



U N I T Y

Historical Society

It is with sadness that we report the passing, over the winter, of one of UHS's founding members,

JIM MURCH.

Jim was a long-time supporter of the Society and worked hard to ensure its success.

2010 Meetings

April 27

*Ervin Hochstetler
Amish in Unity*



May 25
Kate Miles

June 22*

July 27

August 24*

September 28*

October 26



Meetings begin at 7:00pm
Refreshments are served
following the Program

* 5 week month

The October speaker was **Alicia Billman**, an environmental education student at Unity College and part of the Oral History class. The class is working with community and school partners to interview former students, faculty and staff, community members and current students about Unity. The results will be used to create several themed walking tours in the area that will interpret the natural and cultural heritage in Unity. Our thanks to Alicia for joining us!



“Unity appears a typical Maine town. It has its schools, churches, and homes. It has contributed its share of sons and daughters to the great West, where many of them moved during the last three decades of the previous century. Its stores, bank, hotel, and individual businesses are representative of American enterprise.

Perhaps it is conservative in its outlook and any changes are accepted with a certain amount of skepticism, but in truth, it seems old New England to the core, somewhat apart from the hurry and bustle of modern America.”

~ *Jim Vickery, from the Conclusion of
A History of Town of Unity, Maine*

Mission: The Unity Historical Society is dedicated to the collection and preservation of historical materials related to the Town of Unity, Maine. The Society makes this information available to individuals and/or organizations interested in historical and genealogical research.

October 2009 Meeting Minutes

CALL TO ORDER: President **Pat Clark** called the meeting to order at 7:05pm, and welcomed guests and members.

MINUTES: There were no changes to the Minutes as written in the newsletter. A motion by **Anni Roming**, seconded by **Jackie Bradeen**, to accept the minutes was unanimously approved.

TREASURER'S REPORT: **Anni Roming** reported UHS's expenses and income, including donations to the library and roof replacement projects. In addition, both the phone and heat-monitor were reactivated for the winter.

VICE PRESIDENT'S REPORT:

- **Jackie Bradeen** reported that she and **Bev Winship** are continuing work on the genealogy project. Most recently focusing on the Reynolds family.

OLD BUSINESS:

- Calendars - **Kevin Spigel** reported that calendars were available in businesses around Unity, including Town and Country Hair Salon, Mac's Hardware, Bangor Savings Bank, the Unity College bookstore and the Town Office.
- Signage - additional information about signage options and costs was discussed. Following discussion, a motion by **Jackie Bradeen**, seconded by **Anni Roming**, to purchase the signs from Tim Dutton was approved.
- Roof - the work on the roof is due to begin and be done prior to the end of the year.

NEW BUSINESS:

- Nominating Committee - Due to a smaller than anticipated attendance, it was decided to wait until the April 2010 meeting to present and vote on the slate of officers. **Dot Quimby** and **Arlene Schaefer** are the Nominating Committee and all suggestions should be directed to them.
- **Anni Roming** once again volunteered to make wreaths for the doors for the holiday season.

WORD OF THE MONTH

VERNAL

OCTOBER: POMOLOGICAL
regarding the science that deals
with fruit and fruit growing



What areas in Unity
encompass 700 acres and 300
acres, respectively?

The answer to October's question was that all are apple varieties that originated in Maine, according the MOFGA website.



2009 Annual Report (as published in the Unity Town Report)

2009 was another busy and productive year for the Unity Historical Society. Since its founding in 1982, the Historical Society has been a resource for people across the country doing research on the Unity area or genealogical searches. More than 200 students from local public schools and Unity College visited and utilized the Historical Society library for research projects. People doing family searches and research have contacted us by email after visiting our website or finding us through the town website. An industrious group of members has been working on inventorying our holdings and reorganizing our files to make them more user friendly. A full-scale reorganization of the genealogy files from native son, Jim Vickery has been undertaken.



Interesting speakers presented information at our monthly meetings on a variety of topics, such as the American Legion, L.C. Bates Museum, Unity's high schools and programs from Unity College faculty and students. This enables members and friends to learn more about history in general and that which is specific to our area. The Historical Society was open every Saturday morning throughout July and August and invited residents and visitors to learn more about the local history. We also joined with other town businesses in December for the Making Miracles celebration.

In the fall of 2008, Unity Historical Society discovered a leak in the ceiling between the library and an upstairs room used for historical displays. They contacted some local builders to assess the damage and see what was needed to have the roof repaired. After investigating the causes of the leak and the steps needed to repair it, estimates to restore the roof were approximately \$24,000. Without this repair, the entire collection of the town's historical artifacts and genealogy was in danger of being destroyed.

The Society is exceedingly grateful to Unity residents for their generous grant of \$6,000 to preserve this community treasure. Matching funds were raised from various sources including a federal grant, Unity Foundation and generous individual donations. We chose Halldale Builders because of their experience with older buildings and many years of service in the Waldo County area. A more extensive explanation of the repair work will be available in the April Newsletter.

Unity Historical Society continues to stimulate interest in their mission to collect and preserve historic materials related to the town of Unity as well as boost memberships. In order to complete the rest of the repair work, more fundraising and donations are needed. For more information about the collections or genealogy, please visit our website at www.unityhistoricalsociety.org

It has been rewarding to assist school children, college students, local residents and people from all over the world who contact us through the Historical Society website, by email, telephone, postal services or in person. We look forward to continuing these projects and invite you to join us at 7:00 p.m. on the 4th Tuesday each month from April to October at our monthly meeting.

If you are interested in becoming a member, dues are \$10 per person (April to October) or \$100 for a life membership.

Respectfully Submitted,
Pat Clark, President



Meetings are held at 7:00 p.m. on the
Fourth Tuesday each month
from April through October

**NEXT MEETING:
April 27, 2010**

Building open by appointment
~ please call 207-948-5610

MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION

Annual dues: \$10/person
(April 1 ~ March 31)
Life Membership: \$100/person

P O Box 4

Unity, ME 04988

www.unityhistoricalsociety.org

Or link from: www.UnityMaine.org



Unity Historical Society
P O Box 4
Unity ME 04988

**2010 Dues
are Due**



Happy Spring



2009 Officers

President	Pat Clark
Vice President	Jackie Bradeen
Treasurer	Anni Roming
Secretary	Lori Roming

COMMITTEES

Development
Finance
Clothing
Programs/Refreshments

BOOKSTORE

	<u>Member</u>	<u>Non-member</u>
Vickery History	\$15.00	\$20.00
Tabor History	\$15.00	\$20.00
Set	\$25.00	\$35.00

*Ordinary, Yet Extraordinary: Six Decades in
the Life of Unity, ME* (Freeman/Simeone) ~ \$20.00