

BRADFORD HISTORICAL SOCIETY

NEWSLETTER

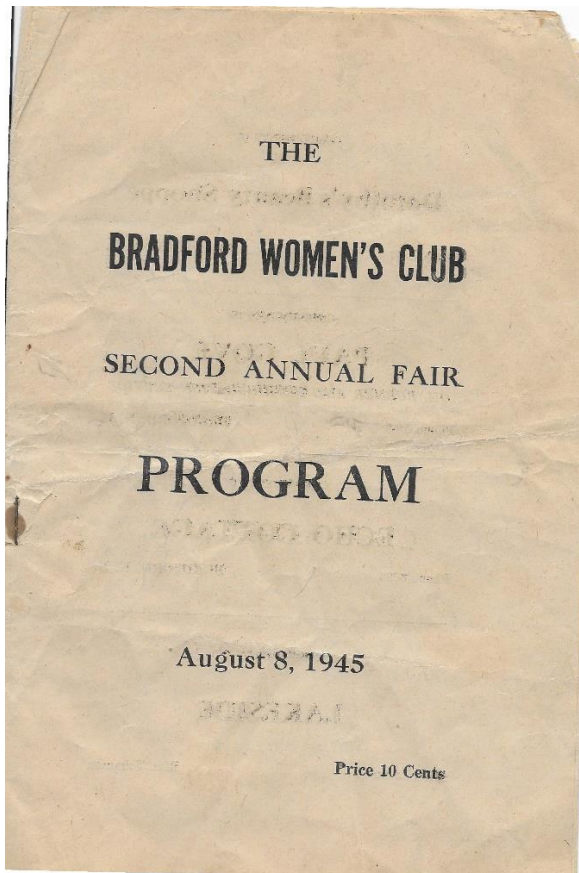
BHS, 162 East Main St, Bradford NH 03221

Volume 9 Issue 3 May, 2023

Years ago, the BHS was given many items from the Bradford Women's Club. The Bradford Women's Club (BWC) was a very important organization in our town for many years. When reviewing some items, I found many "Programs" for events. The Women's Club sold these Programs for 10 cents at their street fairs and Annual Fairs to all that attended. In one of the Annual Fair Programs of August 8, 1945, was an article called "BRIEF HISTORY OF BRADFORD, N.H" which follows:



BWC Street Fair, c. 1983



Tradition names Isaac Davis as first settler in 1762. However, first authenticated record dates 1770 naming Deacon Wm. Presbury, who moved up here from Henniker. In 1714⁽¹⁾ several families moved here from Bradford, Mass., naming the settlement New Bradford. First Town Meeting was held in 1786 but the town did not receive its charter until March 27, 1787. In early days the centre of population was the Centre of the town. Here were built the first school and meetinghouse, cobbler and blacksmith shops, taverns, stores, homes and Town Pound which can still be seen near the old Centre Church. In 1825 the railroad was extended to Bradford and since then the "north-east" village so called, has been the center of municipal activities. West of the tracks was known as Mill-Village, and east of them the Corner. At the corner stood the old Raymond House, visited in 1825 by General Lafayette. Here over a century later was dedicated our new schoolhouse.⁽²⁾ Located in the "Mill Village" are the Baptist Church (1836), Town Hall (1863), the beautiful Brown Library, and the earliest store still in existence, established in 1824 by Daniel Carr. Bradford stands today as it has always stood, for the highest traditions of American citizenship, proud of its past, progressive and looking towards its future!

(1) '1714' taken from the article, should be 1784.

(2) Now the BACC.

Back to today: Remember, we are open on Saturdays during the hours of 10:00am to 12:00pm. We still need members to sign in to help with the hosting and tours. Sign up at <https://signup.com/client/invitation2/secure/118702484950133607/false#/invitation>.

Tracey Quigley, our Archivist, has put together a wonderful docent guide for all of us that have signed up to use. It will help a lot while hosting. They are on the desk for you.

Jim Denoncourt has put together a wonderful dairy product advertisement display, Salesman's tools of miniature tin cows and cream separator. It's only on display for a few months, so don't miss it.

We will be sending out our Board meeting minutes and the agenda for the following meeting shortly. Our meetings are on the 4th Wednesday of the month at 2:00pm. We would enjoy seeing new faces and having new input. Come join us.

Mailing list update: The BHS is reviewing our members list. We have some persons on email or mailing lists that go back to 2007 with no communication or dues payments. It is important that we know that the list we have is valid. So, we are asking you to notify us if you would like to stay on our email or mailing list at bradfordnhhistorical.org. or BHS, 162 East Main St., Bradford, NH 03221. Alternately, call Harry Wright, President: 603-938-2203, handswright2203@gmail.com

Membership Type: _____ Senior/Student (\$15) _____ Adult (\$20) _____ Family (\$30)

_____ Life Member (\$200) _____ Life Couple (\$300) Additional Donation Welcomed: __ Please write checks

to Bradford Historical Society, mail to: BHS, 162 East Main St. Bradford, NH 03221

Your dues cover your membership for the current calendar year. Your dues are due in January of that year. Please renew now (if you haven't) for 2023. Thank you for your support.

As a reminder: the next Board meeting is Wednesday, May 24, at 2:30pm at the Tin Shop – see you there -

