

SANFORD SPRINGVALE HISTORICAL SOCIETY



NEWSLETTER

Spring 2015 VOL 10, NO. 1

Historical Society Purchases the Historic Goodwin House

In June 2014, the Society took a bold step to assure its future needs by purchasing the Goodwin House next door to the Historical Museum. The purchase was made possible by the generosity of two members of the Society's Board of Directors. Built in 1899 by Edmund E. Goodwin, the house was owned by his family until purchased by the Society. It is a classic example of Queen Anne architecture and all of its ornate features have survived untouched. The interior of the ground floor was also virtually untouched though in need of repairs. Our plan is to show the ground floor as it was when the house was built. The upper floors will provide much needed space for the storage of museum collections.



Thanks to a generous gift from David and Linda Pence, the exterior of the building was scraped and painted last summer. Updating the electrical wiring will soon be complete. Some 1899 ceiling fixtures were still in place and have been retained. The heating system has been transformed thanks to a grant from the Gerard and Gertrude Genest Charitable Trust. Steve Vincent, who was responsible for restoring the Museum, painted the outside of the house and has been working on the ground floor rooms for the past four months.

The original parlor furniture, a gift from the family, has been restored and reupholstered thanks to the generosity of Muriel Poulin.



A grandfather clock, Chippendale desk and other pieces of 19th century furniture were recently acquired along with 19th century toys and games. The 1899 wallpapers in the parlor and the front hall are still in place and in superb condition. They have, of course, been retained. When the restoration is complete, the house will be a dazzling showplace for the community.

Local banks, businesses and residents have been generous in their support for this project. Major donors in addition to those already cited include the William Oscar Emery Trust, Sanford Institution for Savings, York County Federal Credit Union, Kennebunk Savings Bank, Jagger Brothers, H. A. Mapes, Evonik Cyro Llc., Industrial Development Corporation, Robert & Susan Riding, Sidney W. Emery, Jr., and Dorothy Littlefield Weber.

New Exhibit at the Museum

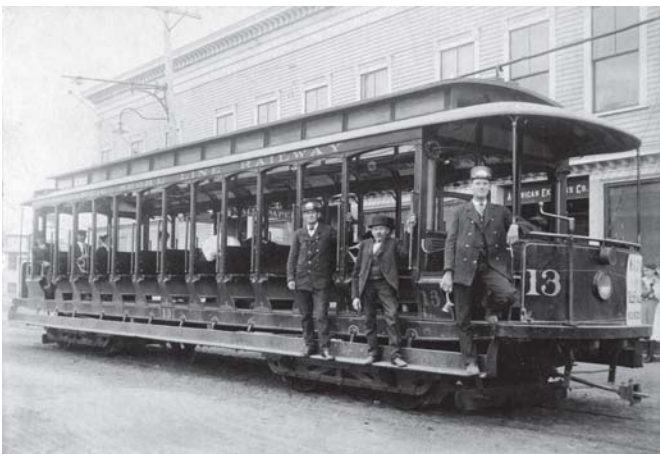
By Neisha McGuckin and Harland Eastman

A new transportation exhibit devoted to trains, trolleys and airplanes opened at the Sanford-Springvale Historical Museum on April 16th. It replaces the 2014 transportation exhibit that featured horse drawn vehicles, early automobiles and bicycles. The new display is the work of Stephen Eastman, who restored the seventy vintage photographs that form the exhibit, Neisha McGuckin, who was responsible for the coverage of aviation, and Harland Eastman, who wrote the captions for the train and trolley panels. Thomas Gagne has our warm thanks for mounting the wall panels that form much of the exhibit. This is an exhibit you will not want to miss. The photographic images are fabulous.



TRAINS – Service between Portland and Springvale on the Portland and Rochester Railroad opened in December 1870 and continued to Rochester the following year. Passenger and freight trains passed through

Springvale in each direction several times daily. During the first decades of the 20th century the Bar Harbor Express between New York City and Bar Harbor stopped in Springvale en route to Mount Desert. While passenger service came to an end in 1932 special trains were laid on in 1939 to carry 7,000 passengers to Old Orchard to celebrate the fiftieth anniversary of Goodall Worsted Company. Freight service came to an end in 1961 following the closing of the Goodall mills and the increasing use of trucks for moving freight.



TROLLEYS – Trolley cars entered the local scene in 1893 when the Mousam River Railroad commenced operations between Sanford and Springvale along River and Pleasant Streets. Service was extended to Cape Porpoise in 1899 under a new company, the Sanford and Cape Porpoise Railway. This in turn was taken over in 1906 by the Atlantic Shore Line Railway which extended trolley service north to Biddeford and south to York. All of these companies were organized by the Goodall Family. The Atlantic Shore Line was absorbed by York Utilities in 1923 and

thereafter the company's only trolley service was between Sanford and Springvale. This came to an end when a trolley nearly plunged into the Mousam River in 1947. Trolley service in Sanford was the last to be operated in the State of Maine.



AIRPLANES - One would scarcely suspect that the Sanford Airport is 85 years old! With archival materials collected over the years, the Sanford-Springvale Historical Society was able to tell the story of the airport and how it adapted to changes in the community over time. The exhibit highlights three pilots who oversaw the airport throughout its history: Lt. Winfield J.B. Young, Wescomb O. Temple and Victor Loranger.



Constructed in 1930 on land donated by Lela Goodall Thornburg, daughter of Louis B. Goodall, the Sanford Airport emerged at the time of Lindbergh, when the town leaders of Sanford believed such a facility might bring greater economic opportunity to the area.

Within a few years, the airport was leased to the Goodall Worsted Company, manufacturers of Palm Beach Suits, who hired Young and Temple to charter private airplanes between Sanford and its suit manufacturing plant near Cincinnati, Ohio, as well as factories in Kentucky and Tennessee.

In 1942, the U.S. Navy Department leased Sanford Airport, which became an auxiliary station to Brunswick Naval Air Station. During its tenure, the Navy extended the runways and constructed a control tower, a hangar, and barracks. Following the war, many of these structures remained even though the military vacated the site.



With the closing of the Goodall Mills in 1954, the Sanford Chamber of Commerce ran a public relations campaign showcasing the airport as a way to attract new businesses to the area. It caught the attention of David Thurston and Herbert Lindblad, engineers from Long Island who had formed Colonial Aircraft, producers of amphibious aircraft. In 1956, Colonial manufactured the C-1 Skimmer, the first airplane made in Maine, right here in Sanford. Other companies, Thurston Aircraft and Aerofab, Inc., succeeded Colonial in producing amphibious aircraft in Sanford-Springvale during the latter half of the 20th century.

Harland Eastman Talks About Classical Music at the Museum

Over the past year many notable performances have taken place at the Museum. Anastasia Antonacos gave a solo recital on April 12, 2014. She was followed by a program arranged by and devoted to the music of Dr. Morton Gold, former Professor of Music at Nason College. VentiCordi returned on August 1, 2014 with a program featuring the violin, viola, oboe, bassoon, and piano. This outstanding concert was followed on September 20 by an equally outstanding program of piano trios performed by Patrick Doane, violin, Benjamin Noyes, cello, and Anastasia Antonacos, piano. Pianist Laura Kargul gave a solo recital on October 10th. A brilliant trio took the stage on November 8th when Ani Kalayjian, cello, and Ilya Kazantsev, piano, were joined by Areta Zhulla, violin, a protégé of the legendary violinist Itzhak Perlman. Dr. Gold in his review said “their music making ... was incredible”. Renaissance Voices closed the 2014 season with works from the 16th century interspersed with a few more modern masterpieces of the Christmas season.

The 2015 season was ushered in on February 7th by pianist Laura Kargul and violinist Ronald Lantz whose musicianship is topped only by their sense of humor in discussing the works included in their program. This was followed on April 18th by the first appearance in Sanford or Springvale in twenty-eight years of the Portland String Quartet. One of the outstanding musical ensembles of the state, their performance proved once again that their musicianship is truly outstanding. VentiCordi returns on July 31 to be followed by an unusual ensemble of flute, oboe, violin and harpsichord playing Baroque music on August 28th. The outstanding violin/cello/piano trio that performed last September will return on October 3rd. On November 14th following a tour in Russia, Ilya and Eri Kazantsev return to Springvale to play a program of four-hand music and solo works.

Renaissance Voices will herald in the Christmas season sometime in December.

The Museum now has a happy relationship with Springvale's Bradford Block Bistro which provides delicious refreshments for our concert intermissions. They also give a dinner discount the evening of the concert for those holding concert tickets (or buying them at the Bistro). Thank you, Bradford Block Bistro.



Neisha McGuckin Discusses Concerts That Go Beyond Classical

On March 20th, the Historical Society welcomed Erica Brown and the Bluegrass Connection, a five-person bluegrass ensemble led by Erica Brown, a Lewiston-born fiddler.



The group stunned us with an energetic performance filled with Acadian reels, waltzes and bluegrass favorites. Garnering the highest concert attendance in over five years, this concert proved to be a huge success!



On Saturday, June 27, Mike McGinnis, a Sanford-born professional clarinetist who lives in New York, will perform with piano accompaniment in the first-ever jazz concert that the Historical Museum will host. Lauded by the *Village Voice* for his latest album, *Road*Trip*, McGinnis, who trained at the University of Southern Maine and the Eastman School of Music at the University of Rochester, is thrilled to return to his hometown to share his exceptional musical talent.

The Museum's Program Year in Review by Claire Auger

The Sanford-Springvale Historical Society began its program year with the annual meeting in September. Following the business meeting, members viewed an archival film shot during the opening of Cobb Stadium fifty years ago. The film resulted in animated conversation recalling many of Sanford's illustrious citizens as well as the football team, majorettes, band and other attendees present at the ceremony.

Program Year in Review (continued)

Joe Doiron, Great Works Foundation founder and staff member of the Sanford Technical Center presented the October program. His topic was the Fallen Veterans Project which will honor local veterans who lost their lives in WWII. He was joined by Patty Paradis, fourth grade teacher at Carl J. Lamb School and one of her students. Mrs. Paradis' class has been raising funds for the banners which will represent each of the 51 fallen soldiers. The ceremony was held May 14th at the Sanford Memorial Gymnasium.

The November program was given by Sanford's own Adam Cote. He elaborated on his recent deployment to Afghanistan as part of the 133rd Engineer Battalion. In addition, he recalled some of his experiences while serving in Bosnia and Iraq. Local citizens will recall how he gathered items here in Sanford to bring back to Afghanistan to benefit the needy people in that war-torn area.

A yearly favorite is the performance of the Sanford High School Chorus under the direction of Jane Kirton with accompanist Morton Gold. Along with the delicious food enjoyed by all, the Museum's Christmas Party is made even more joyful by the group's timely musical selections.

Paul Auger, local Sanford High School teacher entitled his January program, "The Prohibition Era in Sanford". As a result of a great amount of research, he was able to relate interesting and exciting stories of bootleggers and rum runners from that period.

Shapleigh resident Linwood Dall presented the February program on the subject of photography specifically drawing attention to the role of the snapshot in historic preservation. His program gave an overview of photography from the Eastman-Kodak era to that of the present day.

On Thursday, March 19, the museum hosted "Building a Healthier Sanford and Springvale" presented by Ed McGeachey, Chief Executive Officer of Southern Maine Health Care, and Patsy Aprile, SMHC's Chief Operations Officer. Mr. McGeachey traced the history of Biddeford's four original hospitals beginning in the 1900's as well as Goodall Hospital which had its beginning in 1928. Although there are many irons in the fire for the future of health care in Sanford and Springvale, Mr. McGeachey stated that concrete plans will be finalized by the end of the summer. He suggested that he could return to address the group at that time. The audience was most grateful for the information shared.

April saw the opening of the museum's new exhibit called "Trolleys, Trains and Airplanes." Members and guests delighted in revisiting the many early forms of transportation and the stories that ensued. The exhibit should be of special interest to the many schoolchildren who will be visiting the museum during the month of May.

In keeping with the 70th anniversary of the end of World War II which is being observed this year, the Monday, May 18th program features Richard Kruppa also known as "Ramblin' Richard." His "Songs of World War II, Wartime Songs and their Stories You Didn't Know" should provide an evening of interest and enjoyment. The program begins at 7 p.m.. Following the program, refreshments will be served. All are welcome.

All museum sponsored programs from September to May are open to the public and are free of charge.

Historical Museum to Participate in Sanford International Film Festival

“The Town that Refused to Die” will be shown Thursday evening, May 28th.

Thanks to the efforts of Allen Mapes, who tracked down this historic film, the Armstrong Circle Theater’s hour-long, November 29, 1955 program will be shown at the Historical Museum. “The Town that Refused to Die” concerns the efforts of our Chamber of Commerce to attract new industries and businesses to Sanford following the closure of Goodall-Sanford in 1954.

The schedule for the evening is as follows:

6:00 p.m. Opening Remarks by Mayor Tom Cote followed by historical comments by Harland Eastman.

6:30 p.m. “The Town that Refused to Die”

7:30 p.m. Reception and Intermission

8:00 p.m. Five year Anniversary Screening of Sanford Film Club’s Award Winning First Film “April’s Heart” with an introduction by Film Festival Director James Harmon. A question and answer session with cast and crew will follow the film.

9:00 p.m. Teaser: A Night of Sanford Films 2016

The Historical Museum is located at 505 Main Street in Springvale and is handicapped assessable. Come early. Admission is free but attendance is limited to 100 persons.



Upcoming Programs at the Historical Museum

Monday, May 18, 2015, Richard Kruppa also known as **“Ramblin’ Richard.”** “Songs of World War II, Wartime Songs and their Stories You Didn’t Know”, Historical Museum, 7:00 p.m.

Thursday, May 28, 2015 - “The Town that Refused to Die,” Sanford International Film Festival, Historical Museum, 6:00 - 9:00 p.m.

All programs are held at the Sanford-Springvale Historical Museum at 505 Main Street, Springvale (the former Springvale Town Hall). They are open to the general public, begin at 7:00 p.m., and no admission is charged. The Museum is handicapped accessible.

Upcoming Concerts at the Historical Museum

Saturday, June 27, 2015, 7:30 p.m.

Mike McGinnis, a Sanford-born professional clarinetist who lives in New York, will perform with piano accompaniment in the first-ever jazz concert at the Historical Museum.

Friday, July 31, 2015, 7:30 p.m.

VentiCordi, chamber music ensemble featuring string and wind instruments

Program to be announced.

Friday, August 28, 2015, 7:30 p.m.

Nicole Rabata, flute
Michael Albert, oboe & violin
Bruce Fithian, harpsichord

A program of Baroque music

Memberships in the Sanford-Springvale Historical Society are our most important source of continuing support. The museum and our programs depend on you!

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| <input type="checkbox"/> | Student \$10.00 per year | <input type="checkbox"/> | Lifetime membership per person \$400.00 |
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| <input type="checkbox"/> | Call me about how I can volunteer to assist the Sanford-Springvale Historical Society. | | |

Please make your check payable to the Sanford-Springvale Historical Society. Your contribution is tax-deductible. Mail your contribution to: Sanford-Springvale-Historical Society, P. O. Box 276, Springvale, ME 04083

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