

# SEBAGO HISTORICAL SOCIETY PRESENTS



STONE FIREPLACES OF SEBAGO 2015

# January 2015



*The Daniel Hill house on Rt 107 was built in 1827 by one of Sebago's first settlers. Daniel married Polly Lakin, daughter of another first settler and here they raised their family of five children. The main house has a center chimney with three brick fireplaces around it. The one pictured above has a baking oven on the left side. On the right is a small closet, built under the stairs of the second story. The original plaster is still visible on the walls and a tiny doorway at the back leads to a space behind the fireplace. The space is completely enclosed, leading to speculation that the house may have been a stop on the underground railroad. The cover photo is of the beehive oven in the kitchen. This is located in an ell off the main house and was probably the summer kitchen. This is now the home of Nancy Sosman.*

# February 2015



*In 1907 Anson and Ann Brackett built the West Shore Camps on the Marina Rd. In 1923 the Brackett's sold the camp to a Providence RI couple, Frank and Ruby Kernan, who enlarged the camps into the West Shore Hotel. The Lodge was at one time a Maine Guide Hunting Lodge and many of the*

*taxidermy items displayed are the work of William Hatch, who was also a licenced Maine Guide. This fireplace is presumed to have been built in the 1930's by Billy Bachelder, who was the brother of Ann Brackett's daughter in law. The fireplace is made from very colorful and semi precious stones and the front of the mantel incorporates a stone from each of the 48 contiguous states. The hotel was later divided into two cottages, this one being owned by Ron Johnson.*

# March 2015



*Billy Bachelder built this fireplace in his house in North Sebago on Kimball Corner Rd. The fireplace features large stones and objects that he found when he was a boy. He followed behind the tractor as the land next door was being cleared. Prized possessions were the Native American artifacts that were buried in the soil near the lake. The inset picture shows large flint spear heads, possibly used for spearing fish. In the center of the display is a large round object resembling a small cannon ball. Long hand-cut nails and other odd shaped stones are also included in this unique display. The home is now owned by James and Anna Calvagna.*

# April 2015



*Oliver Morrill Pike came to Sebago in 1812 and felled the trees to build a log cabin home on "Pike's Peak", which is off the Convene Rd. He later built a two-and-a-half story Federalist style home in 1826. There are six fireplaces in this original portion of the house, all attached to the central chimney. There are three fireplaces on each of the two floors. This farm stayed in the Pike family until 1924, when it was purchased by Neal and Margaret Allen. The Allens named it Woodside Farm. The house is currently owned by their grandson Richard and his wife Margaret.*



# May 2015



*“The Studio” as it has always been called, was built in 1898 on Douglas Hill as an artist retreat for Florence Thallon, a Brooklyn oil and watercolor painter. In her will she left it to her nephew, William Harvey Thallon, along with its “books, photos, piano and portrait of Rembrandt.”*

*The light mauve majolica-glazed figures featured on the brick fireplace are examples of inlaid ceramic tiles from the American Encaustic Tiling Co of Zanesville Ohio. The image is created when differently colored clays are glazed over. The upper right tile almost looks like a photograph. This is achieved by making the relief an eighth of an inch high, producing a “printed” tile effect. The studio is now the summer home of Mimi and Eben Lang.*

# June 2015



*The Round Table Lodge, located in North Sebago opposite Nason's Beach, was originally called Liberty Camp. It was operated for many years by Clarence and Etta Burnell. It is now owned by Carol Sloan and her family. This is another fireplace built by Billy Bachelder around 1920. Almost all of the stones contain mica, which make it sparkle in the morning sunlight. The clock on the mantle is made from small*

*stones, rimmed with tiny shells. Two sea urchins adorn the front. Sitting atop the clock is a set of buffalo horns and moose antlers. The story behind those items is unknown.*

# July 2015



*This fireplace is in the Spaulding Memorial Library. Construction of the library began in 1923 on land donated by Harry H Fitch and and was completed in 1925. It was given to Sebago by Leon and Dorothy Spaulding but Leon died in 1924 before the building was completed. His picture hangs over the mantel. Total cost was \$25,000. Carlton Martin supervised construction and Charles Stewart and LeForrest Cram*

*were the stonemasons. The Spauldings were very generous benefactors, holding a yearly Christmas party for the children of East Sebago. Many community members still remember receiving a gift from Mrs. Spaulding.*

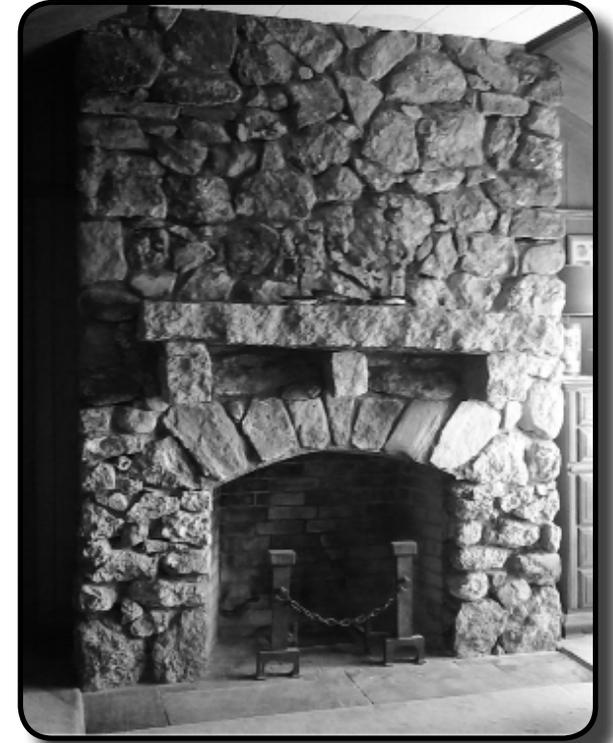
# August 2015



*This beautiful farm was built in the 1840's by Arthur Boothby and family. It sits atop Peaked Mountain, which is off the Folly Rd. The view of the White Mountains is spectacular from the wrap around porch. The fireplace is original, although it was resurfaced and had heatolators added later to make it more efficient. Arthur Boothby sold*

*much of his land to Herman Wight in 1859 and it stayed in that family until 1926, when it was sold to Merle E. Douglass. A number of other families owned it before selling to the Allen family in 1951. Tom and his wife Diana now own it. Extensive renovations were done between 1880 and 1900, during which time a second story was added to the original cape.*

# September 2015



*The home of Gerard and Florence Russo in North Sebago was built in 1903 by Mr. Charles K. Bispham, of Philadelphia. The well-to-do sportsman, a skillful and persistent angler, was drawn to North Sebago by the salmon weighing 30 pounds or more. The small inset picture is of a string of salmon caught by Mr Bispham. This is probably the work of his one time partner, Maine guide Linc Daniels. The house boasts four massive floor to ceiling stone fireplaces, built by Billy Bachelder in the 1930's, each of which is stunning. A stone walkway leads from the stone breakwater to a gazebo built about 30 feet from the shore. A nearby stone deck has benches and a table built into it. According to Florence Russo, the outdoor stonework was the work of Carlton and Emory Martin.*

# October 2015



*The main house of Dyke Farm was built in 1808 by Samuel Dike on Dyke Mt Rd. Upon Samuel's death, his brother Edward bought the farm for his large family. Edward and Susannah's youngest daughter Aseneth, born in 1826 was quoted in a 1920*

*Portland Sunday Telegram interview describing her childhood in the room pictured above at the Dike Farm. "We all used to gather around the fireside and have our quiet evenings of reading and perhaps singing, or a few friends dropping in unexpectedly for supper." The Deering Ski Club purchased the farm in 1941 from the estate of Clara Dike, granddaughter of Edward and Susannah. Elizabeth and Kilton Andrew bought it in 1953 and the home is now owned by their daughter Martha Timothy and her husband Bob.*

# November 2015



*This home on Douglas Hill was built in 1929 by Annie C Folsom for her husband, Chandler R Folsom, who was in failing health. The house burned to the ground shortly afterward when Annie tried washing clothes in gasoline in the washing machine. She rebuilt and lived there until her death in 1964. Annie was a very colorful figure on Douglas Hill, holding "gay week end parties" for her Boston friends. These festivities eventually got her in trouble, resulting in her arrest for possession of and making of intoxicating liquor in the days of prohibition. In 1964 the property was sold to Leslie and Inez Powell, and three years later Rev. Richard and Susan Ryder bought it.*



*December 2015*



*This Long Beach cottage was built in the 1930's by Leon Weymouth of Pawtucket, RI. Clarence and Ronelda Towle summered here and then bought it in 1937. Clarence was a mason from Portland and built the fireplace, which features mica and many other colorful stones. The cottage is now owned by Bea Rogers.*



*In the early 1980s Dorothy-Lee Jones and her husband, Lauriston Ward, built this beautiful mansion on Douglas Hill after the 1892 farmhouse burned in 1981. Dorothy-Lee, a collector of antiques and curator of the Glass Basket and the Jones Museum, was at home when the farmhouse burned. She jumped out a window, broke her ankle, but refused to go immediately to the hospital because she wanted to watch as her life-long collection was rescued.*

*The new mansion was designed by a California architectural firm. These marble fireplaces were part of the grand design. Weddings, seminars, and other large events were held in these magnificent rooms with a grand vista of the White Mountains.*

*This calendar was created by Sherrill Brown, Susan Cummings and Susan Gassett. The information is as accurate as we can determine. We want to thank the citizens of Sebago who graciously shared their time and invited us into their homes.*



*The cottage on the left was built in 1940, also by Leon Weymouth. He collected rocks for the fireplace from all over New England, including some from Mt. Mica in Paris ME, Cadillac Mountain and from Diamond Hill in RI. One stone came from 40 feet under the East River in New York City when the East River tunnel was under construction. An engineer working on the project sent it to his friend Leon. This fireplace was built by local stone mason, Harry McKenney.*



*Gretchen and Dick Terhune bought the cottage on the left from the Dempsey sisters, Helen and*

*Alice, in 1996. The fireplace on the right is located in a cottage on King St, built by Gretchen's father and grandfather in 1927. Her father also built an elaborate outdoor fireplace that was a gathering spot for many of the neighbors in the Long Beach community.*