

122nd Gilmanton Old Home Day

Saturday, August 15, 2020



"A highlight of mid-August was Old Home Day at Smith Meeting House. The Bean Hole dinner was so good, and it was right merry to listen to the band as we sat on the lawn in the shade of old maple trees."

Order your beans NOW!

Use the enclosed order form and mail today!

Silent auction

Our annual silent auction will be held Saturday, August 15, 2020 on our Facebook website from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Bid on gift certificates, merchandise or passes from...

Healing Lakes Chiropractic
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- Four Corners Brick House
- Gilmanton Café & Gilmanton Pub
- Gilmanton Garage
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- Gilmanton's Own Market
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- Young's Auto Sales

Contact Us

Interested in placing an advertisement in next years booklet, volunteering your time, renting a vendor space next year, or just have a question?

- Sarah Baldwin-Welcome, president, provpalt@metrocast.net
- Judy Wilson, vendor chair, wjkew5300@gmail.com
- Cameron Hamel, advertising, silent auction and booklet information, GilmantonOldHomeDay@gmail.com

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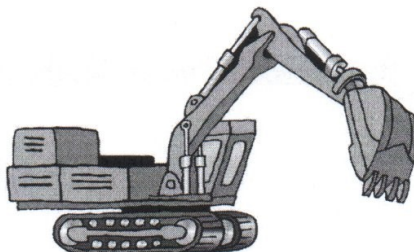
at the Old Corners Firehouse - Junction of Route 107 & 140

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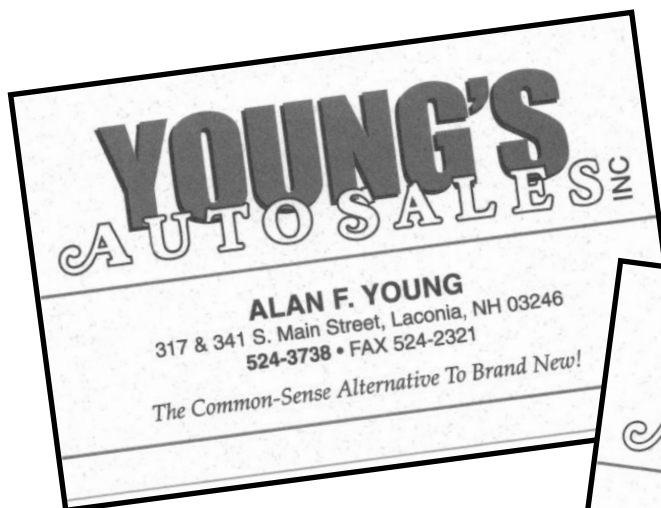
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- PAUL TERRY

Gilmanton/Alton/Barnstead – HOUSE DISTRICT 8 – 1 SEAT
VOTE FOR:

- RAYMOND HOWARD

Gilmanton/Alton/Barnstead – SENATE DIST 6 – 1 SEAT
VOTE FOR:

- JAMES P. GRAY

Primary Election – Tuesday, Sep 8
General Election – Tuesday, Nov 3

The Gilmanton Old Home Day Association would like to dedicate this 2020 booklet to **William “Bill” Angevine**

Many volunteers start by helping in small ways and soon become irreplaceable; this is the way with Bill Angevine.

Bill started volunteering with the Old Home Day festivities by helping to clean out the school house each year. It wasn't long before he was part of a team who did much of the 'grunt' work before the big day each year! He built the wooden road blocks, still used today to direct traffic; helped pick the beans, and became the association handyman, "if something would break or get out of whack, Bill would fix it," says his wife.

Let's not forget the monster-sized wooden boards used as dinner tables! He would help to move these boards from the cook house and prepare them as tables each year. Bill and George Carpenter were the first people to visit businesses to obtain advertisements for the booklet – which continues to be used each year and features him this year!

In the last few years of his volunteering, he took the tickets for dinner; and helped to count the receipts at the end of the day.

Want to know more about Bill? Please read about his life below; adapted from his obituary.

A native of Massachusetts, Bill earned a master's degree from Harvard before serving as a first lieutenant in the Air Force during the Korean War, where he was awarded the Bronze Star.

He and his family moved to Gilmanton in 1983. As a Gilmanton resident, Bill was active throughout his community, serving on many boards, including Gilmanton Old Home Day Committee and the Gilmanton Public Corner Library. He was also a member of the Gilmanton Community Church and the First Congregational Society in Gilmanton.

Bill was buried at the Smith Meetinghouse Cemetery.

Members of the Gilmanton Old Home Day Committee wish to thank Bill's wife, Barbara, for her time to help us remember Bill. We hope you will, too.

~ William Angevine ♥ Sept. 19, 1929 - Jan. 31, 2020 ~

HISTORY OF NEW HAMPSHIRE OLD HOME DAY

The following was taken from a submission by Walton F. Stockwell:

Old Home Week was created by New Hampshire Governor Frank West Rollins. In 1897 he wrote, “I wish that in the ear of every son and daughter of New Hampshire, in the summer days, might be heard whispered the persuasive words: Come back, come back. Do you not hear the call? What has become of the old home where you were born? Do you not remember it—the old farm back among the hills, with its rambling buildings, its well sweep casting its long shadows, the row of stiff poplar trees, the lilac and the willows?”

Throughout the 19th century New Hampshire’s farming towns had been losing population. New England’s talent and money were being drained away to build up the rest of the country. The state government was in debt, as were three quarters of the towns.

Rollins called upon the old New Hampshire Board of Agriculture to coordinate something then known as Old Home Week. He had specific goals in mind: he wanted native born to return and buy the many abandoned farms in the state for summer homes. He wanted them to donate money to spruce up the village common, to support the library and the meeting house. And he wanted the towns themselves to awaken from what he saw as a moral slumber. He wrote “ There have been, of course, reunions since the beginning of time, but my plan differed from the ordinary reunion in that it was to occupy a week in each year so that each one could make his plans to be back, and was to be recognized by the state as a permanent festival”.

He rallied others to his idea, founded an Old Home Week Association, and as Governor of New Hampshire presided over the state’s first homecoming in 1899. The state issued its invitation across the nation to its sons and daughters toiling in the cities, in the fields of the Midwest, and the mining camps of Montana.

By 1907 the idea of Old Home Week had expanded from New Hampshire to all of the New England states, New York, Ohio, Alabama, Virginia, North Carolina, Kentucky, Rhode Island, Pennsylvania, and onto Nova Scotia, Ontario and even to Australia. Many towns in New Hampshire continue the tradition of holding “Old Home Days”.



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July 19 at 4 p.m.
August 9 at 4 p.m.
(Old Home Day Service)
September 20 at 4 p.m.
October 18 at 4 p.m.
(Harvest Potluck Supper)
November 15 at 2 p.m.

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122nd Gilmanton Old Home Day

Bean-Hole Beans Order Form

Saturday, August 15, 2020

Please pick up between noon and 3 p.m. at Smith Meetinghouse
Meeting House Road, Gilmanton N.H.

How many	Size	Bean	Subtotal
	Quart, \$8	Traditional Kidney	\$
	Pint, \$5	Traditional Kidney	\$
	Quart, \$8	Traditional Pea Bean	\$
	Pint, \$5	Traditional Pea Bean	\$
	Quart, \$8	Spicy Southern Vegetarian	\$
	Pint, \$5	Spicy Southern Vegetarian	\$
TOTAL ENCLOSED			\$

Please mail your order form and a check or money order made out to
the Gilmanton Old Home Day to:

Cameron Hamel
663 Cherry Valley Road #204
Gilford NH 03249

Orders due by August 5, 2020

2020 Traffic Plan

PICK UP
BEANS HERE.
DRIVE THRU.
We will come
to you.

ENTER

EXIT

- 1 - COOK HOUSE
- 2 - CARRIAGE SHED
- 3 - MEETINGHOUSE
- 4 - SCHOOL HOUSE
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- E - INFORMATION

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Its objective is to inspire and elevate the character of its members.

For further information write to:

Chocorua Lodge #51
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*Congratulations on your
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History of Our Bean Hole

by Maurice Wells and Johnny Bryant

The bean hole pits were started in 1960 when Shirley Marden of Chichester showed Harold and Johnny Bryant, father and son, how to build pits. The first two pits were dug by hand with field stones laid to the sides. Johnny, who dug these first two pits, had help by his father, Harold Bryant. He also had helped by Charles Kelley (George Kelley's father), Earle Brown and George B. Roberts Sr.

Before each person had their own pit, the ladies would bring their own homemade beans. People started to get touchy, wanting only a certain person's beans and thus feelings started to get hurt.

After the success of the two-hand dug pits, Johnny Bryant and Bobby Daigneau made two additional pits, lining both with field stone to match the original two. These new pits were donated by George and Margaret Roberts.



Our Bean Hole Story

Fires are started in the early afternoon using dry maple along with ash. Oak, cherry and birch are not used as they give off an odor which infuses the beans. The wood burns slowly and hot coals are produced so they are ready by five o'clock.

Continuing with tradition, the Thursday before Old Home Day, volunteers gather to sort the kidney and pea beans, picking out the bad dried beans and tossing out any small stones. The cooking process begins Friday using the secret recipe which still causes great excitement throughout the cook house! Around five o'clock on Friday the crowds continue to gather. Menfolk place the kettles near the pits while other men pour the simmered beans into the kettles. The secret ingredients are added before snapping the lids in place. The strongest men (usually 5 or 6) use a hornbeam pole to lower the kettle onto the glowing coals.

Hornbeam poles were used for years, and are, according to Noah Webster, "any genus of trees of the birch family having smooth grey bark and hard white wood."

Large metal covers are placed over the pits topped with shovels of sand or clay-type soil to keep the heat around the kettles. Around 11 o'clock Saturday morning, the process is reversed to remove the kettles from the hole and partake in a bean dinner.

Interesting fact: Shirley Marden's kettles were borrowed until the we could afford our own which are still used today.

More?

There's another part to the bean hole dinner! The extra food that goes along with the beans! While the beans simmer on Friday, the cook house crew makes the coleslaw, prepares the brown bread and utensils, puts ham on platters and makes the punch. Topping off dinner is always famous homemade pies prepared by community members. The volunteer wait staff are on-hand to make sure everyone has a hearty dinner!

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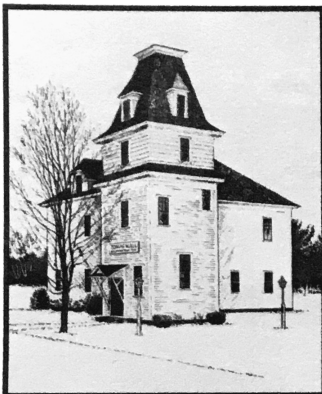
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Summer Program Series 2020:

** Subject to Change w/Covid Updates*

7/28 -6pm John Porter presents: A History of NH Agriculture

Location: Twigg Barn-Meetinghouse Rd

8/25 -7:30pm History of Gilmanston's Kitchen Family

9/22- History of Gilmanston's Jones' Mills

Time & Location TBA

**For Updates Come Visit Us on Facebook:*

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Town Webpage : www.gilmanstonnh.org

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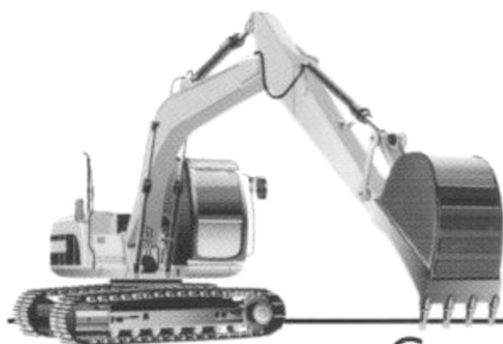
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