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BOOTHBAY REGION
HISTORICAL
SOCIETY

JULY 2024

Researching and preserving our history, so your stories will not be forgotten.



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Summer games including a sack race and three-legged race c.1920s-1930s.

(Boothbay Region Historical Society Collections BHFR138.)



Summer Speaker Series

Queen Marie Antoinette & Boothbay Area Links to France and Other Places

Presented by Chip Griffin

Thursday, August 8, 2024 at 4:30pm

Venue TBD

People have long been fascinated with Queen Marie Antoinette's dramatic 1793 beheading in a white death robe at the guillotine in France. This notoriety has prompted interest in her background and life. But did you know that she also had remarkable connections with Boothbay region sailors and sailing vessels?

In the last talk in our Summer Speaker Series, historian Chip Griffin explores these stories, which include transatlantic shipping and fishing. And of course, this discussion wouldn't be complete without including the Marie Antoinette house in our own backyard!

This event is free. Donations are greatly appreciated.

Space is limited. [Pre-registration is required.](#)

REGISTER HERE



This year, we were pleased to award the 2024 Boothbay Region Historical Society scholarship to Boothbay Region High School senior Kate Campbell. This year, applications went digital and the competition was fierce. Kate Campbell stood out for her well-considered, humorous, and compassionate essay answers. She's exactly the type of student we want to support as she begins her academic career.

Along with a complimentary Pinky level [membership](#), Kate was awarded a \$1000 check. She's accepted a place at the University of Maine at Orono this fall and will use her scholarship funds for tuition. Kate said she plans to study Nutrition and "double major or minor in business, with the goal of having my own health-foods bakery!" ***Congrats, Kate—you're going to go on to great things!***



What do these names have in common: Joseph Rich, William Brown, Thomas Emerson, and Chapman Reed? These are just some of the people responsible for constructing and maintaining the beautiful historic buildings in our area. Along with many others, they were listed in the 1890 Boothbay Harbor census as House Carpenters.

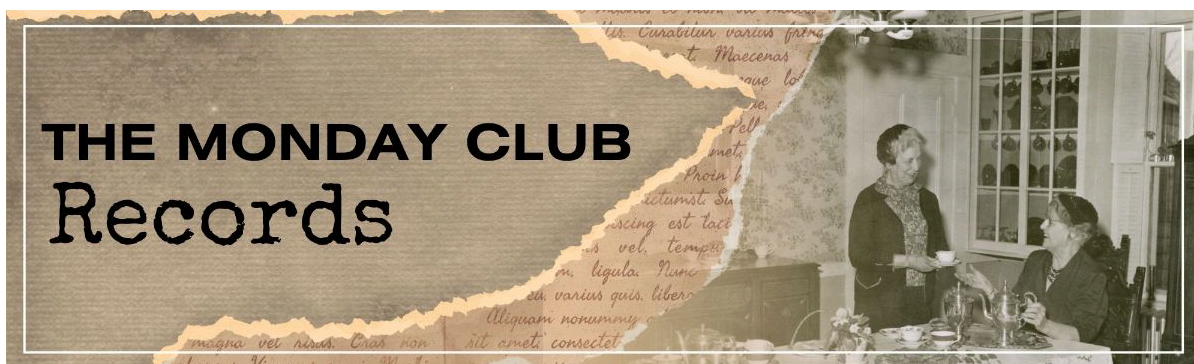
If you like working with your hands, have some basic maintenance or carpentry skills, and are interested in carrying on their tradition, won't

you consider volunteering to help with upkeep and minor repairs on our historic 1874 building?

- Tasks are varied, but here are a few examples of projects that Buildings & Grounds volunteers tackle:
- Window glass replacement
- Exterior spruce-ups
- Door hardware adjustments
- Trim, molding, and wall repairs
- Small carpentry projects
- ...And more!

If you'd like to learn more about this or other volunteer opportunities, [email Executive Director Aimee Keithan](#).

I WANT TO VOLUNTEER



Not Just Tea Parties

Written by Julia O'Brien-Merrill, Boothbay Historical Trustee

The desk holding the heart and soul of the Monday Club has been emptied. Whether it be a play, a poem, a discussion paper, a program, an annual report of the secretary or treasurer, a newspaper article, a pamphlet on the Lincoln Home, an envelope filled with recipes, a scrapbook, or a certificate – each item has been sorted and put into archival boxes awaiting the next step to becoming a piece of the Monday Club Collection. I am currently in the process of giving each item a title, a description, and a specific number related to the collection, a time-consuming task.

Coming across such gems as this one makes the task rewarding. Enjoy reading aloud this poem written by Mary H. Higgins to get a sense of the purposes of the Monday Club. Dorothy W. Abbott read the poem on November 6, 1989, at the 50th Anniversary of the Monday Club.

The Monday Club of Boothbay Harbor

(With apologies to Henry Wadsworth Longfellow)

Should you ask me whence these women
Whence these women with a purpose
With a stern and thoughtful visage
With a look of active purpose
As of those intent on winning,
I should answer – I should tell you
These are members of a circle
With a purpose high and noble,
“Monday Club” – I hear them saying
“Monday Club” we all belong to
That is where we meet to listen
Meet to listen and to argue
Matters of the deepest import
Matters that will help our township –
Help our region to be better –
To improve its moral standards –
Higher standards of the students,
Students in our institutions
Institutions of higher learning
Prizes give we to these students
Prizes for an inspiration
Inspiration and incentive
To the pupils of our regions.
We have int’rests that range widely
Through the bounds of Lincoln County
Lincoln Home for men and women
Men and women old and feeble
Help we with our hard-earned money
Money that we raise with effort,
Effort that will keep the aged,
Keep them from cold and hunger
‘Till their race on earth is ended,

Ended in a tranquil haven.
Are of int'rest to our circle.
Help we give to poor old China
China in the far, far Eastland.
Seeds we send to help the British –
Help the British in their effort
To drive off the wicked Nazi's.
For state scholarship we offer
Money for an education
Education of a female
In our own or distant county,
That is one thing that we work for.
For the Gen'ral Federation
In our state and in our Nation
Work we with an effort earnest,
Toward a firm consolidation
Of the women of our nation.
Philanthropic inspiration
Get we from consolidation
That is why the Federation
Gives us help and inspiration.
Reaches every tiny hamlet
In each State and in the Nation
That is why these active women
Of the Monday Club of Boothbay
Meet together every Monday
Meet for interchange of ideas –
Meet to hear discourses learned –
Meet to hear each other['s] poems –
Meet to plan to help our township –
Meet to help the Federation –
Meet to help our great broad nation.

There are those who will still insist that the Monday Club was a social club that just held tea parties and gossiped, but this fun poem clearly shows otherwise.



Check out our YouTube channel. We're always adding recordings of recent talks, so you can get your dose of local history in the comfort of your own home! Just added: ["A Look Back: 150 Years in Boothbay Harbor"](#) with Robert Mitchell.

WATCH ONLINE



Open all year

Thursday through Saturday

10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Local historian available by chance or appointment

ADMISSION IS FREE

