



10:00 a.m. - 8:00 p.m.

## Bicentennial Update

Several folks gathered at the Town House on July 31st to brainstorm about possible events for Vienna's Bicentennial Celebration in 2002. The actual anniversary date is February 20th — the date the Commonwealth of Massachusetts granted a charter to the Town of Vienna — but it was suggested our celebration activities begin in the summer of 2001 and continue for a year, perhaps ending with a big "Blueberry Festival" in July 2002, complete with fireworks!

The brainstorming produced three pages of ideas for other activities: an exhibit by local craftspeople and artists; a winter carnival with sleigh rides, snow sculptures and the like; a Vienna home-and-garden tour; a street dance; a box social; production of a bicentennial quilt; and a New Year's Eve gala, to mention just a few.

It was decided to meet again in February and prepare a hand-out for the March Town Meeting, asking for more suggestions. The goal is to generate interest in and excitement for the upcoming occasion. Although it may seem a long way off, time passes very quickly and some fund-raising events may need to start two or three years in advance of the bicentennial.

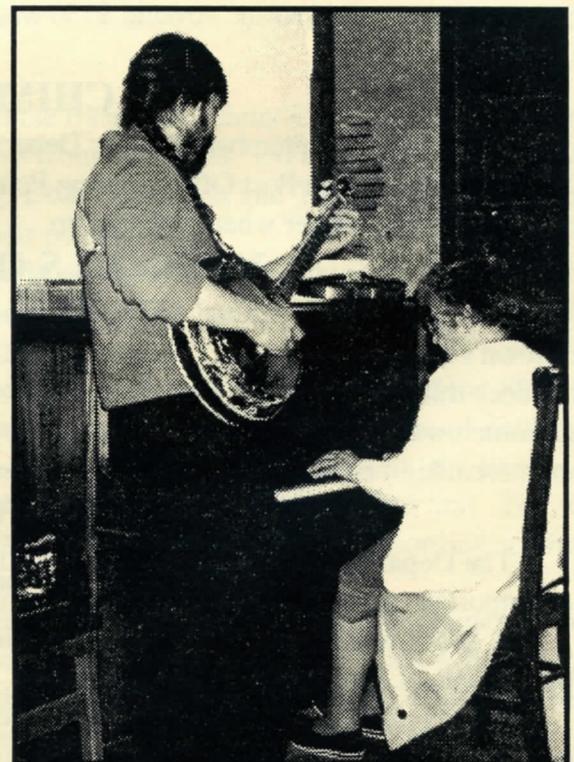
Anyone with ideas or interest in being involved in any way is invited to contact JoAnn Pillsbury (293-2334 or Libby Harville (293-2362).

### *Talent Show Pictures*



From left to right: *Dodi Thompson, Laura Reville, Debbie Byrnes, Betsy Kimball, Carol Hedden, Jean Anderberg, Diane Vandal, Libby Harville, Valerie Hoff.*

Not shown: *Jackie Fornier, Hannah Faulkner*



*Dale Perkins and Mother*



**The Vienna  
Volunteer  
Fire Department  
is planning its  
annual  
Hunters' Supper.**



**November  
9th**

**5:00 - 6:30  
p.m.**

**Vienna Grange**



Don't forget to buy your raffle tickets for the Hunters' Raffle on November 14th -  
1st Prize: Browning 30.06, 2nd Prize: Microwave, 3rd Prize: Five Ice-Fishing Traps

# Ablaze in the News

by Phil Pillsbury, Assistant Chief

## MAINE FIREFIGHTERS GO WEST

Summer sure did get off to a wet start and put a damper (!) on a lot of outdoor activities. Fire danger in our area has been low for this season, but not so in other parts of the country. Many firefighters from Maine have gone out west to fight forest fires this year.

## CHICKEN BARBECUE

The V.F.D. managed to squeeze in their annual chicken barbecue between storms. It was a wonderful sunny day with a good crowd. Around \$750 was raised by this event. Thanks to all who donated food and time to the cause.

## CHIMNEY CLEANING

On Saturday, September 28th, the Department will try to clean chimneys for residents. Sign-up sheets will be located at the Vienna Post Office, Flying Pond Variety and the Mt. Vernon Country Store. Please make sure to leave your phone number when you sign up.

## VIENNA I.S.O. RATING TO GO DOWN

The Lake Region Mutual Aid Association has been working together to assist each department in lowering their town's Insurance Services Organization rating. If all goes well, our town's rating may go from a "9" to a "7". What does this mean to you? Well, for most home owners the lower the rating, the more money you can save on your home owners insurance premiums. Call your insurance agent to see if it will benefit you. I will try to give more information on our progress at a later date.

## WANT TO HELP THE V.F.D.?

The Department is working to install a dry hydrant in Flying Pond, on the Klir Beck Road. This will give us an important water supply for that area during the winter months.

A dance was held at the Readfield Lions' Club on September 13th, with a live band, door prizes, a 50-50 raffle and lots of dancing.

There is a lot going on throughout the year, and we are always looking for help - not only to fight fires but also to help with any of our fund-raisers, as Auxiliary members. If you are interested, just get in touch with any member.

# Report from the Merry Dumpsters

by Diane Friese

RECYCLING		1994		1995	
Towns / Regions	#	Tons recycled	Rate**	Tons recycled	Rate**
Bowdoinham	1	217	59%	206	47%
Canaan	1	79	25	30	16
Chesterville	1	140	34	63	36
Cornville	1	128	46	181	38
Farmington	1	1,486	34	1,896	41
Hatch Hill Region*	9	12,215	43	11,792	37
Jackman Region*	18	283	41	282	41
Kingfield Region*	7	318	56	269	35
Moscow	1	46	28	45	28
New Vineyard	1	91	50	61	37
Newport	1	1,126	47	818	36
Norridgewock	1	537	28	525	24
Oakland	1	455	28	368	24
Pittsfield Region*	2	904	43	1,423	41
Richmond	1	154	27	122	18
Rome	1	26	27	33	31
Readfield Region*	2	405	44	413	35
Sidney	1	302	37	282	45
Skowhegan	1	3,300	45	1,914	33
Smithfield	1	58	15	44	16
Solon	1	73	18	44	15
Starks	1	15	22	25	20
Unity Region*	2	261	40	225	28
Vienna	1	41	40	35	36
Wtvl.-Winslow*	2	9,076	37	5,055	27

\* Number of towns involved.  
 \* Regional recycling depots serving several towns - number of towns involved follows.  
 \*\* Percentage rate includes a credit given for deposit of bottles & cans and credit for private recycling by brokers.

SOURCE: Maine State Planning Office

Staff graphic: SUSAN VARNEY

Saturday, October 5th, is the second Bulky Pickup Day for 1996. If you have any questions, please call Laura Reveille or any of the Merry Dumpsters.

The three-year recycling and trash pickup responsibility is in the process of being put out to public contract. If you are interested — or know of any one else who might be interested — in providing this service to the Town, please contact Laura Reveille (293-3156).

As the accompanying chart indicates, VIENNA — at 35% — continues to be among the top 12 towns in the state that have a significant recycling rate. We did drop a few percentage points from the previous year. We all need to continue to make the effort to sort more volume of recyclables and thereby reduce the volume of trash. If you have any problems with having your recyclables picked up, or questions about sorting, please contact any one of the Merry Dumpsters: Diane Friese (293-

2713), Ann Gibbs (293-2610), Steve Richardson (293-2610) or Virginia Rogers (293-2463).



## SELECTMEN'S MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

- Recent repairs to the Town House include replacing the screens in the basement, nailing down the out-house floor, making the ramp more accessible, removing the hornet's nest from over the front door, and painting the exterior.

- The three-year snowplow contract was awarded to Bruce Gurney, as his proposal was the least expensive.

- Debbie Byrnes and Betty Clark submitted their resignations from the Board. On a September 14th Town Meeting, Dodi Thompson and Tim Smith were elected to fill their positions.

- The Board is currently working on the Waste/Recycling contract. The present contract expires in November.

- The State Bureau of Health has tested the Kimball Pond Road spring and found the presence of coliform bacteria. While the water is safe to drink, the Bureau of Health does recommend that it be boiled first. The Bureau will be regulating the spring according to State guidelines.

- The Board voted to increase the assessment of undeveloped non-shorefront property. This will bring the assessed value into line with the market value. The base lot value will be discounted 30% until the property becomes developed.

# Dairy Farmers Are A Sister Act

by Dan McGillvray

VIENNA — Marilyn Bean lives on the only dairy farm in Vienna. Mildred Hall lives on the only full-scale dairy farm in Mount Vernon.

That distinction, which separates them from all other women in the two towns, is only half the story.

They're sisters, too.

"Yes, I think it's unusual," said Bean. With about 1,900 residents in Mount Vernon and Vienna, a Las Vegas gambler probably would agree that odds are against that roll.

Forty years ago, Bean and Hall were just two of the women and girls on more than 20 active dairy farms in the neighboring towns. But changing economic pressure on farmers have left the sisters in an unexpectedly unique position.

Hall, 78, lives in a sprawling house along North Road with distant backyard views of Mount Washington. A 17-year-old milking barn is nearby. Two other barns on the property burned to the ground in 1963 and 1979.

"The oldest barn had two floors of cows but we only milked on the upper floor," said Hall. While she lives on the farm, her only son Dickie runs the operation now.

Hall's husband, Ray, died 16 months ago. The couple started with a herd of 30 cows in 1945, six years after their marriage.

Bean, 61, moved to Vienna when she married Harold Bean in 1955. He comes from a long line of farmers who have owned land in town for 194 years.

"I don't do chores in the barn, but I have worked in the fields," she said. That work has included driving tractors and trucks, and harvesting hay and corn for feed.

At the Bean farm, 108 Holsteins are milked twice a day in a modern 14-year-old barn. The herd produces from 11,400 to 11,900 pounds of milk every other day and that is sold to the West Lynn Creamery.

The two sisters were raised on a small farm in East Mount Vernon, but they never lived together. Hall graduated from high school and left for a job the same year Bean was born.

The elder woman recalls being around animals as a young girl and observing her mother at work.

"Daddy had four or five cows and Momma used to make butter. The cows were turned out twice a day. When I was growing up, we had no plumbing, no electricity and no telephone," said Hall.

The women's maiden name is Wadleigh, and their brother, Everett, has been employed on the Hall farm

for many years.

Like her younger sister, Hall has worked in the fields during hot weather — haying times.

"I used to help lift the bales up to the truck and that's why my back is bad now," she said. Besides dairy farming, her husband during the years also sold squash, cucumbers, sweet corn, hay, fertilizer, Christmas trees and hauled goods in trucks.

Both sisters say country living beats the city.

"I detest the city. There's too many people," said Bean. Hall, who lived in Augusta for three years before marrying, also said the rural life has more to offer.

But at the same time, the older sister would not necessarily advise a young woman to get into dairy farming.

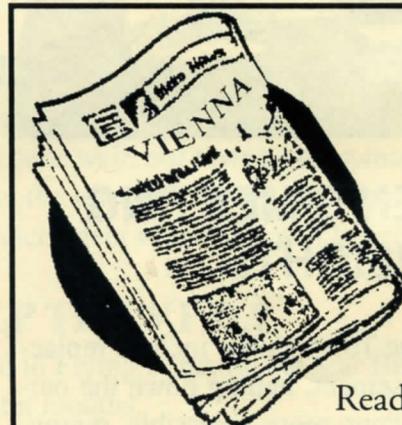
"It's all work. You don't have any time for yourself," said Hall, who is active with the local Mill Stream Grange and Eastern Star. She also worked part-time for 15 years at the Mount Vernon post office.

The two women acknowledge the ups and downs of farming.

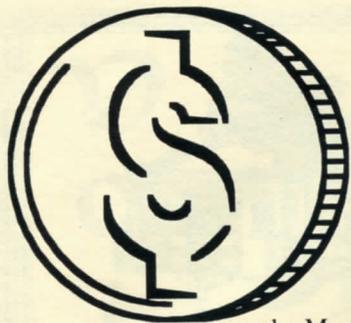
Too much rain, not enough rain, low milk prices, high feed prices, tractor maintenance, taxes — all affect income.

At the Vienna farm, the operation is also a family affair. Bean's three sons, Ervin, Elden and Edson, live nearby and work there as do high-school-age grandsons Jason and Troy. The herd — including animals not being milked — exceeds 200 cows and calves.

(From the *Kennebec Journal*, 6/19/96)



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or call 293-2362 TODAY!



# VIENNA UNION HALL

by Martha Gross

# Mt. Vernon - Vienna Village Extension Group Schedule

by  
Dodie Thompson, Chair

Greetings from the Vienna Union Hall Association. This has been one of our more successful years in terms of fund-raising and we would like to take this opportunity to thank the community for their continued support.

We would also like to thank the Mount Vernon—Vienna Village Extension group for their generous donation from the proceeds of the Home and Garden Tour.

At our next meeting we will be finalizing plans for the next stage of restoration. Anyone interested in these projects is welcome to attend.

Our meetings are held on the second Wednesday of the month, beginning at 7:30 p.m. at the Union Hall.

**October 14** - Decorating plant pots (Paint, Decoupage, Hodge-Podge)

**November 11** - Cake decorating

**December 9** - Christmas party, Pot-luck, Gift exchange

**January 13** - Norway, Sweden

**February 10** - Budget decorating

**March 10** - Basketweaving project

**April 14** - Basketweaving (continued)

**May 12** - To be announced

**June 9** - Pot-luck dinner, Plant swap, Antique appraisal

Extension meetings are held at the Grange Hall the second Monday of each month. New members (or guests) are always welcome.

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## DID YOU KNOW THAT

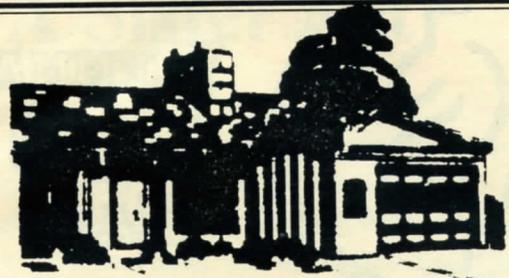
From historical material of Freida Kelly's

•The first man to build a cabin in Vienna was Joshua Howland, in 1786. He worked much of the time for an earlier settler in Farmington. Since he thus was obliged to be away from home several days at a time, his wife stayed alone, with her nearest neighbors five miles away at Farmington Falls. In the other direction, the nearest settlement was at Bishop's Mills, the old name for Mount Vernon Village.

• Before 1790, Vienna had no roads. Settlers found their way to the place by blazed trails through the forests. Winthrop was the location of the nearest mill for grinding corn. Because of the distance, many bushels or wheat and corn were ground at home in the tiny hand coffee mills, while others crushed corn with an old fashioned mortar and pestle, according to the Indian custom.

• By 1800, things were looking up when Patrick Galbraith laid a dam across the village stream and built a grist mill. A bit later, there was opened a carding and fulling mill (Vienna pastures supported many sheep) and then came a shingle mill and a shoe-peg mill. By 1892, Vienna boasted of a mill that made handles for hoes, pitchforks and shovels as well as a wagon-and-carriage shop.

• In 1952, Vienna celebrated the sesquicentennial celebration of its incorporation at Waite's Grove, where about 150 persons were served bean-hole beans. Irving Bradley, nearly 91 years old, who was born in and lived in Vienna for many years, ably and carefully prepared and presented the history of the town. In the evening, the Union Hall was filled with dancers, some sporting the hoop skirts and swallow-tail coats of an earlier era. Proceeds of the affair were donated to the Baptist Church.



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