



Colburn House
582-7080

Arnold Expedition Historical Society

Box 1775, Gardiner, Maine 04345

Jannice Baker, Sec'y
582-3648

Newsletter # 74
Members & Friends of the AEHS

June 15, 1993

Welcome to our 25th Year !

Our first Directors Meeting was held on Sunday, June 6th at the Colburn House. It turned out to be a rousing success, with twenty people present, coming from various places in Maine, Massachusetts, and New Hampshire.

The weekend started out auspiciously with an excellent half-hour TV documentary entitled " Bigelow Bound " airing on Portland's Channel 6 at 7 PM Friday night, June 4th. Written and narrated by Bill Green, sports announcer for the station, it included footage of the Colburn House, our Curator, Crosby Milliman, and also our Trail Committee Chairman, Dude Wing.

Many thanks to Bill and Channel 6 for this welcome publicity boost!

Thanks are also due Cros and Karen Milliman for producing and donating 3000 new colorful Colburn House postcards, featuring an aerial winter view of the house and grounds.

The fund drive for the Colburn House Restoration Escrow Fund, commenced in November '92, has brought in 30 donations so far totaling up to \$ 2200. Dr. and Mrs. Arnall Patz, of Baltimore, MD., have just made a significant gift of \$ 500. We are very grateful !

The Society applied for two grants in early 1993, but failed to receive either one.

While the needs are many at the Colburn House, we have decided to focus on the foundation work, which must be done first. This will cost about \$ 20,000.

With the cooperation of the Friends of the Colburn House, chaired by Danny Warren, Jr., and the Pittston Literary & Historical Society, we are planning a Colonial Days Weekend at the Colburn House Complex on August 21st and 22nd. There will be tours of the house, canoe races, bateau rides, colonial crafts, Peter Cain's blacksmith shop in operation, and possibly a black powder shoot. Save that weekend ! We will have a fun time, and raise a goodly sum for the Escrow Fund.

We welcome newly appointed Group 111 Director, Mr. Fred Gowen of North Reading, Mass! Fred is a young active man interested in reenacting authentic 18th Century life. Accompanied by his yellow lab Samantha, he has already participated in several of our trail



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activities.

Dale Biever, who Captained the Smith Company of Pennsylvania during the AEQ, has donated the Company Flag to the AEHS Museum. Featuring a beaver, and fleur-de-lis, it created a sensation during the Parade through Quebec City. Dale writes " It quite well might have been the most popular symbol on the Expedition "!

Upcoming Events - 1993

Directors Meetings

- Sunday, July 18th -- 9 AM -- Colburn House Work day, clearing path to river. All sturdy members & volunteers invited -- bring work gloves & tools.
-- 1 PM -- Directors Meeting
- Sunday, August 15th - 10 AM - Sanders Antique Tool Museum, Skowhegan, ME.

Trail Events

- Saturday, July 10th - 8:30 AM - Meet in front of Bingham Motel Bingham, ME. Drive to Nichols Cabin & hike over Appalachian -Arnold Trail from Middle Carry to West Carry Pond.
For registration, call Ron Gamage at 1-207-474-3530
- Sunday, July 11th - Clear and hike Arnold Trail from Log Landing Wyman Lake to Dickson Road. Bring loppers.
note ----(This activity conditional on interest)
- Saturday, Sept. 11th-- 9 AM-- Meet at Natanis Pond Campsite for Height of Land Exploration. For registration call Duluth Wing 1-207-246-6211
- Sunday, Sept. 12th -- Lost Pond Trail hike and metal detector search for artifacts. (This activity conditional on interest)

Open House and Festival

Saturday, August 21 & -- 10 - 4 each day --Colonial Days
Sunday, August 22nd Festival at Colburn House. Call Crosby
Milliman at 1-207-582-7080 for details.

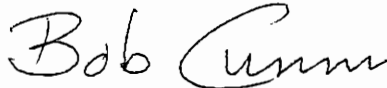
Annual Meeting & Dinner

Sunday, October 10th -- Save the date ! Time and place will
be announced later.

1993 Membership Dues

This is our annual appeal and reminder that AEHS Dues are
needed to carry on the conservation and preservation work of the
Society. Please check off the category of membership you wish to
have, and remember, it is deductible from your income tax return.

Kindest regards,



Robert A. Cunningham
President & Treasurer

A.E.H.S. 1993 Dues

Please check off membership
category desired, make check out
to A.E.H.S. and mail to:

Mrs. Jannice Baker
Secretary, AEHS
RFD #4, Box 7730
Gardiner, ME 04345

Family \$7.00 Student \$3.00
Contrib. 25.00 Indvl. 5.00
Life 100.00 Other

name
street address
town state zip

"ON TO QUEBEC"

A 30 minute color VHS Video Film of
the AEQ 75. Please make check out to
A.E.H.S. and mail to:

A.E.H.S.
c/o C.A. Cunningham Co.
P.O. Box 45
Charlestown, MA 02129

Send videos @ \$ 25.00 each
Plus Shipping Charge 4.00
TOTAL ENCLOSED
to

name
street address
town state zip



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SPECIAL APPEAL !

HELP SAVE THE COLBURN HOUSE !

Maine is about to lose one of its genuine Revolutionary War Treasures -- the Colburn House, located on the banks of the Kennebec River in Pittston, a few miles south of Augusta. Here, in 1775, Major Reuben Colburn built 220 river bateaux for the American Army, and then sent a company of local craftsmen along to repair them on the ill-fated March to Quebec.

Built in 1765, this stately colonial has survived wind and weather for almost 230 years -- but it may not survive the recession.

Listed on the National Register of Historic Places, and owned by the State of Maine's Bureau of Parks and Recreation since 1970, the House served as headquarters for the 1975 Bicentennial Reenactment of the Arnold Expedition to Quebec. Newly painted, roofed, and refurbished then, it was a showplace.

Now it is a mess. No funds are available for its maintenance, let alone restoration. The roof of wooden shakes is curling and cracking. The gutters are rotting out. The window frames are porous and the whole structure needs paint.

Worse than this, the foundation is cracked, the sills and carrying beams are rotted, and the walls have settled 6 inches out of square. If left alone for another two years, there is a strong likelihood the whole house will fall into the cellar.

So what can we do about it ? How can we help ?

The answer is simple -- make out a check for whatever amount you can afford and send it along to Dude Wing right away !

Every little bit helps ! The latest issue of the Maine Coast Heritage Trust newsletter makes the point that 90% of the funds raised for non-profit organizations last year came from individual donors. Only 6 % comes from foundations.

Your donation is tax deductible. We are an IRS approved charitable educational organization.

We have a new separate Escrow account in the Fleet Bank in Bath. The money will go there and be used only to repair and restore the Colburn House.

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We did not ask for this task -- but we do care about the survival of the House. It is up to us until things get better for the Bureau of Parks and Recreation.

Our goal is \$20,000. Please do your best !

 Pres

Robert A. Cunningham, Pres.

* Please make checks payable to:

COLBURN HOUSE RESTORATION ESCROW FUND

Mail to:

MR. DULUTH WING, BOX 27, EUSTIS, ME 04936

Many thanks !