

# 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

March 2023

## ART'S IN TOWN AND YOU'RE INVITED!

**The Rye400 Committee invites you to our juried art show, "People, Places and Things: Images of Rye," on Saturday, March 25, 2023, 11:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. at the Rye Congregational Church.**

Come see our town from the artists'/photographers' perspective. Take a minute to talk to them about what they saw to create their work. Do you see it the same way?

Watch the judges discuss each of the entries. Will you agree with them as to which one will take the top prize? Here's the event schedule — hope to see you there!

11:00 a.m. — Exhibit Opens

12:00 p.m - 1:30 p.m. — Judges review submitted works

1:30 p.m - 2:30 p.m — Winners Announced

- Opening remarks
- Announcement of Winners
- Winners briefly discuss their work and their inspiration

2:30 p.m. - 3:00 p.m. — Pictures

3:00 p.m. — Exhibit ends





## What Did Rye's First Settlers Wear?

DALL-E is one of those artificial-intelligence products in the news lately, Give DALL-E a description of just about anything and the deep-learning model will produce an image. Results vary. Above are two images DALL-E came up with when asked to depict "David Thompson and his wife, first settlers in New Hampshire, dressed in the clothing of 1623."

Why DALL-E chose to cut the couple's heads off is unclear. The accuracy of the costumes has not been researched, but they do show how clothing was becoming less elaborate and more comfortable. Cloth collars instead of Elizabethan ruffs.

In real life, David and Amias Thomson would have been relatively well dressed. They were educated gentlemen who probably had servants to help with their attire.

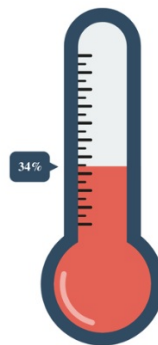
*Jim Macdonald*

## Help us reach 400 members in 2023!

### 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?



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## Making Rye History Public

While writing my new history of Rye, I have also created short, informative write-ups of many town history topics. I want to make them available to all.

These 70 brief histories cover subjects ranging from our churches or schools to salt marshes or surfing. I have been working with classes at Rye Junior High on topics they have chosen. Their interest and enthusiasm made me realize the material should be widely shared.

Click on the link to see the list of topics:

### [RYE HISTORY TOPICS](#)

If you want information on a facet of Rye history that is not on the list, please contact me. I should be able to create it for you or direct you to helpful sources.

*Alex Herlihy, Rye Town Historian* [alexherlihy@comcast.net](mailto:alexherlihy@comcast.net)

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## More New Donors

Since the last newsletter, the Rye400 Committee has received and acknowledged the following new donors who have contributed to the Rye400 celebration! To date, we have raised more than \$122,000.

THANK YOU to:

**Explorers — \$1,623+**

Laura & David Behenna — \$1,623

**Founders — \$400+**

The Straws Point Trust — \$500

Peggy & Jeff Balboni — \$400

Doug Voss — \$400

**Pioneers — \$40+**

Jane Ingram — \$103.48



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## THIS MONTH IN RYE HISTORY

March, 1623

**Thomson Settles on a Devastated Shore**



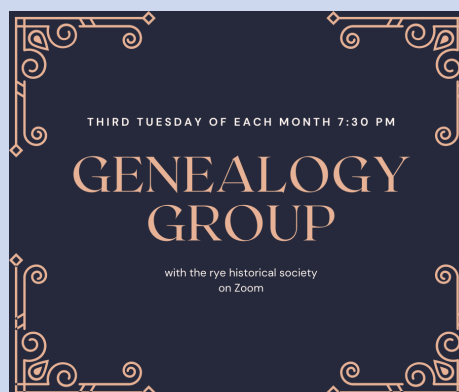
Fifteen years before David Thomson and his family established their household in what is now Rye, New Hampshire, Samuel de Champlain visited the area. He encountered more than 200 native inhabitants, living in a nearby village. Historian David Miller estimates that as many as 6,000 Piscataqua, members of the Pennacook confederacy, lived in a score or more villages along the river and around Great Bay.

By the time Thomson arrived in the spring of 1623, those thousands of Piscataqua had vanished. Most died of diseases from Europe in the great plague of 1616-19. The few survivors had joined another tribe, leaving overgrown vegetable gardens and the bones of unburied bodies. The Abenaki were moving into the vacated land, but their numbers also had been depleted by the plague.

## Ongoing Free Programs



Free Self-Guided  
**Rye Beach Block Tour** [izi](#).TRAVEL



## Get Involved

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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

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Click the Icons below



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

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