

# RYE HISTORICAL SOCIETY AND TOWN MUSEUM

*The Rye Town Museum is open to visitors on Saturday mornings from 10 to 12 through October, and at almost all other times by appointment.*

**Make your appointment online**, email us at [info@ryenhistoricalociety.org](mailto:info@ryenhistoricalociety.org), or call 603-436-9278

Schedule Museum Visit

April 2023

## MEMBERSHIP CHALLENGE

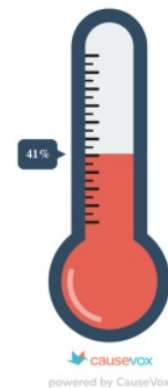
RHS is trying to reach a total of 400 members by the end of the year. We are almost halfway there! If you are not already a member or have yet to renew your membership, we hope you will take a few minutes to click this link and join us in preserving and sharing Rye's history.

Join Us

### Rye Historical Society Membership Challenge

WE ARE THE COLLECTOR & PROTECTOR OF RYE HISTORY  
& FISCAL SPONSOR OF THE RYE 400TH CELEBRATION

WON'T YOU HELP US REACH  
400 MEMBERSHIPS IN OUR 400TH YEAR?



## SETH RAND NEVER MISSED A DAY OF SCHOOL



Did you ever miss a day of school? Seth E. Rand didn't, at least not In 1901. And he was never tardy! Seth's accomplishment earned him this Certificate of Attendance, signed by Wallace Goss and Charles Whidden. We thank the Gervreau Family for donating this wonderful piece of school memorabilia to our collection!

Lew Karabatsos

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## MEMBER EVENT

### COME TO THE RHS GARDEN PARTY!

Mark your calendar for **Saturday, May 20th** for our first member event of the season – our annual Garden Party. As we reach to grow our membership to 400 strong during the 400th, we invite all members and potential members to our museum for light refreshments, and for a chance to mix and mingle with members of the Greenland Historical Society.

All guests will be able to win two tickets for [Celia Thaxter's Garden Tour](#).

Many thanks to the Shoals Marine Laboratory for their donation to this event.



Childe Hassam: *Celia Thaxter's Garden*

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## EXPANDED HISTORIC RYE TROLLEY TOURS

This year's Historic Rye Trolley Tours, sponsored by RE/MAX Rising Tide | Madden Group, have been expanded to two hours and will travel from Rye Beach to Odiorne's Point, with stops along the way.

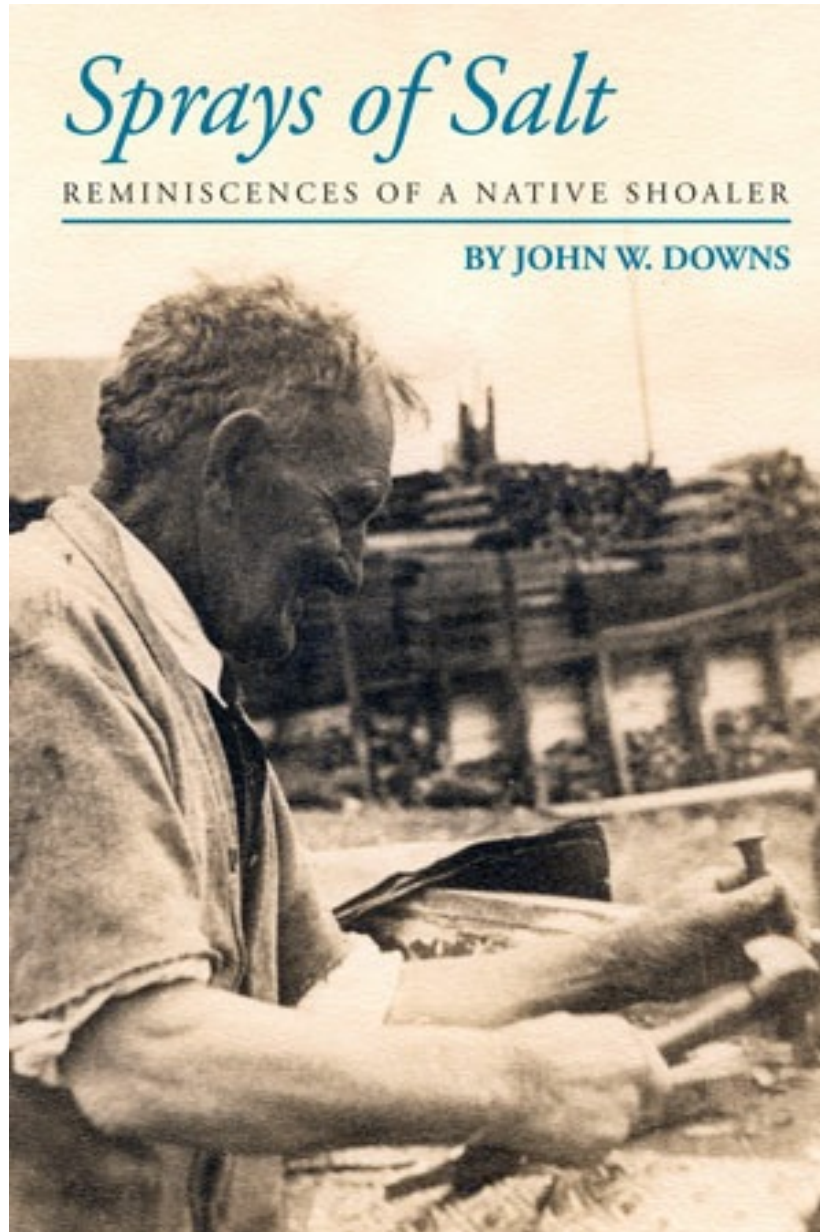


Tours are scheduled for May 29, July 3 and September 4. To purchase tickets, click the link below.

[TICKETS](#)

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## BOOK REVIEW



*A book review by Ginna Macdonald*

***Sprays of Salt: Reminiscences of a Native Shoaler*** is a collection of stories about growing up on the Isles of Shoals in the late 19th century. Chapters cover cod-fishing, swordfishing, lobstering, childhood stories of steamers, grand hotels and watching nature. Written in 1944, the book has been updated by descendants of the author, John W. Downs, with previously unpublished photos and other family memorabilia.

John Downs' recollections of the town of Gosport when it was a thriving community and his experiences as a fisherman offer rare glimpses of what life on the small island was like. He paints a vivid picture of the scenes and characters one might have encountered there.

The chapters are by topic and highly readable. There is a bit of genealogy dealing with Caswell, Downs, Spinney, Odiorne and Foss, all prominent names from the early days of Rye and Portsmouth. If you want to learn more about life on the Isles of Shoals "back when," this book is for you. Copies can be found in the Rye Town Museum gift shop.

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## RYE 400 DONATIONS

Since the last newsletter, the Rye400 Committee has received and acknowledged the following new donation.

THANK YOU to:

**Founders — \$400+**

Jessica Sutherland & Gerard Quirk — \$400



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## UPCOMING RYE 400 EVENTS



FOSS BEACH

The Rye400 Committee invites you to join them at the following events in April:

- **April 3:** Beach Clean-up at Foss Beach, 4:00-5:30pm.
- **April 8:** Beach Clean-up at Pirate's Cove Beach, 9:00-10:30am.
- **April 20:** Beach Clean-up at Jenness Beach to Cable Road, 4:30-6:00pm.
- **April 20:** Author Lisa Moll at the Rye Congregational Church, speaking on Rye's Battle with Onassis Oil, 6:30-7:30pm.
- **April 22:** Rescue Marine Mammal Run at Seacoast Science Center, 9:00am.
- **April 26:** Lecture by Joe Marttila on Sea Bee Honey at the Rye Public Library, 6:30-7:30pm.
- **April 28:** Beach Clean-up at Sawyers Beach to Philbricks, 10:30am-12:00pm.
- **April 30:** Wallis Sands Half Marathon, Wallis Sands State Park, 9:00-11:00am.

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## THIS MONTH IN RYE HISTORY

# The Great Gale of 1851

**April, 1851:** A severe northeast gale and the highest tides ever known in Rye caused great damage to the beaches and the coast. Little Harbor bridge was carried away. Two vessels were wrecked: the schooner *Boutwell* came ashore at Ragged Neck, the British *Crown* on Jenness Ledge.

A mast from the *Boutwell* was recycled as Rye's liberty pole, erected when Franklin Pierce was nominated for the presidency. The liberty pole stood on the common at Rye Center until 1874, when the wind blew it down.

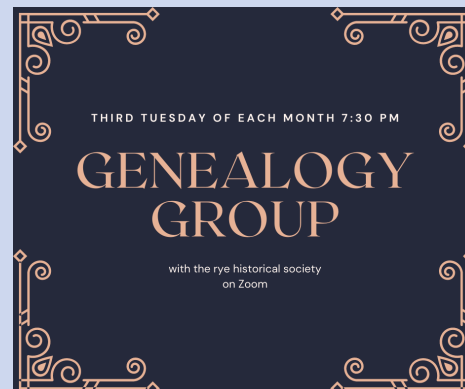
(Source: Parsons' *History of Rye*)

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## Ongoing Free Programs

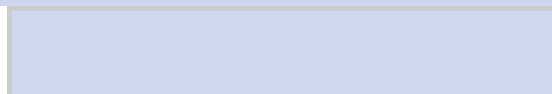
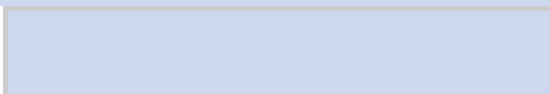


Free Self-Guided  
Rye Beach Block Tour **izi**.TRAVEL




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## Get Involved



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WON'T YOU HELP US REACH  
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### Make A Donation



## Volunteer



## Visit Ye Olde Gift Shoppe



**Vision:** To preserve and share Rye history by understanding the past, informing the present, and influencing the future.

**Mission:** To engage and educate a diverse population in Rye, New Hampshire's rich history through our programs, collections, and outreach, to encourage them to make a personal connection with their community.

Rye Historical Society, 10 Olde Parish Road, P.O. Box 583, Rye NH 03870 • 603 436-9278

## Are you on Instagram? Facebook? Twitter? YouTube? RHS is!

Follow RHS on Social Media  
Click the Icons below



Your copy should address 3 key questions: Who am I writing for? (Audience) Why should they care? (Benefit) What do I want them to do here? (Call-to-Action)

Create a great offer by adding words like "free" "personalized" "complimentary" or "customized." A sense

of urgency often helps readers take an action, so think about inserting phrases like "for a limited time only" or "only 7 remaining"!

Rye Historical Society | 10 Olde Parish Road , P.O. Box 583, Rye, NH 03870

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