



# Newsletter

Colchester Vermont Historical Society

Winter 2018 - 2019

## Upcoming Programs and Meetings:



- ♦ **Christmas Party**  
**Tuesday, December 11, 7 p.m.**  
**United Church of Colchester**  
**900 Main Street**  
Colchester High School Choral Groups
- ♦ **Business Meeting**  
**Saturday, January 12, 10 a.m.**
- ♦ **History of the Heineberg Bridge**  
**Saturday, February 9, 10 a.m.**  
Speaker: Reid Allen
- ♦ **History of Fort Ethan Allen**  
**at Fort Ethan Allen**  
**Saturday, March 9, 10 a.m.**  
Speaker: Dr. Will Parkinson
- ♦ **Lang Family Camp**  
**Monday, April 8, 7 p.m.**  
Speaker: Martha Reeves Lang
- ♦ **Appraisal Night!**  
**Meeting House on Main Street**  
**May (date to be determined)**  
Appraiser: Kyle Scanlon of  
Vermont Estate Services
- ♦ **Monday, June 10, 6 p.m.**  
**Annual Meeting and Barbecue**

**Please note:** Unless otherwise indicated, programs are held at the Colchester Historical Society building at 828 Main Street. Parking, admission and refreshments are free; donations are always appreciated. Hope to see you there!

## Have You Ever Been?

On a beautiful October day, members and guests of the Colchester Historical Society enjoyed a scenic foliage ride and field trip to two local historic sites near the Lake Champlain Bridge in Addison. First, [Crown Point](#) on the New York side, then back to the Vermont side for a delicious and fun lunch at The Bridge Restaurant, followed by a visit to [Chimney Point](#). What an amazing day! If you've never visited, we highly recommend both locations. Special thanks to Suzanne Furst and Annette Mulcahy for making the arrangements.



*Volunteer reenactor Mike chatted with us about the early days of the fur trade business.*

## Vermont History Adventure Raffle



Donate for a chance to win cash or a dream vacation for two to Ireland, Rome, or South Carolina! Raffle tickets are 1 for \$25 or get 5 tickets for \$100.

All proceeds benefit the Vermont Historical Society's Annual Fund.

1st Prize: Your choice of one of three magical destinations for two (trips valued at \$3,000+).

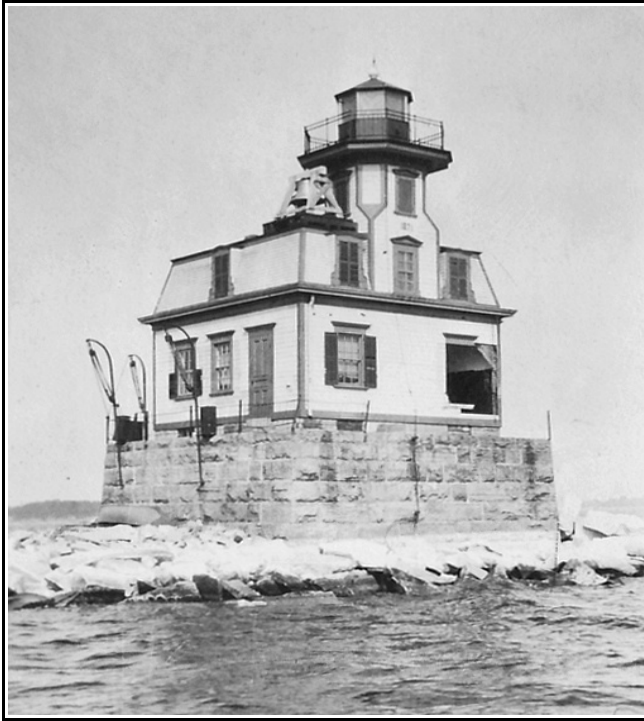
2nd Prize: \$500 cash.

3rd Prize: \$150 cash.

The winners will be announced April 26, 2019.

Visit the [Vermont Historical Society web site](#) for more details.

## Brrrr! A Wintry Blast from the Past



*Colchester Reef Lighthouse, Winter, 1923. (Photo courtesy U.S. Coastguard and Lighthousefriends.com.)*

One night back in 1923, Colchester Reef Lighthouse Keeper August Lorenz was working in the lantern room when he heard a huge crash and splintering wood. He dashed downstairs to find the southwest corner of the lighthouse split open by the pressure of tons of ice. Huge ice chunks protruded through the opening and flooded the kitchen floor. But within a few minutes, the wind reversed, the ice slid back, and all that was left of the near disaster was a gaping hole in the kitchen wall.

These days, of course, the incredible Colchester Reef Lighthouse is on display at the Shelburne Museum. Inside the structure, exhibits on Lake Champlain history, maritime history, and life at the lighthouse may be enjoyed.

For more lighthouse history details and photos, visit [Lighthouse Friends](http://LighthouseFriends.com).

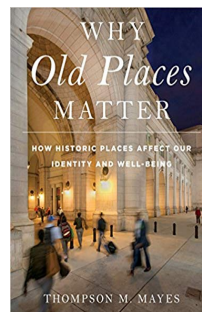
## Spellbound!

That's the best way to describe how members and guests reacted to our special Veterans' Day program in November. Rick Heh presented amazingly descriptive and detailed journal entries written by his Dad during World War II. Lt. Richard Heh served in the 351<sup>st</sup> Bomb Squad in the U.S. Air Force. His B-17 war plane was shot down over Belgium, and he was held as a prisoner of war for about a year at Stalag Luft III German prison camp. Fortunately, he was one of the lucky ones who returned home after the war. Special thanks to Rick Heh for sharing these fascinating stories about his Dad.



*Lt. Heh was only 20 or 21 when this photo was taken. His son, Rick, wore this jacket during his presentation to the Historical Society.*

## Winter Reading to Consider



*"Why Old Places Matter: How Historic Places Affect Our Identity and Well-Being" by Thompson M. Mayes, Vice President and Senior Counsel, National Trust for Historic Preservation.*

This book explores the reasons old places matter to people. Although people often feel very deeply about the old places of their lives, they don't have the words to express why. This book brings these ideas together in evocative language and with illustrative images for a broad audience.

## Summertime at The Log Schoolhouse



The summer of 2018 was a busy one for the historical Log Schoolhouse (circa 1815) and for volunteers of the Colchester Historical Society. Open each Friday - Monday all summer from 10 a.m – 2 p.m., this amazing historical exhibit garnered *thousands* of visitors.

Located at Airport Park and near the recreation path, the schoolhouse is a fun, free and convenient stop for visitors. Guests this summer included folks from Russia, Israel, Austria, Canada, and even Colchester – ours as well as the one in England!

For more information about this Colchester museum and tourist center and to learn about its restoration, please visit our [web site](#).



More volunteers will be needed in the summer of 2019 to host this engaging historical site. It is a wonderful family volunteer and educational opportunity!

To volunteer and to find out more, please contact Carol Reichard at 802-497-3036.

## In Tribute



The Colchester Historical Society deeply mourns the loss of long-time volunteer and Board Member Coralie “Corkey” Magoon who passed away in September. In her honor, a room at the Historical Society building has been dedicated to her commitment of time, talent and treasure. The room has been affectionately named “Corkey's Corner.”

## News and Updates at your Fingertips

Enjoy learning what's new with old! On Facebook, be sure to “Like” and “Follow” [Colchester Vermont Historical Society](#). Visit the Colchester Historical Society's [web site](#) to stay up to date on news and programs. There are also some fabulous vintage photos.

Becoming a member of the Colchester Historical Society is very easy and inexpensive. Please help sustain Colchester's wonderful local history by joining in on the fun and activities. Find out more [here](#).

## Colchester Historical Society Officers 2018-2019

President: Nancy Burke  
Vice President: Bonnie Potter  
Treasurer/Director/Webmaster: Bob Furst  
Secretary: (vacancy)  
Director: Carol Reichard  
Newsletter and Facebook page compiled by Bonnie Potter.