



Colburn House  
582-7080

# Arnold Expedition Historical Society

Box 1775, Gardiner, Maine 04345

Jannice Baker, Sec'y  
582-3648

Newsletter # 79

Oct. 26, 1994

Members and Friends of the AEHS

## Annual Meeting

The 26th Annual Meeting of the Society was held at the Dresden Inn on Sunday, Oct. 9th, 1994. Forty-five people attended.

After enjoying a delicious turkey & seafood buffet dinner, we settled back to hear Mrs. Clare Brandt tell of Benedict Arnold's heroic leadership of the small American fleet on Lake Champlain during the naval battle of Valcour Island in the fall of 1776.

She also spoke of her belief that the financial ruin of Arnold's father, which forced Benedict to leave his privileged situation in private school, and go to work as an apothecary's apprentice, had adversely affected his character.

Her new biography of Arnold " A Man in the Mirror " amplifies this thesis, and is very interesting to read. We recommend it to you.

### New Officers

1994 - 1995

### New Directors

Pres. - Danny Warren, Jr.  
1st V.P. - George Quintal  
2nd V.P. - Crosby Milliman  
Treas. - Robert A. Cunningham  
Sec. - Jannice Baker

Robert A. Cunningham  
Arthur Griffiths  
Mabelle Haynes  
John Robbins  
Danny Warren, Jr.

## A Colonial Christmas

The Annual Christmas Open House Party will be held at the Colburn House on Saturday December 10th - from 3:30 - 5 PM.

The festivities will start at the Old Colburn Schoolhouse, down Arnold Road about 500 feet, at 2 PM. A suitably costumed School Marm will conduct a class of children in lessons appropriate to Victorian times. When the class is dismissed, local Sunday School children will present their Christmas Pageant. Finally, Santa Claus will arrive with treats for all the kids.

Everyone is then invited to the Colburn House, where a roaring fire and hot drinks will warm the cockles of our hearts ! A male quartet will sing old hymns and Christmas Carols, and a flautist will play as well.

No admission will be charged for either event. The Party is given to acquaint more local residents with the rich historical resources available to them, and as a thank you for community support.

A bake sale will be held all afternoon, Colburn House gold plated Christmas Tree ornaments will be available, and , of course, donations to the Colburn House Restoration Fund will be happily accepted.

### Welcome, Danny !

Our new President is a life long resident of Pittston with a great appreciation of the 1765 Colburn House, and its place in history. He continues to serve as President of the Pittston Historical Society. This group deserves the credit for saving, and restoring, the 1830 one room Colburn Schoolhouse

He works as a bank examiner for the State of Maine. He has a lovely wife, Connie, who keeps four horses and a pony on the family farm. Son Danny III is in his first year at Washington County Technical College.

The whole family, including Danny's parents, are very energetic, caring, giving people, much involved in their community.

### Colburn House Restoration Escrow Fund

With the addition of the \$1000 donated by the Town of Pittston, and results of sales and gifts at the Annual Meeting the Fund now totals \$ 10,500. Donors total almost 100.

We are working on reshingling the Colburn House roof. The State will provide the material, and the Society the labor. Bids for the work have been received and all approvals obtained. It will be done either late this year, or early next spring. This will be the first use of the Restoration Escrow Funds.

### A Pat on the Back !

We have a great group in our Society Members ! I think it is time to say Thank You ! In little over two years we have raised \$10,500 for the Escrow Fund. Less the disbanded Colburn Militia gift, and the Town of Pittston contribution, this amounts to about \$40 from each of our 200 members. This is very generous, and you all deserve praise and recognition !

You have supported the Society by buying tapes, books, and Christmas Ornament, plus giving unstinted time and effort to Society activities. George Quintal, the Warren families, Senior & Junior, Gene Lockyer, Karen Milliman and Martha Milliman Takatsu all helped out on Sunday Oct. 16th washing storm windows and winterizing the

Colburn House.

Crosby & Karen Milliman contributed an aluminum canoe, complete with paddles and life jackets to the Nichols Cabin, earlier this year. Their grandchildren keep the Colburn House lawn cut.

Cecil Pierce has again this year made a most generous gift to the Society, to be used as prize for a raffle. One of his hand carved, solid mahogany, round piecrust top Queen Anne tables, an exact replica of a 1760 antique passed down in his family.

The top is 26" in diameter and is hinged so it can be tilted to a vertical position, if desired. The table stands 28 1/2 " high.

Valued at \$1500 we will sell raffle tickets until we reach this goal - then draw for a winner.

Thank you again, Cecil !

#### People

Among those attending the Annual Meeting were Mr. & Mrs. Sandy Shelton, of Equinunk, PA, Mr. & Mrs. Stephen Havas, of Glenfield, NY, Dick Ek of Portland, ME, Mr. & Mrs. Richard Currier of North Jay, ME, and Dr. Jim Picone, of Groton, MA. Also Jay Robbins of Richmond, ME, newly elected to the Board of Directors. A Scout leader interested in historical research, Jay is a welcome addition to the Board.

Margarite Kelley and Edith Barron of Waterville turned out. It was good to see them again !

We are grieved to report that Ronald C. Davis, of Lincoln, MA passed away on Sept. 10th. He was 70 years of age. Ronnie served as Captain of the Hanchet Company during the AEQ-75.

Eliot Clemens, 89, of Concord, NH also died recently, He was 70 years old during the AEQ, and a member of Jon Dulude's Dearborn Company.

We will miss them !

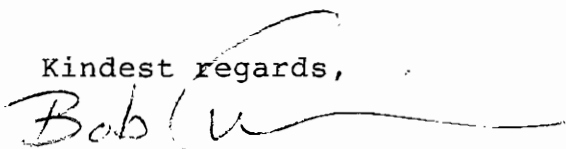
#### Personal Thanks !

Please excuse the length of this Newsletter. With the expiration of my 8 year term as President, it is probably the last one I will write, and there seems to be so much to say.

The Society will enter its 27th year next year. It is solvent, has 200 members, and a new young President to carry it forward. We have much to be thankful for, and much to look forward to.

My personal thanks to all those who have helped out during the last 8 years ! My special thanks to Arthur Griffiths for the impressive Certificate of Appreciation presented to me at the Annual Meeting and his kind words ! I am not saying goodbye, for I remain as Treasurer, and Chief Pusher of Colburn House Christmas Ornaments

Kindest regards,

  
Robert A. Cunningham, Treas.  
AEHS

#### Holiday Gifts

We still have a few 30 minute VHS video tapes available. Each, with tax and mailing charge included costs \$ 29.00. Please make check out to AEHS.

ON TO QUEBEC is the video story of our September 1975 AEQ-75 Bicentennial Reenactment.

AEQ-75 FILM WEEKEND is a silent unedited copy of the 16mm movie film taken on Sept. 24th, 1974 at Solon and Sandy River Maine locations for historical educational use. It shows costumed AEQ reenactors poling bateaux, and illustrating scenes from Arundel. The color transfer is much better in this film than in ON TO QUEBEC.

Please send ON TO QUEBEC tapes to

Please send AEQ-75 FILM WEEKEND tapes to

Mail orders to : Bob Cunningham

P.O. Box 6147

Lincoln Center, MA 01773

### Queen Anne Table Raffle

Cecil Pierce's handsome mahogany table is pictured below. Our new President, Danny Warren, Jr. is pointing out its features. Solid mahogany, round pie crust hand carved top, 26" in diameter, can be tilted vertically. Table height 28 1/2 ".



Raffle tickets are \$1.00 each, 6 for \$5.00. Drawing will be held as soon as \$1500.00 worth of tickets has been sold. Make check or money order out to Colburn House Restoration Fund, and mail to : Mrs. Connie Warren, RT # 4, Box 8005, Gardiner, ME 04345

Please send me raffle tickets. I enclose my permanent mailing address so you can return the stubs to me. Thanks !



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## COLBURN HOUSE CHRISTMAS TREE ORNAMENT

We have arranged for the design and production of a stunning, gold-plated silhouette ornament of the historic Colburn House, just in time for Christmas ! The size is 2 3/4 " wide by 2 7/8 " high.

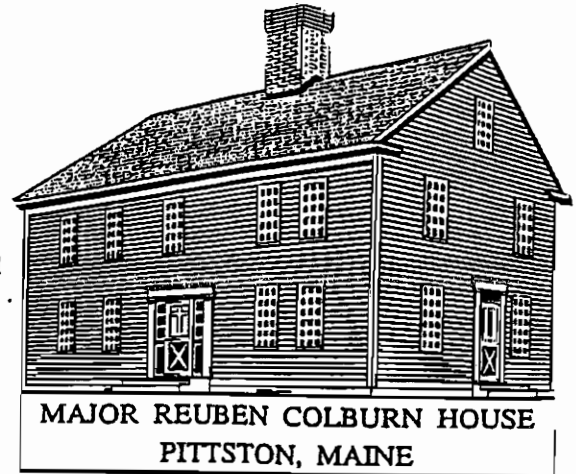
It comes packed in a flat blue box lined with suede-type paper, with a card describing its history in the lid.

A perfect collectible family heirloom, it will add sparkle and excitement to any tree !

Best of all, all profits go right into the Colburn House Restoration Escrow Fund.

Please order early. Send check or money order made out to AEHS to :

Mr. Bob Cunningham  
P.O. Box 6147  
Lincoln Center, MA 01773



MAJOR REUBEN COLBURN HOUSE  
PITTSTON, MAINE

Please send Colburn House Ornaments to me at

name	Ornament is \$ 10.00 each
street or PO box	Maine Sales Tax .60 each
city	Postage & Hdl. 1.75 each
state & zip	Amount enclosed equals \$12.35 X number ordered.

## THE MAN IN THE MIRROR

Please send copies of Clare Brandt's new autobiography of Benedict Arnold to me.

name	Book is \$ 25.00 each
street or PO Box	ME Sales Tax 1.50 each
city	Postage & hdl. 3.00 each
state & zip	Total cost \$ 29.50 each

Please make check out to AEHS and mail to  
Bob Cunningham  
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Lincoln Center, MA 01773