



ARNOLD EXPEDITION HISTORICAL SOCIETY
Box 1775
GARDINER, ME 04345

NEWSLETTER No. 24

AUGUST 1, 1974



AEHS ANNUAL MEETING

The seventh annual meeting of the AEHS was held at the Major Colburn house and adjoining Congregational Church in Pittston, Maine, on June 30, 1974.

The event was well attended as members and guests enjoyed a picnic lunch on the spacious lawns, and viewed the exhibits in the church basement.

Gene Miller's outstanding collection of Revolutionary War memorabilia, including relics related to the Arnold expedition in Maine was a feature attraction.

Also drawing much attention and admiration was a lawn display of four bateaux, including the Everson Revolutionary bateau and its sister replica recently built by Cecil Pierce of Southport who has researched the history and constructed two others of these unique craft.

We hope to be able to build a fleet of thirty bateaux to be used in the re-enactment.

The proposed by-law amendments were approved 'in tota'; all officers were re-elected. In addition our first second vice-president, Neil MacLean, of Farmingdale, was elected. Neil is also the first Captain of the Colburn Militia Company. Mrs. Marion Fuller of Gardiner, Maine was elected as Membership Sec.

Marguerite Kelley of Waterville, Maine, tendered her resignation as director and was replaced by Chuck Booth of Bowdoinham, Maine.

'Rita' is a charter member and a director since our inception in 1963. She is an ardent Society worker and we hope to see her return to the board. She also served as temporary treasurer until the election at the annual meeting of Don Braun of Hallowell. Don, also an active member of the Colburn Militia, is an accountant at the Augusta General Hospital.

YORK MILITIA MUSTER

The third annual muster of the 1st York Militia Company (Governor's Foot Guards) will be held at York, Maine, on August 3-4, 1974.

This is one of the most interesting events of the season, and includes a tour of historic houses, art show, militia weapon matches, fife and drum concerts, church supper, clambake, colonial ball, and colonial church service. The events will close with a grand parade of colonial militia units on Sunday afternoon at 1:00 p.m. Don't miss this one.

The Colburn Militia Company will be on hand and march in the parade. The AEHS will have an exhibit, at the Muster field, including a bateau.

RIVER CRUISE AND QUEBEC TOUR

Due to unforeseen difficulties we are unable to conduct our annual Kennebec River Cruise this fall. We regret this unfortunate situation and hope that you will bear with us in the hopes that we shall overcome all obstacles in time for a better arranged cruise next year.

Reservations are still open for the Special Quebec tour which takes place on August 3-11, 1974. If you plan to enjoy this four-day excursion and have not made arrangements, contact the AEHS at Box 1775, Gardiner, Maine 04345 or "Chip" James Paul, Box 63, Trenton, New Jersey.

EARLY FALL BARBECUE

A delightful and interesting week-end event is being planned for Saturday and Sunday, September 21-22 at The Evergreens Campsite in Solon, Maine.

Present plans call for an outdoor beef barbecue to be prepared and served by Bill & Ruth Perry, under the pines (weather permitting; if not, other arrangements will be made). The menu includes barbecued beef, baked potatoes, salad, corn on cob, camp-made bread and butter, beverage and Maine Indian pudding with ice cream. The price is four fifty (\$4.50) per person. The evening feast begins at five P.M.

In addition, members and guests are invited to a tour on the 12 Mile Carry to the Carry Ponds and a dig at the 'hospital site' on Saturday morning. Other tours include a trip to the Indian petroglyph site in Embden, and the carry at Caratunk Falls.

Another dig is also planned on The Evergreens site where one division of Arnold's army encamped. This location was also the site of an old Indian settlement. Hundreds of stone artifacts have been recovered here. Many are displayed at the lodge of the campground. It would be nice if you could add to this display.

This outing could be the most interesting of the year. If you can join us, you should let us know immediately and inform us how many will be at the barbecue feast.

Spacious campground areas are available for tenting, trailers or campers. A quiet and beautiful historic spot on the bank of the Kennebec River; well managed and clean. Reasonable rates.

The week-end program and schedule will be mailed to those making reservations. Space is limited; first come, first served. Hope to see you there.

NEW YORK BICENTENNIAL ENDORSEMENT

New York State recently officially endorsed Project AEQ-75 of the AEHS. New York is the fourth state to officially recognize our bicentennial reenactment, following Maine, Massachusetts and Rhode Island.

The endorsement came through the New York State Bicentennial Commission. The occasion was honored by the presentation of a beautiful New York State ceremonial flag to the AEHS at a ceremony during the June 30th annual meeting.

The presentation was made by Tom Nolan of Arden, New York, who is our New York State Coordinator, also organizer and leader of Gen. Montgomery's force meeting with Arnold's army in Quebec. This project is also endorsed and supported by the State and Bicentennial Commission of New York.

The AEHS is deeply grateful to the New York State Bicentennial Commission for their cooperation and support. We consider their attitude and actions as a fine example of neighborly relationship in these days of non-involvement and isolationism.

The New York State flag will be proudly displayed along with the other State flags in our colorful collection.

CRAFTSMAN SHOP & MUSEUM

Our Society is fortunate in having a member that is a fine craftsman that abides in the Kennebec valley. He does beautiful work in reproductions of authentic military weapons and accoutrements, such as powder horns (finely engraved), knives, hatchets, axes, belts and buckles, etc.

He owns a beautiful old barn (hand hewn timbers) which he is transforming to a craftsman's shop, antique museum and gift shop. His workmanship must be seen to be appreciated. If you need fine reproductions of Revolutionary accoutrements for the Bicentennial, we strongly recommend that you call on Myron Varney on Route 201 in Solon, Maine (in the center of town). He is just getting under way, but you should place your order now.

FATHER RALES MISSIONARY MUSEUM

Dedication ceremonies, including an impressive parade, exhibits, pageant and speeches, will be held at the Old Point site of the Abenaki Indian Missionary in Norridgewock, Maine, on Saturday and Sunday, August 24-25.

The occasion is the dedication of a museum and replica of the Missionary led by French Jesuit Father Rales. The settlement was burned, Fr. Rales and the Indians were massacred by British Troops in 1724.

Col. Arnold and his army encamped here for several days while portaging several miles of rapids, including Bomazeen Dips.

The museum is under construction, but a section of it will be open for public viewing during the dedication ceremonies. The planners, builders and operators are Arthur Greiner and Gene Bouchard of Waterville.

EAGLE SCOUT WORKSHOP

The first of a series of workshops was held recently at Camp Bomazeen, in Belgrade, Maine. The all-day session was part of a program to train and educate selected Eagle Scouts to become guides, messengers and first-aid attendants during the Bicentennial reenactment. They will be attired in authentic Revolutionary period dress.

The program was conducted by your president and Reenactment Director, Thornton McGlamery, and assisted by staff officers, Ed Knox and Dennis Prefountain, and Camp Counselors.

Planned for this fall is an Arnold Trail reconnaissance trip and a tour of Quebec for the Scouts.

NEW PUBLICATIONS

"SCENES OF FLAGSTAFF AND DEAD RIVER"

By Tom L. MacDonald, Coburn Gore, Eustis, Maine

Historical documentation blended with nostalgic outdoors notes. This booklet is available from Tom at the above address. Profits, if any, will go to the Flagstaff Cemetery Association for maintenance of relocated old Flagstaff cemetery when this Dead River Village was inundated in 1949.

The historic recordings include an account of the feast held in September, 1775 while Arnold's army was at Fort Western; also the origin of the naming of Mount Bigelow.

The publication is profusely illustrated with photographs on glossy paper. Tom is an AEHS charter member.

"BICENTENNIAL GUIDE TO THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION"

Volume I: The War in the North	\$12.95	cloth	\$4.95	paper
Volume II: The Middle Colonies	8.95	"	3.95	"
Volume III: The War in the South	8.95	"	3.95	"

The best, most comprehensive Touring Guide to Revolutionary War sites, written by Sol Stember, and published by Saturday Review Press/E.P. Dutton & Co., Inc. New York. Also available in paper back. See your news dealer.

Volume I covers well the activities of Arnold and his men on the expedition to Quebec as well as their course in New York State.

This publication is very accurate and descriptive, and highly recommended by the Arnold Expedition Historical Society. We consider it to be a must for the historical library, and essential to the Revolutionary student researcher and writer.

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