

# *Robbinston Historical Society*

**July 2013  
Newsletter**

## **WHAT A MONTH! A HOT YARD SALE AND MEETING**

Robbinston may have suffered through one cold and rainy spring, but the Historical Society was going hot and heavy.

"We not only beat our goals with the yard sale and signing up new members, but we had a good turn out at our annual meeting," declared Secretary Bobbi Henkel. In fact, she said, sales were going so well at the yard sale that we opened up for a second weekend.

We also thought we might have been too optimistic when we budgeted for \$600 in receipts from the yard and food sale. But we ended up making \$792. This included the sale of afghan raffle tickets and nine cookbooks. And if Bobbi makes the apple pie she promised Bob, it would push us over \$800!

The pies, cakes, cookies, muffins and date-nut bars

went fast, selling out on the first weekend. One disappointed shopper came back the second weekend to buy homemade cake & cookies but was disappointed again.

Holding our sale inside the Visitors Center helped out a lot. Because of the rain, the yard sales advertised in the Calais Advertiser were all cancelled.

One shopper admitted to Bobbi her "little car" couldn't haul away the Lazy Boy chair on sale, so she went home and got her truck.

And one man spotted a sled standing by the cashier and told her "I want it." But Kathy said that it was already sold.

One shopper liked Dan Hollingdale's chili so much he had purchased earlier that he drove back on the second weekend to buy more. But he was too late. We had sold out on the first weekend.

Just as we were closing on the first weekend, one late-comer pulled in and said he wanted to buy another cake. "We are all sold out," Bobbi said. "No matter," he said. "I'll take the rest of the cookies & muffins. instead."

## **GOOD NEWS! HOWIE DUVALL ALL RECOVERING NICELY**

He might be driving with just one-hand, but Howard

Duvall is recovering well from his May accident.

A falling tree branch had broken his wrist and six ribs after he was hit by a falling branch at the Calais golf course. [We got the details wrong in the May news letter.] He should be back to his feisty self by August.

Without saying a word, member Mike Footer jumped in for Howie and mowed the grass around the Grace Chapel and the Visitors Center in June. Many thanks, Mike!

Also keeping the Society grounds looking good were Bobbi, President Mary Ann Duvall, and Director Rosella Lagerquist. They got together in June and weeded and mulched the Memorial Garden.

## **ONLY FIVE MEMBERSHIPS HAVEN'T BEEN RENEWED**

The Society's membership picture has brightened somewhat after gradually declining in recent years, Bobbi reported.

"The good news is that membership renewals have come in at a faster rate than previous years, she reported. Only five memberships remain to be paid, she said, which is a record for the Society.

Overall memberships as of July totaled 65 families, Bob-

bi said. That total also includes 19 life and pro bono members, she said.

One other financial bright spot was our trust fund, which is for major repairs and other large spending jobs. It totaled \$18,053 at the end of May, up \$100 from the month before, thanks to a rising stock market, Bobbi said.

### **TEAM RUNNING SOCIETY FOR DECADE REELECTED**

The annual election of officers was held at the June meeting and the team that has been running the Society for the past decade was reelected.

Elected again was Mary Ann Duvall as president, and Carol Hollingdale Vice President.

Bobbi Henkel, who had taken on the jobs of both Secretary and Treasurer more than 10 years ago, declared she was "burned out" from doing both, so she decided to run only for Secretary.

Elected Treasurer was Sarah Strickland, who recently joined the society after moving to Robbinston.

Also named to the Society's board of directors were newcomers Teresa Stepan and Heather Perry. They join the four officers and Howard Duvall, Bob Henkel, and Rosella Lagerquist.

### **SARAH STRICKLAND IS ELECTED TREASURER**

Sarah is no stranger to Robbinston, even though she and her husband Paul just moved here last year from Minneapolis.

Our new treasurer started coming to Maine in the summers when she was only six weeks old. She stayed at Robert Sherman McCarter's [her great-grandfather] Red Beach farm house.

And in 1917, he built the camp that became known as "The Dam," located on the St. Croix and Lowe's Cove in Robbinston. The location had become a well-known swimming spot for Robbinston.

Sarah currently is relaunching her consulting practice in Maine, specializing in strategic planning, meeting facilitation, and grant writing advice. She also is a board member for the Maine Women's Fund, and is board chair of a new Washington County non profit, the Altrupreneurial Leadership Center.

Sarah's husband is retired after a career in labor and employee relations with Target and General Mills. And the couple have two daughters, Kate and Claire, who both live in Minneapolis.

### **TWO SOCIETY MEMBERS HAVE AN 'AMAZING' YEAR**

The past year has been a big one for two of our members, Ken and Jane Brooks. Their world is country music.

Members will remember the duo playing at the 90th birthday party of Ken's father in May 2006. The event drew more than 100 attendees at the Society's Visitor Center.

Last year started out with a bang with the release of their latest CD, "Still Country After All." Then in May, Ken was inducted into the Maine Country Music Hall of Fame in Augusta.

In October, they received the Duo of the Year award from the Maine Country Music Association. And at the same awards show, Ken's blue grass band, *The Katahdin Valley Boys*, were named the Bluegrass Band of the Year.

So, it's time to say to our "show biz" members: Congratulations you all! Come back and visit, hear?

### **CONCERT TENTATIVELY SET FOR SEPTEMBER 13**

Hope to see you locals at our next meeting at 7 p.m. on Thursday, August 15th. Next, Sept. 13 is the tentative date for our anniversary Grace Chapel concert.