
HENNIKER HISTORIAN

JANUARY 2021 NUMBER 82

NEWSLETTER OF THE HENNIKER HISTORICAL SOCIETY AND MUSEUM

Henniker Historical Society Board 2020-21

President: Marc McMurphy

Vice President/Newsletter: Ellen Reed

Treasurer: Ron Taylor

Secretary: Sue Fetzer

Members: Susan Adams, Diane Carpenter, Deb Dow,
Kristen MacLean, Yolande Nicknair, Martha Taylor

FROM THE PRESIDENT

Hello Everyone,

The Henniker Historical Society is proud to serve as Henniker's link to the past. We live in such a special town that has so much history. If you love history, you must love Henniker.

One way to connect yourself to our town's past is to find out more about your own home. Many of us live in older historic houses. Your house has a history and you and your family will continue that history. If you would like help learning more about your home, please feel free to contact us at the Henniker Historical Society.

The Henniker Historical Society has created a Historic House and Building Plaque Program, providing owners with an opportunity to designate the age of their historic home or building with pride, knowledge, and to serve as conscious custodians of their heritage. The goal of the Historic Plaque program is to encourage an appreciation of older properties and to allow passersby a glimpse into the history the property and Henniker neighborhood. We believe that a Historic Plaque enhances the appearance of a property, while promoting community awareness of Henniker's rich history. I also want to mention an important event that is coming to the Henniker Historical Society. Beginning in June of 2021, we will be celebrating our 50th anniversary. History is worth celebrating and we are working on our plans to share our excitement and celebration with you.

Let's look forward together while we keep our history alive.

Sincerely,

Marc McMurphy
Henniker Historical Society President

Thank You to Past President, Kristen MacLean



New president, Marc McMurphy, presents outgoing president, Kristen MacLean with an Historic House plaque for her home as a thanks for her years of hard work for HHS.

Historic House Plaques Now Available

If you are interested in purchasing an Historic House plaque for your home or building, please visit our website at [Historical Signs — Henniker Historical Society \(hennikerhistory.org\)](https://hennikerhistory.org) to learn more about the program and to fill out an application. Plaques may be purchased for buildings of all ages and we can assist you in learning more about your property. This is a great way to promote Henniker's long history. Get yours today!

Looking for Old issues of the Henniker High School Cascade

The Henniker Historical Society is fortunate to have very generous patrons and we possess a fairly complete set of the Henniker High School yearbook, *The Cascade*. However, we are missing a few issues and hope perhaps there are people out there who would like to find a new home for theirs. So, if you have any of the following years you would like to donate, please contact us! We need:

1928-1936
1938, 1942, 1943, 1944

How Pop Schultz Got Its Name

As told by Arthur Kendrick

Once upon a time, Frank L Chase came from Sutton, NH and started a grocery-meat-goods store in 1906 in the Odd Fellows Block (Henniker Pharmacy block). It was there as F.L. Chase & Son until about 1960. Marge and Eddie Ball bought it from the son, Morris Chase, and renamed it Ball's Market.

Then, in 1966, Allen Goldfarb and Paul Strelzin -- NEC students—bought it and named it Pop Schultz. Everyone wondered why. Then Gary Blint and Brad Routon bought it as Pop Schultz Corp. and kept the name. Later, they moved the operation nearer to the old stone bridge.

Paul Strelzin moved to Texas and taught at a college. He was also an announcer for sporting events. He was a "loud mouth" and was actually thrown out of a game while broadcasting! He's dead now. But his son lives on and is a "big shot" in the NH Judicial department. Allen Goldfarb went on to open Goldies Deli in Portsmouth and it was very good.

According to Brad Routon, Goldfarb and Strelzin, they met at NEC and since Strelzin was the oldest, he was nicknamed "Pop". His last name was tough to remember, so the name "Schultz" was born thus the name "Pop Schultz".



Pop Schultz on right, ca.1998

Archives Update

The Henniker Historical Society and Museum has a lot of information in its archives, but over time items get misfiled, lost or not properly recorded. Several members have been busy going through every box, drawer and file taking inventory, creating new labels and indices and reorganizing materials to make them more complete and easier to find. We continue to update our electronic files as well in preparation for moving to the cloud. It is our hope to eventually have all our documents, photos, etc. scanned and available online. It's a big job, but we are making great headway.

VISIT US ON THE WEB:

www.hennikerhistory.org

email: hennikerhistoricalsociety@tds.net

Facebook

VISIT US AT ACADEMY HALL

51 Maple St

Henniker, NH 03242

603-428-6267

BUSINESS MEETINGS

Monthly board meetings are held the 2nd Thursday of each month at 9:00 am in Academy Hall. Members and prospective members are invited to attend. **(Currently being held via Zoom)**

MEMBERSHIP

Your membership expiration is noted on your mailing label. If yours is about to expire please renew to continue to receive the newsletter and support us as we preserve Henniker history.

To renew, send \$25.00 per household, \$15 per individual or \$7.50 for seniors 65+ (checks can be made out to Henniker Historical Society) along with your name and address to:

Henniker Historical Society
PO Box 674
Henniker, NH 03242

Change in Membership Dues

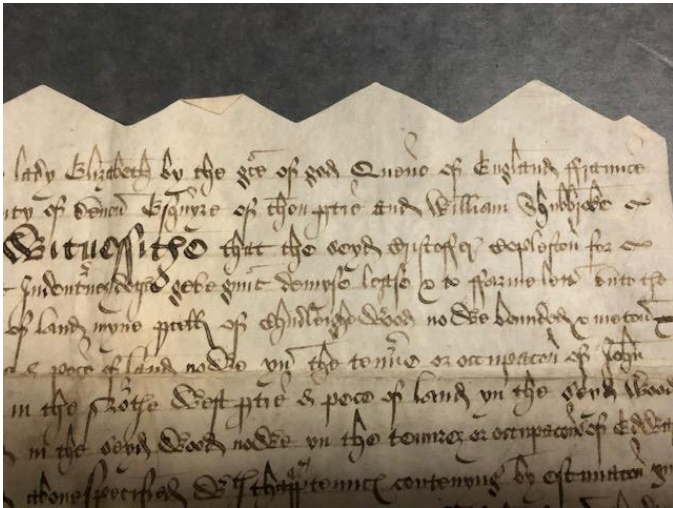
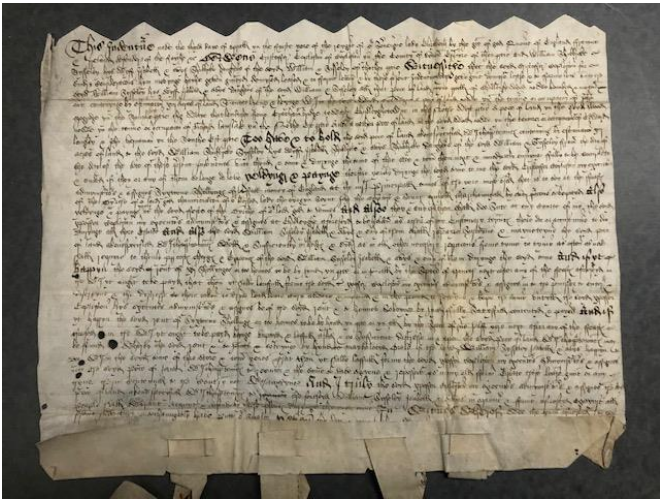
The Henniker Historical Society was formed in November of 1971 and in the past 50 years, our dues have never been more than \$5 for an individual and \$10/family. After much discussion, we realized the time had come where we need to increase our dues to help pay our bills and continue our work in preserving Henniker's history. So, starting this month, the new dues will be:

Household: \$25
Individual: \$15
Senior (65+): \$7.50

Thank you for your understanding and continued support!

Items from the Museum

Elizabethan Indenture Paper



Esteemed musician, composer and singer, Henniker resident, Alberto D. Huntoon was also a collector of the esoteric. This Elizabethan indenture paper for Christopher Copleston dated 1533 is an example of some of the oddities Huntoon collected over the years and is now part of our collection at the Henniker Historical Society and Museum. Indenture papers were cut jagged along the edge so that both the parties could retain copies of the indenture and the uneven edge would prove the two went together. Other items in the Huntoon collection include Civil War minie balls, natural history artifacts like unusual stones and birds' eggs, a cup and saucer made from Mt. Vesuvius lava, and even a 123 yr old piece of hardtack from the Spanish American War, plus much more. Many have nothing to do with Henniker in particular, but add to the uniqueness of our collection.

Historic Recipe

While going through our archives, we found a cookbook put out by the Henniker Historical Society in the 1990's. This one was provided by long time member and printer of our newsletter, Bruce Elliott.

WAR CAKE

- | | |
|---------------------|-------------------|
| 1 lb seeded raisins | 1 tsp nutmeg |
| 1/c shortening | ½ tsp salt |
| 2 c. sugar | 2 tsp baking soda |
| 1 tsp cinnamon | 4 c. flour |

Put raisins into two cups boiling water and boil for 15 minutes, drain. Cream sugar and shortening, add cinnamon, nutmeg, salt, baking soda and flour. Mix well. Stir in raisins. Place in 4 ½ x 8 ½ inch loaf pan. Bake at just under 350°F for 55 minutes.

If you try it, let us know! We'd also be happy to feature historic recipes you might have in your family!

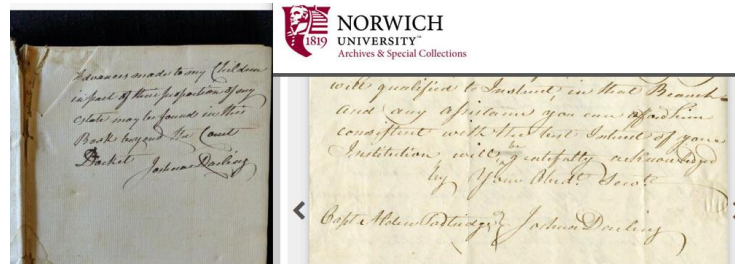
Website Update

Be sure and stop by our website at www.hennikerhistory.org for news and events. You can also now order items we offer for sale directly from the website as well as pay your dues online. A great source for Henniker related gifts and books.

New to the HHS website is an article on the Boston Post Cane and Henniker's oldest resident. Also find more photos of the 2020 Center Cemetery Tour! Previous copies of many of our more recent newsletter are also available via the website.

Darling Documents Added to Archives

Thanks to the generous donations of the members of the Henniker Historical Society during the 2020 Fall Giving Campaign, the Society was able to acquire over 100 pages of ledger and property records of the Hon. Joshua Darling from 1820-1842. The documents include financial ledgers, a description of real estate holdings, and advances made to his children.



Cemetery Tour

Henniker has several different historic cemeteries, all with their own stories. In October, HHS held a tour of the Old (Center) Cemetery, located behind the Town Hall. Dressed in period clothing, individuals told the stories of a number of notable Henniker residents buried in the cemetery. Kristen MacLean told the story of deaf/mute Persis Brown Swett; Martha Taylor – Carlos Childs, Susan Fetzer – Louisa Bacon and her 12 children, John Coburn – Revolutionary War veterans Ephraim Goss and Deacon David Clough; Marc McMurry as Revolutionary War veteran John Proctor; Ellen Reed - Maggie Douglass, mother of Nettie Belle Douglass, first Henniker murder victim; Marek Bennett – Black Revolutionary War veteran Jeremiah Crocker and Beth Spaulding – Henniker’s famous Ocean Born Mary Wallace. Despite the chilly weather, well over 100 people came to participate in our fundraiser and learn more about our town. It was deemed a great success. Plans are being made to conduct more such tours in the future. Thanks to all who attended!



Sue Fetzer, John Cobur, Beth Spaulding



Marek Bennett



Martha Taylor, Ellen Reed, Sue Fetzer



Sue Fetzer, Kristen MacLean, John Fetzer, Beth Spaulding, Diane Carpenter, Marc McMurry

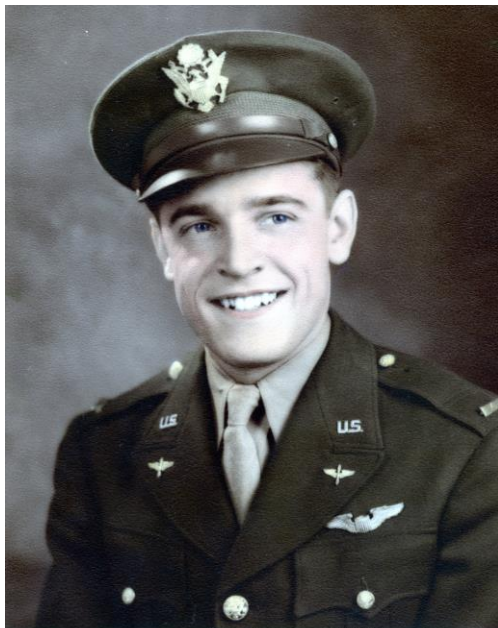
Henniker Notable: The Honorable Judge Josiah Darling

Joshua Darling was only 19 years old when he graduated from Dartmouth College in the class of 1794. The oldest of 8 children of Major Timothy Darling and his wife Minnie Chase, he was born in Hopkinton on June 13, 1775. Soon after graduating from Dartmouth, he married Polly Proctor of Chelmsford, Massachusetts in 1795 and moved to Henniker. They built a large house on Western Avenue where Joshua farmed and opened a store. The house was also recorded as an inn and tavern. As late as 1983 the property was known as Darling's Inn.

Joshua was active in town and state politics as a respected citizen of Henniker. He represented Henniker in the NH legislature from 1803 to 1807 and served as State Senator for two years (1811-1812). He is the only Henniker resident ever to have served as President of the NH Senate. In 1816 He was appointed Hillsborough circuit court judge, his decisions rarely overruled by higher courts.

In Henniker he served as a Justice of the Peace in 1799, town clerk for over 17 years, town moderator for 5 years and selectman in 1805 and 1806. When the first post-office was established in 1812, Joshua was appointed post-master. He had to decline as ineligible due to his position as a State Senator. He was on the original committee of three in 1809 to superintend the development of the Henniker district school system. He was one of three who procured the incorporation and drafted bylaws of the Henniker Academy in 1834 and served as one of its first trustees. In the same year, he was appointed to advise the selectman on the specifications and building of the stone bridge. He was also founding member of the Tucker Library.

On the 25th Anniversary of the country's independence in 1811 he presided over the celebration and held a rather large party at his house. It was the one of many Henniker events that he was a 'master of ceremonies.' Judge Darling was active in the Masonic order, also holding a position as Grand Master of the NH Grand Lodge. The Darlings had 11 children, 5 girls and 7 boys, all who lived to adulthood. The Honorable Joshua Darling died of a hemorrhaging stomach ulcer on May 16, 1842. In the *History of Henniker*, Leader Cogswell notes he "was zealous in advancing the best interests of the town his had chosen for his home (p.537)."



DO YOU KNOW ME?

The photo of this young WWII soldier, dated 1942 was recently rescued from the dump and brought to the Henniker Historical Society & Museum. Unfortunately there was no other identifying information with the photograph, so we turn to you – our wonderful members, in the hope that someone might recognize this young man so he can become a part of our permanent collection. If you recognize him, just give us a call or send an email. This is an excellent reminder of why it is so important to label all those family photos. We frequently get old photographs that we are unable to identify and their history becomes lost. Thanks so much for your help.

Henniker Historian
Henniker Historical Society
PO Box 674
Henniker, NH 03242

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HENNIKER HISTORICAL SOCIETY TURNS 50!

In November 1971, a number of interested Henniker citizens got together and officially organized the Henniker Historical Society. This year marks the 50th anniversary of that event. Starting in June, be on the lookout for a variety of special activities to commemorate this exciting anniversary. We hope that conditions will allow us to hold events both indoors and out. Stay tuned for new developments and join us in celebrating fifty years of preserving Henniker's precious history!