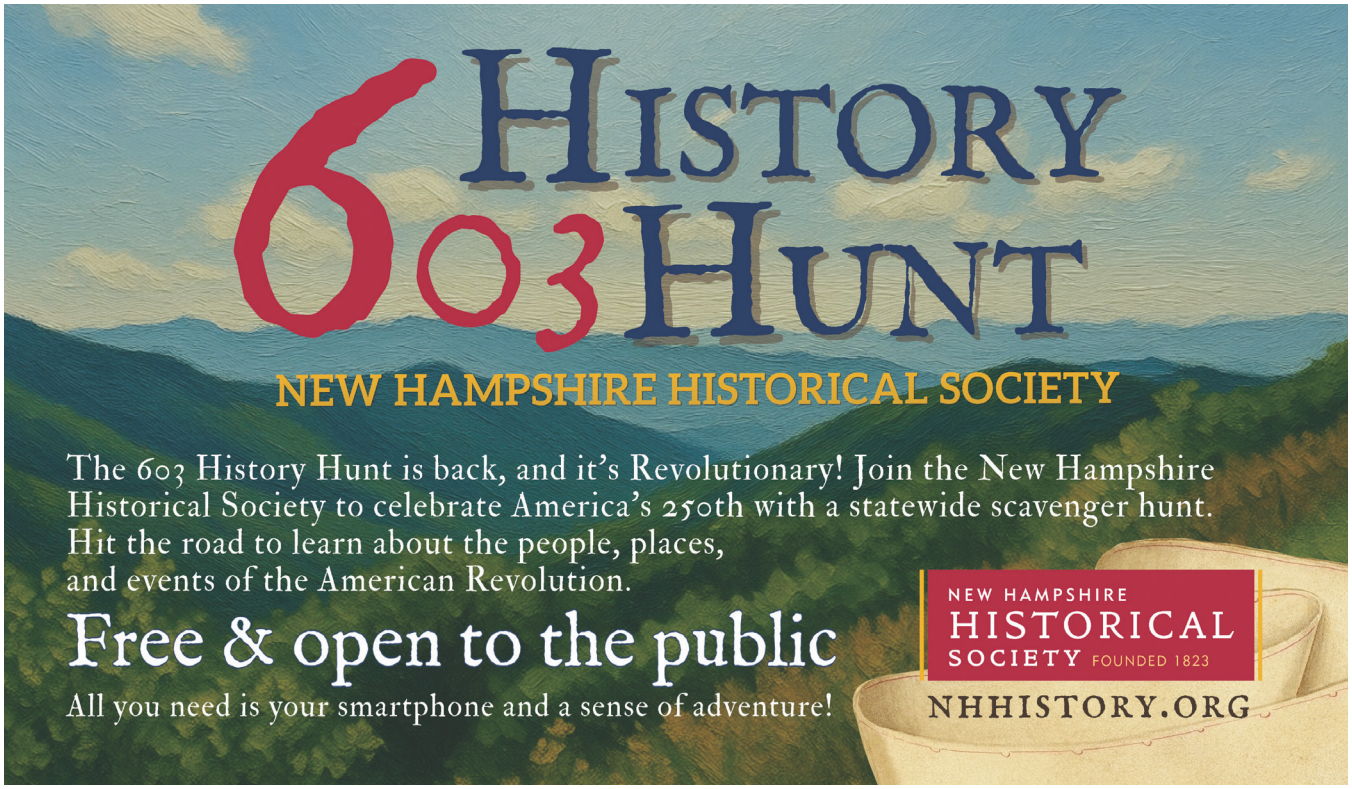
NEW HAMPSHIRE HISTORICAL SOCIETY FOUNDED 1823 | NEWSLETTER

Volume 63, No. 2 Summer 2026



603 History Hunt Returns!

The popular statewide scavenger hunt is back, focused exclusively on the American Revolution this time. Gather friends and family to complete challenges that will take you all over the state as you learn about the people, places, and events of our Revolutionary heritage. Held throughout the month of July, it's a great activity for families, friends, or on your own. "We ran a very successful scavenger hunt in 2023 in honor of the Society's 200th anniversary," said Director of Education and Public Programs Elizabeth Dubrulle. "Ever since then, people have been asking us when we were going to do it again. We thought the 250th anniversary of American independence this summer was a good opportunity to help people explore the state and see its treasures."

Players participate in the 603 History Hunt via a free mobile app. There are over 200 challenges players can choose—all related to New Hampshire's Revolutionary past. Some can be completed from just about anywhere in the state, while others are tied to a specific location in New Hampshire. Challenges ask players to complete different tasks, such as film a video, take a photograph, or answer a trivia question. A point value is attached to each challenge. Players choose which challenges to complete and how many challenges they want to try, and they earn points accordingly. Prizes will be awarded based on points earned.

Participation in the 603 History Hunt is free and open to the public. The hunt will run from July 1 to July 31. All players are invited to attend a free ice cream social on the afternoon of Saturday, August 1, at the New Hampshire Historical Society to enjoy some ice cream, view the exhibitions, and celebrate a job well done. For more information, visit nhhistory.org.

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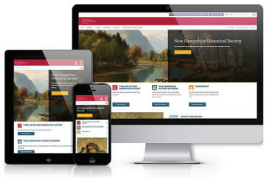
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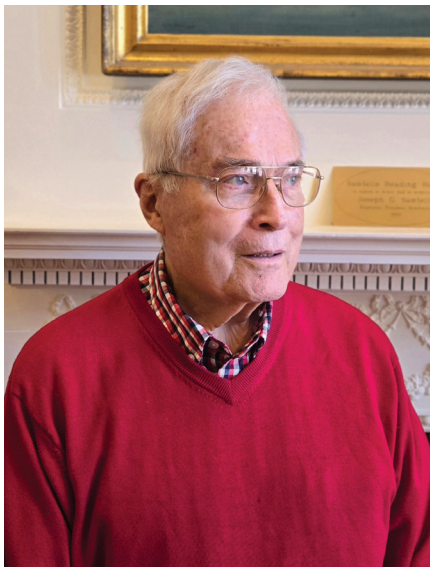
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Volunteer of the Year

Since 1993, the Society has honored those who donate their time and expertise to the organization with the Volunteer of the Year Award.



This year's award goes to Robert S. "Bob" Chase of Franconia. Bob has had a significant involvement with the New Hampshire Historical Society over many years. He is a sustaining member, has served on the interpretation committee, and is part of the Edward and Julia Tuck Society, which recognizes those who have included the New Hampshire Historical Society in their estate plans. Beyond Bob's relationship with the Society, he has had a major impact on historic preservation in New Hampshire and beyond.

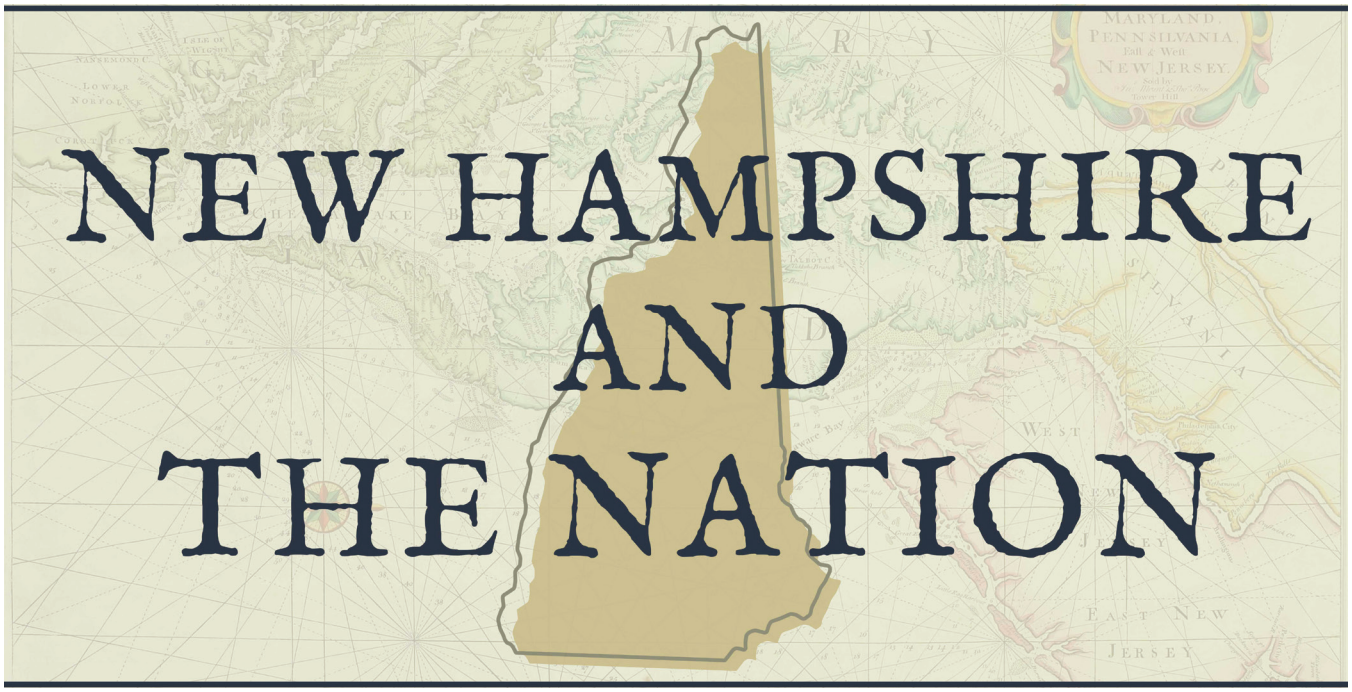
Bob began saving and restoring period houses starting in his high school years. He estimates that he had a hand in restoring or renovating forty houses in Portsmouth in the 1960s and 1970s. It is safe to say Portsmouth would not be as wonderful as it is today had Bob Chase not come along. His remarkable path includes studies at the Cooperstown Graduate Program and Colonial Williamsburg; professional positions at Old Sturbridge Village, the New Hampshire Commission for the Arts, Strawbery Banke, and Portsmouth Preservation, Inc.; and significant volunteer work at cultural organizations throughout the region, including the New Hampshire Preservation Alliance.

Bob is a valued colleague and friend of the New Hampshire Historical Society, and we have benefited from his wise counsel. It is with great appreciation that we honor him as the 2026 Volunteer of the Year.



In addition to serving the Society with his time and expertise, Bob Chase has also contributed to the collections.

Detail from an advertisement designed by Alice Cosgrove (1909–71) for the New Hampshire State Planning and Development Commission, 1946–71. The ad was printed on brown paper bags for New Hampshire potatoes. New Hampshire Historical Society, gift of Robert S. Chase.



Moose on the Loose Expands to High School

The Moose on the Loose team is taking on a new challenge. The Society's award-winning state social studies curriculum is branching out to incorporate New Hampshire history and government for high school students and teachers. The Moose was originally designed for elementary and middle school students, but last year the State of New Hampshire changed its graduation requirements to mandate a half credit of state history at the high school level. Unfortunately, the state government did not allocate funds to support the change or provide academic direction on how to incorporate this new material. Schools reached out to the Society for support, and we answered the call.

Educators asked for help in two areas: they needed primary and secondary sources that would help link New Hampshire history to national events and themes; and they needed training in state history and government. High school teachers are subject-matter experts in U.S. history, but they are not required to learn state history or government in their teacher training programs, making the new requirement all the more challenging to implement.

The new program, called New Hampshire and the Nation, focuses on how state history and government adds to students' understanding of the national story. By developing new resources and offering teacher training, we're asking high school educators to look at state history as a vital component of students' educational experience that reflects how big ideas and events affected real people, maybe even our their parents, grandparents, or great-grandparents.

Older students need text-based primary sources to develop their literacy skills. With assistance from retired history professor Philip Pajakowski of Saint Anselm College, the Society has been identifying newspaper articles, government reports, court cases, memoirs, letters, and journal entries that show how the people of New Hampshire responded to national events like the Industrial Revolution, the Great Depression, the McCarthy era, the civil rights movement, and more.

These primary sources are curated for high school students to ensure they are an appropriate reading level, and we've also added contextual notes and discussion questions for each document, so that teachers have everything they need to start using this material in their classrooms in the fall. Like the Moose, this material will be delivered to educators—and the public—through an open-access website, available to everyone without passwords or accounts.

(continued on page 4)

(continued from page 3)

Society staff members Elizabeth Dubrulle and Jennifer Walton hit the road this spring to deliver a series of workshops in high schools around the state, presenting educators with suggestions on how to incorporate state history and government into their existing U.S. history and government courses. These compact and content-rich workshops provided educators with a crash course in New Hampshire history, highlighting the many ways in which New Hampshire led the nation in industry, politics, social movements, and cultural change.

No other state in the nation offers such an extensive resource for elementary and middle school social studies as Moose on the Loose. Over 150 schools throughout New Hampshire have already adopted the Moose to increase students' understanding of state history and civics, improve reading proficiency, and encourage kids to learn more about our state and nation in fun and thought-provoking ways. We look forward to bringing that same experience to high school students and teachers.

Collection Highlight

Since at least 1907, Appalachian Mountain Club (AMC) guidebooks have included a description of Dingmaul Rock, a flat-topped boulder located in the col between Mount Jefferson and Mount Adams that offers a good view down Jefferson Ravine. The rock is named for a legendary alpine beast, the dingmaul. According to the book *Fearsome Critters* by Henry H. Tryon, dingmauls are fond of lying out in open, sunny spots—like Dingmaul Rock—and carefully scrutinizing the valley below. This painting, acquired by the Society last year at auction, depicts a dingmaul with its young. A note on the back of the painting identifies it has having originally hung in the AMC lodge at Pinkham Notch in the 1920s. When the lodge was torn down, it was saved by individuals associated with the AMC. Fortunately for avid hikers, the White Mountain dingmaul is considered harmless.





Photograph of Dingmaul Rock, 2010, courtesy of Steve Smith, and the New Hampshire Historical Society's newly acquired painting of a dingmaul.

Society Welcomes New Trustees

At the Society's annual meeting in May, Todd C. Fahey of Bedford and Kurt M. Swenson of Rye were elected to the board of trustees, and Susan Ware of Hopkinton, New Hampshire, and Cambridge, Massachusetts was re-elected for an additional term.



Todd Fahey is the managing partner of the Upton & Hatfield law firm where he practices business law with a focus on helping nonprofit organizations define, fulfill, and perpetuate their charitable missions. Prior to joining Upton & Hatfield, Todd took an eight-year hiatus from law to serve as the state director of AARP New Hampshire with a focus on civic engagement, advocacy, and helping to build informed and effective citizen advocates. A New Hampshire native, Todd grew up in Bedford, where he recently returned to live. He is a graduate of Columbia College at Columbia University and the University of Maine School of Law. Todd is passionate about American history, politics, the rule of law, and American art, especially White Mountain landscape art.



Kurt Swenson has previously served as the Society's board chair, treasurer, and chair of the finance and governance committees. He also co-chaired the Society's Campaign for New Hampshire History from 2010 to 2015. In that role, Kurt's unparalleled example of generosity, leadership, and persistence helped ensure the success of that campaign. Today, he continues to set a high bar for leadership in philanthropy as co-chair of the Society's current Third Century Campaign. Kurt is a graduate of Colby College and Boston College Law School. He retired in 2016 as the last family-member CEO of the iconic Swenson Granite Works, originally founded in 1883.



Susan Ware is a historian and biographer who specializes in 20th-century U.S. history. Educated at Wellesley College and Harvard University, she has taught at New York University and Harvard, where she served as editor of the biographical dictionary *Notable American Women: Completing the Twentieth Century*. Susan has long been associated with the Schlesinger Library at the Harvard Radcliffe Institute, most recently as the Honorary Women's Suffrage Centennial Historian from 2016 to 2022. Susan is the author and editor of numerous books, including biographies of New Deal politician Molly Dewson, aviator Amelia Earhart, radio pioneer Mary Margaret McBride, and sports activist Billie Jean King. Her newest book, *Speaking Louder Than I Can: The Power of Feminist Biography*, was published in May 2026.

As always, we are grateful to all of the trustees for their commitment of time and talent to the Society.

Stop by the Society during the month of July and get your free sticker to commemorate America's 250th birthday! Our open hours are Tuesday through Saturday, 9:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. Admission is $10 for adults; Society members and children age 18 and under are admitted free of charge. Full-time students and active-duty military service personnel and their families also are admitted free of charge with a valid ID. The New Hampshire Historical Society is a member of the Blue Star Museum program, offering free admission to active-duty military personnel, including the National Guard and Reserves, and their families.

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Mount Chocorua, New Hampshire, Thomas Cole (1801–48), 1827, collection of Linda and P. Andrews McLane. This painting, one of the earliest White Mountain landscapes, is on view in the Society's exhibition, *A Legacy of Landscapes: Selections from the Linda and P. Andrews McLane Collection*. Cole is known as the father of American landscape art and was the first to bring attention to the White Mountain region as a source of artistic inspiration. He visited New Hampshire three times over the course of his life—the first time in 1827 when he painted *Mount Chocorua, New Hampshire*—and he produced nearly four dozen paintings of New Hampshire.