



Hillsborough Historical Society

Dear Members and Friends of the Hillsborough Historical Society:

First, a very sincere thank you to all the volunteers who assisted the Homestead Committee in the maintenance, operation and showing of the Franklin Pierce Homestead. Volunteers continue to play a major role in the successful operation and presentation of the Homestead this past year. During 1997, volunteers gave over 1,234 hours of their time. Though there were no major projects done this past year much time and energy went into arranging the furniture and fixtures to prepare the home for an 1820's setting. The Board of Directors voted this past year to support the recommendations by the Homestead Committee, chaired by Coralie Hansen, that the homestead be furnished and presented for that period, and that one room per calendar year be refurbished as the Pierce family might have seen it. One of the focal points, which aided in that decision, was the wallpaper located in the parlor room.

It is hoped that we, the Hillsborough Historical Society, will have the home completely restored and furnished by the year 2004, which is the 200th anniversary of this home as well as the birth of Franklin Pierce. The year 2004 seems to be far out, but six years really isn't when one looks at the work, including the wallpaper restoration, that needs to be done. The home is lacking many pieces of furniture and accessories which would have been in the home at the time the Pierces lived there. All this will require many hours from volunteers and money. This year the Society will begin a series of major fund raisers to meet the goals mentioned above.

It is planned to have at least one major fund raiser per year. The first one will be this Fall at the Homestead. Jayme Simoes has kindly consented to be the chairperson for this event, to be called A Gala Honoring Governor Benjamin Pierce and President Franklin Pierce. I know that Jayme will be looking for assistance and I feel we have the membership and the community support to more than meet his requests.

During 1997, the Society's Archive Room, third floor of the Community Building, began to take shape. Under careful supervision of Marshall Winokur, we hope to compile, organize, display and preserve the many papers and documents that have been accumulated over the years. Much work needs to be done to meet this goal and it is hoped that Society members will come forward to assist Marshall with this ambitious project.

Two paintings were restored this past year. The painting depicting the surrender of Mexico following the Mexican War was restored at no cost to the Society. The National Museum of Mexico, which exhibited the painting, also paid to have it fully restored. The restoration was

done in the States and it was further agreed that the same individual doing that painting would also restore the portrait of Franklin Pierce. Both paintings are back and on exhibit in the Homestead.

The Board of Directors voted to approve a proposal for the placement of Ultra Violet (UV) shields on all windows at the Homestead. This sheathing is currently being placed on the storm windows. Jim Marvin, Buildings Chairman, has worked very closely with the contractor to see that all the storm windows were properly prepared for such an application. This necessitated the removal, glazing and painting of most windows, prior to applying the UV protection screen. This project will be completed in the Spring of 1998.

This upcoming year will be an ambitious year for the Society. The Board of Directors are in the final stages of revising the by-laws and hope to have them ready for the Society's review and vote by late Spring. The Homestead Committee hopes to have a budget in place for the restoration of the master bedroom which is located on the first floor of the Homestead. The State of New Hampshire's Division of Parks and Recreation removed the fence in front of the Homestead this past Winter, and are rebuilding the railings for reinstallation this Spring. The Archives Committee hopes to aggressively begin the organization of the Archives Room. Two new committees, Education and Awards, will be established and in place by year's end. And, an active and diverse program for young and senior alike has been developed for the Summer of 1998 by Dick Marsh and the Program Committee.

The Board of Directors will be working to increase membership and encourage participation by members within the Society. I strongly feel that the Hillsborough Historical Society can and will be an exciting organization in the upcoming years. Yes, there will be challenges but they can be fun and fulfilling challenges. I seek your involvement, ideas, suggestions and participation. Enclosed is this year's program guide and membership application. Please take a few moments to complete the membership form and return it with your check to the address given. Also might you share the idea of membership with your neighbors, fellow workers and friends in neighboring towns.

I wish you all a happy, prosperous and fun-filled year.

Sincerely,
Robert R. Charron
President

The Hillsborough Historical Society

Summer Program Guide *for* 1998

THE HISTORY OF ENTERTAINMENT IN NH - "LET US ENTERTAIN YOU"

When: Monday, May 18, 1998 - 7:00 PM

Where: The Franklin Pierce Homestead on Rte. 31, Hillsborough

Using slides and historical artifacts, this program presents an overview of entertainment in New Hampshire from the 1700s to the 1950s, including traveling circuses, side shows and theater. This program is an entertaining way to learn about the astonishing variety of pastimes popular in New Hampshire during the past 200 years. Presented by Jane Stietlitz, New Hampshire Historical Society.

YANKEE AND THE OLD FARMERS ALMANAC - "WEATHERWISE AND OTHERWISE"

When: Monday, June 22, 1998 - 7:00 PM

Where: The Dutton Club on Rte. 9, Hillsborough

Forty years of New England history with America's oldest continuously published periodical. Presented by Judson D. Hale, Sr., Editor of *Yankee* magazine and *The Old Farmers Almanac*.

TELEPHONE OPERATORS IN THE PRE-DIAL ERA OF NH - "NUMBERS PLEASE"

When: Monday, July 27, 1998 - 7:00 PM

Where: The Franklin Pierce Homestead on Rte. 31, Hillsborough

In this provocative, illustrated talk, oral historian Judith Moyer revisits the world of the pre-dial telephone operators. Who were the operators, and what did they do? The words of the operators as well as the words of those they served will have you laughing and remembering. And perhaps you will think in a different way about those people who greeted callers with the phrase, "Number, please?"

THE GREAT AWAKENING IN NEW HAMPSHIRE

When: Monday, August 24, 1998 - 7:00 PM

Where: The Franklin Pierce Homestead on Rte. 31, Hillsborough

From the earthquake of 1727 that set the stage, to the high religious fervor of the early 1740s, to the "dullness and deadness" of the aftermath, the Great Awakening swept our state. This protracted religious revival featured heightened emotions, religious excitement, swelling church membership, fervent exhorters, and more than a few heated debates. Presented by Elizabeth Nordbeck, Andover Newton Theological School, Newton Centre, MA.

AN ARCHITECTURAL HISTORY OF GILFORD, NH - "HISTORY MADE VISIBLE"

When: Monday, September 28, 1998 - 7:00 PM

Where: The Franklin Pierce Homestead on Rte. 31, Hillsborough

Architectural styles, dates, interpretations, evaluation and beyond. Following will be discussion and questions. Presented by Kathy Francke, Gilford, New Hampshire.

THE HISTORY OF LAND USE IN NEW HAMPSHIRE

When: Monday, October 26, 1998

Where: Location To Be Announced

With the use of slides, an overview of the history of land use in the state, including farming, logging, industry and the White Mountains as a mecca for outdoor enthusiasts and artists. Presented by John Frisbee, Executive Director, New Hampshire Historical Society.

All programs will be held at The Franklin Pierce Homestead on Rte. 31, Hillsboro, NH. *Except as noted.*
Business Meetings to start at 6:30 PM - lectures begin at 7:00 PM. Refreshments follow. Free to the Public.

Hillsborough Historical Society 1998 Officers and Directors

Robert R. Charron • 464-4863

Richard March • 464-5626

Marshall Winokur • 464-4415

Sandy Chandler • 464-5102

Margaret Ellice • 478-3195

Jeff Abare • 464-5771

Coralie Hansen • 478-3236

Alice Phipps Keach • 529-2335

Immediate Past President:

Jayme Simoes • 464-4242

Judson Hale – Weatherwise and Otherwise:

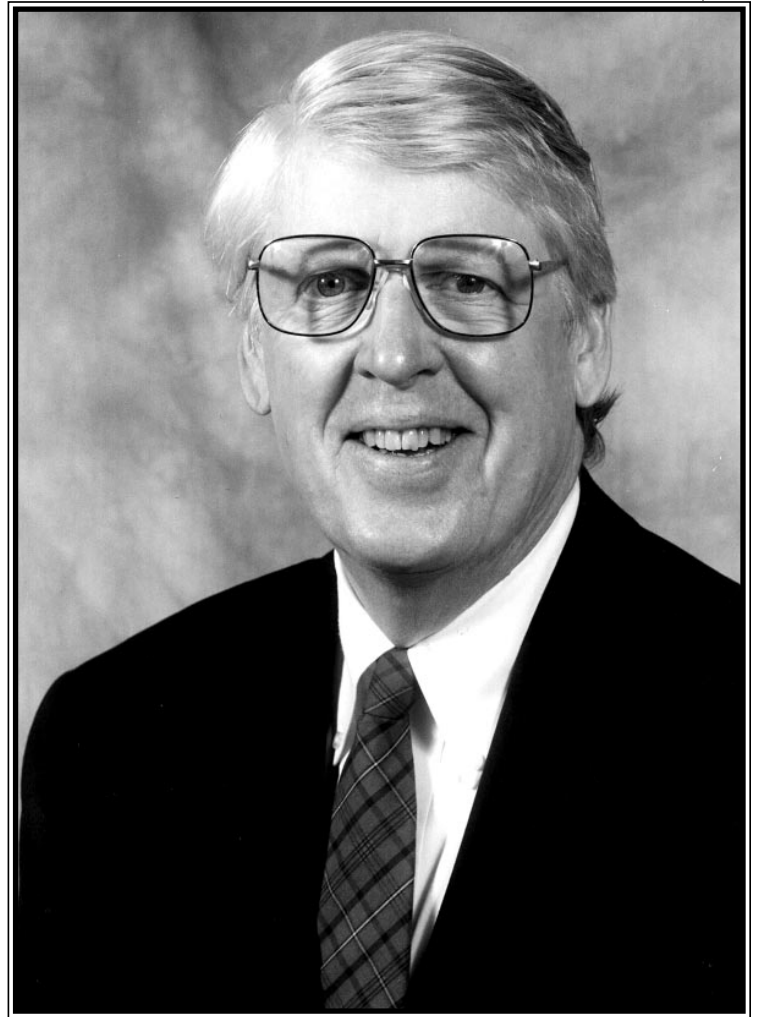
40 Years With America's
Oldest Continuously
Published Periodical.

Perhaps you've seen Judson D. Hale, Sr., editor-in-chief of *The Old Farmer's Almanac* and *Yankee* magazine, on the Today Show, Good Morning America, or numerous other shows. Now's your chance to meet this lively, entertaining, and knowledgeable speaker in person. Join us in welcoming Mr. Hale to Hillsboro for an evening of yankee wit and wisdom. He'll share stories and insights that he's accumulated during his 40-year tenure with these unique publications—publications steeped in history that help define New Hampshire and New England.

A New England native, Judson Hale is the author of two books: *Inside New England* (1982, Harper and Row), and an autobiography entitled *The Education of a Yankee* (1987, Harper and Row). He has also edited a number of books, including *The Old Farmer's Almanac Book of Everyday Advice* (Random House). Mr. Hale serves on the Board of Directors of the MacDowell Colony. A graduate of Dartmouth College (class of 1955), he has been awarded Honorary Doctorate degrees from New England College, Franklin Pierce, and Keene State College.

Mr. Hale is only the second editor-in-chief at *Yankee* since 1935, and the 12th editor *The Old Farmer's Almanac* has had since 1792. His unique perspective will make for a memorable evening!

Sponsored by the Hillsborough Historical Society.
Facility provided by the Dutton Club



Where:

The Dutton Club
Rte. 9, West Main Street, Hillsborough

When:

Monday, June 22, 1998
at 7:00 PM

Admission free, donations welcome

Hillsborough Historical Society

1998 Membership Program

Please fill out the areas below and return this sheet to us with your contribution.
All donations to the Hillsborough Historic Society are tax deductible.

Name(s): _____ Phone Number: _____

Mailing Address: _____ Fax Number: _____

_____ Email: _____

MEMBERSHIP LEVELS

Basic Membership \$3.00 x ____ people \$ _____

Benefactor Memberships

Friend of the Pierce Homestead \$8.00 \$ _____

Family \$10.00 \$ _____

Corporate \$25.00 \$ _____

Patron \$100.00 \$ _____

Please accept my donation to the Preservation Fund in the Amount of \$ _____

YES! I am interested in becoming more involved in the Society! Please contact me about:

Committee Work Other _____

Member benefits include: free admittance to the Homestead, discounted admission to events, 10% discount on gift shop purchases, the Annual October Candlelight Dessert, and member mailings.

Return this form with your check payable to: *Hillsborough Historical Society, P.O. Box 896, Hillsborough, NH 03244*