

The CENTER *for*
WOODSTOCK
HISTORY

Dear Member,

DON'T READ THIS LETTER! DON'T READ IT IF YOU DON'T THINK WOODSTOCK IS A GOOD PLACE TO LIVE. DON'T READ IT IF YOU DON'T CARE ABOUT OUR FASCINATING PAST OR OPPORTUNITIES FOR THE FUTURE.

DO READ IT IF YOU DO CARE. The Woodstock Historical Society recently celebrated its 50th anniversary. We are not old by New England historical society standards where age is measured in centuries. We've done a lot in 50 years but there is a lot more to do.

THE GOOD NEWS. We are giving you a present. From now on, all residents of Woodstock are members of the Historical Society. And there is more news. To fully reflect what we are we will be operating as **The Center for Woodstock History**.

What does that mean. It means that we are working to make the extensive collections of photographs diaries, journals, historical papers as well as newspapers and other resources more readily available to you. So, if you have questions about an ancestor or other past resident of Woodstock, a building or site that interests you, or about events in our past, we want to be able to help answer those questions through guided research or through our investigation of the subject.

We are also planning to provide programs about local and national history. A guidebook to our town and other publications are sorely needed and although we made a giant leap with the publication of ***A Journey Through Woodstock, 1686 – 2011*** (copies still available for purchase) there is much more to be done.

The hitch of course is that we are entirely a volunteer organization and while we have focused on adding to the collections, we have some catching up to do to make them available. And since we are not charging for membership – **remember that is our gift to you** – we hope that you can help us with a tax-deductible contribution to fund long-term projects like digitizing our fragile papers and photographs and uploading them to our website. In addition, your donations will enable us to present exhibitions of our collections in our galleries.

Like you, we love the character of this town and while we admire its progress, we honor its history. Please help us to keep our stories alive with a contribution and **make a present of the past for future generations**.

Sincerely

Anthony Reed
President