

ASHLAND 150th ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION 2018

PRESS RELEASE – JULY 2018



Our **play on Friday** is a presentation of the events which led up to the secession of Ashland from its mother town of Holderness and our first town meeting. If you are interested in the **train ride** only on Saturday, it is \$10 round trip or one way, leaving Ashland at 4 pm. and not leaving Plymouth for the return trip until 9 pm. The Hardtacks, will be joining us on the train for singalongs to set the mood. Those of us who have been learning the period dances can't wait to perform them to live music and share them with the others who will be attending. Advance reservations were required for the **Civil War Costume Ball** at the Common Man Inn, but if you are interested, contact us at the email below as there may have been cancellations. Costumes are optional but encouraged! Do feel free to check out the outfits at the Ashland Railroad Station as everyone arrives to receive their ticket and catch the train or

the Grand March at the Inn!

The "**Cemetery Walks**" involve individuals in period outfits portraying a variety of different characters from Ashland's past. Parking will be in the Ashland Post Office lot where you will be assigned a guide for your tour. They are interesting and informative!

Hopefully it won't rain on the **Pleasant Street Dance** with music by the group, Club Soda, but if it does we will simply move it to the school gym. Would be fun to have old cars and trucks line Main Street so pass the word! Some classes are meeting at specific times for the **Alumni Day**, so check with your classmates. Of course, don't forget your yearbook! We are working on having all the old high school banners and trophies on display.

The **parade** will be RAIN OR SHINE. Some of the participants joining our parade are the Mattatuck Drum Band (oldest drum & fife in the country); Sons of the American Revolution; 1st NH Volunteer Infantry; Company A, 4th NH Volunteer Infantry; Piscataqua Rangers Jr. Fife and Drum; Girl Scouts/Brownies; Boy Scouts/Cub Scouts; Ernie Paquette, the Parade Marshal of this year's 4th of July; Steve & Kathy Jacquith, 2018 Mary Ruell Award Recipients; NH Police Pipes and Drums; Muchachos Drum & Bugle Corps; Gaylen Potter Lange, Centennial Queen; Ann-Marie Barney, Centennial Baby; Baker River Valley Band; Bektash Minichoppers Unit; Bektash Mini Car Patrol; Bektash High Rollers Mini Monster Patrol; walkers, bikes, various floats, horses, other animals, fire trucks, etc. It isn't too late to make your parade entry! See our page on the Ashlandnh.org website for award categories or email us and we will forward it to you!

In the **L W Packard Ballfield**, following a **flag raising ceremony** after the parade, the Baker Valley Band will play, followed by the Tirrell-Wysocki, an Irish music group from 4 to 6 pm in the bandstand. The beard contest will be at 5:30 pm and a 150 Ceremony at 6 pm with music by Just Because afterwards. The Granite State Cloggers will be performing on the basketball court and Bryan Conway afterwards from 5 to 7:30. In other areas of the field there will be Stacey Lucas (Fig Tree Gallery) with face painting from 5 to 8 pm; from 4 to 6 pm, Andrea of the Ashland Post Office will be postmarking stamped envelopes with our special 150 postmark and we will be selling commemorative First Class stamps; Mo the Clown with his balloon fun, 3 to 7 pm; Jim Gleich, juggler 7 to 8 pm; a replica "Ashland Arch" for photo ops; watermelon for sale by the Ashland Woman's Club; cookout by the Ashland Community Church, wood-fired pizza, fried dough, onion rings, french fries, etc. all leading up to an overhead drone picture, song by the Piscataqua Rangers Jr. Fife and Drum; and the **fireworks** at dusk!

Of course, all boats, old and new, decorated or not, are welcome to join the **boat parade** on Sunday, July 29! Line up begins at 1 pm. For further information please see the 150th Anniversary Celebration page at ashlandnh.org or email ashlandnh150@yahoo.com. Looking forward to sharing such a fun and memorable week with everyone!

Thank you for your continued support!

Jane Lyford Sawyer, Chair