



Colburn House
582-7080

Arnold Expedition Historical Society

Box 1775, Gardiner, Maine 04345

Jannice Baker, Sec'y
582-3648

September 15, 1985

NEWSLETTER NO. 57
MEMBERS & FRIENDS OF A.E.H.S.

ARE WE ALL READY ??

Yes -we're ready, ready to turn our clocks back, ready for some stimulating Fall activities and most of all ready to board the busses going once again to beautiful Old Quebec for another get-together of our big A.E.H.S. family. This time we are numbering nearly 200 through the limitless efforts of our Mass. members who for several months now have been putting together all the details. At this time, we understand there are only 10 seats still available. Response has been tremendous and we will board 2 busses in Mass. and a 3rd in Pittston, at the Colburn House on Friday October 11, 1985. If you haven't already firmed up all these plans with Bob Cunningham and can arrange to go - quickly phone one of us at either of these numbers : Bob: 1-617-242-5345 or Jannice at 1-207-582-3648. We will be doing all foliage-fun- sightseeing-shopping and some free time . It's a wee bit of nostalgia from the AEQ-'75 1975 Arnold's March To Quebec Reenactment. Accomodations, transportation, buffets are all included with the package cost of \$ 220., but hurry - we're going to leave on Friday the 11th and return on Monday the 14th and we're just a fun family.

NOTE ! BY-LAWS AMENDMENT

We call your attention to the following amendment to our existing By-Laws. This was properly presented, notified, voted upon and passed, previous to and finally at our Semi-Annula Meeting held in June of 1985 thus replacing what has been our Annual Meeting as of June of each year.

AMENDMENT TO ARTICLE VII

The Annual Meeting of the members of the Corporation shall be held at a place and on a day in the month of OCTOBER ON A DAY IN CONJUNCTION with that day declared as COLUMBUS DAY, to be designated by the Executive Committee whose call for the same shall provide for at least fourteen days notice. By the same order, the Executive Committee has declared that from this day forth, The Arnold Expedition Historical Society's operating year shall be that of the calendar year. ANNUAL DUES SHALL BE CALLED FOR ON JANUARY 1 OF EACH YEAR.

GRATEFUL THANKS

Continue to go to Dear Mrs. Paul Hanneman of Thomaston, Me. who goes out of her way to bring those most cherished articles which are being sent to her from our long time benefactor and last living occupant of the Colburn House, Mrs. Helen Colburn Pomeroy of CA.

The pictures which appeared in our last newsletter were of Mrs. Pomeroy and her Father Richard Colburn - sister of Bertha Colburn

IN MEMORIUM

Of our long time friend and neighbor Mrs. Jennie Everson, who passed away last month, having left us that most valuable artifact, the very earliest of a bateau retrieved from her property on the Kennebec; Mrs. Everson (at 96) had recently authored "Tidewater Ice " the pictorial history of the Ice Industry of early days.

MORE FROM THE KENNEBEC PROPRIETORS (1749-1775)

For those of you who have not or are not reading from the above book, we will continue to treat you with a few excerpts here and there.:

CONSOLIDATING COMPANY GAINS

The continuing progress of Frankfort on the Kennebec was vital to both the Proprietors and the settlers they had brought here. The Proprietors needed to establish a strong base of operations from which to develop further their still almost untouched territory. During the 1750's therefore, Kennebeck Company leaders carefully formulated and executed plans for the expansion of Frankfort and for projected new townships to the North. The immigrants were also dedicated to the future of their settlement, for in it's success, lay theirs. They began life on the Kennebec heavily dependent on the Company, and could become self-sufficient only by preservance and hard work. Frankfort was thus a gamble to both groups. During the opening months of 1752, the Kennebeck Proprietors faced the immediate problem of keeping their new tenants provisioned and reasonably contented. Other pressing issues involving supplying Frankfort with needed services including local government; the continued surveying of proprietary lands; commencing additional towns; considering a first division of land to Proprietors; and treating with the Indians to maintain peaceful relations. Most of these plans were enumerated in the Company Warrant of July 6, 1751. The years 1752-1754 when a beginning was made to resolve these problems were especially critical to the ultimate success of the proprietary investment. Let us see then, how these brave historic groups handled what was to make their future, in our next newsletter.

AVAILABLE - SALEABLE - COLLECTABLE

We're almost out but have some for our members first. Our inventory is dwindling but as of now we have a few of the following items for sale : Rum Jug (only 1), Arnold Trail Maps, A.T. Booklets, Arnold Expedition Medallions, Buttons, Limited Edition of Arnold Plates, Colburn House notepaper, very few copies of Kenneth Roberts "March To Quebec" and Thomas Griffiths "Major Henry Knox And The Last Heirs To Montpeleier ". We will be carrying these to the Quebec AEQ-'75 reunion participants and families - thier memorabilia of a once in a lifetime activity.

COLBURN HOUSE - OPEN HOUSE

Still open to the public we are getting all "spiffed up " to greet many of the tour group coming by motor in advance. Had for the 3rd time a group of overnight, lobster in the dooryard, Canoe enthusiasts (as well as Colburn House buffs) who leave us with a happy feeling (and a generous check) each year.

President's Message

We are commencing our 18th year of association together ~~in~~ as members of The Arnold Expedition Historical Society. Banded together, we have accomplished things ~~that~~ we never could have done alone. Preservation of The Colburn House, improvements to its ell and barn, purchase of The Upton Cabin, ~~and~~ securing a 50 ft trail easement through the woods between East and Middle Cary Pond, construction of 13 colonial river bateaux, plus assemblage of a collection of historic Kennebec River craft — These are deeds of which we can be proud.

And perhaps the brightest jewel in our collection has not been listed — The AEQ-SS Bicentennial Reenactment.

In making the effort to bring all these projects to successful conclusions, we became acquainted, and then became friends. I know of no other club or group that can hold a candle to the genuine warmth and helpful spirit of the people of The AEHS.

And this leads to the great sense of loss we feel as the years go by, and our AEHS friends drop off, and leave us behind.