



Belfast Historical Society & Museum
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NEWSLETTER DECEMBER 2025

Dear Belfast Historical Society Member,

2025 marked the 50th anniversary of the opening of the Belfast Museum. As in years past, we had a busy and productive summer season. Lily Frost, our student intern, furthered our online social media presence creating Instagram Reels. The reels, short videos, titled “Did You Know?” featured Belfast history highlights and “The Museum A to Z” showcased twenty-six objects from the museum collection. We saw 350 visitors, from twenty-two states and four foreign countries. Our first visitor was originally from Serbia- now travelling the world and very impressed with Belfast.

We welcomed Kevin Gray to the Board of Directors in May. Before moving from Connecticut to Belfast in 2024, he was involved with several local historical societies. He is a firm believer in the saying that “all history is local.”

[Belfast History Comes to Life! The Belfast Museum Marks 50 Years in 2025](#)

In August of 1953, Belfast, Maine celebrated the one-hundredth anniversary of receipt of its charter as a city. It was an occasion that generated considerable interest in Belfast’s heritage and resulted in numerous exhibits and events designed to satisfy curiosity about the city’s history. Though the seed had been planted, there ensued an “incubation” period of almost a year and a half before the idea came to full fruition. On April 4, 1955, the first meeting of the Belfast Historical Society was called by Mr. Ralph Thompson, who would serve as the Society’s first president.

In 1975, under the leadership of then Society President Morris Slugg Sr. the building at the corner of Church and Market Streets was acquired and renovated. All three upper floors of the building were rented and the Belfast Museum called the lower-level home. Gifts to the Museum began to pour in and in 1977, the land and barn next door on Market Street was purchased for storage of larger items. Andy Kuby was appointed as curator and registrar.



Photo: Morris and Andy with the display featuring Belfast historian, Joseph Williamson, Jr.

Since 1975 the board of directors have continued to support the improvement of our buildings and exhibit spaces. As the Belfast Museum enters its next fifty years, every effort is made to assure that our community is well informed about Belfast’s distinguished heritage. Museum exhibits are well conceived and presented. The Museum also maintains off-site exhibits at the local elementary school and the Belfast Library, and hosts educational programs on a regular

basis. In 2004, we sponsored the Belfast Museum in the Streets walking tour in Belfast, a permanent thirty-panel exposition of local historical sites. In addition, we support a museum summer student intern program, award a scholarship to a graduating Belfast Area High School student, and hosts school groups at the museum.

Please visit the following online media postings:

Website for updates and program schedules, www.belfastmuseum.org

Facebook page **Belfast Historical Society and Museum** is updated on a regular basis, full of history posts,

Instagram account: **Belfastmuseummaine**

YouTube channel: **Belfast, Maine Historical Society & Museum**

We submit press releases for our public programs to each of the local newspapers, the PenBay Pilot and Midcoast Villager, see their Calendar pages.

Thank you for your continued support!

We wish all of you Merry Christmas, Happy Holidays, and a Healthy New Year!



The Board of Directors:

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