

DUNBARTON HISTORICAL AWARENESS COMMITTEE
MINUTES OF MEETING HELD MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 23, 2013
AT THE DUNBARTON TOWN OFFICES

PRESENT: Donna Dunn, Ted and Allison Vallieres, Bill and Rebecca Rolke.

OLD HOME DAY: Saturday, September 14, 2013 was a day to enjoy in Dunbarton. The common was alive with children playing in and on an inflatable structure, and tables were set up with interesting goods to peruse and purchase. The library was open to the public, and DHAC member and Chair of the Town Hall and Theatre Restoration Committee Tiffany Dodd escorted visitors on a tour of the upstairs. Tiffany had offered the DHAC a table in the front anteroom off the main library, and Rebecca displayed historical signboards about the town, as prepared by Donna. Information was available for owners of historic homes, to consider purchasing a new house sign of weather-resistant material. Drivers of vintage vehicles partook in the colorful parade down Route 13 south, which showcased members of various Dunbarton organizations, walking and waving from the street or from floats. Pies were available for sale, and there were some which wound up splattered on a few faces. The Dunbarton Historical Society presented their traditional ham and bean supper, and the festivities concluded with fireworks.

NOYES COLLECTION: Bill, Donna and Rebecca, who are some of the volunteers selected a few years ago by Bud Noyes to oversee his collection, met at the town offices on the morning of Saturday, September 28, 2013, to begin going through the plastic tubs which contain the collection. A first sorting was accomplished, and resulted in relocating some papers with those of a similar nature, and making preliminary decisions regarding the disposition of duplicate and unrelated items. For instance, there is an abundance of paperwork regarding the Ranges and Commons of Dunbarton, and it is possible the volunteers may be able to reduce the mass at a later date. The papers have some environmental issues, and there was discussion about how to solve this problem once and for all.

DAFFODILS FOR DUNBARTON: It is getting closer to 2015, the year of Dunbarton's 250th anniversary, which will be the culmination of the ten-year effort to beautify the town, especially along the John Stark Scenic Byway (Route 13), with thousands of daffodils. The fourth Saturday of October, 2013 will be a public-planting day, and national as well as local media will cover the event.

A BAILEY MYSTERY: The Dunbarton Garden Club has honored Professor Mark Bailey, a native of Dunbarton, with a daffodil. At Yale University, he taught elocution, and was a friend of President Abraham Lincoln. During the Lincoln-Douglas debates, Professor Bailey traveled to assist his friend with debating elocution. At this time, no papers of Bailey's are known to exist. More research will hopefully uncover additional information. The DHAC discussed bringing the professor, and his relationship to Abraham Lincoln, to the attention of the teachers at the Dunbarton Elementary School, for possible inclusion in the curriculum.

NEXT MEETING: October 28, 2013, at 6:30 p.m., at the Dunbarton Town Offices.

Respectfully submitted,

Rebecca Rolke,
Chair and Secretary