Message from the Co-Directors

As Co-Directors of the newly merged Westmoreland Park Hill Meeting House and Westmoreland Historical Society, we look forward to working with all members of these two fine organizations, as well as all new members, in pursuit of our common interests: the study and preservation of the character of historic Westmoreland. While this merger has been discussed over the years, we are glad to finally call it official, to work together and leverage our common interests as well as our collective strengths. Given our passion for Westmoreland and its history, this merger appears to be a win-win for all concerned. We remain committed to active communication, to maintaining our current schedule of activities (and perhaps even more), and to strengthening our capabilities through this merger. Please don't hesitate to contact us if you have any questions or comments.

FALL PROGRAMS

Committee: John Harris, Paula Page, Libby McKenney, Jan Carpenter

Tuesday, September 7, 2010 – 7 p.m. – Park Hill Meeting House

JENNIFER HARVILLE, of Westmoreland, will tell some family stories, show some family items and relate what it has been like growing up the Great Granddaughter of former President Calvin Coolidge.

Last month, the public joined the Coolidge family along with numerous political figures for the dedication of the President Calvin Coolidge Museum and Education Center, the newest addition to the President Coolidge Historic Site at Plymouth Notch, Vermont. Plymouth is where Calvin Coolidge was born and raised, and is where he took the oath of office administered by his father in the early morning hours of August 3, 1923.

The old family farm house is still filled with its original furnishings where vacationing Vice President Coolidge, following the death of Warren Harding, became the 30th President of the United States.
Monday, October 4, 2010 – 7 p.m. – Fellowship Hall

WENDALYN (WENDY) BAKER the new Director at the Fort at No. 4 will provide an overview of the Plantation at No. 4, the first “Fort”, the Fort at No. 4 Living History Museum, as well as an idea of what is happening now as the Fort moves into the 2011 operating season.

Fort at No. 4 has been an integral part of the Connecticut River Valley since its construction in 1744. It served as both the first line of defense for settlements to its south, and as a jumping off point for new settlements after the fall of Quebec during the French and Indian or Seven Years War.

The Fort at No. 4 Living History Museum, a reconstruction of the original fortified village, has worked to foster an understanding of the Fort, its people, and to bring to life a frontier settlement within the British Colonies through its school programs, reenactments, and demonstrations of colonial skills.

Monday, November 1, 2010 – 7 p.m. – Fellowship Hall

JANE BROX’s fourth book, Brilliant, The Evolution of Artificial Light, has just been published by Houghton Mifflin Harcourt. It is a history of the way people have lighted their homes and paths from caveman to space man.

She is the author of three previous books, Clearing Land, Legacies of the American Farm; Five Thousand Days Like This One, which was a 1999 finalist for the National Book Critics Circle Award in nonfiction; and Here and Nowhere Else, which won the L.L. Winship/PEN New England Award. She has received the New England Book Award for nonfiction and her essays have appeared in many anthologies including Best American Essays, The Norton Book of Nature Writing and The Pushcart Prize Anthology. She has been awarded grants from the John Simon Guggenheim Foundation, the National Endowment for the Arts, and the Massachusetts Cultural Council.

In Spring 2010 she was the Coastal Studies Scholar at Bowdoin College.

CENSUS OF OUR MEMBERS

In order to learn more about our members and to serve them better, we are asking for a few minutes of your time to fill out the enclosed sheet and return it to the Secretary (Jan Youga) at the September meeting or mail it to P.O. Box 105. If there are any questions, please call Jan Carpenter, 399-7075.
CENSUS

The Westmoreland Park Hill Meeting House & Historical Society asks that you answer the following questions for our 2010 “Census Year” sampling of members and other residents of our town. (Please use the back of this page and/or attach other pages) This information will not be published or given out to anyone else but remain in our Archives as a sort of Time Capsule of information for future generations.

1. Your full name:

2. Year & place born:

3. Parents names if they lived in Westmoreland:

4. When & why did you come to Westmoreland or what is your connection to the town?

5. How many other places have you lived?

6. Your occupation, hobbies and most enjoyed job:

7. Spouse/Partner name(s):

8. What change(s) or improvements would you like to see happen in Westmoreland?

9. Favorite gathering places or scenes in Westmoreland?

10. What would you like the “new” Westmoreland Park Hill Meeting House & Historical Society to accomplish in the next ten years?

Please return to Westmoreland Park Hill Meeting House and Historical Society, P.O. Box 105, Westmoreland, NH 03467
RARE OPPORTUNITY TO VISIT STODDARD MINES

On September 15th the Cheshire Walkers will have an opportunity to visit the old Stoddard Mine(s) off Poocham Road. Jim Ranson will lead the group on the approximately one mile easy to moderate walk up the old wagon road. Jim has an excellent knowledge of the history of this once thriving fluorspar business which has been almost forgotten and unknown by most current residents.

The Cheshire Walkers meet every Wednesday at 9 a.m. at the Keene Recreational Center during the Fall and Spring months. Walks are scheduled throughout the County and everyone is welcome to participate. There is no formal membership and no cost.

For this walk, please meet either at the Keene Recreational Center at 9:00 am or at 9:30 at the Westmoreland Town Hall where a guide will lead to the area of the Mine(s). Sturdy walking shoes and bottled water are advised. If you have questions, please call 399-7075

News from the “Closet” – Jan Carpenter, Archivist

This space is looking better with its new coat of paint, thanks to John Harris; an electric outlet installed by electrician, Bernie Schatz; and door lock installed by TJ Ferguson. The metal cabinets which were provided by the Lions Club fit perfectly in back of the door and 2 file cabinets have added to the efficient alphabetical storage of records.

I plan to spend Monday mornings this fall working to better organize and catalog the many pictures, genealogy research, books, maps, Old Home Days memorabilia, etc., and eventually enter them into our new Past Perfect computer program. Elaine Kaliski and June Derjue have very generously offered to help with some of these tasks.

Other volunteer help will be very much appreciated. Call me at 399-7075 or just stop in some Monday morning and see this new addition to our “new” Westmoreland Park Hill Meeting House and Historical Society.

2011 Calendar

This year’s 2011 Westmoreland calendar will have old post cards and other old photos. If any of our members have old post cards and are willing to let us scan them to use in this calendar it would be very helpful. If so, please call 399-7075.
Westmoreland Park Hill Meeting House & Historical Society
P.O. Box 105
Westmoreland, New Hampshire 03467

Name__________________________________________________________________
Address:________________________________________________________________
Town/City:___________________________State:_________________Zip:__________
Phone:_____________________________E-mail_______________________________

Individual  - $10.00         Family - $15.00         Business - $25.00        Lifetime - $100.00

Please accept my Tax Exempt (501(c)(3)) donation of: ___________________________
toward maintenance of the Meeting House or the Corner School.