

# COL. EBENEZER HINSDALE HOMESTEAD NEWSLETTER



As the winter chill blankets our surroundings, we extend a cozy welcome to our latest newsletter, your entry to the latest developments at the Col. Ebenezer Hinsdale Homestead. In this edition, join us as we share our upcoming events, highlights of our most recent events, and updates on our ongoing preservation initiatives.

Embrace the warmth of community and history as we journey together through the winter season.

**OFFICERS:**

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**SHARRON SMITH, VICE PRESIDENT /**  
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**EDWIN "SMOKEY" SMITH**  
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## UPCOMING EVENTS

QUARTERLY MEETING  
APRIL 28TH, 1PM

# 2024: A LOOK AHEAD

Planning has started for the 2024 events at the Hinsdale Historical Society.

In December, we hosted the annual Christmas Open House. The ladies from the “Hinsdale’s” Col. Ebenezer Hinsdale Garrison group came and set up inside the house. We had calm weather and the event was well attended.



Photos from the 2023 Christmas Open House, Top L: members of the Col. Hinsdale Garrison, Bottom L: Christmas decorations in the mourning room, R: hand-dyed yarn using natural plant dyes

### **WINTER ACTIVITIES**

It is a quiet time of year for the Col. Ebenezer Hinsdale house but not for the volunteers.

We opted to close the house for tours during the winter months hoping to save on oil consumption. Steve has been using the pellet stove that was donated last year to heat the kitchen and with the warmer winter that we are experiencing it has been sufficient. The furnace has been fired up on a few days to heat his bedroom and a couple of days that he spent away.

The Board has opted to meet virtually over the winter months via Webex with the help of Melissa Smith and it has worked well for us.

Planning has started for events this year, at this point nothing is confirmed but we are hoping to have another Civil War event and we will have the Antique Gas Engine Show again in July.

### **GRANT APPLICATIONS**

Jill Collins and Sharron Smith have been working diligently on a grant application to the 1772 Foundation for funding to replace the roof on the carriage barn. The application has been submitted and we are awaiting the announcement of this years recipients.

There are 2 additional grant programs that we are also working on applications for, The Kingsbury Fun and the Putnam Foundation.

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### **ANNUAL MEETING**

Our annual meeting is scheduled for April 28th, 2024 at 1PM at the Hinsdale Homestead.

We are working on a program for after the meeting and will share the details of the program as soon as they are confirmed.

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### OUR NEWEST ADDITION

Ken Howe, Bill Nebelski and Paul Fisher have been looking at a reproduction Howitzer cannon for the Society. When we had the Civil War re-enactors last summer the greatest interest by the public was in the guns and their cannon.

The Board has had much discussion over whether or not we should buy one to use when we have re-enacting events. The Board recently voted to purchase the replica that Ken found. We look forward to sharing it with the public at future events!



#### A little about the cannon:

A Daniel King Howitzer black powder cannon, 5 3/4 " diameter by 16" long, 2 5/8 bore. The barrel is stainless steel and all the fittings are solid stainless steel or bronze.

The cannon measures 38" wide by 48" long with 24" diameter dished wheels, with 2" wide steel rims, black poly coated, turning on a stainless steel shaft with bronze bushings. Carriage is solid hard rock maple. Total weight 180 lbs.

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### OUR NEW WEBSITE!

We are happy to share that we have launched a new website for the Historical Society with the help of John and Melissa. The website is still being built out, but we are excited for the feedback we have gotten so far. Please check it out and let us know your thoughts!

[Hinsdale Historical Society Website](#)