

MAY MEETING MINUTES

Welcome: **Pat Clark** welcomed an almost full house to the May meeting.

Approval of Minutes: As no one had any changes or questions to the minutes, they were accepted as written.

Treasurer's Report: **Madeline Stevenson** provided the Treasurer's report. UHS is currently running at a \$100 per month loss. She reminded the group that 2008 Dues are due June 1st.

Pat read the *Bangor Daily News* article.

Old Business

Calendar: **Mahlon Bickford**, **Jackie Bradeen** and **Anni Roming** will be working on the project. The photographs have been chosen. Additional printing options are being explored. Volunteers will be needed to solicit advertising once the draft is created.

- Wine Tasting: Pat is pursuing permit needs.
- Fundraising: Pat is developing the Fundraising Committee to work with her on the appeal letter and would like to have a draft ready in June.



- Yard Sale: Confirmed for June 7th (rain or shine) **Anni** will put up posters. **Lori Roming** will send information to local media outlets. Members were urged to bring items, already priced, to the building on June 6th or contact an officer.

New Business

- **Gloria Gervais** expressed interest in taking over the upkeep and care of the clothing collection. She will contact Silvana to get a status on the cataloging project. A motion by **Jim Reed**, seconded by **Joyce Julian**, to have Gloria oversee the collection was approved.
- Brooks Historical Society is holding an open house; Kennebec Valley Garden Club is sponsoring a garden tour in June.
- Donations:
 - **Grace Stevenson** gave UHS a photograph of Cora and A.B. Ward.
 - **Jim Kenney** gave a book containing biographies of early Mainers.
 - **Charlie Porter** added to the collection a rock found at Lake Winnecook that may have been used by the Native Americans as a shaping/digging tool.
 - **Gail Chase Roberts** gave UHS a collection of photographs taken by her father of Unity. The pairs of photos show locations around town in a 'then' and 'now' form.
 - From **Jeffrey Shorey** (George and Virginia's son) a Shaver's Permit button (1954) and ration book from his parent's house. Jeffrey and his wife currently live in North Carolina.

- From Joan Roming's estate received several maps, a series of gravestone rubbings, Unity Telephone Company memorabilia and antique candlesticks.

- Pat reported that there had been several visitors to UHS during the month. In addition, beginning with the yard sale on June 7th, the building will be open on Saturdays from 9:30 to 11:30 through the summer.
- Chimneys - the current insulation is coming out. It was suggested that hard insulation be placed in the openings with an expandable foam insulation used to hold it in place. This will be done. CMP will be contacted to perform an energy audit.
- Following the presentation by Friends of Unity Wetlands, very tasty refreshments were provided by **Natalie and Kenneth Coro**.

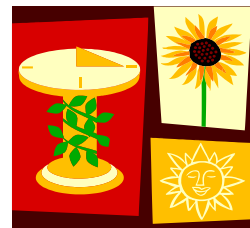
NEXT
MEETING
JUNE 24TH

MAY PROGRAM NOTES

Due to a new baby the night before, Kevin Johnson from the Penobscot Marine Museum was unable to join us. We have rescheduled his presentation for September.

Stepping in at the last moment were **Jennifer Brockway** and **Melissa Bastien** from Friends of Unity Wetlands (FUW).

FUW joined us last fall to describe the *Places That Matter* project they've been working on. These photos can be seen around Unity and on their website. Jennifer told the assembled group about FUW -- its mission to permanently protect and preserve lands as well as provide education to the community. FUW consists of more than 45,000 acres in Albion, Benton, Burnham, Clinton, Freedom, Troy, Unity and Unity Plantation. One of the most recent parcels to be protected is the Clifford Homestead on the Albion Road.



Melissa presented the history of Triplet Park (on Wood Lane) and the current project underway - - creation of a bean teepee, sunflower house and cucumber tunnel (big enough for adults to enjoy, too!). Kids and adults helped frame the structures (with wood from Pine View Lumber) and filled them with newspaper and topsoil in preparation to planting. Plants will arrive in the next few weeks. This project isn't just fun, it teaches kids where their food comes from. It is anticipated that passels of cukes and beans will be provided to the local food pantry as they become available.

The Park is not only a lovely wild space, but, as part of the CommUnity Trail system, provides access from downtown to the grocery store in one direction and the marina in the other. There is a boardwalk, wetlands, bird feeders and signage. It's a place where it's okay to touch and smell and feel. College students built benches that are used by local children for story time. FUW has monthly programming for kids on Saturdays. Our thanks to Jennifer and Melissa for joining us and bringing us up to date on FUW's activities. Everyone is welcome to visit Triplet Park and water the plants (hoses and buckets are provided).



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

UHS Building is open by appointment
207-948-5610

MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION

Annual dues: \$10 per person
(April 1 ~ March 31)

Life Membership: \$100 per person

P O Box 4
Unity, ME 04988
207-948-5610

www.unityhistoricalsociety.org

Or link from: www.UnityMaine.org

2008 OFFICERS

President	Pat Clark
Vice President	Jackie Bradeen
Treasurer	Madeline Stevenson
Secretary	Lori Roming

From the Library - The AYER Family

Peter Jr's sister, Mary True Ayer (1835-1922) married James Berry Vickery I (1832-1911). The Vickery's are another early Unity family.

Peter Ayer, Sr's brother Benjamin (1792-1833) married Betsy Chase (1786-1883) daughter of Job and Jane (Pattee) Chase.

Peter Ayer, Sr's sister, Rachel (1798-1870), first married Rufus Lowell and when he died, she married William Chase, son of Job and Jane Chase.

Another brother of Peter, Thomas Burnham Ayer (1800-1884) married Sybil Chase (1801-1881), the daughter of Job and Jane Chase. [Job was the son of Stephen Chase]

Thus were the Ayer, Bartlett and Chase families closely related - they were probably the people they knew best.

~ Jackie Bradeen

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LINKS OF INTEREST

Friends of Unity Wetlands
www.friendsofunitywetlands.org

Friends of Lake Winnecook
www.lakewinnecook.com

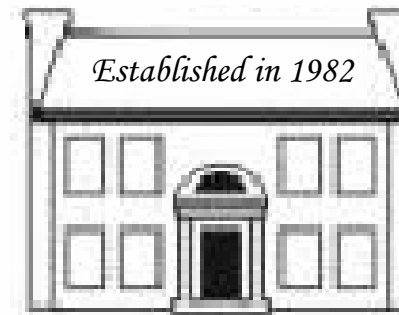
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BOOKSTORE

	<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



JUNE 2008

2008 Meetings

April 22*
2008 Kick-Off
May 27
Images of Unity

June 24
Jerry Cinnamon
Heritage Roses

July 22*
August 26
September 23*
October 28



Meetings begin at
7:00pm

Refreshments are served
following the Program

* 5 week month

U N I T Y
Historical Society

Welcome to our newest Life Member

FAITH CARLSON
Unity, ME

Thanks to **Jean Bourg**, our new web address is:

www.unityhistoricalsociety.org

From the Library

Family History: The AYER family

Benjamin Ayer (1763-1844) and his son Peter (1790-1854) settled just over the Unity line in Freedom. Benjamin was a veteran of the Revolution and the War of 1812, and was a Methodist minister. In 1826 the family helped found the first Church in Unity a short distance from Peter and his brother Thomas' farms (believed to be near Boulter Cemetery). Peter Ayer was a founder of Kent's Hill Seminary and Freedom Academy, founded in 1836.

Peter married into the Bartlett family of Unity when he married Jane Bartlett (1795-1889) the daughter of Hannah (Chase) and Lemuel Bartlett.

Peter's son, Peter Ayer Jr. (1825-1911) married into the Murch family, another early Unity family that has members living in Unity today. Peter Jr. married Happy K Murch (1833-1924).

[continued on back page]

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.

WORD OF THE MONTH

Huggermugger

LAST MONTH: PASSEL

n. a large quantity or group