



Belfast Historical Society & Museum
10 Market Street, Belfast, Maine 04915-6555
Tel: (207) 338-9229 Email: info@belfastmuseum.org

NEWSLETTER DECEMBER 2024

Dear Belfast Historical Society Member,

The summer of 2024 was one of the most busy and productive seasons at the museum!

The museum closed on Saturday October 12, 2024. Our intrepid intern, **Morgan Donnelly**, not only greeted visitors, answered the phone, kept track of visitors for the Google map, created museum displays, but completed a six-minute video about his Great-Great Grandfather Dr. Carl Stevens. This video was posted on our YouTube channel. He really enjoyed creating the Then and Now photo compilations, striving to line up every roofline and doorway!

Morgan's visitor count as of August 24th (his last day): 429 visitors. 34 states & the District of Columbia and 5 countries came through the museum. Morgan created the 2024 Google visitor map. We welcomed several visitors from Belfast, Northern Ireland who really enjoyed their visits to both the museum and to Belfast. A later count, taken on September 5th: 465 visitors. Several folks did say they read about Belfast and the BHS&M in the Boston Globe article which was published in late July.

Mira Shaklan, social media volunteer, continued making slide shows for our Instagram account. She is back in Brooklyn, New York, for her high school Sophomore year.

Willa Bywater, our 2023 Intern, volunteered to work on cataloging early 20th century newspaper articles, before heading back to Bryn Mawr College for her sophomore year.

We welcomed Ken Gordon to the Board of Directors in June. Ken has strong family ties to Belfast going back many generations on his mother's side. He has been active on the boards of the Belfast Curling Club and the Northport Golf Club with a focus on buildings and ground projects.

On Friday, November 22, 2024, the Belfast Historical Society and Museum lost a very dear friend and colleague: Dan Clarke. Dan had been a volunteer at the museum and a member of the Board of Directors since 2000. Dan was indispensable to the organization and it was under his direction that museum projects and building maintenance were carried out in a professional manner. He had an extensive knowledge of Belfast history which aided in the interpretation of museum exhibits. We will especially miss Dan's knowledge and his practical way of looking at issues facing the board.



A recent addition to the museum's commercial and business collection is the William McIntosh metal sign for his store located at 101 High Street. His former store is now part of Darby's Restaurant. Mr. McIntosh specialized in lady's, children's, and men's clothing at the turn of the century. He also

advertised a "fine line of sweet grass baskets." A few of the baskets sold included: flat work basket with handles, scissors cases, porcupine bowl baskets and oblong work baskets.

In addition to a busy museum season, our programs held at the Belfast Free Library were very well attended. The 2025 programs will resume on April 28, check our website for the program schedule, www.BelfastMuseum.org. Programs are held the fourth Monday, April Through October in the Abbott Room, Belfast Free Library and are free for our membership.

The Belfast Walking Tours, led by Megan Pinette, historical society president, were very well attended by both locals and visitors this summer. Tours were held on Friday afternoons in July and August. The tour is a great way to learn about Belfast history!

We thank our museum volunteers for their continued dedication to the cataloging, preservation and interpretation of artifacts and archival materials donated to the museum. As items are accessioned in the collection during summer months, we are kept busy in the off-season processing them. In addition to the McIntosh sign, we have received 1960s Crosby High School yearbooks and a Percy A. Sanborn watercolor of a house on Miller Street. Of special interest is a collection of photographs, documents and trophies related to Charles Brier. Mr. Brier was the proprietor of BRIERBILT Boat Company which specialized in the outboard racing sport during the 1950s and 60s.

*Thank you for your continued support!
We wish you all a Merry Christmas, Happy Holidays, and a Healthy New Year.*



Contact Information
(207) 338-9229 or info@belfastmuseum.org

Please visit our website, BelfastMuseum.org for 2025 schedule updates, memberships, donations, and museum news.

The Board of Directors

President: Megan Pinette
Vice President: David Ruberti
Treasurer: Sara Hayes
Finance Officer: Phil Carthage

Members:
Catlin Barnes
Amanda Cunningham
Joyce Fenner
Ken Gordon
Mary Gilman
Dorothy Havey
Richard Koralek
Ed Lennon