

## **Atkinson Historical Society News**

**November 1, 2003**

**Volume 6, Issue 4**

The Annual Meeting of the Atkinson Historical Society will be held on Sunday, November 9, 2003 at 2:00 PM. At this meeting we will review our financial picture, perhaps plan some programs and just generally look at where we have been and where we want to go in the future. This year we must elect a President, Vice President and one person to serve on the Board of Directors. The Nominating Committee appointed at our September meeting has been working diligently to come up with a slate of officers to present to you, the membership. It hardly seems possible that Dick Smith has been the Prez for two years. Oh, how the time does fly. I, however, am a permanent fixture – more or less. The by-laws say that the treasurer may serve for 8 years and the secretary may serve forever.

Has anyone visited the web site lately? Fred Kulik changed the mystery picture to one that he thought would be recognizable. No one guessed the last one.

The pictures which we presented to the Town Hall are getting a lot of favorable notice. We have been focusing the cameras on a different one every Monday night and a few folks have called in to give bits of information that they thought we might like to know.

Six members of the AHS sent to Concord on September 25 to attend the Annual Meeting of the Association of New Hampshire Historical Societies of which we are a member. It started off with a self guided tour of the New Hampshire Historical Society Museum and then went on to the Tuck Library for lunch, the business meeting, a couple of speakers and a tour of that building. Both buildings are absolutely fascinating! Because of the research I have done on William C Todd (donor of the town common and Soldiers Monument) I knew he had given generously to the building of the Tuck Library. And there he was! Right smack in the middle of a fine marble plaque giving the names of donors.

We didn't have time to do any research on this visit, but we must go back and see what they have on Atkinson and the early families. We did notice that they had nothing at the Tick on Atkinson Academy, although several other schools were featured in a display on Education. We may need to rectify that.

We continue our work of sorting photos, and going over old documents to decide which should be professionally preserved. I came across two lottery tickets dated 1803. This was an attempt by the Reverend Stephen Peabody to raise money to pay for the building of the new (present Academy).. These tickets have been sent to us from the Exeter Historical Society. How they go there I have no idea. I do know from Reverend Peabody's diaries that he traveled to Massachusetts to try to get his Adams family connections (his wife was sister to Abigail Adams, wife of President John Adams) to intercede with the legislature to allow the sale of these lottery tickets in Massachusetts. It didn't happen.

Looking forward to seeing you all at Annual Meeting, November 9, 2003, 2:00 PM.

Adele Dillon, Secretary / Treasurer