



# CHEBEAGUE ISLAND HISTORICAL SOCIETY

**December 2022**

## *The Rest is History...*

The Chebeague Island Historical Society was founded on April 6, 1984. After years of hearing folks say "we ought to," Donna Damon decided we should! More and more items from our history went to the dump as island homes were converted to summer cottages. Occasionally, documents and old pictures were saved because Martha Hamilton made it known that she would gladly house these items at the Library until a historical society was formed. If it had not been for Martha, much of the island's past would have been lost forever. Other people were watching the dump and sifting through the refuse that came from island homes. Alice Bowman and many others found important record books and photographs that they donated to the Chebeague Island Historical Society. Other islanders held onto family items for us. Mabel Bennett Hill found many examples of Chebeague's material culture on the dump, which resided with Joan Robinson until we acquired our current home, the District 9 schoolhouse.

The founding of the Chebeague Island Historical Society was a community effort from the very beginning. Following an island tradition, island organizations were approached for support, and they eagerly responded. For example, the CIHCC, the Chebeague Island Council, and SAD 51 were essential players. The CIHCC and the SAD 51 gave us a place to meet, and the Council gave us our first donation to pay for incorporation.

While the spring and early summer of 1984 were spent creating by-laws and becoming incorporated, by fall the Society was presenting programs and planning for the future. (Adapted from The Sloops Log, Fall 1998)



Thanks to all who submitted guesses for our November photo! Special recognition to: Polly Smith Hunneman, Jane Frizzell, and Marjorie Munroe, who came the closest to identifying all of the students. The photo was taken in New York City in spring 1951 and shows the Chebeague High School classes of 1951 and 1952 on their class trip. They ranged in age from 16 to 18!

**L-R:** Dorothy and Barbara Newcomb, Larry Bennett, Geneva Bowen (chaperone), Connie Stilphen Fowler, Jim Komlosy, Suzanne Bennett Jackson, Marianne Webber Brenton, Warren Doughty, Walter Ross, Billy Tibbetts, Harland Webber, Leon White, Frank Mansfield. With the exception of Jim Komlosy (although his sister Martha married a Hamilton) - there was a little bit of Hamilton in all of them!

### **DO YOUR HOLIDAY SHOPPING WITH US!**

The museum shop will be open on Sunday 12/14 from 1—4 PM. All items (except art) will be sold for 30% off! See you there!

### **ELLSWORTH MILLER MEMORIAL LECTURE SERIES**

Many thanks to our November lecturer Dwayne Tomah, a teacher of the Passamaquoddy language and culture. Dwayne shared an informative film "The Doctrine of Discovery" with us.

Our December lecture will be presented by Michael Porter. Michael's subject will be "What an Antique Sundial Can Tell Us About Time."

Please join us on December 12th at 7 PM by going to [zoom.us](https://zoom.us) and selecting Join a Meeting. The Meeting ID is 829 6247 6056. No password is required.

*Past Miller Memorial lectures can be viewed on our website [Chebeaguehistory.com](http://Chebeaguehistory.com) under the "Our Collection" tab.*

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