Map of places in New England where Orleans County settlers originated

According to Abby Hemenway’s Vermont Historical Gazetteer, the earliest settlers in Orleans County moved into the area around the beginning of the 19th century. Most moved to Vermont from Massachusetts, with New Hampshire coming in second. Craftsbury and Greensboro were the first towns settled, and Jay was the last town settled. Many of the settlers’ friends or distant family members traveled with the settlers or joined them later on at their new home. Orleans County land was granted by the Vermont legislature to various Revolutionary War soldiers as a reward for serving in the military. Only a few of the grantees, such as General William Barton, actually lived on the land they were given. Ten of the towns were originally granted under a different name, but the townspeople voted years later to rename them; Albany was known as Lutterloh, Charleston was Navy, Coventry was Orleans, Craftsbury was Minden, Holland was Elysiana, Lowell was Kellyvale, Morgan was Caldersburgh, Newport was Duncansboro, Troy was Missisquoi, and Westmore was Westford.

A. Albany – Nathaniel Fairfield of Wenham, MA, 1797
B. Barton – Asa Kimball of Glocester, RI, 1795
C. Brownington – Peter Clark of Lyndeborough, NH, 1796
D. Charleston – Abner Allyn of Rehoboth, MA, 1802
E. Coventry – Samuel Cobb of Westmoreland, NH, 1799
F. Craftsbury – Ebenezer Crafts of Sturbridge, MA, 1790
G. Derby – Timothy Hinman of Woodbury, CT, 1794
H. Glover – Hannah Hoyt Parker of Lanesboro, MA, 1798
I. Greensboro – Ashbel Shepard of Newbury, VT, 1789
J. Holland – Eber Robinson of Somers, CT, 1802
K. Irasburg – Capt. Benjamin Burton of Norwich, VT, 1803
L. Jay – Robert Barter of Portsmouth, NH, 1809
M. Lowell – Major William Caldwell of Barre, MA, 1803
N. Morgan – Nathan Wilcox of Killingworth, CT, 1802
O. Newport – Martin Adams of St. Johnsbury, VT, 1793
P. Troy – Samuel H. Hovey of Lyme, NH, 1803
Q. Westfield – Rodolphus Reed of Montague, MA, 1803
R. Westmore – David Porter of Hartford, CT, 1796
EVENTS & PROGRAMS

Antique Engine Show, “Raise the Roof” Barbecue & Blue Grass Jam – Sat, June 14.
Also, Classic Cars, and Postcard Exhibit. Engine Show 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Chicken Barbecue starts at 4 p.m. Bring your instrument and join the Blue Grass Jam. Engine Show free, Barbecue $12 a plate, with proceeds going toward the museum’s new roof.

Annual Meeting & Picnic for Members and Volunteers – Sun, June 29, noon to 3 p.m.
Join us at the Samuel Read Hall House for family activities, a brief annual meeting and lunch.

Gala Benefit Auction – Thurs, July 17, 6–9 pm
Major fund raiser for the Museum at the Eastside Restaurant in Newport. Tickets $30. Delicious hors d’oeuvres, live music, live and silent auctions featuring unique gifts, services and experiences. A good time for a good cause!

Back Roads Readings – Sundays at 3 pm, Brownington Congregational Church, Reception at Hall House.

July 6 – Howard Norman & Ron Padgett
July 20 – Ellen Bryant Voigt
July 27 – Judith Chalmer, Miciko Oishi & Nadell Fishman
Thursday, August 7, 3 pm. At the Statehouse in Montpelier, Galway Kinnell: Celebrating a Life in Poetry


CLASSES – Bring Lunch if it lasts through noon

Learn to Fly-Fish – Wed, June 4 or Sat, June 7, 10 am–2 pm
Doug Swanson will teach two beginner classes. The morning will be an introduction to fly fishing and technique. In the afternoon, we’ll go outside to practice on our pond. If interested, students may then proceed to Brownington Pond for more advanced fishing. Cost is $25 or $20 for Museum members. Children 10+ years welcome with a parent.

Timber Framing – Sat, June 21 & Sun, June 22 (Two day course)
Join Makaio Maher, lead timber framer on our barn project, in building the timber frame for the small shed to be auctioned off at this year’s Gala Auction on July 17. The class will include square rule layout, hewing and cutting of timbers with only hand tools. Cost for the weekend course is $100 or $85 for members. Please bring a lunch.

Hooks & Hangers – Sat, June 28, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Courtney Mead will offer this blacksmithing class for beginners. Cost $75, $65 members, plus $25 materials

A Taste of Blacksmithing – Wed, July 16 or Wed, Aug. 2, 4-8 pm
Craig Marcotte will introduce the basics, as students make a simple project. Cost $50 or $40 for members.

Tong Making – Sat, July 26, 9 am to 5 pm
Courtney Mead will guide students with previous blacksmithing experience in making this most essential tool. Cost $75, $65 members, plus $25 materials.

Basket Making Classes with Carolyn Starr
All classes are from 10 am–2 pm. Cost is $25 or $20 for members plus a $25 material fee. Bring a lunch.

Sat, June 21: Beginners Garden Basket
Wed, June 25: Braided Sea Grass Basket
Sat, July 19: Brunch Bakery Basket
Wed, July 23: Bountiful Bread Basket

HERITAGE CRAFT WEEK – July 7 – 13

For details and registration, check our website www.oldstonehousemuseum.org or phone for a brochure

Painted Floor Cloths – Mon. – Fri. July 7-11, 9:30–12:00 (Five mornings) Instructor Martha Kinney. Cost $50 or $40. for members, plus a materials fee of $85.

Tin Punch – Mon. July 7, 1-4pm Instructor Martha Kinney. Cost $25 or 20 for members, plus a material fee of $45.

Theorem Painting – Tues. July 8, 1–4pm Instructor Martha Kinney. Cost $25 or $20 for members, plus a material fee of $25.

Stencil on Slate – Wed. July 9, 1–4pm Instructor Martha Kinney. Cost $25 or $20 for members, plus a material fee of $25.

**Rug Hooking for Beginners** - Thurs July 10, 1:00 pm–3:00 pm Instructor Carolyn Buttolph, Cost $25 or $20 for members

**Primitive Rug Hooking** - Fri July 11, 9:30 am–4:00 pm, Instructor Carolyn Buttolph, Cost $45 or $35 for members

**Handmade Paper** - Sat, July 12, 9:30–4:00, Instructor Martha Kinney Cost $30 or $25 for members, plus a materials fee of $25

**Primitive Rug Hooking** - Sat, July 12, 9:30 am – 4:00 pm, Instructor Carolyn Buttolph. Cost $45 or $35 for members

**Stone Wall Building Workshop** - Sat, July 12, 9:00am–4:00pm, Instructor Charles MacMartin. Cost $75 or $50 for members

**Complete Blacksmith Course for Beginners** - Sat & Sun, July 12 & 13, 9:00 am–5:00 pm, (Two day course) Instructors Courtney Mead, Wyatt Moseley and Lynn Lang. Cost $150 or $125 for members plus a $25 materials fee.

**Vinegar Grain Painting** - Sun, July 13, 9:30–4:00 pm Instructor Martha Kinney Cost $30 or $25 for members, plus a material fee of $40

---

**HERITAGE CRAFT WEEK PRESENTATIONS**

**Primitive Rug Hooking Demonstration** - Thurs, July 10, 10 am–12pm This traditional folk art originated in New England and Canada over two hundred years ago. Carolyn Buttolph will show how simple tools and materials are still used to make hand-hooked rugs for beauty and comfort in the home. Free.

**Marble dust and Sand Painting Presentation** - Thurs, July 10, 7pm–8:30 pm Martha Kinney will talk about this technique of ornamental painting that became popular in England and America during the middle 1800’s. Several are on display in the museum. Marble-dust drawing was primarily an amateur activity, widely practiced particularly in the northeast. The majority seem to have been done by women although famous artists like Albert Bierstadt also made some drawings. Free.

**Stones and Stories, “Stone Walls Past & Present”** - Sat, July 12, 5:30pm–7:00 pm Stone walls are a part of Vermont’s agricultural and social history. Charles MacMartin will explain how a wall’s structure, location, and condition are all clues to our past as well as evidence of changes in our landscape today. MacMartin will lead discussion and sharing about our state’s stone walls and the stories they hold. Free.

---

**Magical dark – Vermont History Expo 2014**

The Vermont History Expo 2014 will be at the Tunbridge Fairgrounds on June 21st and 22nd. The theme is “Artists and Artisans: Vermont’s Creative Heritage”. We will be exhibiting large reproductions of the five marble dust drawings, sometimes called sandpaper drawings, in the museum’s collection as well as a small demonstration of how the “sandpaper” is made.

Ground marble dust, which gives a unique sparkle to the drawing, is sprinkled over a wet surface of gesso, glue or white paint painted on thick paperboard and allowed to dry for a few days. Drawing with white chalk as well as with charcoal to create a marvelous deep black was perhaps one inspiration for the subjects frequently chosen: moonlit nights, magical views with a wizard, romantic castles and rivers in clouds.

The technique became popular in England and America in the mid 1800’s. Instruction books were popular and found in the library of every young lady of good breeding. Marble-dust drawing was primarily an amateur activity, widely practiced particularly in the Northeast. The majority seem to have been done by women, although famous artists like Albert Bierstadt also made some. Images were inspired by popular love stories, poetry, the graves of national heroes and the popular prints of Currier and Ives.

Our display at VT History Expo will also include three reproductions of oil paintings in the museum: a darkly beautiful landscape of Lake Willoughby and two charming primitive portraits of a boy and a girl.
Donations to the Museum
April 15, 2013 to April 15, 2014

Benefactors - $1000 or more
Edwin & Genevieve Gage Fund
Sid & Joan Huguenin
David & Gail Washburn
John M. Washburn III
Jane Westervelt

Sponsors - $500 to $999
Community Financial Services Group
Alex Khowylo
Paul & Sybil Moffat
Stephen K. Plume III
Lawrence & Mary Schwanke
Allen Rice Yale, Jr.
Michael & Margaret Ziegler

Patrons - $250 to $499
Worth’s Seamless
Rain Gutters, Inc.
Katie Anderson
Jean Davis
Patricia M. Emery
Daniel K. Herrick
Elisa Lemieux & Family
Doug & Sara McKenny
Ronald & Sandra McKenny
Mary McLellan
John Miller
Hope Seddon
Daniel & Kelly Taylor
Roland & Nancy Wentworth
Francis & Patricia Whitcomb

Supporters - $100 to $249
Austin’s Drug Store
Century 21 Farm & Forest Realty
Circle of Friends
Dr. Donald D. Dahlin, DDS
Disabled American Veterans Chapter #22
Eagle Eye Farm
Memphremagog Rentals
Vermont Cemetery Association
Willoughby Inn
Thomas & Cynthia Adams
William & Patricia Alley
Ned Andrews & Darlene Young
Warren & Lois Austin
Carol W. Birch
Richard & Nancy Birch
Roy S. Black
H. Jeffrey & Margaret Bray
Paul & Carol Brouha
Jim and Paula Burton
Paul & Rita Calkins
Chester A. Carpenter
Reed & Debora Cherington
Robert B. Chimileski
Gill B. Coates
Jean A. Condon
Conrad & Constance Daigle
Charles P. Davignon
Allen F. Davis
Timothy & Jan Delaney
Gregory Djranian
Ms. Susan Poisson Dollar
Mary S. Eddy
Alan B. Feltmarch
Stephen L. Ferber
Joan Fuller
Janice Dutton Gendreau
E. Jonathan Gissing
Larry & Sara Jane Gluckman
Tim Hamilton & Katherine French
Mark & Kim Hastings
Donald & Andrea Hunt
Christine W. Kohn
Steven Leeds & Jacky Leeds
Elizabeth Lewis
Gregory & Elizabeth Liacos
Mr. & Mrs. George M. Lovejoy Jr.
Dan Maclure
Irene T. McDermut
Jay & Camilla Mead
John & Janet Monette
Thomas & Christine Mosely
Jim & Janet Murphy
Michael & Deborah Murphy
Emily Newcomb
Maj. Gen. Francis Nye
James & Carol Oliver
William & Martha Peck
Evan & Linda Perron
Ms. Deborah L. Perry
Jean Swift Phinney
Arthur & Mary Louise Poisson
Ms. Elaine Schurman
Robert & Anne Simpson
Kermit & Gloria Smith
David & Jenny S. Stoner
David & Janice Stoughton
Mr. E. Howland Swift II
Claire Van Vliet
Peter & Agnes Vinton
Ralph Weston Jr.
Bruce & Claire Wheeler
Ms. Elsa Williams

Friends – Up to $99
UVM-Extension Master Gardener Program
Lake Parker Association
Ms. Eleanor E. Bailey
Edward & Irene Barna
Roy & Sue Barnett
Charles & Lois Barrows
Bruce & Mary Barter
Roger & Colleen Beauregard
Ronald & Barbee Bellefeuille
Dexter & Pauline Bennett
John & Virginia Bickford
Andrew W. Birch
Daniel & Natalie Bisbee
Henry & Elizabeth Bjorkman
Mr. Russell Blowers
Ms. Carolyn Boardman
Russ & Anita Bonnevie
John Borst
Janice Boyko
Virginia Boyle
Miriam G. Briggs
Gertrude A. Burke
William Kelly & Maria Calamia
Cindy Campbell
Howard & Stephan Cantor
Roger & Janet Cartee
Rupert & Muriel Chamberlin
Stanwood Churchill
Mr. Jesse Coe
Ms. Claire Comeau
Susan Cooley & R. Kim Berten
Ruel & Lisa Cowles
David & Claire Daggett
Mary Jo Davis
Randi Williams & Betsy Day
Cheryl Dinse
Martin & Maureen Doyle
Martha Drake
Dr. & Mrs. Ronald Ducham
Herbert & Virginia Dunbar
James & Mary Eby
John & Rachel Eby
Roger Lee Emerson
Steve J. & Pam Emmons
Peter & Corwyn Fagan
Wayne & Nancy French
Ms. Claudia Gibson
Ruth Gjesing
Pauline Glover
Larry & Sara Gluckman
Wistar & Ann Goodhue
Anne A. Grady
Jim & Debby Greulich
Jim Grimwood
Ms. Caroline K. Hagen
Richard & Cynthia Hall
Ms. Jane Hamburger
Geoffrey Harris
Aline Harter
George & Kathy Hemmens
William & Eleanor Hemmens
Mariel Hess
James & Helen Hildebrandt
Nancy Hill
Jean A. Hinson
Jennifer Hopkins
Donald Houghton
Edward & Susan Houston
Joel Howes
Kent & Cheryl Hustvedt
Henry & Linda Janiesch
Ruby Jenness
Beverly Johnson
Kate M. Kenny
Leland & Lesley Kinsey
Louise Kinsey
Steve Kipp
Ronald & Janet Kolar
Michael Ladd
Ann Lawless
Jack & Ann Lazor
Elizabeth Leroy
Norman L. Lewis
George & Mary Ellen Linton
Mr. & Mrs. Robert Litt
Mr. & Mrs. Joe Little
Janet L. Long
John Lovejoy
Richard & Arlyne Lovett
Alan & Susan Lukens
Thomas & Anne Lyons
Rose Mary Magrill
J. Scott & Donna C. Manley
Jonathan & Sally Margolis
Gerard & Judy Martel
Bernard J. Matthews
Martha Ann Wellman
Courtney D. Mead
Mr. & Mrs. E. O. Meilleur
Daniel & Judith Metraux
Carol M. Michaud
Mr. & Mrs. Robert Morse
Roger Nadeau
Gary & Nancy Olney
Ms. Phyllis Parrott
Sue Penhaloran
Andrew G. & Ernestine Pej
Ms. Lynn Perry
Richard Petit
Michael Phillips
Richard A. Pugliese & Stanley E. Corklin
Kenneth & Sherilyn Pyden
Earl Randall
Francis & Joan Rathke
Paul & Brynn Raupagh
Martha Reid
Rosalie Rhodes
John & Cynthia Rice
George P. Roberts
Jane Roberts
Brenda Rooney
Jayne Samuels
David & Lindy Sargent
Bruce & Carolyn Shields
Richard & Patricia Shover
Silver
Curtis-Britch Funeral Homes
Dr. Donald Dahl
Poulos Insurance
Taylor-Moore Agency
Fall Foliage Sponsor
Evansville Trading Post
Judd’s Septic Service
Memphremagog Press
People’s United Bank
Total Security, Inc
Village Bike Shop
Village Sport Shop
East Burke Sports
Craftsbury Outdoor Center
Parker Pie
Great Outdoors
Louis Garneau
Kingdom Trails
EM Brown & Sons Corp
Collectors Fair Sponsor
Parkview Garage
Gala Auction In-Kind
Al’s Snowmobiles
All About Home
Barton Golf Club
Blanchard Oil Co.
Bread and Puppet Theater
Cellars at Jasper Hill
China Moon
Community National Bank
Craftsbury General Store
Currier’s Quality Market
Derby Village Store
Ethan Allen, Inc.-Orleans Division
F & M Repair
Garden Patch Farm Stand
Green Mountain Mulch
Hoagies Pizza and Pasta
Inspired Yoga Studios
J.B. Colton Company
Jay Peak Vermont Ski & Summer Resort
Key Auto Sales
Kinney Drugs
Labour of Love Landscaping and Nursery
Lakefront & Country Rentals
Laser Impressions
Maurice’s
The Memphremagog Press
Modern Furniture
Needleman’s Bridal & Formal
NEK Info
NEK Orchestra Wind Quartet
Newport Country Club
Newport Daily Express
Newport Farm and Garden
Newport Natural Foods
Northern Star Cruises
Northland Journal
Orleans Country Club
Parker Pie Co.
Pick and Shovel
Pizazz Hut
Price Chopper
QNEK
Rite Aid Pharmacy
The Snow Job
Spates the Florist
Tastings
Taylor Rental / Farmyard Store
The Embroidery Shop
The Newport Daily Express
Tractor Supply Co.
VISTA Foods
Wendy’s
Woodknot Bookshop
Zulu Nyala Game Reserve
Ben Barnes
Ms. Carolyn Buttolph
Kathy E. Carpenter
Bill Cook & Nancy Cook
Mr. & Mrs. Tony Daniels
Dennis & Peggy Day Gibson
Sidney & Joan Huguenin
Martha Kinney
Ronald & Sandra McKenny
Courtney D. Mead
Gingah Milne
Wyatt Moseley
Liz Nelson
Neal Perry
Jim Richardson
Doug & Cheri Safford
Mary Simpson
Richard & Deborah Simpson
Jon Somes
Margaret Sparrow
Mr. Durward Starr & Lorraine Starr
Lyle & Carolyn Starr
Mr. E. Howland Swift II
Mr. James Teucher
Mark & Judy Tinker
Neil Urie
Robert & Alicia Walker
Mr. Don Whipple & Louise Whipple
Randy Williams & Betsy Day
Robert & Jane Williams
Allen Rice Yale
Cemetery Project Donations
Francis Nye
Cynthia H. Thomas
Brownington Cemetery Commission
Grants
Preservation Trust of Vermont
Vermont Community Foundation
Vermont Council on the Arts
Barn Project Donations
Community National Bank
Maxwell’s Neighborhood Farm
Ernest & Linda Broadwater
Aldis & Lucinda Hil
Back Roads Readings
Donations
Anonymous
Community Financial Services Group
Galaxy Bookshop
Vermont Community Foundation
William Biddle
Martin Bryan
Theresa Del Pozzo
Erin Dezelie
Gregory Dianikian
Lois Eby & David Budbill
Sandra and Toby Fairbank
Victor Rodwin & Nadell Fishman
Grace Gershuny & Pete Blose
Lyn & Ron Graham
Whitney Stewart Gravel
Christine Hadsel
Kristine Ingram
Bob Joly & Jane Woodhouse
Beth Kanell
David & Judy Kurtz
Ann Lawless
Sydney Lea & Robin Barone
Reeve Lindbergh & Nat Tripp
Jane Martin
Agatha Martland
Beth McCabe & Dean Bornstein
Don & Shara McCaffrey
John Miller
Patty Mucha
Pamela Parker
David Partington
Peter & Cacky Peltz
Patricia Peterson
Margaret M. Ramsdell
Martha Reid
Stephen Sandy
Wendy Schwartz
Paul & Marsha Sicard
Priscilla Sudoms
Dan & Mary Swainbank
Clifton von Kann
Curtis von Kann
Peter & Marian Wagner
Linda Burton White
Carol Wicks
Merce Wilczek
Lynn & Otto Wurzburg
Museum Roof Donations
Eagle Eye Farm
Maxwell’s Neighborhood Farm
Jim & Colleen Abrams

2013 Corporate Sponsors
Austin’s Drug Store
Derby Village Store
E. M. Brown & Sons Corp.
Pat Hunt
R. C. Contractors
Rotary Club of Newport
Spates Construction Inc.
The Memphremagog Press
Willough Vale Inn

2014 Corporate Sponsors
Community Financial Services Group
Community National Bank
Memphremagog Press
Passumpsic Savings Bank
American Legion Post 76
Austin’s Drug Store
Cellars at Jasper Hill
Century 21 Farm & Forest Realty
E.M. Brown & Sons Corp.
Concept 2
Conley Country
Derby Village Store
Jay Peak Area Chamber of Commerce
Lake Salem Inn
Memphremagog Rentals
Rotary Club of Newport

Big Band Dance Sponsors
American Legion Post 76
Carl G. Taylor
Community National Bank
Derby Lions Club
Disabled American Veterans Association Chapter #22
Fred’s Plumbing & Heating
Rotary Club of Newport
Spates Construction
Troy Area Lions Club

Gala Auction Sponsors
Platinum
Community Financial Services Group
Gold
Passumpsic Savings Bank
Paul & Sybil Moffat

Back Roads Readings
Donations
Anonymous
Community Financial Services Group
Galaxy Bookshop
Vermont Community Foundation
William Biddle
Martin Bryan
Theresa Del Pozzo
Erin Dezelie
Gregory Dianikian
Lois Eby & David Budbill
Sandra and Toby Fairbank
Victor Rodwin & Nadell Fishman
Grace Gershuny & Pete Blose
Lyn & Ron Graham
Whitney Stewart Gravel
Christine Hadsel
Kristine Ingram
Bob Joly & Jane Woodhouse
Beth Kanell
David & Judy Kurtz
Ann Lawless
Sydney Lea & Robin Barone
Reeve Lindbergh & Nat Tripp
Jane Martin
Agatha Martland
Beth McCabe & Dean Bornstein
Don & Shara McCaffrey
John Miller
Patty Mucha
Pamela Parker
David Partington
Peter & Cacky Peltz
Patricia Peterson
Margaret M. Ramsdell
Martha Reid
Stephen Sandy
Wendy Schwartz
Paul & Marsha Sicard
Priscilla Sudoms
Dan & Mary Swainbank
Clifton von Kann
Curtis von Kann
Peter & Marian Wagner
Linda Burton White
Carol Wicks
Merse Wilczek
Lynn & Otto Wurzburg
Museum Roof Donations
Eagle Eye Farm
Maxwell’s Neighborhood Farm
Jim & Colleen Abrams
Join the Alexander Twilight Legacy Society
by Alan Yale

When I first moved to the area, Zekie Perry was the custodian of the Old Stone House and conducted tours on demand.

I first served on the board of the Orleans County Historical Society (OCHS) between 1979 and 1985, when Ted Alexander was president of the board and Reed Cherington was the museum director. The facilities consisted of the Old Stone House and the Eaton House. There were school group tours of the Old Stone House, public tours, and Old Stone House Day in August. During that period the ell of the Twilight house was given to the society and moved onto the museum grounds between the Old Stone House and the Eaton House. It was a dream of some that eventually the society could acquire the Twilight House across the road from the museum and the Samuel Read Hall House on the corner.

After I left the board, the Society did acquire the Twilight House and farmland from the Perry’s, and moved the Lawrence Barn from Albany. In 2005 it acquired the Samuel Read Hall house from the Herrick family and renovated it in 2008. With great support from the community, the society was able to pay off the mortgages and the cost of renovation of these buildings, and raise a respectable endowment.

The museum has expanded its public programming tremendously. I returned to the board in 2009. These past five years have been very busy. In 2010 an archival vault was added to the Twilight house to provide fire-proof and humidity-controlled storage for our priceless paper archives of the county’s history. The Society next took on the ambitious project of reconstructing a historic barn that had been attached to the Stone House to accommodate our expanding collection of agricultural implements.

These last two projects would not have been possible if friends of the society had not remembered the Orleans County Historical Society in their wills. The bequest of Jesse Mitchell underwrote much of the cost of the barn project, with further support from the estates of William Beaudreau and Lora Athern. Mary Joslyn’s bequest helped fund the archival vault.

As treasurer of the board, I well know that the society could not provide the programming it does without a generous withdrawal from the endowment every year. It is because of my love of the history or Vermont and Orleans County that I joined the Alexander Twilight Legacy Society by including the Orleans County Historical Society in my estate planning. A larger endowment will generate more revenue to maintain the buildings and support programming that enriches the community. If you wish to help preserve the history of Orleans County, I would urge you to join the Alexander Twilight Legacy Society.
New special exhibit: Main Street Newport

The Museum’s exhibit this summer will include many photos and histories of the buildings on Main Street, Newport. Don Whipple has mounted several large format historic images of Main Street and will pair them with contemporary photos of the same site in the same size. Ernestine Pepin and Sandy McKenny have done extensive research on the history of each building site along Main Street, and have unearthed many photos of these buildings down through the years.

This exhibit, first thought of several years ago, will be quite interesting, particularly in view of the great changes coming to Newport in the near future.

What’s new in OSH Museum Education?

As Museum Education welcomes one new staff member and bids farewell to another it is not the only change planned for the 2014 season. Amy Palaia, Brownington, is taking on the responsibilities for Adult Education ably performed by Reba Korban during 2013. Reba will be moving to Montpelier with her husband. Amy comes to us from the Northwoods Center and Siskin Ecological Adventures education programs. She holds a degree in education from Springfield College and taught middle school in Colorado before settling in the Northeast Kingdom with her family. We can look forward to Amy’s help not only in adult ed but with some youth education programs in the future. Amy’s first job will be working with instructors, registering participants and facilitating the classes. Amy’s e-mail is edassistant@oldstonehousemuseum.org.

We applied for and received a Vermont Humanities Council grant this spring to implement the humanities related portions of the 2014 Time Travelers. This includes funding a humanities instructor and an archaeologist. This grant also will make research, lessons and activities developed for Time Travelers Camp more widely available by implementing a web site. Containing research and methods it will be freely available to teachers and educators on a “permanent” basis. Our teaching methods are engaging. Living history and role playing seem to be effective at communicating issues and information. Our educational mission is to share and make relevant our collection, images, documents and artifacts, along with the skills they imply to the whole community. Can you help us educate?

We hope to commission reproductions of two artifacts in our collection to demonstrate the technology and skills they embody. Your contributions could make this happen.

1. A reproduction of the handsome wooden Flax Break in museum’s collection will be used to demonstrate processing flax plants for spinning. A sketching board and knife were constructed in 2012 which we use frequently to teach this “lost” skill once common in Vermont, $450. est. cost.

2. A replacement stone must be cut and dressed for the “Quern,” and a wooden frame built to support the stones. Querns were small scale millstones which could be worked by human or animal power, where no water mills existed. $700. est. cost.

Staff changes

Our staff has gone through some changes recently. We have lost our youngest member, Sarah Dumas, who has worked here since 2007 as librarian, administrative assistant, web-site manager, and all around computer troubleshooter. Reba Korban, who has been the education assistant for the past year, organizing adult classes, is also leaving. Both Sarah and Reba are moving because their husbands accepted jobs out of the area. We have hired Amy Palaia as the new education assistant. She and our new collections assistant, Jenny Lauer, will also be giving tours. Our long time tour guide, shop manager and volunteer coordinator Linda Child has retired. We are sad to learn that our wonderful collection manager Liz Nelson plans to retire at the end of July. We added Ben Barnes to our staff as Restoration Carpenter, so that he can keep a constant eye on our buildings and keep up with repairs. The rest of us are still on board, Peggy Day Gibson, director, Susanna Bowman, education coordinator, Shirley Perry, Bookkeeper, and Leslie Rowell, archivist. Alyssa Hamel joins us this summer as our student intern.

!!!!! 2014’s Annual Gala Benefit Auction !!!!!

Save the date: Thursday, July 17 for The Old Stone House’s Gala Benefit Auction. We are continuing the tradition of an evening filled with delicious food, great fun and excellent bargains, all to benefit The Old Stone House Museum. The Eastside Restaurant will host the event again and will be serving the fabulous seafood buffet. Up for bids will be another African safari, generous donations from area businesses and services as well a select group of creations by local artists and craftspeople. Come and enjoy an entertaining evening while supporting your local Museum and go home with some great items.
Tree maintenance this summer

The old sugar maples on the museum grounds took a beating in the ice storm just before Christmas. One entire tree came down on the road, and took out the power and phone lines in the neighborhood for three days.

Now that the snow has finally disappeared, we have been able to clean up the grounds. Members of our board of directors, Jane Greenwood and Dave Sargent, have been cutting and splitting the big limbs for wood raffles this year. If your zip code starts with 058, we have inserted a page of raffle tickets into your bulletin. Tickets are $5 each, and after 100 tickets are sold, we will draw a winner for one cord, so the odds of winning are a lot better than the lottery. When the next 100 raffle tickets are sold we will draw a winner for the second cord, and so on, until we finish raising off all of the wood. Delivery is included if the winner lives in Orleans County.

In looking over our many mature 100 year old plus maples at the museum, we see some with major weaknesses and rot, and feel fortunate that no trees have fallen on our buildings. We are planning to do major tree work this summer to prevent future damage. We are consulting with the County Foresters of the Vermont Agency of Forests and Parks to prioritize hazard tree removal. John Morley, manager of the Orleans Village Electric, has offered to use the village bucket truck to take down the high branches on a few trees that we have identified as being hazards to buildings and electric wires. We will hire Aaron Chapdelaine to do the cutting closer to the ground, and our board members will keep bucking up the firewood and splitting and stacking cords for ongoing wood raffles.

We hate to remove these beautiful old trees, but the saving grace is that we are going to replant strong young saplings, with help from community volunteers and school children. We have applied for grant money to fund tree maintenance, replanting, and an education program for elementary students, developed in collaboration with the Northwoods Stewardship Center, on the history of our forests here in the Northeast Kingdom, and forest sustainability.

Intolerance to the salt spread on the roads both winter and summer may be contributing to the declining health of the maples. Near the roads we want to plant salt resistant varieties like red oak and elm, and also plant new roadside trees farther from the road.

New roof for the Old Stone House: $3000 left to raise....

The Old Stone House Museum will get a new roof this summer. James Maxfield and his company Roofskis, who put the last cedar shingle roof on the building in 1984, will do the work. The Vermont Division of Historic Preservation has awarded the museum a $16,000 matching grant to pay half of the cost of the new roof and restoration of the exterior of the clerestory, which is the vertical wall with horizontal siding and windows on the fourth floor between the upper and lower sections of the roof. While we have access to the roof, we will also have the chimneys inspected and repointed, if necessary, and the cornices sealed from wind driven moisture that enters the building.

The remaining $16,000 of the estimated $32,000 total cost of the project is being raised by donations. One of our board members has pledged $8,000, IF we can raise the other $8,000. We are well on our way, with $2000 donated by supporters with their membership renewals, and $3,000 donated in memory of our longtime member and friend Carolyn Washburn. We are still looking for the final $3,000.

Proceeds from the “Raise the Roof” Barbecue and Blue Grass Jam on Saturday, June 14, at 4 p.m., after the Antique Engine Show, will go towards the new roof. Master barbecue Phil Brown will be grilling chicken at the Hall House, and there will be potatoes and salad to go with it, and sugar on snow for dessert. Tickets can be purchased at the door, for a cost of $12 a person. Additional donations are gladly accepted.

Last season we completed wood, plaster, and window restoration in the Old Stone House, thanks to a generous grant from the Freeman Foundation through Preservation Trust of Vermont. With the new roof this year, the Old Stone House should be in great shape for many years to come. Thanks to everyone who is helping to preserve this spectacular building, which is an integral part of Orleans County history.