

GL



VER HISTORY

*Providing for the Future, Remembering the Past  
1783-2002*

Vol. 13, No. 1

Glover Historical Society, Inc.

Winter 2004

## President's Report

Another busy and successful year has passed into history for the Glover Historical Society.

Changes and additions to the Westlook Cemetery book have been printed and distributed to those who have already purchased a book. They will be incorporated into the second edition. A new Appendix A of veterans data replaces the original and has been punched to fit in the binding. We are still planning on printing a book incorporating the three remaining Glover cemeteries.

The drop curtains at the town hall have been repaired and stabilized by the Vermont Museum and Gallery Alliance. (See the story on pg. 2.)

I have been in touch with Wayne Mutrux, our "map maker." The 911 maps will be completed by town meeting day (3/2/04) or before and ready for sale to all who may be interested. Possible sizes range from 11" x 17", 18" x 24" and 24" by 36". We have not committed to any one size yet and will be glad to hear from anyone regarding size preference. The actual cost will be determined upon completion of the project.

Glover recently received documents relating to the town's churches from Rachel Cree Sherman. (See pg. 3.) They include a eulogy from 1811 on the death from chickenpox of Hannah Parker, a volume of church records of the First Congregational Church of Glover dating as early as July 1817, and an 1867 discourse by the Rev. S. K. B. Perkins on the Semi-Centennial celebration of the 1st Congregational Church of Glover (which was to become the First Congregational Church of West Glover).

Our membership is stable at 170 plus or minus. We're always looking for input and inquiries from members.

Our next regular meeting will be 15 April 2004 at 7:00 p.m. We wish all of you a good winter and hope to see most of you next spring.

- Bob Clark

## From the Secretary

The 2003 Annual Meeting of the Society was held at the Glover Municipal Building at 7 p.m. on July 16th, to mark the accomplishments during another successful year, prepare plans for future activities, and elect directors and officers for the ensuing year. The highlight of the year 2002/2003 was publication of the Westlook Cemetery book which is available from the Society. (See the enclosed order blank for this and other publications.)

The Society is governed by a 12-member "staggered" Board of Directors. The terms of office of four directors (Joan Alexander, Jean Borland, Bob Clark and Randy Williams) expired with the 2003 Annual Meeting. All four incumbents had agreed to serve for another three-year term if elected; they were duly nominated and elected by unanimous vote. There was another Board vacancy due to the untimely passing of Rita Lombardi; this vacancy was filled with the election of Betty Putney, to serve until the 2005 Annual Meeting.

As provided in Society By-Laws, the election of Directors was followed immediately by the election of officers for the 2003/2004 year. The current officers (President - Bob Clark; Vice President - Betsy Day; Treasurer - Martha Alexander; Secretary - Ulo Sinberg) were reelected.

Another Board vacancy was created later in the year by the resignation of Elaine Magalis. Society By-Laws provide that under such circumstances the remaining Directors may appoint a successor to serve until the next Annual Meeting. Jeannine B. Young was appointed on this basis.

- Ulo Sinberg

**Inside:**

- *Glover's painted curtains*
- *A wonderful discovery*
- *Diaries of two Glover girls*

# Glover's very special painted curtains

by Betsy Day

Shortly after Halloween this year, the painted curtains in the Glover Town Hall were taken down for the first time since they were hung back in the early forties. They are among some 145 stage curtains so far found in community and Grange halls all over the state and inventoried and restored by the Vermont Museum and Gallery Alliance's Painted Theater Curtains of Vermont Project. Created by itinerant painters between 1880 and 1940, these huge murals usually served as backdrops during the heyday of vaudevillian theater, during what Chris Hadsel, director of the Project, calls "the Golden Age of Vermont's community halls."

Glover is very lucky to have two curtains, both painted by Robert Naves. The front curtain is an advertising curtain, laid out like a city block, with 27 local businesses from Glover to Newport, including Drew's Filling Station, Urie's Garage, Orleans Feed Company, Rice Chevrolet, Covered Wagon Milk Farm, Westview Farms and Barton Motor Co., to name only a few. Naves made a habit of centering a single vehicle in his paintings. Glover's is special in that the vehicle is a blimp, on which is advertised W.W. Hartwell/Complete Home Furnishers/Furniture/Undertaking/Crockery/Wall Paper/Prompt Ambulance Service. The restoration crew favors Glover's advertising curtain over the others that they have seen so far and hope that they can

use it in their upcoming show in Manchester in a couple of years.

The other curtain which provides the backdrop on the stage is a lake scene. It isn't clear whether it is Shadow Lake, Parker or a generic lake scene. It was found hanging behind the advertising curtain facing the back of the stage. After its restoration, it was rehung in the back of the stage, in what was probably its original location. In addition to cleaning, repairing and restoring the curtains, the VMGA crew also replaced all of the pulleys and ropes, repaired the rollers and installed cleats

to tie off the ropes that raise and lower the curtains.

The artist, too, is special to the Glover painted curtains. These may be some of the last curtains painted by Robert Naves who, shortly after completing them, enlisted in the Flying Tigers, and died fighting the Japanese in China. One of his logos was painted on the side of one of the Flying Tigers' planes. It is said that he used to travel, sometimes on foot, from his home in New Hampshire to northern and eastern Vermont, selling ads and drumming up business. He would then go home, paint the curtains and ship them by rail back to the towns in Vermont. Other works by Naves can

be found in Concord, Putney and Wheelock.

The Painted Theater Curtains Project is funded through a grant from the National Park Service's "Save America's Treasures" (a program formed



*The advertising curtain (standing) and the scenic backdrop on the floor.*



*Working to restore the lake scene curtain.*

through a partnership between the National Endowment for the Arts and the Department of the Interior, and the Vermont State Legislature). The project relies on matching grants from local communities. Glover got in on a second wave of grant money, matching it with \$500 from the Glover Historical Society and another \$500 generously donated by the Glover Selectmen.

The curtains will be displayed for the first time on Town Meeting day, with thanks to the selectmen and the town and to Governor Jim Douglas who,

recognizing the value and quantity of the curtains as unique to Vermont, facilitated the funding. Plans are under review for an open house on Glover Day, Saturday, July 31, so that summer people will also be able to see them. "These curtains hold the same economic possibility as a tourist destination that the covered bridges held in the 50s and 60s," said Ms. Hadsel. She would like to come to Glover again this summer to show her slides of the other curtains in Vermont and talk about her restoration project. Look for details in this summer's newsletter.

## A wonderful discovery *by Rachel Cree Sherman*

There are intriguing tales told of synchronous chains of events which weave into wondrous endings. This is one, but an extremely condensed version.

Suffice it to say that the immediate cast of characters involves Shirley Barber and my mother, Joyce Borland Cree, lifelong friends; Shirley's son, Kenneth Barber, who introduced Betsy Day and Randy Williams and myself; and a host of others.

Some 60 years ago, Shirley was secretary of the West Glover Congregational Church. My mother had a briefcase and a large safe in which she kept her most precious possessions. The safe had originally been at the Cree family's flexible steel tubing manufacturing company in Wheelock, and was moved to our garage when the business was sold. Safe in my mother's briefcase since the death of my father 20 plus years prior, there had been three documents, one of which I had separated from the others.

When Betsy and I met about a year later, sitting in the West Glover Cemetery, not far from Hannah's grave, Betsy related her own story of discovery, her passion for Hannah Parker and for Glover history, which we shared. She told me she had scoured the countryside for the sole copy of Hannah's funeral sermon she felt sure was extant, and the lost records of the West Glover Congregational Church. Stunned, I went to my car and handed her an envelope. It contained the remaining copy of Hannah Parker's funeral sermon, which she had sought all those years.

Hannah's funeral sermon was given by the Rev. Solomon King, A.M., pastor of the Church of Christ in "Greensborough." His sermon is fashioned in the image of Jonathan Edwards; an opportunity to en-

courage the "improvement" of his parishioners with a hell-fire-and-brimstone approach that would inspire any like mind. He makes no mention of Hannah or her family until nearly the end of the sermon, which is 11 type-written pages.

At home, I checked the briefcase for the first time in years, and was awed at the import of what I found. When I returned to West Glover last summer, I brought with me the first and original book of records of the Congregational Church of Glover, Vermont, 1817-1858. With that was the "Discourse preached by Rev. S.K.B. Perkins at the Semi-Centennial Celebration of the First Congregational Church of Glover, Vt., July 12<sup>th</sup>, 1867." We had no idea how my mother had come by them.

Betsy and I had an intense two days trying to put two-and-two together. The 1938 fire at the Orleans Liberal Institute seemed to correspond quite curiously with the time of the "disappearance" of the documents, and I thought of my mother's fearfulness when it came to fire and her friendship with Shirley.

During Betsy's prior interviews with former church secretary Marjorie Rives, now in her 90s, Marjorie had remained tight-lipped about the church's business. Now Betsy tried again, mentioning the discovery, and Marjorie's reply went something like this: "Oh, I know that. They're in a safe in Wheelock!"

Shirley Barber and Joyce Borland Cree had put the town's most treasured documents away in the safest place they could find. When the time was right, and it surely was, they were returned to the land from whence they came.

# Two Glover girls and their diaries

by Joan Alexander

Glover Historical Society is working on the publication of a unique set of diaries. Both were written by Glover girls when each was 14. The first, written in 1894, was the diary of Edith Francena Aldrich, called "Francena," and the second, from 1922, is the



Francena Aldrich

diary of her daughter, Edith Alexander.

Francena's diary is a snapshot of a girl's life in Glover over one hundred years ago. During the year of 1894, Francena is so sickly recovering from typhoid fever that she very seldom attends school, but she does chronicle all the comings and goings of her household,

neighbors and friends. In beautiful script, she notes the daily happenings, (and usually the weather!) with very little personal comment. Yet her simple words paint a picture of Francena and her life. Two examples:

## June 20, 1894

*Quite warm today. Went to Barton with Maggie Lewis this afternoon. Added on the Cream Account for Papa. Mamma and Mrs. Abbott went strawberrying. Mama got enough for supper. Went to the phonograph entertainment at the school house tonight. It was good. Went down to Mrs. Abbott's this forenoon.*

## September 3, 1894

*School began today. I wasn't well enough to go. The Dr. here this morning. We had shelled beans for dinner, the first we have had this year. Saw a team of gypsies go by. Wrote a line to Aunt Nell this morning. Jennie Wilkinson in and brought me some plums. Cecil stayed with Fred tonight.*

Francena's daughter, Edith, was much more headstrong and dramatic, and never hesitates to

include her feelings and reflections. In 1922, she was a freshman boarding in Barton during the week to attend Barton Academy, and far more interested in boys than her studies. Her diary is very different from her mother's. Edith begins hers with a warning:



Edith Alexander

*I pity the Maid, I pity the cook,*

*I pity the darned fool who reads this book! That's all!*

We don't think you'll feel like a darned fool for reading it! Edith's spirited observations on everything from aero-planes ("I hate to see other people up in the air where I long to be") to bobbed hair ("After all these months of appeal mother has at last given her reluctant consent for me to have my hair bobbed") are an interesting look at a young girl's life over 80 years ago. At the end of the diary Edith writes:

*Gee, I should die & anyone reads this diary Please don't think I mean half the bad things I say about people*

*Please*

We know she doesn't mean "half the bad things," and we're glad to have her diary to share, thanks to the generosity of her children. Both girls mention many townspeople and town happenings, and we plan to add newspaper clippings about events they mention, and would love to be able to add photos also. If you have a photo (taken at the approximate time of either diary), or any other artifact or info, please contact Joan Alexander at 2513 Glover St., Glover, VT 05839, (802) 525-6212. We will carefully scan your photo and return it to you pronto! We are planning to publish this summer.

Mentioned in the 1894 diary (Francena's spelling): Mrs. Abbott, Miss Allen, Mrs. Baker, Myra Baker, George Baker, Mr. Baker, Henry Barber, Mrs. Barber and Baby, David Barber, Mrs. Barker, Mr. Beach, Mr. Bean, Mr. Amos Bean, Mrs. Bean, Bickfords, Mrs. Borland, Mr. Brown, Mrs. Cameron, Mr. Cameron, Katie Cameron, Gertie Carter, Mrs. Cheney, Alson Clark, Henry Clark, Mrs. Clark, Will Clark, Miss Colburne, Mr. Cook, Charles Cook, John Crosier, Mrs. Crosier, Grandma Cutler, Mrs. Cutler, Jennie Cutler, Charles Cutler, Mrs. Darling, Mrs. Davis, Mrs. Dodd, Mrs. Dow, Howard Dow, Willie Dow, Mr. Dow, Florence Drew, Miss Drown, Nettie Drown, The Ernest's, Clara Fisher, Miss French, Mrs. Friend, Carrie Gray, Della Gray, Dan Gray, Emma Gilman, Mrs. Gilmore and her son, Mr. Guckles, Charley Hagar, Mrs. Hibbard, the Hibbards, Bertha Hibbard, Mr. Hibbard, Mrs. Humphrey, boy baby at George Humphreys, Effie and Helen Hunt, Mr. and Mrs. Jenne, the Johnsons, the Judge, Chas. King, Mabel King, Miss Lang, Kate Leonard and the baby, Mrs. Leonard, Bert Lewis, Maggie Lewis, Mrs. Lewis, new little boy, Ila Lyman, Mr. and Mrs. McDonald, Meta McGaffey, Mr. McGoff, Clara McGoff, Mr. Martin, the Magoon girls, Mr. Magoon, Mrs. Merriam, Bert Mitchell, Mr. and Mrs. Nye, Mr. Owen, Mrs. Dora Phillips, Dr. Prime, Jo/Joe? Josie Prindle, Mrs. Prindle, the little Richardson boys, Mr. Sisco (cares for lame horse), Mr. Service/Mr. Servis, Mrs. Simonds, Mrs. Skinner and Bell, Mrs. Stevens, Mr. Stiles, Mrs. Stiles, Dr. Templeton, Frank Taylor, John Thornton, Mabel Thorpe, Mr. Tisdell, Sam Vance, Mrs. Wheatley, Jennie Wilkinson, David Wilson, Mr. Wilson, Lila Wood, Annie Wood, Mrs. Woodward.

First Names Only: Annie and Rose and Charlie, Bert, Bertha, Birdie, Ceciel, Cecil (Dow?), Earle, Ernest, Flora, Hank (often working with Papa), Howard, Jim and his wife and baby, Justin, Lilla and her husband Roll, Lucy and her father, Lucy and her mother, Lucy and her husband, May/Mae, Marion, Maud, Mamie, Mattie,

Nettie, Miss Nelson and Miss Harmon, the evangelists, Ray, Ray and George, Rose, Rose and the Children, Ruby, Vinnie, Willie.

Landmarks: Mr. Bean's pasture, the Buckley pasture, the Crosby house, Mr. Cook's sugar house, Four Corners, Magoon's turn, the Miles pasture, the Stevens turn, the Wright schoolhouse, the Picnic Grounds.

Mentioned in the 1922 diary (Edith's spelling): Melvin Anderson, Miss Annis, Avis Knapp, Arleen B., Marie B., Marion B., Baldwin, Mr. Batchelder, Lisle Bean, Mr. Bacon, Mr. Burdick and niece, Grampa Burnham, Dr. Buck, Maurice C., M. Cameron, Nellie Clark, Miss Carter/Old Lady Carter, Hubert Cherry, Mrs. Clark, Lena Clark, Don Clark, Lola Clark, Bea/Beatrice Clark, F. Cook, Old Lady Currier/Mrs. C's/S.C. Currier/Marion Currier, Margaret D., Ducky Dow, Clifton Drew, Ella, Verton Elliot, Merton Emery, Joe Emery, E. Darling, Mr. Dunham, Eva D., Marguerite Dow, Dr. Dow, Emery, Eva, Dot Gates, Gilpins, Grandma G., Grace H., Charles Heath, Rev. Hutchingson and wife, Mr. Indoes, Miss K., Mrs. Kendrick, Mr. Killgallen, Mrs. Kimball, Mr. Lang, Clarence Lang, Nellie M., Mrs. Mc Lellans, Esther McDowel, Miss McDuffy, Mildred McFarlane, Marcie, Dot Martin, Mr. Maher, Mrs. Merriam and Anna, Leigh [Nokeman?], Harold Noddin, Anson O., Vera Phillips, Mrs. Pillsbury, Old Ben Piper, Mrs. Plunkett, Clifton and Helen Pricott, Dr. Prime, Geraldine S., Bob Saneles, Marian D. Sears, Glendola Sherburne, Hazel Sinon, Mrs. Skinner, Prof Stevens, Marion S., Hazel Simmon, Isabelle Slack, Minnie Spence, Mary Stone, Mrs. Stone, Floyd Taylor, Mildred Tilton, Mr. Underwood, Mrs. Underwood, Roy Valley, Leigh W., R. P. Webster, Marjory Webster, Dorothy Willard, Roger Wright, Mildred Vilton.

First Names Only: Aunt Jo, Bessie, Charlena, Clarence, Herbert, Fannie and the babies (little Ralph), Isabelle C., Lew, Lou, Lewie (Mayer?), Ruth, Sylvia, Veston.

## Coming Soon!!!

*Andersonville: The First 100 Years*—the publication Glover Historical Society had promised for late 2003—is now scheduled for March 2004. This is a compilation of documents and photos depicting the early history of Glover's Andersonville, an area defined here as a slightly expanded Glover School District #7, located in the southwest corner of West Glover bordering the South Albany-Craftsbury line. Included will be lot histories, memories and diaries, a chapter on Andersonville School, Andersonville Cemetery transcriptions, and a plenitude of photos.

**Glover Historical Society  
Treasurer's Report  
January 1, 2003 - December 31, 2003**

**Opening Balances 1/01/03**

Checking	\$2244.72
CD # 17141752	1937.67
CD # 1820435	1139.35
CD # 1789773	1284.76
CD # 5730023497	<u>3228.49</u>
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 9,834.99</b>

**Income**

Membership Dues	776.00
Donations	343.00
Publications	
Westlook Cemetery	827.00
Glover History	252.00
Runaway Pond	159.00
Memories of Glover	10.00
Union House	18.00
Video Tapes	50.00
Restoration of Town Hall Curtains	500.00
Miscellaneous (refund on postage)	10.00
Accrued CD Interest (as of 12/14/03)	<u>205.57</u>

**Expenses**

Newsletter – January	929.00
Newsletter – June	347.20
Postage	
newsletter, publications	379.88
mailing addendum to Westlook	77.61
Work on Publications	
Andersonville & Westlook	1,320.00
French Cemetery	10.00
Westlook Addendum	386.00
Reimbursement Town Insurance	325.00
VT Historical Society Membership	35.00
Replacement of one flag	33.92
Mowing (Runaway Pond Park)	75.00
Restoration of Town Hall Curtains	1,000.00
Miscellaneous	<u>10.00</u>

**Total Income**

**\$ 3,150.57**

**Total Expenses**

**\$ 4,928.61**

**Closing Balances 12/31/03**

Checking	\$ 1576.54
CD # 1741752 (includes \$17.01 earned 2003 interest as of 12/14/03)	1954.68
CD # 1820435 (includes \$10.01 earned 2003 interest as of 12/14/03)	1149.36
CD # 5730023497 (includes \$147.88 earned 2003 interest as of 12/14/03)	<u>3376.37</u>
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 8,056.95</b>

***Glover History***

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

President ..... Bob Clark

Vice President ..... Betsy Day

Secretary ..... Ulo Sinberg

Treasurer ..... Martha Alexander

Additional Board Members: Joan Alexander,  
Eleanor Bailey, Jean Borland, Gisele Clark,  
Harriet King, Betty Putney,  
Randy Williams, Jeannine B. Young

**In Memoriam**

Herluf Johnson  
September 3, 2003. Glover.