

EXPEDITION MESSENGER

NEWSLETTER OF THE
ARNOLD EXPEDITION
HISTORICAL SOCIETY

APRIL, 2006



RAMBLINGS FROM THE NORTH COUNTRY *BY Duluth Wing*

I think of back in time to the 60's when our society was being formed. I believe our first meeting was in Augusta on Western Ave. in a U. of M. building. Present were White Nichols, Cecil Pierce, a Mr. Pierce from Palermo, Fred Fasset and no doubt others. We discussed objectives for our group and planned outings. Later we took boat trips on lower Kennebec which were enjoyed because our ladies and some young folk were all part of it.

Then our biggy was in '75" when we did the re-enactment. Ten years from this time we took a bus trip to Quebec City to renew our friendships. Oh yes, in '67' Cecil and I had paddled and portaged the whole Arnold trip from Fort Western to Quebec City. We did it in several 3 - 4 day "spurts" when wet weather would let me have a few days off. We set a goal of 20 miles per day which was our norm. Cecil made the canoe we used and I still have it. We named it "The West Branch" which was the term used by some for the Dead River.

Now we have some new management and a great renewed interest to preserve our Colburn House headquarters and establish and mark the [portage] trails.

We thought for years that a movie should have been made on Arnold's trek which would be a boon to us and the state in general.

Two new books by Steve Clark and Tom Desjardin should spark a lot of interest. I'm sure that Arnold turning traitor has hurt in every way. I tell people, "he was a hero when he went thru here and the soldiers with him wanted freedom more than we can understand".

HIGHLIGHTS IN THIS ISSUE

- RAMBLINGS FROM THE NORTH COUNTRY
- THE FIRST PORTAGE
- A TALE OF TWO INDIANS NAMED NATANIS
- NOTES FROM THE COLBURN HOUSE
- FALL EXPEDITION PLANNED

THIS SEASON'S COMING EVENTS

April 29 Directors's Meeting, Colburn House. Members invited, 10:00 AM

May 12-14 Great Carrying Place Portage Trial Work Trip, Carry Ponds Country

June 10 Work Bee at the Colburn House
9:00 AM - 4:00PM

July 1 - 2 The first of eight consecutive weekends that the Colburn House will be open to the public.

Sept. 23 All day Bus Excursion along the Arnold Trail from Old Fort Western (Augusta) along the Kennebec, to the Great Carrying Place near Caratunk

Artifacts Exploration, Dead River Valley,
To be announced

(See following pages for details of these events.)