



END OF 2023

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 thecurranhomestead@gmail.com
 curranhomestead.org

19th Century Curran Village

End of Year Giving: Donate to our Annual Fund

At this year's end we are hopeful of your generous contribution to our Annual Fund. The Annual Fund allows us to continue to function helping us meet our operational costs. We hope to provide learning workshops for children and adults alike during this winter season, as we have done in the past but the lack of human resources, both paid and volunteer, has become more of an obstacle than ever before. The cost of staffing has allowed us to do much of what we have been able to accomplish in the last four years, although there have been many

learn by doing experience. It is planned that the first 24' x 32' of the structure, that includes four bents, will be joined by mortise and tenons. The remainder of the

72' building planned will include less labor-intensive post and beam construction using metal fasteners. This will be an insulated and interior sheathed structure once completed.

Please consider a contribution to our Annual Fund this holiday season

volunteers that have made significant contributions. As of November, we are no longer able to meet the cost of a Museum Director. Currently, we have one part-time paid worker who will continue to

work at projects in progress until it is no longer financially feasible.

At the same time, we have several significant projects underway. These include our Education Center which began as a timber frame workshop back in May. Staffer Nate Coe has continued to work solo on this project since the workshop ended. We hope that we entice others to join us in the framing of the structure. This would be a

Steam Power at our Model T Event



Nonprofit community learning resources like 19th Century Curran Village don't exist without private contributions like yours.



19th Century Curran Village

Museum Director
Robert Schmick, PhD

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Richard A. Stockford - President
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Orrington/Holden Village
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thecurranhomestead@gmail.com
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[facebook.com/curranhomestead](https://www.facebook.com/curranhomestead)

Maine Parkinson Society Donates \$10,000 Towards ADA Accessibility

You may have noticed some recent activity at the Museum's Fields House after a long period of dormancy. This first settlement structure, that was remodeled more than once, was once inhabited by the property's first owner Peter Field. The structure was in very bad condition for many years after suffering a fire that claimed its' ell back in the 1980s and the gradual deterioration of a concrete block foundation that left it in precarious circumstances.

In 2016, the Museum decided to save the structure. A new foundation was poured

some fifty feet from its original location near the road; the building was lifted with a crane and set on it. The renovation included volunteer assistance from Eastern Maine Community College, Penobscot Jail Trustees, and Penobscot Job Corps. A grant from Cotton, Inc. provided the insulation. The building received a new roof, windows, doors, interior and exterior sheathing, and flooring. The interior includes three public restrooms that we hope to finish with this grant in addition to creating an exterior access ramp.



Curran Village Receives \$45,000 Materials Grant from American Rescue Plan

In October, we received an American Rescue Plan (ARPA) grant for \$45,000. These funds are to be exclusively used for materials to complete the Education Center which will provide a large indoor space for groups and school visitors as well as affording accommodations for large public gatherings, fundraising, lunches and dinners, children's

camp, and a steady stream of year-round revenue generating workshops that help us meet our costs. In addition to serving our mission, this center will serve as a venue for meetings, conferences, entertainment, fairs, and festivals for the communities of Orrington, Holden, and others where large available spaces are few.

Our Busy Season that included Continued Work on Museum Infrastructure and Grounds; Tag Sales, Events and Visits

This was our busiest season ever with several public-school field trips and an event for Homeschoolers of Maine in October that brought in over a hundred homeschoolers and their families to the site. We hosted the Downeast Model T Club with a showing of nearly two dozen tin lizzies on the lawns. Additionally, this Model T Event included a Doodlebug/Jitterbug Pull Competition at the Museum, the first in six years. This event required a major clean-up of our grounds in preparation as the pulling competition involves the homemade tractor vehicles dragging increasing concrete weights on a stone boat across a gravel pad; our gravel pad had all but disappeared under saw dust from past log milling and wild vegetation which

required both machete and chainsaw as well as lots of picking up by machine and hand.

Our Tag Sales in July and October were our most successful ever. Many of the things for sale once filled two Maine Trailers that had long been parked at the far end of our property on Fields Pond Road. In fact, these things were in large the contents of the main Curran barn before the Museum were gifted Willowbrook Museum in 2017. These Tag Sales have allowed us an opportunity to work at refining our collection, but we still have a long way to go towards that end. We have begun to share some of the many treasures of the Willowbrook Legacy gifted to us at various buildings like the Carousel Building. Volunteer and help us to exhibit more in

the near future.

Certainly, in culling the collection we have freed up valuable roofed space for accommodating prized artifacts and caring for them in the manner they deserve. There are still artifacts that will need to weather these upcoming winter months uncovered. We will be working towards providing future roofed space for these.

Many thanks to Kurt Cressey, Pat Caluori, Jane Boudreau, and Alden Miller who have made specific efforts towards helping us with Collections. We hope to have others come forward and pledge to assist us with the task of not only unpacking boxed artifacts but assisting with the development of interpretative signage and exhibitions.



A circa 1890 Dollhouse is the center of attention in the Country Store.

The Curran Village is Getting Ready for the New Pottery Program

Even with our financial woes, we have not let up on work towards the goal of creating a pottery program at the Museum. We are still working on relocating thousands of fire brick from Hampden to the Museum site. Most recently, we made major headway in the project when we disassembled the entire roof of the wood burning kiln. A couple more days at Hampden should secure all the materials we need to re-create a kiln at the Village. The plan is to reassemble the

kiln on the vacant concrete slab positioned between the Car Culture Building and the Cider & Grain Mill. Materials for enclosing the kiln are still being discussed; a metal frame with corrugated steel panels might be better suited for the construction than wood out of concern for soot and fire associated with wood burning; sourcing such materials might be a challenge, and we are open to donations of used or unused materials that might serve this purpose.

Disassembly of pottery kiln nearing completion. That is wooden cribbing used to keep the kiln roof from collapsing during disassembly.

Further work on our electric kiln as well as the building it is housed in is planned. Please contact us if you are interested in contributing as a volunteer. We plan on some weekends soon.



Disassembly of pottery kiln nearing completion. That is wooden cribbing used to keep the kiln roof from collapsing during disassembly.



Staircase to second floor archives in the new Furniture Maker's Shop.

Farmhouse Gets Interior Storm Windows through the Non-Profit Window Dressers

With the chill already in the air, the Museum has had to explore various avenues to meet the need for reducing its utilities costs. The old farmhouse is heated each winter. We use the space for fall and winter programming and events. Our Letterpress Office is now an alternative and larger on demand heated space with a wood burning and pellet stove installed. That building was also thoroughly insulated with a grant of materials from Cotton, Inc. Blue Jeans Go Green Program.

The Non-Profit Window Dressers, which started in Rockland, Maine back in 2015, provides low-cost, custom fitted,

wood frame, plastic wrapped interior storm window inserts throughout the



State. The opportunity involves either payment for the window inserts, or possible full funding based on income through an application process. Additionally, customers are obligated to volunteer time to the building of these inserts; for every five windows you are expected to put in a four-hour shift.

Curran Village representatives did several shifts at the Orono build a few weeks ago. Our contribution involved taping more than thirty windows of all sizes and shapes. Curran had nineteen window inserts made, and we believe this will result in significant savings this winter.

Financial Sponsorship of a Building in Full or Part May Be Your Legacy

The sponsorship period for the Education Center Project will run from October 31, 2023 – October 31, 2026, due to the particulars of our commitments related to our receipt of an America Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) grant which provides funding exclusively for materials for this construction.

The 19th Century Curran Village has developed into a museum village of more than two dozen structures which serve as both stage and classroom for ongoing living history and hands-on learning experiences connected with historical artifacts and our rich New England rural past.

This project will result in a large, enclosed structure for year-round programming, school field trips, public gatherings, fundraisers, exhibitions, demonstrations, and re-enactments. Your pledge at the following levels of giving will ensure our completion of this structure by 2026. Specifically, your sponsorship will cover the costs of additional building materials, services, and paid labor. The structure will be insulated, heated, electrified, and illuminated like no other structure on our museum site, as it will serve the practical needs of large public gatherings in the 21st century.

Benefits of Sponsorship

FOUNDER LEVEL

1. A 6” plaque on exterior of this new building.
2. 4” wooden plaque painted with your company’s or business’ name to be mounted on the interior walls of the Education Center.
3. Museum website (curranhomestead.org) advertisement.
4. Exhibit space at the Museum sharing your company’s or business’ mission and product.
5. Four named individuals will be issued a

- card allowing them a 15% discount at our Country Store and at our adult workshops.
6. Four Carousel Horses will be named by you during the period of this three-year project. A certificate will be issued to you allowing eight individuals free entrance to events and open days allowing them to ride the carousel on these occasions as honored guests. The business or individual sponsor named may reproduce this certificate for owner(s) and employees to use but only a maximum of four adults and four children may use this certificate each day.
 7. Your logo on our events flyers as a sponsor for the period of this sponsorship.
 8. Your ad in our quarterly in print or online newsletter.

MAYOR LEVEL

1. A 3” wooden plaque painted with your company’s or business’ name to be mounted on the interior walls of the Education Center.
2. Museum website ad
3. Two named individuals will receive a 15% discount at our Country Store and on adult workshops.
4. Number 5 from above for four individuals. Two carousel horses will be named.
5. Your logo or name on events flyers for the period of sponsorship.
6. Your ad in two of our quarterly in print or online newsletters.

TRADESMAN LEVEL

1. Your company or name added to a painted list of sponsors within the interior walls of the Education Center.
2. Two named individuals will receive a 10% discount in our Country Store and on adult workshops.
3. Number 5 from the Founder Level for two individuals. One carousel horse will be named for the period of sponsorship.
4. Your logo or name on event flyers for the period of sponsorship.

HOMESTEADER LEVEL

1. Benefits of our Founder Level of membership (List of benefits found on our website).
2. Your company or name added to a painted list of sponsors within the interior walls of the Education Center.
3. 1 Individual will receive a 10 percent discount in our Country Store and on adult workshops.
4. Number 5 from the Founder Level for one individual. A seat in a sleigh will be designated for the period of sponsorship.
5. Your name will be listed as a sponsor in our events flyers.

BENEFACTOR LEVEL

1. Benefits of Benefactor Level Membership (List of benefits found on our website).
2. A named sponsor of this project to be memorialized in a painted list of original sponsors within this building. Upgrades are always possible during the period of sponsorship. You will need to contact us at: thecurranhomestead@gmail.com, or at (207) 745-4426.

2023-2026 19TH CENTURY CURRAN VILLAGE EDUCATION CENTER SPONSORSHIP

Select one of the following levels of sponsorship for your pledge:

- Founder: \$10,000
 Mayor: \$5,000
 Tradesman: \$2,500
 Homesteader: \$1,000
 Benefactor: \$500

Name _____

Business _____

Signature _____

Date _____

*Cut out this box and mail in with
your donation or call us at
(207) 745-4426.*

Our Mission

19th Century Curran Village is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization that collects, preserves, and utilizes historic artifacts and buildings for exhibition, living history, traditional arts programming, and hands-on education. The Village serves as a classroom to not only raise awareness and appreciation of life in rural Maine and New England during the emerging Industrial Age of the 19th and early 20th centuries but to empower new generations through sharing the lessons of science, technology, engineering, arts, and mathematics (STEAM) from that time to meet the challenges of the 21st century. Our goal is to help nurture future inventors, scientists, mechanics, artists and agriculturists through individual awareness and discovery.

End of 2023 CHARITABLE DONATION

Please print legibly:

Name(s) _____

Mailing Address _____

City/Town _____

State _____ Zip Code _____

Telephone _____

Email _____

Your contact information is used only to inform you of upcoming events, volunteer opportunities and membership offers. It is not released to others.

Be aware that credit card charges for the 19th Century Curran Village are processed by the **Bangor Letter Shop** as a savings to the museum and their name will show on your credit card statement.

Please make checks payable to "The Curran Homestead"

VISA MC DISCOVER

Name on Card _____

Exp. Date _____ CVV _____

Signature _____

By contributing to the Rural Heritage Endowment Fund or our Annual Fund, you will help prepare a new generation for the challenges of the 21st century with lessons from the past. These funds insure 19th Century Curran Village's immediate needs and long-term sustainability.

END OF YEAR ANNUAL FUND DONATION

___ \$1000 ___ \$500 ___ \$250 ___ \$100 \$_____ Other

2023 ANNUAL FUND COVERS:

- Heat, Electric & Insurance: \$12,000 per annum
- Staff Salaries \$12,000 per month
- Finish 1/3 of Timber Frame Structure---\$10,000. Complete other 2/3 of building: \$25,000
- Complete Car Culture Building---Doors, Transoms, Sheathing & Moldings---\$20,000
- Two Lean-To Roofs, Doors on 6-unit Outhouse---\$12,000.

THE RURAL HERITAGE ENDOWMENT FUND

___ \$1000 ___ \$500 ___ \$250 ___ \$100 \$_____ Other

WE NEED YOU AS A 2024 MEMBER!

Support this family education resource. Get as much as 20% off our workshops. Bring a guest to the museum. Your support allows us to offer more!

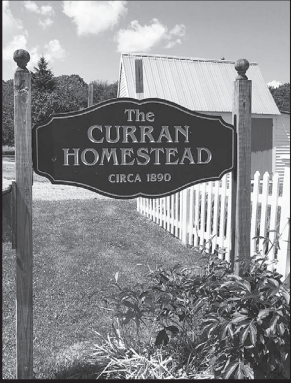
SELECT A 2024 MEMBERSHIP LEVEL:

- ___ Dual: \$75
- ___ Family: \$100
- ___ Family Plus: \$125
- ___ Historian: \$125
- ___ Adopt-A-School: \$125 plus
- ___ Historical Society, Museum & Library: \$175
- ___ Business: \$225
- ___ Sustaining: \$325
- ___ Benefactor: \$500
- ___ Homesteader: \$1000

Benefits of membership levels are found on our website or by mail upon request. **Please note your membership level on your check.**

Please fill out form and return with payment to:
The Curran Homestead, P.O. Box 107, Orrington, ME 04474

19th Century Curran Village at Orrington & Holden



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P.O. Box 107
Orrington, Maine 04474

Thank you for your generosity in 2023!

Memberships

Gregory Kramer, DMD, PA/Business, Dick Stockford/DUAL, Dan Pooler/DUAL, Allan Elkin/DUAL, Amos Orcutt/DUAL, Karen Zimmerman/DUAL, Arthur & Bonnie Cone/DUAL, Jean & Bill Flahive/DUAL, Barry & Gail Ryan/DUAL, Roger Kellett/Family, Herbert & Gloria Hopkins/Historian, Capt. Carl & Kathryn Huntely/Sustaining, Sean Minear/Historian, Randy & Denise Chapman/Family, Pat & Peter Caluori/Sustaining, Robt. & Jean Schmick/Historian, Tom Hanson/Dual, Dorothee & Douglas King/Benefactor, Ronald & Elaine Spinney/Dual, Todd & Alycia Davis/Dual, Sam & Wendy Bland/Dual, Evelyn Lutz/Dual, Bernard & Charlotte Thompson/Historian, Doug Dolan/Sustaining, Richard & Janet Scala/Dual, Herbert & Judith Crosby/Dual, Diane & David Richardson/Dual, Caroline Pryor & David MacDonald/Historian, Roger & Johanna Wolfe/Dual,

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Annual Fund

Jane & Franklin Bragg, Ruth & William Shook, Jr., Theresa Carroll, Richard & Brenda Hanson, Marcia & Peter Lyford, Dr. Charles R. Cushing, James & Patricia Claus, Donald & Felicia Wiswell, Bernadette & Glen Gaspar, Anastasia & Steven Weigle, Harland Eastman, Evelyn Lutz, Ronald Brown & Jill Welch, Town of Orrington, Irv & Karen Marsters, Carol Webster, Ray & Sue Owen, Jamison Family Grant, Steve Goff, Robert & Jean Schmick-In Memory of Cheryl Christine Miller Schmick, John & Joanne Kimball, Margaret & Peter Zack, Irv & Karen Marsters-In Memory of Paul J. Shumaker, Benoit Family Charitable

Fund, Hugh & Susan Curran, Cathy & James Mingo, Jr., G. Clifton Eames, James Whitty, Anonymous, Joseph & Suzanne Cyr, Bernard & Charlotte Thompson, Edith Bullock-in Memory of William Bullock, Beth Paulsen-Olmstead, Evelyn Lutz, Robert Croonquist, Brookings-Smith, Barbara Fahs Charles, Richard & Angelin Bronson, Jr., Jay & Laurie Littlefield-Baas-in Memory of Mervin Littlefield, William Bunting, Doug Farnum, E. Curran.

Carousel Fund

Linda & Fred Hartstone, Diane & John Clymer, Doug Dolan, Eliza Currie (Pippa & Zoe).

Endowment

Dan Pooler, Beth Paulsen-Olmstead, Richard & Alice Trott, Jr.

Go Fund Me

Robert & Jean Schmick, Richard Stockford, Ron Sucy.