

Minutes of the June 17, 2008 Berlin Historical Society Meeting

The monthly meeting of the Berlin Historical Society opened at 7:04 PM on June 17 at the Berlin Town Office Building. Those in attendance were: Norbert Rhinerson, Vernon Turner, Lynn McManus, Lewis & Maudean Neil, Nancy Tripp, Pat & Bruce McDonald, Mary Wells, Tom Williams and Richard Turner.

The May meeting was our annual pot luck dinner meeting with no business meeting held so there were no minutes to be approved. The Treasurer's report was inadvertently omitted.

Norb showed and explained the 12 posters he has prepared showing various aspects of Mary Greene Nye's life and career. The posters will be displayed at the Vermont History Expo at Tunbridge using the same framework that we created for our display of George Bosworth photographs in 2001. We will also display the marble plaque that was created in Mary's honor when she retired from her career as Editor of State Papers and the chair and typewriter that she used for this work.

Members present volunteered to help set up the display on Friday, June 20 and to be at our booth during the hours that the history expo is open on Saturday, June 21 and Sunday, June 22.

Norb is creating a presentation on Benjamin Falls. We have a large number of stereos as well as postcards and regular pictures of the reservoir, the falls and cascade that flows from the reservoir to the Stevens Branch near the State Highway Garage.

We have purchased the notebook computer and projector that were authorized at the April meeting. The cost for the computer was \$700 after the rebate and was \$639 for the projector that plugs into the computer. Another \$117 was spent on additional software that includes Power Point to help put together displays using the projector.

Several inquiries have come in asking about the Perrin, Reed, Bean and Randall families. Our cemetery pictures of monuments have been useful in answering these inquiries.

Paul Bierman, a UVM professor will be here on June 30 with several interns to scan our collection of photographs. These will be entered on a website and will be accessible to the public. They will give us DVD's of these high resolution scans when they have completed their work.

Nancy Tripp is continuing to care for the plantings at the Veteran's Memorial. Thank you, Nancy. We have purchased a new flag to be displayed at the Memorial to replace the old one.

The meeting adjourned at 8:10 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Richard Turner, Secretary

Following is a summary of our participation in Vermont History Expo on June 20-22, 2008

This year our Society participated in the Vermont History Expo at the fairgrounds in Tunbridge. This is the third time we have developed a display.

The first was in 1999 when towns in the central Vermont area each put on a display in their respective towns. Ours was held at the E. F. Knapp Airport where we displayed photos and stories of the history of the airport in an unused room in the administration building. We also located a DC-3 that was painted in the old Northeast Airlines colors and had it flown in as part of our display.

The Vermont Historical Society decided that subsequent History Expos would be held at the Tunbridge fairgrounds where all towns in the state could participate and fairgoers would be able to view all the displays.

We again participated in 2002. We now had copied the Bosworth photographs and used them as the theme for our display. We borrowed the old camera that belonged to George Bosworth from his granddaughter and used that as the centerpiece around which we showed a number of his photographs taken between 1904 and 1914.

This year we set up our display on Friday, June 20, using the same framework that we built to hold our Bosworth pictures. We had to modify the framework somewhat to accommodate the posters that Norbert put together. The following members helped with the setup and also were on hand to talk to fairgoers on Saturday, June 21 and Sunday, June 22:

Norbert Rhinerson, Pat & Bruce McDonald, Walt & Mary Wells,

Nancy Tripp, Maudean & Lewis Neil, Vernon Turner, Lynn McManis, Tom

Williams and Richard Turner.

Berlin Historical Societies Booth at the Vermont History Expo - 2008

Our subject was "Mary Greene Nye - Author, Editor and Historian". We borrowed the chair and typewriter that Mary used when working for the state as Editor of State Papers and the marble plaque that was dedicated to Mary when she retired. Bruce McDonald constructed a stand to hold the plaque that was the focal point of our display. The posters that Norb put together depicted various aspects of Mary's life and career including a story that Mary wrote when she was 15 about the blizzard of 1888. We also had our laptop computer set up to display genealogical information that Vern has put together of Berlin's early residents.



Altogether we felt that we had an excellent display that was enjoyed by many fair goers. We worked hard at it but it was well worth the effort. Thanks to all who participated.

Respectfully Submitted,

Richard Turner, Secretary