From the Board...

How many times have you heard me talk about getting a computer, Past Perfect software and getting our collections records into the computer?

Well, you can stop holding your breath! We have entered six accession records into our new laptop computer. Carolyn Sprague, our treasurer, and I will continue to familiarize ourselves with the process and write up step-by-step procedures on how to accession the records. Once everything is in place, we will hold a workshop for members who wish to help with this important task. The process is rather easy and represents a major step forward in electronically archiving our collections.

Accessioning the records is Part 1 of the process; Part 2 is cataloging. Cataloging will provide us with a detailed record of each item we have in our collections - size, shape, color, materials, history, relation to other objects, where it is located in the museum, etc. If you would like to help but prefer not to work on the computer, you can help us with this part. We will create a paper form that you can take around the museum, locate the object, and fill in the blanks.

How is this going to help us? Let me show by example: Several years age a visitor to the museum asked to see the doll's carriage her family had donated. Well, I showed her the one in the children's room. "No, that's not the one," she said. "Ours was plainer." Needless to say, she left unhappy because she did not

Cont. on page 2



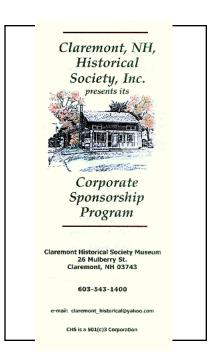
CHS Announces New Corporate Sponsorship Program

The Claremont Historical Society has announced the creation of a new Corporate Sponsorship Program. Trustees have been working on the program this winter, preparing for an early spring launch date.

The project is designed to create a new source of funding for the Society's many activities. Sponsorships will help us to continue to offer an exciting array of programming, from the popular Cemetery Walks to guest speakers, special activities and the Holly Trolley. Support from the sponsorship program will also help us to maintain our museum.

Currently, CHS relies on membership dues, free will offerings and monies raised from events such as the annual yard sale to fund its programming and care for its collections housed at 26 Mulberry Street.

A new brochure detailing funding options is now available, offering a variety of programs to sponsor, at varying levels of support. All sponsors will have their names included on flyers, posters, advertising and



any other forms of publicity for the program they are sponsoring. CHS is a 501(c)3 corporation, allowing all donations to be tax deductible.

Businesses and individuals interested in learning more about the Corporate Sponsorship Program are invited to contact the Society for more information.

2007 Membership Drive Now Underway!

Cont. from page 1

see the carriage and assumed we had not kept it. A little while later, I was up in the attic looking for something and what did I see - a similar carriage to the one downstairs, only plainer! I had forgotten all about the carriage in the attic when that lady visited. If we had our collections electronically archived, I would have been able to locate the carriage with the click of a few buttons.

Please contact Carolyn Sprague or myself if you can help us with this computer work. And thank you to those who have already volunteered.

For the last several years, we have sought sponsorship for our Holly Trolley Tours. This year, we have established a **Corporate Sponsorship Program** (see Page One) to seek sponsors for a number of our programs, events and other undertakings. Our corporate sponsorships will allow us to offer programs that would be cost prohibitive for us alone, allow us the possibility of tackling some housekeeping projects (wiring, collections preservation, etc.) and other things without using ALL of our limited funds.

> Colin Sanborn, CHS President

CHS Crier is a presentation of Claremont, NH, Historical Society, Inc.

26 Mulberry Street Claremont, NH 03743 603-543-1400 claremont_historical@yahoo.com

The Society is a charitable and educational non-profit corporation founded in 1963 to preserve and publish historical information and to collect, acquire and preserve items of interest related to Claremont's history.

Newsletter designed and written by: Phyllis Muzeroll Colin Sanborn



Photo by Carolyn Sprague

Past Perfect Museum Software is a collection management program which the CHS will begin using this spring to electronically archive its collections.

Society Purchases Past Perfect Museum Software and New Laptop

The Claremont Historical Society purchased a copy of Past Perfect Software after Trustees Carolyn Sprague and Colin Sanborn attended a day-long training seminar in Concord, NH. Past Perfect Museum Software is a collection management program.

In addition to the software program, the CHS board approved the purchase of a laptop computer last fall for use in the upcoming cataloging project. The computer was purchased from Competitive Computers in Claremont with funds that were raised from the Yankee Partner's program. Owner Mike Demars was generous in providing a discounted price and technical support on the computer for our new IBM Thinkpad.

The software program is designed to allow for the management and cataloging of a variety of materials from museum and historical society collections. Some of the types of materials that the Claremont Historical Society hopes to catalog are: photographs, textiles, works of art, historical artifacts and photographs, to name a few. An

electronic record will be created for each item in the museum's collection, and digital photographs will be associated with applicable records as well.

Members of the CHS board have been learning the software and documenting processes during the month of February. Several members of our Historical Society have already come forward, expressing interest in assisting on a voluntary basis to help catalog the museum's collections.

--by Carolyn Sprague

New CHS Website Under Construction

The Claremont Historical Society is on its way to having its own website. Trustee Carolyn Sprague has been working on building us a site in her spare time. No launch date has been set as yet, but we hope to have it up and running in 2007. Thank you, Carolyn, for taking on this exciting project!

2007 Spring/Summer Programs, Events

MARCH

Wed., 28th CHS presents "I Remember When..."

An evening of reminiscing and storytelling about Claremont in bygone days. Join the fun as neighbors and friends share memories and tell a story or two about a special hometown memory! For more information, please call Sharon Wood at 603-542-6454. 7:00 p.m., St. Joseph Hall, Elm Street, Claremont

APRIL

Mon., 23rd CHS presents "The Sugar River: Power & Influence."

A presentation by Patrick O'Grady, focusing on the early history of manufacturing that harnessed the power of the Sugar River. The program will include slides of the river's physical characteristics and trace the history of the manufacturing businesses that grew up along its banks. 7:00 p.m., St. Joseph Hall, Elm Street, Claremont

MAY

Tues., 22nd CHS presents "To Bleach or Not to Bleach, That is the Question..."

A workshop on caring for vintage textiles, presented by Amanda Page and Jon Soule, owners of J.P. Soule, LLP -Historic Clothiers.

Ever wonder what to do with Gramma's wedding gown or Uncle Henry's uniform? Join us as we discover the dos and don'ts of textile preservation. 7:00 p.m., CHS Museum, Mulberry Street, Claremont

Sat., 26th CHS & Members' Yard Sale.

Books, plants, furniture, antiques, food and more.

Museum, Mulberry Street

<u>JUNE</u>

Museum opens for the season; date TBA.

Sat.-Sun., 9th-10th Alumni Weekend

Watch for us in the annual parade! 10:30 a.m.

Sun., 10th Spirits of Claremont St. Mary Cemetery Walk, West Claremont 1:00 p.m.

Mon., 11th St. Mary Cemetery Walk repeats. 6:00 p.m.

Remember to send us your e-mail address to receive the electronic, full-color version of this newsletter!

Your membership dues help
to preserve Claremont's
history! As an all-volunteer
organization, we welcome
your help in other ways as
well:

П	Museum sitting
	Baking
	Computer entry work
	Cataloging collections
	Publicity

Cemetery Walks
(research, writing, acting, assisting tours)

☐ Mailings

Please check off any activities with which you would like to help!

Please check your membership choice:

	[] Student, \$5 [] Individual, \$10
[]	Family, \$15 [] Business/Professional, \$50
	[] Corporate, \$200 [] Life, \$300
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Please make check payable to: Claremont, NH, Historical Society, Inc. and mail form with payment to: Claremont, NH, Historical Society, Inc., 26 Mulberry St. Claremont, NH 03743.

Thank you for your support!

Dexter Sisters' Silk Needlework Finds Home In Smithsonian Institution

Thanks to the fine needlework by Dexter sisters Lucy and Almira, Claremont is forever remembered at the Smithsonian Institution in Washington, DC. Two silk and watercolor needlework pieces by the daughters of David Dexter are included in a collection of silk embroideries at the famed museum. The Dexter family is remembered here in Claremont for the Dexter house--sometimes referred to by some as the Fitchburg House--saved by the late Frank D'Amante and now resting, restored, atop Dexter Hill overlooking Hillside Terrace.

The Dexter sisters' needlework is included in an article about silk embroidery in the March/April issue of *Piecework* magazine.

The Claremont Historical Society museum is home to two corresponding pieces, *Plenty*, by Lutheria Cook and *Moses in the Bulrushes*, by Parnel Dexter, the mother of Lucy and Almira.

Embroidering on silk was a particularly painstaking process, due to the delicate nature of the materials being used. According to the article in *Piecework*, "...a needleworker typically worked in collaboration with an artist. The artist first drew the design on the silk, the needleworker completed her stitching and finally the artist painted in the faces, hands and background."

Our own Colin Sanborn assisted author Sheryl De Jong with her research. To learn more about *Piecework*, please go to www.pieceworkmagazine.com. --by Phyllis Muzeroll



Plenty, by Lutheria Cook



Moses in the Bulrushes, by Parnel Dexter

Claremont, NH, Historical Society, Inc. 26 Mulberry St. Claremont, NH 03743



Yard Sale Space Open To Members

Trustees have voted to open up the CHS yard sale to members who may be interested in renting space to sell goods of their own. The cost will be \$10, and those participating will be responsible for their own set-up and cleanup.

This year, the CHS will focus on selling plants, books, higher end furniture, antiques and food.

The 2007 yard sale will be held on May 26th, at the Museum on Mulberry Street. For more information, please contact the CHS at: 543-1400 or claremont_historical@yahoo.com.