

### History Expo Success

Crafts, parades, music, dancing, reenactments, food—the Vermont History Expo is much more than historical societies' exhibits but the exhibits are the heart of the Expo. And the Cambridge Historical Society did itself proud with its first-ever Expo display. What attracts more attention than a five-foot tall, full-color photo of a skeleton? Not much!

Visitors were often drawn into the booth because of the skeletal centerfold, but sometimes passersby would stop upon noticing the skeleton and then remain in the aisle reading the story of John Wood and his wife Hannah. Our display board design used plenty of photos and large type with few words so people could choose to enter the booth and learn the story in depth or they could pause in the aisle, skim the words, and get the gist of the story (more than one passerby chose to enter and speak with us after the initial "aisle skim").

Most frequently asked question while I was on booth duty: Why did John and Hannah have to be moved and reburied? As a newcomer to the Society, I was thankful that veteran members had crib sheets available so I could look up the answer and explain about the Tatro sand pit.

Second most frequently asked question of me: How does that hat connect with John Wood? "Well, aw, it doesn't" had to be my answer. I came by the hat when I went to a designated location to make a Cambridge Historical Society sign to carry in the parade. People making signs were offered printer's hats by a person who was creating them right there and then. I said "yes" to the hat, put it on, and promptly forgot I was wearing it because it was so light.

The success of our Expo entry relied on an interesting story, a compelling design, and lots of dedicated and talented volunteers every step of the way from planning to implementing to cleaning up. In this writer's opinion, our first display will prove a hard act to follow, but I know that Cambridge has many, many more interesting stories to tell and that talented Society members will continue to use their ingenuity and willingness to work to create another great display next year and the year after that and the year after that...

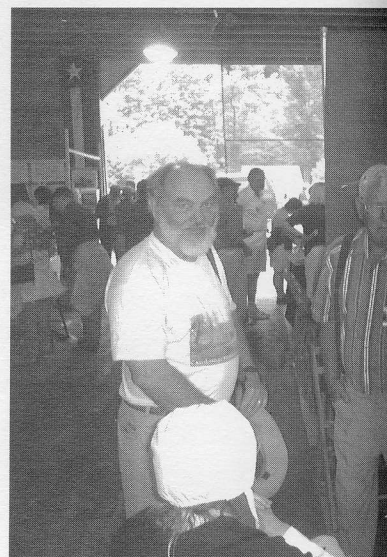
—Marcia Gustafson (the one with the hat)



Margie Larson and Marcia Gustafson helped staff the booth on Saturday



June Dodge in 19th helped everyone get into the



Bill McKone was one of several C