



PORTSMOUTH

Historical Society

May 2018 Newsletter

It is time once again for our Society's monthly newsletter. It has been a very busy month for our Society as we begin to get ready for opening our museum for the summer later in May. Head Curator, Nancy Crawford, reports that the museum has been put back together after having our archives stored in a POD while we had the building painted. Now the curatorial committee is busy arranging our annual exhibit. We hope that every member of our society will come visit the museum this summer. We will be open from 2-5PM on Sundays from Memorial Day until Columbus Day.

Recent Events: On 11 April we had our second **Portsmouth History Trivia Contest** for the year at the Valley Inn. The competition was close but the winning Stone-Thayer team, comprised of Mark and Terri-Lynn Thayer and Steve and Marcia Stone beat out the competition. Then on 23 April we had the first meeting of the **Portsmouth History Book Club** at the Library. A lively discussion of "*The American Jezebel*" by Eve LaPlante, (an account of the influential career of Anne Hutchinson) was held. The next meeting of the Book Club will be on Monday 11 June and the book for discussion is Elaine Showalter's "*The Civil Wars of Julia Ward Howe*". Also, to cap off a very busy month of activities, on 25 April sixty people braved an evening of nasty rainy weather to attend an illustrated lecture by your President on **Portsmouth: A Hundred Years Ago**.

Future Events: On **Saturday 19 May**, we will have our **Docent training** from 9-11 at the museum. We are in need of a few additional docents at the museum for Sunday afternoons in the summer. The only experience required is an interest in Portsmouth's wonderful history. We will train you and you will be paired with experienced

docents. If you have time to spare, maybe one Sunday a month or so, we would love to have you join us. If you are not sure, please plan to come to the docent training to see if you would like to help out.

-Sunday, 20 May from 2-5 we will have our **Members Open House** at the Museum. On display we will have our new exhibit for the summer and also there will be a display of several hundred old photographs of Portsmouth from the collection of your President.

-Friday 25 May at 7 PM the **Portsmouth Community Theatre** will perform their production of **“Murder at the Coal Mines”** at the Common Fence Point Community Hall. This is a play based on an actual event that took place at our coalmines at Arnold’s Point in the late 1800s. Come see this fascinating re-creation of a true chapter in our town’s history.

-Sunday 27 May from 2-5 PM we will have our **opening day of the museum for all.**

As it is time for **membership renewals** for the year (we have this reminder from our membership chairman, Gary Gump: “Renew your membership now and avoid the rush! Our annual membership ends on 31 May, and renewing early will reduce the cost of our membership renewal mailing later in May. Renewals are accepted anytime and all will be for our 2018-19 year. Check our website: www.portsmouthhistorical.org for the necessary forms.” Also we will be available at Clements Market on Sunday 6 May and Saturday 19 May from 10-2.

Don’t forget our **annual meeting** on **Monday 18 June** at the Museum. Come hear about our accomplishments and future plans.

Volunteers! We are very pleased with all of the volunteers working hard, but we always can use more. Please contact us if you can spare a few hours a month to assist. We have fun working with our wonderful history.

Jim Garman
President

Taking Pride in Portsmouth’s History