

Bulletin Board

Amherst Garden Club March Meeting

The Amherst Garden Club will have an evening meeting of the whole club on March 5 at 7:00 PM at the Messiah Lutheran Church, Route 101 in Amherst. There will be no daytime meeting. Audrey Vargish will speak on "The Cutting Garden."

Audrey was born and raised in New Jersey. She and her husband, George, with whom she shares her love of gardening, moved to New Hampshire in 2008. Together they have transformed the plain landscape of their new home into an array of garden rooms and beds. A Master Gardener, Audrey has served as president of the Sandown Garden Club for the past two years.

There will be two books on cutting gardens given out as door prizes at the meeting. Visitors, as always, are welcome to attend.

Amherst Area Newcomers Club Monthly Meetings

Amherst Area Newcomers Club holds monthly social meetings both informative and entertaining. We have many interest groups that also meet weekly or monthly including book group, knitting, bunco, crafts, golf (is still meeting), out to lunch, movie night, poker and more.

For more information on our activities visit our website at www.nhnewcomers.com

We would love to meet you!

Photographers Forum Meeting, Monday, March 2

Photographers Forum camera club's next meeting is Monday, March 2 at 7:15 p.m. at Bishop Guertin High School in Nashua. Come join us as award winning bird photographers Joan and Dick Shirley present WINDOWS TO THE WORLD, a look into both their bird photography in and around St. Augustine, FL and the beauty and quirkiness of the city itself. We are an informal club offering opportunities to enhance photographic skills and meet people with similar interests. We meet on the first and third Mondays of the month. Dues are \$35 a year for individuals, \$60 for dual families and \$15 for full-time students. For more information: www.photographersforum.org and www.facebook.com/photographersforumcameraclub.

DISCUSSION GROUP at TOADSTOOL BOOKSHOP

On the first Thursday of each month, the discussion group meets from 7PM to 8:30PM. We share ideas on philosophy, current affairs and familiar truths. For more information contact: Norah at 673-6948.

Open to All Southern New Hampshire Women

The Amherst Area Newcomers Club has been an active social organization in the area for 45 years.

The club is open to all women in the Souhegan Valley, regardless of how long she has lived in the area. We hold monthly general events on a wide variety of topics along with smaller special interest groups which cater to socializing with others of similar interests. The club is a great way to meet new people, get to know the area if you're new, or cultivate a new passion. We currently host interest groups for crafts, knitting, bunco, walking, charity, lunch, poker, healthy eating and golf.

Amherst Junior Women's Club Announces 2015 Call for Volunteers

The Amherst Junior Women's Club is an organization of energized, dedicated Amherst-area women who volunteer their time, energy and talent to the community. Our mission is focusing our efforts on civic needs, educational advancement and those less fortunate. Our goals are achieved with the assistance and generosity of businesses, organizations and individuals and fundraisers.

We are in need of women with motivation and dedication to join us in growing our mission even further within our surrounding communities. If you have that energy and would like to "burn it off", we would love to have you join us to accomplish these goals. The advantage is the opportunity to meet new people and make new friends at the same time. This is a great opportunity especially for, but not limited to, those with children in the school system. The AJWC sponsors several of the elementary and middle school events.

If you are interested in joining or just learning more about Amherst Junior Women's Club, visit: www.ajwcnh.org or look for our Facebook page at www.facebook.com/AmherstJuniors. Also, please feel free to contact the membership chair Susanne Lynch at ajwcmembership@gmail.com. Thank you!

Sponsors Needed for 2015 Student Art Awards

The Friends of the Amherst Town Library is looking for tax-deductible donations of \$100 to sponsor awards for exceptional pieces of art at the 22nd Annual Student Art Show held at the Amherst Town Library in May.

If you are a local business or a patron of youth art and would like to sponsor one of the 15 art awards or have question please e-mail: Christine.farris@mac.com for more information.

Next Issue: March 5 • Deadline: February 25

AJWC Funds Available for Area Non-Profits

AMHERST – The Amherst Junior Women's Club invites non-profit organizations in need of charitable contributions to apply for a donation. Throughout the year, the AJWC raises money and then disburses those funds within the community.

Request must follow these guidelines:

Requesting organization must be affiliated with a 501(c)(3) non-profit.

- Organization does not need to have an Amherst address but must service the local community.
- Request must be submitted by March 31, 2015, in writing or by e-mail.

Request must contain the following information:

Name of organization, mailing address, e-mail address, website (if available), telephone number, contact name.

- Dollar amount requested.
- How would donated funds be used?
- How does requesting organization currently benefit Amherst and greater community?
- How does organization's objective correspond to the mission of the AJWC? AJWC mission is explained below.
- When was organization established? Provide short history of organization.
- How does organization fund itself, ie. federal/state/local grants?
- What is organization's annual budget? Include any expected shortfalls.

The AJWC is an organization of women who volunteer their time, energy and talent to enhance the community. The club's mission is to focus efforts on civic needs, educational advancement and the less fortunate.

All requesting organizations will be notified when applications are received. Once approved, funds will be distributed no later than June 15, 2015. Only chosen recipients will be notified of disbursements.

Questions may be e-mailed to Christina Zlotnick at cip.ajwc@gmail.com. Please reference "CIP Request" in subject line. For more information, please visit our website at ajwcnh.org. Our mailing address is: AJWC, CIP Request, P.O. Box 513, Amherst, NH 03031.

Town News

Historic Amherst

Native Sons of Amherst Who Became Merchants in Boston

BY KATRINA HOLMAN

Perkins Nichols, son of Amherst's first physician, was not the only Amherst son to make his career as a merchant in Boston around the turn of the 18th to 19th century. Here are the stories of six more such men. Curiously, they all came from the southern part of Amherst. To give you an idea of the size of the town then, in April 1792, there were 437 voters (men 18 to 70 years of age), increased to 442 the following year, plus the minister.

Son of Farmer Wm Howard

Jonathan Howard (1768-1844) was 9 years old when his family moved to Amherst in April 1777, his father, William Howard (d. 1793), having purchased a 90-acre farm on the north bank of Souhegan River with house at 377 Boston Post Road. William had been one of the earliest settlers of Amherst, because in March 1742/3 his father, Jonathan Howard of Chelmsford, granted unto this beloved – and dutiful – son a "right" or share in Souhegan West or Township no. 3 for consideration of his "fatherly love, goodwill and affection" but also as William's inheritance portion. William was a husbandman (farmer) who helped repair Amherst's easterly bridge in 1847. Then he moved to Merrimack where eight children were born between 1762 and 1777. Wm Howard sold 377 BPR farm in 1790 to widower William Read (1754-1834), a lifelong Amherst resident, and the following year, Jonathan's sister Abigail Howard became Mrs. Wm Read and stepmother to his son Robert. When Read father & son decided to become storekeepers in Amherst Village in 1806, the son having finished an apprenticeship as clerk in Chelmsford, Jonathan Howard and David Spalding Eaton (c. 1776-1818), both merchants of Boston, took the place with 189 acres off Read's hands for \$6000. It would be 1810 before the farm was sold to another farmer, Eber Lawrence.

At the age of 30 in 1798, Jonathan Howard was a wholesale merchant in Boston, selling West India goods in partnership with another almost-native Amherst son and former neighbor, David S. Eaton, until April 1803. Their address first was no. 4 North side market, then became no. 4 Codman's wharf. Howard continued in business solo, moving his store to 30 State Street; then taking one Phineas Gordon as partner from about



Lt. Eaton's Tavern – 344 Boston Post Road. Two brothers, who became merchants in Boston, grew up in this house, bought in 1779 by their pa, John Eaton (Sr., 1751-1827), a blacksmith and innkeeper.

1818 until April 1826; then solo again. In his later years, from about 1838 until his death, Howard was treasurer of the Essex Printing Company. Jonathan had married in 1799 Joanna Rust (c.1773-1866), daughter of a physician of Ipswich; her brother William Rust was a baker in Amherst on lower Mack Hill for a few years until his death in 1805. The Howard family moved to 7 Bulfinch place by 1809; then around 1830 he bought the house at 1 Bulfinch place which had seven chambers (bedrooms).

Sons of Taverner Lt. Eaton

David S. Eaton was about 3 years old in 1779 when he arrived in Amherst to the house at 344 Boston Post Road which his father, John Eaton (Sr., 1751-1827), a blacksmith from Litchfield, bought with 84 acres from Wm Howard. Lt. Eaton turned his home into a tavern-inn from 1795 to 1812. John Jr. (c.1779-1828) was born there. Despite being Boston residents, the Eaton brothers chose brides from their hometown. David S. Eaton's first wife (m. 1798, d. 1801), Sarah, was a granddaughter of Rev. Daniel Wilkins, Amherst's first settled minister. His second wife (m. 1802, d. 1860 in Dorchester aged 79) was a daughter of Rev. Jeremiah Barnard, Amherst's second minister. John Jr. was married in 1808 to Lucy (1787-1868), a daughter of James Roby (1752-1813) of Amherst, deputy sheriff and auctioneer.

Each brother was in business for himself in Boston in 1804. In May 1805, John moved from No. 2 Codman's wharf to No. 50 State Street, and then starting in May 1806 the brothers were in business together

for three years at 50 State. John Eaton Jr. partnered from Sep. 1810 to Jan. 1812 with one Wm C. Hall as John Eaton & Co. (so not equals), starting at 50 State and ending at 46 Long wharf. In 1812/3 and 1813/4, John Eaton Jr. was an assistant assessor for Boston's ward 4, elected at meeting held in selectmen's room of Faneuil Hall. From April 1816 to Aug. 1817 he joined in business with another Amherst native, John Shepard, as Eaton & Shepard, at 4 Codman's wharf, offering West India goods and dye-stuffs.

John Eaton Jr. returned to his hometown to become a retail storekeeper in the 3-story brick block (aka Cushing's Folly) in Amherst Village. He ran the store from 1820 to 1823 and owned the building from 1821 to 1825, buying it for \$1500 from the Portsmouth investment owner and selling it for \$2000 to Robert Read and David McG.

Means, both Amherst merchants but competitors not partners. In 1823, John Eaton Jr., David McG. Means, and the firm of (Robert) Read & (Isaac) Spalding were each assessed taxes on stock in trade worth \$1500; and Eber Lawrence (having recently left the 377 BPR farm) on \$700 worth of stock. Eaton's investment was even more profitable than it looks, because he subdivided the lot and sold off 8 Main Street for \$550 in June 1824 to cotton & wool card-makers Holmes & White, and in June 1826 sold off 110-112 Boston Post Road for \$662.50. Eaton returned to Boston.

Son of Mill Owner Shepard

John Shepard next, in 1817, formed a connection in business with one Robert Derby of Richmond, Va.; they transacted business in Richmond under the firm of Shepard & Derby, and in Boston under the firm of John Shepard & Co. at Counting-room No. 4, Codman's wharf, but Shepard did not stay long in Boston. He moved to Syracuse, N.Y.; and died in Sandwich, Ill., in 1870 (according to *History of Milford, N.H.*, p. 922.)

John Shepard (1791-1870) was married to Lucretia Eaton (1790-1838, b. Amherst, d. New Jersey), daughter of Lt. John Eaton (Sr.) & Sybil Spalding of Amherst, N.H., and thus sister of Boston merchants David S. Eaton and John Eaton Jr. This John Shepard was the son of Jonathan Shepard (1762-1820), who was born in the part of Amherst that became Milford, and was son of Col. John Shepard Jr. (1732-1802) of Amherst whose father Sr.

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Be sure to visit our new website design at www.amherstcitizen.com and follow us on Facebook, Twitter and other social media for frequent updates on events and celebrations.

AMHERST RECREATION DEPARTMENT

4 Cross Rd, Amherst, NH 03031
603 673-6248
Peabody Mill Environmental Center
66 Brook Road
603 673-1141
www.amherstrec.org
Like us on Facebook
Follow us on Instagram @amherstrec

NEW Programming

NEW Summer Camps

Start thinking summertime in Amherst! This year we will be offering two full day summer camps. Each week at camp will be centered around a theme. Both camps will take part in weekly field trips, all on Wednesdays

2015 Field Trips include: Canobie Lake Park, Roll On America, Sky Zone, Circus Smirkus, Seacoast Science Center, Hampton Beach SP, and Water Country!

Baboosic Lake Summer Camp

Who: Entering grade 1-7
Where: Baboosic Lake
When: 6/22-8/14
Early Bird Fee: \$115R;
\$155NR per week
\$870R; \$1190NR Full Summer Rate

Outdoor Discovery Summer Camp

Who: Entering 1-5
Where: Peabody Mill Environmental Center (PMEC)
When: 6/22-8/7
Early Bird Fee: \$125R; \$165NR
\$825R; \$1105NR Full Summer Rate

Outdoor Discovery Mini Camp

Who: Ages 4&5
Where: Peabody Mill Environmental Center (PMEC)
When: 6/22-7/31
Early Bird Fee: \$85R; \$100NR
\$460R; \$550NR

All Prices Increase by 20\$ after May

Amherst Recreation Programs and Events

15, 2015

NEW Baseball Clinic at AMS

Come get a jump on the Baseball Season with a 4 week skills, drills and activities program geared to develop your softball abilities. This program runs twice a week for two weeks in March at the Amherst Middle School. Be prepared twice a week to participate for an hour and a half of baseball. Dress in comfortable clothing with a change of sneakers. Please bring a water bottle and your glove.

Who: boys ages 7-12
Where: AMS gym
When: March 17, 19, 24, and 26 from 6:30-8pm
Fee: \$25R; \$30NR

NEW Junior First Lego League

Grab your friends and join our team of lego lovers! Each lego team will learn about simple machines as they build a model made of lego elements with a motorized part. Teams will meet once a week for 6 weeks. Time and place TBA.

Who: Ages 6-9
Fee: \$65R; \$75NR

NEW Couch to 5K- A run to walk program

Are you looking for some support and community while reaching your fitness goals? Join us for a 12 week Couch to 5K program, led by coach Amy Hull.

The Couch to 5K program will focus on training to safely build up strength and endurance to participate in a 5K (3.1 mile) race.

When: Starting in March (please visit website for full scheduling options)
Fee: \$75R; \$85NR

Youth Seasonal Sports

Baseball for Youth

Batter up! Baseball is open for kids 5-15 years old. Practices will be held Monday-Friday between 5:30 and 7:30pm. Games will be held on Saturdays between 8am and 8pm. Baseball age is based on participant's age on April 30, 2015

NOTE: We are hoping to start baseball practices the week of April 12th, depending on weather and field conditions.

*** Register by Friday February 27 to avoid a \$25 late Fee. Teams will be formed and uniforms will be ordered Friday March 20***

5&6 year olds: T-Ball

Introduces the player to organized baseball

Who: 5&6 year old boys
What: T-ball
Where: The back of Wilkins Elementary School
When: 5/2015-6/13/2015
Fee: \$40R; \$65NR

7, 8, & 9 year olds: Instructional and Rookie

All 7 and 8 yr olds will participate in skills screening. Numbers will dictate if we will be able to separate into two levels

The instructional level will be coach pitched
The rookie level will begin to develop player pitching

What: Instructional baseball
When: Tentative start date of 4/2015
Fee: \$45R; \$70NR

9-12 year olds: Minor/Major League Players will play regulation Cal Ripken baseball

Team placement will be based on the screening
Minors play on a 60' diamond, Majors play on 70' diamond

Who: 9-12 yr old boys

What: Minors/Majors

When: Tentative start date of 4/2015
Fee: \$95R; \$120NR

13-15 year olds: Babe Ruth

Games and practices will take place on a 90 foot diamond with home games at Souhegan High School

Babe Ruth games generally play on Wednesdays and Saturdays, not to conflict with the Middle School Schedule

Who: 13-15 yr old boys
What: Babe Ruth
When: Tentative start date of 4/2015
Fee: \$100R; \$125NR

NEW Softball for Youth

Come join girls ages 5-16 on the softball diamond. Whether you want the experience of an instructional league or are ready for some fun and competition there is a spot for you on one of our many teams.

All instructional, minor/major and juniors teams will play teams surrounding towns.

Softball age is based on the participant's age on December 31, 2014. ***Registration by Friday March 6 to avoid a \$25.00 late Fee. Teams will be formed and uniforms ordered Friday March 27***

5&6 year olds: T-Ball

Introduces the player to organized softball

Who: 5&6 year old girls
What: T-ball (Softball)
Where: The back of Wilkins Elementary School
When: 5/2015-6/13/2015
Fee: \$40R; \$65NR

7 & 8 yr olds: Instructional

Fundamentals of softball reinforced. Games will be played with

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