

# BEALS HISTORICAL SOCIETY NEWSLETTER



## BHS HOSTS A "SHAPE NOTE"

### PRESENTATION BY KRIS PAPROCKI

BHS fall program will be about shape note singing, a 200-year-old American tradition. Shape note singing is a form of hymn singing using a specially designed system of music notation first patented in 1801. Each note head has a different shape, which corresponds to a solfege syllable. This made it easier for untrained musicians to learn to read music and sing in four-part harmony. While this tradition of singing is associated with the rural South, it's repertoire (not the notation) originated in the colonial New England singing-school tradition. Many

of the tunes that shape note singers sing were sung in rural Maine through the early 1800's. The shape note singers of the South are the closest living relatives of the singing-school tradition of the North. The presentation will include how Downeast Maine is related to this singing tradition. This most interesting presentation will be held at Beals Heritage Center on Friday, September 12, 2014 at 6:30 P.M. Light refreshments will be served. We hope you can join us!

Vol. XIV, No. 4 (Fall 2014)

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

**September 12th**

Shape Notes by Kris Paprocki

**October 18th**

Gospel Show

*Please mark your calendars.  
We greatly appreciate your  
attendance!*

## ANNOUNCING NEW SUMMER & FALL HERITAGE CENTER HOURS

BHS is pleased to announce its new weekly hours, Wednesday from 11:30 A.M.– 3 P.M. We encourage you to stop by to browse the collection.

## UPDATE ON COLD STORAGE AREA

Both the 1902 Dow overhang stern boat and the Gower lobsterfishing boat are now setting on the new cement slab. At this point, we need \$30,000 to build

a shelter over them. If you wish to make a tax deductible contribution, please make payable to: BHS, PO Box 280, Beals ME 04611

## RECENT GIFTS

A Beals High School Graduation Diploma of one Edmund Willis Beal. The diploma is dated June 16, 1927 and is signed by Mrs. S. O Carver, Mrs. U.L. Alley and Mrs. E. H. Backman – School Committee. It is also signed by

R. M. Huntington, Principal, and R.L. Brown, Superintendent. We thank Russell Ingalls of Old Orchard Beach for recovering the diploma from a junk sale and for being thoughtful enough to send it to BHS.

*The following article comes from the  
Beals High School, 1930 Ocean Breeze Yearbook.*

## CAUSES OF THE REVOLUTIONARY WAR

*Written by Lucy B. Woodward, "33*

The Revolutionary War took place in the year 1775. It was between the American colonists and their mother country, England. King George was the king of England at that time and he was trying to get money from the American colonists to pay some soldiers sent over from England to prevent the Canadian French from beginning new war.

In England it had long been understood that the king could not take as much as a single penny from the people unless they

gave their consent. When the Americans came here to settle they received charters, which promised them that they should always have the same rights as the people in England. They did not have to pay taxes in England unless they voted to pay them, and the colonists held the same right. King George told them that he must have a tax and if they would not pay it he would take it by force.

Soon after this dispute the king got the English Parliament in London to pass a

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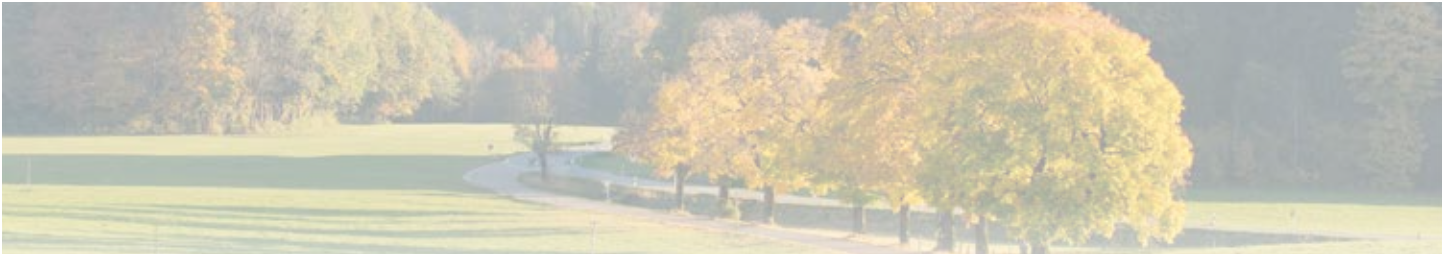
## MEMBERSHIP REMINDER

Please check your records to see if you have paid your annual membership dues for 2014. We much appreciate your support and every membership counts! Thank you!

## BHS MEMBERSHIP REPORT

The GOSPEL CONCERT is to be held at Beals Elementary School, on October 18 @ 6:30 P.M.





law called the “Stamp Act.” That law commanded the American colonists to buy English stamps, something like the postage stamps we have now, and to use these for many things. If, for instance, a man wanted to purchase a piece of land to build a house or a farm he had to pay for a stamp on the deed of paper, which made the land his. It was the same with many other things both great and small. The intention was to make everybody purchase some of these stamps. Even if anyone bought a newspaper he had to pay something in addition for the stamp on it. He might not have to spend more than a cent of he might have to spend fifty dollars; it all depended on the value of what he bought.

When the stamps were sent over from England the people tore them up or made bonfires of them. The American colonists did not stop there for they said,

“We will not pay this tax or any other tax unless we can help make the tax laws.” The king denied them that right, so the quarrel went on. At last the king found out that it was useless to send any more stamps to America, so the Stamp Act was repealed. The next year the king decided to try a different plan for getting money from the colonists.

The people of this country then bought all their window glass, their paint, their wallpaper and their tea from the merchants of England. The Congress in London made a law, which ordered the American colonists to pay a tax on these things when they bought them at the shops in America. The king signed the law just as he had signed the Stamp Act. But the Americans decided to get along without glass, paint, paper or tea rather than pay the tax. The king sent ships loaded with taxed tea over to Boston,

but the people would not let them land it.

One evening some men disguised themselves as Indians and went down to the ships. They took the chests of tea, broke them open and emptied their contents into the harbor. The king was very angry at this and ordered the port of Boston to be closed, so that no ships could go in our out. Many people were hungry but they would not call on the king for help. The people of the other colonies sent food by land to Boston to keep the citizens from starving. That showed that the Americans were of one mind, and that they were determined to stand by each other. The people of the colonies now chose a number of their wisest men and sent them to Philadelphia to have a great meeting. In this meeting, which was called “The Continental Congress,” they declared war to gain freedom from their mother country or England.

**BEALS HERITAGE CENTER BEALS HISTORICAL SOCIETY MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION**

Please check one:  Renewal  New

**Name(s) as you wish it to appear on membership card and member roll on website:**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
*(Please type or print clearly)*



Your mailing address:

Street or Post Office Box: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Type of membership *(Please review all types and check the one that applies)*

- Individual Annual \$10 Annually
- Individual/Life \$200 one-time payment
- Couple Annual \$15 Annually
- Couple/Life \$300 one-time payment
- Senior/65 Annual \$5 annually
- Senior couple/65 Annual \$7.50 annually
- Student \$5 annually

Over and above dues, I wish to donate \_\_\_\_\_ for \_\_ operating expenses, \_\_building fund, or \_\_ endowment fund. Receipt and membership card will be sent to you.

Instructions: Please print, complete and mail this application, together with tax-deductible check or money order payable to Beals Historical Society to: Membership Chairperson, Beals Historical Society, P.O. Box 280, Beals, ME 04611

*Annual memberships are for the calendar year and expire December 31st.*