



Castine Historical Society



2020 ANNUAL  
REPORT

Abbott School, 1939

# A Year for the History Books

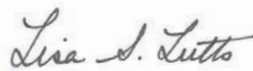
We can all admit that 2020 was a very different and challenging year. The year began with great anticipation for the Historical Society with the excitement leading up to our Castine House and Garden Tour. We had scheduled lectures and concerts to celebrate the 200th anniversary of Maine statehood. Our exhibit, *Risky Business: Square-Rigged Ships and Salted Fish*, was a perfect complement to the 200th anniversary as it showcases Castine's successful maritime economy that blossomed from 1820 - 1860. Then sadly the Covid-19 pandemic hit and March saw everything come crashing down.

Without skipping a beat, the Board and staff immediately sprang into action. We spent many hours trying to decide how to handle the 2020 season in a manner that was safe while still remaining in the public's mind. First, we asked our guest curator, Richard M. Ames, to create a virtual *Risky Business* exhibit now available on our website. Next, we realized that our House and Garden Tour, lectures, and concerts had to be postponed. We also decided that in the best interest of protecting our volunteers, staff, and the public, we would not open our exhibits. This decision was the hardest of all!

Thanks to the leadership and creative thinking of the staff, we realized we could take the exhibits outdoors and offer many more walking tours of our historic town. You can read more about the team effort needed to pull off these tours in this report. They were a great success and we hope to continue the expanded offerings in 2021.

You will also read that the Board and staff created two new fundraisers – the Backyard Mystery Picnic along with a Castine in a Bag Raffle. All in all, we are proud of the way the Historical Society worked through the complexities of this difficult year.

We hope that 2021 will allow us to get back to “normal,” whatever that might be. However, we could not have made it through this year without you, our members', continued support! Thank you to all who helped us navigate 2020, keeping the Castine Historical Society engaged in the important work of preserving, exhibiting, and teaching Castine's history.



Lisa Simpson Lutts  
Executive Director



Ellen Benjamin  
President, Board of Directors

## Annual Report 2020



## 2020-2021 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Ellen Benjamin  
*President*

George Hatch  
*Vice President*

Howard Lowell  
*Secretary*

Susan C. Hatch  
*Treasurer*

Alice Alston

Richard M. Ames

William Buchanan

Mary Dearborn

Kelly Gualtieri

Lisa Haugen

John Mitchell

Marc Pelletier

**President Emeritus:**  
James M. Day

**Honorary Directors:**  
David K. Adams

Lynne Dearborn

Sara F. Foote

Ann L. Miller

John C. Parish, Jr.

Robert B. Rettig

Ruth Scheer

## STAFF

Lisa Simpson Lutts  
*Executive Director*

Paige S. Lilly  
*Curator*

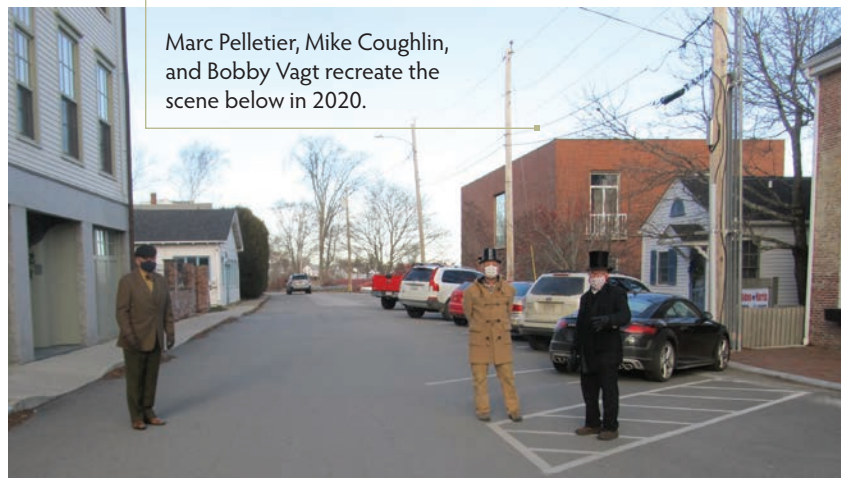
Angela Bonacasa  
*Office Manager*

## 2019-2020 BOARD MEMBERS

John S. Macdonald

Brooke Tenney

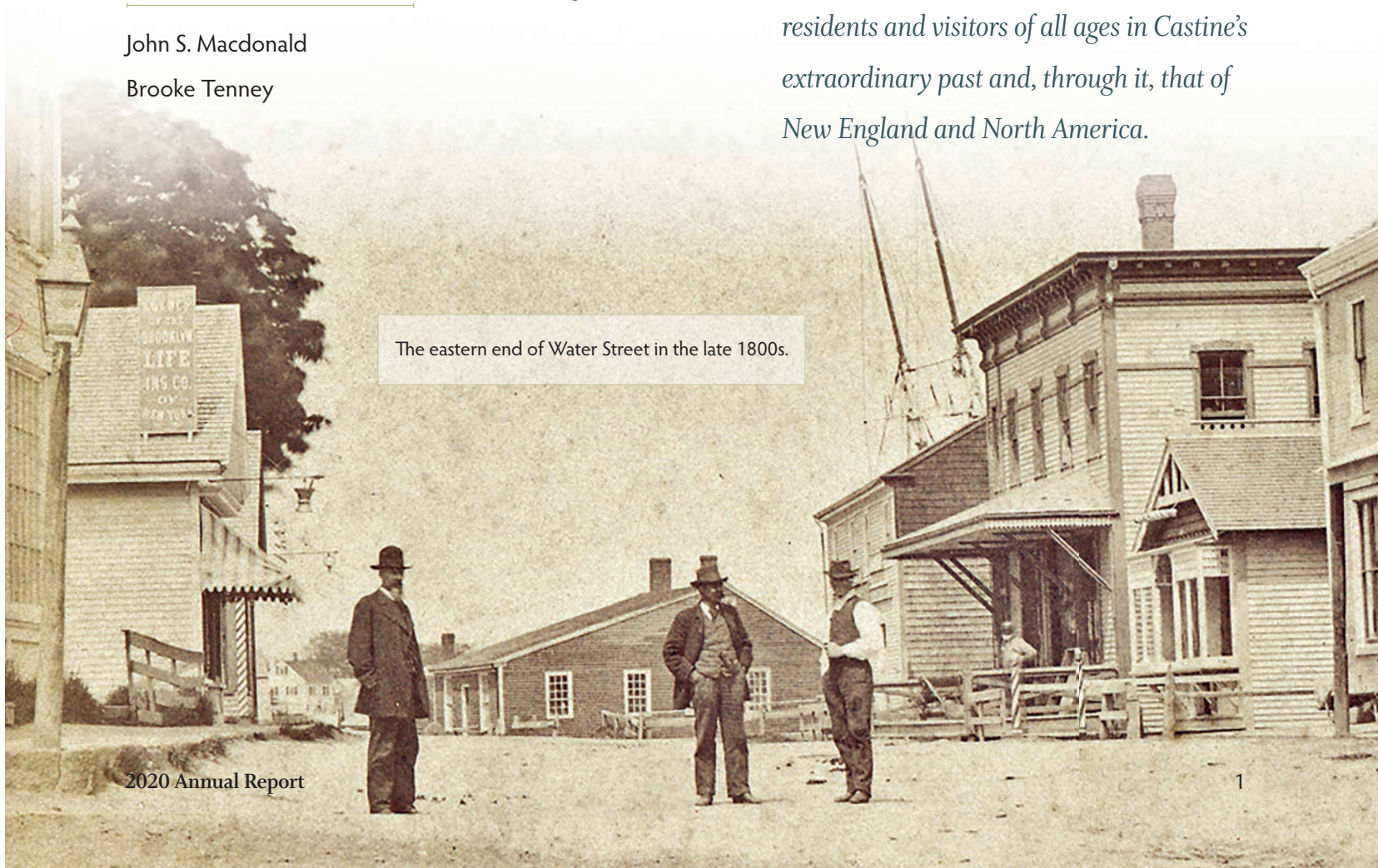
Marc Pelletier, Mike Coughlin,  
and Bobby Vagt recreate the  
scene below in 2020.



## Our Mission

The Castine Historical Society's mission provides the guiding principles for all the organization does: *We seek to invigorate our community through collaborative exploration and stewardship of our region's rich history, engaging residents and visitors of all ages in Castine's extraordinary past and, through it, that of New England and North America.*

The eastern end of Water Street in the late 1800s.





# Governance

**The Governance Committee reviews the Historical Society's bylaws, policies, and procedures, proposing updates as needed. It also recommends candidates for election to the Board, monitors implementation of the strategic plan, and helps evaluate the performance of the Board and the Executive Director.**

In addition to carrying out its customary tasks this year, the Governance Committee supported the Historical Society's efforts to act nimbly yet thoughtfully in a time of crisis. As Covid-19 took hold in March, governance discussions led to the Board's creation of successive bodies to guide and speed the Historical Society's response to the pandemic. The first, a Covid-19 Response Committee, was formed that month. It was replaced in May by the Executive Committee to address not only the pandemic, but other urgent issues.

Working closely with staff, the Executive Committee approved postponement of the season's exhibit, public closure of the Grindle House and Abbott School, and expansion of the Historical Society's walking tour program. In addition, the Executive Committee served as a forum for discussion on how the Historical Society can substantively address issues of racial injustice highlighted by the May 25th killing of George Floyd.

At mid-year, the Governance Committee proposed two changes to the bylaws, one allowing members to vote remotely in the annual Board election, and one for the postponement of annual meetings during declared emergencies. Office Manager, Angela Bonacasa, then created and implemented new procedures which helped boost participation, as members across the country voted electronically and by mail.

## GOVERNANCE Committee Members

George Hatch, *chair*  
Ellen Benjamin  
Mary Dearborn  
Susan Hatch  
Howard Lowell  
Lisa Simpson Lutts, *staff*

Meanwhile, the Governance Committee recruited new board prospects as part of the ongoing implementation of term limits. Three new members joined the Board in August: Kelly Gualtieri, John Mitchell, and Marc Pelletier. Sadly, term limits also meant the departure of two superb directors—Brooke Tenney and Jack Macdonald.

Jack, a director since 2008, served as Vice President in 2012 and President during 2013-15—a period in which the Grindle House was restored to create staff offices, a reading room, and

Brooke Tenney and Jack Macdonald celebrating the arrival of the *Hermione* into Castine Harbor, 2015.



a collections storage facility. Jack also led the Historical Society in co-hosting the 2015 visit to Castine of the frigate *Hermione*. Jack's wise and able leadership contributed to the success of all these initiatives.

Brooke joined the Board in August 2009, becoming Vice President in 2013 and President serving a two-year term during 2015-2017. Her achievements included leading the drafting of an ambitious strategic plan and ensuring the document did not gather dust. Brooke's energy, thoughtfulness, dedication, and patience were critical not only to the plan's adoption, but to its ongoing implementation.

Additionally, the Governance Committee formalized a staff performance-review and compensation policy, as well as criteria for the appointment of honorary directors. The Board approved both measures and put the latter to immediate use in naming Lynne Dearborn and Ruth Scheer as honorary directors in recognition of their combined 41 years of outstanding Board service.

Lynne and Ruth have been exemplars of the thoughtful and productive leadership that over the decades has built the Historical Society both in size and capability.

## Our Volunteers Led the Way on Walking Tours

Recruiting, scheduling, and preparing volunteers for the 2020 season began innocently enough in January with a letter to last year's docents. Early responses were enthusiastic and the Abbott School schedule began to fill for the season. Then came the pandemic.

We sent a second letter in March asking whether volunteers would be willing to be docents if the exhibits were to open and/or would they participate in an alternate program of guided outdoor walking tours.

While many responded that they would be available if we opened the exhibits, the numbers did not warrant a full schedule. We did, however, receive positive responses from fourteen volunteers saying they would welcome giving walking tours. Four were our veteran walking tour guides from past years, but the rest were enthusiastic docents wanting to give this new format a try. So we moved ahead.

Our curator, Paige Lilly, developed a comprehensive training program including on-line reading material and videos, an exciting new walking tour script and route, online training sessions, and finally in-person practice tours.

During July and August, we offered walking tours twice daily Wednesday through Saturday and once on Sunday afternoons. Beginning in September, tours ran once a day.



Mike Coughlin leads a walking tour.

It's no secret that the Castine Historical Society relies on volunteers in many capacities. There are many volunteer opportunities including docent, walking tour guide, collections volunteer, or committee member. Give us a call at (207) 326-4118. We'd love your help!



David Avery begins his walking tour.

We also felt we should offer a tour for those who might not enjoy a mile-long walk through our hilly town. Paige created another script, and on five alternate Saturdays, we provided seated tours on the Town Common. For those unable to make tour times, we also offered special tours by reservation.

Throughout the season, our guides interacted with more than 340 folks who showed up for our tours. Some were overnight tourists and some were day trippers from as far away as Portland! It certainly helped that our walking tour had been featured in *Down East Magazine's* 2020 Scavenger Hunt.

To ensure everyone's safety, we asked participants to wear masks and provide contact tracing information. All did so gladly. They also donated \$1,748 - almost as much as last season's exhibit donations when we normally see well over 3,000 exhibit visitors!

After the tour season was finished, Education Committee members and staff created a short survey for the guides to see what we can do to improve next year. We will be excited to offer walking and seated Town Common tours next season.

## Thank you TO OUR VOLUNTEERS:

Lela Agnew  
Alice Alston  
Richard Ames  
David Avery  
Jeb Baker  
Margaret Beckman  
Doug Benjamin  
Ellie Benjamin  
Beth Boucher  
Bill Buchanan

Penny Carlhian  
Mike Coughlin  
Jim Day  
Lynne Dearborn  
Mary Dearborn  
Jean di Sabatino  
Ewen Farnham  
Rodney Flora  
Sally Foote  
Anne Fuentes

Louise Giugliano  
Kelly Gualtieri  
George Hatch  
Susie Hatch  
Lisa Haugen  
Gunilla Kettis  
Charlotte Alston Legg  
Howard Lowell  
Karen Lyons  
Jack Macdonald

Marcia Mason  
Dabney McKenzie  
John Mitchell  
Roger Moss  
Peggy O'Neil-Murphy  
John Parish  
Mac Patterson  
Marc Pelletier  
Ken Scheer  
Ruth Scheer

Richard Stern  
Darcy Stevens  
Judy Sullivan  
Pedrick Sweet  
Brooke Tenney  
Don Tenney  
Loi Thai  
Heather Trainor  
Bobby Vagt  
Stefanie Scheer Young  
Georgia Zildjian



Our Strategic Plan emphasizes community outreach that engages community partners to work toward a shared vision to tap the economic, educational, and recreational potential of Castine's rich history.

## Local Partnerships and Programs

This year we found creative ways to collaborate with our partners in the Castine community. Although the Education Committee was working with the Adams School to design a new curriculum but had to halt this project, we looked for each opportunity and worked to make the most of it.



Screenshot from the Be a Castine In-Cider Party

### 2020 Public Programs

- Richard M. Ames, guest curator and Board member, designed a virtual exhibit of *Risky Business*. To view, visit the website under the Exhibits button.
- Volunteer Dr. Ken Scheer produced a new addition to the Living History Collection, featuring interviews with four Castine Town Managers. To view, visit the website under the Collections button.
- Guides offered historic walking tours of Castine from July – October and seated tours of the Castine Town Common from August – October.
- The Be a Castine In-Cider Holiday Party occurred via Zoom with historic photos and remembrances of Christmas past in Castine.



The Witherle Memorial Library exhibit

### WITHERLE MEMORIAL LIBRARY

We were pleased to accept an invitation from the Library to organize an exhibit for their lobby display case for the months of July – September. The display featured a variety of objects from our collection not normally on view. Among them were items from our Noah Brooks collection and from town leisure activities.

fall, the group began to meet to make plans for a phase two tour featuring the Penobscot Expedition, Fort George, and Witherle Woods.

### RESEARCH REQUESTS

Normally, we welcome researchers by appointment to the Grindle House's Reading Room to use our extensive research collection. However, in-person research was curtailed and our curator, Paige Lilly, continued to assist researchers via email, social media, and telephone. She answered over 152 requests from historians, genealogists, authors, news media, Castine residents, and one playwright. Several research inquiries focused on the 100th anniversary of woman's suffrage in the United States. Paige's research relied on documents in the collection such as the 1920 registry of Castine's female voters and photographs in the Porter/Dewson scrapbooks.

### BLUE HILL HISTORICAL SOCIETY

This nearby Historical Society reached out to us to learn more about how we organized our walking tours. We hosted a special tour with their Board members and summer college intern. From there, we began assisting their intern with ideas about ways to research Blue Hill's 19th century African American population. In October, Executive Director Lisa Simpson Lutts was the guest speaker at the Blue Hill Historical Society's virtual annual meeting presenting her research to date on Castine's African American residents.

### CASTINE VIRTUAL TOUR

Meetings of the Castine History Partners went on hiatus, but continued to promote the virtual tour through social media. This

### EDUCATION Committee Members

Alice Alston, <i>chair</i>	Judy Sullivan
Kelly Gualtieri	Heather Trainor
Jean di Sabatino	Georgia Zildjian
Louise Giugliano	Ellen Benjamin, <i>ex officio</i>
Peggy O'Neil-Murphy	Lisa Simpson Lutts, <i>staff</i>

## Caring For Our Collection

While it has only been five years since we opened the Grindle House to the public, we still are amazed when we meet Historical Society members and Castine residents who don't know about the building's most important feature: our Collection Storage vault.

Thanks to the generous endowment bequest of Deborah Pulliam, in 2008 the Castine Historical Society purchased the Grindle House at 13 School Street. Today the home, carefully restored to its appearance in c. 1850 when built by Samuel Grindle, houses staff offices, researchers' reading room, a small exhibit space, our library, and room to process new items coming into the collection.

But most important, is the building's two-story collections storage space – referred to as “the vault.” Attached to the back of the house, the vault structure replaces a smaller addition to the Grindle House. From the outside, the new addition takes the form of a traditional Maine carriage barn. However, under the clapboard siding, behind the blind windows and the fake barn door with its horse ramp, is a steel reinforced concrete structure. This fireproof, high-security, temperature and humidity-controlled storage facility houses the archival collection on the first floor and the objects and paintings on the lower level. Both spaces are fitted with shelving and racks to hang paintings.



The lower level vault stores paintings and collection items like this box from the A.W. Clark store in Castine.

Curator Paige Lilly with the Castine town records. We are the caretakers of record for these important documents.



The archival space is also equipped with high-density, mobile shelving that doubles the capacity over normal fixed shelving. In addition, large flat storage is available to hold our collection of maps, charts, and plans.

Mechanically, the Grindle House is an efficient, twenty-first century building. Castine's only geothermal system provides heating, cooling, and humidity control. Rounding out the space are electrical, security, and life safety systems that meet modern codes. A generator maintains back up for those times when Castine loses power.

The Grindle House collection storage vault is a model for other history museums and historical societies in Maine. We are indeed fortunate and are always grateful to Deborah Pulliam for her enduring bequest.

### BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS Committee Members

Mark Pelletier, *chair*  
James Day  
Ewen Farnham  
Pedrick Sweet  
Roger Moss  
Marcia Mason  
McKee “Mac” Patterson  
Ellen Benjamin, *ad hoc*  
Lisa Simpson Lutts, *staff*



# Collections

## The treasures entrusted to the Castine Historical Society grew in unexpected directions throughout 2020.

Among the items donated, we received the gift of a children's book written by Phyllis Churchill Tenney, *Land of the Golden Sand* and a full set of Castine Bank notes, 1816-1819. Later we added a children's book by Johanna Sweet, *Corona Island*, and a portrait of Dr. Nirav Shah, Maine's CDC Director, by Castine artist, Susan Adam.

Historical societies, museums, and archives across the world increasingly take opportunities to collect now what residents and researchers may want to know in the future. The two 2020 items mentioned above belong to our Castine COVID-19 Collection, established in March of this year to document how people and organizations in Castine coped during the pandemic. From photographs of the walk-up window at Emerson Hall to Castine folks sporting face coverings to social meeting posts, locally made masks, and poetry, this collection continues to grow as the pandemic continues to impact our lives. The process of collecting digital content ranging from photo files, web pages, emails, e-blasts, to newsletters enhanced the Historical Society's capacity for long-term preservation of electronic media.

We again conducted a nationwide search for a graduate-level student in history, museum studies, public history, or a related field to award with an eight-week paid internship. This opportunity was kindly funded by Cynthia Boyer who joins us in making this educational contribution to the museum field.



Darcy and her daughter Siara at Fort Madison

Darcy Stevens, a doctoral scholar in history at the University of Maine, was the perfect match and luckily available nearby when interstate travel was restricted. With teaching experience and expertise in the American Revolution, she became an accomplished walking tour guide, scanned and cataloged photographs, and contributed the lead article for *The Castine Visitor* fall 2020 issue.

Dr. Nirav D. Shah, Director, Maine Center for Disease Control and Prevention, gained popularity through his leadership and thoughtful daily briefings from Augusta beginning in mid-March 2020. Portrait by Susan Adam, Castine, Maine.



The Collections Committee advocates for best practices in the care of our historical collections, proposes relevant policies to the full Board of Directors and oversees collections management. The highlights of the Committee's work in 2020 include:

- **Fees and licensing** – approved procedural documents for selling digital copies of images.
- **Digitization** – considered best practices and feasibility.
- **Disaster Preparedness Plan** – completed a draft updating the previous 2014 plan.
- **2021 budget** – researched replacing digital backup and recovery systems and investing in upgrades to collections, membership, and donation management software.

### COLLECTIONS Committee Members

Richard M. Ames, <i>chair</i>	Jack Macdonald
Lynne Dearborn	Ellen Benjamin, <i>ex officio</i>
Howard Lowell	Lisa Simpson Lutts, <i>staff</i>
Rodney Flora	Paige Lilly, <i>staff</i>



# Updating the Disaster Preparedness Plan

Castine Historical Society's stated mission is "to invigorate our community through collaborative exploration and stewardship of our region's rich history, engaging residents and visitors of all ages in Castine's extraordinary past and, through it, that of New England and North America." [Emphasis added]. As good stewards of the collection, we take actions within our financial ability so we can best ensure that historical documents and museum artifacts are preserved for our community and future generations.

How do we do this? At our most basic preservation level, we have state-of-the-art archival and museum storage in our climate-controlled storage facility at the Grindle House. Few historical societies in the country can replicate the constant temperature and relative humidity conditions we provide to safeguard our holdings. Our policies governing researcher use and exhibits follow the highest standards for museum and archives administration. And we try to anticipate what we hope will never occur – a natural or person-caused incident that damages our facilities, equipment, and collections. This is known as Disaster Preparedness Planning and is another example of the Castine Historical Society adhering to professional best practices.

In 2014, partnering with the Maine Cultural Emergency Resource Coalition and FEMA Corps, the Castine Historical Society created its first disaster plan guidelines to follow in the event of a disaster or emergency. This year, we have revisited and updated its contents and approach to reflect current conditions, including the "pandemic disaster" we are all confronting.

The purpose of the plan is to present general procedures to be followed in the event of an emergency to protect, secure, and

Our state-of-the art collections storage vault provides further protection. Pictured is curator Paige Lilly using our rolling shelving system.



recover various records and artifacts in the custody of the Castine Historical Society, and to restore business continuity in a timely manner.

The plan recognizes that preparedness plans cannot fully describe actual operational tactics and strategies and will rely on the on-site staff and Board Executive Committee members to protect the Historical Society buildings, collection, and staff following an emergency event.

Like all "insurance," we hope we never have to invoke our Disaster Preparedness Plan in a real situation, but it is there to guide us if an emergency does occur.



Exhibits like *Risky Business: Square-Rigged Ships and Salted Fish*, include items from the collection as well as loans from individuals and other museums. Disaster plans, security systems, and insurance, help care for these items entrusted in our care.

## EXHIBITS Committee Members

Brooke Tenney, *chair*  
Susan Hatch  
Donald Tenney  
Jeff Stammen  
Ellen Benjamin, *ex-officio*  
Lisa Simpson Lutts, *staff*  
Paige Lilly, *staff*

## Development

After a successful Annual Appeal at the end of 2019 and into early 2020, we were looking forward to our biggest fundraiser, the Castine House and Garden Tour, to be held in the summer of 2020.

The Development Committee was busy supporting the efforts of co-chairs, Ruth Scheer and Lynne Dearborn, with the planning of the event. However, as the pandemic took hold, it was clear that the tour would have to be postponed. At that point, the committee began to look at what we could do to raise needed funds in non-traditional ways. In other words, no parties! The committee came up with a clever and safe way to raise funds and allow small groups to gather in support of the Historical Society.

We planned and launched the Mystery Backyard Picnic Fundraiser. Picnickers bought a mystery picnic pass that would allow them to have a picnic for up to four at one of several Castine private backyard settings. The attendees picked their date in advance; then, on the morning of the picnic, they received a call from the Historical Society with their surprise picnic location.



Mystery picnics were held in many spectacular spots in Castine – this one being the dock at the Scheer property.

It was a unique opportunity to enjoy some of the most stunning scenery in Castine while raising funds for the Castine Historical Society. We heartily thank all the property owners who welcomed picnic patrons to their beautiful backyards. Without their support this delightful event would not have been possible.

At the same time, and to help support our local merchants, committee members donated items they purchased from local stores to a Castine In a Bag Raffle. Ticket sales were brisk for people wanting a Castine Historical Society sail cloth bag

The Development Committee's goal is to work with the staff to raise funds through a variety of means to support the Historical Society's exhibitions, permanent collection, building preservation, and programs.

filled with amazing goods and gift certificates from our local merchants. Many thanks to all those who bought tickets and congratulations to the winner, Brooke Tenney.

Throughout the summer, the staff worked on promoting online sales of items from our gift shop. This December, we again partnered with Compass Rose Books on our Pop-Up Shop. Online and Pop-Up Shop sales exceeded all expectations providing a needed source of revenue.



The Holiday Pop-Up Shop at Compass Rose Books

In addition, the staff successfully applied for the second round of the Paycheck Protection Program to assist with closing an anticipated year-end deficit.

Most of all, we are grateful for our members' generous support during this challenging time through your continued membership and Annual Appeal support. We hope we can be together next year and wish you good health as we await brighter days ahead.

### DEVELOPMENT Committee Members

Lisa Haugen, *chair*  
Lela Agnew  
Ellen Benjamin  
Penny Carlhian  
Mary Dearborn

Anne Fuentes  
Susan Hatch  
Ruth Scheer  
Lisa Simpson Lutts, *staff*



# Financial Report

The Historical Society strives to create a balanced revenue stream consisting of income from the interest on the Historical Society's endowments, as well as increased member and donor engagement, earned income, business sponsorships, creative fundraising initiatives, and grant writing.

Like all non-profit historical societies, 2020 proved to be a challenging year financially. In March as we postponed the Castine House and Garden Tour, staff and Board members were proactive in cutting the annual budget "to the bone." Ultimately, our goal was to keep our staff employed, continue to protect the collections, and to provide cost-effective programming for the public.

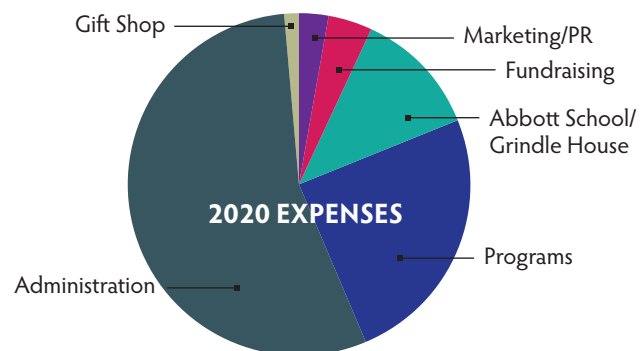
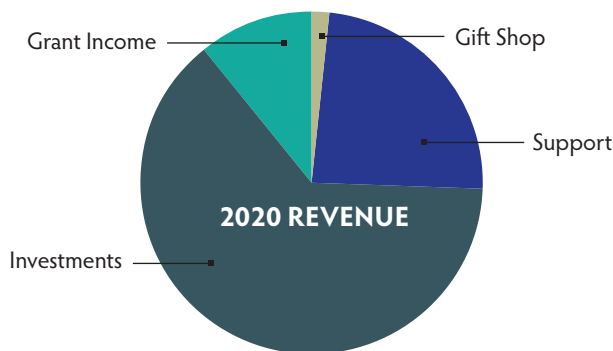
We are extremely fortunate that our endowment's interest income provided the needed cushion to continue throughout the year, as did curbing spending and seeking alternate sources of funding. As a result, we move into 2021 – another year of financial uncertainty – in the black.

The Finance Committee also worked with Bangor Savings Bank to renegotiate our Grindle House loan in light of low interest rates. The result is a significant savings in the monthly loan payment from the endowment which will help us reinvest and grow the endowment for the future.

## FINANCE Committee Members

Susan Hatch, *treasurer*  
William Buchanan  
Douglas Benjamin  
John Mitchell  
John Parish  
Ruth Scheer  
Ellen Benjamin, *ex officio*  
Lisa Simpson Lutts, *staff*

Below is a comparison of 2019 vs. 2020 revenue and expense showing in broad categories how we spend our income and from where this income is derived. As always, we welcome questions from our members about our finances.



2019 REVENUE	
Historical Society Gift Shop	17,899.00
Support	99,008.50
Investment Income	232,000.75
Grant income	0.00
<b>Total Support &amp; Revenue</b>	<b>\$348,908.25</b>

2020 REVENUE	
Historical Society Gift Shop	6,444.00
Support	86,962.00
Investment Income	232,080.00
Grant income	39,300.00
<b>Total Support &amp; Revenue</b>	<b>\$364,786.00</b>

2019 EXPENSES	
Marketing/Public Relation	17,587.00
Fundraising	14,569.00
Abbott School/Grindle House	82,820.00
Programs	120,747.00
Administrative	151,926.00
Gift Shop	9,290.00
<b>Total Operating Expenses</b>	<b>\$396,939.00</b>

2020 EXPENSES	
Marketing/Public Relations	9,673.00
Fundraising	12,778.00
Abbott School/Grindle House	37,742.00
Programs	79,476.00
Administrative	174,652.00
Gift Shop	4,324.00
<b>Total Operating Expenses</b>	<b>\$318,645.00</b>

# 2020 Castine Historical Society Members

## LIFETIME

Virginia Beers  
Virginia and Stan Bourne\*  
Cynthia Boyer  
Dona Brophy\*  
Paul Davis  
Leila and Jim Day\*  
Direxa Dearie  
William Dick\*  
Felicity and Mike Gillette  
Andrew Harig  
Vivian Harig  
Mrs. Francis W. Hatch\*  
Mark Honey  
Kathryn Jones  
Gunilla and Par Kettis  
Charles King  
Barbara and Elliot Lindsley  
Kim and Conner Madison  
Don McLean  
Donnamarie and Mark Mills  
Paul Myers  
Albert Myers  
Meg Ann Noah  
Robert B. Rettig\*  
Deborah Rice  
Jeryl Schriever  
and Alexander Huppé  
Arthur Wardwell  
Roxanne and Robert Webster  
Lucy Jane Webster\*  
Libby and Spike Wiswall, Jr.  
Brian Witherspoon

## NOAH BROOKS SOCIETY

Laura and Richard Ames\*  
Geoffrey De Sousa  
Sally and Todd Fonner  
Marina and George Hatch\*  
Darisse Paquette  
and Hans Strauch\*

## BENEFACTOR

Catherine and Christopher Abbate  
Tim Allison-Hatch  
Ellie and Doug Benjamin\*  
Mary Dearborn\*  
Carmen Gillett  
and William Belmont  
Marcia and Tom Mason\*  
Diane and David Modesett  
Joan Netland

## PATRON

Alice and Wallace Alston\*  
Carolyn and Morten Arntzen  
Janis Bobb  
Roberta and Bruce Boczkiewicz\*  
Penelope Carlhian  
and Marc Pelletier\*  
Lory and Kevin Childress  
Roxanne and Kevin Coady  
Michael Coughlin  
Laura and Joe Cullen  
Wendy and Donn Fullenweider  
Linda Genereux and Timur Galen  
Bente Hartmann\*  
Susan and David Hatch\*  
Breeze and Skip Hobbs  
Mary Ellen and Tanner Hunt  
Alan Kornberg and Harold Koda\*  
Shannon and Bill Light\*  
Mary and Howard Lowell\*  
Nancy Marto and Thomas Adams\*  
Dabney and Richardson McKenzie  
Liz and John Parish\*  
Peg and Mac Patterson\*  
Louise and Peter Pincoffs\*  
Lee Smith and Hal Crowther  
Candace and Richard Stern  
Meredithe and James Stuart-Smith  
Brooke and Gil Tenney\*  
Peter Tenney  
Susan Walter and Jim Hubbard

## CONTRIBUTING

Carol Adams and Rick Armstrong\*  
Lela and David Agnew\*  
Susan Allen and Neil Middleton  
Alicia Anstead and Peter Davis\*  
Sandy and David Austin\*  
Linda Austin and Jeb Hallett  
Delma and Jack Bagley  
Jane and Nat Ball  
Mary Bartlett  
Marian and David Bicks  
Posey and Bill Boicourt\*  
Bob Bruce  
Ruth and Michael Burke  
Carol Cameron  
Susanne and Ben Clark  
Laurie Cleghorn-Stone  
and James Stone\*  
James Conway\*  
Ceane and Bryan Corbett  
Claire and John Curtin III  
Lynne Dearborn\*  
Lorna Doran and Bruce Breimer  
Kate Dustin and Michael Mainen  
Gretchen Ebert  
Anne and Ewen Farnham  
Elaine and Allen Fernald  
Sam and Bob Friedlander  
Judy and Jim Gibbons\*  
Anne Gorman and Pete Musgrove  
Barbara Grover\*  
Kelly and Paul Gualtieri  
Hazel Hall  
Azita Hamedani and Peter Mason  
Ian Hatch  
Lisa and Patrick Haugen\*  
Betsy and Jaik Henderson\*  
Adeline and Myron Hofer\*  
Barbara Jackson  
Jan M. and Gary T. Johnson\*  
Kerri-Ann Jones and Thomas Beck\*  
Cynthia and Alvion Kimball\*  
Claire and William Lovett\*  
Karen and William Lyons  
Lynda and Gordon MacArthur\*  
Carolyn Mathiasen

Lucy McNeece  
Helen H. Miller and James L. Kerr\*  
Virginia and Edward Miller, Jr.  
Camille and Chick Mohaupt  
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Gene and George Bland  
Stephanie and Robert Boenau  
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Beth and Mike Boucher  
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A pageant in Fort George to celebrate Maine's 100th anniversary, 1920.



Abbott Brownell  
 Miriam and Charles Butts\*  
 Barbara Campbell  
 Sylvia Carter  
 Betsy and John Casteen III\*  
 Anni Castine  
 Linda, Ned, and Olivia Cloonan\*  
 Carol and John Clouse  
 Kelly, JB, and Evelyn Cooney  
 Jane and Tom Coony  
 Connie Curtin  
 and Peter Cooperdock  
 Joan Darby  
 Jean di Sabatino  
 and Louise Giugliano\*  
 Lisa Tyson Ennis and John J. Ennis  
 Sara and Craig Fanning  
 Richard Fenton  
 Janet and Will Fisher  
 Judy and Doug Fitzsimmons  
 Betsy Foote and Howell Jackson\*  
 Sally Foote  
 Anne and Roland Fuentes\*  
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 Mickey and Aaron Gast  
 Sue and Jimmy Goodson  
 Dixie and Paul Gray\*  
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 Emily and Richard Law  
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2020 Annual Report

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 Barbara Cooper\*  
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 Jane Guild Cutter  
 John Dearborn\*  
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 Katherine B. Flood\*  
 Brooks Gray  
 Mary Hall  
 Susan Hazlett  
 Patricia Hill  
 Sally Hoople  
 Elizabeth Hotchkiss  
 Beverly Howard  
 Marie Kaden  
 Berna Kaiserian  
 Mary C. Kneisel  
 Sue Loomis

Mary Claire Mari  
 Lillian Martin  
 Elizabeth Miller  
 Bruce A. Mortimer\*  
 Danielle Mutty\*  
 Carolyn Punzelt  
 Anette Rodrigues  
 Roddy Scheer  
 Susan Ruch  
 Valerie Scott  
 Heather Tyler Smaha  
 Serena R. Smith\*  
 Mary Tobey  
 Penelope Tonry  
 Carolyn and Charles Ulrich\*  
 Lindsey Vagt  
 Peter Vogell  
 Laurence Wade  
 Jane Warker  
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 Joan Torno  
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 2020 Annual Appeal



Castine celebrates Maine's 100th anniversary of statehood with a parade, 1920.

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# A Celebration of Ann Miller

By Helen H. Miller

My mother, Ann Miller, turned 100 on November 21, 2020. For almost half of her life she has been actively involved in the life of Castine and with the Castine Historical Society (CHS). When I was asked to write a brief note commemorating her birthday and her involvement with CHS, I sat down with her and asked what she viewed as her contributions to the Historical Society both as a Board member and Board President. A more far-ranging recollection of her time in Castine is reflected in an excellent interview of my mother conducted by Ken Scheer that is a part of the Living History feature found on the CHS website under the Collections button.



Mimi McMennamin, actress Lisa Hammond, and Ann Miller at the opening of *The Little Locksmith* play in Castine.

When I spoke with my mother, she first pointed out that while the Castine Historical Society had existed without a home for many years through the efforts of Gardner Gregory, CHS came alive following the tireless work of Jim and Leila Day to develop interest and support for the purchase of the Abbott School to serve as a physical home for the organization and its collections. I should add that the Days had captured my mother and father's interest in Castine history and CHS even before my mother joined the CHS Board in 1994.

Upon joining the Board, she was asked to chair the Long-Range Planning Committee. In that capacity, she believed it would be quite important to involve people from the broader Castine community in the process of planning for the use of the building and storage of the collections, and encouraged the hiring of John Bird, a professional, to provide assistance in developing a plan.

The plan that evolved focused on Board development, the formation of operating committees, the use of the building for rotating exhibits, the need for a curator for the care of the collection, and the recruitment of volunteers to assist in the day-to-day operation of the Abbott School building. She became the CHS Board Secretary in 2002 and was President of the Board from 2003 until 2006.

A particularly important highlight of her tenure was the installation of the Historical Society's first permanent exhibit, a multimedia display commemorating the Penobscot Expedition. The exhibit was donated and designed by Frank Hatch Jr. in honor of his father, Frank Hatch, Sr.

My mother was also quite proud of her effort to organize a production of *The Little Locksmith*, a dramatization of the life of Katherine Butler Hathaway, a Castine writer who described her effort to overcome severe handicaps in a memoir of the same name.

Another significant accomplishment was the restoration of the Abbott School's cupola, a project that was funded in part through a grant from the 1772 Foundation. Less visible accomplishments were the computerization of the financial and membership records and the launch of the first Annual Appeal. When the Grindle House was purchased in 2008, she advocated the use of geothermal heat and supported the effort to build a state-of-the-art collection storage space to safeguard the Society's historic documents, objects, and paintings.

During her tenure on the CHS Board, from 1994 to 2017 and her then appointment as an Honorary Director, every visitor who came to our family home was taken by my mother to view the current Castine Historical Society exhibit. With the arrival of the *Hermione* in 2015, her home was a base for many out-of-town visitors and guests, and on her 100th birthday, those individuals and many others from around the country and overseas commented on her warm hospitality and that of the Castine Historical Society. May her vision and her commitment to principles of governance, leadership, excellence, and inclusion continue to inspire members of the Castine Historical Society.



## In Memory



Lois Cyr presents essay contest awards to Adams School students, 1985.

In 2020, the Castine Historical Society lost a number of valued members whose contributions of time and talent helped shape the organization. While space does not allow us to leave tributes to all those who passed away, we felt we should mention three in particular.

The late Lois Moore Cyr, who passed away in January 2020, was an instrumental member during 1980s-90s. Lois was born in Castine and grew up on the Moore Farm, attending the Adams School and later Bangor High School. After marrying, she moved away with her husband, Paul. In 1982, Lois and Paul Cyr moved to Castine and immersed themselves in various organizations, including the Castine Historical Society.

Local history and writing were passions of Lois, whose grandparents owned the Shetola House Hotel and A. W. Clark's general store on Water Street. Lois wrote about her memories in the *Castine Visitor* in 1985 and 1998.

From 1993-1994, Lois served as secretary of the Board of Directors and was an active member of the Collections Committee. In 1985, Lois helped organize the summer exhibit on the Shetola House, and in 1999, she donated the extensive

A.W. Clark papers related to the store and the Shetola House to the Historical Society.

We also lost Frances "Fran" Bos this year. Fran is remembered as a dedicated collections volunteer who tirelessly worked with Sally Foote's committee beginning in the 1990s and continuing through 2017. Meeting weekly, these volunteers catalogued the Historical Society's permanent collection. For over 20 years, Fran also helped hang and take down the Bicentennial Quilt each spring and fall.

Volunteer Anne Parsons passed away in June. Anne and her husband, Lynn, retired full-time to Castine in the summer of 2005 but had been frequent renters since 1975. They quickly joined the Historical Society. Anne served as co-editor with Lynn of the *Castine Visitor* from 2008-2013. She also co-wrote three articles for the newsletter including one on the history of the Schooner *Bowdoin* that now serves as a training ship for Maine Maritime Academy. Anne was always a smiling, friendly face at every event held by the Historical Society and she will be greatly missed.

## In Memoriam

George Ames  
Oakes Ames

Frances Bos  
William Carter

Lois Cyr  
Carolyn Hooper

Olive Mulligan  
Anne Parsons

Joe Sandven  
Laurie Tenney



Castine Historical Society

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419  
VISITORS  
common tours • programs • walking & town

371  
MEMBERS

20  
NEW  
MEMBERS

152  
RESEARCH  
online requests

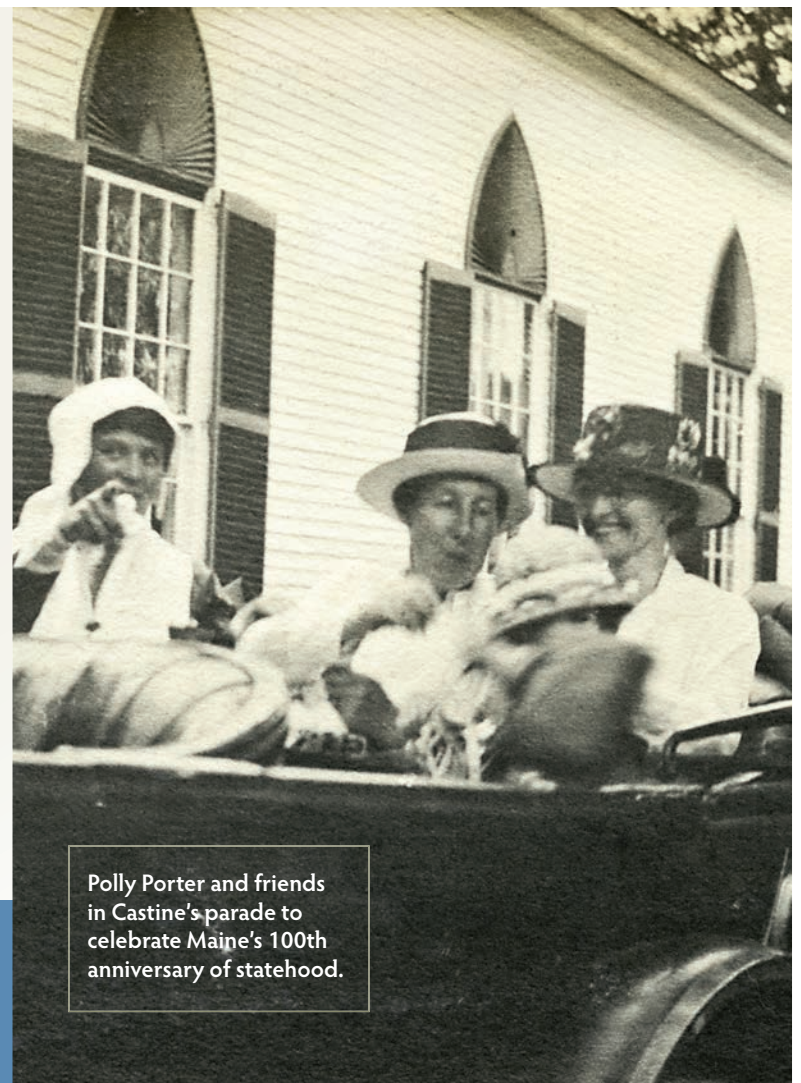
51  
VOLUNTEERS

1,018  
FACEBOOK  
FRIENDS

659  
E-BLAST  
SUBSCRIBERS

8,548  
WEBSITE  
VISITORS  
and 25,536 website page views

Thank you for your support!



Polly Porter and friends  
in Castine's parade to  
celebrate Maine's 100th  
anniversary of statehood.