

ARNOLD EXPEDITION HISTORICAL SOCIETY

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NEWSLETTER No. 29

February 13, 1976

AEQ CAMPING INVITATION

The officers and staff of the AEQ parent organization, the Arnold Expedition Historical Society, extends their invitation to all AEHS-AEQ participants and family members (either on an individual, family or unit group basis) to spend some, or all, of their vacation time at the Colburn House complex this season.

Accommodation facilities are limited, but we can offer 5-6 acres of shoreland property on the banks of the Kennebec River for tenting, campers and trailers.

Outdoor toilets and drinking water are both handy. A large river landing float is convenient for your boating activities. A Kennebec River cruise should be on your itinerary. There is a 500 foot river frontage on the property. You can drive directly to your campsite. Most of the camping area lies within the original Colburn boatyard, where the 220 bateaux were built. The March to Quebec started here. It is a fifteen minute drive to Old Fort Western (1754) in Augusta; or to Pownalboro Court -house (1761) in Dresden. Both have interesting museums. A five minute drive to the stores. Coastal and lake beaches within an hours ride. Dependable baby sitters will be available as a convenience for young family campers.

AEQ military units, or segments, will find this an ideal spot for training, drills and musters. Picture yourself before an evening campfire, playing your favorite musical instrument, away from the 'rat race '. Canoe and bateau trips could be planned starting from the Colburn House. River cruises and car tours from our wilderness mountains to the Atlantic would delight you. You might want to include a hike over the 12 mile Carry, or dig for Arnold, or Indian artifacts at the expedition campsites. Reservations should be made early for campsites in order that we may accommodate you. There is no charge, or gimmick. Be our guest. Hope to see you this Bicentennial season. If you are interested and plan to take advantage of this opportunity please write and let us know as soon as possible, as we plan other activities within the area during the season. This should be a fine chance to meet some of your AEQ buddies again and explore some of the Arnold Trail areas that you missed. Bring your fishing equipment and boat.

KENNEBEC RIVER CRUISE

Be sure to include a boat cruise on the Kennebec River this season as a part of your Bicentennial planning itinerary. Follow the route of the Arnold expedition. A guided cruise up the beautiful and historic Kennebec will be sponsored by the AEHS early this fall. The cruise is scheduled for Sunday, September 26, 1976 and includes a round trip to the Colburn Boatyard, with a stopover for a picnic dinner at the Colburn House. Reservations will be accepted on a first come, first served, basis. Details including cost, will be announced in the June newsletter.

CANADIAN PHOTO EXHIBIT

The Canadian Government, as a Bicentennial gesture, has forwarded to the AEHS, a set of ten large (16" x 20") colored and framed photos, plus six informational panels, of scenes taken at the mock battle in Quebec during our AEQ reenactment last October, by the National Film Board of Canada. These photos will be on exhibit at the various affiliated communities along the march route from Cambridge, Mass. to Quebec City. The first showing will be at Cambridge, Mass. ending on March 15, then proceed along the route, through Maine to Quebec. Arrangements will be made for showing through the various Bicentennial Committees.

AUDIO-VISUAL EDUCATION ASSOCIATES

Two enterprising young men from Waterville, Maine, have become educational associates of the AEHS. Roll Davis and Tim Dial, both teachers at Waterville High School, are quickly building a reputation in the photographic field. They led a group of Waterville students to Quebec City during the AEQ, at the same time recording and documenting in a very professional manner, the highlights of the expedition; and especially the battle on the Plains of Abraham. In addition to organizing an impressive slide -show they have also produced a fine exhibit of black and white framed enlargements that they are currently showing to schools, historical societies and interested groups. We are very grateful to Tim and Roll for their generous contribution to the AEHS for a set of these fine documentary photos for exhibit at the Colburn House. They can be contacted through our office for further information. Incidentally, this is the first, and only, collection of such photos and material that we have received since our appeal last November. Not one colored slide, nor duplicate have we received ! There were thousands of photos shot during the reenactment; surely someone can loan or contribute slides or duplicates for a film library at the Colburn House. We do thank those few individuals that gave us colored prints (in one case a collection), but these have a very limited use, except for photo albums. Duplicate slides (or loan of originals to enable us to get duplicates), black and white enlargements, and movie film duplicates are urgently needed, for educational and documentary purposes.

SEMI-ANNUAL MEETING

The AEHS will hold its 1976 semi-annual meeting at the Holiday Inn, in Augusta on Sunday, February 29th, from 10: A.M. to 4 P.M. The program calls for a Bicentennial theme, with everyone dressing in colonial attire if possible. (if not, come anyway). There will be several exhibits on display, including an outstanding photo collection by the Davis-Dial team of Waterville. The first subject, of course, will be the AEQ and the battle on the Plains of Abraham. In addition, there will be an interesting slide-show on the same subject. We also expect some craftsmen to display their fine work. The Griffith Duet will again add to our musical entertainment, with their Revolutionary selections played on the recorder. Eric Wight, AEQ participant from "edway, Maine is expected to be present with his recordings of " The Walls of Quebec". Eric plays the 5-string banjo and guitar, as well as the violin.

A number of our AEQ soldier participants and family members are expected to attend this annual event where good fellowship abounds and old friendships are renewed; a most appropriate occasion in observing our Bicentennial.

We are inviting all the representatives of the many communities that participated in the AEQ activities along the march route. The invitation is extended to all persons from those communities to join us in a day devoted to many happy memories. We also hope some of our Canadian friends will be with us.

There will also be a display of items for sale, such as commemorative plates and bottles, AEQ pewter mugs, books and maps and medallions and pins. A separate list with prices, is enclosed. If ordering by mail, kindly enclose fifty cents for postage and handling.

A feature of the meeting will be a delicious buffet dinner served at 1:P.M. The hot items on the menu include; macaroni-tomato sauce, baked beans, frankforts, escalloped potatoes, chicken cacciatore, braised short ribs of beef, swedish meat balls; cold items include: German potato salad, green bean salad, tossed green salad with choice of dressings, relish tray, fresh fruit bowl, jello fruit mould, cole slaw, assorted cheese tray, rolls, butter coffee, tea or milk. Dessert will be ice cream or bread pudding. The price including tax and gratuity is \$ 5.95. Reservation deadline is February 25th 1976. Please make checks payable to "AEHS Dinner " and mail to AEHS Box 1775, Gardiner, Maine 04345. In case of severe travelling conditions, the event will be held the 7th of March. Rooms are available at the Holiday Inn at : Single \$16.20, double \$ \$22.50 . At the nearby Chalet; Single \$ 10.70 , double \$ 14.70

WAKEFIELD AEQ-'75 REUNION

The first reunion of the AEQ-'75 participants since the reenactment was held at the Hilton Colonial Inn, in Wakefield, Mass. on Saturday January 31st, 1976. It was a delightful experience for over three hundred AEQ buddies from a number of the New England states. ¶ One party flew from Germany for the occasion. ¶ : Friendships were renewed at a social gathering, dance and delicious banquet, that lasted into the wee small hours. Finely arranged and MC'ed by Bob Cunningham.

ARCHAEOLOGICAL DIGS

Several digs will be conducted this season, starting in late May and ending in the fall. We are unable to schedule them at this writing. Those that wish to participate should advise us that we may notify them of the time and place. However, most of the digging is planned for the " Hospital Site " area at Carry Ponds, and possibly at Arnold Pond and the Upper Farm at Chain-of-Ponds. Florence Elliot and Harold Brown will supervise these projects.

UNDERWATER SEARCHES

If weather and water conditions are favorable we shall conduct under water searches in the Dead River area and in the Kennebec River at the Colburn Boatyard site in Pittston. Francis Cassidy and Bettina Young will supervise the diving. Persons wishing to participate should likewise notify us.

12 - MILE CARRY

Many of the AEQ participants that marched through the 12-mile Carry during the reenactment have expressed an interest in that area for future camping, hiking, canoeing and exploring. For those that may be planning such activities this coming season, we suggest that you contact our office in making such plans. There are locked gates near each end of the car road that closely follows the original march route. This is a private road through private property. The AEHS has access rights through this auto trail for the Society members. Arrangements for car passage must be made through our office. (See newsletter heading for contact). We would be pleased to assist in planning any trip over all, or part of the Arnold Trail. There is 193 miles of it within the State of Maine.

ELECTIONS and RESIGNATIONS

Don Brann recently resigned as Treasurer of the AEHS and was replaced on a temporary basis by Bob Cunningham, who has been our Vice-President since our inception in 1968.

Lee Farrell also resigned as a member of the Board of Directors, and was replaced by Audrey Hanks, of Augusta. Audrey is presently compiling news material for a documentary scrapbook of the reenactment for AEHS archives. A modern method of paper preservation will be used on this project.

Hopefully, the sponsors of the TRICENTENNIAL AEQ reenactment will have this documentary material available for their planning !

We wish to thank those that have donated news clippings to this project. We can use more news items, photos and stories, if you can spare them.

1976 QUEBEC BUS TOUR

AEHS will again sponsor the popular annual bus tour. Following the historic Arnold Trail through Maine and Canada to Quebec City, the tour group will leave Augusta, Me. on Friday August 13th and return Sunday August 15th.

According to Joseph E. Brown, AEHS Tour Director, the 1976 Tour promises to be the best ever. Considerable interest has been expressed by AEQ-'75 participants in revisiting Quebec. Plans to originate a Boston bus are being investigated.

The 1976 Tour will be limited to 100 reservations because of limited space accommodations in Quebec. AEHS members are being offered the first opportunity to secure reservations. In a few days, flyers will be sent to AEQ-'75 participants.

The 1976 Tour package offers the following :

- * Round-trip fare on air conditioned buses from Augusta
- * Box lunch en route to Quebec
- * Get-Acquainted Banquet on arrival in Quebec
- * Sight-seeing tour by bus of Old Quebec
- * Tour of the Talon Vaults
- * Visit to La Citadelle
- * Ticket to Musee du Fort
- * Two nights in a new and luxurious Quebec Hotel (double occupancy)

Cost of this Complte Tour Package is \$ 85.00 Per Person.

Make your reservations early - Send your check to : Joseph E. Brown AEHS Tour Director,
P.O.Box 327, Sudbury Mass. 01776

Minimum payment of \$ 25.00 is required by April 15, 1976 to insure reservation.
Balance is due no later than July 10, 1976. Make check payable to AEHS 1976 Quebec Tour
For full payment made before April 15, 1976 deduct \$ 5.00 and send check for \$ 80.00
Full refund will be made for cancellations received before July 10, 1976.

Your Most Humble and Obedient Servant,

White Nichols, Pres. AEHS.