

# GLOVER HISTORY

*Providing for the Future, Remembering the Past*  
1783-1995

Vol. 4, No. 1

Glover Historical Society, Inc.

Summer 1995

*This issue of the Glover Historical Society newsletter is dedicated to the memory of Ruth Evans.*



*Interest-free loans were obtained to order a second printing of "The History of Glover, Vermont." The last loan repayment check is presented to Ruth & Richard Evans by Martha Alexander, the historical society's treasurer. Also celebrating the event are Brendan Hadash, board member, and Wayne Alexander (right), president.*

## Remembering Ruth Evans

by Peggy Day Gibson

With the passing of Ruth Evans last March, the Glover Historical Society (GHS) and the community lost a major force. Since moving to Glover in 1978, Ruth had been active in the community, the school and the church, gladly giving her time, energy and organizational talents. She was involved because she had a genuine love for people. The space she left will not easily be filled.

Although Ruth, husband Richard, and their children lived over the years in New Jersey, Buenos Aires, and London, they chose to retire to Glover because they found a house they liked in a nice small town in a favorite area of the state. The community was lucky to get them.

Ruth was one of the founding members of the GHS in May of 1990 and served as its first chairman, later sharing the job with Betty Putney. Together they set up displays in the museum and started the file system for old photographs and artifacts. Ruth had great fun leading tours of school children through the museum.

Ruth's enthusiasm provided invaluable momentum to carry the

historical society through its early years. She often remarked at meetings what a great group of people it was, with worthwhile projects and a solid bank account. For her the historical society was a labor of love.

Her energy for planning and organizing was tireless. Once a goal was decided upon, she got people involved in the process, made  
*(Continued on page 2)*

## 1995 Open House Plans

Saturday, July 29 is the date and we are planning another outside activity since it was so popular last year. We can't beat the Parker settlement for history but Runaway Pond has been chosen for the site of this year's "historic picnic."

Just across the road from the monument is a logging road leading up to the "sandy beach" of what was once Long Pond. It's only about 150 yards uphill and passable via 4-wheel drive to help those who can't make the climb with their lunch.

We will be 100 feet above the pond bed and can see the remains of the "quicksand" hillside that "ran away" June 6, 1810.

A historical sketch will be given and you will be given a "tour" of what is also known as "Dry Pond."

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### Glover History Book Loans

Special thanks to the four people who made outright gifts totaling \$800, and 18 others who gave interest-free loans of \$100 or \$300 each in 1992 to finance the reprint of the Glover town history at a total cost of \$4900. Book sales, etc. have been used to repay these loans.

Of the 588 books printed, 223 have been sold as of June 8, 1995 (including 20 purchased by the GHS). The remaining books are located at the Municipal Building.

# President's Message

by Wayne Alexander

The sudden loss of Ruth Evans, Glover Historical Society President, has created a void in the society that can never be filled with someone with equal interest, vigor and management.

I had previously accepted the "winter president" position only because little was required of the job. Now I find myself with more responsibility than I wish. However, the Glover Historical Society will continue to flourish and grow with the help of the board and all of the interested and generous membership.

Jean Borland has volunteered to take responsibility for opening and staffing the Museum. She hopes for help from the members as the Museum will open June 21 and close September 6. Hours are 1:30-3:30 on Wednesdays or by special arrangement.

We are very fortunate that the town of Glover lets us use its extra space in the Municipal Building at no cost. Our income is mostly from membership dues and contributions. Our expense is only for insurance, preservation supplies, the newsletter and rarely, an acquisition.

The annual business meeting with election of officers, will be held as usual the last Saturday in July, this year July 29, and will follow Open House at 4:00 PM. Please join us.

## Open House 1995

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We may stop at Westlook Cemetery to visit the grave (the stone is broken) of Spencer Chamberlain, the half-breed Indian who ran ahead of the water and saved the miller's wife, Mrs. Wilson. Elijah Stone, who purportedly took the "last shovelful of dirt at the letting of Runaway Pond" is also buried nearby.

We must be back at the Municipal Building for the *annual business meeting at 4:00 PM.*

### Other Activities

The Museum, bake sale, attic sale, video show, etc. will be supported that day *only* in the morning from 9-12.

### ATTENTION!! GLOVER GENEALOGISTS

The Glover Historical Society is collecting family histories and encourages you to submit yours—regardless of its form or completeness.

Questions?  
Call Jean Borland.

## 1994 Acquisitions

Acquisitions for 1994 were donated by Mrs. Hebard, Wendell Phillips, Robert Rundell, Betty Putney, Mike Ladd, and Dick and Ruth Evans. These included a great variety of items which can be seen in the historical rooms this year. Many thanks to all who have donated to our society.

### GLOVER HISTORY

An occasional publication of the  
Glover Historical Society, Inc.  
Municipal Building, Glover, VT 05839

President: Wayne Alexander

Secretary: Randy Williams

Treasurer: Martha Alexander

Additional Board Members: Bob Canosa, Alice Clark, Don Clark, Jim Currier, Peggy Day Gibson, Richard Evans, Brendan Hadash, Carolyn Perron, Betty Putney

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## Ruth Evans

(Continued from page 1)

phone calls and took care of details. She made things happen.

The GHS grew out of the Glover Bicentennial Committee, a dedicated group of close to 20 people who put on the celebration of Glover's 200th birthday in 1983; Ruth served as the general chairman. When the celebration was all over, the committee ended up with a profit of \$4,000 and it was suggested that the money be put into a scholarship fund, with the income used to help further the education of Glover students showing need, scholastic effort and community service. Ruth would have been pleased to know that many contributions have been made to the Bicentennial Scholarship Fund in her memory.

The enduring project of the Bicentennial Committee was the compilation of historical records and photographs for the publication of *The History of Glover, Vermont* and the initial order and subsequent sale of 900 copies of the book.

A recent project of the Glover Historical Society was to order a second printing of 580 more copies of the book. Money was raised to pre-pay the printer by taking orders for books and obtaining no-interest loans from people.

In January of this year the last loan repayment check was presented to Ruth and Richard Evans at their home in Glover Village. Ruth had only recently been diagnosed with pancreatic cancer and undergone intensive surgery yet she was, as always, a warm and gracious hostess, offering refreshments, reminiscing about the development of the Glover Historical Society and telling stories about some of the interesting antiques in the house. Her strong spirit and characteristic energy made it hard to believe that she was so ill. She obviously had fun being alive, and was determined to continue to enjoy life until the end.

# Chet Phillips: New England's Leading Taxidermist

by Wayne Alexander

For a hundred years a building has stood in Glover Village proclaiming to be "New England's Leading Taxidermists" until recent years when the lettering was painted over. (Ironically, as this is being written in 1995, the smoldering ruins are all that remain of a fire June 4.)

Chester Scott Phillips was born in Glover April 12, 1854 on a farm on Bean Hill "just outside of Glover Village" (probably where Phil Brown lives), the son of Josiah and Emily (Blanchard) Phillips.

He purchased the furniture and undertaking business of Elmer Dwinell (previously the Dwinell chair factory) and his interest in "stuffed" birds developed into a major industry in Glover.

The Glover Historical Society recently acquired a framed photograph of some of his work which is surrounded by testimonial letters attesting to his high quality work. They indicate that Chet had developed the technique of mounting specimens on solid cedar foundations. Customers found this far more realistic and durable to the general method of "stuffing" with excelsior commonly used at the time.

He employed many men and boys during the busy seasons of fishing and hunting. Aden Philips and (cousin) Clarence Phillips learned the trade from their Uncle Chet and went on to become taxidermists in their own right: Aden in Barton, Clarence in Glover.

Aden told this writer that his first job (for his uncle) of "stuffing a human" was that of victim Ray Coomer of Greensboro. Ray was shot "between the eyes" by Levi Partridge Dec. 5, 1908. (Coomer was holding Partridge's wife in his lap and sitting on the wood box when Levi ended this affair. They both fell backward into the wood box.)

Chester Phillips married in 1884 N. Mae Randall who died a year later and he later married Isora Gates. They had one child, George B. Phillips.

Chet sold the business in 1914, probably to George Wilson who in turn passed it on to Adelbert Leland, his son-in-law. The C. S. Phillips Co. name continued to be used further, however. A 1918 calendar as well as a 1928 price list was using C. S. Phillips, Co.

In 1941 Philip Brooks purchased "New England's Leading Taxidermists" and continued for 40 years or more to please clients from all over the country with techniques handed down from Chet Phillips. The Brooks family carried on and only in recent time was the taxidermy terminated.

The 1927 flood badly undermined the old (then called the Leland shop) building which was apparently destroyed since a different style building appeared later.

Chet suffered a bad fall in 1936 which started the decline from an active and vigorous life to his death Feb. 26, 1943, in his 89th year.

## What is *your* new address?

Thanks to OSH volunteers, all roads have been named and numbered and now alphabetical lists by a) road names with house numbers, and b) names of the property owners are in the hands of the Post Office. A copy is also in the Town Clerk's office. Some residents have already adopted the new addresses and use them but the P.O. has not yet officially notified customers that they should do so as the town is presently served by five zip codes which complicates the situation. Erecting road signs will be a future project.



C. S. Phillips Co.  
*New England's  
Leading Taxidermists*  
PHONE 116-2 GLOVER, VT.

### Glover Historical Society, Inc.

Municipal Building  
Glover, VT 05839

#### MEMBERSHIP FOR 1995

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Tel.# \_\_\_\_\_

Family Membership - \$8.00 (spouses, children under 18)

Single Membership - \$5.00

Additional Donation of \$ \_\_\_\_\_

*Please check your address label for your membership expiration date.*

Comments (connection with Glover, etc.)

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

I would like to purchase \_\_\_\_\_  
copies of *The History of Glover*  
at \$18.00 (plus \$2.00 postpaid).

## Recap of 1994 Open House

Held on July 30 and 31, this was the first two-day affair and the most enjoyable yet.

**Painting of Andersonville Cemetery Fence.** Dick and Ruth Evans had made the preparations and on Saturday AM with the help of members and volunteers, half of the fence was painted. It was finished on Sunday AM. This unusual wire pattern was old when Robbie Young was a boy, he said. According to a diary, his sister Florence painted it in 1947, no doubt the last time it was done.

**Parker Settlement.** Randy and Betsy Day-Williams made the Open House most memorable, as owners of

the property which contains the first home sites in Glover (1798) called the Parker Settlement. They had mowed some old fields and improved the road which made it possible to gain access to the area. Everyone took picnic lunches and socialized there before Randy and Betsy guided people through the settlement. They had signs at the cellar holes marking the church, tavern, store, school, kiln, homes, etc. Bill Tester and Bernard Urie provided the tractor and hay wagon to move people around the property.

**50th Anniversary of the Lake Region Parish.** A service was held Sunday at the West Glover Church, the same church built in the Parker Settlement in 1832 and moved to Boardman's

Hollow (West Glover Village) in 1850. Rev. Roland French led the service which also dedicated the organ to the "glory of God in memory of the 17 original members of the West Glover Congregational Church":

Stephen Bliss  
Sarah Bliss  
Elizabeth Beach  
Alice Bingham  
Loring Frost  
Ellsworth Phelps  
Sarah Adams  
Susannah Noyes  
Hannah Burton  
Eunice Kimball  
Abigail Boardman  
Silence Wood  
Ruby Beach Lyman  
Irena Wright  
Mary Cook  
Sarah Bliss 2nd  
Samuel F. Cook

## Scatterings—

- The oral history, cellar holes and homeowners projects are on the "back burner." However, we continue to gather information and request photos of old homesteads that may be copied and returned. Other photos of historical interest are also wanted.

- Glover Town Reports contain much history and we need many more to complete our collection, especially those before 1920.

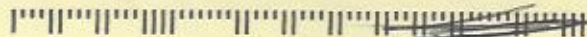
- Wendell Phillips was here last Open House and a video tape was made of his remembrances. Another two hour tape was made of a "Walk through Glover Village, c. 1925." Warren Alexander and Margaret (Smith) Cullen also provided two hours each of "Glover Village." The farm machinery and cattle auction at Eddie and Carole Perron's was also recorded on video even though the camera was giving trouble. These videos as well as the 35 noted in last year's newsletter are all available for \$10.00 each, plus \$2.00 shipping and handling.

## Treasures At Arland Stone's

One of the few surviving "cattle passes" can be seen at Arland Stone's (Maynard Dewing place) just west of Shadow Lake and under Shadow Lake Road. Built to allow cattle to cross a road at will between pastures, it may be 150 years old and was rebuilt by the town in 1932, the year of the total solar eclipse, according to Maynard. Today the stones are shifting badly, the "pass" is no longer passable and Arland, as well as the Glover Historical Society and the town selectmen, would like to see it restored once again.

Arland also has built/restored an old split rail, zig-zag fence about one-quarter mile long on his property. It is authentic to the extent of laying one stone above the other under each rail to keep moisture from the earth from wicking up to the wood.

There is a third unusual attraction on Arland's property—a huge volume of water erupts from the ground (just off the Old Hinman Road) and measures a frigid 42.9° F.



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RETURN TO SENDER  
NO FORWARD ORDER ON FILE  
UNABLE TO FORWARD  
RETURN TO SENDER

*Handwritten:* Janet Shields Smith  
2 P  
ORDER AS ABOVE

**DECEASED**  
RETURNED TO SENDER

inside...  
Runaway Pond celebration  
at the Open House.



GLOVER HISTORICAL SOCIETY, INC.  
Municipal Building  
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