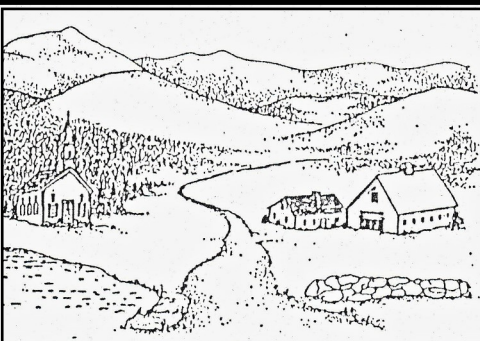




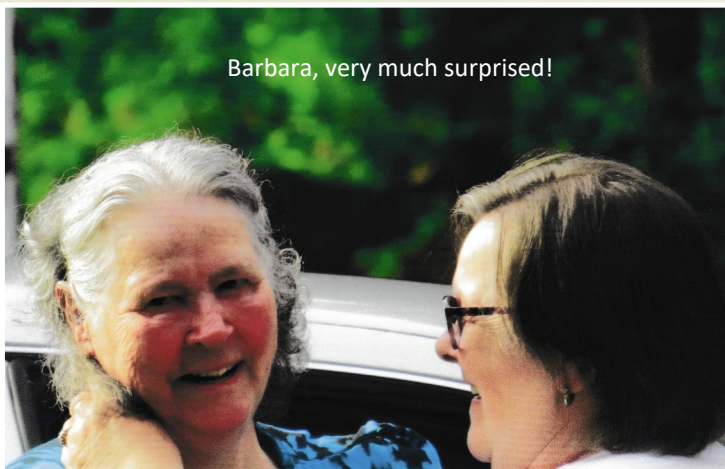
Chatham Times

Past and Present

BARBARA EASTMAN DAY
JULY 28, 2018



July 28 is now officially known in Chatham as Barbara Eastman Day. She is honored for her many years of service to the town. She is seen above with her husband of 64 years, Frank. In the second row left to right are their daughters Clara Eastman, Linda Cooper and Maryann Eastman. See Inside



Barbara, very much surprised!



Master of Ceremonies, Jeanne Eastman

EVENTS TO COME

Friday, September 7, 7 PM at AMC Cold River Camp, North Chatham

Author Sandy Stott will speak on his book, *Critical Hours – Search and Rescue in the White Mountains*

Saturday, September 8, 12 Noon – at Historical Society, 1061 Main Road

Annual Town Picnic

Hotdogs and Hamburgers and beverages will be provided.

Please bring a dish to share.

Raffle tickets \$1 each; \$5 for 6 tickets

1st prize – 84” x 84” quilt

2nd prize – painting of Tarbell's barn, by Ann Landers

3rd Prize – vintage furniture by John Stryker

Drawing of the raffle winners will be at the end of the picnic.

Saturday, October 13, 9AM – 1 PM

Yard Sale in Lovell at the junction of Rt 93 & Knight's Hill Rd

We are looking for donations of antiques and quality items –
please call Emily at 603-939-2446

We have a beautiful new sign in front of our schoolhouse, thanks to Barry Kronberg of South Chatham. Barry spent his career in New York as a professional sign maker and installed very large, specialty signs with the biggest crane in NYC. He and his wife, Rheba, retired to Chatham fifteen years ago, where he occasionally still makes signs in his workshop. Ours was made with wood from a Chatham pine tree, and meticulously hand-painted. We are so pleased to be greeting the world with this fine, welcoming work of art.

Thank you, Barry!

Contact us:

1061 Main Road, Chatham, NH 03813
chathamnhhistoricalsociety@gmail.com
www.chathamhistoricalnh.org
Facebook – Chatham NH Historical
603-694-2099



NOTES FROM THE PRESIDENT

Another summer has passed too quickly! And so much good to tell about!

Back in June we held a potluck supper at our schoolhouse. Beforehand, some of the most happy and energetic cleaners that I have ever known, gathered to give the classroom a thorough cleaning. So when our Society members gathered to share a meal, the room really felt quite homey. With every event, as we build memories and establish more connections with Chatham's past, it feels more and more like true home!

In July we held a yard sale in Fryeburg where we could catch more traffic than in Chatham. Emily, who chaired the event, felt it was such a success that we will hold another yard sale fundraiser in October, in Lovell. Many thanks to all who donated items for this benefit, and helped in other ways.

That July event helped provide our cover while we worked secretly behind the scenes to put together a surprise evening honoring Barbara for her many years of work for our Historical Society, the Town of Chatham, and for the larger community. It was a wonderful time, thanks to the input and physical help from many people.

And for August we have just held a Chatham School Reunion. We had identified 80 alumni who received personal invitations, and 18 of them were able to attend. We had alumni from the Eastman School, the Green Hill School, and the Chatham Center School. Some of them attended Chatham schools in the 1930's, and some in each decade up to its closing in 1968. It was such fun to hear them all reminiscing. It sounded like recess was the best subject even back then. The students learned well, having heard the lessons each of their eight years, and having helped to teach those lessons as they advanced to the upper grades. Though they were nervous as they headed off to Fryeburg Academy, they found they were well prepared.

A huge thank you to Barry Kronberg for making and installing a new sign in front of our building. And we have just received a "tiny library" made by Curt Blaisdell – thank you! We will install it right away so that our community can begin sharing its good books. I myself am looking forward to reading some more books now that the busy-ness of summer is easing.

Becky Knowles is helping us modernize our newsletter by using a computer program to do the layout. Yes, even a *historical* society needs to keep up with the times! This process should get easier with each newsletter. We really appreciate Becky's time, effort, and knowledge. The newsletters will then be archived on our website.

Thank you all for your interest in and support of our Society. You do make a difference! We welcome your ideas and input to help our Society meet our community's needs.

Jeanne Eastman

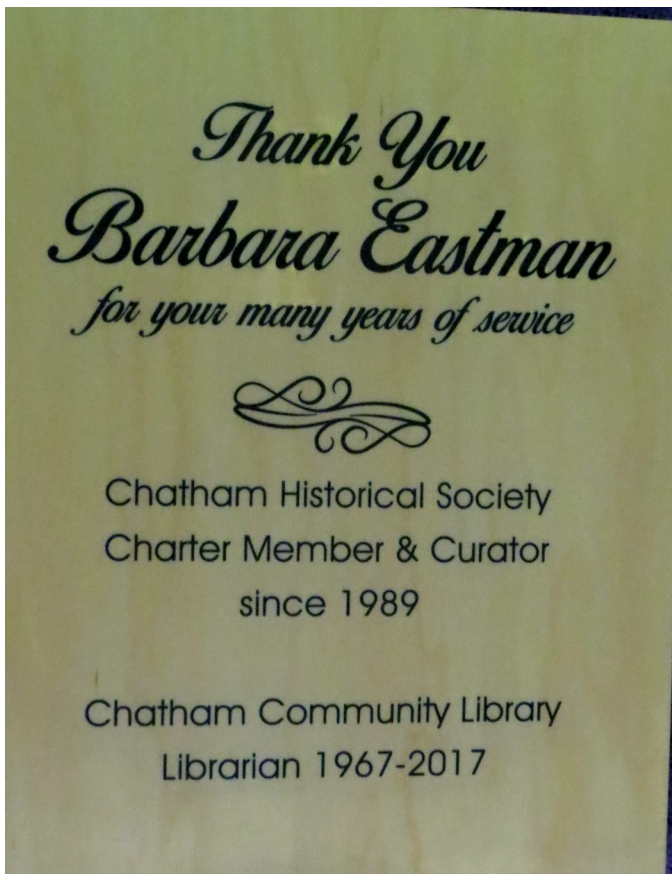
Celebrating Barbara Eastman

On July 28, 2018, Barbara Eastman was honored by the Town of Chatham for her selfless volunteerism over more than 60 years. Former state Representative Carolyn Brown read a commendation from NH Governor Chris Sununu and NH State Speaker of the House Gene Chandler also read a commendation.

Former Representative Brown said that the Town could always count on Barbara for everything from organizing suppers to volunteering for the Chatham Checklist. Speaker Chandler mentioned that Barbara helped with mapping of local cemeteries and recording names to preserve information for the future. He also mentioned that Barbara cooked hot lunches for the Chatham Center schoolhouse from 1957 to 1968. She also served on the schoolboard, volunteered for Head Start and the Lovell Historical Society.

Speaker Chandler noted that her greatest achievement might be “putting up with her husband, Frank, for 64 years! “

A toast was made by Doug MacPherson, historical society treasurer, and all were invited into the school house for refreshments.



The Commendation for Barbara included many things such as:

- Steadfast volunteer in her community for much of her adult life
- Head start Volunteer
- Cooking hot lunches for Chatham Center school from 1957-1968
- Chatham School Board Member
- Mapping cemeteries
- First responder and dispatcher for Fryeburg Rescue
- Supervisor of the Chatham Voters Checklist for 28 years
- Volunteer for the Lovell Historical Society
- Volunteer for the Saco Valley Fire Association
- Mother, grandmother and great-grandmother
- Caring friend to many in Chatham and the surrounding community
- Working to make ensure those around her are taken care of
- Librarian at the Chatham Community Library for 50 years

August 7, 2018

Chatham Historical Society Members,

Many thanks to all who planned and carried out the surprise party for me and it was certainly a surprise! I never suspected a thing, nor expected anything. I first saw all the cars thinking a wedding at the church, then seeing the tent and people at the Society building wondering what was going on, Frank said after driving into the driveway I should check on what was happening. Next, I saw our girls and my sister, Beverly, and then people started clapping. About then I saw a sign with my name and semi shock set in! And the surprises kept coming. Jeanne's speech and giving me a plaque; then Carolyn Brown, who used to live in town and was our NH Representative, got up and read a commendation from N.H. Governor Christopher Sununu, followed by Gene Chandler, Speaker of the N.H. House of Representatives, reading a declaration in my name. Doug MacPherson gave a toast. WOW!

I appreciated all of the planning and work you all did for this to be done. All of you and many others should share in the credit as anything I have done and accomplished I've had help. I'm so lucky to have Frank, our girls and many friends to pitch in when I needed help.

So many commented on how nice everything was – the speeches, flowers, food and school house decorations. So, give yourself a pat on the back for a job well done.

The Library and the Historical Society meant so much to me I'm glad to have been a part of it. I'm happy to say the Society is in very good and capable hands to continue to grow. I hope in time, maybe an addition could be built to house a work area and meeting room thus leaving the basement as a storage area and the school house for exhibits.

So, many thanks to the many who put the gathering together – I know how much work it was – been there and done it.

Now my energy and health say it's time to say if it can't be done sitting down someone else will have to do it.

Sincerely,

Barbara

A large crowd was present to congratulate Barbara on her life long accomplishments!





Chatham School Reunion August 25, 2018

Every year at the end of school, we'd go up to Mrs. Andrew's house and have a picnic.

-Deborah Sue Johnson

We had a record player in the basement. We used to play and dance. And we put on plays down there. -Debbie Wentworth Smith

Keat Chandler was an exceptional teacher. In the spring of the year, she'd say, "We're going to have a contest. We'll see if the boys or the girls can bring in and identify the most wild flowers. I'd bring in a flower. She'd say, "Let's look it up." I'd find it in the book. She'd say "Where does it grow? When does it bloom?" She was teaching us how to look things up and to notice what's around you. -Frank Eastman, 1st grade in 1941

Alice Charles was teacher at the Eastman School. I learned more in the 8th grade listening to her teach the 1st graders. And the older kids helped teach the younger ones.

-Ralph Emerson

I remember 8th grade math. I had to take the answer book, write down the answer, write down the question, and then derive how to get the answer. It was algebra and I taught myself. -George Perry

In 1935, my cousin Shirley and I were in the 8th grade at Eastman School. We were the janitors, which involved coming up in the morning and building a fire, going outside to pump water for drinking water. After school, we had to bring in the flag, clean the blackboard, and sweep. The teacher had a record player. I remember she'd play Rudy Vallee singing "Your Time Is My Time" while we worked.

-Pauline Emerson Libbey

Barbara Eastman always cooked lunch for us and brought it down. She'd make big meals, mac and cheese. The only thing she made that I hated was pea soup. ... -Kim Smith

David Countway from Wolfeboro was assistant teacher to Mrs. Andrews. Then Debbie Wentworth was the assistant the last year ('67-'68) -Ron Briggs

We used to go sliding in the winter on an old car hood. There was a big pine. Must have had freezing rain, the course was faster than usual. Young Hermie was in the front – hit the pine tree and split his nose open.

-Ron Briggs

We used to bow the birches down. Five or six guys would get it bowed down. Then one guy would hold on, and everybody let go. FLING you in the air! -George Perry

Gary Wilfong and I used to bring our fishing rods. We'd go down and fish. We'd come back at lunch break, a little late, sopping wet! Cindy Layne Butters

Loren Andrews put up two rope swings in the big pine trees. You could get up there! Norma Layne (McAllister), probably 2nd or 3rd grade, went up so high she fell off and struck her head. -George Perry

Recess was obviously the most memorable part of school. Other fun remembered in great detail - playing Halley Over (little sister Sue broke a window, she was only 1st or 2nd grade), Fox and Geese, hopscotch in the driveway, picking apples up Toad Hill Road, peeking in the windows of the haunted house, digging tunnels in the snow banks, playing baseball in the field (Young Ed Layne broke his leg when his cousin Lisa jumped on him to keep him from scoring.) There was also a bathtub in the basement for storing live fish between recess and the end of the school day.

A Memorable Poem Recited by Frank Eastman

A wise old owl sat in an oak.
The more he heard, the less he spoke.
The less he spoke, the more he heard.
Why can't we all be like that wise old bird?





Cribbage in Chatham

Who Is This Molley Crew?

Find out in our next issue, or if you think you know, email us

Membership Form

\$10.00 /person

Due by May 1

\$100.00 life member

Name	
Address	
Winter	
Dues	
Donation	
Building Fund	
Total	

