



# Hartford Historical Society

The Garipay House • 1461 Maple Street  
Hartford Village, Vermont 05047

HARTFORD • QUECHEE • WEST HARTFORD • WHITE RIVER JUNCTION • WILDER

Volume 21, No. 4

SOCIETY NEWSLETTER

March-April 2009

## THE CV ROUNDHOUSE

*An edited reprint from an article Chris McKinley, WRJ Yardmaster, had in the November issue of FOUR-NINETY-FOUR NEWS*

**Sunday, Nov 2, 2008.** The CV round house caught fire at 1:45 pm. Bill Brigham called me – I looked out the window and saw lots of smoke. At 2:25 pm I got to the site after walking to Route 4 and found the round house fully engulfed from the south end with four ladder trucks attacking it from Hartford, Hanover, Claremont and Lebanon, as well as others to help out with a lot of pumppers in the four corners of the round house.

It was built in 1929 to house ten new MT. Type 2-10-4 steam locomotives over 120' long that were to be based in White River Junction. These were the largest to run in New England and ran at only 35 mph but could move a train of 80 cars, about what you see today on the NECR, without a helper engine. The last one left White River Junction in 1957 for the scrap line in St. Albans.

In 1995 the New England Central Railroad took over the Central Vermont and moved a switcher, naming it train 600, into the round house east side with a two-man crew to run it – mostly at night. Today there are eight NECR train crews using White River Junction as a crew base. I hope the NECR stays in White River

Junction – I'd miss seeing these fellows when they arrive and depart on their respective trains if not.

After 80 years of service the loss of White River Junction's last round house on November 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2008 will be remembered as a sad day by rail fans, railroaders and citizens alike in the Upper Valley and New England.



Photo by Chris McKinley

## From the Chair . . .

Here's hoping that by the time you read this, we will be scheduling the re-opening of the Garipay House and planning an event that will get us together to enjoy the warmer weather. Possibilities discussed at the January Board meeting include a Block Party, an evening BBQ, a promotion party for the release of a new book, a "kick-off" to establish the Bradley Memorial Fund...probably a special event in early May. Let us know if you have an idea for a Garipay House neighborhood gathering.

Functioning without Jim Kenison has been a challenge, but each Board member has taken on added responsibilities and in the Obama spirit of 2009, we recognize that we may be few in numbers, but we will surely continue to the best of our ability to research and preserve the history of Hartford.

**YOU** are already making history. **YOU** are probably already a member. The Board has decided it is time to stop mailing newsletters to those whose memberships have expired, so it is possible that **YOU** will receive two copies of this newsletter. We are asking **YOU** to pass on the extra copy.

If you have received a *complimentary* copy, we hope you will enjoy it and consider becoming a member. Extra newsletters and applications are available on our web site [hartfordhistory.org], at the Hartford Library, and at the Municipal building.

**Remember:** bring your friends to hear about Judge Guarino on Wednesday, April 8.

Look forward to seeing **YOU** there!

Dorothy Yamashita

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## Coming Events

### ⇒ April Program. Wednesday, April 8, 2009 – 7 p.m.

Judge Guarino's son, Joseph, along with the other Guarino children, will present the many aspects of their father's life, starting with his growing up in White River Junction, to his post-secondary education, to his service in World War II, to his return home and his service to this community. They will share some personal recollections of a very special father and grandfather.

There will be a question/answer period and refreshments will be served following the program.

Please join us for a wonderful evening!

### ⇒ Wednesday, May 27 Book Signing of **HARTFORD**

by Frank J. Barrett will be presented by the Quechee Library and the Historical Society at the Quechee Library after their annual meeting at 7pm. All are welcome and refreshments will be served.



### Hartford Historical Society

Post Office Box 547, Hartford, VT 05047-0547

<http://www.hartfordhistory.org>

#### Officers

Dot Jones, President	802-295-2701
Bill Wittik, Acting Vice President	802-295-9683
David Ford, Secretary	802-356-2776
Rich Gallagher, Treasurer	603-727-8418

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Archivist: Pat Stark 802-478-1110



## Hartford Genealogy Resource Center

The HGRC Genealogy Forum has a new look. Check it out at <http://www.hartfordhistory.org/forum/>. Currently anyone can post without registering, though posts must be approved to be viewable. HHS members can upload attachments as well as post inquiries. Log on and register to contribute some activity to this message forum. Indicate that you are an Hartford Historical Society member to receive the higher level access. Send suggestions to me at [jetron@comcast.net](mailto:jetron@comcast.net).



Work continues on our tombstone photo project. Several photos were received for some Gershom Bartlett-carved tombstones (thanks!). Check your archives for tombstone photos and e-mail to me (one at a time) for inclusion in our database.



A genealogy starter kit (CD) is available for a donation. It contains a full-featured genealogy software program (Legacy 7) and many forms used to record data, including pedigree and family charts. Come visit the HGRC any Monday afternoon, 1-5pm.

### What is the best genealogy software program?

There are many different programs available with varying levels of user-friendliness and features. The best one for you is the one that *you* find most comfortable to use and the one that you will continue to use. To see a review of many different programs, some of which have demos you can try before buying, see

<http://www.gensoftreviews.com/?from=oldsite>.



**Projects**



We have several ongoing projects including indexing and filing. If you have some time to volunteer, let me know ([jetron@comcast.net](mailto:jetron@comcast.net)).

*A recently discovered little known 'First' for our town!*

## **NEW BROADCAST STUNT AT WHITE RIVER JUNCTION**

**First Time Radio Has been Worked from Scene of Disaster**

*[Reprinted from the 11/10/2007 issue of the Chelsea Herald]*

Broadcasting direct from the scene of a great catastrophe was accomplished for the first time in the history of radio Sunday afternoon, following the flood at 5 o'clock, when portable station WATT of the Edison Electric Illuminating Company of Boston, installed on the grounds of the Hartford High school at White River Junction, successfully transmitted a summary of the flood conditions.

Arriving late Sunday morning, Chief Operator Ralph Mathewson and Roger Ellis, assistant, succeeded in whipping the set into shape to operate entirely on storage batteries loaned by a local battery dealer. Over 100 towns folk gathered around the improvised studio in the school hallway to catch their first glimpse of the method of broadcasting. Lewis S. Whitcomb, in charge of the party made the introductory announcements and gave a survey of the flood scenes. He in turn was followed by newspapermen, who gave snatches of the damage wreaked by the 30-foot swell of the White and Connecticut rivers at that point, and problems facing inhabitants in reclamation work and conservation of available fresh provisions.

The station went on the air shortly after 7 o'clock again and continued at frequent intervals until after midnight.

The broadcast covered a wide territory, and was heard in Boston by several people. Lebanon and Belows Falls residents reported clear and strong reception of the station on 400 meters, despite the fact that several large commercial stations completely blanket that territory. Many of the towns reached were cut off from communication by phone and wire, and the roads were practically impassable.

WATT and party left for Boston Monday morning.



Fire at Pete's Tire at CV Roundhouse. Photo by Chris McKinley



Photo by Chris McKinley



Photo by Chris McKinley

## Sampling of 2008 DONATIONS Listing date & Donor

CHARTER for THOMAS CHITTENDEN CHAPTER DAR - March 23, 1911 "GOODRICH, ROBERTA"  
EMBROIDERED SIGNATURES OF CLASSMATES & FRIENDS of Bertha Davis Perkins on Linen cloth c 1923 "GOODRICH, ROBERTA"  
AIR FORCE SCARF Date unknown "GOODRICH, ROBERTA"  
CHRISTIAN STREET SCHOOL Students - PHOTO C 1940 "GOODRICH, ROBERTA"  
HHS COMMENCEMENT INVITATION - John P BOMHOWER 1943 "GOODRICH, ROBERTA"  
WILDER GRAMMAR SCHOOL Graduating Class Presents (program) at Wilder Club House. 6-11-1945 - list of graduates on back "GOODRICH, ROBERTA"  
CHRISTIAN STREET HOME CIRCLE - MINUTES July 1980 - Sept 1991, REPORTS, CONSTITUTIONS, ETC & PHOTOGRAPHS" 1980-90 "GOODRICH, ROBERTA"  
CHRISTIAN STREET HOME CIRCLE - 50 YEAR SERVICE AWARD - July 21, 1986" "GOODRICH, ROBERTA"  
CHRISTIAN STREET HOME CIRCLE - FROST PARK DEDICATION - PHOTOS 1982 "GOODRICH, ROBERTA"  
USPS - FIRST DAY Issue - Inauguration of USPS July 1, 1971 - mailed to Fred Beckett - ENVELOPE" 1971 "BECKETT, ESTHER"  
CROSSROADS OF NEW ENGLAND /photos - article by C. Bohi in April TRAINS Magazine 2008 "BOHI, CHARLES"  
COVERED BRIDGE UNDER CONSTRUCTION by W W CULVER - probably White River Junction - PHOTO c 1860 "BARRETT, JAY"  
HARTFORD KEY YEARBOOKS - 1952-6,1958,1960,1962,1964,1965, 1977 & PHOTOGRAPHS OF 2007 PARADE" HARTFORD ALUMNI ASSN  
CATAMOUNT OCTOBERFEST BEER label - new labels in pad 1997 JIM KENISON  
ROUND TABLE SOCIETY, WILDER, VT Checkbook with 2 cancelled checks and 'stubs'" 1923+4 JIM KENISON  
CV RR CO Waybill from Newton O. Davis 3-12-1898 JIM KENISON  
BROOKSIDE FARM - Charles D HAZEN - Dealer in Jersey Cattle Cream + Butter 9-26-1899 - RECEIPT JIM KENISON  
WHITE RIVER DAIRY TEST ASSN from Newton Davis - RECEIPT 1911 JIM KENISON  
WORTHEN, C.W. MD from N. Davis 1-4-1916 - RECEIPT" 1916 JIM KENISON  
GOSS, R.J. MD from N. Davis 12-30-1905 - RECEIPT" 1906 JIM KENISON  
VERMONT OIL AND MILL SUPPLY CO WHITE RIVER JUNCTION - 10-1-1891 & 5-16-1891 - RECEIPTS JIM KENISON  
H.D.STEVENS, Blacksmith - July 2, 1906 - RECEIPT" JIM KENISON  
NELSON ABBOTT & SONS, COAL 2-8-1915 [for stove] - RECEIPT" JIM KENISON  
CHAS. L. BUGBEE, Carts, Wagons, and sleds 4-11-1899 for sales in dec. 1898 - RECEIPT" JIM KENISON  
ALFRED E. WATSON 4-24-1901 Correspondence to Newton Davis, Wilder re: Hartford Chair Co." 1901 JIM KENISON  
WHITE RIVER TRANSFER & STORAGE CO {Agricultural implements} 10-27-1906 - RECEIPT JIM KENISON  
JUNCTION HARDWARE CO, WHITE RIVER JCT [heating & plumbing, etc.] 10-5-1899 - RECEIPT" JIM KENISON  
BROCKWAY, AL + JH HARDWARE [heating & plumbing] 4-20-1914 - RECEIPT" JIM KENISON  
A.H.DUTTON, CARRIAGE REPAIR 12-1-1905 - RECEIPT" JIM KENISON  
C.P. TRUPELL FARM AND TIMBER AGENCY HARTFORD 3-31-1908 - RECEIPT JIM KENISON  
SPAULDING OIL SERVICE Fern Street, Wilder 1972-1973 - ENVELOPE" JIM KENISON  
SANBORN OIL COMPANY 10 Bridge Street, White River Junction 1972-1973 - ENVELOPES" JIM KENISON  
NOEL VINCENT, GENERAL TRUCKING & RUBBISH REMOVAL 9/5/1972 - ENVELOPE" JIM KENISON  
WEST HARTFORD TRADING COMPANY - Outdoor Sporting Products catalog c 1987 "MARTIN, JIM"  
CROSS ABBOTT CO - Green Mountain Tea & Coffee coupons redeemable for items c 1930 "BARWOOD, JUDEEN"  
WILDER GARAGE [TEXACO] with LABELLE and MAYETTES identified - PHOTO 1947 "WEST, SHERRY"  
LABELLE, EDWARD - SNACK WAGON 'EDDIE'S TAXI DINER'- PHTOS" "WEST, SHERRY"  
JERRY'S ESSO SERVICENTER, Pine & Maple Sts - Song book for community singing" c 1948 "HEROUX, RON"  
BASEBALL from 5/30/1942 game - HHS - 17, Lebanon - 4 - signed + PHOTO OF TEAM" "O'CONNOR, JAKE"  
HARTFORD INDIANS BASKETBALL TEAM - 1950 - PHOTO "O'CONNOR, JAKE"

### Commercial/Institutional Members:

Meeting House Furniture Restoration – Jonathan Schechtman  
Hartford Memorial Middle School – Anderson Thorpe

### Membership rates:

Individual: \$15

Family [same address]: \$20

Senior: \$10

Senior family: \$15

Commercial/Institutional: \$25

Junior membership – No fee but needs a sponsor [contact Dorothy Yamashita]

## News from Hartford High:

Woody Rothe & Mike Hathorn are undertaking a new project involving the History of Hartford. With Junior & Senior students, they will be researching historic buildings, etc. in White River Junction, focusing on those that have changed uses since their construction. The students will be researching the history including collecting stories, interviews and photographs of each building. The outcomes will be a 3D addition to Google Earth of each structure, including a link to its history, and we will receive a copy of the report to use in updating St. Croix's book!

A 'kick-off' breakfast meeting was held at the Coolidge on February 3 to introduce the students and 'people resources' to each other. It was a valuable meeting for all, and it was also encouraging to learn that at least some of our youth are getting acquainted with our local history. We are all excited about this project and hope it continues for a few years.

If you have not been contacted and would like to be part of this by sharing your knowledge or just stories about White River Junction in the past, please contact Woody or Mike at 295-8620 x 107 or Pat Stark at 295-3077 M-F 9-4.

## Historic District Signs

Perhaps you have noticed the signs in Quechee Village indicating the entrances to the Quechee Mill Village Historic District. These were created by the Hartford Historic Preservation Commission and paid for by entities in Quechee village. Signs have also been designed for each of the Historic Districts, with the Jericho Community Association members funding the ones for the Jericho Rural District, installation due in the spring. The Commission is hoping for donations toward each of the remaining districts' signs: Christian Street Rural, Wilder Village, Hartford Village, West Hartford Village and White River Junction. The cost for manufacture and installation of each sign is \$800 and each district will receive 2-3 signs. If you would like to be part of this project, you may either send a donation to the Hartford Historical Society, indicating which district you wish to support, or contact Matt Osborn, Hartford Planner directly. Thank you for contributing toward keeping our history in the public eye!

## Book Signing for *Hartford*

Frank J. Barrett and Arcadia Publishing have produced a new book titled '*Hartford*' with over 200 historic photos of our villages! Our society will receive 50% of the profits. Several Book Signings are being scheduled this spring – do look for them. We will have one at the Garipay House, either May 5 or 10; the Quechee Library is holding one May 27, and David Briggs hopes to have one at the Hotel Coolidge.

## Membership Survey Results

For those wondering what the results of the survey you completed were, here they are! Thanks to all who took the time to complete it – it is very helpful for the board to get an idea of 'how we are doing' every few years. Thanks also to those who indicated an interest in helping in the various areas – you may be contacted!

We had 28 responses. Combining options 2 + 3 [3 being highest] the results are: 27 – Newsletter, 21 – Genealogy Center, 20 – Glory Days + Cemetery Committee, 19 – Discover Historic Hartford + Garipay Open House, 18 – Quarterly programs, Community Outreach, Vt. History Expo + Oral History Interviews, 17 – Upcoming 250<sup>th</sup> celebration, Garipay House repairs + Planning & Dev. 16 – Garipay House Exhibits, 10 – Update of St Croix's book. This brief summary does not reflect how many were # 2 vs. #3. If anyone would like the detailed results please contact one of the Directors.

## Missing Issues of Quechee Times

We are MISSING the following issues of the QUECHEE TIMES. If anyone has any of these issues they could part with - we would love to complete our collection! Thank you.

1975 - V3 #3  
1978 - V5 #6  
1980 - ALL  
1987 - SUMMER  
1988 - ALL  
1989 - ALL  
1990 - ALL  
1991 - SPRING/SUMMER  
1992 - ALL  
1993 - ALL  
1994 - ALL  
1995 - ALL  
1996 - ALL  
1997 - VXXXV #1, #3, + #4  
1998 - ALL  
1999 - V1 #3  
2000 - VXXVIII #3  
2006 - #2 SUMMER

## ERRATA:

We apologize to Jonathan Schechtman – we got the name of his business wrong under our Corporate Members list. It should be Meetinghouse Furniture Restoration.

**Hartford Historical Society**  
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HARTFORD, VERMONT 05047

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## HHS Calendar

### *Upcoming Programs, Meetings and Events*

**Wednesday, April 8** – Judge Guarino through the eyes of his children, presented by Joseph Guarino followed by refreshments. 7:00 pm at the Greater Hartford United church of Christ, 1721 Maple St., Hartford Village.

**Wednesday, June 10** – HHS Annual Meeting, followed by a presentation on Wilder by Roy Black followed by refreshments. 7:00 pm at the Greater Hartford United Church of Christ, 1721 Maple St., Hartford Village.

### *Ongoing Monthly Meetings*

**First Tuesday (May through October)** - Open House - Garipay House, 1461 Maple Street/Route 14, Hartford Village, 6:00 - 8:00 PM. The public is welcome to visit the Garipay House and see items from our collection on display. Volunteers are on hand to give tours and answer any questions.

**Second Sunday (May through September)** - Open House - Garipay House, 1461 Maple Street/Route 14, Hartford Village, 1:30 - 4:00 PM. The public is welcome to visit the Garipay House and see items from our collection on display. Volunteers are on hand to give tours and answer any questions.

**Third Wednesday** - Hartford Historic Preservation Commission Meeting - Hartford Municipal Building, 171 Bridge Street, White River Junction, 4:30 PM.

**Fourth Tuesday** - HHS Board of Directors Meeting - Garipay House, 1461 Maple Street [Route 14], Hartford Village, [or the Hartford Library from October through April] 7:00 PM. For more information, contact Dorothy Yamashita, Board Chairman.