

## Development Report for 2021 Annual Meeting - Castine Historical Society

The Development Committee has had a busy, albeit unusual past twelve months.

We concluded last summer with the hope that we could have the -already postponed- House & Garden Tour this summer, in 2021. Alas with the winter vaccine rollout and lingering uncertainty about the pandemic, we had to make the decision early in 2021 to postpone this major fundraiser yet again. The good news is that next year it will be bigger and better than anticipated!

It is now scheduled for Thursday, July 21, 2022.

The preview party will take place the evening prior, on July 20th.

Several sponsors have stood by with their support with each postponement and we are grateful for their patience and steadfast commitment.

We plan to resume fundraising activities around this event in the coming months.

This past summer we chose to put together a fun and festive event -to herald back the social season. We also needed to make up some revenue for the previous year of lost opportunities. We threw a party called "Back in Bloom" in July, held in the garden of "The Hedges" at the Macdonald property on Latour Street. This cocktail party included a silent auction with about 25 items. Trillium catered the food. The community responded very positively and we had over 140 attendees. We managed to meet and exceed our budgeted revenue goal as well. The committee worked very hard to do a lovely party on a shoestring budget and they pulled it off beautifully. We thank the Macdonald family for hosting us. We also thank all those who donated such fantastic items and those who bid so enthusiastically.

This event marked the first time we merged a fundraising social event with an opportunity to honor a special member of the Society. This year it was Jack Macdonald. His care and leadership was integral to the success of the society during several years of growth. He was fêted well!

Our executive director, Lisa Lutts has been working hard to follow the strategic plan in looking for increased revenue in areas such as gift shop sales and awards from grants. She will report on her success in those areas.

As the town of Castine has seen an influx of new families into the community, so has the Society bolstered its membership ranks. We utilized our quiet season to find and reach out to prospective new members and to lapsed members, with great success. The fresh energy of new residents gives us a glimpse of what was positive in a year that was otherwise somber. We go forward with renewed enthusiasm and gratitude. We see new possibilities and we never forget that our members and supporters make it all possible. Thank you so much for your continued support and generosity.

Respectfully submitted,  
Lisa Haugen  
Development Committee