

THANK YOU—each and every one of you—for supporting our work and helping the Manchester Historical Society preserve our community’s past and present and bring the stories to life.

Here are a few highlights from the past year that your support made possible.

COLLECTION

Our collection continues to grow! We received some wonderful gifts this year including documents, photographs, art and artifacts related to renowned artist Luigi Lucioni.



“The shared history is our greatest asset. I am continually amazed at what’s been long stored or forgotten about in attics, basements, barns, and on bookshelves. A phone call or passing conversation can lead us to pieces of history that were lost in time, from business signs to photographs, letters to other personal items that help us better understand our past. Manchester dates back to before we were a nation, and our collection includes precious evidence from those first days all the way up to the present.”

–Shawn Harrington, Curator

Donations of delicate objects like this c. 1890 glass medicine bottle from the Hard drugstore continue to enrich our collection.

PRESERVATION

Thanks to your generosity we have been able to continue the process of cataloguing our collection and digitizing the photographs and glass-plate negatives. Our wonderful volunteers, Helen Gawlik and Louise Hughes, have been an enormous help to us, spending many hours processing and transcribing documents in the collection. Their work has been invaluable.



Volunteers, Helen Gawlik and Louise Hughes, in the vault

INTERPRETATION

We have partnered this year with several businesses and nonprofits to make the collection more visible in the community. Thanks to Bill and Steve Drunsic, the entry way to Factory Point Place has an impressive mural of photographs illustrating the history of the building. We have also worked with *Stratton* magazine and GNAT-TV to present stories of historical interest.



Board member Irene Cole designed this collage of the building's history for Factory Point Place.



Dorset Players gave voice to past Manchester residents in Dellwood Cemetery.
PHOTO CREDIT: JOSH WILLIAMS

PRESENTATION

“The opportunity to enhance people’s appreciation for Manchester through programming such as private house tours, storytelling, and interpretive presentations is so gratifying. Community collaboration with local homeowners, authors, and organizations such as the Dorset Players, Dellwood Cemetery Association, and Manchester Community Library truly enlarges our efforts for meaningful and memorable events which enrich us all.” – Kim Rizio, MHS vice president and Programs Committee chair

2016 - 2017 ANNUAL GIVING

Our report gratefully acknowledges gifts received by the Manchester Historical Society between October 1, 2016 and September 30, 2017.

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VOLUNTEERS

Helen Gawlik
Louise Hughes

*Special thanks to Chip Stokes,
chairman of Ekwanok Country
Club Museum and Library, for
his gracious assistance.*

Every effort has been made to ensure the accuracy and completeness of our annual report.

Errors do happen, however, so let us know if there are any mistakes or omissions by calling us at 802.549.5482 or by email: info@manchesterhistoricalsocietyvt.org.

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The mission of the Manchester Historical Society is to collect, preserve, interpret and present the story of Manchester through the research collection, exhibitions, programs, and publications.

Our programs included our first-ever historic house tour, thanks to the generosity of the Redmond family, who allowed us to offer tours of their home in Manchester Village, formerly owned by Mr. and Mrs. Bartlett Arkell. “Hometown Storytellers,” featuring Dave Quesnel, Bill West, and Dr. Bob Treat, drew a large crowd at the library to hear tales of their lives. Our summer tour of Dellwood Cemetery included an introduction to former Manchester residents by the Dorset Players and was very well attended. In August we hosted Karan Sheldon, co-founder of Northeast Historic Film, who showed selections from the 37 reels of historic film taken by Anna B. Harris in Manchester between 1949 and 1958.



We are very grateful to our **2016-2017 CORPORATE SPONSORS** for their interest in Manchester’s history and their generous support.

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