



TOWNSHEND HISTORICAL SOCIETY INC.

N E W S L E T T E R

FALL 2003

PO Box 202 Townshend, VT 05353

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MEETING 2:00 P.M. Sunday, Nov. 16, 2003 – Townshend Town Hall A Scavenger Hunt Finale Party

Try your knowledge on these sample questions? Where is/was Townshend's split rock? Where is the largest natural body of water (lake or pond) in town? Where can you dig or pan for gold in Townshend and find it?

These and other questions were intended to be part of the June 250th anniversary celebration, but circumstances intervened and the hunt never materialized. Now is your chance to try your skills and/or merely come to the finale party and hear the review of questions and answers.

The full list of questions may be picked up at the Town Hall, the Townshend Library, or in Mr. Sperling's classroom at Leland and Gray. You may work as a team i.e. parent and child, two or three students, whatever suits you. It's not easy, but it is fun and informative. Prizes will be awarded for the top three entrants. Note, even we don't know all the answers, so you can score high for basic research on Townshend.

NEWS

A Stitch in Time, Townshend, Vermont, 1753-2003

Recently a well-known political pundit, appearing on one of the many panel shows on Sunday morning, laughingly referred to Vermont not as a state, but as a quilt. It was a comment intended to suggest the insignificance of Vermont in the national political arena and in the eyes of the voting public. It was actually a compliment of the highest order. Vermont is indeed a quilt and proud of it. The many villages, towns and cities are fascinating, when examined individually, and become even more so when viewed as a whole, each an integral part of the whole story.

Townshend is one of those patchwork squares and has just celebrated its 250th birthday. In preparation for the big day, the Townshend Historical Society began a few years ago to research and prepare a written history of the town. The Society commissioned novelist Castle Freeman, Jr. to assimilate all the gathered material into a thorough examination of the town's past and present. A Stitch in Time is the impressive result. Townspeople have been forthright with their praise, and they are not alone. Historian Howard Coffin says, "Mankind can live from, and with, the land as Vermonters did for more than two centuries. This book is fine history." Writer Archer Mayor sums up the book, "War, politics, the economy, and a coterie of social issues are all addressed here, clearly, insightfully, and with a wonderful touch of humor."

If you have not seen the graphic images in the book, or read the captivating text, you have missed an enriching experience. Consider purchasing a copy for your family and friends. A Stitch in Time is a perfect holiday gift. We have gift-wrapped copies at no extra charge, specify gift wrap when ordering. To order: Visit our website www.townshend.vt.org or send a check for \$25.00 plus \$5.00 shipping to Townshend Historical Society, P.O. Box 202, Townshend, VT 05353. If you live in the area, books are sold at the Taft Hill Collection and Mary Meyer's Black Bear Store, both located on Route 30 in Townshend. Both are open Saturdays and Sundays. Please don't delay in buying a book that will long be appreciated by your family and friends.

"Remember, Time is Money," said Benjamin Franklin

The new 2004 Townshend Historical Society calendar features portraits from photographer Karl Decker's "The People of Townshend." Calendars will be on sale at the November 16th meeting in the town hall, and also at local stores in Townshend. The price is \$10.00, mailing an additional \$2.00. This is truly a work of art and will be popular with everyone.

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