



ARNOLD EXPEDITION HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Box 1775

GARDINER, MAINE 04345

"Spirit of '75"

Join us in the 1975 Reenactment of the
Arnold Expedition to Quebec in 1775
In Commemoration of Maine's Outstanding
Revolutionary War Heritage

A Prelude to the U.S. Bicentennial in 1976

NEWSLETTER NO. 31

January 24, 1977

TO AEHS MEMBERS AND FRIENDS:-

It has taken some time to get the news to our membership that AEHS is alive and functioning. At the October 24th Directors' Meeting, Arthur Griffiths, 1st Vice President, assumed the office of President of the Society, replacing Thornton McGlamery (resigned). Arthur is the "middle" father in three generations, all members of AEHS, and is the son of Rev. Thomas Griffiths, and father of our AEQ-75 "Jacataqua" (Linda Griffiths), all of Monmouth, Maine. Thornton McGlamery continues a member of the Board of Directors.

It also takes a little time to get back to our original goals after the thrill and excitement of the 1975 Reenactment, but your Directors have been meeting regularly. Although the Colburn House was closed for the winter months, the officers and directors are formulating long-range plans for the use and development of the property and planning activities for the summer of '77 which will prove attractive to the members, Maine citizens and tourists and acquaint them with the early history of the Kennebec River and the Arnold Trail.

AWARD

The American Association of State and Local History at their National Awards Committee meeting in Albany, N.Y., in September, voted a Certificate of Commendation to the AEHS for promoting and executing a reenactment of Arnold's march to Quebec and its program to mark the trail and preserve related artifacts. The reenactment was our Society's bicentennial contribution to Maine's historical background.

Col. Anthony Walker of Middletown, R.I., our Rhode Island State Coordinator and portraying Lt. Col. Christopher Greene in the reenactment, accepted the award on behalf of AEHS at the Newport, R.I. meeting on November 6, 1976. This award was one of three presented to Maine Historical Societies.

SAILING DOWN THE RIVER

Would you drive five hours in the rain to join our AEHS River Cruise? Two families from New Jersey and Canada - all members of AEHS - were on board our 1976 cruise. The cruise and luncheon were a tremendous success - our profit maker for the summer of '76 - and we are already booking for this year. Early reservations avoid disappointments. More details later.

BOOKS

White Nichols offers the following on new publications: One of our distinguished AEHS members, Samuel B. Griffith II, a rare blend of scholar, soldier and an accomplished and experienced writer, with an eye for detail and conversation, has produced an outstanding historical narrative on the American Revolution that every Society member and American history student should have in their library. Sam's detailed narrative is bound to hold the reader's interest to make momentous events of two hundred years ago as fresh as today, with maps, 32 pages of illustrations, notes, appendices, bibliography and index, by Doubleday, publishers, at your bookstore. A must.

Another meticulously researched narrative, "Rise and Fight Again," by Charles B. Flood, has brought to life four of the most spectacular defeats of the American Revolution, including Arnold's Expedition, and Dudley Saltonstall's Penobscot rout; also incidents that earlier American historians preferred to forget. It shows the spirit that enabled the rebels to overcome those disasters and win the final campaigns to give us a nation of our own. At your bookstore; by Dodd, Mead & Co. of New York.

PROGRESS ON THE ARNOLD TRAIL PRESERVATION

After several years of little progress on gaining additional areas of a land corridor enclosing the march route of the Arnold expedition to Quebec (now known as the Arnold Trail), due mainly to our involvement with AEQ-75, it now appears that we shall soon add a sizeable link to the chain.

The 'link' involves a tract of land of about eleven hundred acres containing about five miles of the route travelled by Arnold's army in 1775. This property is located in the Chain-of-Ponds township in Franklin County, alongside highway Route #27, and bordering five of the ponds, Lower Pond, Bog Pond, Long Pond, Natanis Pond and Round Pond, as well as Horseshoe Stream.

In addition to encompassing the Arnold Trail, the lower section includes the so-called "Upper Farm," which was a campsite for a part of the Arnold Army, entitling it to an historic site designation.

It is a potential archaeological site, as exploratory digging has produced some Revolutionary period artifacts. The upper section includes the beach area at Natanis Campground and about two thirds of the shoreline of this beautiful lake.

This property was recently offered to the AEHS by Lee Schepps, Director of the Bureau of Public Lands. It is one of the 'master' lots included in the public lot land swap deals between the State and various pulp and paper companies. Although there are a number of details to be worked out before finalization of an agreement can be made, including acceptance by the 108th Maine Legislature, it now appears that the AEHS will manage the Chain-of-Ponds Public Lot as a 'Conservation - Recreation Historic District.'

Much of this Public Lot area has already established some degree of protection through the efforts of our Society. It is included in the 193 miles of the Arnold Trail from the mouth of the Kennebec River to the Maine-Quebec border, which was designated in 1970 as an Historic Place in the National Register. Since then, Route #27 (a part of the Arnold Trail) has been designated as a Scenic Highway through this area.

The Maine Land Use Regulation Commission has granted the AEHS a protective zone along most of the march route from the Kennebec River, through the Dead River section, to the Maine-Quebec border. This protective area involves a zone five hundred feet (250 feet on each side of the Dead River, the Chain-of-Ponds, and a tributary arising at the Height of Land). This arrangement constitutes an interim standard land use regulation subject to permanent approval by the 108th Legislature.

The AEHS is highly grateful to the various officials in the Bureau of Public Lands, Parks and Recreation of the Department of Conservation, and the Land Use Regulation Commission for their sincere interest and cooperation in our endeavor to reach some of our conservation and preservation goals.

White Nichols, now heading the Land Use and Management Committee of our Society, has named to serve with him: Bob Cunningham, Lincoln, Mass.; Cecil Pierce, Southport, Maine; Duluth Wing, Eustis, Maine; Chuck Booth, Bowdoinham, Maine, and Dick Brown of Farmingdale, Maine. Dick Brown, one of our newcomers, is considered one of Maine's foremost authorities on primitive and wilderness trails, having served in the highest ranks of the Maine Chapter of the Appalachian Mountain Club and the MATC for many years. AEHS members should already be familiar with the good work of the other committee members. This committee is presently studying the problems involved in the management and use of this scenic and historic section of Maine and its potentials.

REUNION OF REVOLUTIONARY SOLDIERS

Mrs. Florence Winter, a member of the Board of Directors of AEHS, brings the following interesting article quoted from the Kennebec Journal (Augusta, Maine) edition of February 5, 1825, noting the quote from the N.H. Patriot on Reunion of Revolutionary Soldiers:

"Gen. Benj. Pierce, aged 66, invited his Revolutionary War companions who are now citizens of the town of Hillsborough, N.H. to dine with him the 25th of Dec. last. The following veterans attended:

<u>Names</u>	<u>Place of Nativity</u>	<u>Age</u>
Ammi Andrews	Ipswich, Mass.	89
John McColley	Hillsborough, N.H.	83
x James Taggart	Londonderry, N.H.	81
x William Johnson	Billerica, Mass.	77
x William Gomel	Boston, Mass.	74
x James Carr	Litchfield, N.H.	73
William Taggart	Merrimac, N.H.	73
William Parker	Chelmsford, Mass.	72
x Thaddeus Monroe	Billerica, Mass.	71
x Nathaniel Parmenter	Spencer, Mass.	70

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	<u>Names</u>	<u>Place of Nativity</u>	<u>Age</u>
x	Thaddeus Goodwin	Leominster, Mass.	70
x	William Dickey	Londonderry, N.H.	70
	Daniel Russell	Andover, Mass.	70
x	John Shed	Dunstable, N.H.	70
x	Isaac Andrews	Ipswich, Mass.	69
	Daniel Killam	Wilmington, Mass.	69
	Robert Carr	Litchfield, N.H.	68
x	Zachariah Robbins	Westford, Mass.	68
x	Benjamin Pierce	Chelmsford, Mass.	65
	David Livermore	Sudbury, Mass.	62
	Samuel Morrill	Manchester, N.H.	59
	Nathaniel Johnston	Andover, Mass.	59

(note: x designates those who were in the Battle of Bunker Hill.)

Lieut. Ammi Andrews and Lieut. John McColley were also in the French wars. The latter was the first white child born in Hillsborough, N.H.

The "company amused themselves with the narration of various" and amusing anecdotes. "The following related by the President (Andrews), being short, we shall insert it."

The war worn veteran jumped upon his feet, and with the animation of youth, proceeded as follows:

"When our troops were stationed on Abraham's Plains, Colonel Arnold was anxious to have a certain British sentinel taken. One evening when in my quarters with Col. Morgan, I set my sword in the corner and told him I was going to take a British regular. He said, 'Andrews, you had better not go, the halter will be your portion;' and asked me why I left my sword. I told him the Colonel did not want a dead soldier, and proceeded to accomplish my design. When I came within a rod of the sentinel, I stopt, thought he saw me, but determined to wait till I heard him cock his rifle, when I should have said, I want to go into the city; but I was fortunately mistaken. He saw me not, and as he turned his back to me, I jumped upon him, drew his bayonet from his scabbord, and told him if he uttered a word, I had his bayonet, and would instantly put him to death. We went about a rod from his post, when I halted, and hallooed "all is well" three times, put him on quick time, and shortly had him before Colonel Arnold."

Mrs. Winter looked these men up in the March to Quebec and found:
 p. 27, Ammi Andrews, Lt. Amos Andrews, Capt. Dearborn's Co., prisoner.
 p. 50, Benj. Pierce, Benj. Pearce, Capt. Goodrich's Co., prisoner.
 p. 31 Gomel, Wm., Gammel, Wm., Capt. Hendrick's Co., prisoner.

SEMI-ANNUAL MEETING

The semi-annual meeting of AEHS has been scheduled for Sunday, February 27th, starting at 10:00 a.m., to be held at the Dresden Inn, located on Route #27, just 6 miles south of the Colburn House. (Easy to find). A buffet luncheon will be served at noon at a cost of \$3.95 each. The program will consist of the following speakers:

Sumner Webber, Sr., curator of Ft. Western in Augusta
John Briggs, historian, of the ~~US~~ Bureau of Parks & Recreation
Recreation Department
Irving Colburn, architect of Manchester, Mass., who will
speak on Colburn House Restoration and the Museum
White Nichols, Land Use and Management
Crosby Milliman, Georgeville, Quebec, on AEQ-75

Uniforms and costumes are optional. They will add color to the spirit of the meeting and you might get your picture taken. There are overnight accommodations available at a reasonable price at the Dresden Inn. You-all come!

1-27-77

ARTHUR GRIFFITHS, President
Arnold Expedition Historical Society