



Corinth Historical Society

Corinth Historical Society Newsletter

Summer 2018

Fear of Thunder Storms

Before the time of multi-media our understanding of the world around us was narrower and in some cases less informed. A case in point is the understanding of thunderstorms and the dangers they pose. It's interesting to hear what our ancestors' behavior was during frightening storms.

Pauline Sodermark recalls when she was a child her parents would get everyone up, get dressed, then gather together to wait out the storm before going back to bed. In the family's Tate Road house which her grandmother and uncle purchased in 1920, "a ball of fire came down the exposed funnel of the kitchen stove and played back and forth between the stove hearth and a metal dustpan by the stove and then appeared to jump back toward the funnel and disappear".

Jan Bryan's grandmother Strout also used to get the kids, out of bed and dressed if at night, and have them sit in the middle of the house. This behavior left Jan's mother with a lifetime fear of these storms. When Jan was 4 years old, there was a lightning storm, her father was trying to explain to her what lightning was, and her mother screamed, "get her away from that window, it's dangerous!"

Charlotte Buswell recalls being awakened by her mother and sitting in the center of the living room with her mother and brother until the storm passed. Her aunt Kate would take her three pairs of shears and hide them out of sight under a towel.

Sharon Buswell recalls her Dad always made them unplug the TV set during the storms. Debbie Bus-

well says her parents got all the kids in the car and drove to a high spot with no trees.

Jeanne Slasor remembers her Dad telling her not to shelter under a tree. Jeanne and her husband Jack lived much of their married life on a boat that Jack built. Jack used to keep a chain handy to hang into the water from the metal stay holding the wire from the mast. That provided a way for the current to pass from the metal mast and wires directly into the water instead of down through the boat itself. They never had a problem from a direct strike, but it was scary sometimes.

Lois Crane recalls, it was 1956 or 1957 when the family's barn burned in Corinth. They saved the house but there was a lot of smoke damage and all the furniture was brought out onto the lawn. She and her Mother stayed in the car all night. The family moved into the cottage at Big Pushaw and stayed there while fixing up the house. It was the next year her Dad bought the house on Puddledock Rd.

Lois and Neil also experienced a lighting strike on their small home in Exeter in 1960. Lightning danced around the house and blew a clock off the wall. Their daughter Pam was only 3 months old, so it was pretty scary. She recalls that the clasps on two suitcases were welded shut in this lighting strike.

Many homes and farm buildings have been lost to lightning strikes in Corinth over the years. The way people have dealt with the frightening thunder and resulting lightening has changed with more knowledge of these occurrences, but with some of us the old ways are ingrained and the fear remains.



nated

June 10, 1947

Front Edna Vigue, Ethel Higgins, Gertrude Sawyer, Grace Clack, Anna Small, Hazel Oliver
Back –Elsie Craig, Florence Bagley, Gerda Perkins, Martha Bean , Mabel Smith

Pine Cone Garden Club

Created in 1946 and possibly lasted till 1951.

In 1948 they were elected to membership in the Garden Club Federation of Maine and attended many conferences throughout Maine.

Their first December meeting in 1946 they met at the home of Bertha Tiplady and spent the day making terrariums and Christmas decorations. Sara Chapman read an article on the history of terrariums. An illustration portraying the book "Bambi" was done by Gerda Perkins. Grace Clark demonstrated evergreen candlesticks and assisted in making wreaths. A yuletide centerpiece was displayed by Gertrude Sawyer.

The Club contributed to the community in many ways. They purchased Wildlife Stamps to present to the local Junior Audubon club which had 40 members from Morison Memorial, donated money to the polio fund, formed a committee to Beautify Our Village, sent "Seeds for Peace" overseas, do-

Christmas gifts to shut-ins, distributed Christmas wreaths to both churches and the library, contributed funds for the care and preservation of the town's shade trees and had a committee for the Community Christmas Tree.

Children were encouraged to participate in the flower show. Mary Ann Gray aged five and Carmen Bean age six both won prizes for their displays of "A Dolls Tea Party" which contained miniature tea sets arranged on trays with flowers. They held meetings monthly at homes of the members in Corinth and attended meetings in many Maine towns

They held sessions at their meetings of soil preparation, shrubs that support birds, planting for successive blooms, evergreen planting, flowers for patients of Dow Field Air Base hospital in Bangor, flower exhibits, bouquets for shut-ins, holiday arrangements, lawn parties, indoor terrariums. They planted evergreen trees at Atkins Memorial Library to beautify the library grounds.

Mary Jane (Tozier) Knight

November 17, 1830—May 2, 1862

Daughter of William and Nancy Tozier.

Mary Jane Tozier married George W. Knight November 25, 1859. She later died of smallpox in 1862 at the age of 31 years.

Photographed shared by Richard Shaw, possibly taken at the time of her wedding in 1859



1941 ECA

Alfred Elliott, Malcolm O’Roak, Clarence “Doc” Burleigh and Linwood Eaton





Veteran Tribute



MM 3c Wallace M. Linnell Jr.
US Navy
December 9, 1943 – March 8, 1946

Wallace Linnell Jr. served with COM SERV RON 10 in the Pacific theater in World War II.

A Service Squadron (ServRon) was a U.S. Navy squadron that supported fleet combat units. At the time of their inception during WWII they allowed the US Navy to operate across the vast reaches of the Pacific ocean for extended periods of time. Service Squadrons created temporary forward bases to allow the naval squadrons to spend less time in transit and more time in the area of combat. Squadrons essentially created a major naval base near the area of operation.

Wallace was born September 15, 1925 in Colebrook, NH son of Wallace and Madelyn (DeLong) Linnell Sr.

He served aboard USS Colorado in 1944 and was in Shanghai, China in 1945.

He married his wife M. Theresa St. Amand a month before his discharge from the service, April 27, 1946.

After the service he attended Wentworth Institute in Boston for engineering. Later diesel school in Richmond, Va.

He later became an employee of U.S. Customs service and served on the border of the Allagash area, St. Juste de Breteniere and Calais and later Portland.

When he retired in 1988 the family moved to Corinth where he started Linnell's Sub-Division as a building contractor.

He later moved to Westbrook, Maine

Wallace and Theresa raised four children: Dr. Larry Linnell, Bonnie Dauphinee, Linda Alig and Tina Driscoll.

Wallace died August 16, 2006. Theresa died in 2015 and rests with the love of her life in Corinthian



Cemetery, Corinth.

CORINTH AWARDS THE BOSTON POST CANE TO PHYLLIS BROAD

What is the Boston Post Cane? In 1909, the Boston Post Newspaper gave 700 New England towns a high-quality walking stick to be presented, compliments of the Boston Post, to the oldest citizen of the town, to be used by him (not until 1930 were women eligible) as long as he lived. At this person's death the cane would pass to the next oldest citizen of the town. The ebony cane with a 14-carat gold head would belong to the town and not the person who received it. Almost half of these canes were lost over time, but Corinth is one of over 200 towns that still award this cane to its oldest citizen.

On March 23, 2018 Phyllis Burke Broad was awarded Corinth's Boston Post Cane in a ceremony held at the Town Office Conference room. Three generations of her family were on hand to honor her and help celebrate this distinction.

Phyllis turned 97 years old just 7 days after receiving the Cane. She lives with her son and daughter-in-law, Richard & Rita Broad, at 410 Exeter Road, just a couple houses away from the site of the old Burke farm. Harold and Evelyn Burke and their children came to Corinth from Caribou in 1939. Phyllis married Russell Broad in 1941. Long-time residents of Corinth may remember the barn with a Burke sign on it, which remained, even after Russell and Phyllis took over the farm. The previous holder of Corinth's Boston Post Cane was Winifred Duran Speed (Apr 14, 1920 – Jan 24, 2018.)



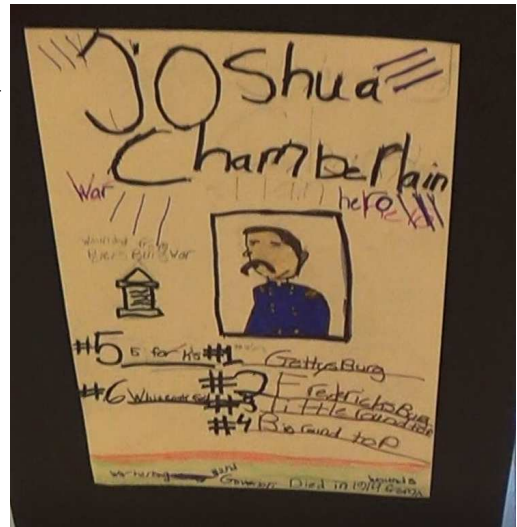
Charlene Chesley, David Dunfee, Phyllis Broad and Terri Jane Casavant

Wax Museum Project—Central Elementary, Grade 4

This spring the Corinth Historical Society was invited to participate in the Central Elementary School 4th grade “Wax Museum” project. Each student picked a famous person from Maine, researched the person’s history, and created a short speech to be given by this person’s statue. Each student then “became” the animated statue of his/her person in a small booth in the gym or cafeteria. The student developed a costume and decorated the booth with posters and objects relevant to this person. Sports heroes, soldiers, writers (Stephen King was popular!), dancers, medical pioneers were represented, to name a few.

On the stage between the gym and cafeteria Corinth Historical Society displayed mannequins dressed as notable Corinth or Maine people, each with a poster. Represented were: Donald Strout, Sarah Skinner, Daniel Atkins, Margaret Chase Smith, Arthur Gould, Frank Robinson, Mary Wingate, Isaac Hodsdon, and Daniel Davis.

Example of student’s Joshua Chamberlain poster



**What is the reason a person who divulges a secret is said to
"let the cat out of the bag"?**

It's because it was once a custom for farmers to bring a suckling pig to market in a bag. Sometimes, however, a farmer would substitute a cat for the pig. If a townsman was foolish enough to buy this "pig in a poke" without first looking inside, he was cheated out of his money. But if someone "let the cat out of the bag" the deceit was discovered.



Historical Society will be participating on:

Friday June 22nd 8AM-3PM

Saturday June 23rd 8AM-3PM

It's that time of year to think about spring cleaning. Please consider the Historical Society fundraiser event at the town wide yard sale in June for your bits and bobs that could use a new home. We can take almost anything except clothing or books. Please contact Pauline Sodermark to arrange a pickup of the items you wish to donate 852-595 or 285-3077.

We thank you for your support!

Memories of Corinth

Please join us on July 28th at the museum to share your memories of Corinth. There will be 4 short videos shown of interviews with Corinth residents Beryl Dow, Bea Lowden, Florence Sodermark and Maurice Jones. Refreshments will be served.

July 28th 10am-12pm

**Corinth Historical Society Museum
on Main Street.**

Do you have a family history that you would like to share or need more research? We have extensive archives on family histories and photos. Jan Custer Bryan will be displaying an extensive Strout Family history that was provided by Rod Johnson of the Bradford Historical Society, titled "Where Do you Fit in the Strout Family Tree.

Join your friends and members of the Historical Society for conversation and refreshments.



A special thanks to Adobe Systems Incorporated and to Microsoft Corporation, both of whom provided Corinth Historical Society with current software at a small fraction of its retail cost. Our Microsoft Office and Adobe PhotoShop Elements were over 10 years old; we are happy to be upgrading!

\$64.82



This is the sum of donations

Corinth Historical Society has received so far this year from Amazon Smile.

Thank you Amazon! And thank you, members & friends who shop at Amazon.com by always logging in at [//smile.amazon.com/](https://smile.amazon.com/) and who picked Corinth Historical Society as the charity they support.



A Word from Your Treasurer

Your dues count! We depend on members' annual dues to pay for our basic needs. A single Individual membership (\$10) is enough to buy a year's supply of paper for the newsletter. Four Family memberships (\$15 each) will cover the annual rent on our post office box. Two Benevolent memberships (@ \$25) will pay the electric bill in August.

July 1, 2018 is the start of a new fiscal year for us and renewal time for membership (See page 9 for further details.) Thank you for continuing to make Corinth Historical Society possible through your continued support.

Jan Bryan, Treasurer

Donations

A heartfelt thanks to the following people for artifacts, cash, documents donated or placed on loan and time volunteered:

Bruce Bryan

Margaret Chernosky

Rod Johnson

Betty LaForge

Pauline Sodermark

Carol Strout

United Methodist Church

The Town of Corinth

James Wilson

Amazon Smile & everyone who shops there to benefit us.

Next Historical Society Meeting

June 13th 5:30Pm

At the museum

Annual election of officers

To contact the editor: write

Newsletter Editor

PO Box 541, Corinth, ME 04427

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Membership Information

The postal address on your mailed newsletter has a small notation to the upper right of your name, showing your membership type and the dues-paid-through date that our records show. (Periodically, we send a status e-mail to recipients who receive their newsletter in that manner.) **Dues now come due in June**, for the fiscal year Jul 1, 2018 – Jun 30, 2019. If your label says June 2018 or earlier, then please renew now. If your label says June 2019 or later you're paid up! If you are a Lifetime or Emeritus member, no membership year will be displayed since your dues are always paid up! If it says Courtesy, this newsletter is a courtesy copy sent to another historical organization, or friend of the Society.

Dues:

Individuals	\$10
Families (living a same Address)	\$15
Under 18 (please inquire)	
Benevolent donor	\$25
Lifetime membership	\$200
Benefactor	\$500
Organizations (50-250 members)	\$20

Periodically, we vote to elect Emeritus members. Emeritus members are over 85 in age and have demonstrated ongoing interest in the history of Corinth, Maine.

New Members:

Corinth Historical Society
PO Box 541
Corinth, ME 04427

