## **Laura Gilbertson**

From: Bethel Historical Society <Bethel\_Historical\_Society@mail.vresp.com>

**Sent:** Tuesday, January 01, 2013 10:29 PM **To:** Ig@wbinghamfoundation.org

**Subject:** BHS e-News







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## **Bethel Historical Society e-News**

Stanley R. Howe Retires with Title of "Executive Director Emeritus"

Stanley Howe, the Bethel Historical Society's Executive Director from 1974 to 2010, and Associate Director / Director of Education & Research from 2010 through 2012, has retired from the BHS staff as of 1 January 2013. In response to this change, and in gratitude for his many years of dedicated service to the organization, the Society's Personnel Committee has gratefully named him "Executive Director Emeritus."

A Bethel native whose family roots in the area go back to the 1770s, Stanley Howe graduated from Gould Academy and received his undergraduate degree from the University of Southern Maine. He also holds an M.A. in American history from the University of Connecticut and a Ph.D. in Canadian



history from the University of Maine. He has served as a trustee of the Maine League of Historical Societies and Museums, and on the Board of Directors of its successor organization, Maine Archives & Museums. A former trustee of the Maine Historical Society, he chaired its Publications Committee and currently serves as Book Review Editor of its quarterly, *Maine History*, and on its Editorial Board. For ten years, he was the historian member of the Maine Historic Preservation Commission, and is a former trustee and advisory trustee of Maine Preservation. He has chaired the Maine Arts Commission's Museum Panel, and has served as a humanities scholar and consultant to the Maine, New Hampshire and New England humanities commissions. A graduate of the Seminar for Historical Administration at Colonial Williamsburg, Howe has also served as a field surveyor and consultant for the Museum Assessment Program (MAP) and the Institute of Museum Services over many years. He has written and lectured widely on historical topics relating to Maine, New England and Canada, and has edited several of the Bethel Historical Society's publications, including *The Courier*. He has also taught

history at several campuses of the University of Maine, at Westbrook College, and at the University of New Hampshire's College for Lifelong Learning. With service on several graduate committees ranging from Wesleyan to West Virginia universities, he is also the author of a history of the Maine State Grange, published in 1994. In addition, he contributed to an authoritative history of Maine published in 1995 by the University of Maine Press and, in 2009, produced an illustrated history of Bethel.

Under his leadership, and with the help of scores of talented volunteers and staffers, the Bethel Historical Society evolved from an organization with fifty members to one with well over one thousand residing in many parts of the nation and several foreign countries. The Society's endowment, which generates a third of the organization's operating income, was also greatly increased during his tenure. In 1998, the Society purchased a second property on Broad Street for museum use, a project that became mortgage free in less than two years. Today, the Society is regarded as one of the best known and most active historical organizations in its region.

During his many years with the Society, Howe has been honored on numerous occasions with various citations, including the Bethel Area Chamber of Commerce's Henry H. Hastings Award for Citizenship and a Gould Academy Alumnus of the Year Award. The Bethel Rotary Club has also recognized him as a Paul Harris Fellow.

Though he will no longer be on the staff at the Society, we expect to see him often on "campus" as he completes his biography of Bethel's greatest philanthropist, William Bingham 2nd (1879-1955). He also plans to stay involved with various Society projects as a dedicated volunteer.

Thank you, Stan!!

## **Business Partner Profile** The Chapman Inn Bed & Breakfast

The Chapman Inn is a delightfully quaint inn located in the heart of Bethel's historic district, overlooking the Bethel Hill village common. We include our world-famous full gourmet breakfast, as well as warm genuine hospitality with every stay. At the Chapman Inn, you are not just a room number, but a real person with a real name, who deserves to be pampered.

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Founded in 1966, the Bethel Historical Society fosters a sense of place, with a focus on western Maine and the White Mountain region, by collecting, preserving and interpreting historically significant artifacts and documents for residents, visitors, students, and scholars. Through its exhibits, programs, events, and publications, the Society strives to make the region's history meaningful, accessible, and enjoyable.

The Bethel Historical Society's e-News is sent free to our members and friends. To learn more about the Society's programs, exhibits, educational activities, and publications, please visit our website at www.bethelhistorical.org, call 207-824-2908 / 800-824-2910, or email us at info@bethelhistorical.org.

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