

NNHS NEWS LETTER

Northville Northampton Historical Society

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Editor
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Christmas Party



The Christmas Season is past, and again there's been many wonderful memories made with Family and Friends. Our Historical Society Christmas Party was lots of fun, 22 folks attended. Everyone brought finger foods to share and there was a great variety of cookies, sandwiches, chips/dip, barbeque chicken fingers, a bowl of fresh fruit, cinnamon rolls, deviled eggs, egg nog, cake balls covered with chocolate, cheese dip, cheese cake.....makes me hungry again just thinking about it all.

Before we arrived at the Christmas Party everyone was asked to research (after all this is a historical society) the history of the house/home they currently live in. It was suggested they find out about when it was built, who might have lived there in the past, was there some historical or interesting event that had happened in the house, how long have they lived there, why did you chose to live there.

The information that each one shared was very interesting and it was to the delight of the person sharing, to have others add more information about their house. "Oh I didn't know that", "You lived there too?" My grandparents lived there" And many other comments were made.

Each year we have brought gifts for the Yankee Swap game but this year we each brought a gift that we received that had special meaning to us. We shared what the gift was, who gave it to us and why it was special. Below and on the next page, you will read about some of the gifts that were brought in and the stories behind them.



Steve and Gayle Collins shared about a family diary that was very meaningful to them. Sally showed and demonstrated a wooden dancing puppet.

The first one to share about his treasured gift was Terry Warner. When he was about 8 or 9 a neighbor who had befriended him, gave him an old WW1 Compass that was from France. It looked like a silver pocket watch. It's one of his childhood favorite memories.

Marge B Decker showed us a piece of a quilt that was in a frame. It was a from a "crazy quilt" that her grandmother and other family members had sewed pieces of fabric from her gmother's wedding gown and gowns/dresses of other family members. When it became so fragile and disintegrating, they cut up the better parts and gave them to the family members.

Linda Thompson's mother made a small duplicate of Linda's wedding gown and dressed a doll with it. She gave it to Linda, which started a collection that Linda continues to add to.

Bill Gagne told us about a special gun that his wife Sally, and his children gave him.

Sally Gagne had a wooden dancing black doll that danced on a wooden slat that she sat on. She demonstrated it as did Skip Thompson. Her Uncle Charlie Loucks made it and gave it to her.

Gayle Collins brought an old diary that belonged to her aunt.

Donna Crannell shared about the engagement ring that Bill gave to her while they were both in the Navy.

Larry Cramer had his "Hudson Bible" that has all the Hudson's in it, that his son Steve gave him many years ago. He also told about the '49 Hudson cast replica that he received as a gift from his wife. He now owns a real '49 Hudson the same color as that little replica one.

Skip Thompson had a gun with him, that his father gave to him when he was about 15 yrs old. His father put away a \$1 a week on it until it was paid for. He told how excited he was that Christmas, as he had to hunt for his gift by following a trail of string. He finally found the gun under the Christmas tree. Skip has now passed it on to his son.



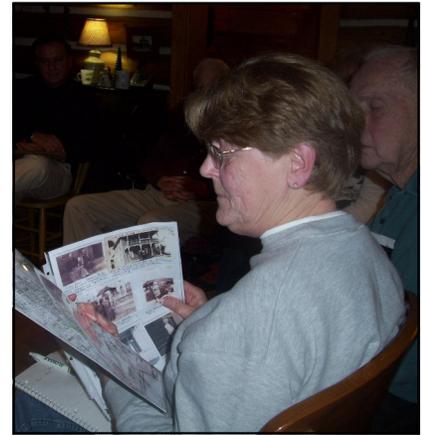
Terry Warner



Marge Bergman Decker



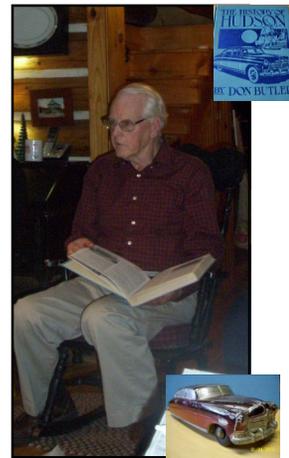
Linda Robinson Thompson



Gloria Jensen Fulmer



Donna and Bill Crannell



Larry



Linda and Skip Thompson and Steve Collins



Doris King Welch

Gail Cramer showed the first gift that her husband ever gave her when they were dating. (1953) They had double-dated with Marge Bergman and Lew Decker up at Pine Lake. Larry and Lew each bought little cedar boxes for their girl friends and we both still have them.

Dan Mead shared several stories but I think everyone enjoyed his story about his teddy bear the most.

Bill Crannell told about his first cornet that his grandfather Kested gave him when he was in second grade. He played in the Northville School band(s) all through school, also in the Navy band and in church for many years.

Margaret Downing brought with her a little toy that her grandson had given to her as a gift when he was very young. She said she "treasures it"

Rusty Mosher talked about a family Christmas Tradition of wrapping up a pigs tail and giving it to a member of the family each year.

Linda Mosher brought some pins that her brother had given her years ago.

Doris Welch shared about a special camera.

Gloria Fulmer told about sewing kits that her Grandmother made for her and her siblings. She put them in a round tin cookie box. She taught the kids how to sew.

Charles Downing's grandfather made him a wooden rectangular box when Chuck was 7 yrs old. It had brass hardware and the lid was anchored with a silver watch chain that was Chuck's great grandfathers. His gfather died the next year. Chuck still has the box.

So many great memories that we have had. It was exciting to hear everyone's stories. I'm sure we got to know a little bit more about each other as we shared a piece of our lives.



Dan Mead



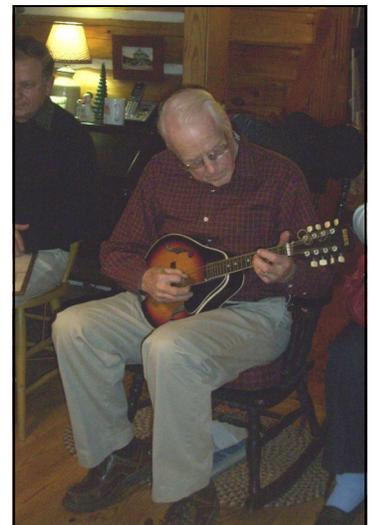
Margaret and Charles Downing



Doris King Welch, Loretta Hook Darling, Chan Rockwell, Gloria J Fulmer



Skip Thompson



Larry playing background music while Skip makes the little wooden black man dance.