



Newsletter

Colchester Vermont Historical Society

Autumn, 2019

Upcoming Events and Programs:

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

♦ Tuesday, October 15, 8:30 a.m. Field Trip to Vermont Granite Museum

Historical Society members look forward to a trip every autumn to a site of historical interest. This fall, we plan to visit the [Vermont Granite Museum](#) in Barre, plus a side trip to the famous [Hope Cemetery](#). We'll meet at 828 Main Street for carpooling. Participants are responsible for lunch expense and the \$5 museum admission fee.



♦ American Legion – 100 Years Monday, November 11 – 7:00 p.m. Veterans Day



The [American Legion](#) was chartered by Congress in 1919 as a patriotic veterans organization. Over the years, the Legion has influenced considerable social change in America, won hundreds of benefits for veterans, and produced many programs for children and youth. Join us for this

special Veterans Day program to learn about Colchester's local Post 91 and the 100-year history of the American Legion.

♦ Christmas Party and Concert Tuesday, December 10, 7 p.m. United Church of Colchester 900 Main Street



Welcome the holiday season with this festive event, featuring Colchester High School choral groups. Refreshments and fellowship follow the concert in this lovely historic building.

♦ Saturday, January 11, 10 a.m. Dick Mazza's Transportation Exhibit 777 West Lakeshore Drive



If you have an interest in muscle cars, Corvettes, and 1950s memorabilia, you will not want to miss this program. Colchester businessman Dick Mazza has an amazing collection of cars, farm equipment and memorabilia. He probably has a few great stories to tell as well.

♦ Saturday, February 8, 10 a.m. Vermont Nut Free Chocolates Presenter: Mark T. Elvidge, President/CEO



We are excited to present our first special Valentine's Day program featuring [Vermont Nut Free Chocolates](#). Please join us to learn about the history of chocolate making as well as the history behind this family-owned, family-run Colchester business.

- ♦ **Saturday, March 14, 10 a.m.**
St. Michael's College Fire & Rescue
Donald E. Sutton Firehouse
220 College Parkway



Now celebrating its 50th anniversary, [Saint Michael's Fire and Rescue](#) is dedicated to providing the highest quality professional fire and emergency medical services and education for the campus and communities it serves. Saint Michael's Fire and Rescue is proudly staffed and managed by members of the Saint Michael's College community.

Come hear their stories and learn their history at our March gathering. They are excited to show us their newly restored original fire truck, a 1957 Ward LaFrance.

- ♦ **"A View from Inside the State Capital"**
Monday, April 13, 7 p.m.
Presenter: Rep. Curt Taylor



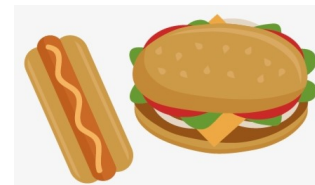
Join us for a little history about how laws are made in Vermont and what new laws were enacted during this most recent Legislative session.

- ♦ **Monday, May 11, (time to be determined)**
Field Trip to Birds of Vermont Museum



We are looking forward to a spring field trip to the [Birds of Vermont Museum](#). We'll learn about its history, view the exhibits and find out what's new. This museum provides education to nurture an appreciation of the environment, and to study birds and their habitats using woodcarvings and other resources. Meet at 828 Main Street for carpooling to Huntington. Participants are responsible for museum admission fee and lunch.

- ♦ **Monday, June 8, 6 p.m.**
Annual Meeting and Barbecue



Members and invited guests enjoy this annual event for a look back over the past year and to plan events for next year. Always casual and fun!

*"There is nothing new in
the world except the
history you do not know."
- Harry S. Truman*

Recent Events and Programs:

Old Log Schoolhouse



Located at Airport Park near the recreation path, the Colchester Log Schoolhouse is the highlight of our summer. A family-friendly and fun historic site and visitor center, this little gem is open Memorial Day - Labor Day, every Friday through Monday, 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. Special thanks to our volunteer hosts and caretakers who help make this charming little museum a great success!

“Voices in the Attic”

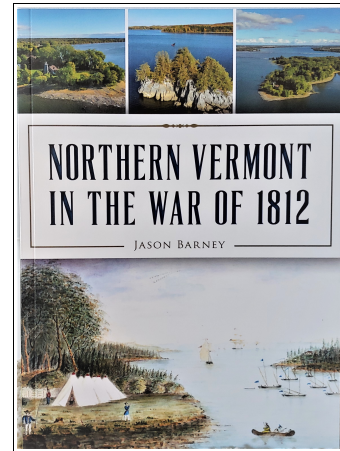


Dr. Carleton Young with the chest of Civil War letters he found in his parents' attic.

Our September program, co-hosted by Burnham Memorial Library, featured Dr. Carleton Young, author of “Voices in the Attic.” His book is about the detailed letters of two Vermont brothers who served in the Civil War. Fascinating! Read the article about it in the [Colchester Sun](#). Check the

library for a copy of Dr. Young's book or purchase it on [Amazon.com](#).

Another Book of Local Interest



When Missisquoi Valley Union High School teacher and historian Jason Barney presented to the Colchester Historical Society in April of 2018, he became inspired to write this book.

“Northern Vermont in the War of 1812” details the critical role that Vermont played during the War of 1812. While Burlington was a major military base and harbor for American vessels, Mr. Barney looks into the roles of local militias composed of farmers, blacksmiths, and merchants from Swanton to Isle La Motte and their role in the war. And, yes, Colchester is mentioned a few times, too. Ask for this book at the library or purchase it on [Amazon.com](#).

Hazelett Corporation Celebrates 100 Years

This summer, [Hazelett Corporation](#) celebrated its 100th anniversary. The company has been located in Colchester for over 60 years. Founded by Clarence W. Hazelett (pictured next page), this business designs, manufactures, installs, and services continuous casting equipment. Hazelett is the pioneer and world leader in twin-belt casting for flat and long nonferrous products. It is a fourth-generation family-owned company and the exclusive supplier of the Hazelett® twin-belt continuous casting machine. Employing 150



people, the company is fully integrated with complete in-house engineering, manufacturing, research and development, and technical services.

Read more about the company's history on its web site and, if you missed it, read the article in the [Colchester Sun](#) about Hazelett Corporation's 100th anniversary celebration.

Explore "Before Your Time"

["Before Your Time"](#) is produced by the Vermont Historical Society and Vermont Humanities. Every episode explores the stacks at the Vermont Historical Society to look at an object from its permanent collection that tells us something unique about Vermont. Then, there's a closer look at the people, the events, or the ideas that surround each artifact.

Included are topics such as Tales Behind the Tombstones; From Communes to Commerce; The Land of Gin and Whiskey; Talk About the Weather; Knitters, Weavers and "Women's Work," and more. Listen in using your smart phone, tablet or computer.

Coolidge Holiday Open House
December 7, 10 a.m. - 4 p.m.
3780 Route 100A Plymouth, Vermont

President Calvin Coolidge



Visit President Calvin Coolidge's historic home, decorated as it would have been in 1872 when he was born. In addition to special exhibits, family friendly activities will include sleigh rides, music, craft demonstrations, chocolate making and sampling, and more.

This event is hosted by the Vermont Department of Commerce and Community Development, Division for Historic Preservation. Read more about this and other upcoming events [here](#).

What?? You Haven't Us Joined Yet?



Please do! New members are always welcome, and current members are reminded that dues are now due. Membership dues are very affordable. Please take a moment to [sign up](#) in support of Colchester's wonderful local history. There are also a nice variety of interesting volunteer opportunities available.

News and Updates at your Fingertips

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 and view some fabulous vintage photos.

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 by Bonnie Potter