

CORNISH HISTORICAL SOCIETY

SPRING 2018 NEWSLETTER

From the President's Desk:

Dear Members and Friends,

Spring is finally here with a flurry of events for 2018. In April the Cornish Historical Society held the "Tea and History" program to benefit Pike Hall, and our 6th Annual Daffodil Duck Derby. This will be our 4th year co-hosting with the Cornish Fairgrounds Committee our New England Vintage Base Ball Festival, with the 1860s rules and uniforms. New this year we are offering FREE Admission! Come cheer on "LOCAL BOYS TEAM" thanks to Alan Wentworth for organizing - they will play Sunday, June 24th at 8 a.m. (More details located on page 3).

Cornish Historical Society is playing a part in promoting the use and renovation of the upper levels of Pike Memorial Hall. The new "Eagle Mill Park" is nearing completion and we've designed an historic marker with the help of Laurie Carr, that will be placed at Eagle Park. We also hope to have our Cornish Depot Wagon in the Ossipee Valley Fair parade in July. We'd love help decorating, please contact a board member if you'd like to help.

Please join us for our Annual Meeting on Thursday, June 21st at 6 p.m. 40 Main Street. You can enjoy light refreshments and see our new exhibit the *WWI Armistice and the Spanish Influenza Epidemic*. These events were exactly 100 years ago... learn how Cornish folks got through those times, not really so long ago. Exhibit will open to the public beginning June 30th. We will be open for the season Saturdays 1-4. and always looking for volunteers to staff our history house.

Thank you all again for your support which helps us meet our goal of preserving our history and adding interesting, educational events about our town. This benefits everyone, and can be fun! Call us and get involved, there are many ways of being helpful no matter your abilities!



Have a wonderful summer!

Sandy Howe

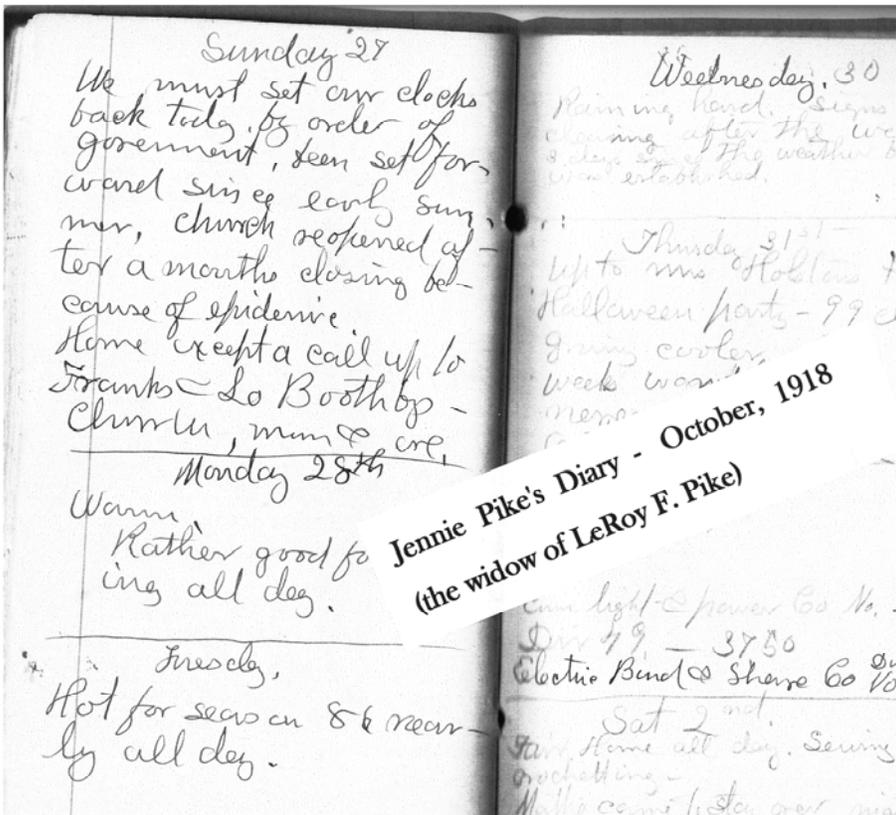
The Beginning of DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME

Ben Franklin may have been the first to suggest that changing the clocks would prevent folks from sleeping through the early morning light in Spring and Summer and also conserve candles at night.

The adoption of DST came during WWI when Germany, Austria and most of Europe set their clocks one hour differently to save fuel and electricity needed for manufacturing war products. In America we began DST on March 31, 1918 for seven months, then again in 1919. The law was repealed but some states and cities continued it. During WWII we went on "War Time" from Feb. 9, 1942 to 1945 and clocks were set back one hour all year long to conserve energy.

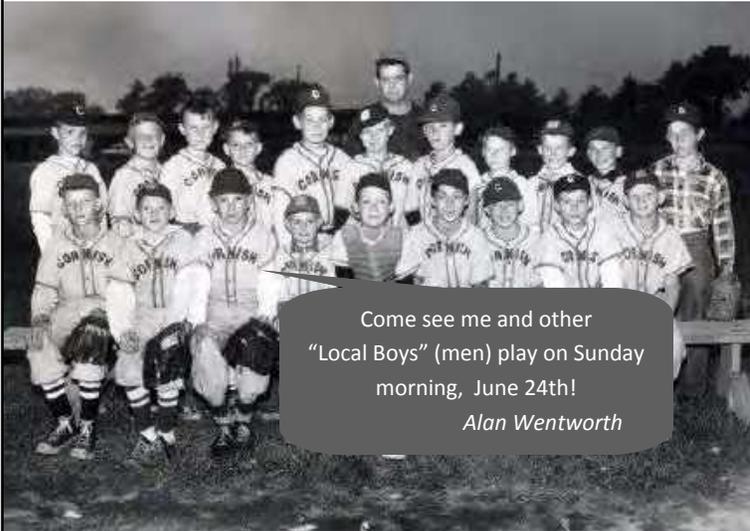
After 1945 there was much confusion and no Federal law. In 1966 Congress passed the "Uniform Time Act" and all states but Arizona and Hawaii complied. The start and stop dates have changed many times since then, but the main reason it continues is for energy management, though some states still debate this.

In the meantime, remember to "spring forward" in March, and "fall back" on Nov. 4, 2018!



Thank you to the Town of Cornish for your support at town meeting. This money will help to preserve the town's history in our research room and museum as well as provide educational exhibits and entertaining programs.

New England *VINTAGE* *BASE BALL FESTIVAL* Cornish, Maine



Come see me and other
"Local Boys" (men) play on Sunday
morning, June 24th!
Alan Wentworth

**Saturday,
June 23rd**

Games Begin at:

9:30

**Sunday,
June 24th**

Games Begin at:

**PLEASE NOTE—
SCHEDULE TIMES HAVE CHANGED
SINCE THIS WAS PRINTED!
FMI—
newenglandbaseballfestival.com**

3 Fields - 8 / 10 Games per Day

Cornish Fairgrounds Rt. 25 Cornish, ME.

FREE ADMISSION

Food & Ice Cream Concessions

Bring a blanket or chair—

large shade tent will be available.

Hosted by Cornish Historical Society and

Cornish Fairgrounds Committee

F.M.I. Kate (207) 625-3095 Diann (207) 625-3281

www.newenglandbaseballfestival.com

"Tea and History"



On Sunday, April 8, 2018 Melinda Thomas, proprietor of Clipper Merchant Tea House in Bridgton spoke about the history of tea and offered tastings of 6 different teas, served with scones, Devon Cream and Lemon Curd. Also, President Sandy Howe gave a short talk on how Cornish was named in 1794.



Dues update!

MAKING LIFE SIMPLER . . . WE HOPE!

At our March meeting, we voted to charge dues by the calendar year rather than the fiscal year - which we hope will make things easier for all of us. If you have already paid dues for 7/1/2017 to 6/30/2018, you will be credited for the rest of 2018 and will not owe dues until January 2019. For anyone who owes more than one year of past dues, pay one year's dues now and you also will not owe again until January 2019.

EAGLE MILL PARK

A new scenic space in Cornish is nearing completion: the Eagle Mill Park, owned by the town is across the Gorge from Krista's Restaurant on Main St.

Cornish Historical members have been on the planning committee this past year. Soon there will be green grass and a flowering crab tree growing around the gazebo built by a local Eagle Scout. Visitors will be able to look down at the Little River flowing under the bridge and enjoy sitting on the benches coming soon.

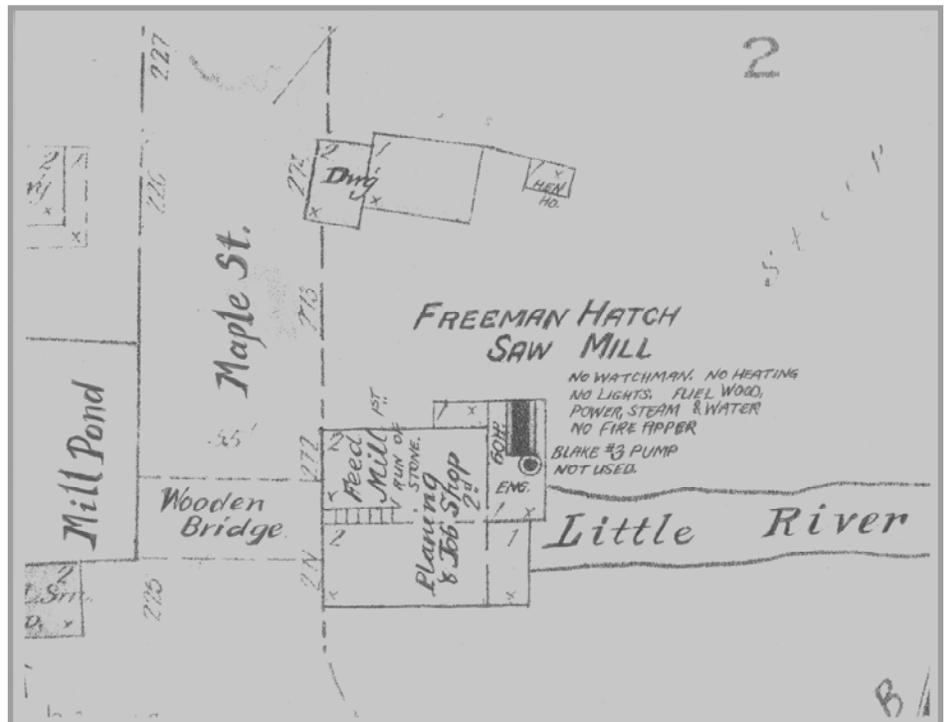
The park's site was originally the homestead of William and Jerusha Woodbury. She was a sister of Cotton Lincoln, who built the house in 1854. The house was moved from the village to the west side of the Gorge about 1872. William was the miller at the Hatch grist mill. Many generations of Woodburys lived here, and other families too until it was dismantled in the 1990s.

Straddling the Little River, the Eagle Mill was built for Freeman Hatch and designed by Robie Blake in 1875 at a cost of \$21,000. The structure was the largest building in Cornish, being 3 and 1/2 stories at the front, 4 and 1/2 stories at the rear. Water and steam powered this lumber, stave, wood-work and grist mill. J. B. Watson and Sons occupied the top level. Hatch's business motto: "PREFER LOSS TO UNJUST GAIN" was inscribed on the cupola which was topped with a gold-leafed eagle weathervane.

On Easter morning, April 7, 1901 the local rivers were all flooding. At 1:30 PM the bridge and 14 ft. dam gave way, and within 10 seconds the entire building was sent hurtling downstream. Fortunately 25 workers scrambling to save 300 bushels of corn had exited moments before.

The Eagle Mill was not rebuilt and the eagle weathervane was never found.

Cornish Historical Society is donating the historic marker, designed with the help of Laurie Carr. The park should be ready for your visit this summer, enjoy the view!





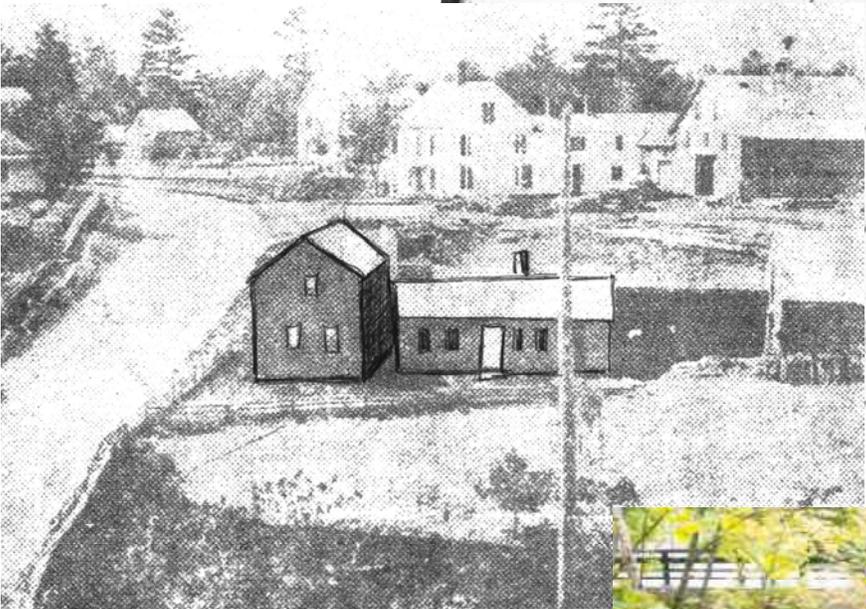
(left) Eagle Mill as it sat across the Little River.

below) Jennie Pike's account of Eagle Mill's destruction April 7, 1901

Ther. THURS. APRIL 4, 1901 Wea.
Rained all night to beat the band. Little river nearly over the bridge. Ray little better,

Ther. SUN. APRIL 7, 1901 Wea.
Rained pouring all last night and all day. An awful day Mill in center of rail on little river bridge all gone to smithereens, down over interval. Too bad, too bad. Been down to see the floods several times.

Ther. MONDAY 8 Wea.
Cloudy with almost constant rain all day. The wreck is sad to see. Home all day clearing.



New Gazebo built by Eagle Scout, Kyle Mason



6th Annual

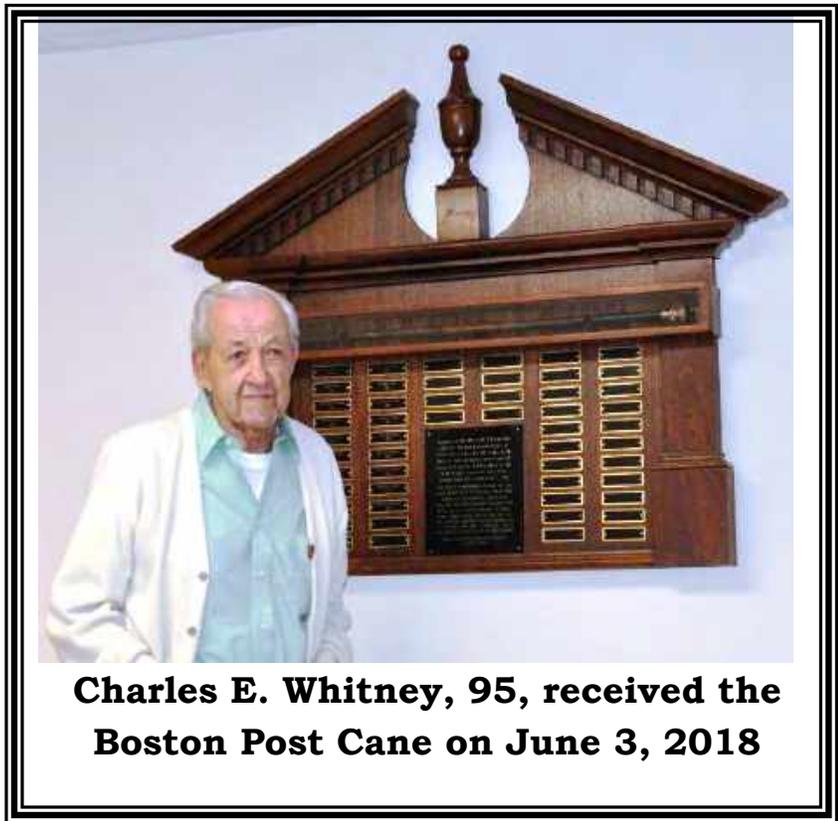
Daffodil Duck Derby

Saturday, April 28, 2018

Thanks to all of our volunteers
and generous sponsors!



Patiently waiting for
their # to be drawn!



**Charles E. Whitney, 95, received the
Boston Post Cane on June 3, 2018**

CORNISH HISTORICAL SOCIETY, INC.

P.O. Box 404

Cornish, ME 04020

Your membership dues are important to us, and make it possible for us to send this newsletter to you!

If you'd like to receive your newsletter via email and see photos in full color, please give us your email address and make note of it on your membership form.

Thank you to all that have renewed their membership.

The Cornish Historical Society meets the third Thursday of each month at 6:00 p.m. spring summer and fall meetings are held at our home at 40 Main Street. Winter meeting are held at the office of Cote & Howe Realty, 81 Maple Street. We'd love to see you!

Our Officers as of June 2017.

Feel free to contact any of them for further information about the Cornish Historical Society.

President	Sandy Howe	(207) 625-4813
Vice President	Diann Perkins	(207) 625-3281
Treasurer	Kate Benson	(207) 625-3095
Secretary	Anne MacIntyre	(207) 625-3177
Historian	Linda Carr Griffin	(207) 650-7484

----- MEMBERSHIP FORM ----- 

Please Print

Name(s): _____ Phone: _____

Address: _____ City: _____ State: ____ Zip: _____

Email Address: _____ Check here to receive via email

Sign me up as a member _____ \$10.00 for single member
(Annual Dues) _____ \$15.00 Family

I would like to make my tax deductible cash contribution in the following amount:

For the Cornish Historical Society (general fund) \$ _____

For the Martha Nee Fund: \$ _____

For the Home of Cornish Historical Society: \$ _____

_____ I would like to loan or donate pictures or artifacts – please contact me.

_____ I would like to donate my time – please call and tell me where I can help.



Photo by Matthew Muise

NEW ENGLAND VINTAGE BASE BALL FESTIVAL - JUNE 23RD & 24TH
COME WATCH BASE BALL PLAYED WITH 1860S
RULES AND UNIFORMS!

Your Membership dues are important to us — please mail today

Cornish Historical Society
Post Office Box 404
Cornish, Maine 04020