fire, the boiling water was used to scald the outer skin and scrape off all the hair. Now when we see a heavy black pot on someone's lawn with pretty flowers growing in it reminds us of those butchering days.

After the pig was gutted and then hung to cool, it was cut into serving pieces, ham, bacon, chops, hocks etc. Smaller pieces were either cut up for head cheese or ground up for various sausage. Many times families worked together to do this, since

crook. Every farm had a smoke house (none of your meats today have the wonderful taste and aroma that those smoke houses produced). Butchering day was a long tedious day but most was completed in one day except the clean up. I remember my folks would always spend the day (after the cows were milked) at the Gotlieb Wilhelm's house.

On that day I was able to take my lunch to school, this was a special treat for me since I lived across the street from the school and would always go home for lunch. The problem with this for me was I was afraid I'd miss something going on at school, so I'd gobble down my food and run back to school before kids had finished theirs. On butchering day at the Wilhelm's, I would be asked to eat my lunch with the other kids and not miss anything. I attended that school for six years, until the elementary school on Rt. 207 opened.

Calendar Of Events



• **Saturday, July 18 •**
5pm– 8pm

“An Evening at the Museum” gala

Wine & Beer tasting, silent auction and supper all held under the stars.
\$40 per person
\$75 a couple

By invitation only.

If you have not received your invitation by June 15th, please let us know by calling 860-642-6579.

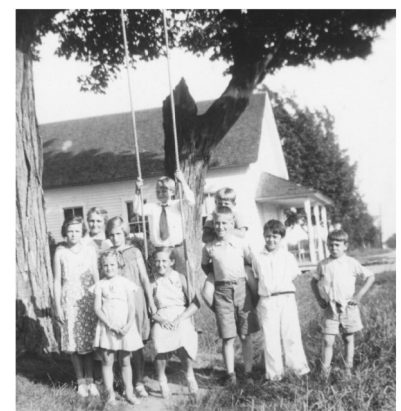
• **Sunday, September 11 •**

Croquet Picnic at the Beaumont House

Bring your own picnic lunch

Cold drinks & desserts will be provided.

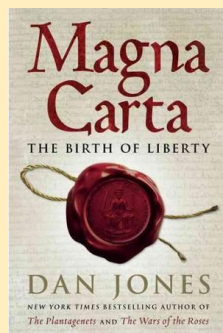
For both beginners and experienced players.



Helen Laibrandt Bender on far left with classmates outside near Village Hill school.

A Good Read

By Betty Forrest



Magna Carta: The Birth of Liberty

By Dan Jones

Eight hundred years ago in 1215, in a marshy field in Runnymede, England the first Magna Carta, a charter between King John and the Barons of England was hammered out. An autocratic and harsh king had been challenged by some of his Barons and Earls. Insurrection was rife. Taxes were high and whimsically set. Land and property was taken by the Crown. People had had it. A meeting was established in neutral territory to carve out demands. This first charter did not last long due to the machinations of King John. Due to circumstances the Magna Carta was altered in 1216 and in 1217. It did not create a democracy, as those were not democratic times. Rather, it served as a basis for constitutional law.

Magna Carta: Birth of Democracy by Dan Jones is a wonderfully written and interesting book of the times, circumstances, and characters of the period. It encompasses Kings Henry II,

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Sharing Stories about the Beaumonts

By Donna Baron

Like most early 19th century eastern Connecticut farm families, the Beaumonts did not record the details of their lives in letters or diaries. Historians, however, have collected and shared those few first-hand accounts. Knowing how other middling farm families lived and worked, we can imagine what life may have been like for the Beaumonts.

From Lucretia Beaumont's fictitious diary: March 1, 1806

The baby is cranky with the cold and damp and the little girls are not much help, but Lucretia is my second pair of hands. Two cows should calve in the next few days so milking and cheese making will start again soon. I hope we can finishing spinning last year's fleeces before dairying starts and I need to begin work on this year's vegetable garden. Perhaps this year with Lucretia's and Lucy's help, I can do a proper spring cleaning before sheep shearing.

Samuel has been checking fences and cutting dead wood out of the apple trees while trying to finish a few more barrels to sell. A bit of cash will be useful as supplies are running low at this time of year. Young Sam is talking again of moving to New York where his uncles William and Dan live. He thinks he'll do better there than here in Lebanon. Samuel does not favor this idea. He says Sam is needed to help on the farm here. The younger boys need to go to school this summer, but finding time for schooling is hard with all the work to be done.

For more than a year, the Interpretive Planning Committee has been working to open the Beaumont House for visitors. They've researched the Beaumont family, studied records about their furnishings and property and visited other well-interpreted historic sites. Objects inside the house are being carefully selected to

reflect this one Lebanon middle-class family from 1800 to 1810. The committee chose this time period because all nine Beaumont children had been born and all were still living at home. The goal has been to create a sense of the people and environment that shaped one of Lebanon's more famous sons, Dr. William Beaumont.

Lots of information has been collected and we are now looking for interpreters to use this data to make history come alive for visitors. Each docent will have a chance to use background material and interpreter training to develop a narrative tour. Volunteers will work with a partner on one or several Saturday afternoons between mid-May and Columbus Day.

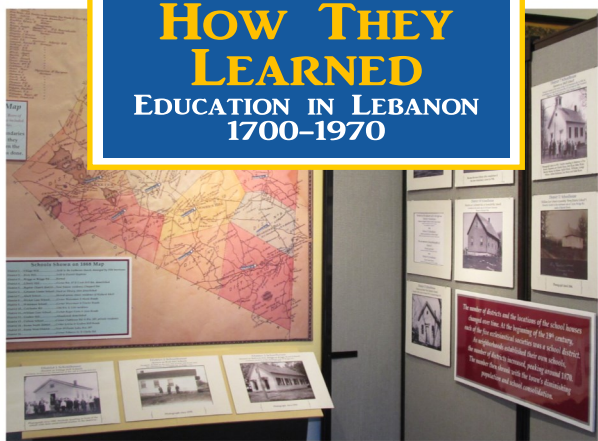
If you like learning about Lebanon's past, enjoy talking with visitors and would welcome a chance to use your imagination telling the story of this ordinary but special family, please contact an Interpretive Planning Committee member: Brian Bartizek, Dan Moore, Alicia Wayland, Marty Kendall, Rick Kane or Marianne Freschlin or get in touch with the Museum staff. Any of us would be delighted to talk with you about the project, becoming a volunteer and our plans for the summer.





Please stop in
to take a peak at our
newest exhibit

HOW THEY LEARNED EDUCATION IN LEBANON 1700-1970



Indentures in Lebanon

Continued from page 1

and indexed thousands of references in public and private records and accounts which they used to create genealogical profiles for thousands of Native and African American individuals and families. Brown and Rose had found Jonathan's indenture record and linked the "Demmon" surname in the document with records of Pomp "Deming," a more common spelling that would have been pronounced much the same way. The Deming family was occasionally mentioned in Lebanon selectmen's records. The scholars identified Jonathan as the son of Pomp Demming and Margaret Mason. Two of Jonathan's siblings, a brother Barret and a sister Dorothy were also bound out. In 1792, Dorothy was indentured to James Fitch Mason and in 1794 Barret, "a poor mulatto boy son of the Widow Peggy Pomp aged three years" was apprenticed

to Beriah Southworth.

Who was Pomp Deming/Demmon? Was Margaret Mason Pomp Deming's "white wife?" Was "Widow Peggy Pomp" the same person? What happened that caused Lebanon's selectmen to intervene and indenture these children?

Brown and Rose found that when William Williams (as Lebanon town clerk) recorded Pomp's death on March 26, 1791, the record indicated that Pomp (Pompey) had "at one time or another" belonged to Lt. Abel Buell and to Col. Joseph Fowler of Lebanon. In his business account books, Williams clearly identified Pomp as Elijah Mason's "Negro man" between 1767 and 1774. It is not clear whether Pomp was still enslaved at the time of his death, but his children would not have been because their mother was a

Continued on page 11

Continued from page 6 sidebar

Richard the Lionheart, and John. Pope Innocent III and the Catholic Church played a part. And the Barons and Earls were main actors on this stage. Jones has made these people come to life. The story is a living one, as the Magna Carta, though dormant for centuries, is used as the basis for many of the world's charters and our own Declaration of Independence.

Besides chronicling the historic events, Jones has included snippets of the lives of peasants and serfs, warfare, monetary worth, castle building, laws and their effects, and the super egos of those who caused the circumstances of the period. This was not a short time, but lasted through a number of kings. Included in this book is the text of the Magna Carta written in 1215, mini biographies the players of the time, as well as a succinct time line of events. However, as the context of the book covers such a breadth of time and events, it is worth a read.

I first heard about this book while listening to an interview of Dan Jones on NPR on the Diane Reems show. I found myself intrigued and decided to read the book. It was really a great way to spend some time and learn about something about which I knew very little. If you are interested, you can get the book at the Jonathan Trumbull Library.

Expand your knowledge of Lebanon's history by adding some of these books to your own library.

- *History of Windham County, v. 1*, by Ellen Larned, reprint
- *Dr. William Beaumont*, by Keith R. Widder
- *Lebanon, three centuries in a Connecticut hilltop town*, by George Milne
- *Lebanon, Images of America Series*, Arcadia Publishing, by Alicia Wayland, Ed Tollmann & Claire Krause
- *Hussars in Lebanon!*, by Robert A. Selig
- *En Avant with our French Allies*, by Robert A. Selig et al.
- *Around the Lebanon Green*, by Alicia Wayland, Photos by Grant Huntington
- *Lebanon Recalled*, by John Sutherland
- *Connecticut Signer: William Williams*, by Bruce P. Stark

These books and more are available in our gift shop. Stop in or call for prices.

Annual Committee Reports

Buildings & Grounds Committee: Art Wallace, Chair To begin I'd like to thank all the volunteers and staff members for all the help throughout the year. Without them the buildings and grounds would not look as good as they do. This year we were able to get new parking space curbing in place. The bollard lights along the driveway and patio were replaced with station lights that are consistent with the lights in the other portions of the parking area. This also provides more light on the patio.

Many "Thanks" to the volunteers who helped make the "seasonal move" of the patio tables and chairs, and erection of the tents, for the "An Evening at the Museum" a possibility. A special thank you also goes out to Ron Drum for providing additional mowing at the Beaumont House. This project has really started to look great, and part of that is attributed to the way the grounds look around the building.

This year, 2016, we will be looking at lighting changes in the multipurpose room, and other areas to provide proper lighting of those areas. We will also look at what it will take to improve the heating and cooling of the museum, as the present units age and need to be replaced.

Collections Committee: Dan Moore, Chair 2015 found the collections committee focused on the furnishing of the Beaumont House. During Interpretive Planning Committee meetings we analyzed the estate inventory of Samuel Beaumont and determined things that were in the house. This is a real learning process because frequently our 21st century concepts of how the house looked, are colored by our exposure of Colonial Revival decorative concepts. In many instances, house museums have been furnished with collections of fine antiques that probably were never in the house. We have tried to present the Beaumont House as accurately as possible which means losing some things and introducing others. Of course, as Collections Chair I love the opportunity (read excuse) to check out the local antique dealers. There has also been some refinement of The Pastors Library. We have also been very fortunate to receive donations from local long-time residents of articles with strong Lebanon provenances. Donations from the Geer and McCall families have added greatly to our archives to mention a few, and a loan from Geri McCaw to the Pastor's library is greatly appreciated. Brian Bartizek, John and Donna Baron and Marty Kendall to mention a few have been very generous to the Beaumont House. 2016, I am sure, will also be exciting...I happen to know of a very early chest that has been in Lebanon for probably 3 centuries, that is slated to find its way to the museum so keep watching...even more fun...c'mon down!

Community Events Committee: Jacy Worth, Chair It's great to be back on the LHS Board. Thanks to Keith LaPorte who has been so helpful as I adjust to my new role as Community Events Chair. We began the year with our annual float in the Memorial Day parade, always a crowd pleaser! Our Second Saturday event took place on a sunny day in June. Local artisans gathered on the museum lawn to present their specialties and display their wares, providing hands-on education and activities to the young and not so young. Rides in antique Model T's delighted many as they were driven around the Lebanon Green that day. In July, we held 'An Evening at the Museum.' The whimsical theme provided a colorful backdrop for an increasingly popular community gathering. Our annual Antiques Show was held on a beautiful September day. With the help of an enthusiastic sub-committee of LHS board members and many willing and able volunteers it was a great success and a lot of fun. Our Tree Lighting open house in December was well attended and featured tours of the Pastor's Library and newly re-located Beaumont House, which was warmed by a roaring fire. Children created special ornaments and guests were offered homemade gingerbread and mulled cider as well as the joy of listening to

Christmas Carols played and sung by Lyman Memorial H.S. students. We look forward to the community events planned for 2016 as we celebrate the Lebanon Historical Society's 50th year of existence!

It is a pleasure to work with our Board Members, staff and volunteers who all work diligently on various committees with the common goal of, as our Mission states, 'encouraging a sense of community by connecting residents and visitors with the people, places, objects and stories of the town of Lebanon's past'. Mission accomplished! Many thanks to all.

Exhibit Committee: Marianne Freschlin, Chair Thanks to the Herculean efforts of the Museum staff, Board members and many volunteers, the newest Gallery exhibit: "How They Learned: Education in Lebanon 1700-1970" opened along with the most recent display in the Multi-purpose Room, "Lebanon Fifty Years Ago," on a blustery Sunday afternoon in January. It never ceases to amaze me how much time and effort is spent planning and executing these engaging and insightful exhibits. Sometimes things go as planned, sometimes things are improvised. Just when you think you've got it down pat, another challenge presents itself and begs for a solution. The exhibits are never static, improvements are continuously being made, this ensures that there is always something new to see. If you have yet to see the museum's newest exhibits, please find time to do so, you may spot a friend or family member in one of the Lyman Memorial High School yearbooks that are available for perusal or recognize yourself in one of the many photographs featuring the High School or one of Lebanon's one-room school houses. As Exhibits Chair, I am so privileged to have worked with the talented group of people responsible for this and prior exhibits and encourage anyone with an interest in helping with the development or installation of future exhibits to get in touch with the Museum today!

Finance Committee: Al Vertefeulle, Chair While the Finance Committee is responsible for oversight of all Society finances, the major responsibility rests with Budget and Investments. Budget preparations begin in February with requests from Committee Chairmen and the museum director. The director and museum staff are available to meet with each chairperson to discuss budget requests. The working document is then reviewed by the finance committee to compare requests and anticipated revenue, with a final document presented to the full board in April for their approval and presentation at the annual meeting in May. The committee reviews monthly income and expenditures, as well as investment and endowment requests and status. There are meetings and phone discussions with representatives of the Adams Family Trust concerning requests for and updates on specific projects.

Historic Buildings Committee: Brian Bartizek, Chair This past year the committee focused on the Beaumont House. The chimney was finished, walls built and walks put in. The interior was painted period appropriate colors by committee volunteers. The process of furnishing to the 1800-1815 era has begun. We are using items from the collections, but other items are needed to show how the family lived. Spring will find us planning the landscape around the house. A reproduction of a Lebanon hearse shed was built behind the house. This was an Eagle Scout project, guided by Glenn Pianka. Our other focus for the winter and spring will be continued work on scripts for short videos about the Pastor's Library and the Beaumont House.

Membership & Development Committee: Mary Lou Beckwith, Chair In keeping with the Society's vision of "sharing an awareness of local history and providing our community and visitors with connections to the past," the Membership Committee continues to encourage those far and near to join us in "an understanding of the present and a sense of responsibility for the future." The Committee is encouraged by its membership base and very appreciative of the support of both locals and those in other cities and states. We continue to solicit new members through mailings and by

Reading and talking about history for the fun of it!



Please join us for the Lebanon Historical Society history book club.

This informal group of readers meets every other month after reading an agreed-upon non-fiction book about a historical event, period or idea.

As a newly-formed group, we invite you to join us as we select books and share our thoughts and reactions in open and engaging conversation.

Each meeting features refreshments themed to the time period and/or topic of the book we've read.

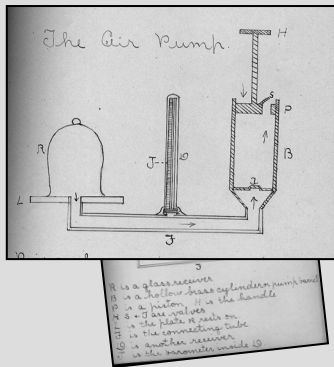
Look for book and meeting date announcements in *Lebanon Life*, on our website and Facebook page or by email. If you would like to be added to an advanced notice book club email list, please contact the Museum with your email address.

**For more information
call the museum
860-642-6579**

From our collection

In 1904, Dora Imogene Arnold graduated from Windham High School.

As a sophomore, three years earlier she took a physics course. Her hand-written physics notebook was donated to the Lebanon Historical Society by her youngest son, Oliver Manning.



According to Oliver, both his parents, Dora Arnold Manning and Ernest Kibbe Manning travelled to high school in Willimantic by train.

The classmates were married in 1906.

Going to high school, especially traveling out of town to do so, was not common in the 1890s or early 1900. Many children attended district schools through grade eight and did not continue their education. For a girl to make the daily trip into Willimantic represented a real commitment to higher education. Dora Arnold was even more unusual in her choice of courses, physics rather than just training to become an elementary school teacher.

Her neatly written notes and detailed diagrams reveal that Dora studied the laws of motion, hydraulics, energy and machines.

word of mouth, but would certainly appreciate any and all suggestions as to how to broaden our Society's membership total. We have revamped our membership forms a tad, sent "Welcome" mailings to new residents and along with creative ideas by staff and Committee Chairs have held programs to attract new audiences. My goal, before my term as Membership Chair expires, is to increase LHS's membership to 300 members. Please spread the word and help me reach this milestone. Will we find our 300th member in our 50th year?

Personnel Committee: Linda Heatherly, Chair The Personnel Committee is inactive with news this year due to our efficient, hard-working Museum staff. Their dedication is greatly appreciated!!

Nominating Committee: Ed Tollmann, Chair The following are the board positions to be filled at the annual meeting in May. All are two year terms 2016-2018.

| <u>Position</u> | <u>Candidate</u> | <u>Position</u> | <u>Candidate</u> |
|---------------------|------------------|--------------------|----------------------------------|
| President | Rick Kane | Exhibits | Marianne Freschlin |
| Vice President | Keith LaPorte | Historic Buildings | Brian Bartizek |
| Treasurer | Rob Slate | Nominating | Ed Tollmann |
| Buildings & Grounds | Art Wallace | Publications | Sandra Chalifoux |
| Collections | Dan Moore | At Large | Matthew Flegert & Margaret McCaw |

Publications Committee: Sandie Chalifoux, Chair First I want to thank the committee members, Betty Forrest, Alicia Wayland, Donna Baron, Alicia Lamb and Gracie Sayles, "the glue" behind the entire newsletter publication. The committee meets about once a month to plan the articles that will be featured in the next publication. "Provisions" is issued four times a year. The goal is to provide interesting articles relating to the history of this beautiful town we live in; whether it be someone's home, an event, roads and how they got their names, or a happening in Lebanon's history. We also communicate to the townspeople all the exciting programs, and exhibits that we have on display at the museum. This is the 50th anniversary of the Lebanon Historical Society, so many programs have been planned. We hope that you will attend. In order to defer the cost of the newsletter, we offer sponsorships. The newsletter is available to our members via e-mail if interested. The Society's web site displays past issues as well. And last but not least, if you would like to sponsor an edition of "Provisions", suggest an idea for an article, or be part of our committee, please call the Museum.

Programs Committee: Suzanne Yeo, Chair Who could predict that a program "Udder Destruction" about the role of dairy farming in the creation of conflicts in the 1600's would pack our multi-purpose room to overflowing! This is what makes planning programs for the museum so much fun! We try to provide a variety of programs that will appeal to a wide range of people. This year we have had many programs, including ones presented by our State Historian, Walter Woodward, the State Archaeologist, Brian Jones and historian Bruce Clouette. Along with offering a program about once a month, we also sponsor annual events such as winter holiday spray making workshop, and hosting the Tree Lighting Open House with a craft provided for the visiting children.

Our committee is committed to find interesting, entertaining and educational programs for the community and other visitors. We are looking forward to upcoming programs on Needlework Samplers in October, a program on the history of croquet with a croquet event and picnic in back of the Beaumont House in September, and a fun "Stew and Story" program in November at the Log Cabin hosted by Walter Woodward who will present some of his favorite Robert Frost poems and will invite participants to share their favorite stories and poems. Watch for details in future "Provisions." We look back on another successful year of programs and look forward to an exciting year ahead.

Indentures in Lebanon

Continued from page 7

free white woman. In Connecticut, as elsewhere, children inherited their mother's status, not their father's.

The authors of Black Roots noted Pomp's marriage to "Margaret _____, a white woman" as recorded in miscellaneous Lebanon records. Margaret

left Lebanon sometime in 1794 and led a transient life for the next twenty-five years. In 1820, age 80, she was living in Tolland, but left that town and disappeared in records shortly thereafter. Well-recognized 18th century African and Native American naming patterns support

the supposition that "Margaret Mason," wife of Pomp Deming and "Widow Peggy Pomp" were the same person. A husband or father's given name was sometimes adopted by a child or widow as a surname after his death.

With no parents to support and care for the children, the town of Lebanon stepped in. Bound to Samuel Bailey, Jonathan Deming was to be "instructed in farming and all kinds of man's labour commonly necessary and performed by farmers and to read and write if he be capable to learn..." Barret was bound

"... bound to Beriah Southworth who was required to "teach the said apprentice the art of husbandry, provide for him sufficient food & raiment in sickness & health, teach him to read & write if he be capable of learning."

to Beriah Southworth who was required to "teach the said apprentice the art of husbandry, provide for him sufficient food & raiment in sickness & health, teach him to read & write if he be capable of learning." The terms of Dorothy's indenture to James Fitch Mason have not yet been located.

Jonathan, Dorothy and Barret do not seem to be included in Lebanon town or church records except for these indentures. However, their parents and the men who at different times owned Pomp Deming have their own intriguing stories to tell in a future issue of Provisions.

Roads

Continued from page 4

1918. Horiska Road was so named as part of the 911 project and adopted at a Town meeting on January 11, 1990.

So now, herein lies Bill's presented theory: today, and on any Lebanon map from 1868 on, you can follow the road originating in Bozrah to its end point of East Hebron, by traversing today's so-named roads as Horiska Road to East Hebron Turnpike to Goshen Hill Road to Goshen Hill 'Extension' to Levita Road (turning right) to Rt. 207 (turning left) and this explains how the somewhat isolated road named 'East Hebron Turnpike' and is seemingly nowhere near East Hebron is so named. Following these roads on the 1868 F. W. Beers map of Lebanon is even more supportive of Bill's theory.

As we continue to identify the source and origin of road names in Lebanon we hope to have more families provide the history of road names associated with their ancestors. Anyone who has such information is welcome to send it along and we will include one per issue or as space allows, as we have over the last year or so.

Oral Histories In Our Collection

Farming

Frank & Janice Bartizek
Ed Bender
Russell & Jonica Blakeslee
Charles & Eva Brewster
William Brewster
Delton Briggs
Robin Chesmer
Richard Cummings
Dorothea (Dolle) Fischer
Harry & Helen Flegert
Joseph Fortin
Dorothy Goldstein
Betty Grant
Meyer Himmelstein
Irving Sol Kiotic
Claire Krause
Harold & Arnold Krause
Harold Leibman
Ellen Macauley
Oliver Manning
Arlene McCaw
Saul & Clara Mindel
Merton Pultz
Mark Sellew
Helen Szajda

Veterans

By Jim Motyka
Stanley Baran
Kenneth Benson
Edward Bigenski
Ernest Brisson
Eugene Brisson
Joseph Brisson
Frederick Buckley
John Champe
Dorothea (Dolle) Fischer
Elmer Fischer
Morgan Himmelstein
Dr William Jahoda
Norman Kuzel
Sebastion LaBella
Jean Lafontaine
James Mello
John Musial
Eugene Olewine
Joseph Russo
Ernest Watras

*Please consider
sponsoring the next issue.*

Provisions

History Trivia Question: What destroyed over 2000 apple trees in Lebanon in 1799? See page 3 for the answer.

“Second Saturday” Saturday, June 11

10am - 3pm

*If you’ve never been to our
“Second Saturday” Event
You just don’t know
what fun is!*



Did you graduate from Lyman High
between 1960 and 1985?

If so, you are invited to a
“Remember When”
Friday Night Open House
Friday, April 8
from 6pm—8pm

Bring along a classmate
and take a stroll down memory lane
in our new exhibit.
Laugh at your photos as your thumb
through yearbooks.

Finger foods and beverages provided
or
bring your own !

Saturday, July 16, 2016

*Save
the
Date*

**Your
invitation
to**

**will be
in the mail
in early
June.**

*An Evening
at the Museum*

Respond early ! Last year’s event sold out.