



ARNOLD EXPEDITION HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Box 1775

GARDINER, MAINE 04345

"SPIRIT OF '76"

Major Reuben Colburn House, off
Route #27, Pittston, Maine
Headquarters of Arnold Expedition
Historical Society.

On the National Register of
Historic Places --
An Historic and Cultural Heritage

NEWSLETTER NO. 44

May 26, 1980

TO MEMBERS OF A.E.H.S.

REPORT OF SEMI-ANNUAL MEETING

About 53 members and guests gathered at the New Meadows Inn in West Bath, Maine, for the semi-annual meeting of A.E.H.S., held on Sunday, March 2, 1980, coming from Maine, New Hampshire and Massachusetts.

After greetings to the members from Arthur Griffiths, President, reports by the officers were given by the President, Secretary - Jannice Baker, and Treasurer - Bob Cunningham. An engraved AEQ-2 pewter mug was presented to Cecil Pierce and our two CETA carpenters (Charles Brittain and Fred Manocchio) in recognition of their contribution to the restoration program, which included the development of a curator's apartment in the ell of the Colburn House, a second floor to the barn museum for use as a meeting room, and subsequently followed by restoration of the "keeping room." Special thanks were extended to Cecil for his expert supervision, time and talents, as well as the loan of carpenters' tools for the accomplishment of the restoration. This work will result in our having interesting displays for visitors to the Colburn House. Following the meeting, special films were shown on the Reenactments of the Lewis & Clark Expedition and Arnold's Expedition to Quebec, through the courtesy of Curator Milliman and Don Purdy, a member of the Colburn Militia.

To partly offset the expense of the materials used in this restoration, an admission fee will be collected for a tour of the Colburn House and barn museum from visitors this summer. However, paid-up members of the Society may enjoy free admission for themselves and guests as one of the privileges of their membership. Take advantage of your membership in A.E.H.S. by visiting our headquarters. With a curator in residence, special visitations may be arranged during the summer season for groups when cleared through our office, telephone #582-7080, or through our Secretary, Mrs. Baker, telephone #582-3648. The area code number is 207.

So, let this serve as a notice that membership dues are payable on July 1st of each year. The schedule of fees was published in our February newsletter, and life members have no renewal dues to meet. A return envelope for your convenience is enclosed, along with a copy of our new brochure which you may wish to pass along to a friend.

MESSAGE FROM SOCIETY PRESIDENT - ARTHUR M. GRIFFITHS

"It's annual meeting time for the Arnold Expedition Historical Society (June 29th, 1980). I hope you can attend because there are some interesting developments at the Colburn House I would like you to see.

"Cecil Pierce and his capable crew have completed the major renovation of the ground floor. Wide, colonial style pine boards, fitted with hand tools (many hand made by Cecil) add authenticity to the walls. The original "keeping room" has been restored, modern windows have been replaced with the style of the period, and other fine touches of craftsmanship complete the colonial setting.

"This project, and the previous restoration phase made possible by Society Director Ike Colburn, have transformed this historic house on the Kennebec into a landmark we are proud to open formally to the public this summer.

"Our sincere thanks to all who have so generously contributed to this restoration. Please be with us at the annual meeting and share in the pride of accomplishment."

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE RESTORATION PROGRAM

Your editor thought it appropriate at this time to list the names of those who had to date contributed to the restoration program:

Irving W. Colburn of Manchester, Mass.
Mrs. Helen A. Colburn Pomeroy of San Francisco, Cal.
Mr. & Mrs. Leroy H. Colburn of Santa Monica, Cal.
Mrs. John P. Riesman of Branford, Conn.
Eugene E. Miller of Nutley, New Jersey
Mr. & Mrs. Forrest Bradshaw of Sudbury, Mass.
Mr. & Mrs. Frederick Awalt of Auburn, Maine
Robert C. Arthur of Bristol, Maine
Miss Mary P. Goodrich of Augusta, Maine
Miss Marguerite Kelley of Waterville, Maine
Miss Edith Barron of Waterville, Maine

As Phase 1 of our restoration program winds down when our CETA carpenters complete their assignments at the end of June, attention is being given to Phase 2 in further restoration and preservation of the upstairs rooms when our finances (now at low ebb and practically non-existent) allow. Phase 3 will involve the long-range planning. Needless to say, contributions (tax deductible) for these purposes are thankfully received at any time and used to best advantage in restoring the Colburn House complex to its 1765 period, and thus helping to establish for the Kennebec Valley area and the State of Maine this National Historic Landmark, a heritage of history for generations to come.

BEHOLD !! OUR WONDERFUL EDITOR !!!

Although we are attempting an almost impossible feat - we are trying to, for once, get ahead of her and present to you our most faithful and devoted Editor of our AEHS Newsletter -

Born in the early 1900's (we won't tell you just how early, because you would never believe it) she is Audrey Hanks - daughter of Grace H. and Elden W. Hanks of Augusta, Maine. One of eight children, Audrey was raised, educated and taught to always work hard, an assignment she has indeed fulfilled. Coming to us at AEHS in the midst of the turmoil of AEQ-'75 she immediately fell into our ranks and has now become one of our "Indispensables." Her accomplishment in putting together a scrapbook



of the Arnold Expedition to Quebec in 1975 is something never to be surpassed. It will serve as one of the greatest of historical documents in the history of our Society. Sensing at once her personality and capabilities, she was soon to be elected a member of our Board of Directors, which at present she remains. Further to our being just one of her interests, she was one of the first women (an early women's libber) to serve on the Vestry of St. Marks Church where she has attended for many years, and was also elected to serve as clerk of that Board. Contributions to her church are far beyond recording. Her proficient profession led her to Central Maine Power Company, where for over forty (yes we have it right) years she served the Vice-Presidents in succession as their Secretary; certainly a commendable capacity. Currently, Audrey is a Trustee to the Friends of Fort Western as well as a Director and extremely active in that group. She is likewise A Director on the Board at the Arch Beta Complex where she represents St. Marks Church. For several years she has been the leader of a church Fair group, which held periodic sewing sessions, but presently feels that the " youth group " is more her speed just now - and we agree ! She is a past officer and present member of the D.A.R. and an active attribute to the Augusta Lithgow Library. Her memberships include The Kennebec Historical as well, and although we are brave enough to say we do not know of any instrument which she plays, (her love of music is there however,) she has certainly been most instrumental in achieving an unusual family relationship - a faculty we are fast losing track of in our present day living. Three years ago Audrey joined her brother and family in a sail to the Carribean - a well deserved trip to a good and faithful servant to us all. And - in strictest confidence my friend has also told me that for several more lucrative years, she indulged in ----- a MERCEDES BENZ ! Many more years of Happy Retirement Audie !

WHO'S WHO - Dr. Victor C. Brum

Introducing Dr. Victor C. Brum of Augusta, Maine, 1st Vice President and a Director of A.E.H.S.

Dr. Brum, son of Anthony and Mary Brum, was born in Lawrence, Mass., on April 3, 1923. He attended the Ashford Elementary School and the Edward F. Searles High School of Methuen, Mass. He obtained an A.B. degree from Dartmouth College at Hanover, N.H. in 1947, an M. S. degree from George Washington University in Washington, D.C. in 1953, and a Ph. D. from the University of Maine at Orono in 1965.

His several employments include Chief of the Cardio-vascular and Pulmonary Research Laboratory V. A. Hospital, Albany, N.Y. 1954-1958; Director of the Medical Research Laboratory V.A. Center at Togus, Maine, 1958-1976, and is Research Associate, Bowdoin College at Brunswick, Maine, 1976-. The summer of 1978 & '79 he was a lecturer on medical techniques and cancerimmunology at the University of Lisbon Medical School, at the Medical School in Coimbra and at the Institute of National Health, Lisbon, Portugal.



Victor married Jean Ann Ayers of Lawrence, Mass., July 25, 1953. They have three children: Lynn-Marie, Gail Ann and Chris.

Victor's military service was with the U.S. Navy 1940-45. He served on board the USS Massachusetts and the USS Casablanca in both the gunnery division and as a Pharmacist's Mate., North Atlantic and Pacific Fleet. Perpetuating tradition, he served as a foot soldier in the Colburn Division Reenactment of the Arnold Expedition to Quebec in September, 1975.

His civic activities include a board member of the American Heart Association, New England Research Committee; Maine Heart Association, Research Review Committee.

Victor is a member of Sigma Xi Scientific Society, American Chemical Society, Tissue Culture Association and Abenaki Ski and Outing Club. His hobbies are: Outdoor activities in summer, backpacking, white water canoeing, and in winter, skiing and reading 18th century historical novels.

Victor has taken an active interest in the Society's Middle Carry Pond cabin, visiting there with his son, Chris, and making it a work holiday by performing needed maintenance chores, setting a good example for other members so inclined. His service on the Board of Directors and as 1st Vice President of A.E.H.S. is much appreciated and valued.

POSTSCRIPT

As often happens, once a name appears in the Who's Who column of our newsletter your editor learns of additional background information she was not privy to at the time. Please forgive any omissions or errors.

REPORT OF CURATOR, CROSBY MILLIMAN

Our curator, Crosby Milliman, reports on a recent occurrence when a filming group from Cambridge, Mass., contacted him and then came up to Pittston to film a segment of a documentary film which they were taking and editing for the Masons' National Heritage Museum at Lexington, Mass. This documentary covers famous American Masons, and centers on the Lewis & Clark Expedition through the U.S. northwest passage in 1804, depicting the participants and the Indian woman, Sacajawea, who served as a guide. This expedition was ordered by President Thomas Jefferson and Henry Dearborn, Secretary of War. This documentary involves a reenactment of that expedition and, learning of AEQ-75, the film group contacted Crosby on short notice and asked if he could assemble some of the AEQ-75 participants to pose and perform in uniform.

One short segment of the film will show the Colburn House and then shift to a bateau performance at Gilead on the Androscoggin River. Crosby Milliman, Neil MacLean and Jack Dwyer, veterans of AEQ-75, and others of the Rogers Rangers group participated in the reenactment scenes. A contribution was made to A.E.H.S. for the use of the bateaux and the accommodation. When edited, the film will be shown on Public Broadcasting System (probably in the fall).

CONTRIBUTIONS OF LUMBER

The wide pine boards (some 18" wide) used in the panelling of the "keeping room" were obtained in Searsmont by John Briggs of the Maine Parks & Recreation Bureau. This contribution is much appreciated by the Society. The wide boards used for a partition between the "keeping room" and the "borning room" were furnished by Bob Cunningham from his barn at Phippsburg, Maine, a willing offering.

JUST ANOTHER BLESSING

Our Secretary, Jannice Baker, reports that due to a genuine interest in the area and our Society we have again been fortunate in not only acquiring two new members of A.E.H.S., but also two new talents - in Mr. & Mrs. Francis Choate Bailey. Returning to their native land, the Baileys have purchased the old homestead in North Whitefield and done extensive reconstruction. Now comes the really good news - they are printers by trade and have most generously run off our new stationery, envelopes and brochures at absolutely no expense to us. How do you thank this kind of people - not only for joining us - but most of all for contributing to us? Welcome to Donna and Francis from all of us!

PASSING OF CHARLES P. BRADFORD

Charles P. Bradford of the Pond Road, Manchester, Maine, died April 11, 1980, at the age of 75. He was born August 20, 1904 in Turner, Maine, the son of William and Alice Pratt Bradford.

Charles was a charter member and director of A.E.H.S. He also served as Chairman of the Museum Council of Ft. Western in Augusta.

Charles was a graduate of Tufts University, class of 1926, and attended Harvard University. He was superintendent of Maine State Parks for 30 years and after his retirement he founded the Maine Nature Conservancy and was a very active member for 10 years. He was awarded the first Down East (magazine) Environmental award in 1979.

He was an incorporator of Natural Resources Council of Maine and played a major role in conserving land for the public to enjoy.

He was a member of the Tufts University Alumni Association, a 28 year member of the Augusta Rotary Club and was an active member of the Friends of Ft. Western.

He is survived by his wife, Mrs. Violet Kinney Johnson Bradford of Manchester, Maine, and a sister, Mrs. Harriet Barnes of Wellesley, Mass.

Such is the caliber of our Society's officers and directors, past and present, lending their dedication and various talents to our purposes in establishing and carrying on an historical society. We feel fortunate in their support and mourn the loss of any one of them.

ANNUAL MEETING - SUNDAY, JUNE 29, 1980

The Annual Meeting of A.E.H.S. is scheduled for Sunday, June 29th, at 1:30 p.m. at the Colburn House. Election of officers for the ensuing year will take place. Reports of officers and committees will be delivered.

It is always pleasant to meet at our headquarters and particularly this year when so much progress has been made in restoration. Although the five varieties of lilacs will have passed their prime by that time, there will be plenty of color in the trees and shrubs, and with the majestic Kennebec River flowing 'round the bend, a vision of beauty, a quiet, celestial setting is assured.

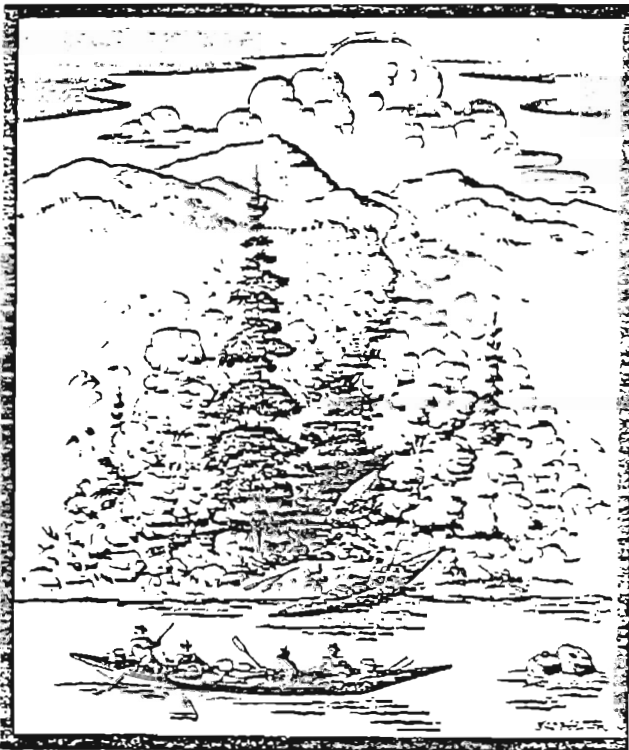
So, mark your calendar with this date: June 29, 1980 (Sunday) and join your fellow members. If you choose to come early, bring a picnic lunch and coffee will be available.

A CORDIAL INVITATION TO VISIT
THE ARNOLD EXPEDITION HISTORICAL SOCIETY
AT THE COLBURN HOUSE, PITTSTON, MAINE



Major Reuben Colburn House (1765)
A registered National Historic
Landmark

The Colburn House, headquarters of the Arnold Expedition Historical Society, is the site of the shipyard of Major Reuben Colburn who constructed 220 bateaux for Col. Benedict Arnold's historic expedition to capture Quebec City in 1775. Replicas of the bateaux, constructed for the thrilling Re-enactment of the Expedition in 1975 as a Bicentennial event, are on display in the museum, along with other artifacts and historical data.



*The start of the carry
over to Dead River*



*Carrying bateaux over
the height of land*