



# Historical Society *and* Museum

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

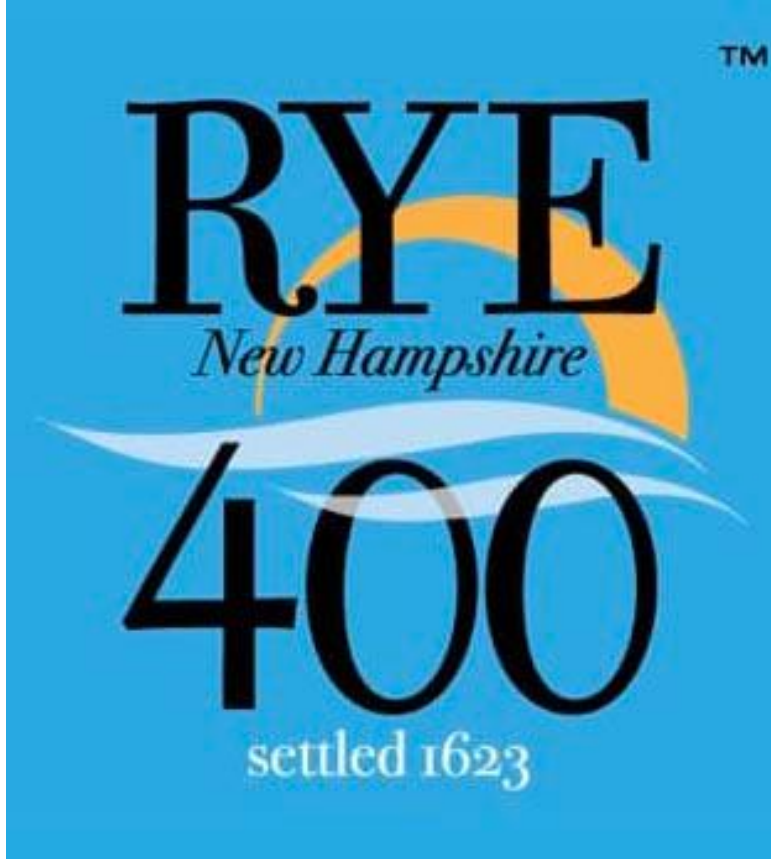


**Make your appointment online:** email us at [info@ryenhistoricalociety.org](mailto:info@ryenhistoricalociety.org), or call 603-436-9278

Schedule  
Visit

**With the Rye 400 festivities behind us, the board of directors is planning our work for the new year. While we strategize about our priorities, enjoy this glimpse into the past year! (You will need to pause the video to read everything.)**





## ENDING A REMARKABLE YEAR



Andy Stecher, Rye400 Chair, presented a Rye400 donation totaling \$8,400 to Peter White, Treasurer, Rye Heritage Commission.

The funds are to be allocated to two projects: \$7,000 for the fabrication of three historical markers to be placed within the town and \$1,400 to support the restoration of the historic Ocean Wave Hotel gazebo.

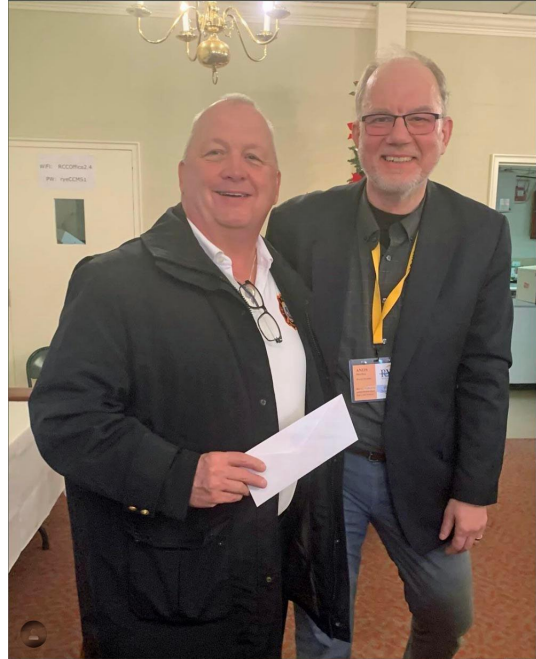
The Rye400 Committee presented a check in the amount of \$10,000 to the Rye Senior Serve organization. According to Committee chair, Andy Stecher, “the funds are to be used toward the purchase of a new, 13-passenger van to greatly increase the organization’s capacity to provide transportation for Rye’s senior population.”







The Rye400 Committee presented \$2,000 to the Rye Police Relief Fund in recognition of all the Police have done for the Rye400 events and programs.



The Rye400 Committee presented Rye Fire Chief, Mark Cotreau (left), with a check for \$2,000 to purchase a second ventilator to be used by the town ambulances to assist patients with certain respiratory conditions. The donation is made in memory of the Rye Fire Department's Lieutenant Charles "Chuck" Gallant.



**The Historic House Tour** was a huge success thanks to the talented designers and florists who transformed the four homes and one barn into holiday showpieces!

A special note of appreciation to committee chair, Jean Badger, and her volunteers for everything they did to make this event a day to remember!

**Thank you to Tate and Foss/Sotheby's International Realty** for sponsoring the Tree Lighting Ceremony on Parsons Field that included a farm petting zoo, a campfire to roast marshmallows, and a decorated tractor from the Philbrick family!





**The Rye400 Legacy Monument** was dedicated on December 27th at a public ceremony. Check it out on Washington Road next to the church.

## Find Your Rye Family Connections

### The 1897 Rye Families Quilt

Join us for our next online (Zoom) Genealogy open discussion on Tuesday, January 16th, at 7:30. We will focus our conversation on the very special Rye Families quilt, created in 1897 by a number of residents of Rye. The quilt, which is on display at the Rye Historical Society Museum, is comprised of 64 panels, each of which has 8 hand-stitched names.



Are you connected to any of the 500+ names sewn into the quilt? Do you have a story to share about a connection you might have? We'll have a few of our Rye family history experts on-hand to share some of the history of quilt families and we hope to hear from some of you as well.

For more information on Rye Families Quilt and to look up your name, go to [the quilt project](#). For information on how to join the monthly Rye Genealogy Group discussion, including the special Rye Families Quilt session on January 16th, go to [Genealogy](#).

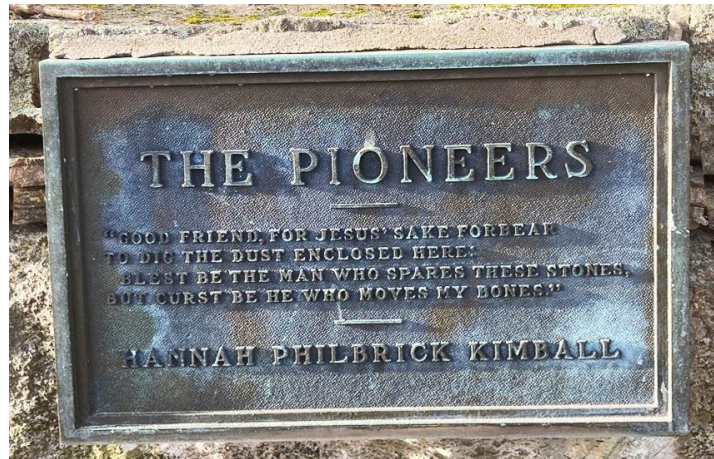


**Salter/Rand Graveyard**





This month we are highlighting the Salter/Rand graveyard that is located at 651 Wallis Road. According to the master list, it needs trees pulled, trees trimmed, and the stones need cleaning. Interested in becoming the custodian for this roadside spot? Contact Heritage Commission chair Alex Herlihy at [alexherlihy@comcast.net](mailto:alexherlihy@comcast.net)







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## Any Family Ties to Grenier Air Base?

The Aviation Museum of New Hampshire is researching a book about Grenier Air Base, now Manchester Boston Regional Airport. Active from 1941 to 1966, Grenier was used by the Air Force, Army and National Guard. During World War II, the base served as a staging area for equipment and personnel being sent to Europe. The base was also important during the Cold War of the 1950s and 1960s. If you can provide information, family memories or memorabilia about Grenier, please contact Leah Dearborn at (603) 669-4877 or [ldearborn@nhahs.org](mailto:ldearborn@nhahs.org).

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### THIS MONTH IN RYE HISTORY

January, 1950

## "I LED THREE LIVES" PUBLISHED

Excerpt from Orville Prescott's review in The New York Times:

**H**ERBERT A. PHILBRICK, son of a railroad trainman, father of five pretty daughters, Baptist Sunday School teacher, is in many ways a typical American citizen. He got his college education by night study while he supported himself with a full-time job. He is energetic, extroverted and gregarious, a modestly successful advertising man. No one who knew him ever



Herbert A. Philbrick

doubted that Mr. Philbrick was just what he seemed to be. Naturally, then, two different groups of persons who thought they knew Mr. Philbrick well were astounded on April 6, 1949. That was the day when Mr. Philbrick appeared as a surprise witness for the prosecution in the trial of the eleven Communist leaders for conspiracy to advocate the overthrow of the United States Government by violent revolution. For nine years, Mr. Phil-

brick testified, he had participated in Communist activities, for the last five as a Party member; and for the same period he had been a counterspy in the service of the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

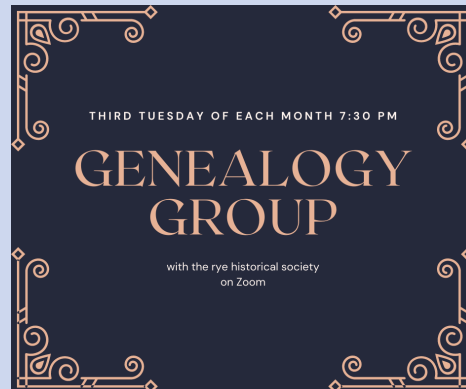
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You'll be hearing more about Rye's own counterspy this year. Stay tuned!

## Ongoing Free Programs



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





# Get Involved



**Become a Member**



**Make A Donation**



**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.

603 436-9278

[info@ryenhistoricalociety.org](mailto:info@ryenhistoricalociety.org)

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