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# Campton Historical Newsletter

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Spring 2013

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## Rebekah Quilt

This past April the Campton Historical Society was visited by New Hampshire Quilt & Documentation Society members Julie Crossland, Mary Furber, Carol Poitras and Stephanie Drake. The object that sparked their visit was a recent donation by Alan and Carolyn Hill of an antique quilt done by a member or members of the Rebekahs of Campton. The Daughters of the Rebekah, also known as the Rebekahs and the International Association of Rebekah Assemblies, is an international service-oriented organization and a branch of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows. The quilt was acquired at an auction from the late Roger Brown estate.

The NH Quilt and Documentation Project is a survey of all quilts in the state. The organizers have chosen to include quilts made before the quilt revival of the 1976 US Bicentennial. They will identify quilts made in NH and research the stories of the quilts and their makers. Planned outcomes include a book about these quilts. Each of the ladies present represented different fields of expertise which they used to determine if the quilt met the criteria to be considered for inclusion. Very few quilts made by organizations such as the Rebekahs are still around. One of the things that makes this quilt so special is that it includes all the names of the members of the Rebekah families. The quilt was estimated to have been completed around 1900 through use of the dates of death of some of the members mentioned.

Another interesting aspect of the quilt is that it is sewn with red floss. The technique is called Redwork Embroidery. At the time the cotton processors in Turkey used a special dye process that made the color red colorfast which was a novelty and explains much of its popularity. Colorfastness was critically important, because threads used to embroider linens needed to endure the rigors of washing and line drying.

Symbols were also used in the quilt and were of great interest. Whether they were personal to each family is yet to be determined. Most included plants and flowers but a few were copies of faces and animals portrayed in Kate Greenaway's Illustrated Children's Books. Kate Greenaway was a popular illustrator and author during the Victorian period. At the time a lot of her pictures were stamped on squares of material and were sold for a penny hence the name "Penny Squares".

Submitted by Sandy Decarie

This quilt is a lovely combination of all of the above and we are most fortunate to be the recipient of this wonderful donation from the Hills. Also visiting us that day was CHS and Rebekah member Mary Durgin, who was able to supply us with a wealth of information on the families of the Rebekah's.

The ladies of the Quilt Society advised us to display the quilt on "special occasions" because of its age and fragility. We will have it for display on Old Home Day, Saturday August 3rd. However, we have photographed each square and will have a book of them for anyone who wishes to come in and have a look. The Campton Historical Society is open every Thursday from 9 to 4.



Character from a Kate Greenaway book.



Robert Mardin pointing to his family name.

# Campton Historical Society's Calendar of Events

Go to [www.camptonhistorical.org](http://www.camptonhistorical.org) and click on events for more information.

March 1, Friday	Potluck, Popcorn and a Free Flick starting at 5:30pm
April 15, Monday	Program night - Liz Faiella - Acts of Peace: Conscientious Objectors in World War
April 27, Saturday	Ham & Bean Supper
May 20, Monday	Program night - Lidia Dale-Mesaros - Snow Dogz
June 17, Monday	Program night - Lourdes Aviles - Sudden Devastation, the Great Hurricane of 1938
July 13, Saturday	House Tour
July 15, Monday	Program night - Glenn Knoblock - Brewing in NH: An informal History of Beer in the Granite State from Colonial Times to the Present
Aug 3, Saturday	Old Home Day
Aug 19, Monday	Program night - Ben Kilham - Black Bear Behavior (\$5 donations requested)
Sept. 16, Monday	Program night - Amey Bailey - Hubbard Brook
Oct. 21, Monday	Program night - Dave Falkenham - NH's Wild History: 350 years of NH Wildlife
Oct. 26, Saturday	Halloween History Walk, book walk, pumpkin display and more!
Nov 18, Monday	Program night - Steve Taylor NH's One-Room Rural Schools: The Romance and the Reality
Dec 8, Sunday	Community concert and cookie swap

*Blair Bridge!!!*



The **Turkey Jim Bridge** is in progress as well!!! More on that in the Fall newsletter.





**Friends of the Pemi** is starting to take off. This group has big plans starting at the historic Livermore Falls. Go to our web site and click on site markers for more historical information

[www.camptonhistorical.org/site\\_markers.htm](http://www.camptonhistorical.org/site_markers.htm) There is a river clean-up on the Campton side on August 3rd from 8-9. Keep your eyes and ears open for latest on this sizeable and motivated group.

**GOT LUNCH!** Campton is a new healthy summer lunch program that is available free to Campton's school aged children. Every Monday a week's worth of lunch foods is delivered to participating families. They are looking for donations of food and money as well as volunteers to help pack or deliver on Monday mornings for one hour. If you are interested in volunteering or learning more about the program, please contact Barbara at [barbcoonan@gmail.com](mailto:barbcoonan@gmail.com) 603-536-4809.

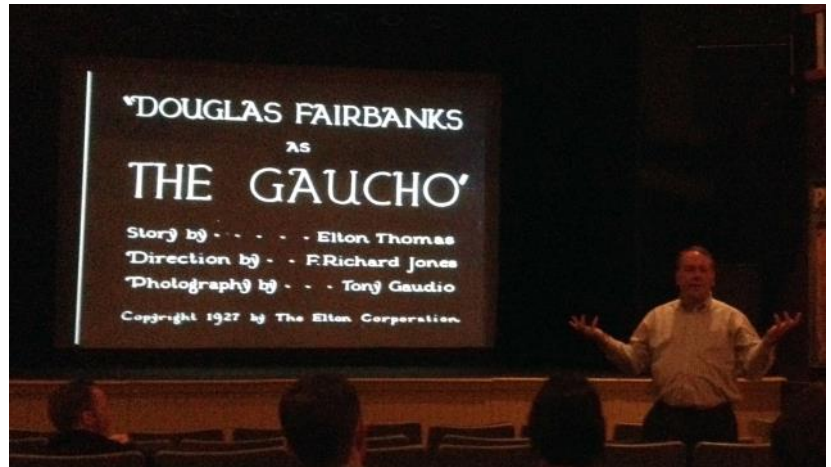
**THERE'S A PIG IN THE BRIDGE!** A story that crossed my path with respect to the current Blair Bridge work is negotiations to keep the pig in the bridge. Apparently one of the conditions for a neighboring property to be used during the construction was that the bridge plaque in the rafters remains there. A previous neighbor really liked pigs and had put it up there. If you know more about this or have an interest in anything having to do with local history - let us know. We can help you research and in return a short blurb or article for the newsletter would be appreciated.

Once a month Jeff Rapsis plays for a **silent movie at the Flying Monkey** (pictured below). I am not a movie buff, but am a regular at these movies. It is an experience that everyone should try at least once. From the Boston Globe: "New Hampshire's **Jeff Rapsis** is considered one of the nation's top silent film musicians. He performs at an average of 80 screenings each year, mostly in New England, but he hasn't played the Boston area until now.." Go to <http://silentfilmlivemusic.blogspot.com/p/upcoming-silent-film-screenings.html> or Google his name for more information.

## CHS Officers and Directors

Judy Landry, President  
Kevin Luce, Vice President  
Dede Joyce, Secretary  
Nancy Mardin, Treasurer  
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Sandy Decarie, Curator  
Judy Landry, Program Director  
Mary Ellen Bourque, Publicity

**Directors:**  
Martha Aguiar  
Patricia Barker  
Mary Ellen Bourque  
Barbara Currier  
Scott Pulsifer



**DON'T FORGET YOUR MEMBERSHIP !!!**

- Membership runs from October 1<sup>st</sup> to September 30<sup>th</sup>.
- Membership is the primary source for mailing our monthly program notices and newsletters.
- The more members the merrier. Please help recruit friends, family and neighbors to help keep this great organization going.

**Campton Historical Society**  
[www.CamptonHistorical.org](http://www.CamptonHistorical.org)  
 P.O. Box 160, Campton, NH 03223

Single Membership — \$12.00       Family Membership — \$20.00  
 Yearly membership is from October 1 through September 30.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

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Email \_\_\_\_\_

Make checks payable to Campton Historical Society and mail to PO Box 160, Campton, NH 03223

**Members**

Enclosed is my check for dues.

This check also includes a donation to support projects to be done in the Old Town Hall, headquarters of the Society.



P.O. Box 160, 529 N.H. Route 175,  
Campton, NH 03223

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