

Report of the Fremont 250TH Anniversary Committee

The Fremont 250th Anniversary Committee was formed on November 18, 2010 and has been working diligently trying to organize a suitable celebration in honor of Fremont's upcoming 250th Anniversary in June 2014.

Fremont was incorporated on Friday, June 22, 1764 as the "PARISH of POPLIN" by then New Hampshire Provincial Governor Benning Wentworth. The origin of the name "Poplin" remains unknown, but the name of the town was changed 90 years later on July 8, 1854 to FREMONT - in honor of the then famous American West Explorer & Pathfinder, *John Charles Fremont* (born 1813, died 1890). In 1856 John C. Fremont became the first ever Republican Presidential candidate in American history. He lost to Democrat James Buchanan. Fremont was neither a native nor resident of our town, but became famous in the 1840's and 1850's for his five mapping & exploratory expeditions of the American West.

The 250th Committee has met eleven months during 2012 and has worked hard organizing fundraisers to help offset the costs associated with a milestone celebration of this sort. We have raised funds to pay for souvenirs such as **Town Seal Sun-catchers**, impressive 6' X 4' **Fremont Town Throws**, and **250th Anniversary window decals**. These various items can be purchased by calling 895 4032. Thanks to the thoughtful donation of an impressive handmade quilt given to the Committee by Sharon Meaney of Fremont, the Committee was able to raise funds by raffling it off in early December.

The 250th Committee has also designed, and will soon produce, a unique FREMONT TOWN FLAG which we urge all dedicated townspeople to purchase and proudly fly from their home or yard. Look for more info in upcoming editions of the Fremont Newsletter. **Fremont will be the first town in the State of New Hampshire to make a town flag available for residents to purchase and proudly fly from their homes or businesses.**

The 250th Committee also held a successful **CELEBRATE FREMONT FESTIVAL** on September 22nd at the Ellis School grounds. This event attracted nearly 50 craft and food vendors. Thanks go out to all who came and supported this enjoyable event.

Fremont's 250th Celebration will take place between Thursday, June 19 and Sunday June 22, 2014 on the Peterson/Brookvale Farm on Martin Road. **Tentative** scheduled events include a two-hour Celebration Parade; Town Field Day with Colonial Militia and/or Civil War Encampment/Mock Battle; Antique Car/Truck Show; Chili Cookoff/Contest; Crafts & Food Fair; Northside Fremont versus Southside Fremont Tug-o-War Contest; Children's Games; Musical Concerts; Miss Fremont Contest; Fireworks; Woodsmen Competition; Town History Tour; 1800 Meeting House Concert & Tour; Old Fremont House Tour; & Fremont Museum Exhibits.

WE WOULD LIKE TO INVITE **ALL** FREMONT BUSINESSES, CHURCHES, ORGANIZATIONS, INDIVIDUALS, ELEMENTARY, MIDDLE & HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS, ETC. TO CREATE PARADE FLOATS, EXHIBITS, ART & PHOTO SHOWS, TOWN HISTORY PAGEANT, KAREOKE

PERFORMANCES, BEARD GROWING CONTEST, SKILLET THROW, FREMONT TOWN SONG & POEM CONTEST.

The Committee will also produce a special 250th Commemorative Anniversary Souvenir Booklet. Anyone interested in permanently memorializing their business, family or family member, organization, church, etc. within the Souvenir Booklet are asked to contact the Committee at 895 4032 for advertisement rates and sizes.

Anyone interested in joining the Committee, or donating funds to help support our celebration goals can also call the above listed telephone number for more information. Our meetings are held on the 3rd Tuesday of each month at the Fremont Safety Complex Meeting Room beginning at 6:00 pm. YOUR SUPPORT will help make this Fremont 250th Anniversary Celebration memorable and one which we can all enjoy and take great town pride in.

We respectfully and gratefully ask all Fremont voters to please support the proposed \$5,000 warrant article on the March Town Election Day so that these vital funds can go into the 250th Anniversary Expendable Trust Fund to help offset various costs associated with the upcoming celebration. **PLEASE KEEP IN MIND that the 250th Committee is doing everything possible to keep the cost of this celebration reasonable and cost effective.** Other monies will be raised during the actual celebration via crafts & food vendor fees, souvenir sales, house tour fees, raffles, souvenir booklet advertising fees, and donation jars to keep this celebration within a reasonable budget.

The **1802 Poplin Town Pound** was completed on May 26, 2012 by 250th Committee members and community volunteers when the granite capstone was placed over the Pounds' gateway entrance and an antique iron gate hung. The reconstruction of the 1802 Town Pound was undertaken in 2011 by the 250th Committee as a lasting tribute in honor of Fremont's early settlers and colorful local heritage.

THANK YOU TO ALL who do so much to help make this Celebration a reality. Fremont is a special town because of special people like you! THANKS AGAIN...

Respectfully submitted,

Matthew E. Thomas
250th Chairman

Fremont 250th Committee Members: *Lori & Leon Holmes Jr, Joseph & Doris Nichols, Dana Coulombe, Rick & Mary Wheaton-Pinder, Donna Smith, Terri Sullivan, Al Hinckley, Karen Gehalo, Robert Rydeen, Felicia Augevitch, Dennis Acton, Sharon Thomas, Jon DellaPenna, Greg & Annmarie Scribner, Tammi Bertolami, Tim Clark, Travis McConnell & Peter Gilligan.*

Chairman - *Matthew E. Thomas*, **Vice Chairman** - *Michael Rydeen*, **Secretary** - *Patricia "Trish" Coulombe*, **Treasurer** - *Jean Ragonese*