



# CANTON HISTORICAL SOCIETY NEWSLETTER

## News and Updates

The Historical Society has had a busy Spring, holding corn hole tournaments, a cribbage tournament, and the chili-chowder cook-off! These have been great fundraisers and have been a lot of fun for everyone involved. Pictured on the right is CHS President Phyllis Ouellette with Emily Bourassa, who won the best chowder, and Andy Conant, standing in for John Conant, who won best chili.



The Collections Committee has also been hard at work continuing to organize the records in the archives and making some new exhibits. You can come in now and see a new exhibit created by committee member Julie Martin about the drug store in Canton, as well as some recently-donated items.

This summer there will be an exhibit about the river in conjunction with the 50th anniversary of the Clean Water Act. There will be a celebration to mark the anniversary on Sunday, July 31st. Watch our Facebook page for more information about this event.



## Call for Volunteers

The Historical Society is always welcoming volunteers. Right now there are a couple projects involving the cemeteries that could use some volunteers. One project involves creating a detailed listing of all the known burials in Pine Grove Cemetery and Hillside Cemetery. A database has been created but now we are looking for volunteers who would walk the cemeteries to confirm the data. The other project is not managed by the Historical Society but by a group of Canton residents known as the cemetery ladies who have been working to clean the gravestones in Canton cemeteries. If you are interested in either one of these projects, please email [cantonmehistorical@gmail.com](mailto:cantonmehistorical@gmail.com).

## Membership

If you haven't already, it's time to pay your 2022 membership dues! What does membership mean? Becoming a member is as simple as sending in your \$10 dues to CHS, PO Box 605, Canton, ME 04221. Your dues go to supporting our mission of preserving Canton's history. If that's all you can do, that's great, but if you'd like to be more involved there are plenty of opportunities. You can attend monthly meetings, volunteer to work with the historical collection, work in the Country Store, help with events and fundraisers, or serve on the Board of Directors. More information about membership can be found on our website here: <https://www.cantonmehistory.org/join-us>.



## Hall Rentals

The Hayford Hall is available for rentals year round. It is a great venue to hold any large gathering. The hall has already held a number of events including birthday parties and baby showers, and even weddings and medieval feasts! More information about the facility and pricing can be found on our website: <https://www.cantonmehistory.org/facility-rental>.

## From the Collection

Recently a Canton resident donated a clock that had been in her home for many years. The clock originally came from the Baptist Church where it had been donated in memory of Caleb Mendall, a Civil War soldier who died during the war. The exact details are not known, but it is assuming it was donated by his brother, Gilson, who lived in Canton and is buried in Pine Grove Cemetery. The Mendalls were originally from Hartford but lived not far from the town line on Staples Hill. This beautiful clock fits in nicely in the museum!

Are you interested in adding to the rich and diverse collection of CHS by donating an item or two? If so, and the item(s) are related to Canton, please contact us by email at [cantonmehistorical@gmail.com](mailto:cantonmehistorical@gmail.com). We would be happy to chat with you and discuss the placement of the item(s) into the collection.



Clock given in memory of Caleb Mendall

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Find us on 

Canton Maine Historical Society