

# New Durham Historical Society is Celebrating its Silver Anniversary

Twenty five years ago a group of likeminded individuals encourage former Town Historian Eloise Bickford to organize a Historical Society for New Durham. The country's Bicentennial celebration had brought a renewed energy toward collecting and preserving our country's history, which trickled down to the local level. Our community was no different; however the question asked by those involved, "how to share these pieces of our past with the present"? Mrs. Bickford finally agreed to their request and the first meeting was held in the spring of 1991. The purpose of the society would be to *"Encourage interest in the History of New Durham"*. The meetings provided an opportunity to present speakers on varying topics, focusing on the connections with our past, and to share New Durham's rich history with the public.

The Society has hosted community events, such as, historic house and garden tours, resurrection of New Durham Old Home Day featuring the Meetinghouse 5K Road Race and spectacular fireworks displays, and a Blueberry Festival recognizing volunteers' contributions toward the restoration of the Old 1772 Meetinghouse. The Historical Society is a social organization which sponsors activities and programs of interest to the community.

To commemorate this Silver Anniversary the New Durham Historical Society has renewed its logo, featuring the Shadrach Allard Tavern, updated brochure, and entering the 21<sup>st</sup> century electronic communications by launching a web site. Please visit our site: [www.newdurhamhistory.org](http://www.newdurhamhistory.org). Visitors will learn about our history, New Durham History, upcoming events, and activities and information to assist with researching New Durham's past. Information will be added, so please visit often.

The Society has scheduled the following events and activities, celebrating this special milestone. Saturday, July 30<sup>th</sup> the society will be hosting a table at the Boodey House Site Celebrations featuring information about New Durham School Houses. School tables, chairs, student books, photographs and maps will be some of the items on display. A local cordwainer will be demonstrating her trade by displays of leather and tools used to produce her hand made shoes. Limited edition stemless wine glasses, featuring the redesigned logo, will be available for purchase. This event is open from 10am to 2pm rain or shine.

Saturday, August 13<sup>th</sup> the First New Durham Historical Society Summer Fair will be held, location to be announced. This will not be your usual yard sale! We are looking for items that speak of history and craftsmanship and we are asking for your help to ensure this is the first of many successful events. Items you may consider donating are antiques, vintage sporting equipment, art such as painting, pottery, vintage kid toys, antique lawn & garden and farm tools, small furniture, antique books and so on. Items that will not be accepted are bulky items such as couches, mattresses; modern or new items, any appliances unless pre-1950, and anything broken or heavily soiled. Please send an email to [newdurhamhs@gmail.com](mailto:newdurhamhs@gmail.com) or call Tatiana at 978-390-2225 with questions, and for details on item

drop-off times and location. Donations will be accepted until August 8<sup>th</sup>. Please see website for additional details.

During September plans are underway for a wine tasting event to be held in a local historic barn. There will be light refreshments, music, door prizes and twinkle lights adding to the semi casual social event. October will feature the 14<sup>th</sup> annual Civil War encampment, with a new addition to be held Saturday, a pig roast. Meals will be available beginning at noontime. All proceeds benefit the Civil War Memorial Scholarship, awarded to a New Durham Student furthering their education beyond the 12<sup>th</sup> grade.

Please check our website for details and additional information regarding event and upcoming meetings. All events are open to the general public. Please call Catherine Orlowicz, 859-4643 for additional information.



New Logo.