

# Annual Report



2025



Undated early 20th century photograph of Castine's waterfront, 1999.43.94

# new beginnings

2025 brought many changes to the Castine Historical Society. After eight incredible years, our previous Executive Director, Lisa Simpson Lutts, retired. Her leadership launched CHS into the future, and we are *eternally grateful* for her leadership and passion for both our organization and the wider Castine community.

After a lengthy national search, Dr. Kate McMahon was selected as the new Executive Director of the CHS and began her tenure in June. Kate has enjoyed getting to know the Castine community and this organization. Her focus is to continue to ensure that the CHS remains a vital community resource for generations to come, while seeking creative ways to collaborate with other groups in the community and welcoming new folks to the CHS fold.

In October 2025, we wrapped up the second year of our exhibition *A History of Castine in 40 Objects*. Both summer seasons, visitors from around the world came to the CHS to view this exhibition and attend our guided walking tours of Castine. We held a series of lectures and programs throughout the summer and well into the fall, with hundreds attending lectures, in person and online, by notable scholars such as Dr. Liam Riordan of the University of Maine and James Eric Francis Sr. of the Penobscot Nation. These lectures highlighted the diverse histories of Maine and the United States.

We continued to collect important pieces of Castine's history, including valuable early Customs House records of Castine donated by the Booth family. We also acquired more than thirty boxes of materials from the rusticator cottage Moss Acre, courtesy of the Bourne family, including the archives of Molly Dewson and Polly Porter, who were the focus of our 2017 and 2018 exhibition, *Castine's Devoted Women*.

In this report, you will learn more about important moments this year, including the Walk for Historical and Ecological Recovery (WHERE) in October, when over 150 participants worked with our local partners to learn about the Wabanaki and Black histories of this place we now call Castine. It was an inspiring weekend for all who participated, and we hope it sets a precedent for future opportunities through which we can tell diverse stories of Castine's history.

The Castine Historical Society is your historical society, and together we make Castine's vibrant history accessible, relevant, and inspiring to everyone! Thank you.

Dabney McKenzie, Ph.D.  
President, Board of Directors

Kate McMahon, Ph.D.  
Executive Director

## 2025-2026 Board of Directors

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*Vice President*

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*Secretary*

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*Treasurer*

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Mike Boucher

Penny Carlhian

Jean diSabatino

Brittany Goetting

Susie Hatch

Virginia Hilton

Karen Lyons

Steven Tenney

Melanie Twomey

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Ellie Benjamin

Sara F. Foote

Marcia Mason

John C. Parish, Jr.

Robert B. Rettig

Ruth Scheer

## Staff

Kate McMahon, Ph.D.  
*Executive Director*

Jules Thomson  
*Collections Manager*

Mary Caron Durost  
*Office Manager*

## mission

We make Castine history accessible, relevant, and inspiring to all.

## vision

The Castine Historical Society cultivates curiosity about our past to foster a more inclusive, empathetic, and informed society. Inside and outside our walls, we build relationships among individuals, organizations, and the community to enhance understanding of our collective experiences.



A photograph of students during a parade on Main Street, from George Sullivan's photograph album from ca. 1946 of his time at Maine Maritime Academy, 2025.22.1

Castine Historical Society

## governance

The Governance Committee is charged with improving Board effectiveness and ensuring that CHS's bylaws, policies, and procedures follow best practices in the museum field while reinforcing the organization's mission and values.

Key benchmarks for the success of any nonprofit are the quality, knowledge, skills, and active involvement of its board. The Governance Committee secures a slate of candidates for the Historical Society's Board of Directors to consider for nomination. At the Annual Meeting, members vote to elect candidates that the Board has presented.

In 2025, John "Jeb" Baker, Jean di Sabatino, and Virginia "Ginny" Hilton were elected to the Board for three-year terms. Penny Carlhian was elected to serve the remaining year of her husband Marc Pelletier's term after he sadly passed away in July 2025. Brittany Goetting and Susie Hatch were elected to serve an additional three years on the Board after their first terms, which ended in 2025.

Termed out and leaving the Board were three valuable members of our community whose impact on the CHS and our organization cannot be understated. We are grateful to Mary Dearborn, Richard Ames, and Howard Lowell for their service to the CHS.

Mary served as chair of the Development Committee, leading several important fundraisers including 2025's Summer Cocktail Party "Senior Prom," which was a huge success. She has served on the Governance and Executive Director Search Committees as well. She continues to be an active member of the CHS, co-chairing the 2026 House & Garden Tour with Ruth Scheer.

2025 Annual Report



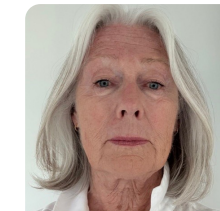
JEB BAKER



JEAN DI SABATINO



GINNY HILTON



PENNY CARLHIAN

Howard Lowell was formerly a Vice President of the Board. He most recently served as chair of the Governance Committee and has been instrumental as we have developed new policies and an updated Strategic Plan. He also continues to serve on our Collections and Governance Committees and is an active researcher for the CHS.

Richard Ames serves as chair of the Collections Committee and was the guest curator for the popular 2019 – 2020 exhibition, *Risky Business: Square-Rigged Ships and Salted Fish*. Richard is a generous contributor to the CHS, with donations allowing us to purchase 33 daguerreotypes and ambrotypes to add to our collection in 2025.

At our Annual Meeting in August, new Executive Director Dr. Kate McMahon was warmly welcomed by the CHS membership and supporters. Lisa Simpson Lutts supported Kate through the transition period after her retirement, for which the CHS is incredibly grateful.



Susie Hatch introducing Kate McMahon to the CHS community



Kate McMahon & Lisa Simpson Lutts

## Governance Committee Members

Jeb Baker  
Susie Hatch  
Ginny Hilton  
Howard Lowell

Dabney McKenzie  
Brooke Tenney  
Kate McMahon, *staff*

# Docents make history happen at the CHS

by Ginny Hilton  
Volunteer Docent Coordinator

## What is the role of a CHS Docent?

Taking on the duties of CHS docent scheduling, I am always on the lookout for anyone who might want to be a docent for the Abbott School CHS Gallery. Of course, the first question asked is "What does a docent do?"

The exhibit at the Abbott School is small but mighty, and having a dedicated, reliable group of docents is key to the Society's success. They play a critical role in educating visitors who come from all over the U.S. and around the world to visit Castine. CHS docents themselves come from many backgrounds and walks of life: professors, teachers, nurses, decorators, event planners, lawyers, doctors, and perhaps an aspiring Indian Chef. All have one thing in common: their real commitment to and love for the Castine Historical Society and the Castine, Maine community.

In 2025, CHS was blessed with twenty-five docents who volunteered time covering the CHS during open hours. Their responsibilities were varied and numerous, from opening the doors, welcoming visitors, explaining the exhibits to selling merchandise and closing down at the end of the day. Their interactions with guests showed in the rave reviews on Trip Advisor and from comments we received. We are grateful for their commitment and dedication which led to a successful year.

## Thank you all!



Tour guide, Mike Coughlin, leading a large group on Bastille Day, July 14, 2025



CHS volunteers and supporters gather at the Open House in June



CHS staff member, Jules Thomson, with volunteers, Penny Carlhian, Michael Boucher, and Suzanne d'Corsey, carry a large Witherle & Co. sign from a donor's house on Main Street back to the CHS in August 2025

## Thank you to our volunteers:

Alice Alston	Charlie King
Jeb Baker	Lisa Lawsing
Ellie Benjamin	Dan Little
Gene Bland	Lisa Lutts
Janis Bobb	Dabney Mackenzie
Beth Boucher	Mary Claire Mari
Sarah Carey	Marcia Mason
Bryan Carey	Jane McCamant
Mike Coughlin	Beth Miller
Patti Day	Nancy Mundth
Mary Dearborn	Peggy O'Neil-Murphy
James Dearborn	Brooke Parish
Jean Di Sabatino	Julia Parish
Jill Eastland	Jessiek Patterson
Susan Farmer	Jen Rosenthal
Louise Giugliano	Jane Saltsman
Anne Gorman	Pamela Scully
Susie Hatch	Brooke Tenney
Ginny Hilton	Melanie Twomey
Jill Jeffries Dearborn	Bobby Vagt
Gunilla Kettis	Pat Zoller



Captain Ike Gray's dog Bingo at the helm leaving Castine, shown in this photograph titled "Bingo Sailing Out," ca. 1960, 2025.23.2

# The CHS Education Committee Annual Report

by Jean di Sabatino  
Education Committee Chair

The Education Committee works within the framework of the CHS strategic plan and with CHS staff to provide advice, support, and evaluation of educational initiatives and adult programming.

**For the 2025 season, key areas of work included:** enriching school-based programming for the 3rd and 4th grade Adams School students, training and assigning docents for *A History of Castine in 40 Objects* exhibit, walking tours, and collaborating on talks and programs for adult audiences.

## SCHOOL PROGRAMS

The Adams School 3rd and 4th grade teacher requested continuance and an update of the well-received Occupation Curriculum that the Education Committee supported during the 2023-2024 school year. The curriculum gave students an opportunity to explore occupations that were common in Castine during the nineteenth century. Education Committee members researched and wrote brief biographies of Castine citizens who worked as doctors, lawyers, shop keepers, ship

builders and suppliers, and maritime workers of all kinds. From these biographies students selected the individuals they wanted to study. Students then viewed artifacts and archives to gain a sense of what life was like in the 19th century.

Meanwhile, Adams School staff provided historical context and background information so the students could develop project-based presentations and summaries of the early Castine workers. Education Committee members then took students on a Castine walking tour, pinpointing the workplaces and home sites of citizens each student selected and giving students an opportunity to ask questions and further expand their knowledge. As



Adams School students tour Castine with former CHS Executive Director Lisa Simpson Lutts and Education Committee member Georgia Zildjian.

a capstone, students designed and presented, to staff members and fellow students, "Book Share" presentations about the citizens they studied as they drew connections between past and present work and lifestyle.



Students from the Adams School visiting the CHS collection to learn about occupations in Castine.

### ADULT PROGRAMS

Providing educational programs for adults is a cornerstone of Castine Historical Society summer activities. Through talks by key historians, authors, and activists as well as walking tours focused on various topics, CHS offers citizens and visitors a glimpse of Castine's place in the known, and yet to be uncovered, history of the region.

The first program of the season was presented by Dr. Stephen J. Hornsby of the University of Maine. Drawing on his book *Cod Coasts: Cultural Landscapes of the Cod Fishery from Cape Cod to Labrador*, Dr. Hornsby discussed the development of the cod fishery along the coasts of northeastern North America, from the early sixteenth century to the early twentieth century. With special emphasis on Castine, a major center for cod fishing in the nineteenth century, Dr. Hornsby examined the cultural or human landscapes associated with the fishery within the entire region.

The Annual Deborah Pulliam Memorial lecture pays homage to the achievements and generosity of late CHS major benefactor, Deborah Pulliam. Ms. Pulliam's civic spirit is honored with a presentation by a speaker able to share significant insights into Castine's past, present or future.

This year's 16th annual Pulliam lecturer was James Eric Francis, Sr., the Penobscot Nation's Director of Cultural and Historical Preservation and Tribal Historian. He is also a researcher, photographer, filmmaker, painter and graphic designer. Mr. Francis spoke on the "Penobscot

Sense of Place," the Wabanaki first language of Maine, and the reclamation of named places from the colonizing legacies of English-speaking settlers. The original words of this region, its natural resources and place names are from the Wabanaki world view of the Casco, Katahdin, Kennebec, Androscoggin, and Pemaquid tribes. As settlers renamed towns and geographies after founding fathers or significant places, the Wabanaki people found themselves living in their homeland labeled with foreign symbols and words. Through the ongoing reclaiming of Wabanaki placenames on the landscape, Mr. Francis described the enduring Indigenous adaption and resistance. This talk served as a precursor to the CHS partnership with the Atlantic Black Box Walk for Historical and Ecological Recovery (WHERE Walk) held in the fall.

The final speaker for the season was Liam Riordan, history professor at the University of Maine. His talk, "Does Anything from the Year 1776 Matter Today?," looked at the Declaration of Independence from a late eighteenth century perspective. With a focus on aspects of text such as "all men are created equal...with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty, and the pursuit of Happiness", Mr. Riordan set the stage for a discussion about the meaning of the Declaration's political ideals as well as its more sordid qualities for U.S. public life today.



James Eric Francis, Sr., giving the Pulliam Lecture in August, titled the "Penobscot Sense of Place."

### Education Committee Members

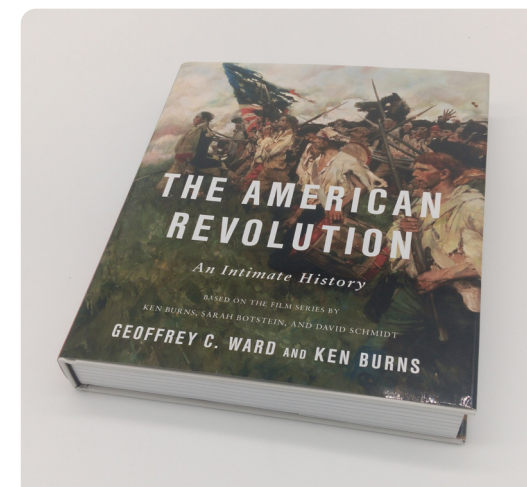
Jean di Sabatino, <i>chair</i>	Georgia Zildjian
Alice Alston	Peggy O'Neil-Murphy
Louise Giugliano	Susie Hatch, <i>ad hoc</i>
Ginny Hilton	Kate McMahon, <i>staff</i>

# collections

When looking back on the past year at CHS, it is inevitably amazing to realize the wide scope of activities which have taken place in what might otherwise be assumed to be a fairly proscribed roster of "Historical Society business."

This remains true even when viewed through the single lens of the institution's collections and collections-related work, and 2025 was certainly no exception.

The lead-up to the United States's 250th on July 4, 2026 provided some opportunities for publicity and collaboration, including a project with Maine Historical Society, who digitized and hosted our original Revolutionary War archives (mostly related to the ill-fated Penobscot Expedition) on Maine Memory Network. CHS also licensed one of our Penobscot Expedition maps to Ken Burns, for the book which accompanied his American Revolution documentary series on PBS.



Ken Burns's *The American Revolution: An Intimate History* which features CHS's archival map of the Penobscot Expedition

Bangor's Husson University made two surprise appearances in '25, first via liaison with a film student whose capstone project was a documentary on the Penobscot Expedition, for which he filmed our collections and interviewed Jules. The second was our consultation with their Pharmacy Department, who analyzed our new acquisition of medications from the old Castine Village Drug Store (and its earlier incarnations) for chemical volatility, toxicity, and potential controlled substances.



*Sisterhooks* by Clark Fitz-Gerald (ca. 1965)

They also provided information about how the medications would have been used, which we have added to our files for future reference.

Our biggest single purchase of the year was the arresting abstract sculpture *Sisterhooks* by Clark Fitz-Gerald, made possible by a donation from the Lovett family in memory of William A. Lovett. Relevant not only because of the local artist and its nautical theme, the piece is also carved from the wood of a fallen Main Street elm.

Our biggest donation, both in terms of size and historical import, came late in the year as members of the Bourne family prepared to sell their multigenerational home in North Castine, known as Moss Acre. Originally built as fine example of a rusticator-era cottage by agricultural equipment heir William Deering Porter of Illinois, the property is most notable as the home of Mary "Molly" Dewson, head of the Women's Division of the Democratic National Campaign Committee, a position formerly held by Eleanor Roosevelt, who was also a personal friend.



Kate and Jules sorting archives at Moss Acre, September 2025

# collections

Aside from a stunning political resume, Dewson was also notable for spending the majority of her life with partner Polly Porter, daughter of William Porter, as a relatively uncloseted lesbian couple during the first half of the 20th century. Many of you will remember CHS's 2017 and 2018 exhibition on Molly and Polly, which featured loans of many of the archives and objects the Bournes have now donated to us. These also dovetail with the couple's 28 photo albums and scrapbooks that CHS already stewards. Taken as a whole, the uniqueness and historical importance of this collection cannot be overstated.

Observant readers will note that we have not mentioned the large-scale project to transfer archives from the Wilson Museum to CHS in this year's report; that is because it has not commenced yet due to prior scheduling commitments at the WM. We anticipate beginning the pilot phase of the project at some point in 2026.

It would be remiss not to mention the excitement that occurred in November, when CHS contacted the Maine State Bomb Squad to determine if we had any early unexploded ordinance in the collections. Director Kate McMahon suggested an investigation after a similar news story broke at Fort McHenry in Baltimore. The State Police did indeed identify and remove three mortar shells, which they attempted to detonate. One was still explosive, and two were confirmed inert and returned. Other smaller cannonballs were also temporarily removed for later testing. Happily, the publicity generated by the incident was overwhelmingly positive, and may have even resulted in a small spike (if not an explosion) in new memberships.

## Education Committee Members

Jean di Sabatino, <i>chair</i>	Peggy O'Neil-Murphy
Alice Alston	Peter Tenney
Louise Giugliano	Susie Hatch, <i>ad hoc</i>
Ginny Hilton	Kate McMahon, <i>staff</i>
Georgia Zildjian	



A caulking iron, used by shipwrights to assist with hammering oakum into the seams between planks on ships, 2025.3.1

# buildings & grounds

**By way of introduction, I am Michael Boucher and at Marc Pelletier's invitation, I joined the B&G committee looking to help while learning from an exceptionally talented mentor:**

Marc's untimely passing placed in perspective for me many of the thankless tasks that Marc performed. I am indebted to Marc's widow, Penny, for joining and providing continuity to the B&G committee as I settle into this position.

Thank you B&G member Steve Skillin for the work he does behind the scenes. I have received so many positive comments remarking on Steve's superior painting of the Abbott School's replacement storm door. John "Jeb" Baker joined B&G in 2025 and took immediate action to tame the weeds that grow incessantly along the brick walks. Jeb's

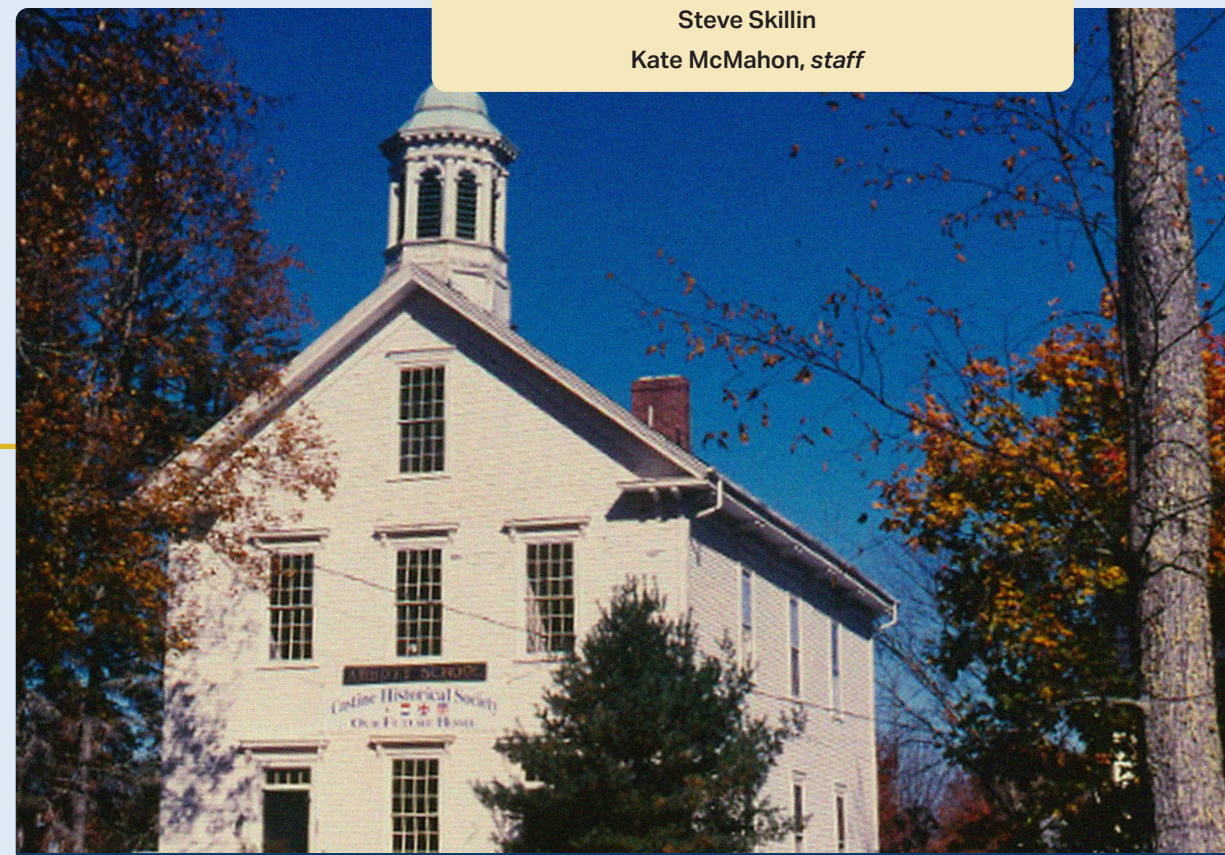
initiative was born of respect, appreciation, and to honor Marc's memory.

Last year, CHS paid off the Grindle House debt so now the CHS now owns both Abbott School and Grindle House. The sides of the Abbott School not visible from the Town Common have weathered and need preservation. This is the primary concern for the 2026 maintenance season, in addition to looking ahead to a possible major renovation in the next five years.

Many changes are afoot and if you care to join the B&G committee, please contact us.

## Building & Grounds Committee Members

Michael Boucher, *chair*  
 John "Jeb" Baker  
 Penny Carlhian  
 Dabney McKenzie, *ad hoc*  
 Steve Skillin  
 Kate McMahon, *staff*



We've come a long way since October 17, 1994 when this picture was taken by Gardner Gregory.

# exhibitions

## 2025 was another great year for the CHS.

The exhibition *A History of Castine in 40 Objects* was on display for its second year. Visitors were treated with this fantastic exhibition throughout the season, supported by the work our incredible docents, who provided assistance to them as they worked through the exhibition and had questions.

The exhibition had strong attendance throughout the season, with a total of 2,632 visitors coming through the Abbott School, which is fantastic attendance for the CHS. This can be credited to the curatorial vision of previous CHS Executive Director, Lisa Simpson Lutts, and the work of the Exhibits Committee.

Our Exhibits Committee continued to support the exhibition throughout the season. Most of our onsite work together began in the fall, when we were preparing for the deinstallation of this exhibition. The process began in late October, after the exhibition closed on the 13th. The Committee rallied together to safely return all of the objects to collections storage, except for the large Customs House Desk (which was brought to collections storage in winter of 2026). The Committee also worked to deinstall all of the many signs and labels in the exhibition.

On October 29, the Committee and other volunteers and staff undertook the careful process of deinstalling the Castine Community Bicentennial Quilt. This incredible work

of art is a testament to the love of Castine's history in this community and the amazing artistic ability of the many quilters who created it. As it was taken down, CHS staff assessed its condition and determined that more should be done during the off season to stabilize and strengthen the parts of the quilt where the hangers attach. That work is being done in early 2026.

The Exhibits Committee spent the end of 2025 preparing and planning for the 2026—2027 exhibition, *Francis Hamabe's Maine: A Life in Art*.

## Exhibits Committee Members

Kate McMahon, *chair*

Penny Carlhian

Susie Hatch

Marcia Mason

Brooke Tenney

Don Tenney



*A History of Castine in 40 Objects*



Visitors enjoying *A History of Castine in 40 Objects* during a reception

# development

In 2025, the Development Committee planned a fun and profitable annual CHS summer fundraiser:

The benefit was a Senior Prom themed reception honoring Ruth and Ken Scheer. Brooke and Julia Parish graciously hosted the party at their beautiful and historic property, Hatch Cove Farm. The festivities took place in and around their classic shingled barn, and the weather cooperated with a nearly perfect summer evening.

Guests wore creative prom attire, including prom dresses of years past, stunning vintage gowns, tuxedos with festive bow ties and elegant white dinner jackets. Many stunning flower arrangements decorated the barn, and many delicate strands of white lights hung from the rafters.

Alex Huppe and Brooke Parish provided two classic vintage cars which were perfect backdrops for Prom photos! Guests enjoyed delicious cocktail fare and danced the night away to great music provided by our fabulous DJ.

The silent auction was filled with one-of-a-kind items thanks to generous members who donated stunning jewelry, vacation homes, boat trips, a flower arranging class, an exclusive catered dinner, a guided trip down the Allagash, artwork, and so much more. We surpassed our financial goal thanks to the donors and to the guests who bid often and bid high on the items!

The highlight of the evening was honoring Ruth and Ken Scheer for their decades-long involvement with and support of the Historical Society. Ruth is an Honorary Director who has served on several committees and co-chaired the House & Garden Tour masterfully for over 20 years. In addition to helping with logistics during the House & Garden Tour, Ken's major undertaking has been recording an engaging series of interviews with several of Castine's most illustrious citizens as they reminisce about aspects of their life in Castine. These oral history videos are available on the CHS website for your viewing pleasure.

In addition to our fundraiser, the committee organized the annual Open House Reception in June. The free event was open to everyone—not just members and was a wonderful way to kick off the season, catch up with summer friends and view the exhibit. The committee, along with other volunteers, assisted by providing hors d'oeuvres and volunteering at the event.

The committee continued its support of four key areas of revenue generation: membership, the Annual Appeal, grants, and the gift shop. This year, 19 new households became members of CHS, which brings the total number of members to 339. The membership is geographically diverse and includes year-round residents, summer residents, and people throughout the United States, many of whom have past family ties to Castine.

Membership dues are the backbone of CHS's income. Our year-end Annual Appeal was supported predominantly by our members, with ninety-two percent of our donations coming from members in addition to their annual dues, raising well over \$39,000 to support exhibitions, programs, and collections care. Grant income is also an important part of our annual funding, and in 2025, we received a \$10,000 grant from Maine Community Foundation to support our work.

CHS's gift shop is another important revenue source. Each spring, staff attend the New England Made Giftware Show to discover new vendors and products for the shop that are unique to CHS. This year, the addition of Castine-themed jar candles, Maine-made tote bags and hats, and a variety of new children's books were among the successful additions to the inventory. CHS hosted our 2nd Annual Sip 'n Shop night in early December, which allowed locals to shop for the holidays.



Attendees at our annual Open House in June enjoying delicious refreshments



Senior Prom Summer Cocktail Party attendees enjoyed delicious hors d'oeuvres, music and dancing, and the most beautiful summer night in Castine.

This was a fun evening with plenty of shopping, refreshments, and holiday cheer. The gift shop is open daily in the Abbott School building from May to October. The online shop is available through our website year-round. Buyers can opt to pick up or have their purchases shipped.

Thank you to all of you who help raise funds for CHS. Your support allows the Historical Society to do so much more, whether it is helping to curate high-quality exhibitions, hosting thought provoking education programs for adults and youth or caring for our important collection and buildings following best museum practices.

**Thank you for your support!**

## Development Committee Members

Melanie Twomey, *chair*  
Ellie Benjamin  
Lisa Haugen  
Dabney McKenzie  
Ruth Scheer  
Kate McMahan, *staff*

Senior Prom honorees Ruth and Ken Scheer.



## 2025 Castine Historical Society Members

### LIFETIME

Virginia Beers  
Virginia & Stan Bourne  
Dona Brophy  
Paul Davis  
Leila Day\*  
Direxa Dearie\*  
Sandy & Will Dick\*  
Felicity & Mike Gillette\*  
Andrew Harig  
Vivian Harig  
Mark Honey  
Kathryn Jones  
Gunilla Kettis  
Charlie King\*  
Barbara & Elliot Lindsley  
Kim & Conner Madison  
Donnamarie & Mark Mills  
Albert Myers  
Paul Myers  
Meg Ann Noah  
Bob Rettig\*  
Deborah Rice  
Jeryl Schriever & Alex Huppé  
Lucy Webster\*  
Roxanne & Robert Webster  
Libby Wiswall  
Brian Witherspoon\*

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Laura & Richard Ames\*  
Kristen Caverly & Bob Campbell  
Olivia & John Farr\*  
Sally & Todd Fonner  
Linda Généreux & Timur Galen  
Susie & David Hatch\*  
Elizabeth & Whitney Hatch\*  
Marina & George Hatch  
Mary & Howard Lowell\*  
Dabney & Rick McKenzie\*  
Darisse Paquette & Hans Strauch\*  
Katy & Jim Rogers\*  
Georgeann & Parks Snead  
Trina & Fred Whitridge\*

### BENEFACTOR

Maggie & Peter Begley  
Ellie & Doug Benjamin\*  
Ruth & Peter Brooke\*  
Sarah & Bryan Carey  
Penny Carlhian\*  
Roxanne & Kevin Coady\*  
Jean di Sabatino & Louise Giugliano\*  
Rebecca Godley  
Bente Hartmann  
Jim Hubbard  
Michael Jennings  
Maggie & John Mitchell\*  
Liz & John Parish\*  
Julia & Brooke Parish  
Jean & Tom Pedersen\*  
Louise & Peter Pincoffs  
Lindsay & Phil Scott  
Brooke & Gil Tenney\*

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Christopher Abbate  
Carolyn & Morten Arntzen\*  
Linda Austin & Jeb Hallett  
Mary Bartlett  
Lory Childress  
Ceane & Bryan Corbett  
Cindy & Mike Coughlin  
Claire & John Curtin  
Jill Eastland  
Theresa & Edgar Edwards-Dymally  
Susan & Paul Farmer  
Mary Hull & Sandy Frazier\*  
Phil Freedman  
Deborah Gribbon & Winston Alt  
Ginny & Bruce Hilton\*  
Breeze & Skip Hobbs\*  
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Karolyn Ide & Donald Austin\*  
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Alan Kornberg & Harold Koda\*  
Shannon Light\*  
Claire Lovett  
Lauri & Doug Lyman\*  
Marcia & Tom Mason\*  
Diane & David Modesett  
Nancy Mundth\*  
Mary & Felton Norwood\*  
Christina & Tristan Propst  
Doris Russell  
Geraldine Schechter  
Dottie Sherling  
Lee Smith & Hal Crowther  
Candace & Richard Stern  
Meredithe Stuart-Smith\*  
Melanie & Andy Twomey\*  
Ruth Anne & Bobby Vagt  
Betty & Mike Venson  
Anne & Roger Whidden

### CONTRIBUTING

Karen Abbott & Richard Fisher\*  
Susan Allen & Neil Middleton  
Tim Allison-Hatch  
Alice & Wallace Alston\*  
Helen & Dick Anderson\*  
Jane Bagot\*  
Lynn & Jeb Baker  
Jane & Nat Ball  
Joe Bartek  
Nancy & Bill Bennett  
Marian & David Bicks\*  
Hilary & Edmund Billings  
Gene & George Bland  
Hilary Bland  
Janis Bobb  
Robert & Bruce Boczkiewicz  
Audrey Bogdonoff & John Cooper  
Beth & Mike Boucher\*  
Kathleen Bower\*  
Charlotte Brownlee & Alex Corman  
Susanne Clark\*

Peggy & Bill Cooney  
Lynn & Justin Cooper  
John Costello  
Judy Crist  
John Dearborn\*  
Mary Dearborn\*  
Kate Dustin & Mike Mainen\*  
Sara & Craig Fanning  
Elaine Fernald  
Ginny Foote  
Monique & Eric Foster  
Wendy Fullenweider\*  
Anne Gorman & Pete Musgrove  
Libby & Chris Gros-Balthazard  
Barbara Grover\*  
Azita Hamedani & Peter Mason  
Lorrie & Charles Hart  
Andrea Hatch\*  
Lisa & Patrick Haugen\*  
Betsy & Jaik Henderson  
Barbara Jackson\*  
Jill & James Jeffries  
Susan & Bill Kennedy  
Cynthia & Alvion Kimball  
Charlotte & John Legg  
Mark Lennon  
Betsy & Jason Libby  
Dawn Lindey  
Sue Loomis  
Karen & Bill Lyons\*  
Lynda & Gordon MacArthur\*  
Elizabeth & Alan Macdonald\*  
Sue Macdonald\*  
Katie & John Mankiewicz  
Mary Claire Mari  
Flora & Bobby Marvin  
Carolyn Mathiasen  
Ashleigh & Bricken McKenzie  
Lucy & Tim McNeece  
Helen Miller & Jim Kerr\*  
Camille & Chick Mohaupt  
Judy & Kip Oberting  
Sonja & Mike O'Donnell  
Debbie Packard  
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Vanessa & Daniel Smith\*  
Janet Spector & Theodore Coladarci  
Robin Stafford  
Meg & Dick Taylor\*  
Brad Tenney  
Catherine & David Tenney  
David Thombs  
Penny Tonry\*  
Heidi & Mark Traeger  
Tom Troeschel & Loi Thai  
Carolyn & Charles Ulrich\*

Peter Vogell  
Brett Vottero  
Elizabeth Wagner & Ross & Sarah Zucker  
Mary B Whittmore\*  
Red Williams\*  
Elise & David Wilson\*  
Mary & Will Wilson\*  
Gail Winkler\*  
Stefanie & Andrew Young  
Pat & John Zoller

### FAMILY

Susan & Josh Adam  
Elise & David Adams  
Lela & David Agnew  
Alicia Anstead & Peter Davis\*  
Tina & Bill Anthony\*  
Larry Apolzon & Jim Stanton  
Sabrina & Harold Babcock  
Kathleen Baynes & Joel Deckler  
Riva & Arnold Berleant  
Elaine & Paul Bertrand  
Linda & Peter Bicks\*  
Victoria & Temple Blackwood  
Stephanie & Robert Boenau  
Julie Bohan & Dan Leader  
Bundy Boit\*  
John Broadwell  
Alton Chelette  
Katie & Charlie Claggett  
Barbara Cooper  
Patti & Steven Day  
Lorraine & Mark DeMichele  
Fred Doane\*  
Lorna Doran\*  
Pat & Greg Dunham  
Anne & Ewen Farnham  
Betsy & Joe Fay  
Dick Fenton  
Janet & Will Fisher  
Judy & Doug Fitzsimmons\*  
Betsy Foote & Howell Jackson\*  
Sam & Bob Friedlander\*  
JoAnne & Richard Fuerst  
Wendy & David Fuller  
Mickey & Aaron Gast  
Jennifer & Christopher Gorelik  
Julia & John Gray\*  
Mary Hall  
Jill & Michael Hall  
Sybil Hannah  
Gordana & David Hassett  
Jacqueline & Chris Hasty  
Eliza Hatch & Ian Jessen  
Anne & Mark Hatch  
Jody & Jeff Henry  
Kay & Rick Hightower  
Rose Honders  
Laura & Kevin Hopkins  
Kathy & Dick Howland  
Leah & Carl Jacobs  
Susan James & Mark Fenton  
Julie & Chris Jeffrey\*

Leigh & Jay Kearney\*  
Karen & Doug Koos\*  
Ulla & Jerry Kopp  
Allen Kratz  
Emily & Richard Law  
Lisa & Jim Lawsing\*  
Vicky & Fran Lee\*  
Marianne Lee & Wyllys Terry  
Lois & Walter Licht  
Jennifer & Gary Lieberman  
Lisa & Dan Lutts  
Sasha & Paul Macomber\*  
Peggy Marks\*  
Hope & John McNally  
Jane Mendelsohn & Nick Davis  
Bonnie & David Miller  
Beth Miller & Joe Schulte  
Kathryn Munn & Charles Hodgkins IV  
Bridget Murnaghan & Hugh Gordon  
Peggy O'Neil-Murphy & Walt Murphy\*  
Greer & Charlie Pearce  
Holly Perry & Lana Gold  
Rosemary Pierce  
Ellyn Plato & John Boyer  
Pam Pollak & Gene Fignar  
Jean & Carlos Quijano  
Marie-Laure & Craig Reed  
Anette Rodrigues  
Susan Ruch  
Jeanmarie & Michael Russell\*  
Diane & Mark Salter  
Kelly & Mark Sawyer\*  
Ruth & Ken Scheer  
Don Schmidt\*  
Jonathan Seeley  
Jane & Steve Shea\*  
Shelley & Don Small  
Sarah & Jeff Stammen  
Johanna & Pedrick Sweet  
Betsy Tarlin & Marcos Rosenbaum  
Marty & Don Tenney\*  
Christine & Steven Tenney  
Del Thomas  
Carol & Douglas Tinney\*  
Fran & Andrew Tschinkel  
Lindsey Vagt\*  
Larry Wade  
Pat Wardwell & Tom Barkovic  
Jane Warker  
Robin & Fred Webber  
Pat Winter  
Margot Woolley & Gerard Vasisko  
Rosemary & David Wyman  
David Ziff & Alan Bell\*

### FRIEND

Ryan Armstrong  
Pat Bishop  
Emerson Bruns  
Lane Bruns  
Charles Butts  
Barrett Canfield  
Art Charlton

Diana Dabby\*  
James Dillon  
Sally Foote  
Brittany & Christopher Goetting  
Paul Gray  
Sarah Hatch-Wright  
Sue Hazlett  
Patricia Hill  
Brenda & Fred Jackson  
Jon Jewett  
Marie Kaden  
Liza MacMorris  
Jerry Magnifico  
Lillian Martin  
Ann Miller  
Jean Miller  
Danielle Muttly\*  
Debby Neve  
Joy Pott  
Gretchen Raber\*  
Maxfield Rhine  
Jane Saltsman  
Valerie Scott  
Janet Shanley  
Serena Smith  
Anne Stauffer Behnke  
Albert Stwertka  
Claudia Teitelbaum  
Jill Tompkins  
Sarah Wentworth  
Cissie Wessel  
Charleen Wiseman

### BUSINESS PARTNERS

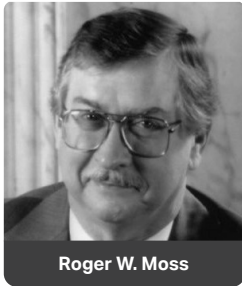
Bank of America  
Castine Kayak Adventures  
Compass Rose Books  
David Hatch Painting, Inc.  
DeRaat Realty  
Down East Landscape & Design  
E. L. Shea Inc.  
FGN Global Logistics, Inc.  
Furbush Roberts Printing Co. Inc.\*  
Hammond Lumber Company  
Merle B. Grindle Agency  
Saltmeadow Properties

*Thank you  
for your  
support!*

# in memoriam

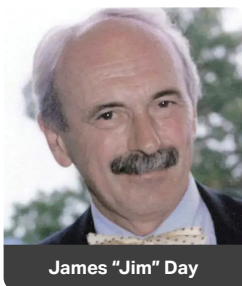
**In 2025, the Historical Society sadly lost five dedicated volunteers and supporters. Every one was an important part of the Castine community and our CHS family, and we are forever grateful for their support of our organization.**

**Roger W. Moss** passed away on February 8, 2025. He was an historian, educator, and author who spent his life and career dedicated to sharing history. A longtime CHS member, Roger joined the board in 2009 and served as a member of the Collections, Finance, and Buildings & Grounds committees. Roger and his wife, Gail Winkler, were instrumental in the renovations of the Grindle House, which was immaculately restored using period-appropriate finishes. His shared vision led to the Grindle House receiving an award from Maine Historic Preservation in 2017.



Roger W. Moss

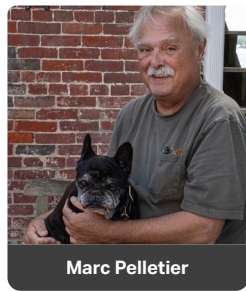
In June, the Castine community learned of the passing of **James "Jim" Day**, President Emeritus of the CHS. First elected president of the Historical Society in 1990, Jim was instrumental in the capital campaign to preserve the Abbott School. Jim and his wife, Leila, have been extremely generous with their time and resources for decades. The CHS would not be the success it is today without their vision and dedication.



James "Jim" Day

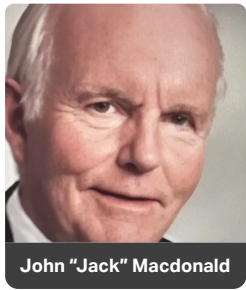
**Marc Pelletier** passed away on July 5. He joined the board in 2020 and was chair of the Buildings & Grounds Committee. He offered his talents to the CHS in so many ways. He was involved in the early stages of planning for our future major renovations of the Abbott School. He could be called upon to build perfect cases for our displays or to hang a heavy painting. He could figure out any task sent his way! As a retired architect, Marc also lent

his expertise to Castine's Historic Preservation Commission, and shared his passion for Castine history driving Scarlett for the Castine Touring Company. Marc's friendship and knowledge are deeply missed by all at the CHS and in our town.



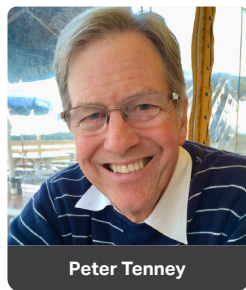
Marc Pelletier

**Dr. John "Jack" Macdonald** passed on July 24. He was a distinguished oncologist and pioneered many transformative treatments for his patients. Jack served on the board from 2008 to 2020. He was Vice President of the board from 2012 to 2013, before taking over as board President in 2014. Jack also served on the Collections Committee and was a dutiful docent for many seasons at the CHS.



John "Jack" Macdonald

**Peter Tenney** passed away on September 16, 2025 after a lengthy illness. His determination to enjoy every minute of his life included his dedication to history and current events. Among those interests, Peter enjoyed his time as a docent at the Joshua Chamberlain Museum in Brunswick, and as a member of the Castine Historical Society's education committee. Having spent his life as a summer resident of Castine, Peter particularly enjoyed being a student of the events that shaped Maine and the legacy of Baron Jean-Vincent d'Abbadie de St. Castin. Peter's joy in sharing times and stories with the people of Castine were particularly important to him. Peter loved gatherings where he could connect with as many friends as possible. He could often be seen rowing his one-man shell on glassy-calm summer mornings, thrilling in the natural beauty of the area he so loved.



Peter Tenney

# financial report

The Historical Society's Finance Committee's goal is to care responsibly for the financial resources that are entrusted to CHS for today and for the future.

At the end of each calendar year, the staff, committee chairs, and the President and Board Treasurer create a draft general operating budget. The Finance Committee reviews the draft budget before presenting it to the Board for a final approval. The committee also meets quarterly with our wealth management team to analyze the performance of the CHS endowment funds.

During 2025, the Finance Committee recommended that the CHS move its endowment from Bangor Wealth Management. The committee engaged in an extensive process with requests for proposals from firms across the U.S., which concluded with the selection of a Portland-based firm, HM Payson, being selected as

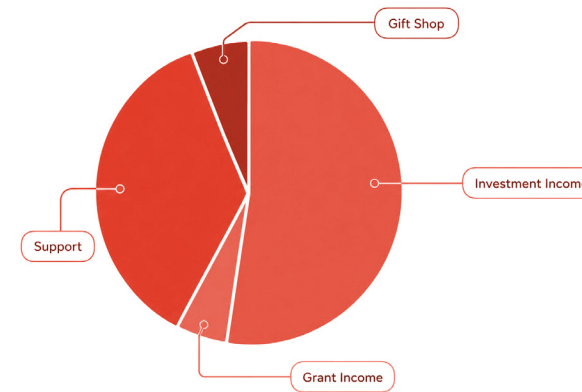
## Finance Committee Members

<b>Steven Tenney, chair</b>	<b>John Mitchell</b>
<b>Ellie Benjamin</b>	<b>Ruth Scheer</b>
<b>Bill Buchanan</b>	<b>Kate McMahon, staff</b>
<b>Susie Hatch</b>	

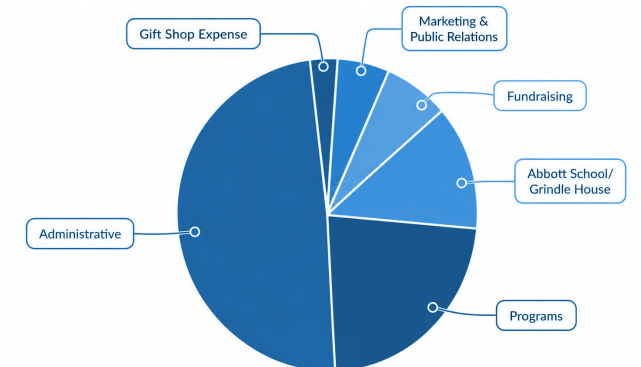
our new endowment managers. This transfer occurred in late December 2025.

The pie charts and figures below show the 2025 revenue and expenses, as well as a comparison between 2024 and 2025. As always, Finance Committee members welcome questions from CHS members about our financial picture, which continues to remain healthy.

2025 Revenue



2025 Expenses



2024 Revenue

Investment Income	\$230,782.00
Grant Income	\$7,163.00
Support	\$164,920.00
Gift Shop Income	\$15,875.00
<b>Total Support + Revenue 2024</b>	<b>\$418,740.00</b>

2025 Revenue

Investment Income	\$230,752.00
Grant Income	\$10,000.00
Support	\$151,054.00
Gift Shop Income	\$18,059.00
<b>Total Support + Revenue 2025</b>	<b>\$409,865.00</b>

2024 Expenses

Marketing / Public Relations	\$15,310.00
Fundraising	\$22,461.00
Abbott School / Grindle House	\$35,059.00
Programs	\$121,663.00
Administrative	\$174,003.00
Gift Shop Expense	\$10,693.00
<b>Total Operating Expenses 2024</b>	<b>\$379,189.00</b>

2025 Expenses

Marketing & Public Relations	\$14,099.00
Fundraising	\$20,931.00
Abbott School / Grindle House	\$59,121.00
Programs	\$96,045.00
Administrative	\$177,819.00
Gift Shop Expense	\$11,008.00
<b>Total Operating Expenses 2025</b>	<b>\$379,023.00</b>



Castine Historical Society

P.O. Box 238 • Castine, Maine 04421

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Bangor, ME

Castine



2025 Statistics



**339** Members  
**19** New Members

**2,163**  
Facebook Followers

**1,396**  
Email Subscribers

**101**  
Research Requests

**36,309**  
Website Visitors

**3,761**  
Program Visitors

**66**  
Volunteers

**1850**  
Volunteer Hours

*Thank you for your support!*



Castine Historical Society presents:

**CASTINE HOUSE & GARDEN TOUR 2026**

**FRIDAY, JULY 24**  
**10am-4pm**

Tickets: \$50 purchased through July 12;  
\$60 thereafter  
[info@castinehistoricalsociety.org](mailto:info@castinehistoricalsociety.org)