

ANNUAL REPORT
2021-2022



A Letter from Raney, Bill, and Ben

Raney: We are thrilled that 2021 and the first half of 2022 have allowed the Society to welcome school kids back through Vintage Classroom; be guest speakers for many events and lectures; open three new exhibits; hire new staff; publish *Chebacco* and the *Place Names of Mount Desert Island and the Cranberry Islands*; share over 15,000 historic records to the Digital Archive of the History Trust; win a Leadership in History award for Landscape of Change; and much, much more! We are not your average historical society, and we love to foster meaningful engagement with the histories of Mount Desert Island.

As we know, the only constant is change, and the Society is undergoing some changes we want to share with you. First, longtime president Dr. Bill Horner is stepping down from this role, to be succeeded by Ben Pierce, who has served as Chair of the Development Committee for a number of years. This transition has been in the works for over a year, and we are grateful to announce that Bill will remain on the board!

Bill: It is not unusual for retiring physicians, especially surgeons, to wonder what they are going to do next. A busy professional life of service, suddenly ended, can be a tough act to follow. As an MDI native with a family history extending into the distant past of this place, the transition was easy. I simply kept doing what I had been doing professionally: taking careful histories, researching the literature (or historical record), and most importantly perhaps, promoting an atmosphere of constructive collaboration among people and organizations with different and sometimes competing points of view.

Joining the MDI Historical Society over a decade ago and being asked to take the helm was a natural progression and

turned out to be one of the best experiences of my life. People figure prominently in this assessment. Tim Garrity and I were a natural fit. He taught me a lot. Together, we were able to attract talented and passionate members of both the year-round and summer communities that constitute a decade of stable and dedicated board membership. On Tim's retirement, we had the good fortune of finding his capable and imaginative successor in our very midst, Raney Bench. Under her leadership, we have a brilliant administrative team in Leah Lucey, Jenna Jandreau, and Patrick Callaway. And, the Society membership has GROWN! In Ben Pierce we have the perfect successor to the presidency. Meanwhile, I am stepping aside, but not down. There is still a lot of great work to be done!

Ben: Importantly, Bill in his final year as President led a dynamic long-range strategic planning initiative that lays out the framework for the Society's next decade. This will take the organization to its centennial! We will be sharing this plan framework with all of our constituencies in the coming months and look forward to securing your feedback. Bill saw us through the last decade and has set us up beautifully for the next. Thanks to him, Raney, and the team, the Society is on the move.

Please note, we are changing our fiscal year from a calendar year to a year-end on June 30th. As a result, this annual report shares the budget summary and donor lists from 2021, and our stub budget, from January through June, 2022.

Thank you from all of us at the Historical Society,

--Raney Bench, William (Bill) Horner, and Benjamin Pierce

Impact

The Mount Desert Island Historical Society has two part-time and two full-time year-round employees, but this small team is remarkable! Like all organizations, Covid required a change in our outreach and program strategies to more online formats. Combining the strengths of virtual programming, and the opportunity to gather in person again in 2022, has allowed the Society to reach more people than ever!

It's difficult to estimate how many researchers we've supported through access to our collections, and by answering questions every week, but this important part of our work compliments our outreach, which is growing all the time.

Here's a look at our impact since January 2022:

Chebacco Chats: 460
 Lectures: 370
 Book Club: 35
 School groups: 210
 Traveling exhibit talks: 120
 Publications (*Chebacco, Place Names...*): 750

TOTAL:
 1,945 people reached through programs and education in the first half of 2022!

Financial Report

For the calendar year 2021, the Society reported a Net Operating Profit of \$54,000 on Revenue totaling \$291,000. Membership contributions for the year were an impressive \$223,000, and the Society was again in receipt of a generous Payroll Protection Plan loan from the Government (since forgiven). Clearly, the Society navigated well through the second year of the COVID storm.

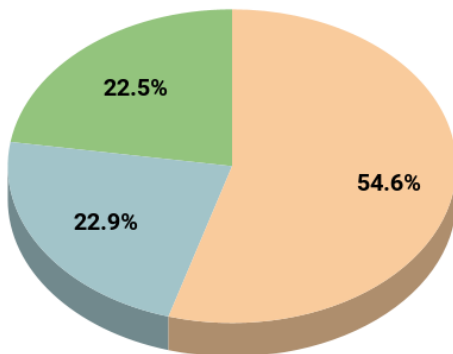
This year, the Society is migrating to a new fiscal year planning cycle, effective July 1, 2022, and our new fiscal year plan for 2023 will commence then. For the brief 6-month "stub year" from January through June, 2022, the

Society had positive cash flow, but due to the traditional second half of year calendarization of contributions, the Society reported a net loss of \$(22,000). Future reporting of financial results will be reflective of this new fiscal year cycle.

Our balance Sheet also remained strong during 2021. The two endowment accounts grew by an impressive 28% during this COVID recovery period to \$533,000, and cash flow has remained strong through the first half of 2022.

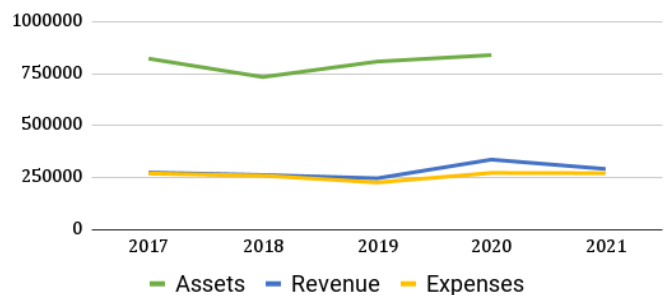
--Submitted by Ham Clark, Treasurer

Membership Contributions by Giving Levels



● Voyager Gold - Extraordinary >\$5,000 ● Voyager Bronze - Voyager Silver \$1,000-\$5,000
 ● Individual - Navigator <\$1,000

Revenue and Expenses 2017-2021



Our Members

The Mount Desert Island Historical Society is grateful to every member and organization for supporting our mission in 2021-2022. Each gift does its work: it enables us to pursue our vision, funds the protection of objects in our collections, supports programs that connect our community to the island's histories, and more.

We are proud to acknowledge your contribution, and hope we have done so correctly. To request an update to your name, or report a correction, please contact us at (207) 276-9323 or info@mdihistory.org.

We appreciate your generosity and recognition of history's relevance.

Extraordinary (\$10,000+)

Anonymous
Gail & Ham Clark III
John & Betsy Cochran
Ben Emory
Carol & Paul Fremont-Smith
Spencer & Rena Fulweiler
Cookie & Bill Horner
Henry Raup
Sydney & Jonathan Winthrop

Voyager Gold (\$5,000-9,999)

Courtney & Guy Comer
Cromwell Harbor Foundation, Inc.
Nancy Harris
Ann Kinney
The Gerrish H. Milliken Foundation
Bambi Putnam, Kathy & George Putnam III,
and Susan Peck
Mitchell P. Rales Family Foundation
TouchPoint, Inc.
Diana Wister

Voyager Silver (\$2,500-4,999)

Anne & Jim Green
Kathryn MacLeod
Mollie & Rick Wheeler
Averel & John Wilson

Voyager Bronze (\$1,000-2,499)

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Maureen & Roger Ackerman
Helen Brown Bechtel
Bob Bell
Joan Blaine
Sofia & Peter Blanchard III
Antoinette & Benjamin Brewster
Jean & Ordway Burden
Charles Butt
Elizabeth Hodder Corbus & Clay Corbus

Susan & David Edson
Okeden Fund
Ellie & Temple* Grassi
Christa & Jeffrey Hawkins
Betsey Holtzmann
Lynn & Jeff Horowitz
Joan & Allan Jay Kleinman
Story Litchfield
Lincoln Millstein
Louisa & William Newlin
Linda & C. W. Eliot Paine
Ellie & Michael Pancoe
Cassie Solomon & Ben Pierce
Polly Pierce
Sara Pierce
Laura & Vassar Pierce
Strand O. & T. Ricardo Quesada
Emma & Bill Roberts
Barbara Robinson
William Rudolf*
Martie & Edward Samek
Nanette & David Schoeder
Theda & William Skocpol
Anne & Robert Walmsley
Helen & Paul Weaver
Lynne Wheat
Wendy Wood

Navigator (\$500-999)

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Gale & Shelby M.C. Davis
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The Eacho Family Foundation
Mary Laurence Flynn
The Garden Club of Mount Desert

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Reeve Draper
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Dennis Bracale
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Campbell Cary
Mollie Cashwell
Elliot Cohen
Pamela Hattem & Richard Cohen
Leza & Jim Colquhoun
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Paula Cushman
Kay & David Dawson
Jennifer Russo & Christian de Jesus
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Brian & Ford Draper
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This list reflects members for fiscal year 2021 and "stub year" 2022 (MDI Historical Society's new fiscal year runs July 1 to June 30.) *Deceased marked with an asterisk.
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WE ENVISION an island-wide community working together
 to promote appreciation of the histories of Mount Desert Island.

OUR MISSION is to foster meaningful engagement with the histories of MDI.

Mount Desert Island Historical Society
 PO Box 653 Mount Desert, ME

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 info@mdihistory.org

www.mdihistory.org

