



## Newsletter - Summer 2014

Welcome to the first newsletter of the Friends of the Fairlee Town Hall. You are receiving this because of your expressed interest in accessing and using the second floor. Accessibility to this floor will provide a bustling center of activity, create a stronger sense of community, and serve as a catalyst of transformation for our downtown area.

### **Fundraising & Grants**

We raised \$26,440 from our fall appeal letter. Thank you to everyone that contributed. We have a \$20,000 grant from the Vermont Historic Preservation Trust. With the \$50,000 Capital Budget and \$15,000 from the 250<sup>th</sup> Campaign, the funds total \$111,440.

In addition, insurance reimbursement monies from the 2013 Town Hall water damage of \$22,415 have been transferred into the town hall capital budget fund.

Additional grants are being pursued. The results of the \$30,000 grant application through the Vermont Arts Council will be announced mid-Aug.

### **Status of the Renovation**

The first phase of the project, the reinforcement and repair of the roof structure, was to begin this fall. It was estimated at budget time to be a \$70,000 project, but when the bids were opened June 16<sup>th</sup>, they far exceeded this amount. This was primarily due to additional amounts of structural steel, finished detail work and unanticipated structural design engineering needs which were completed this past spring prior to bidding the project.

At the June 30<sup>th</sup> Selectboard meeting a finalized set of architectural and structural drawings was requested for the entire project. This will include balcony and stage strengthening, an elevator and a handicapped bathroom, as well as bringing the building up-to-date with the latest fire, safety and health codes. When the drawings are completed, a professional construction estimator will then evaluate the full cost of the entire project. The Selectboard supports the project and unanimously approved this request.

### **Town Hall Celebration**

On July 5<sup>th</sup> the Fairlee community was joined by Senators Kitchel and Benning to celebrate the 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Town Hall and the unveiling of the National Register of Historic Places plaque. Please stop by to see its installation to the left of the front door.

### **Honoring Loved Ones**

We are initiating a campaign to give families and individuals the opportunity to honor loved ones by sponsoring a specific feature of the Second Floor Accessibility Project (such as the stage, balcony, the elevator, etc.) where their name would be prominently displayed for generations to come.

### **Upcoming Events at the Town Hall**

**Tuesday, Aug. 5<sup>th</sup> at 6:30p.m.** You are invited to attend a session to brainstorm ideas for activities and fundraisers we can begin right now that will bring our community together and help raise needed funds. On the reverse side is a list of ideas for the second floor suggested by the community.

**Wednesday, Aug. 13<sup>th</sup> at 6:30p.m.** – The Fairlee Historical Society hosts Historian Larry Coffin who will be presenting “Decades of Change: 1960 and Beyond”. Everyone is welcome.

Thank you for your continued support. We hope to see you soon.

**Ideas for the 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor**  
**Some Suggestions by the Fairlee Community Inc:**

Art Show  
Bingo  
Book Sales  
Boys & Girls Club  
Classes (Art, Woodworking, etc.)  
Concerts  
Court Cases & Hearings  
Craft Shows  
Dances (Classes, Line, Square, Tango)  
Debates  
Driving/DUI Classes  
Educational Seminars  
Elections  
Emergency Shelter  
EMS/Fire/Disaster Training  
Fairlee Fireman's Follies  
Farmer's Market  
Flea Market  
Fundraisers  
Halloween Party's  
Knitting  
Live Music  
Model Rocketry Classes – How to Build & Launch  
Moth Story Slam (Storytelling)  
Movies on a Big Screen  
Paper Airplane Competition  
Parties  
Playing with Legos  
Potluck – Get to Know Your Neighbors  
Plays  
Prom for Grown-Ups  
Quilt Shows  
Remote Control Car & Truck Races  
Robotics  
Rummage Sales  
Running Games  
Scout Meetings  
Senior Activities  
Sleepovers  
Talent Show  
Town Meetings  
VFW  
Veterans Day Celebration  
Weddings  
Workshops  
Yoga (Adults & Kids)  
Zumba