



Newsletter Fall/winter 2008/2009

www.concordcoach.org

President's Message

Officers & Board Members

President: Brian Erickson
Vice President: Esther Crowley
Secretary: Sheila Knight
Treasurer: Patrick Maimone
Newsletter Editor: Peter James

“ The Concord Coach is coming! We could hear the people say.” Everywhere the coach went in 2008. Whether at our home at the Hopkinton State Fairgrounds or when it made appearances on numerous occasions throughout the area, the respect and appreciation people have shown toward what the Concord Coach Society was founded for, was evident. New Hampshire, home of this exquisite icon known world-wide for well over a century is truly proud of the role it played in history. The Abbot–Downing Company of Concord set the quality vehicle standard for the transportation industry in the pre-automobile era.

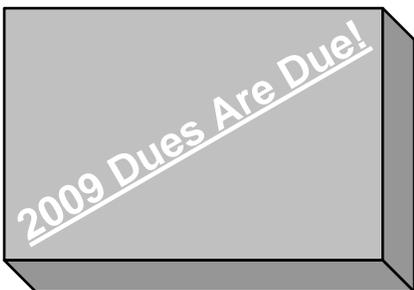
As a non-profit educational organization dedicated to preserving anything related to the Abbot-Downing Company, our objectives will continue to prove valuable to New Hampshire history and our future generations. Concord Coach Society members are keenly aware of this. Many have put forth a tremendous amount of energy toward our goals. It's been an incredible journey in 2008. We're on the right road and moving right along. And what an enjoyable experience to be part of this team!

“...and the legend of the Concord Stage will live forevermore.”

To each and every member a sincere and heart-felt “Thank you” and “Best wishes!”

Respectfully,

Brian Erickson, President



Some of the Society's Accomplishments in 2008

At the Hopkinton Fair

We took 1st prize for our exhibit in the Grange Display building

Marsha Evans and Esther Crowley assisted with the 4H exhibit

Dave Hubbard and Marsha Evans did a floral display featuring Dottie Brown's cart in front of the Museum Barn

Dave Hubbard brought a small-scale replica coach made for his grandsons and set it up for children to have photographs taken with them in and on it

Robin Brisco brought an exact model for display inside the Museum Barn

Dave Hubbard arranged for a heavy lumber wagon from A&B Lumber in Pembroke to be on display in the Museum Barn

Ken Wheeling came down from Vermont to share his extensive knowledge with both the Society members and the public

Verna James made Concord Coach theme tote bags for the Museum Store

Peter Adams sent many nice items to be sold in the Museum Store, and he continues to offer the Society long distance support in many ways

Wells Fargo sent a very nice assortment of items for the Museum Store

And, finally many of our members volunteered to greet and talk with the many visitors to our museum. It was a very successful 5 days and many people came and learned about the Concord Coaches and Abbot & Downing.



The Grange Building Exhibit



Sheila Knight in the Museum Store

Other Recent Accomplishments

Esther Crowley led the Society members in a session to create Vision and Mission Statements. This gives us goals to strive for in moving the Society into the future.

Our Vision

The Concord Coach Society will be a recognized force in the preservation and education about the role of the Concord Coach in American history.

Mission Statement

The mission of the Concord Coach Society is to educate people about the significance of the Concord Coach and its relationship to our history and lives today.

To support this mission, the society collects, preserves and interprets materials related to the Concord Coach and Abbot-Downing Company and its role in American Transportation.

New Web Site

Development of an official Society web site by Peter James is one of the ways we have added to our educational effort. Visit the site often to find Society news, announcements, and many photographs of our activities, plus information on Abbot & Downing.

The web site URL is: "www.concordcoach.org"

Society Logo

One of our members, R. P. Hale, has created the beautiful logo that you see on the front page of this newsletter. We are utilizing this in as many places as possible. R. P. Hale is a multi-talented artist and we are fortunate to have him in our group.

Concord Coach DVD

One of our ongoing projects is the production of a DVD to be used in 4th grade classes as part of their study of New Hampshire history. It features Brian Erickson driving his beautiful black team pulling our coach #XIV. This DVD is progressing slowly as it the work of a college student and he is using it as part of his course of studies. We hope to have this finished and ready for distribution this spring.

News of Note

An exciting development! Another coach has returned to New Hampshire. The Marshall collection has added another one. This makes 21 in the state.

