

# Portland Historical Society, Inc. ANNUAL REPORT

Prepared for ANNUAL MEETING, NOVEMBER 9, 1999

---

## PRESIDENT'S NOTE – Christine Sullivan

The past year has gone by very quickly and the new year will bring us within months of the planned opening of our new Museum of Portland History (June 2000). After all the preparations so far, we still have much to do and look forward to continued support from our members and others.

We have tried to list all those who helped us during the year, but we are afraid we may have missed someone. However, we do want to thank all of you who have given your time in so many ways, from painting, or working on the tag sale, to volunteering at the present museum room.

I would also like especially to thank our officers, board members, and committees who keep everything running, whether record keeping or lawn mowing or organizing. In the last three years, I have enjoyed being involved as president in so many activities and with so many interesting and nice people. I'm sure the next years will be even more exciting.

Those who helped . . .

### . . . at the Callander House:

Barbara Chapman  
Eleanor and Pat Crowther  
Pat Csere  
Walter and Vivian Dower  
Ruth Freeburg  
Phyllis and Bill Frisbie  
Andrew Gildersleeve  
Lynn Gildersleeve  
Don Goodrich  
Bud Harmon  
Jean and Don Kelsey  
Marie Keser  
Jim Sarbaugh  
Shirley and Gene Sullivan  
George Wilson  
Charlie & Regina Woltmann  
Chris & Bill Sullivan  
Francis & Hildur Sullivan

### . . . at the Memorial Day Veterans Display:

Charlie & Regina Woltmann  
Martha Lutecki  
Rick & Lynn Gildersleeve  
Walter & Vivian Dower  
Phyllis & Bill Frisbie  
Chris Sullivan

### . . . at the Town Festival:

Bill & Phyllis Frisbie  
Chris Sullivan  
Barbara Chapman  
George Wilson  
Charles Woltmann  
Don & Jean Kelsey  
Marie Keser  
Audrey Scheer

### . . . at the Town-Wide Tag Sale:

Charlie Woltmann  
Regina Woltmann  
Martha Lutecki  
Lin Masley  
Audrey Scheer  
Chris & Bill Sullivan  
John Gotta  
Don Goodrich  
Sharon Bergman  
Eleanor & Pat Crowther  
Fran DiNatalie  
Vivian Dower  
Judi & Jim Elder  
Ruth Freeburg  
Bill & Phyllis Frisbie  
Don Kelsey

## REPORT OF THE NOMINATING COMMITTEE - Jean Kelsey, Rick Gildersleeve, Lin Masley

### NOMINATIONS

#### Officers for 1999-2000 term

PRESIDENT – Robert McDougall  
VICE PRESIDENT – Donald Kelsey  
SECRETARY – Ruth Freeburg  
TREASURER – Charles Woltmann

Board Member for 1999-2002 term  
Regina Woltmann

## MUSEUM ROOM - Pat Csere

The Portland Historical Society Museum continues to be open at the Portland Library on Saturdays from 10 to noon while members are busy getting our new home at 492 Main Street ready – to open in June, 2000.

Just about every week a donation of Portland memorabilia arrives from a member or friend of the Society, and we are grateful for these gifts as they will help to provide a more complete presentation of the past history of Portland.

Items representing present events, business firms, schools, organizations, politics, etc. are also welcome for future displays.

A large envelope arrived in the mail last week containing an 1800's autograph book, schoolroom scene post card, and Penny Press – 1884. The donor failed to include a return address and name – please do so by calling 342-2168.

**Members wishing to assist in Museum activities are welcome.**

## RUTH CALLANDER HOUSE - Eleanor Crowther, Chris Sullivan

January will mark two years since we began the physical work at the Ruth Callander House in preparation for our new museum. We have been through many stages from sorting to painting. Soon there will be re-roofing and then electrical work, plus much more. The Society is very deep in manpower; when a task needs to be done members turn out to help. Many projects will need doing in coming months – be a part of our team and get that good feeling of helping our Society get a task completed.

Thank you to all who have helped so far. We will be looking for everyone to do their part to help us in any way possible to open in June. (Work ongoing Wed. AM and Sun. PM. Call 342-5455 to check, or one of us ahead of time.)

## TREASURER – Charles Woltmann

As of 10/31/99, the Historical Society Endowment Fund = \$ 177,782.  
Cash (checking) = 4,178.  
\$ 181,960.

The following is a list of donors during the year:

<i>Harold Holmes &amp; Marj Lojeski</i>	<i>Don &amp; Barbara Goodrich</i>	<i>George &amp; Connie Parks</i>
<i>Robert &amp; Christiane Johnson</i>	<i>William &amp; Paula Petzold</i>	<i>John V. Anderson</i>
<i>Martin Weiner</i>	<i>Leslie Zanelli</i>	<i>Norma Werdelin</i>
<i>Joan Gilbert</i>	<i>Barbara Clark</i>	<i>Audrey Scheer</i>
<i>Robert &amp; Sherry Stancliff</i>	<i>Ellen Roman</i>	<i>Laurel Goodgion</i>
<i>Paul &amp; Denise Redington</i>	<i>Magdalena Wagner</i>	<i>Marybeth Keser Burbank</i>
<i>Ann Gildersleeve Sloan</i>	<i>Mr./Mrs. Ernest Peterson</i>	<i>Jewel &amp; Warren Jackson</i>
<i>Lloyd &amp; Eileen Erskine</i>	<i>Walter Olson</i>	<i>Bill &amp; Phyllis Frisbie</i>
<i>Dr. &amp; Mrs. D.S. Crowther</i>	<i>Marshall Fogelmark</i>	<i>Jim &amp; Martha McCabe</i>
<i>C. Joseph Kolenda</i>	<i>Virginia McKeen</i>	

## FINANCE BOARD – Pat Crowther, Jim Elder, Don Goodrich

In this past year we have accepted increased donations, and monitored the investment portfolio adjusting for some present income for the Callander House maintenance and repairs while preserving principal and providing moderate growth.



PORTLAND HISTORICAL SOCIETY  
FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDED BUDGET  
1999-2000

CALLANDER HOUSE MUSEUM BUDGET EXPENSE ITEM	1998-99 BUDGET	1998-99 ACTUAL	1999-00 BUDGET
Electricity	200.00	126.81	150.00
Water	120.00	108.00	225.00
Sewer Usage	130.00	219.60	220.00
Heating Oil	2,080.00	271.16	1,500.00
Telephone	150.00	167.00	150.00
Insurance	1,565.00	1,584.00	1,600.00
Grounds maintenance	300.00	200.00	300.00
House Maintenance	650.00	319.00	650.00
Major Maintenance	1,500.00	7,500.00	5,000.00
Acquisitions	500.00	0.00	500.00

TOTAL EXPENSES	7,195.00	10,495.57	10,295.00
----------------	----------	-----------	-----------

Budget for 1998-99 includes \$7,500 for re-roofing. In 1999-2000 there is \$3,500 for electrical upgrades.

INCOME ITEM	BUDGET	ACTUAL	BUDGET
Endowment Income	4,800.00	4,800.00	4,800.00
Fund Raisers	2,200.00	2,200.00	2,200.00
Major Maintenance Needs	0.00	0.00	5,000.00
Gifts/Donations	500.00	30,500.00	0.00

TOTAL INCOME	7,500.00	37,500.00	12,000.00
--------------	----------	-----------	-----------

EXCESS INCOME/EXPENSES	305.00	27,004.43	1,705.00
------------------------	--------	-----------	----------

Investment income is more than adequate to meet Callander House needs. The John V. Anderson gift will be used to partially offset major maintenance projects.

1999-00 SOCIETY OPERATING BUDGET EXPENSES	Budget 1998-99	Actual 1998-99	Budget 1999-00
Programs	850.00	850.00	850.00
Newsletter	500.00	310.00	500.00
Museum	100.00	0.00	100.00
Membership	200.00	0.00	200.00
Purchase of Products for Re-Sale	0.00	2,987.00	3,000.00
Miscellaneous	1,000.00	654.00	1,000.00

TOTAL EXPENSES	2,650.00	4,801.00	5,650.00
----------------	----------	----------	----------

INCOME	Budget 1998-99	Actual 1998-99	Budget 1999-00
Dues-300 at \$10 each	3,000.00	2,910.00	3,000.00
Sales of Products	0.00	3,380.00	3,400.00
Miscellaneous	0.00	866.00	200.00
Meeting Program Income	0.00	170.00	150.00

TOTAL INCOME	3,000.00	7,326.00	6,750.00
--------------	----------	----------	----------

EXCESS OF INCOME/EXPENSES	350.00	2,525.00	1,100.00
---------------------------	--------	----------	----------

Society policy is to cover operating expenses from membership income

November 5, 1999



NON-PROFIT ORG.  
U.S. POSTAGE  
PAID  
PERMIT No. 19  
Portland, CT  
06480

PORTLAND HISTORICAL SOCIETY  
P.O. BOX 98, Portland, CT 06480

### PROGRAMS – Regina Woltmann

Again we've had a good year and many interesting speakers – subjects ranged from the Revolutionary War to the history of Postage Stamps. Our last meeting in October probably drew the smallest crowd all year – about 20 people – but we had a lot of fun sharing Halloween remembrances. We have a full year of great programs ahead of us for the year 2000 and, naturally, it will be the best year yet.

### MEMBERSHIP - Sharon Bergman

Membership in the Society has remained constant over several years at about 270 members. The membership drive is now an integral part of the fall *Newsletter*. This seems to work very well and saves mailing costs. This year the Board approved sending sponsorship letters to local businesses, in preparing for the opening of the new museum. Also we are testing a new mailing database to record and track members. This will be suitable for the new museum computer when it materializes. Pat Csere and Bill Frisbie have assisted with membership.

### CALENDAR 2000

Calendar 2000 is available in local stores, the library and town hall. Bob McDougall organized the early publishing date in time for the September Town Festival, helped by his team of Doris Sherrow – researcher, Pat Csere – historian, Chris Sullivan, Phyllis and Bill Frisbie, Eleanor Crowther and Curt Benashski. Changes this year besides early printing are a modern picture theme, printing on shiny stock at Portland's Sweet Waverly Press, and all for less cost. We especially thank our photographers: Jennifer Bergman, Martha Lutecki, Robert McDougall, and Leonard Bower for their outstanding contributions.

### MEETING HOSPITALITY FOLKS - Eleanor Crowther, on the road (heading north from N.C.)

Thank you to all those who said "yes" in advance to providing goodies and drink for our meetings during the 1998-1999 season - Ruth Freeburg, Pat Csere, Leora Wilson, Connie McBrien, Judi Elder, Shirley Sullivan, Jo Agogliati, Marion Anderson, Barbara Chapman, Connie Berggren, Jean Kelsey, Marie Keser, Hildur Sullivan and Elsie Hale. Again, a clipboard will be passed at the annual meeting for next year. Thank you in advance for filling all the spots up!

