

June 2009 Meeting Minutes

CALL TO ORDER: President **Pat Clark** called the May meeting to order at 7:00pm and welcomed guests and members.

MINUTES: There were no changes to the Minutes as written in the June newsletter.

TREASURER'S REPORT: **Anni Roming** reported UHS's expenses and income, including donations to the library and roof replacement project.

VICE PRESIDENT'S REPORT:

- **Jackie Bradeen** reported that she, **Bev Winship** and **Arlene Schafer** had retrieved the old town records from the basement and are in the process of reviewing, cleaning and cataloging them. She noted that in the 1960 census almost everyone in Unity has one 21" black and white television.
- **Bev Winship** told the group that she had fielded a number of genealogy requests.

OLD BUSINESS: None

NEW BUSINESS:

- Pat announced that UHS would have a table at the UBR Annual Meeting - 2009 calendars and books would be available;
- Starting July 11th and through the end of August (construction permitting), the UHS building will be open on Saturday mornings from 9:30 to 11:30;
- At the end of May, UHS received confirmation that it had been awarded \$5,000 in the Maine New Century Grant program;
- Sullivan's Waste Disposal is going to donate the rental, pick-up and drop off fees for a dumpster for the roof repair;
- **Madeline Stevenson** has been working on restoring the kitchen garden and it's looking good.

The business portion of the meeting adjourned at 7:09pm. Many thanks to **Anni Roming** for the tasty and healthy refreshments!

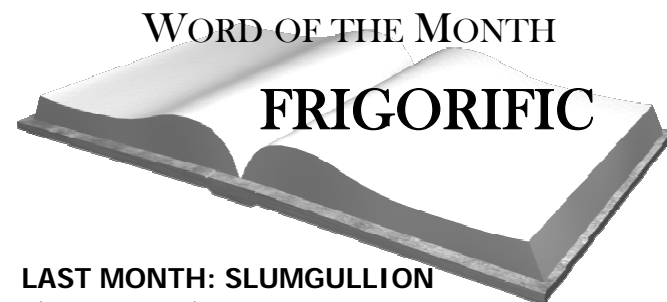
June Program Notes

In June our guest speaker was UHS member and Unity College Assistant Professor of Geosciences, Kevin Spigel. In *Adventures in Mud: The quest to understand environmental change in and around Unity, Maine*, Kevin presented photographs and discussed the work undertaken by students enrolled in Lake Sediment Analysis at Unity College.

Kevin told and showed how the students took core samples of Unity Pond's sediment -- both at the north and south ends -- to determine various historical and environmental factors. For example, the samples taken from Unity put the time since the last major 'ice out' at about 14,000 years. Given the weather we've had recently, one would assume its only been a few weeks, but no-- we're talking glacial ice. The groups of students were able to drill down about 14' in the north end and more than twice that in the south end, to 38'. The pictures of those frozen scientists standing on ice with frosted beards and eyelashes highlighted their dedication. Its easier to drill in the winter because the ice provides a stable work surface as opposed to bobbing about in boats in spring and fall.

He showed a series of slides demonstrating the process used to drill through the sediment to the bedrock. In the five meters of mud pulled from each drilling site, the students will be able to determine, by various means and testing for various substances, what changes have taken place and when. We then got to see into the lab for a behind the scenes look at how the samples are stored, processed and examined. Depending on how a sample is measured, it can yield information on rates of erosion and lake productivity, periods of wildfires, droughts, glacial movement, etc. Fossil pollen is used to estimate past vegetation which then indicates specific climate conditions. Other tests can determine the impact of poultry farming. According to Kevin each centimeter of core is a 5-30 year window. Samples can include glacial till, sand, peat and marine clay just to name a few. One of his students is doing some summer work on the samples and we hope to have him join us in the future to tell us more about the history of Unity Pond.

Many thanks to Kevin for this interesting and intriguing glimpse into geoscience!



LAST MONTH: SLUMGULLION

- 1) a stew; 2) water brew, as tea;
- 3) a reddish, muddy deposit in mining sluices



Thinking of Unity's history since 1970, what is significant about these dates?

March 5, 1981

May 1, 1971



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

**NEXT MEETING:
JULY 28th**

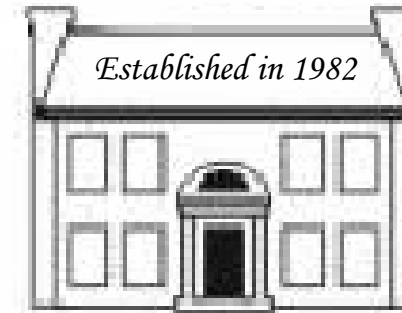
Building is open Saturday morning July and
August and by appointment
~ please call 207-948-5610

2009 OFFICERS

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

COMMITTEES

- Development	- Finance
- Clothing	- Program



JULY 2009

2009 Meetings

April 28
May 26
*June 23**

July 28
L C Bates
Museum

August 25
Jackie Bradeen

*September 22**
October 27



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

* 5 week month

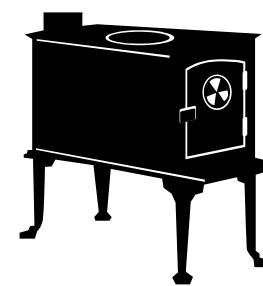
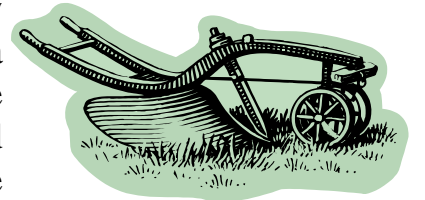
UNITY

Historical Society

CARRIAGE MAKERS AND FOUNDRIES


About 1838 Thomas B. Hussey of Unity built a small iron foundry situated in south Unity on Sandy Stream. After a few years he enlarged his foundry and started manufacturing plows, cultivators and other farming tools, employing three men. Hussey used about twenty-five tons of iron a year in casting out his farm machinery.

One of his account books show that he had an extensive business and furnished farmers all over the state with plows, harrow, and cultivators. It was estimated he manufactured about two hundred plows in 1850 which were sold for twenty dollars apiece. Hussey made castings of all kinds, especially plow points. This foundry continued operating through the 1860s and 1870s, then Hussey's son, John O. Hussey, branched into making cooking stoves.



Figures from the first annual report on Maine industry printed in 1872 showed Thomas B. Hussey and Son, using 75 tons of old iron or pig iron, turned out two hundred plow bearers, two hundred pairs of handles, and two hundred plows. At this time the Husseys employed four extra men whose wages averaged nine dollars a week. The foundry then operated ten months out of the year. The son, John O., manufactured chiefly stoves, making about two hundred and fifty a year. In 1883 the younger Hussey enlarged his plant only to have it destroyed by fire within a year. The foundry was never rebuilt.

from *A History of Unity, Maine*
James Berry Vickery III (1951)

 Unity Historical Society
P O Box 4
Unity ME 04988

UHS Building is open on Saturdays from 9:30 ~ 11:30 am in July & August!

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

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

Also available *Unity Cooks Now and Then* ~ \$5.00

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.