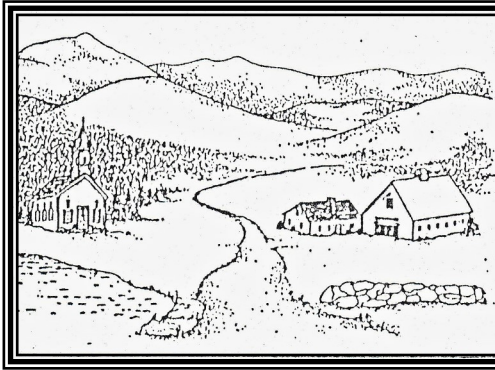




Chatham Times

Past and Present

Merry Christmas and Happy Holidays

Upcoming Events:

February 2, 2019: Our Annual Winter Bonfire, 4-6 PM, behind our schoolhouse in Chatham Center, immediately followed by a slide show featuring historic Chatham

Perfect Chatham Gifts

Chatham t-shirts (\$12) and sweat-shirts (\$18)
Tote bags (\$10) and coverlets (\$50),
250th anniversary book, A Brief History of Chatham (\$35)
booklets of Chatham history (\$4)
Packets of 8 note cards of Chatham scenes (\$6 colored, \$5 b&w)
Call Barbara (603-694-3623) or email the Society if you'd like to make a purchase.

Contact us:

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

Below—Christmas at the Andrews Farm, North Chatham, in 1970.



Downsized by Emily Fernald

Not willing to abandon the Chatham Library, we have downsized. Thanks to Curt Blaisdell we have a new Little Chatham Library at the Schoolhouse. Deanna Morris lettered the library for us and we certainly thank her.

The little library serves the community by the “take a book, leave a book” policy. It is open 24/7, easily accessible, no snow days, and has an endless supply of books. Get to know your neighbors by the books they read. You are encouraged to leave a comment or a note for the next reader.

A few years back, Curt put a smaller little library at the foot of Hurricane Mountain Road and I have enjoyed swapping books from that location closer to me. Handy for the South Chatham residents and thanks again Curt.

It looks like we are in for a long winter so keep your head lamp handy and settle in for some great reads.



NEW MEMBERS

Ricky Eastman
Kevin McAllister
Bill Fuchs
Shell Dein
Carl Perry

Winners of the September Picnic Raffle

Quilt—Karen Deitz
Painting by Ann Landers—Judy Bailey
Vintage table by John Stryker—Kim Callen
50/50—Lisa Moore

GIFTS—THANK YOU!

From Barbara Lawrence: Booklets “Lost River,” “Profile and Franconia Park,” “Mt Washington State Park.”

From Emily Fernald: Photo of Ken & Elsie Small

From Mona Ames: 8 photos of Matt & Rachel Pitman’s Wedding

From Donna Garland Hammond: 2 Diaries of Alice Eastman Harriman 1917 & 18; 2 photos of Mrs. Blake, teacher of Eastman School; 6 photos of Eastman School students & Clyde Garland house; 1 postcard of Charles Home Post Office; Map of early Chatham

From Pauline Libbey: many back issues of Chatham Times; many news clippings of Chatham area obituaries

From Lonnie Lewis: Rainbow Lodge Advertisement; booklet “Eastern Slope of the White Mountains,” 14 photos (Carlton Place, Green Hill Birthday Party, Andrews’ and Pendexters)

From Carl Perry: Military Certificate for Herbert Perry, Town Clerk Certificate for D. Claire Perry, 8th grade diplomas for Carl Perry from Center Chatham School

Unknown Donor: 3 deeds from 1801, 1826 and 1838

IN MEMORY OF:

Sandra (Quincy) Fox, Daughter of Huebert and Alta (Lord) Quincy, passed away on November 18, 2018. She is survived by her husband, Webster; son, Marcus; and daughter Bonnie.

Reverend Donald L. McAllister, 85. Born in Norway, ME, August 21, 1933 and died in Dover, NH, August 26, 2018. He was the son of Donald F. and Mildred (Oberg) McAllister. He was a life member of the Chatham Historical Society.

Ernest W. Smith, born in Stow, ME, May 28, 1929 and died in Auburn, ME, November 16, 2018. He was the son of Simon and Ester Libby Smith. He is survived by his wife, Edna; daughter, Cindy; sons Eric, Errol and Danny; sisters Louisa and Sylvia; and brother Roger.

NOTES FROM THE PRESIDENT

Winter has settled upon us in an old-fashioned way, with staying snow in early November followed by near-zero temperatures, heavy wet snows, and power outages. Did anyone predict this by the wooly bear's stripe? Or the height of the wasp nests above ground? Or the timing of the bird migrations? If you know nature's way of forecasting the severity of winter, send us a note!

After our September talk by Sandy Stott about his book, Critical Hours, Search and Rescue in the White Mountains, and a great Town Picnic, we have begun to turn our attention to our building. We held a yard sale fund raiser in October but came up against weather that kept most of our targeted buyers, the leaf peepers, at home. Many thanks to all those who donated items or helped out at the sale. We have plans this winter to repair the chimney, upgrade the electrical wiring, and shore up the floor. Then we will begin the task of reorganizing our collection of documents and photos and artifacts. We also have some diaries and interviews to transcribe. These are interesting peeks into life in Chatham's past. Anyone interested in helping with this project, please let us know.

Speaking of interviews, between Veteran's Day and Thanksgiving it occurred to me that I should be out interviewing our veterans. We should honor them by preserving the stories of their service for our country. But, between farm chores and time not being what it used to be, I wasn't getting to this project. Thanksgiving passed and the Day of Listening was upon me. I regretted that I had no recordings. Then Steve, my husband, reminded me that he is a veteran. Of course! So I pulled out the recorder and we sat down. I'd heard pieces of his stories before, but this time I sat still and listened. I heard some things I hadn't noticed before – a young man nervous about what he'd be asked to do, a mind expanded by exposure to world history, and a father proud of his son's choice to serve in the National Guard. And I learned some things like, sometimes the real stories come out when the recorder is shut off – it's OK to shut it off and just listen.

So I am still hoping to record our veterans' stories, as much as they are willing to share, only as much as they want recorded. I will honor them by just listening to the rest.

If you would like to honor a Chatham veteran by having his/her name engraved on a paving stone at the Chatham Veterans' Memorial, please let us know. If you'd like to sponsor a veteran who no longer has family in town, we can help you decide on one to adopt. We have veterans all the way back to the American Revolution.

On behalf of our Society, I extend deep sympathy to our lifetime member, Jennifer McClure, and her husband, Dale, who lost their house on Butter Hill Road to a fire in October. May they feel the support of our community as they rebuild.

May you all enjoy a safe and restful winter, with time for good reading, a few projects, and some snowy recreation.

Jeanne Eastman

Life One Hundred Years Ago In Chatham

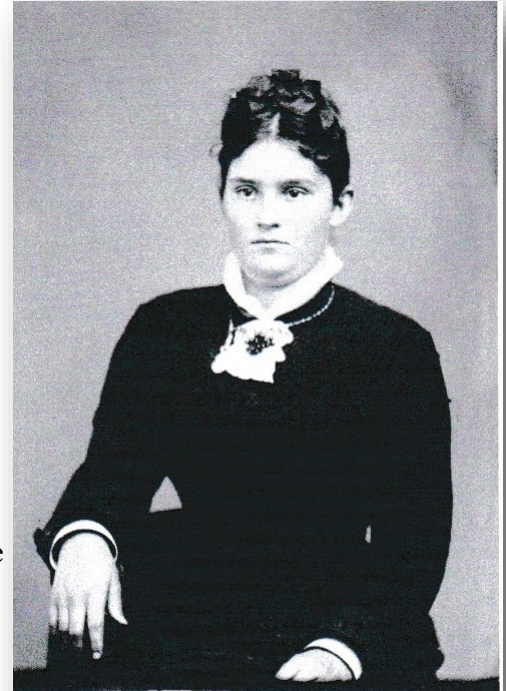
By Barbara Eastman

Chatham Historical Society recently received a gift of two diaries from Donna Hammond written in 1917 and 1918 by her Great Grandmother, Alice (Eastman) Harriman (1863-1939). She was the youngest daughter of Lorenzo and Mary Harriman Eastman. I read them with much interest as Alice was also my husband, Frank's, Great Aunt. Alice married Frank Harriman (1861-1936) on March 14, 1883, in Fryeburg. He was the son of Benjamin and Susanna Harriman. Alice wrote in her diary on March 14, 1917, "We ought to celebrate this day for we have been married 34 years tonight. It doesn't seem possible but it is true. We have been as happy as most people are, I know."

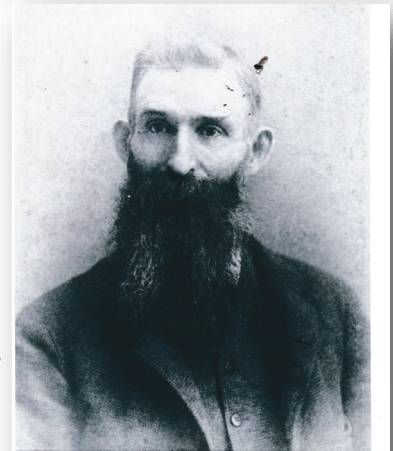
Frank and Alice lived in the home that is now 1535 Main Road in Chatham. They had two children, Fred and Nellie. Fred N (b. 1884) married Cora B. Emerson, daughter of Almon and Ella Chaplin Emerson, and lived in Stow. Fred and Cora had three known children: Alta (b. 1907) who died at 14 days; Gladys, listed on the June, 1910 census as age 20 months; and the third daughter, also named Alta, born in 1916. Nellie (b. 1891) married Louville Emerson in 1909 and lived next door to her parents at what is now 1561 Main Road. Nellie and Louville had 2 children – Clifford in 1913 and Shirley in 1921. Louville was the son of Warren and Ida Chandler Emerson.

Nearly every entry records the weather. Weather had a big impact on what chores to do. Weather signs such as "red at night, sailors' delight" predicted fair weather and "red at morning, sailors take warning" forecasted storms and were watched very carefully.

Alice also recorded what she did, if anyone called, what her husband did for work and if they went somewhere to visit. Life-style was very different from ours today. Most worked at home. There were no 9 to 5 jobs to go to. It was a "can see to can't see" life (meaning daylight hours). Only occasionally would there be paid employment for someone. Days started early for both. Alice cooked a full meal at breakfast on the wood stove by the light of a kerosene lamp (Chatham on this side of Robbins Hill didn't have electricity until 1938-39.) Then she did dishes, swept the floors, took care of the milk that her husband had brought in from the barn, cleaned the lamp chimneys (a daily job), did the wash (scrubbing clothes on a wash board), washed floors, did mending, ironing (how often do we iron today?), etc. Alice writes about doing other chores while keeping the wood stove burning.



Alice (Eastman) Harriman



Ezra Eastman, son of Lorenzo

"Jan 4, 1917. Frank was gone so I staid at home and partly ripped my coat, ready to turn. Hope it will look better when I get it done." (She took her coat apart and turned the pieces so that the original outside was now inside.) She tells of "ironing all forenoon," "facing a pair of gloves," "mending all afternoon," "knitting and crocheting," "made shoes for Alta," "fried doughnuts made three pies and a panful of cookies," and "canned wild strawberries."

Alice recorded, "Frank delivered cream to No. Fryeburg." (Does anyone know anything about a creamery/milk place?) "Frank went on the roller to clear the road." Roads were not plowed in Chatham until, as noted on Millard Chandler's garage wall, "Jan of 1930 when Everett Eastman, as road agent, ran a truck and plow over roads for the first time."

With all the activities and chores Alice also tells of being alone all day and how lonesome she was even though her daughter, Nellie, and son lived next door and came in most days, sometimes several times a day. She writes,

"They have broken the road and it doesn't look so lonesome," "we have been alone all day. I get so lonesome I don't know what to do," "I wish someone would come in" and "Have not seen hardly anyone today. Oh, dear it is lonesome." Alice seems to have periods of dreading the wind as she mentions several times "the wind blows, hope it stops for it sounds so lonesome." Still, she notes several people stopping in to visit, staying to a meal, staying overnight and visiting someone quite often. She was definitely a lady who liked to have people around even though she mentions, "having company all day and very tired tonight."

Alice mentions going to Bickfords (Bickfords owned a store in Stow), that Anne Hutchins and Fred Thurston called, Roger Emerson stopped in, Orland Allard was here, went to Walter's and spent the day, "had some strangers today – Mattie and Guy(Crouse), was glad to see them," "went to Dells (Adelbert Watson, a nephew who lived on the Lake Road in Stow) and had a nice time," "went up to Ezra Healds, and went to Ezra's in Jackson, NH (Alice's half brother Ezra Eastman), and "found him feeble and so hard to see him so ill."

Traveling was difficult as she notes on April 8, 1917. "We have been down to Frank Bickfords and around the square and home. It is horrid going, neither wheeling or sleighing although we went with a wagon." To go by wagon seven miles must have taken quite some time yet they seemed to go somewhere quite often like going to Lovell to "a drama" and getting home at midnight or going to Ossipee and staying overnight and "getting home about dark the next day." Also going to the "city." It is difficult to imagine how long it would take to go to Conway, Lovell or Fryeburg. They did go and she mentions going to Mechanic Falls "104 miles."

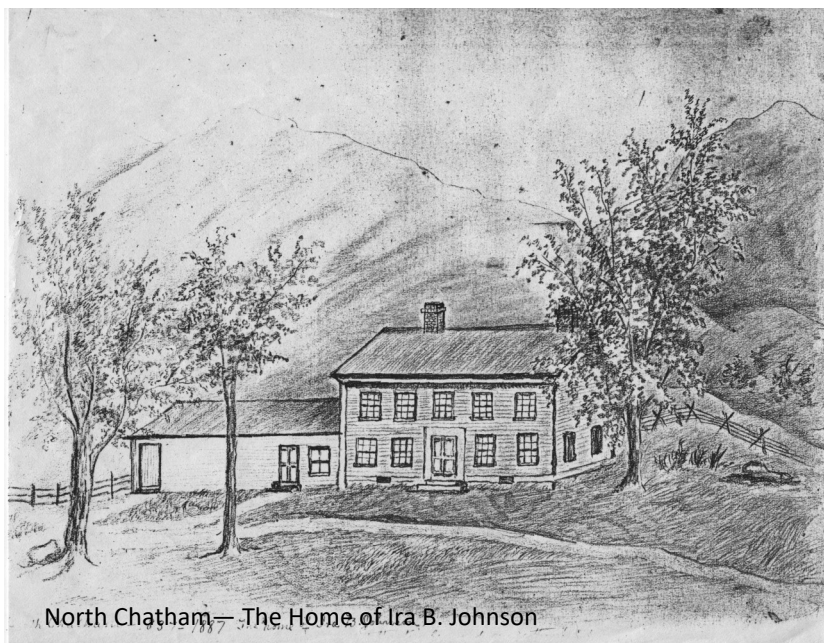
Seasonal chores of plowing, planting, canning, tending gardens, going berrying, getting wood, hauling ice and sawdust, etcetera, kept both Alice and Frank busy. Farming is hard work even today. One hundred years ago, life was even harder on a farm. To get a real feel of their day-to-day life, read the diaries at our museum and compare their life style with our electric, push-button life, store-bought food and clothes, how we travel and then don't complain too much if our roads are not bare year round!



Interview with Barbara (Andrews) Hale and George Andrews Becky Knowles

This past summer, 2018, Jeanne and Steve Eastman, Becky Knowles, Jim Coogan, Barbara Hale and George Andrews sat down at the Andrews Farm, now owned by Becky and Jim. We talked about life on the farm and in North Chatham when they were growing up. The following is a collection of the memories that Barb and George shared. The discussion took place over an hour and a half and was recorded. It was difficult at times to decipher who was saying what on the recording. We were all so excited about asking questions, many times several people were talking at once. Following are just a few of the memories they shared.

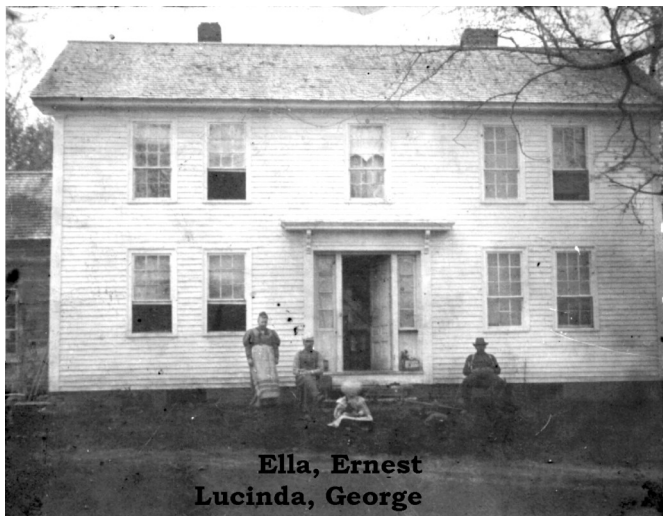
Their great-grandfather, George Andrews bought this farm for \$500 around 1850. George was the son of Abel Andrews (married to Lucinda Brickett) who built the Stone House. George added to his farm over the years and owned property on both sides of Main Road in both New Hampshire and Maine. He married Ella, adopted daughter of the Mars-



tons. They owned many of the sawmills in this area. The farmhouse was built by a shipwright named Ira B. Johnson who, George said, also built the house on the Albert farm in North Fryeburg on Fish Street.

George and Ella had four children: Lucinda, Ernest, Herbert and George. Herbert married Margaret (Maggie), who came from Ireland at age 15. They were given the farm with the agreement that they take care of George and Ella until they passed. Herbert and Maggie had five children: Loren,

Angus, Urban, Harold and Erma. Harold was George's and Barbara's father.



The story of how Harold met his wife, Winnie: There is a small cottage across the street from the Andrews Farm (now Notch View Farm). It was built by Herbert Andrews in 1915 for the Staples family. It was left to Ernest Steves, whose second wife, Evelyn, was the director of nursing at Roosevelt Hospital in New York City. Eve knew Harold from vacationing in the cottage and knew Winnie (from Vermont), who was in nursing school at the hospital. Eve encouraged them to write to

each other. They started writing in 1946. Barbara has all the old letters written by her dad to Winnie, but none of Winnie's. She says that Harold's letters are all about hunting, fishing and what it was like living in North Chatham. For some reason, Barbara said, Winnie was attracted by this. Winnie was the maid of honor at the wedding of Loren Andrew's step-daughter, Ola Mae, also a nursing student at Roosevelt Hospital. This is where Harold and Winnie finally met face to face. A year later they were married in Brattleboro, Vermont.

Barbara has shared many wonderful photos of the farm and the Andrews family. Some are included here. There will be more stories to come in future issues of the "Chatham Times."



Left—on the back of the photo inscribed "December 3, 1982 Harold giving Winnie a big boost on George's pond back of mill day of picnic there with Barbara's family."

Right: Baby bears cared for by the Andrews. They were later given to Clark's Trading Post.



Blacksmith Shop at the Andrews Farm on Main Road, North Chatham. It was later moved to the west side of the barn, but is no longer there.

Society Wish List

- Mouse-proof plastic tubs for storage of sale items
- Computer Paper
- A working manual typewriter on which "!" is made by typing :
 "_" "backspace" "'_",
 there is such a thing!

Last Month's Photo— Taken at a Heart Fund, Fund Raiser, Norris Hill and Frank Eastman, playing cribbage at Chatham's Game Fest in the 1980's, photo by Bruce Bedford. It appeared on the Carroll County Calendar. Laurie Crouse wrote in with the correct names!



Can You Identify This Photo?

This beautiful photo is in the archives of the Chatham Historical Society collection but the people are unknown. If you can identify them, please let us know!!

Membership Form

\$10.00 /person/year

Due by May 1

\$100.00 life member

Name	
Address	
Winter	
Dues	
Donation	
Building Fund	
Total	

