

ARNOLD EXPEDITION HISTORICAL SOCIETY
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NEWSLETTER No. 28

November 20, 1975

SPECIAL AEHS NEWSLETTER TO AEQers

This section of the Newsletter is directed to each and every AEQ participant (about 600 military individuals) and accompanying family members.

It is issued by the President of the Arnold Expedition Historical Society.

My first purpose is to commend and congratulate every participant for their magnificent and dramatic display of congeniality, devotion, enthusiasm, patience, fortitude and tolerance during the long reenactment period; much of it in disagreeable weather.

It was this spirit and behavior that contributed so much to the great success of the most outstanding military reenactment ever produced in North America, the Arnold Expedition to Quebec, 1975.

It is my happy observation that the same spirit of 1775 still prevails in the heart of America in 1975. This was well evidenced during AEQ-75.

Many new friendships were made, others renewed, along the 500 mile march route from Cambridge to Quebec.

New England and Canadian hospitality were always in evidence.

There was no need to promote Canadian friendship. It was always there, waiting for a chance to be expressed.

On to Quebec! Again, and again.

The many favorable reports and publicity that we have received from the news media and individuals is overwhelming. The reaction was entirely positive.

It was expected that in the haste and confusion of implementation and action some booboos would be made. But they were minimal and should be overlooked.

To all of you, that helped to make AEQ the greatest Bicentennial Commemoration of all time, my heartfelt thanks goes to you.

ELITE SOCIETY

I trust that each of you must realize that all AEQ participants have automatically become members of an elite Society; a distinguished group of great people; a cross-section of a great America. No new members can be added. The group will continually get smaller. Let us stick together.

One way of doing this is to become a member of the Arnold Expedition Historical Society, sponsor of AEQ-75.

We are enclosing a brochure describing our aims and purposes. A fine Xmas present for your family or friends.

AEHS SECTION

The Arnold Expedition Historical Society, a non-profit organization, with headquarters at the Major Reuben Colburn House in Pittston, Maine, was the sponsor, planner and organizer of AEQ-75.

President of the Society is White Nichols of Wiscasset, Maine.

Mrs. Jannice Baker is resident secretary at the Colburn House.

Col. Thornton McGlamery of Mount Vernon was Director of AEQ Reenactment.

Bob Cunningham, of Lincoln, Mass. is First Vice President, and was Deputy Director of AEQ Reenactment.

Dr. Neil MacLean of Farmingdale, Maine is Second Vice President; was also Commander of the Colburn Company, Meigs Division, during the Reenactment.

Colonel George Dyer of New Hope, Pennsylvania, was Commander of Dan Morgan's Division.

Col. Tony Walker of Middletown, R.I. was Commander of Greene's Division.

Crosby Milliman, of Georgeville, Quebec was Commander of Meig's Division. Time and space forbid inclusion of the names of the fourteen Company Commanders and their subordinates.

Needless to say, AEQ-75 was a complete success in all respects.

Superlative adjectives of praise from all quarters have proclaimed it to be the largest, most comprehensive military reenactment ever held in North America.

It will probably be the most outstanding Bicentennial event to be held during the Bicentennial period.

There were nine states, two provinces, and two countries directly affiliated, with the 600 military participants coming from coast to coast.

There were over forty communities involved along the march route from Cambridge to Quebec. The number of persons involved, both directly and indirectly will probably never be compiled, but if known would stagger the imagination. Of special interest is the fact that the whole operation was entirely a grass roots volunteer affair, without the use of political influence, without monetary compensation to any participant, and non-commercial in entirety.

Although never endorsed by the National American Revolution Bicentennial Administration project was endorsed by all of the New England States, Pennsylvania and Virginia..

It was endorsed and supported by the Maine ARB Commission with a \$7000 planning grant, and a \$6200 implementation matching fund grant (including \$1200 for insurance.)

Participants also contributed a ten dollar fee to help defray administration costs.

The Maine National Guard furnished transportation vehicles and personnel for the expedition. The Office of Emergency Preparedness furnished three portable kitchens to Quebec City. Many communities contributed one or two meals to the hungry troops. (600 men)

A number of Maine and N.E. States contributed food products and eating utensils.

Quebec Defense furnished use of their large Armory (Menege Militaire) for quartering the troops of our three involved armies representing of New York's Montgomery Army, the British forces, and the Arnold Army, totalling about 1100 men.

The logistic problems were very involving, as I am sure that Col. Thornton McGlamery, our Reenactment Director, will agree. A job well done.

UPCOMING SOCIETY BUSINESS

We are frequently asked if the AEHS will fold up now that AEQ-75 is finalized. The answer is definitely 'no'. We have many fine and interesting things planned for our members. We shall conduct a series of Committee meetings from now until next spring to formulate these plans into a long range program. We hope for an expansion and acceleration of our aims and purposes as described in our brochure.

FURTHER RESTORATION

Most of the exterior restoration being completed this fall, the next phase will be planning and implementation of interior restoration of the Colburn dwelling house, barn and carriage house.

Such planning will involve the use of the buildings as a Museum and cultural center, with the main theme directed to the Arnold Expedition and the various individuals involved.

Included in the museum complex would be a replica building of a boat-house and shop, at the Colburn Shipyard site, where visitors could see bateaux in various stages of construction. Some would be for sale.

Bateau river trips would be available.

1976 ACTIVITIES

For the 1976 season, plans include river boat cruises, Kennebec and Dead River canoe trips, Quebec tours and archaeological digs, campouts and trail hiking.

Joe Brown of Sudbury, Mass. has been appointed as Manager for the Quebec tours, with the first tour scheduled for the first week of August.

The Kennebec River cruise is now scheduled for September 26th, pending confirmation. Confirmations and details will appear in spring and summer newsletters.

AN APPEAL TO AEQ PARTICIPANTS

The AEHS, a non-profit organization, incorporated in the State of Maine in 1968, urgently invites all AEQ participants to contribute to a film library at our Colburn House headquarters.

We feel that it would be a fine gesture on your part to donate photos, slides (or duplicates) taken of any AEQ activities during the march to Quebec.

We realize that many participants were unable to do any photo taking while on duty. However, many of their family members, or friends, did have such opportunity. If so, will you please ask them. It would be humanly impossible for one person to completely cover all of the interesting details that occurred during this comprehensive event. If enough contributors are agreeable to make this donation to the Society, we should be in a position to more completely show the many interesting activities of the whole operation.

I am sure that someone has a photo of you, or some subject of particular interest to you, also vice-versa. If so, perhaps you could see such photos at the Colburn house if enough contributors came forward.

All donated slides, or duplicates, and other film should be of good quality, with title of scene (if known), date, and name of donor. They will be used for educational and documentary purposes, and kept in our film library.

If you have any extra news clippings, or printed accounts from your local papers we could use them in our documentary scrapbook now being compiled.

This will be kept in our library and always available for perusal and study by our members. We are also anxious to receive copies of any journals that were written of AEQ-75 by the participants. All donations should be mailed first-class, registered or insured, and addressed to:

AEHS, Box 1775, Gardiner, Maine 04345

SUGGESTED XMAS GIFTS

We are enclosing several leaflets that suggest very appropriate Xmas gifts to our members and friends. These items were created by members or affiliates of our Society sales benefit our treasury. We urge you to patronize these craftsmen as one means of supporting the aims and purposes of the AEHS.

All items listed below may be ordered directly from our AEHS headquarters in Pittston. Mail Address: Box 1775, Gardiner, Maine, 04345.

The Following Articles are For Sale:

Pewter Medallions	@ \$3.15	Arnold Trail Maps	@ \$2.10
AEQ-75 Pewter Mugs	@ 10.00	Pictorial Booklets	@ 2.10
Arnold Trail Bottle	@ 40.00	Fife & Drum records	@ 5.25
Silver-Gold Tie Tacs	@ 5.25	Commemorative Cachets	@ .25
1775 Commemorative Plate	@ 25.00	Misc. Books	
Arnold March Pins	@ .50	Quebec Maps	@ 1.00
		Post Cards	@ .10

NOTICE

The Carrying Place 1775 Plate is now in production and delivery has been promised before Xmas. The Artist Paul Loweree is very apologetic for the delay which was due to production problems.

The special pre-production price of \$25.00 is offered to Society members for the last time. The plate will then be offered to the general public at a higher, but not yet determined price.

SPECIAL BOOK OFFER

We are fortunate to be able to extend a very special and unprecedented offer to our members and friends.

By special arrangement with the publisher, we are able to make the first public offering of a special bicentennial reprint of what is probably the earliest (1733) militia manual printed in the American Colonies -- a manual whose instructions guided Colonial volunteers in the French and Indian War, and whose words of command echoed a generation later along with the reverberations of "the shot heard 'round the world".

A limited first printing is being offered to us at cost by the publisher as a contribution to the Society and the Bicentennial. We, in turn, are offering it to our members and friends at \$2.50, which is substantially less than the anticipated retail price of subsequent printings. Proceeds will be used by the Society to help defray expenses of the AEQ '75 reenactment, and to begin development of museum and "living history" programs at our Colburn House headquarters.

A small number of special "presentation copies" bound in hand-stitched buckskin will be available on a first-come, first-served basis at \$5.00 each. These will be sold ONLY to active participants in Revolutionary reenactments, and will be inscribed in period-style script with the participant's name and the name and date of his or her reenactment activity. Because these will be made individually, delivery of these presentation copies may require several weeks; but every effort will be made to ship the books in time for Christmas giving if orders are received by December 1.

- Your Most Humble Servant,

White Nichols
Pres., AEHS