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NEWS FROM THE NEW HAMPSHIRE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

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PHOTOGRAPHS AVAILABLE

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HISTORICAL SOCIETY'S NEWEST BOBBLEHEAD RECALLS LEGACY OF NEW HAMPSHIRE GOVERNOR FRANK ROLLINS

CONCORD, NH—The newest addition to the New Hampshire Historical Society's popular series of historical bobbleheads is Frank W. Rollins, New Hampshire's 45th governor.

Frank West Rollins (1860–1915) was born and raised in Concord, N.H. He spent summers on his grandfather's farm in Rollinsford where he gained a love of rural New Hampshire. Rollins was a graduate of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology and studied law at Harvard before embarking on a career in banking and politics. He was elected state senator in 1894 and served as governor of New Hampshire from 1899 to 1901.

Best known as the New Hampshire governor who started Old Home Week in 1899, Rollins had a lasting impact on the state's physical and cultural landscape. He developed Old Home Week as a statewide homecoming to help reinvigorate the state's economy, save New Hampshire's rural past, and increase tourism. "I wish that in the ear of every son and daughter of New Hampshire, in the summer days, might be heard whispered the persuasive words: Come back, come back!" wrote Rollins.

Rollins also decried the clear-cutting of the forests of the White Mountains. In an Old Home Week speech he declared, "This must stop." Rollins helped found the Society for the Protection of New Hampshire Forests in 1901 and served as the organization's first president.

Rollins loved travel and sailing and the Society's bobblehead is fashioned after a photograph of the former New Hampshire governor at the helm of one his boats.

First available in 2006, earlier bobbleheads in the New Hampshire Historical Society's series include Revolutionary War hero General John Stark; statesman and orator Daniel Webster; the Old Man of the Mountain; Sarah Josepha Hale—the "Mother of Thanksgiving;" Neil Tillotson, the New Hampshire inventor and entrepreneur who cast the first vote in every U.S. presidential election from 1960 to 2000; Franklin Pierce, the 14th President of the United States; Chief Passaconaway, sachem of the Penacook tribe and one of the key figures in New Hampshire's colonial history; Hannah Duston, who was captured by Abenaki Indians in 1697 and is said to have escaped by killing her captors; Alan Shepard Jr., the first American to travel into space and the fifth to walk on the moon; Chinook, the New Hampshire state dog; Grace Metalious, the controversial author of *Peyton Place*, the nation's first "block-buster" novel; and William Loeb, outspoken publisher of the *New Hampshire Union Leader* and *New Hampshire Sunday News*.

All of the Society's bobbleheads are available at the New Hampshire Historical Society's museum store, located at 6 Eagle Square, Concord, and online at nhhistory.org. The dolls retail for \$15.95.

Founded in 1823, the New Hampshire Historical Society is the independent nonprofit that saves, preserves, and shares New Hampshire history. The Society serves thousands of children and adults

each year through its museum, research library, educational programs, and award-winning publications. The Society is not a state-funded agency. All of its programs and services are made possible by membership dues and contributions. For more information visit nhhistory.org or call 603-228-6688.

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