



Newsletter

Colchester Vermont Historical Society

Spring, 2019

Upcoming Programs and Meetings:



Relaxing on the shore with Montreal cousins.

- ♦ **Lang Family Camp Memories**
Colchester Historical Society Bldg.
828 Main Street
Monday, April 15, 7 p.m.
Martha Reeves Lang will share memories of her family's camp on Spaldings West Shore. Included will be information about Lake Champlain and local Native Americans.

**ANTIQUE
APPRAISAL
EVENT**

- ♦ **Appraisal Night!**
Meeting House
830 Main Street
Monday, May 13, 7 p.m.
Are you wondering about the value of vintage/antique items you own? Bring them along to Appraisal Night! Items pertaining to Colchester and Vermont are especially encouraged, but all items are welcome. Peter O'Brien and Mike Heath of Estate Sales & Consignments here in Colchester will share their knowledge and experience. Co-hosted by the Burnham Memorial Library.
- ♦ **Monday, June 10, 6 p.m.**
Annual Meeting and Barbecue
For members and guests. Not a member? Sign up [here](#) or at any meeting.

Please note: Parking, admission and refreshments are free; donations are always appreciated. Hope to see you there!

Volunteers Needed at the Log Schoolhouse

VOLUNTEER



Located at Airport Park near the recreation path, the Colchester Log Schoolhouse is a fun, free and convenient stop for visitors. Open each Friday - Monday all summer, 10 a.m – 2 p.m., this amazing historical exhibit garners *thousands* of visitors.

More volunteers are needed this coming summer to host this lovely historical site and visitor center. It's a wonderful family volunteer and educational opportunity!

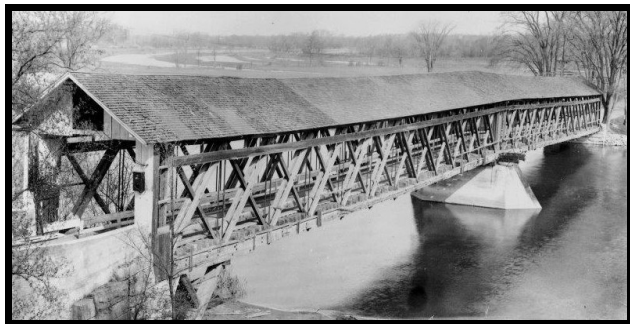
To volunteer and to find out more, please contact Carol Reichard at 802-497-3036.



Interior schoolhouse exhibit.



Recent Programs:



Heineberg Bridge, 1917

Our February program featured Reid Allen with a presentation about the history of the Heineberg Bridge. Over the years there have been four bridges – the first was built in 1853 and named for Dr. J.B. Heineberg who was instrumental in its construction. The second bridge was built in 1862 after a fire destroyed the original bridge. Then, in 1935, the old wooden bridge was replaced by a steel bridge; and in the mid-1980s, that bridge was replaced by the current concrete bridge as part of the Burlington Beltline project.



Fort Ethan Allen Museum

In March, we enjoyed a visit to the Fort Ethan Allen Museum. The museum is located in the old pump house for the stone water tower. Dr. William Parkinson, owner of the museum, took us on a virtual tour of the Fort, showing historical photos as well as current photos and provided details of what was happening at each place. More information about the Fort Ethan Allen Museum is available [here](#).

Grant Funding Available



Are you researching an aspect of Colchester's history? Funding from the Chittenden County Historical Society (CCHS) is available to support your work!

Anyone, whether or not a member of the Society, may apply for a grant of up to \$1,000 for a research project on some aspect of Chittenden County history. Grants are made directly to individuals and do not require a sponsoring organization.

CCHS is now accepting applications for 2019 Research Grants. The details and application form are available [here](#). The deadline is June 1.

In Case You Missed It...

From the comfort of your own home, you can easily visit a variety of historical locations in Vermont via a video series hosted by Local 22 - Fox44 and the Vermont Historical Society in "This Place in History."

Several interesting historical topics around the State are featured, including Colchester's Champlain Airport and The Buffalo Soldiers of Fort Ethan Allen. Be sure to take a look!



*Champlain Airport, circa 1961.
(Photo courtesy of Greg Dirmaier.)*



*Historic site marker
at Fort Ethan Allen.*

It's Pothole Season!



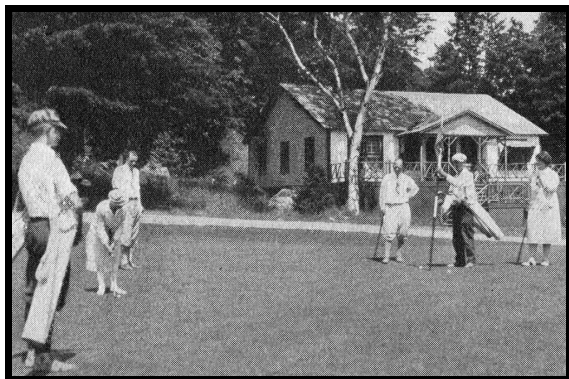
Springtime brings us wonderful things – sunny skies, maple syrup, migrating birds, tiny wildflowers, an ice-free lake and more. It's probable, however, that one of our least favorite Spring developments is potholes!

This photo shows George Henry Pratt, Colchester's road commissioner 1922-1924 and again 1926 - 1930, grading East Road at its junction with Depot Road. (Photo courtesy Jody Pratt.)

From "Images of America – Colchester," by Inge Schaefer, Arcadia Publishing (2003).

Golfing Around

Green grass in springtime gets golfers excited for an afternoon on the course. Here's a vintage photo from a promotional brochure of the former Lake Champlain Club at Malletts Bay. The brochure boasts "the entire floor of the Club House is made of red marble taken off the Club property." (Photo courtesy of Greg Dirmaier.)



In Memory of Gladys Severance



Colchester resident and long-time member of the Historical Society, Gladys Severance, passed away at the age of 90 in December. She led a very full and active life and was a wonderful asset to our community. View her obituary [here](#).

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