Results of survey of local historical society leadership (Summer/Fall 2006)
109 out of 206 societies responded (53%)

1. Does your society have a web site?

35% Yes
68% No

2a. Is your society registered with the IRS as a 501 © 3 organization?
87% Yes
6% No (Hawke, Fremont, Greenville, Hinsdale, Lisbon, Madison, Westmoreland)
5% Not Sure (Barrington, Barnstead, Brentwood, Merrimack, Rumney)
2% Blank (Albany, Epsom)

2b. If no, do you need help learning more about the benefits and process of registering as a 501(c)3 organization?
No (Hawke)
Yes (Fremont, Greenville, Hinsdale, Lisbon, Madison, Merrimack, Westmoreland)

3. How does your society reach out to serve the public?

- Most of the societies serve the public through public programs with speakers and secondly through exhibitions.
- Roughly 2/3 of the societies have publications, displays at public events and school programs.
- About half support local initiatives.
- Less than half provide walking tours, write articles, conduct preservation activities, participate in anniversary celebrations or utilize the internet.
- About ¼ of the societies are updating local histories.

94% Public programs with speakers
81% Permanent museum or exhibit space
80% Permanent and/or changing exhibitions
66% Publications
64% Displays at public events
63% School programs and/or projects
53% Support local initiatives
45% Walking tours (self-guided or otherwise)
45% Writing articles on local history for area newspapers
43% Preservation activities (landmarking local buildings, conducting barn surveys, etc.)
41% Anniversary celebrations
41% Web site
25% Other (included genealogy and historical research, newsletter distributed around town, sponsoring town events, Epping collects oral histories and New London hopes to have internships for college & high school students)
24% Write an update of local histories

4. For each attribute of your society, please check all that apply.

- Almost half of the societies feel confident in their permanent exhibit space, speaker programs, financial stability, building maintenance/preservation and policy for accepting

gifts. Although almost as many societies feel that there is room for improvement in each of these areas, except financial stability.

- Half, or close to half of the societies feel there is room for improvement in the areas of dedicated volunteers and obtaining archival supplies. Almost as many societies feel confident in those areas.
- Roughly three quarters of the societies have not explored roads and rights of way research and close to half have not explored digitizing collections or other historic building and landmark preservation.
- Societies are most aware of a need for improvement in collections care, management and storage, public awareness of local history, membership development and fundraising ideas.
- Societies are roughly equally divided between strength, room for improvement and unexplored/unsure in the areas of genealogy research, policy for accessioning and de-accessioning artifacts and insurance/risk management.
- Over two thirds of the societies either see room for improvement in their web site development and hosting or have not explored having a presence on the internet.
- One quarter of the societies would like assistance from an outside source in a number of areas. The most requested areas are membership development, fundraising ideas, collections storage, care, management and cataloging.

Collections Storage	14%	Strength
	77%	Room for improvement
	6%	Unexplored/Not sure/NA
	20%	Assistance requested
Collections care & management	19%	Strength
	74%	Room for improvement
	6%	Unexplored/Not sure/NA
	21%	Assistance requested
Cataloging collections	24%	Strength
	65%	Room for improvement
	5%	Unexplored/Not sure/NA
	21%	Assistance requested
Digitizing collections	8%	Strength
	37%	Room for improvement
	43%	Unexplored/Not sure/NA
	14%	Assistance requested
Dedicated volunteers	41%	Strength
	52%	Room for improvement
	1%	Unexplored/Not sure/NA
	11%	Assistance requested
Permanent exhibition space	46%	Strength
	40%	Room for improvement
	9%	Unexplored/Not sure/NA
	9%	Assistance requested

Exhibition Development	16% Strength 52% Room for improvement 16% Unexplored/Not sure/NA 18% Assistance requested
Exhibition display opportunities in the community	16% Strength 43% Room for improvement 32% Unexplored/Not sure/NA 8% Assistance requested
Public awareness of society	26% Strength 41% Room for improvement 14% Assistance requested
Public awareness of local history	14% Strength 78% Room for improvement 4% Unexplored/Not sure/NA 15% Assistance requested
Speaker programs	48% Strength 40% Room for improvement 4% Unexplored/Not sure/NA 14% Assistance requested
Publications	29% Strength 45% Room for improvement 19% Unexplored/Not sure/NA 7% Assistance requested
Membership development	8% Strength 80% Room for improvement 5% Unexplored/Not sure/NA 23% Assistance requested
Qualified volunteers/staff or Access to qualified consultants	23% Strength 54% Room for improvement 16% Unexplored/Not sure/NA 13% Assistance requested
Financial stability	47% Strength 16% Room for improvement 4% Unexplored/Not sure/NA 14% Assistance requested
Fundraising ideas	14% Strength 65% Room for improvement 12% Unexplored/Not sure/NA 24% Assistance requested

Collecting 20th & 21st century materials	17%	Strength
	51%	Room for improvement
	23%	Unexplored/Not sure/NA
	12%	Assistance requested
Building maintenance/preservation of Society building(s)	45%	Strength
	32%	Room for improvement
	18%	Unexplored/Not sure/NA
	12%	Assistance requested
Other historic building and landmark preservation	13%	Strength
	28%	Room for improvement
	46%	Unexplored/Not sure/NA
	8%	Assistance requested
Genealogy research	43%	Strength
	32%	Room for improvement
	23%	Unexplored/Not sure/NA
	8%	Assistance requested
Roads and rights of way research	12%	Strength
	14%	Room for improvement
	73%	Unexplored/Not sure/NA
	7%	Assistance requested
Policy for accessioning and de-accessioning artifacts	35%	Strength
	41%	Room for improvement
	20%	Unexplored/Not sure/NA
	11%	Assistance requested
Policy for accepting gifts	47%	Strength
	38%	Room for improvement
	9%	Unexplored/Not sure/NA
	11%	Assistance requested
Obtaining archival supplies	35%	Strength
	40%	Room for improvement
	7%	Unexplored/Not sure/NA
	9%	Assistance requested
Web site development and hosting	17%	Strength
	33%	Room for improvement
	35%	Unexplored/Not sure/NA
	12%	Assistance requested
Insurance/risk management	23%	Strength
	34%	Room for improvement
	31%	Unexplored/Not sure/NA
	9%	Assistance requested

5. What is your current membership? Membership in the 98 societies that responded ranged between 4 and 475, with an average of 96.

6. In the past five years, membership in our society has

25% Decreased
43% Stayed the same
32% Increased

7a. How do you feel about the future of your society?

67% Optimistic
13% Pessimistic
20% Neutral

7b. Why do you feel this way?

Optimistic
30% Volunteers
17% Membership
16% Public support
13% Building projects/space needs
10% Programs/projects
9% Funding/planning
6% Collections

- Program planning has improved greatly; great workers; audiences numbering 50 – 60 people.
- Community conversation & beyond Meredith.
- Established a weekly core of volunteers; began cataloging; seen more visitors at openings.
- Our town (Washington) is experiencing growth. We are actively pursuing new membership.
- We have increased our membership and are taking this society in a whole new direction. We are currently working on many new projects.
- LSHA has recently hired full time executive director to dedicate time and energy to expand membership, develop new programs and increase fundraising mechanisms.
- Increased awareness of CHS because of popularity of our programs.
- We have a small but loyal and interested core of volunteers willing to work.
- The volunteers are dedicated to all the activities: Franklin Pierce Homestead, Manahan-Phelps-McCulloch photo collection, and expansion into the community at the Heritage Museum when it opens.
- Although need more volunteers, a core group is really interested in history.
- Great working group. We have accomplished so much in the past 30 years. Interest in the museum and program increasing.
- Big membership drive this autumn; generous donations of artifacts.
- We recently received a $100,000 gift to raise a barn to be used for displays, public events, etc.
- People in town are supportive of our projects.
- We have to [feel optimistic] for survival sake!
- Increasing membership; new renovation project underway; extended agreement on museum space.

- New and younger people are becoming interested and involved.
- New members; more interest.
- We have new members; increased requests for information; and increase in memorabilia contributions.
- Change of the guard; people more involved.
- Because of what we have accomplished, and the dedication and support of the executive board.
- Interest in the Society hasn't waned in past ten years; we have a new building; but unclear how much new blood we can attract.
- We have money, great volunteers, and younger people are starting to show interest. We have just acquired a beautiful home to house our artifacts.
- We have an archivist and volunteers to catalog our material and a generous endowment for future development.
- Growth of baby-boomer & retiree populations.
- We have many visitors to our museum, local as well as tourist.
- We have a core of committed members.
- New effort is being made to make more appealing to young people.
- Mixed feelings--membership increases, but volunteers and leadership decreases.
- Because we may have an opportunity to own the most historic house in the area.
- We have a few dedicated volunteers who care.
- Town has donated building /space for our use; newsletter (new) has brought in many new members and volunteers.
- We are very few new in our new building and have had lots of positive feedback.
- Membership increase; community interest; successful restoration of Schoolhouse #4 in North Groton; start of a museum.
- Collections growing; historic town setting encourages interest; new "old" buildings given to historical society will provide more appropriate home--if we can fund it!
- Optimistic because we have a dedicated, enthusiastic group. Concerned about finding a replacement for our 20-yrs. President who just retired.
- Because we have implemented new contacts and new board members.
- Volunteers (community involvement). Hollis is a town that cares about its history and works hard to preserve it.
- We are accomplishing goals that have lingered for years thanks to new energy and publicity, and we have more money since publishing a new book on local history.
- The town as a whole is supportive of the Society.
- Our anniversary project (restoring elm trees) has great support; preservation project is progressing; have a decent select board; high interest in genealogy through the forum (web site); working with HSCC on a joint exhibit; we have a great web forum administrator.
- We have "young blood" and steady members.
- Solid foundation of artifacts and good programs.
- All members/employees enjoy history.
- Area residents and town officials have been very supportive. Time for a widespread membership appeal.
- We have a good board and we are making progress on the goals I laid out several years ago.
- We are working hard to meet our mission.
- Increase in artifact donations as well as financial.
- Have attracted several hard-working volunteers.
- We have gradually increased our exposure and attendance at the museum, which has generated more donations.

- Innovative new displays; active membership; wonderful items in collections; ongoing work on displays/collections.
- Progress is being made in developing programs and displays and volunteers.
- Because the town supports us in our endeavor to collect and preserve the town history.
- Museum opening in 2002 has given a big boost, but we still have much work to do to attract visitors and volunteers for our needs.
- New blood and new interest in Society. New ideas being generated to promote interest of younger generation.
- Plan; good participation and energy.
- Current trustees/staff/volunteers look forward to getting more people involved.
- Our membership is increasing and more people are requesting information from us.
- We are growing in every direction.
- As our membership grows it also ages and we must stay optimistic to maintain enthusiasm.
- We are looking for more ideas to better exhibit our materials.
- Because we have just re-roofed our building; maintenance that cost $300,000 and we have paid $200,000 off already.
- We are an active society; responsible for three historic buildings; active barb sale committee; good attendance and programs and exhibits.
- The interest and support of residents and town officials in the work of the Society and the interest and dedicated efforts of younger members of the Board of Directors.
- New leadership and renewed interest.
- We now have a year-round home; we can expand our offerings to the community; our capital campaign has begun; more younger board members!

<u>Pessimistic</u>
33% Membership
33% Public support
29% Volunteers
5% Funding/planning

- Younger people aren't interested in joining & older members are not able to do as much.
- We have too little active membership and no contact with the school system this year.
- Hard to get new membership.
- Shrinking membership.
- Elderly members not being replaced by young members; lack of historical interest in our town—nobody has the time.
- Lack of public interest.
- Declining membership.
- Recruiting capable, dedicated trustees; fundraising difficulties.
- Because history is so poorly taught in school that few younger people care about local history.
- Not enough volunteers or those willing to attend meetings & take the time; everyone too busy!
- Declining membership; difficulty finding volunteers; constantly changing demographics.
- People too busy; aging of real interested folks; move-ins don't appreciate value [of town's history].
- Difficult to get new leadership; town becoming bedroom community.
- We have a few younger members. Most of our people did not grow up here. I think many are not interested and we are perceived as old and stale.

Neutral
32% Membership
32% Public support
18% Volunteers
9% Programs/projects
5% Collections
5% Funding/planning

- Trends of our times—people have other ways of social interaction.
- Attendance down.
- Active membership is small; hard to get new members; optimistic about developing & displaying our artifacts.
- We no longer have a museum, so we have become more of a social group than anything else. We deaccessioned most to the Derry Museum of History.
- We are getting very few new members from the younger generation. Most of our new members are retired.
- Interest and energy level of current board not consistent.
- Hard to get volunteers; hard to engage younger families.
- We have an aging membership and others reluctant to accept responsibility within the society.
- Compete with so many other organizations for members, time and money.
- Interest in such areas is subject to cyclical variation.
- Very small membership; strong town support; residents have some interest.
- People seem to be too busy and involved in their own lifestyles.
- Lack of new enthusiastic members.
- Old members die off; young members hard to attract, but we do get a few.
- Have been in the Society since 1976. There is always the same group of individuals who do most of the work and remain dedicated.

8. Where have you displayed exhibitions in the past five years?

84% Own space
37% Local library
21% Local school(s)
45% Town hall or other municipal building
46% Local fairs and events
20% Other (the most common alternatives are banks and stores)

9. Does your society own any buildings?

54% Yes
46% No

9a. If so, how old and in what condition is each? (Answers included buildings owned by societies or by their towns, does not include New London who did not list the ages of the 16 buildings they own)

Age(100 buildings)
10% 18th century

61% 19th century
29% 20th-21st century

Condition(86 buildings had some indication of condition, if not stated explicitly I interpreted restored to mean good and in the process of restoration to mean fair. New London's buildings are in fair to good condition.)

15% Excellent
54% Good
28% Fair
3% Poor

9b. How are your buildings used? (90 societies answered)

93% Storage
90% Permanent exhibition space
76% Public programs
29% Other (fundraising, office/museum space, 2 societies have rental units)

10. Where are most of your collections stored? (Adds up to >100% because some societies store their collections in multiple places.)

50% Our society's building(s)
48% Town/municipal building
13% In the homes of members
5% Other (rented space at old school; Rauner Special Collections Library at Dartmouth College; Historical Society of Cheshire County; Northeast Document Conservation Center; de-accessioned to Derry Museum of History)

11. What percentage of the artifacts in your collection is on display at any given time?

48% (High standard deviation)

12. What percentage of your collection is cataloged?

63% (High standard deviation)

13. How do you maintain your catalog information? (Adds up to >100% because some societies use multiple media to catalog their collections.)

34% Index cards
55% Paper files
45% Software
16% We don't have formal catalog records
1% Not sure

Of the 45% that use softward, 47% use PastPerfect and the rest use other packages such as FileMaker Pro, MS Word, MS Excel, MS Access, Appleworks, etc.

14. If the New Hampshire Historical Society were to allow users of PastPerfect catalog software to link to our Internet-accessible database, would your society be interested in participating? (Adds up to >100% because some societies chose more than one answer.)

16% Yes
19% No
23% Yes, but we would need to catalog our collection first
19% Yes, but we would need to buy PastPerfect first
37% Maybe

15. The New Hampshire Historical Society plans to digitize its collection of roughly 250,000 photographs. Would your society be willing to help us identify photographs we have from your town?

91% Yes
2% No
7% Not sure

16. If the New Hampshire Historical Society were to dedicate a portion of its museum space to displaying items from the collections of local historical societies, would your society be interested in participating?

62% Yes
4% No
33% Not sure

17. Has your society asked the New Hampshire Historical Society for assistance within the past five years?

32% Yes
63% No
5% Not sure

17a. If you answered to question 17, please list the areas in which the New Hampshire Historical Society assisted you. (32 societies responded)

- 1 society asked for help in each of these areas: accession/de-accession policy, climate control, consultants, museum insurance, by-laws, storage, how to build display cases, publications, research on an art object
- 2 societies: asked for unspecified information, had NHHS staff tour their facilities to make suggestions
- 3 societies: archival supplies, speakers, reprographics (asked for copies of photos)
- 4 societies: library research
- 5 societies: workshops/programs, preservation of object/photos
- 7 societies: cataloging (4 specifically asked for help with PastPerfect)
- Staff members named: Nancy Jo Chabot, Mark Foynes, Bill [V.]

18. Based on your experience with the New Hampshire Historical Society, please indicate how you feel about the quality of the following areas of the New Hampshire Historical Society: (percentage based on number choosing an answer in each category)

Administrative staff (63 answered)
27% Extremely satisfied
37% Satisfied
17% Neutral
19% NA

Library staff (62 answered)
37% Extremely satisfied
39% Satisfied
10% Neutral
15% NA

Museum staff (63 answered)
37% Extremely satisfied
38% Satisfied
13% Neutral
2% Extremely unsatisfied (New Boston)
11% NA

Teaching staff/docents (58 answered)
21% Extremely satisfied
21% Satisfied
22% Neutral
36% NA

Workshops & Educational Programs (66 answered)
33% Extremely satisfied
36% Satisfied
15% Neutral
15% NA

Finances & management (59 answered)
8% Extremely satisfied
17% Satisfied
31% Neutral
44% NA

Board of trustees (59 answered)
10% Extremely satisfied
12% Satisfied
36% Neutral
42% NA

School programs (60 answered)
17% Extremely satisfied
13% Satisfied
27% Neutral
43% NA

Web site (62 answered)
18% Extremely satisfied
39% Satisfied
18% Neutral
26% NA

Outreach efforts (59 answered)
20% Extremely satisfied
31% Satisfied
24% Neutral
7% Unsatisfied
2% Extremely unsatisfied (Fremont)
17% NA

Historical New Hampshire (68 answered)
44% Extremely satisfied
38% Satisfied
6% Neutral
1% Unsatisfied
10% NA

Value as an educational resource (65 answered)
43% Extremely satisfied
31% Satisfied
12% Neutral
2% Extremely unsatisfied (New Boston)
12% NA

Museum hours (63 answered)
17% Extremely satisfied
43% Satisfied
25% Neutral
14% NA

Library hours (62 answered)
16% Extremely satisfied
42% Satisfied
24% Neutral
2% Unsatisfied
16% NA

Exhibitions (65 answered)
37% Extremely satisfied
37% Satisfied
17% Neutral
9% NA

Publicity about resources, events and exhibitions (64 answered)
27% Extremely satisfied
47% Satisfied
17% Neutral

2% Unsatisfied
8% NA

Museum collection (63 answered)
41% Extremely satisfied
32% Satisfied
14% Neutral
16% NA

Library collection (62 answered)
40% Extremely satisfied
29% Satisfied
15% Neutral
16% NA

Online catalog (52 answered)
10% Extremely satisfied
17% Satisfied
29% Neutral
2% Unsatisfied
42% NA

Moultonborough is extremely unsatisfied with the photo collection.

19. In response to each statement below, please indicate whether you think the statement is true or false:

True	False	
92%	8%	The New Hampshire Historical Society is an independent, nonprofit organization.
69%	31%	The New Hampshire Historical Society receives no government funding.
23%	77%	The Museum of New Hampshire History in Concord is run by the State of New Hampshire.
90%	10%	The New Hampshire Historical Society owns and operates both a research library and a museum in Concord.
95%	5%	Membership in the New Hampshire Historical Society is open to anyone.

20. If the New Hampshire Historical Society were to collaborate with other organizations to build a centrally-located facility for secure, climate-controlled storage, would your society be interested in participating?

20% Yes
12% No
68% Not sure

21. List three exhibition topics that you would like to see presented by the New Hampshire Historical Society: (62 answered)

There were a wide variety of topics suggested, some of which seem more appropriate as workshop ideas and they will be listed separately. I have listed the most frequently suggested topics, however there are interesting topics that were only put forth by one society which are listed on an Excel spreadsheet.

The most popular exhibition ideas grouped into general categories (# of times mentioned):

- NH Goes to War (Rev. War suggested most, French & Indian War, NH Militia, Civil War, the Great War & NH at the Siege of Louisburg were also suggested) (9 total, 3 Rev. War)
- Railroads (8)
- Manufacturing/crafts/tools (7)
- Clothing/textiles (5)
- Native Americans (4)
- Ethnic groups (including black history)/immigration (4)
- Turnpikes (4)
- Logging (4)
- Mining (4)
- Schools/school life (4)
- Farming (4)
- Mills (3)
- Inventors (3)
- Early/Colonial life (3)
- Early settlement/development of towns (3)
- Regional histories (North Country, Lakes Region, Nashua)—also suggestion for communities around Concord to display at the Museum and for an exhibition that features an object from each town in the state
- Other topics that get mentioned at least twice: NH Artists, NH Music/Composers, Tourism, Medicine, Shakers, Women's history, Architecture, Genealogy, updating the Land Use exhibition

The most popular workshop ideas:

- Preservation/storage/cataloging collections (6)
- Fundraising (3)
- How to increase interest in local historical societies/history (2)

There was one suggestion that we update & reprint the exhibition catalog "Instruments of Change" about NH hand tools.

22. What major projects are your society working on now?

22% Cataloging
14% Building/space needs
12% Historic preservation
10% Exhibitions
8% Publications/newsletter
7% Collections care
7% Digitization
6% Outreach
5% Funding/planning
3% Cemetery documentation
2% Genealogy
2% Web site
1% Membership

1% Oral histories
1% Education
1% Documentary film

- Developing H.S. space within new library (collections are held in library)
- Building maintenance; inventorying artifacts.
- Cataloging.
- Cataloging.
- Finishing improvements on the museum.
- Budget; collection protection; more public contact.
- Finishing the underneath of our barn & replacing foundation of museum.
- Preservation of paper/fabric.
- Pier Bridge project; 1860 Business Directory; quilt documentation; cataloging and sorting inventory in museum
- 3,000 sq. ft. museum addition
- Dating houses & installing markers; preservation of endangered barns
- Finding & funding display and storage space.
- Plans for expansion and electrical updating; museum building improvements; program planning; fundraising.
- Educating townspeople about the history of our town hall; publishing a monograph.
- Learning PowerPoint to create programs using pictures from our archives.
- Digitizing accessions records; membership drive.
- Preservation of approx. 80,000 historic negatives in the Manahan-Phelps-McCulloch Collection.
- Trying to raise funds for an adequate building for display, meeting, etc.
- Building an addition for display.
- Locating portable mill sites; ownership of houses through the years.
- Published book; repair stone embankment at Thunders (sp?) Bridge (on the Nat'l Register); having Grange Hall stage curtain recreated; just finished barn survey; cemetery photos and updating data.
- Preservation of barns; renovation and reopening of Dr. Moffett's office in the basement of the museum.
- Making a collection of present day events and working on organizing files.
- Raising fund to supplement the $100,000 gift to build "The Paul F. Smith Barn."
- Newsletter; old school repair.
- Running our museum & continuing with our newsletter.
- Renovation of an 1885 Freight Building.
- The establishment of a farm and tool museum in the existing freight shed. We have been given the care of a Concord Coach as part of this future exhibit.
- Exhibit on Ashland doctors; saving Ashland school.
- Scenic and cultural byways program.
- One member is working on a genealogy project for Barnstead.
- Recording oral histories; cemetery restoration; cataloging our artifacts.
- Sponsoring holiday-themed contest to gain public interest.
- Increasing membership cataloging; organizing display area.
- Reorganize displays and cataloging.
- Installing historic site markers and complimentary brochures; constructing kitchen facilities in Grange building.

- 20th century history of Concord publication.
- Catalogue of collection; oral histories.
- Setting up our museum in home recently acquired.
- Simply to catalog and arrange our materials.
- Quilt documentation; Derryfest.
- State militia.
- We are attempting to catalog our collections and store on disc.
- Restoration of local B&M Railroad Depot circa 1846.
- Publication of the Enfield history.
- Genealogy.
- Writing a local history; deed researching.
- Cataloging collection; maintaining building & grounds.
- Restoration of our new building.
- An exhibit of a saw & bobbin mill--hopefully a scale replica.
- Finding a permanent home.
- 40th anniversary of Freemont Historical Society Country Fair in September.
- Completion of past town cemetery inventory; beginning permanent exhibit on Uncanoonuc Mountains and tourism.
- Painting of train cars and steam engine; refurbishing of #4265 Diesel engine.
- Cataloging and digitizing photographs; planning for use of donated building; increasing collection.
- Cataloging and setting up exhibits.
- Setting up the museum; providing an outdoor setting for the bell from the North Groton Union Church.
- Cemetery survey, cataloging, barn survey.
- Reconstruction of 1793 post & beam in-town carriage barn; renovation of 1950s tourist cabin; working with Hampton Heritage Commission to save old grammar school/district courthouse.
- We are in "flux."
- Organizing/documenting collections; fundraising for new "old" building.
- Write rural area local history. Web site set-up, catalog/organize archives; selling books; plan to digitize records.
- Purchase Liscom Farm (Col. E. Hinsdale House); cataloging on computer; outreach to community.
- Museum repair and updating displays. Partnership with library to computerize mutual resources.
- Inputting data into PastPerfect program; genealogy of town.
- Permanent exhibit space at Lawrence Barn; web site update; hoping to restore small building behind our main house that could house a larger exhibit.
- Cataloging; sorting old records found past year; looking for a way to have microfilm digitized--no film reader in town.
- Antiques appraisal event; conservation of 1790 map by grant.
- Program on the Flood of 1936.
- A pictorial book—Arcadia series.
- Refurbishing building; cataloging.
- Liberty Elm Project—planting elms--30th anniversary project; preservation of Murray Hall (painting exterior and windows).
- History of town in 1800s; cataloging; ID of photos; marking veteran graves.

- The repairing of the bass viol used by the Hutchinson singers; catalog cards to [computer] database by Boy Scouts.
- Maintaining/preserving our current building/holdings.
- Restoration of historic fountain; [input catalog information into PastPerfect] database; long-range plan; ongoing building improvements, etc., etc.
- PastPerfect [data entry]; barn restoration; vehicle conservation; education curriculum.
- Collection organization; cataloging; digital archive of town photos.
- Reinstalling into Old Town Hall (everything removed for renovation); document cataloging.
- Cataloging and preserving historical documents and artifacts in our possession; building maintenance.
- Time line of Hopkinton; PastPerfect [data entry]; computerizing office and communications; annual art show; holiday event.
- Putting the North Hampton town hall on the state historic register; educational programs/lectures to the public.
- Cataloging.
- Cataloging of all our artifacts and acquisitions.
- Inventory; cataloging; displays.
- Museum building improvements.
- Beautification of grounds in front of museum.
- Early planning stages of our second special exhibit—"land use;" also planning on where we can loan current exhibit--"Summering in Rye: Hotels and Boarding Houses."
- Restoring and preserving old tax and town clerk records.
- Restoring the building; cataloging the collections.
- Archival projects.
- Scholarship program and organizing museum material.
- "Placquing" historic houses; cataloging; developing our web site.
- A crazy quilt wall-hanging of places to visit in NH (a fundraiser).
- Building a facility with climate control and fire safety.
- The Society donated money toward a town gazebo, which is yet to be built.
- Cataloging collections.
- Pictorial history of the area.
- Paying for the roof/restoration; planning window restoration.
- Movie documentary about Warner 1860-1900; Civil War letters of Joseph S. Rogers.
- Photographing and cataloging collections.
- Restoring and reading Fire House.
- Preparing to publish "Homes of Westmoreland."
- Writing a book based on local diary.
- Raising funds to convert courthouse to a museum.
- History for publication; permanent display area.

23. The New Hampshire Historical Society is planning to place more exhibitions around the state. What are some possible locations for New Hampshire Historical Society exhibitions in your town or region? (83 answered—many provided more than one answer)

59% Historical society building/local museum
34% Local library
19% Town/City hall
12% School

8% Nothing in their town
2% Empty store fronts
1% Visitor center
1% Railroad station
1% Opera house
1% Inn/store complex
1% Church

24. What 20th-century artifacts do you think would be important for historical societies to collect? (85 answered—many made more than one suggestion)

38% Photos
26% Printed materials (diaries, letters, ephemera, archives)
19% Artifacts relating to or made locally
14% Clothing/textiles
12% Technology/especially artifacts that illustrate changes in
12% Genealogy/biography/vital records
11% War info/memorabilia
9% Tools(including farm implements)
9% Household goods/artifacts of everyday life
9% Computers/electronics
8% Oral histories
7% Artifacts relating to manufacturing
6% Business related artifacts
6% Furniture
6% Crafts
5% Art
5% Videos/movies
5% Don't know
4% Political memorabilia
4% Maps
2% Town history memorabilia
2% Artifacts relating to the printing industry
2% Toys
1% each: School related, inventions, quilts, building/landmarks, landscape/land, railroad, Native American, space-related

25. What do you think the New Hampshire Historical Society could be doing to get more people throughout the state interested in history? (74 answered)

23% Programs for schools/children
16% When you figure it out, let us know!
8% Newspaper articles on history
8% Spread the word at the local level
7% Make history interesting, fun, personal, relevant to the present
7% Topics & activities of interest to families
7% Speakers/public programs at local societies
7% Outreach/networking with local societies
5% Traveling exhibits
4% Video/DVD programs that can be shown locally
3% Keep doing what you're doing!

3% Excursions, local history tours
3% Support shows & personalities that do NH history (Chronicle, Jere Daniel, Ken Burns, Fritz Wetherbee)
3% TV programs
3% Conferences/workshops throughout the state
3% Provide preservation information to realtors
1% each: Be centrally located, work with NH Humanities Council to make their speakers more accessible, promote Concord as a visitor destination, bring history down to a non-academic level, lower seminar fees for nonmembers, more exhibitions & catalogs based on original research, have a History Fair like Vermont's, better access to collections, market yourself, adult history classes, topics & activities for retirees, Center Harbor would participate in any program to increase participation

26. We are interested in knowing if the support network available to local historical societies is widely used. Please indicate if you are aware of, have worked with or are a member organization of any of the following support organizations by placing a check in the appropriate boxes. (percentage of 111 societies that completed surveys)

American Association of Museums
46% Aware of
5% Worked with
1% Member

American Association of State and Local History
34% Aware of
12% Worked with
9% Member

Arts Alliance of Northern New Hampshire
30% Aware of
12% Worked with
7% Member

Association of Historical Societies of New Hampshire
23% Aware of
11% Worked with
52% Member

Chamber of Commerce
32% Aware of
19% Worked with
9% Member

Historical Society of Cheshire County
36% Aware of
9% Worked with
6% Member

Lakes Region Heritage Roundtable
29% Aware of

1% Worked with

Monadnock Hist Soc Forum
25% Aware of
7% Worked with
5% Member

National Trust for Historic Preservation
49% Aware of
15% Worked with
4% Member

New England Hist Genealogical Society
46% Aware of
10% Worked with
5% Member

NEMA
27% Aware of
4% Worked with
5% Member

NH Archives Group
30% Aware of
7% Worked with
8% Member

NH Center for Nonprofits
36% Aware of
3% Worked with

NHDHR
32% Aware of
31% Worked with
1% Member

NHHS
31% Aware of
27% Worked with
39% Member

NH Humanities Council
22% Aware of
46% Worked with
9% Member

NH Old Graveyard Association
34% Aware of
16% Worked with
10% Member

NH Preservation Alliance
42% Aware of
23% Worked with
14% Member

Pemi Baker Valley Hist Soc
23% Aware of
3% Worked with
4% Member

Pequawket Hist League
27% Aware of
4% Worked with
3% Member

Public Library
19% Aware of
57% Worked with
4% Member

Sanbornton Hist Doc Found
26% Aware of
5% Worked with
2% Member