Enduring Vietnam: “A Story That Has No End”

Author James Wright explores the Vietnam Generation

By Dr. Kathy Mathis, New Hampshire Humanities Project Director

Valor is not a precondition for victory in war. Rather, it is a quality contained in a personal narrative, written on the mind and body of men and women who fight the war. That war can be good or bad, purposeful and celebrated, or reviled and out of order. Of course war is never wholly either or. But in Vietnam, a generation of young adults fought in an increasingly unpopular war with confusing objectives and political and military goals. When they came home, they were not embraced for doing their duty, except by their friends and family. Their homecoming was complicated by a national consciousness not “as hostile...as the legends suggest” nor “as warm...or as comfortable...as the narrative promises.” The American War in Vietnam “is a story that has no end.” Those words from author James Wright underscore his poignant message: The stories of the young men and
women who were on the ground has not fully been told except as an analogue to the times. But it is both focus and context for Wright’s latest book of history, *Enduring Vietnam: An American Generation and Its War.*

James Wright, former Dartmouth College president and Marine veteran himself, estimates there are probably 30,000 Vietnam veterans in New Hampshire. Inspired by a June 1969 LIFE magazine issue that featured photos and stories of a one-week tour of combat soldiers who didn’t make it home, he became caught up in telling more of the rich and complex story. Before he knew it, he said, “I was up to my elbows in another book.” An earlier history about war and homecoming, *Those Who Have Burned the Battle: A History of America’s Wars and Those Who Fought Them,* was larger in scope in terms of the conflicts involved. This new book is dedicated to those Americans who endured, but did not necessarily survive, Vietnam. It is based on interviews with 160 mostly combat veterans and family members, those who received the “knock on the door.”

The book is meant to demonstrate to its readers the human face and the cost of war, and to remind people that soldiers are not “boots on the ground” but kids we send off to fight. In this case, the theater of engagement became a battleground for geopolitical struggles and international policies that were a reflection of genuine concerns over the fate of democracy in the world. What was most surprising to the author as he continued his interviews was just how willingly many young men of the era went to fight. Having been shaped by their growing up in the 1950s and by family members who had served in World War II, many believed it was their duty and responsibility to serve. Even when they were drafted, not eager to go, they went. By the late 60s, though, all that changed.

By the late 60s, though, all that changed. The war, for most, was not “boots on the ground” but kids we read about in our newspapers, kids whose stories are not just about whether or not they lived, but about what they went through and what they endured. The war, for most, was not about the military, but about the young people who were being sent to fight, and about the consequences of their actions.

How the war was carried out, Wright says, was very much predicated on how it played out at home. They knew about the anti-war sentiments, the protests, the violence surrounding the election of 1968, the unrest on college campuses, and the “tin soldiers and Nixon coming” of the popular Neil Young song. They fought on under circumstances of uncertainty and chaos, knowing no front lines, no clear battle plans, and no sense of unified goals or specific outcomes. So, when they returned, they did so quietly. Their homecoming was not an occasion for cheering. They had endured the fighting but could not savor victory. The war, for most, was about survival.

It follows that the veterans Wright interviewed freely told their stories, some for the first time. They were motivated to help him tell the untold stories of comrades who gave their lives. And, of course, in the telling, they told their own poigniant stories. What can we do to help veterans of Vietnam, or of any conflict for that matter, come home? We can continue to reach out, to help them tell their stories and address the issues that still surface. Vietnam veterans were not treated kindly on return. They have not forgotten that. This is not just about them, though. This is about what we, civilians, can learn from them. This is our responsibility as well.

The McLinch Foundation awards $25,000 grant for Humanities to Go

New Hampshire Humanities has received a $25,000 grant from The McLinch Foundation to support its Humanities to Go Fund. With this gift New Hampshire Humanities will have the opportunity to transform its most popular and far-reaching program, Humanities to Go, to engage over 350 residents to programs bringing $15,000-plus residents together in more than 150 New Hampshire communities. Over the next 10 years, with sustainable funding, Humanities to Go will expand to include extensive explorations of topics, objects and places that foster experiential learning; facilitated Socratic discussions on life’s big questions that take place wherever people gather; and the development of digital resources that support live programming and extend and deepen the impact of our work.

“Humanities to Go has long been a leader in support of the educational and cultural life of the State. Their significant investment in the Humanities to Go Fund will ensure that New Hampshire residents continue to have access to knowledge and thoughtful conversation for many decades to come. We are deeply grateful,” said Deborah Watrous, executive director.

This gift will be matched 3:1 by the National Endowment for the Humanities. For more information about Humanities to Go please visit www.nnhumanities.org.

Join us for the 2017 Annual Dinner:

**Wednesday, October 25, 2017**

**Radisson Hotel Manchester Downtown, Reception 5:00 pm / Dinner 6:30 pm**

**LEAD SPONSOR:**

**Dartmouth**

**DINNER SPONSORS:**

**NHPR**

**CIVIC CHAMPION SPONSORS:**

**TIME**

**LIFELONG LEARNING SPONSORS:**

**Bank of America**

To learn more about the exposure your company will receive through sponsorship, please contact Jane Pauley, Director of Development, at jpauley@nnhumanities.org.
A Child of Exile in America at War

By Scott Eaton, Humanities to Go presenter

“It is only with the heart that one can see rightly; the essential is invisible to the eye.” This is the moral of the book The Little Prince by the French writer-aviator Antoine de Saint-Exupéry (1900-1944), and next year will mark the 75th anniversary of its publication. Sometimes described as a “children’s story for adults” because of its underlying themes, The Little Prince on one level is a simple fairy tale: A child prince from another planet who comes to Earth after a lover’s quarrel with the rose he cares for but eventually decides to return when he realizes that he is still responsible for his rose. The Little Prince was written during Saint-Exupéry’s wartime exile in America after his beloved France was defeated by the Germans in June 1940. The book was released in both English and French editions in April 1943, but its message has transcended the circumstances of its creation and still resonates with readers 75 years later—in 300 languages.

A combat veteran as a reconnaissance pilot with the French Air Force, Saint-Exupéry had arrived in New York on New Year’s Eve, 1940, at the invitation of his American publisher, to pick up the National Book Award he had won in 1939 for Wind, Sand and Stars, based largely on his experiences as a French air mail pilot. Intending to stay just a few weeks, Saint-Exupéry ultimately remained for two years and four months, mostly in the New York City area where he wrote three books, the most famous of which would be The Little Prince. Estranged from his wife, and separated by the war from his family and close friends, Saint-Exupéry wanted just to return to active service. During times of distress or loneliness Saint-Exupéry often expressed in his books a longing for home and childhood, and this nostalgia is especially evident in The Little Prince.

Pamela L. Travers, the author of the “Mary Poppins” series, was one of the few reviewers in 1943 who understood the book’s deeper spiritual journey disguised as a children’s story: “We cannot go back to the world of childhood… But perhaps there is a way of going forward to it. Or better still, of bearing it along with us; carrying the lost child in our arms so that we may measure all things in terms of that innocence. Everything Saint-Exupéry writes has that sense of heightened life that can be achieved only when the child is still held by the hand.”

Saint-Exupéry managed to return to active service as a pilot with the Free French in North Africa in the spring of 1945 just as The Little Prince was coming off the presses. He disappeared on a reconnaissance mission in July 1944, but continues to live through his work. As the Little Prince said, “I will look as if I were dead, but that will not be true.”

Scott Eaton’s Humanities to Go program “Antoine de Saint-Exupéry: The Man Who Wrote The Little Prince” is just one of the 450 Humanities to Go programs that bring 15,000-plus NH residents together in more than 150 local community settings to learn together on topics that challenge, enlighten, and engage. To learn more about hosting this or another program in your community, visit www.nhhumanities.org/humanitiestoogo.

NEW HUMANITIES TO GO PROGRAM by ANN McCLELLAN

Life Downstairs: British Servant Culture in Fact, Fiction, and Film

While servant narratives have been popular for centuries, there seems to be a resurgence in interest in these stories in recent decades. Many contemporary British and North American writers, filmmakers, and television executives have turned to master/servant relationships as their subject matter. Films like The Remains of the Day and Gosford Park garnered numerous Oscar nominations and substantial box office profits. PBS created such classics as Upstairs, Downstairs and Manor House, as well as the phenomenally successful Downton Abbey. Even mainstream American television has piloted its own versions of the British servant in shows as wide ranging as The Fresh Prince of Bel Air to reality TV’s Supernanny. Ann McClellan explores the history behind the rise and fall of British servants and why Americans are so fascinated by their stories on page and screen.
Northern New England is full of reminders of past lives: stone walls, old foundations, a century-old lilac struggling to survive as the forest reclaims the hardwoods. What forces shaped that landscape, and later abandonment, of these places? Abair Mulligan explores the rich story to be discovered in what remains behind. See how one town has set out to create an inventory of its cellar holes, piecing together the clues in the landscape. Such a project can help landowners know what to do if they have archaeological sites on their land and help stimulate interest in a town’s future through its past. Pothole luncheon 12:30-1:30 pm. Contact: Patricia A. Little, 315-2346

July 2017
9 MARLOW
Sunday, 2:00 pm, Murray Hall, Rte. 123
A Walk Back in Time: The Secrets of Cellar Holes
Northern New England is full of reminders of past lives: stone walls, old foundations, a century-old lilac struggling to survive as the forest reclaims a once-sunny downtown. What forces shaped the settlement, and later abandonment, of these places? Abair Mulligan explores the rich story to be discovered in what remains behind. See how one town has set out to create an inventory of its cellar holes, piecing together the clues in the landscape. Such a project can help landowners know what to do if they have archaeological sites on their land and help stimulate interest in a town’s future through its past. Pothole luncheon 12:30-1:30 pm. Contact: Patricia A. Little, 315-2346

11 SUNAPEE
Tuesday, 7:00 pm, Lake Sunapee Protective Association - Knowlton House, 65 Main St.
12,000 Years Ago in the Granite State
The native Abenaki people played a central role in the history of the Monadnock region, defending against English settlement and forcing the abandonment of keene and other Monadnock area towns during the French and Indian Wars. Despite this, little is known about the Abenaki, and conventional histories often depict the first Europeans entering an untamed, uninhabited wilderness, rather than the homeland of people who had been there for hundreds of generations. Robert Goodby’s research in his depth of native history revealed when an archaeological study prior to construction of the new Keene Middle School discovered traces of four structures dating to the end of the Ice Age. Undisturbed for 12,000 years, the site revealed information about the economy, gender roles, and household organization of the Granite State’s very first inhabitants, as well as evidence of social networks that extended for hundreds of miles across northern New England. Contact: Robert Wood, 763-2210

11 MERRIMACK
Tuesday, 7:00 pm, Merrimack Public Library, 470 Daniel Webster Highway
A Short Course on Islam for Non-Muslims
The foundation of Western civilization rests on three monotheistic faiths - Judaism, Christianity, and Islam. The intersection and interaction among these systems of belief continues to impact events in daily life and politics on the world stage. Following an outline of Islamic beliefs and practices by Charles Kennedy, discussion turns to how Islam is practiced in the United States. Contact: Jennifer Greene, 424-3021

11 HAVERHILL
Tuesday, 7:00 pm, Alumni Hall, 75 Court St.
The Grand Resort Hotels of the White Mountains—Architecture, History & the Preservation Record
Architectural historian Bryant Toiles, Jr. shares the history and architecture of the grand resort hotel phenomenon and hospitality tourism in the White Mountains of New Hampshire from the pre-Civil War era to the present. The primary focus is on the surviving grand resort hotels: The Mount Washington Resort, The Mountain View Grand, The Balsams, the Eagle Mountain House, and Wentworth Hall and Cottages. Extensive illustrations document these buildings and others no longer in existence. Contact: Roger Warren, 787-2446

12 BENNINGTON
Wednesday, 6:30 pm, Bennington Historical Society, 38 Main St.
12,000 Years Ago in the Granite State
For a description of this program, see the event on July 11 in Sunapee. Contact: Miley Flower Epip, 588-6828

12 PLYMOUTH
Wednesday, 7:00 pm, Old Webster Courthouse, 6 Court St.
Big House, Little House, Back House, Barn: The Connected Farm Buildings of New Hampshire
Through architecture unique to northern New England, this illustrated talk focuses on several case studies that show how farmers converted their typical separate house and barns into connected farmsteads. Thomas Hobbs’ research in his award-winning book, Big House, Little House, Back House, Barn: The Connected Farm Buildings of New England, demonstrates that average farmers were, in fact, motivated by competition with farmers in other regions of America, who had better soils and growing seasons and fewer rocks to clear. The connected farmstead organization, housing equal parts mixed-farming and home-industry, was one of the collective responses to the competitive threat. Contact: Richard A. Flanders, 536-1576

12 MOULTONBOROUGH
Wednesday, 7:00 pm, Moultonborough Public Library, 4 Holland St.
Galileo Galilei, the Starry Messenger
The Starry Messenger, presented by Michael Francis, is a dramatized adaptation of Galileo’s short treatise “Sidereus Nuncius” (Galileo (dressed in 17th-century costume) arrives to present a public lecture on his most recent discoveries made using his newly-devised spyglass. As he describes those discoveries, Galileo’s new method of observation and measurement of nature becomes apparent. Throughout the presentation audience members are actively involved in experiments and demonstrations. After the lecture, Galileo answers questions about his experiments, his life, and his times. Skywatching with the NH Astronomical Society will immediately follow the program. Contact: Nancy McCue, 476-8895

12 RUMNEY
Wednesday, 7:00 pm, Quincy Bog Nature Center, 151 Quincy Bog Rd.
Rally Round the Flag: The American Civil War Through Folk Song
Woody Pringle and Marek Bennett present an overview of the American Civil War through the lens of period music. Audience members participate and sing along as the presenters explore lyrics, documents, and visual images from sources such as the Library of Congress. Through camp songs, parlor music, hymns, battlefield-rallying cries, and fiddle tunes, Pringle and Bennett examine the folkways as a means to enacting living history, share perspectives, influence public perceptions of events, and simultaneously fuse and conserve cultures in times of change. Showcasing numerous instruments, the presenters challenge participants to find new connections between song, art, and politics in American history. Contact: Lisa Doner, 536-3358

12 HOPKINTON
Thursday, 6:30 pm, Hopkinton Historical Society, 300 Main St.
Chemical Warfare and World War I
For a description of this program see the article on page 12. This presentation is part of the “Over There, Over Here” project funded by a NH Humanities Community Project Grant. Contact: Heather Mitchell, 746-1825

12 MEREDITH
Thursday, 6:30 pm, Meredith Public Library, 91 Main St.
Big House, Little House, Back House, Barn: The Connected Farm Buildings of New Hampshire
For a description of this program, see the event on July 12 in Plymouth. Contact: Erin Apostolos, 279-4303

13 SANBORNTON
Thursday, 7:00 pm, Lane Tavern, 520 Sanborn Rd. (Rte. 132)
New Hampshire’s Long Love-Hate Relationship With Its Agricultural Fairs
The first agricultural fair in New Hampshire was held in what is now Londonderry in 1722, and it would become a widely popular event lasting for generations until it came to be so dominated by gambling, rim-rat, and other “scandalous dimensions” that the legislature revoked its charter in 1850. But fairs have always
had strong supporters and eventually the state came around to appropriating modest sums to help them succeed. Temperance groups and others would continue to attack the fairs on moral grounds and their close connection to horse racing was a chronic flashpoint. Steve Taylor will discuss the ups and downs of the fairs through down years and how public support for rural traditions helps them survive in contemporary times. Contact: Linda Salatiello, 286-4526

13 SPRINGFIELD
Thursday, 7-15 pm, Springfield Town Meetinghouse, 23 Four Corners Rd.
The Founding Fathers: What Were They Thinking?
In 1787 delegates gathered in Philadelphia to address a wide variety of crises facing the young United States of America and produced a charter for a new government. In modern times, competing political and legal claims are frequently based on what those delegates intended. Mythology about the founders and their work at the 1787 Convention has obscured both fact and legitimate analysis of the events leading to the agreement called the Constitution. Richard Hesse explores the cast of characters called “founders,” the problems they faced, and the solutions they fashioned. Contact: Donna Derseston, 496-5462

14 ASHLAND
Friday, 7:00 pm, Ashland Railroad Station Museum, 69 Depot St. (Rte. 132)
Big House, Little House, Back House, Barn: The Connected Farm Buildings of New Hampshire
For a description of this program see the event on July 12 in Plymouth. Contact: David Russel, 968-7716

15 CAMPTON
Monday, 7:00 pm, Campton Historical Society, NH Rte. 175
Big House, Little House, Back House, Barn: The Connected Farm Buildings of New Hampshire
For a description of this program see the event on July 12 in Plymouth. Contact: Nancy Martin, 536-3982

18 MEREDITH
Tuesday, 6:30 pm, Meredith Public Library, 91 Main St.
 Covered Bridges of New Hampshire
Covered wooden bridges have been a vital part of the New Hampshire transportation network, dating back to the early 1800s. Given New Hampshire’s myriad streams, brooks, and rivers, it’s unsurprising that 400 covered bridges have been documented. Often viewed as quaint relics of a simpler past, they were technological marvels of their day. It may be native ingenuity and New Hampshire’s woodwork ingenuity and determination that account for the fact that a number of nationally-noted covered bridge truss designers were New Hampshire natives: Glenn Knoblock discusses covered bridge design and technology, and their designers, builders, and associated folklore. Contact: Erin Apostolos, 279-4503

19 OSSIPEE
Tuesday, 7:00 pm, Old Carroll County Courthouse, 20 Court House Sq.
Big House, Little House, Back House, Barn: The Connected Farm Buildings of New Hampshire
For a description of this program see the event on July 12 in Plymouth. Contact: Lois Sweeney, 539-1984

19 HAMPTON
Wednesday, 7:00 pm, Canaan Meeting House, 450 Canaan St.
Big House, Little House, Back House, Barn: The Connected Farm Buildings of New Hampshire
For a description of this program see the event on July 12 in Plymouth. Contact: Donna Zani-Dunkerton, 523-7960

19 CANAAN
Wednesday, 7:00 pm, Virginia Reel! Contact: Connie Landry, 466-2525
Virginia Reel! A traditional dance form that is always integral to this dance form, will be played on the fiddle and mandolin. Wieling audience members may be invited to dance. Bring your dancing shoes and get ready to dance! Contact: Connie Landry, 466-2525

19 ALSTEAD
Wednesday, 7:00 pm, Third Congregational Church, 14 River St.
 New Hampshire on High: Historic and Unusual Weathervanes of the Granite State
This program offers a fun and engaging look at the historic and unusual weathervanes found in New Hampshire’s churches, town halls, and other public buildings from earliest times to the present. Highlighted by the visual presentation of a sampling of the vane’s found throughout the state, Glenn Knoblock’s program will trace the history of weathervanes, their practical use and interesting symbolism, as well as their varied types and methods of manufacture and evolution from practical weather instrument to architectural embellishment. Contact: David W. Moody, 835-7900

19 FREEDOM
Wednesday, 7:00 pm, Freedom Town Hall, 12 Elm St.
I Can’t Die But Once – Harriet Tubman’s Civil War
Gwendolyn Quezaire-Presutti’s characterization of Harriet Tubman is a lucid, well-researched biography about the remarkable life of an enduring warrior. As Harriet Tubman, she weaves a tale of truth, pain, courage, and determination in the quagmire of racial exploitation.
Gwendolyn Quezaire-Presutti

For the most up-to-date program listings, please be sure to check our online event calendar at www.nhhumanities.org/event-calendar.
**21 WESTMORELAND**

Friday, 7:00 pm, Park Hill Meeting House, Park Hill Common, Rte. 63

A Taste of the Old Country in the New: Franco-Americans of Manchester

Manchester is one example of the many industrial cities that attracted immigrants from Quebec in numbers large enough to warrant the creation and maintenance of an infrastructure of religious, educational, social, cultural, and commercial institutions that helped preserve this community’s language and traditions.

Robert Perreault shares stories about life in one of America’s major Franco-American centers. Contact: Richard High, 209-8553

**25 GOFFSTOWN**

Tuesday, 6:30 pm, Goffstown Public Library, 2 High St.

The Quest for Happiness

The ancient Greek philosophers defined eudaimonia as living a full and excellent life. In this illustrated talk, Maria Sanders explores how ideas of happiness have changed in Western civilization throughout the ages, while comparing and contrasting major concepts of well-being throughout the world. Can money buy happiness? To what extent does engaging in one’s community impact happiness? When worldwide surveys of happiness are conducted, why doesn’t the United States make the top ten? Participants will be invited to discuss various definitions, current measures for assessing self-reported levels of happiness, specific findings reported as increasing happiness, specific findings reported as decreasing happiness, examples of countries with truly happy nations, and what the obligations of leaders are. These discussions will be highly relevant to today’s society.

Maria Sanders explores and excellent life. In this illustrated talk, she will share insights on how to cultivate happiness and well-being in one’s daily life. Contact: Sandy Whipple, 497-2102

**26 MADMBURY**

Wednesday, 7:00 pm, Madbury Town Hall, 13 Town Hall Rd.

Brewing in New Hampshire: An Informal History of Beer in the Granite State from Colonial Times to the Present

Glenn Knoblock explores the fascinating history of New Hampshire’s beer and ale brewing industry from Colonial days, when it was home- and tavern-based, to today’s modern breweries and brew pubs. Unusual and rare photos and advertisements document this changing industry and the state’s earliest brewers, including the renowned Frank Jones. A number of lesser-known brewers and breweries that operated in the state are also discussed, including the only brewery owned and operated by a woman before the modern era. Illustrations present evidence of society’s changing attitudes towards beer and alcohol consumption over the years. Whether you’re a beer connoisseur or a “tea-totaler,” this lecture will be enjoyed by adults of all ages. Contact: Kathy Frid, 742-8376

**27 TILTON**

Thursday, 2:00 pm, NH Veterans Home, 139 Winter St.

Treasure from the Isles of Shoals: How New Archaeology is Changing Old History

New England has seen many of its landmarks and treasures washed away by the ocean or buried by humans. But artifacts from prehistoric and historic times can still be found at the Isles of Shoals. Nautical artifacts, coins, and stones from the islands’ culture are being preserved and recorded by archaeologists.

Thursday, 2:00 pm, NH Veterans Home, 139 Winter St.

**27 MADISON**

Thursday, 7:00 pm, Madison Library, 1895 Village Rd.

Robert Rogers of the Rangers - Tragic Hero

On a frontier where individualism flourished, New Hampshire’s consummate woodsman was just the leader to bring his men back safely from deep in dangerous country, even in stormy, freezing weather. The famous “Major Rogers” renown was such that he became perhaps the single-best-known American on both sides of the Atlantic. In October 1765, a private audience with young King George III led, eleven months later, to the launching of an expedition to find the long-dreamed-of Northwest passage to the Pacific – forty years before Lewis and Clark. But who was this Frontier man, raised in Dunbarton? Thirty years after his death in obscurity in May 1795, Rogers’ exploits were mined by James Fenimore Cooper for his best-selling novels, and in the 20th and 21st centuries, for other histories, novels, movies, and television. George Morrison takes us along on a journey from colonial North America to the 21st century.

Contact: Sloane Jarell, 367-8545

**29 BATH**

Saturday, 2:00 pm, Bath Public Library, 4 Lisbon Rd.

The Grand Resort Hotels of the White Mountains: Architecture, History and the Preservation Record

For a description of this program see the event on July 11 in Haverhill.

Contact: Kathy Bonor, 747-3372

**30 NEWBURY**

Sunday, 4:00 pm, Center Meeting House, 927 Rte. 103

New Hampshire on High: Historic and Unusual Weatheranes of the Granite State

For a description of this program see the event on July 19 in Alstead.

Contact: Joy B. Nowell, 938-6054

---

Through the humanities, citizens of New Hampshire have a rich array of opportunities available for lifelong learning, reflection, and civil discourse. Our work is made possible by people like you.

---

![New Hampshire Humanities Logo](image)

Yes! I want to support the humanities and feed curious minds throughout the Granite State.

- I’d like to become a Sustaining Donor with a monthly recurring gift in the amount of $  
  - Name  
  - Address  
  - Phone  
  - Email  
  - Please save paper and postage and e-mail my tax receipt  
  - Please list me as Anonymous

Name for publication  
This gift is in honor / memory of:  
- $500  
- $250  
- $100  
- $50  
- $25  
- Other $  
- Open Circle: $1,000 or more  
This gift is:  
- monthly  
- matched by my employer

Please send me:  
- Print Calendar  
- Electronic Calendar  
- Both

- Check enclosed (payable to New Hampshire Humanities)  
- Please charge my:  
  - MC  
  - Visa  
  - Discover  
  - AMEX

Name on card  
Card number  
Exp. date  
CVC

Signature

Please return to New Hampshire Humanities, 117 Pleasant Street, Concord, NH 03301 or give securely on our website at www.nhhumanities.org.

If you’d like more information on ways you can support our work, please contact Development Officer Lynn Douillette at 603-224-4071, ext. 120 or ldouillette@nhhumanities.org.
OVER THERE, OVER HERE: WORLD WAR I & LIFE IN NH COMMUNITIES

Thirteen historical societies, museums, and libraries are presenting “Over There, Over Here: WWI and Life in New Hampshire Communities,” a multi-group collaboration commemorating the 100th anniversary of the United States’ entry into World War I. The project includes exhibits, programs, lectures, and book readings in 8 towns through November.

Chemical Warfare and World War I
Thursday, July 13, 6:30 pm, Hopkinton Historical Society, 300 Main St., Hopkinton

Chemical weapons are taboo weapons today, but that has not always been the case. Poison gas was outlawed in 1899 and 1907 in the Hague Conventions before it was ever used in war, yet the Germans introduced it to the battlefield at Ypres in 1915. The British, who were one of the first victims, reacted with shock. Later they became one of the leading practitioners of chemical warfare. Each segment of British society—from politicians and the military to physicians and the general public—reacted differently to the adoption of chemical warfare depending on its experience, ranging from fear to endorsement. It becomes clear from the wartime and interwar experiences that it was not inevitable that gas would be banned again— or that it will stay that way. This program will be presented by Dr. Marion Girard-Dorsey of UNH. For a complete list of upcoming programs and exhibits, visit www.OverThereOverHere.com.