

# Hooksett Historical Society



HHS

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The above photo is of Jacob Square located in Hooksett Village. The square was named in honor of **Pvt. Robert T. Jacob** who was killed in action during WWII in Italy on November 28, 1943. Pvt. Jacobs is buried in the Holy Rosary Cemetery. The above memorial lists the names of the those brave young men from Hooksett who served in WWII. According to the Hardy book the granite shaft was quarried from a local quarry and care was exercised that it did not present a pretentious or ornate appearance. Memorial Day observances are held here annually which are sponsored by the American Legion Merrill-Follansbee Post 37. Other memorial stones are included in Jacob Square located on Veterans Drive in Hooksett Village. We honor all of our Hooksett citizens who served and gave their lives in service to their country.



## *Society Items On Loan*

The Hooksett Historical Society is please to announce that items from our collection are on loan to our State Senator, the Honorable **David Boutin**. The items are on display at the senator's office in Concord . The Society extends our thanks and wishes our own Hooksett senator our best.

## *June 27, 2010 Society Meets*

A special HHS meeting to commemorate Memorial Day will present an emotional international-themed historical program, **A 1999 Visit to Four Holocaust Sites.** This is a slide show presents Robert Henry's family's impressions while visiting four holocaust sites in Czech Republic, Poland, Austria and Italy. The trip was made during March which emphasized some of the harsh realities of living in the camps. It was a very emotional trip for the four members of his family and one that we definitely do not regret making. **Robert Henry**, Ph.D., U. of Pennsylvania, is an associate professor and associate dean of the College of Engineering and Physical Sciences at the University of New Hampshire. Presented in conjunction with the UNH speakers bureau.

*Join the Society*

## *Arthur "BUD" Locke*

Favorite son and Survivor of the Bataan Death March died on May 2, 2007 at age of 91. To honor him we have included the following excerpt from Hooksett's **State Rep David Hess's** remarks at the State House on June 27, 2007. As a First Sergeant of his unit, he survived numerous strafing and bombing runs leading his troops back and forth in a V-shaped trench so that they were always sheltered from the incoming Zeros and Mitsubishis as they came from first one side and then the other. Within days, he was ordered to Manila where after a very brief stint, he was reassigned to Bataan. For those of you familiar with military history or old enough to remember, the MacArthur defense plan for the Philippines required that all able American servicemen and Philipinos were to pull back to Bataan for a final stand. Over 80,000 did and in the course of the next three months held a heroic but eventually unsuccessful defense. 72,000 of those soldiers, 10,000 Americans and 62,000 Philipinos survived. When they surrendered or were ordered to surrender, the hell that they were about to face was unknown but quickly became known. On April 4, 1942, after having contracted malaria and dysentery from the previous three months, Bud Locke started on the Bataan death march.

Over the next 10 days, without food, without water, without medication and under the armed guard of Japanese Imperial soldiers who at the time believed firmly in the Bushido philosophy of take no prisoners, surrender is an insult to oneself, ones family, ones Emperor and ones person, Bud Locke survived. I've driven that road a number of times while I was stationed in the Philippines. I wouldn't want to walk that road as a healthy person with full food and water in that tropical sun, even without Japanese guards bayoneting my friends and my fellow military personnel who had surrendered. Bud Locke survived that. He not only survived the Bataan death march, but he made it in shipment to Kobe, Japan where he continued as a surviving POW until August of 1945 when the Japanese surrendered in Tokyo Bay. Bud never bragged about what he did. In fact, it took awhile for some people to learn what he did, but he was truly a hero and I thank you for your time.

From the House record  
[www.gencourt.state.nh.us/house/caljournals/journals/2007/houjou2007\\_54.html](http://www.gencourt.state.nh.us/house/caljournals/journals/2007/houjou2007_54.html)



For information on the Bataan Death March  
[http://history.sandiego.edu/gen/st/~ehimchak/death\\_march.html](http://history.sandiego.edu/gen/st/~ehimchak/death_march.html)

# Hooksett Heritage Day

## Saturday May 22, 2010 in the Village

10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

**10:00 a.m.** - *Unveiling of New Gile's Tavern Roadside Sign* ( Junction of Main St and Route 3A)

**10:30 a.m.** - *Researching Your Old House in NH* (Old Town Hall, former Council Chambers) Bill Veillette, former chair of the NH Preservation Alliance, will talk about how to research the story of your historic house and its occupants.

**11:30 a.m.** - *School Life in the 1800s* (Old Town Hall, former Clerk's Office) Be a student in a typical Hooksett classroom in 1840. Presented by the schoolmarms of the Head School Society.

**12:30 p.m.** - *Recognition Ceremony* (Old Town Hall, front steps) Acknowledging the Old Town Hall's listing to the NH State Register of Historic Places.

**1:00 p.m.** - *Early Railroads in Hooksett* (Old Town Hall, former Council Chambers) Charles (Chuck) Tuson, a local railroad buff, will speak about early railroads in Hooksett.

**2:00 p.m.** - *Tour of Historic Hooksett Village* A "not much walking walking tour" of the Village. For more info or to register, call 669-8926 or e-mail Hooksett.Heritage@myfairpoint.net.

### Throughout the Day

< **Attic Treasures Sale** sponsored by the Historical Society on the grounds of the old Town Hall and Prescott Library. Table space available for rent. 485-4951.

< **Arah Prescott Historic Library**, home of the Hooksett Historical Society, open for visitors

< **Robie's Country Store** offering a Heritage Day luncheon special

< **Visit with members of the Town Hall Preservation Committee**, give them your suggestions

< **Films:** *The Merrimack River* (Hooksett & Manchester portions) and the Heritage Commission's Oral History compilation *Life in Hooksett, NH, Before WW II*

FOR FURTHER DETAILS SEE <http://hooksetthistory.wordpress.com/>

Co-sponsored by the Hooksett Heritage Commission, Hooksett Historical Society, and Robie's Country Store Historic Preservation Corp.



*Lets us remember our Heritage and honor all who serve Hooksett*



On November 11, 1968 the Town Of Hooksett dedicated a memorial field to **Cpl. William G. Fraser** of the U.S Marine Corps. Cpl. Fraser lost his life on December 28, 1967 in the service of his country while on active duty in Vietnam. **Cpl. Fraser** was the son of Mr. and Mrs. **Eugene Fraser** who reside in Hooksett . The stone reads: **Fraser Memorial Field Dedicated to Cpl. William G. Fraser U.S. Marine Corp 1947 - 1967. A lifetime resident of Hooksett who gave his life while serving in Vietnam.** Selectman Richard Riley delivered an eloquent address that day which appears in **Hooksett Historical Sketches** on page 212. It should be noted that **Arthur C. Mourtgis, Jr.** was the first Hooksett serviceman to die in Vietnam.