

5-17-17

2016 Annual Meeting of the  
Historical Society of Clarendon Vermont, Inc.

I am pleased to present the first annual report of the Historical Society of Clarendon Vermont for the year ending Dec. 31<sup>st</sup> 2016. It was a short year for us focused entirely on various formation tasks.

A small group of us, Peter & Jan Savage, Nicolette & Mo Asselin, Heather Kent, Becky Mandolare, Jean & Bob Bixby, Cindy Davis, my wife Lyn, and I met for the first time in late Sept. here at Town Hall with Jim Davidson from the Rutland Historical Society. He talked of various organizational and operating issues and answered questions. In October several of us then attended the annual meeting of the VT Historical Society held at Castleton University to learn more. At the same time we began researching what it is we need to do in order to incorporate and bring the Historical Society of Clarendon Vermont to life.

Being we do not have a home of our own, permission was received to hold our meetings here at Town Hall and to use this as our legal address.

We began holding regular monthly meetings in November and elected an initial set of Officers as was required in order to proceed with our legal filings. On Nov. 23<sup>rd</sup> we incorporated with the State of Vermont. That allowed us file with the IRS for 501(c)3 non-profit status which was approved on Dec. 2<sup>nd</sup>. A bank account was opened and work began on Bylaws and an initial set of Policies, both of which were adopted at our January meeting.

Work on a website was also begun. This was by far the largest and most complex task, and the most important task given we do not have a physical home. A very special thanks goes to Peter Savage for the hundreds of hours he gave over to this. Thank you Peter.

Our goal from the beginning was to be ready to announce ourselves come Town Meeting. Towards that goal in early 2017 work on the website continued, we readied ourselves to accept members, a flyer to hand out at Town Meeting was prepared, and a press release was submitted to Sam's Good News and the Rutland Herald. The Herald ignored us but we did get a nice article in Sam's Good News. Our first true public meeting was in March. At this point we have begun to collect materials that we can put on the website. At present we have 31 members.

I sincerely thank all who have helped us get started and all who have shown their support by joining. We welcome your ongoing input, support, and participation. Future generations will be grateful for what we have begun here.

Bob Underhill, President