

EXPEDITION MESSENGER

NEWSLETTER OF THE
ARNOLD EXPEDITION
HISTORICAL SOCIETY



December 2010

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President Clark Reviews Past Year

At the Society's annual meeting held on Oct. 2, 2010, Pres. Steve Clark reported on the many events and activities of the Society this past year.

The Society published three editions of the newsletter, *The Messenger*, on an eight-page format. It is hoped that this arrangement can continue to inform members of the Society.

Secretary Sherri Clark has reported that the current Society membership has increased slightly, even after the normal attrition. Eight new members were added from the trial gift membership program. The Carry Ponds Association has also become an organizational member of the Society.

Treasurer Bob Cunningham has reported that the Society is in good financial condition, with a cash balance of more than seven thousand dollars. This does not include the Society's endowment fund nor a recent bequest from a life member. Bob also mentioned that the IRS was in the process of reviewing the Society's tax exempt status and that they should continue to consider us to be a charitable entity.

Ron Gamage, Rusty Arsenault, and Bob Donovan, who make up the Nichols Cabin Committee, have overseen many improvements at the cabin. First, a brand new woodshed has been built and restocked with firewood. Second, the privy has been leveled and made more usable. Third, new fire extinguishers have been installed. Fourth, the old gas refrigerator has been removed as it had not been used in years. Fifth, a new insurance policy protecting against fire, wind and a liability rider has been added to protect the cabin. Other minor improvements has been added as well. Thanks should be given to the committee's fine work this year.

Major improvements to the Colburn House property continue to proceed. The barn is still "up in the air" awaiting more funding to finish the extensive work on the sills and lower walls of the barn, plus the addition of a new floor and renovation of the bateaux display. Tom Desjardin estimates that an additional \$35,000 will be needed. He said that because of the very tight State budget, donations to complete the work would be most welcome.

The work on the caretaker's apartment is nearly done and this will allow a new on sight caretaker for the facility this coming spring. If this is accomplished, then the hours and days that the property will be open to the public, will be greatly expanded.

Considerable time by the directors was spent this year in planning for the Columbus Day reenactment by a small group from Northern Virginia. Nine AEHS members assisted and guided the

(Continued, page 2)

HIGHLIGHTS IN THIS ISSUE

- **2010 President's Report**
- **Officers and Directors Elected**
- **Photo Essey, in Color**
- **AEHS Hosts Reenactment**

Page 2 Continued from page 1, President's Report

group across the Great Carrying Place. See accompanying article for the details of this unique endeavor.

The Society has spent considerable time in working with TransCanada Wind Power Co. to develop the possibility of land preservation along the Expedition's route in the Chain of Ponds area. This company is currently applying to the Maine Land Use Regulation Commission (LURC) for an expansion of the nearby Kibby wind power development. It is undecided at this time if the development will be approved. If it is, the Society will be the recipient of a grant to begin the process of land acquisition. More will be explained when it becomes clearer about whether the project will proceed or not.

The directors have been in the process of evaluating a parcel of land to be acquired. More information will be needed to formulate a workable plan. This will be known by the spring of 2011 and will be discussed in the spring newsletter. However, if members have questions about this process, contact the president, Steve Clark.

The usual spring clearing trips were made to the Carry Ponds area. As of the end of June, all blowdowns had been removed and extensive clearing of brush had been done. The trails are all signed and marked with orange blazes.

An artifact field trip was run for the first time to West Carry Pond, near Arnold Point. Norm Kalloch of the Carry Ponds Association was kind enough to transport members Wing, Parsons, and Desjardin across the pond to the site. No artifacts were found near this Expedition campsite.

Our new map has been registered with the Library of Congress, to protect its copywrite. Map sales this year have been brisk

The Society has mounted and framed two sets of the maps. One set has been delivered to the Carriage House at the Colburn property for display there. Also, the Society has donated a set of the mounted maps to the City of Lac Megantic for use in their visitor reception center at the old but refurbished railroad station near the center of town.

The only drawback here is that the maps are not in French.

The directors held two formal meetings, one in June and the other in October. Much of their work is done informally via email or by letter.

Officers and Directors Elected

At the AEHS annual meeting on Oct. 2, 2010, directors and officers were officially elected.

Directors elected for a three year term ending in October of 2013 were, Robert Cunningham, Maybelle Hayes, and John Parsons. Cunningham is one of two original Society founding directors. Duluth Wing is the other.

Officers elected for a one year term were Stephen Clark, President; Jay Robbins, Vice president; Sherri Clark, Secretary; and Robert Cunningham, Treasurer.

Photo Essay

"A Picture is worth a Thousand Words." So in these following photos, there would be approximately 8,000 words.

On the following four pages is a photo essay taken during the recent reenactment of soldiers crossing the Great Carrying Place (see accompanying article). We are doing this in color, for the first time in an AEHS newsletter. It is expensive, but we feel our members will appreciate seeing the Great Carrying Place country close to what it was in 1775.

Also, included are two photos of the AEHS property on Middle Carry Pond. Many members have never seen the cabin, so we hope this will give you a better idea of what is there. The portage trail from East Carry Pond to Middle Carry Pond goes right in front of the cabin. We hope our members will like this change.

Photo credits go to Dude and Betty Wing, and Sherri Clark.