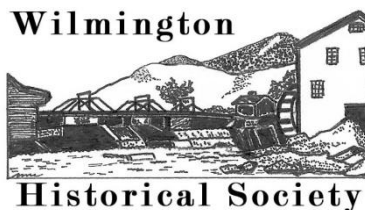


#### Board of Trustees

President –Karen Marshall Peters  
Vice-President- Merri Carol Peck  
Secretary- Nancy Cressey  
Treasurer- Robert Cressey  
Trustees- Doug Wolfe  
Guy Stephenson  
Peter Yuro



P.O. Box 174  
7 Community Center Circle  
Wilmington, New York 12997  
Ph. 518-946-7586  
Email: [whs12997@hotmail.com](mailto:whs12997@hotmail.com)  
Website: [wilmingtonhistoricalsociety.org](http://wilmingtonhistoricalsociety.org)

## **Annual Report & Newsletter to Members --- June 3, 2009 (Since the last Annual Meeting on June 4, 2008)**

**About Us** The Wilmington Historical Society, now almost 6 years old, is a 501 (c) (3) not-for-profit organization having received its New York State Provisional Charter in 2003. In March 2008 we applied for our permanent charter, an extensive paperwork process, which will result in either having our petition granted or in having our provisional charter extended. We are currently waiting to hear from the New York State Education Department which will conduct a site visit before making its recommendation. The current officers are: President ---Karen Marshall Peters, Vice-President--- Merri Carol Peck, Treasurer--- Robert Cressey, Secretary--- Nancy Cressey, Trustees--- Doug Wolfe, Guy Stephenson, and Peter Yuro . *The mission of the Wilmington Historical Society is to collect, preserve, display and interpret the documents, photographs and artifacts that tell the unique story of how the people of this remote, mountainous small town with big ideas have adapted and survived in the harsh yet beautiful environment of the Adirondacks. We meet monthly on the 1st Wednesday of each month, at 7 pm at the Wilmington Community Center* (\*note that we do NOT meet in December). **Members and the general public are encouraged to attend.** Our location in the Wilmington Community Center has allowed us to both house and display our collections of archival materials and artifacts, as well as make available our small research library, all in the same centralized location. **Summer Saturday hours for researchers, genealogists, and for those who would just like to browse our collection will be from 10 am to 2 pm from June 20 to Aug. 29 (CLOSED 4<sup>th</sup> of JULY).** Hours by appointment will be all year long by calling Karen Peters at 946-7586 or Merri Carol Peck at 946-7627.

#### **WHAT'S IN OUR COLLECTION?**

OUR RESEARCH MATERIALS INCLUDE:

- FAMILY HISTORY FILES
- SPECIAL COLLECTIONS
- OLD NEWSPAPERS
- CD'S--- CEMETERY RECORDS, OLD TOWN RECORD BOOK, CONGREGATIONAL & METHODIST CHURCH RECORDS, RUPERT COLUMN 1877-1881, 1855-1905 TAX RECORDS, WILMINGTON BIRTH, MARRIAGE & DEATH RECORDS 1895-1907
- SCHOOL DIST.# 6 RECORDS
- TOPICAL FILES
- PHOTOS OF WILMINGTON PEOPLE & PLACES
- MAPS & BLUEPRINTS
- WILMINGTON CHATTEL MORTGAGES
- LOCAL REFERENCE BOOKS
- ALL PUBLISHED "TOWN OF WILMINGTON" TRANSCRIBED SERIAL RECORDS BOOKS BY PROF.HAROLD E.HINDS,JR. (SEE LIST ON PAGE 3 OF THIS REPORT)

**Website** We thank our webmaster, Patrick McIntyre, for maintaining our website. On our website, [wilmingtonhistoricalsociety.org](http://wilmingtonhistoricalsociety.org) , you will find photos of Wilmington people and places as well as old postcard photos, recent photos, and photos of some of our historical society programs and events. In addition, you will find a brief history of Wilmington, our schedule of upcoming events & discussion topics, historical society news, information on purchasing the "Town of Wilmington" Transcribed Serial Records books, membership information & application, minutes and agendas of our meetings, links to related institutions, and much more. Our "research" link to RootsWeb has all of the Wilmington Cemeteries on it, thanks to the work of our Trustees, Bob and Nancy Cressey. Another useful link for Wilmington history researchers is the Northern New York Library Network's **Northern New York Historical Newspapers**. Put us on your web browser's "favorites" list and check it often.

## Affiliations of the Wilmington Historical Society

Through our affiliations with the organizations below, we are a part of a larger network of communication, receiving the benefits of training, discounts on materials, technical support, participation in forums, and grant information. We are also able to participate in local, regional, and national historical preservation efforts.

E. M. Cooper Memorial Library  
Whiteface Mountain Regional Visitors' Bureau  
Northern New York Library Network  
Essex County Historical Society  
New York State Archives – Region 4  
Upstate History Alliance  
American Association for State and Local History  
Museum Association of New York

**Educational Outreach Programs** The Historical Society continues to provide a variety of local history-related programs available to the public. Since our last annual meeting in June 2008 through May 2009, we have had over 200 people attend our speaker & events programs. Our programs & events since the last Annual Meeting in June 2008 were:

***“Horse Talk: Then & Now”*** --- Jay Mele, acclaimed Wilmington horse trainer

***“Celebrating 400 Years: Samuel de Champlain’s Voyage to our Region”*** --- Margaret Gibbs, Director of the Essex County Historical Society and a member of the New York State Commission for the Quadricentennial

***“Fish Tales & Famous Guides”*** --- Joe Hackett, local newspaper columnist

***“Wilmington Historical Society at the Festival of the Colors”*** Theme: Whiteface Mountain Outdoor Activities.

***“Archives Day: How Deep Are Your Wilmington Roots?”*** --- Merri Peck & Karen Peters

***“World War II Veterans Memorial Registry Day”*** --- Karen Peters & Merri Peck

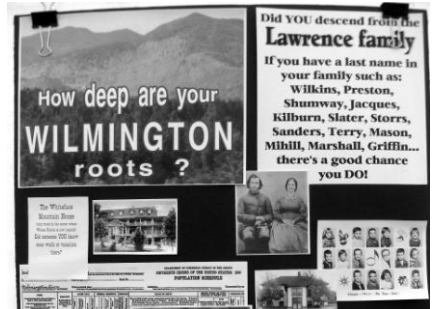
**Note:** The exhibit “Whiteface Mountain Outdoor Activities” provided for the 2008 Festival of Colors is now on permanent display at the Whiteface Mountain Region Visitor’s Bureau on Route 86 in Wilmington, available for viewing during Visitor’s Bureau hours.



Ellen Paret registers her late husband Wibert Paret on the National WWII registry



Festival of Colors booth 2008



Fall 2008 Archives Program

## Volunteers

We have the fortune of having many wonderful volunteers in many areas of expertise, about **25** in all. They have freely given of their time and services to help advance the mission of the Wilmington Historical Society (**over 1000 hours!!**). They have done baking, collecting money, set up and take-down for display days (Festival of the Colors and speaker program set-up), given of their time in preparing and implementing educational programs, created and maintained our website, researched topics of historical interest to Wilmington, copied photos, created CD's and searchable archival material, and helped to organize our archives. While our volunteers are too numerous to mention here by name, we would like to thank them all----**Thank you, thank you, thank you!**  
**We could not do it without you!**



Sid Ward sells his unique cutting boards to benefit the WHS

## **More Programs to Come:**

We are looking forward to presenting educational programs for the public. *Please add these to your calendar.* Keep your eye out for further details on future flyers, in local newspapers or on our website at [www.wilmingtonhistoricalsociety.org](http://www.wilmingtonhistoricalsociety.org) .

**Friday, June 19** --- "*Turning Points in Adirondack History*" --- *Andy Flynn, local news "Adirondack Attic" columnist & author*  
**7 pm**, Wilmington Community Center

**Friday, July 17** --- "*Adirondack-Champlain Iron: Creator of Boom Towns & Ghost Towns, 1750s-1970s*" --- *John Moravek, Associate Professor of Geography, SUNY Plattsburgh*  
**7 pm**, Wilmington Community Center

**Friday, August 14** --- "*Adirondack Stories II: 101 More Historical Sketches & the 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Fire Towers in New York State*" --- *Marty Podskoch, author & "Adirondack Stories" columnist*  
**7 pm**, Wilmington Community Center

**Saturday, September 12** --- "*Wilmington Historical Society at the Festival of the Colors*"  
*Theme: Wilmington's Versatile Forests --- Over 400 Years of Settlement in the Lake Champlain Region*  
**9 am to 4 pm**, Heritage Park and/or baseball park on Springfield Road

**Saturday, October 24** --- "*Archives Day: How Deep Are Your Wilmington Roots?*"  
--- *Merri Peck & Karen Peters*  
**10 am – 2 pm**, Wilmington Community Center

**Wilmington books available for purchase** The "Town of Wilmington" Transcribed Serial Records, a project spearheaded by Prof. Harold E.Hinds, Jr. and published by Willow Bend Books are available for purchase through the Wilmington Historical Society, with a 10% discount to Wilmington Historical Society members, all related to people of the 19<sup>th</sup> century living in the Town of Wilmington, Essex County, New York.

- **Town of Wilmington, Essex County, New York: Town Ledger, 1821-1865 (Cattle earmarks 1820s-1884), Transcribed Serial Records, Volume 1**, - Harold Hinds, Jr., Tina Didreckson and Matthew H. Ottinger with Ashley M. Jensen. \$33.50.
- **Town of Wilmington, Essex County, New York: 1850 Federal Census & 1855 New York State Census, Transcribed Serial Records, Volume 2** - Harold E Hinds Jr and Tina Didreckson. \$24.00
- **Town of Wilmington, Essex County, New York: 1860 Federal Census & 1865 New York State Census, Transcribed Serial Records: Volume 3** - Harold E Hinds Jr and Tina Didreckson. \$27.00
- **Town of Wilmington, Essex County, New York: 1870 Federal Census & 1875 New York State Census, Transcribed Serial Records, Volume 4** - Harold E Hinds Jr and Tina Didreckson. \$29.00
- **Town of Wilmington, Essex County, New York: Wilmington Cemetery Records, 1804-2003, Transcribed Serial Records, Volume 6**, - Harold Hinds, Jr., Tina Didreckson, Nancy Cressey & Robert Cressey. \$28.50
- **Town of Wilmington, Essex County, New York: Emma Hinds Scrapbook, 1877-1881, Transcribed Serial Records, Volume 7**, - Harold Hinds, Jr., Tina Didreckson, and Janet Pederson. \$23.50
- **Town of Wilmington, Essex County, New York: Dr. E. A. Robinsons Receipt Book, 1881-1882, Transcribed Serial Records, Volume 8**, - Harold E. Hinds, Jr., Tina Didreckson & Janet Pederson. \$22.00
- **Town of Wilmington, Essex County, New York: Wilmington School Records, 1822-1900, Transcribed Serial Records, Volume 9**, - Harold Hinds, Jr. and Tina Didreckson. \$41.50
- **Town of Wilmington, Essex County, New York: Tax Assessment Records, 1850-1869, Transcribed Serial Records, Volume 10**, - Harold Hinds, Jr., Tina Didreckson and Erika Paulson. \$31.00
- **Town of Wilmington, Essex County, New York: Tax Assessment Records, 1871-1890, Transcribed Serial Records, Volume 11**, - Harold Hinds, Jr., Tina Didreckson and Erika Paulson. \$34.00
- **Town of Wilmington, Essex County, New York: Wilmington Voting Records, 1860-1900, Transcribed Serial Records, Volume 13**, - Harold Hinds, Jr., Tina Didreckson and Erika Paulson. \$32.00

Other volumes are pending. These records extend over a period of time and capture a significant portion of the population. These volumes allow genealogists and family historians with Wilmington ancestors to reconstruct a more complete portrait of their ancestors. You may download an order form online from our

website [wilmingtonhistoricalsociety.org](http://wilmingtonhistoricalsociety.org) or you may call Merri Carol Peck at 946-7627 for information. Copies of these books are also available to researchers in our small research library in the Community Center.

### **OTHER ACCOMPLISHMENTS:**

- ❖ Accepted, digitized where possible, and properly stored 2 family collections (Myrtle M. Haselton Gowan and August Augenthaler) as well as other individual photos & documents
- ❖ Purchased digital projector for slide shows and presentations
- ❖ Purchased new software—Quickbooks, Microsoft Office 2007, Microsoft Publisher 2007
- ❖ Assisted AARCH with Santa's Workshop program
- ❖ Provided permanent display for Whiteface Mountain Regional Visitor's Bureau
- ❖ Held training session for volunteers on "Past Perfect" catalogue software program
- ❖ Provided scheduled and by appointment research hours at the Community Center
- ❖ Provided research services to genealogists and historical researchers and to developers who require historical background to meet NY State requirements
- ❖ Digitally copied the records of the Jay-Wilmington Methodist Churches (now the Whiteface Community United Methodist Church)
- ❖ Participated in two archival training workshops and roundtables
- ❖ Completed 1890-1900 Wilmington chattel mortgage transcription
- ❖ Continue to purchase archive-safe boxes for our collections storage
- ❖ Continue to organize and catalogue Wilmington's historical collections
- ❖ Provided research support for the 175<sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebration of the Whiteface Community United Methodist Church

### **Open discussions**

Our "Open Discussions" take place at 7 p.m. before the business portion of each regular meeting, and last about 45 minutes to an hour. You are all invited to relate stories, bring news articles, photos or artifacts related to the topic of each meeting. **Or... you can just come to listen!**

We record the "Open Discussions" so that the information and stories gleaned can be put in digital audio form for researchers, topic by topic. We would appreciate your contributions to the preservation of Wilmington's history. 90 people attended our "Open Discussions" from July 2008-May 2009. (**Students are also welcome!**) *If you have something to contribute to the discussion, but are unable to attend, please call, write or email us with your information. Phone: 946-7586 (Karen Peters) or 946-7627 (Merri Carol Peck). Address: Wilmington Historical Society, P.O. Box 174, Wilmington, NY 12997. Email: [whs12997@hotmail.com](mailto:whs12997@hotmail.com)*

Below is the list through the remainder of 2009:

**June 3** (Wed.): "Wilmington Campgrounds"

**July 1** (Wed.): "Whiteface Mountain and Wilmington in Literature"

**August 5** (Wed.): "Wilmington and Whiteface in Art & Photographs"

**September 2** (Wed): "Agriculture in Wilmington"

**October 7** (Wed.): "Motels in Wilmington"

**November 4** (Wed.): "Stores and Shops in Wilmington"

### **Finances**

The current balance of the Wilmington Historical Society is \$5,441.40. As per New York State regulations, the Audit committee, consisting of 3 members of the Board of Trustees (not including the President or Treasurer) and chaired by Merri Peck, met on Jan. 7, 2009 to examine all of our financial records and documents, finding all to be in keeping with good financial practices and in good order. All of our finances for 2009 are now on Quick Books, which will make financial reporting and record-keeping a much easier task. **A copy of this year's budget is attached.**

## **\*\*\*2009 MEMBERSHIP DRIVE\*\*\* Have you become a 2009 member yet?**

Our 2009 membership drive is still underway. Thank you to all of you who have sent in your tax-deductible membership for 2008. For those of you who have not yet sent in your membership dues for 2008, we look forward to receiving your support. Your financial donations in 2009 enables the WHS to purchase materials such as archival CD's, archive-safe storage and display materials, digital photographic paper, office supplies, and equipment for programs such as the new Power Point projector.. Your money also helps to pay for our website name, insurance for our collections and for liability, postage for our annual newsletter to members and other mailings, training for preservation education, special projects and events, and educational programs we present to the public. If you have not received the **Wilmington Historical Society 2009 Membership Brochure**, please contact Karen Peters at 946-7586 or Merri Carol Peck at 946-7627, email us at [whs12997@hotmail.com](mailto:whs12997@hotmail.com) or check out our website at [wilmingtonhistoricalsociety.org](http://wilmingtonhistoricalsociety.org) (you can print out a membership application and mail it in).

*Our total membership for 2008 was 182 contributing members.*

Members are in each of the following levels:

- 6 @ Benefactor (\$250.00 +)
- 10 @ Patron (\$100.00)
- 8 @ Sponsor (\$50.00)
- 10 @ Contributing & Sustaining Patron (\$20.00)
- 3 @ Institutional/ Business/Corporate (\$20.00)
- 1 @ Honorary Lifetime Member
- 45 @ Senior Citizen (\$5.00)
- 0 @ Student (\$2.00)
- 78 @ Family (\$20.00)
- 21 @ Individual (\$10.00)
- 182 Total members to date**

### **In Our Plans for 2009**

#### **Building**

- Continue working with Community Enhancement Committee toward a community center which includes space for WHS
- Continue fundraising & looking for grants
- Learn about searching (marketing) for endowments & long term support for a building (ACT)

#### **Programs**

- Continue lecture series & educational outreach
- Encourage Registration of Wilmington World War II Veterans on World War II Memorial Registry
- Develop Wilmington Town history Walk/self-guided tour
- Coordinate with local schools to assist students with projects
- Seek to include at least one program using interactive approach
- Support 175<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration of Wilmington Methodist Church

#### **Training and Conferences**

- Members & trustees attend regional roundtables for training and presentations
- Members & trustees attend relevant conferences for training and information

#### **Recruit new members**

- Encourage attendance at open discussion meetings—target & communicate with people knowledgeable on topics
- Encourage attendance at programs and events through personal contact and publicity
- Recruit members for sub-committees
- Reach out to other historical societies

#### **Archives, Preservation & Conservation**

- Archive photos that we have obtained and seek more photos of Wilmington
- Catalog all records on software program
- Conserve documents by purchasing acid-free and archive safe storage materials
- Look into conservation of materials which need professional conservation

- Conserve 1980 Olympic film footage by having them placed on reels
- Archive Fran Betters' newspaper collection
- Extract Wilmington news columns from all historic newspapers

#### Projects / Displays

- Further our website development
- Continue "Wilmington books" sales
- Interview seniors for historical knowledge & create digital voice recordings
- Create portable/rotating displays—including 400<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration of Champlain

#### Research

- Assist in inquiries from the general public regarding Wilmington's history/genealogy
- Historical research support for town wide and other projects
- Keep record of research requests
- Update index of resources WHS with new acquisitions

#### Preparation for Charter

- Prepare for site visit
- Update Town Hall compliance with state requirements—alarm (fire, smoke, intruders), insurance, handicapped access
- Maintain hours of operation
- Track volunteer hours
- File annual report

### Special Message to Members & Supporters

***You are the Wilmington Historical Society! It is through your ideas, your volunteer efforts, your attendance at meetings & programs, your donations of photos and artifacts, and your financial support that the Wilmington Historical Society exists. Thanks to all of you for helping to preserve the past of this small, unique Adirondack town.***



**Wilmington Historical Society 2009 Budget**  
 Adopted 1/07/2008 Revised 3/04/09

<b>Income Categories Earned</b>		
<b>A1</b>	Memberships	\$2,800.00
<b>A2</b>	Sales	\$0.00
<b>A3</b>	Publications	\$300.00
<b>A4</b>	Promotional Items	\$0.00
<b>A5</b>	Admissions	\$0.00
<b>A</b>	<b>Total Earned Income</b>	<b>\$3,100.00</b>

<b>Contributed</b>		
<b>B1</b>	Donations	\$1,185.00
<b>B2</b>	Non-Restrictive Foundations	\$0.00
<b>B3</b>	Non-Restrictive Local Government	\$0.00
<b>B4</b>	Matching Funds	\$0.00
<b>B5</b>	Local Government	\$0.00
<b>B6</b>	Foundations	\$0.00
<b>B7</b>	Grants	\$400.00
<b>B8</b>	Rebates/Refunds	\$0.00
<b>B</b>	<b>Total Contributions</b>	<b>\$1,585.00</b>

**Total Income Categories** **\$4,685.00**

<b>Expense Categories</b>		
<b>Office Expenses</b>		
<b>C1</b>	Office Supplies	\$500.00
<b>C2</b>	Postage/Box Rental	\$500.00
<b>C3</b>	Equipment	\$300.00
<b>C</b>	<b>Total Office Expenses</b>	<b>\$1,300.00</b>

**Financial Expense**

<b>D1</b>	Bank Charges	\$0.00
<b>D</b>	<b>Total Financial Expense</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>

**Facilities Expenses**

<b>E1</b>	Utilities	\$0.00
<b>E2</b>	Maintenance	\$25.00
<b>E3</b>	Repairs & Improvements	\$75.00
<b>E</b>	<b>Total Facilities Expenses</b>	<b>\$100.00</b>

**Merchandise**

<b>F1</b>	Publications	\$500.00
<b>F2</b>	Promotional Items	\$0.00
<b>F3</b>	New York State Sales Tax	\$10.00
<b>F</b>	<b>Total Merchandise</b>	<b>\$510.00</b>

**Memberships**

<b>G1</b>	Upstate History Alliance	\$50.00
<b>G2</b>	American Assoc for State & Local His	\$100.00
<b>G3</b>	Whiteface Mountain Visitor's Bureau	\$50.00
<b>G4</b>	Museum Association Of New York	\$55.00
<b>G</b>	<b>Total Memberships</b>	<b>\$255.00</b>

## Programs

H1	Invitations & Programs	\$40.00
H2	Special Events/Honorariums	\$300.00
H3	Special Projects	\$0.00
H	<b>Total Programs</b>	<b>\$340.00</b>

## Hospitality

J1	Special Event/Exhibition	\$50.00
J2	Program Refreshments	\$25.00
J	<b>Total Hospitality</b>	<b>\$75.00</b>

## Publicity

K1	ISP/Web Hosting	\$30.00
K2	Website Maintenance	\$0.00
K3	Copying/Printing	\$400.00
K4	Advertising	\$0.00
K	<b>Total Publicity</b>	<b>\$430.00</b>

## Education

L1	Training, Travel, Lodging, Registration	\$100.00
L	<b>Total Education</b>	<b>\$100.00</b>

## Archives

M1	Library, Collections, & Archives	\$1,000.00
M	<b>Total Archives</b>	<b>\$1,000.00</b>

## Rebates/Refunds

N1	Rebates/Refunds	\$0.00
N	<b>Total Rebates/Refunds</b>	<b><u>\$0.00</u></b>

O1	Insurance	575.00
O	<b>Total Insurance</b>	<b>575.00</b>

**Total Expense Categories** **\$4,685.00**

**Surplus/Deficit** **\$0.00**