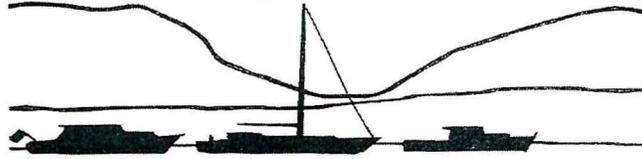


## SOUTHWEST HARBOR HISTORICAL SOCIETY



# *The Sou'west Voyage*

Norwood Cove Greening Island Southwest Harbor Manset Seawall

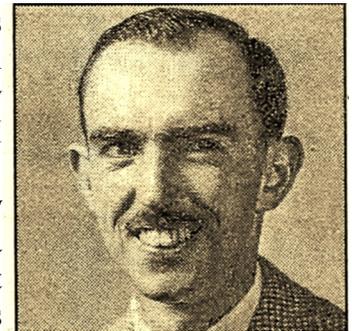
Published February, June, November

November 2019



*What you see at left is a life-size photograph of a milk bottle specially designed for Clark's Dairy by John Owen Clark, "Jack," who died in 2017, pictured below. Our historical society was recently given this bottle by Jack's son, John Clark, Jr. John has written a history of the bottle and of the dairy which merits repeating here. So here goes, in his words. (Eds. Note: I have added photographs.)*

"The object that I feel embodies many aspects of Maine is this small milk bottle. This bottle is from my family dairy in Southwest Harbor...I feel a strong personal connection with this bottle because it was designed by my father—John Clark, Sr.. He gave a sketch he made of Mount Desert Island with the words "Clark's Southwest Dairy" superimposed over it to a graphic designer at a large bottle manufacturer out in the midwest. This bottle is the result of that. After it was made at a large factory, it began its long journey to us by rail car to Ellsworth. The rail car was parked for a period of days and my father filled an empty milk truck with the new bottles each day after work until they were all brought back to the dairy. I believe there were a thousand bottles in each rail car shipment, possibly more. That trip to get this bottle would have been made after a long day of delivering milk to stores. (He got up at 3 AM for 7 days a week for more than 30 years.) I have had a few thousand milk bottles from various dairies from Maine and this bottle is my favorite because it is unique. I can't think of another bottle with an original design. I'm sure there are some. Usually the dairy owners were given a catalog by bottle manufacturers and they chose from stock



designs to embellish their bottles.

"This milk bottle as a container was very efficient. This bottle, after being used by the consumer, was picked up by the milkman and reused. This happened over and over basically until it was unusable. The investment in the bottle was passed on to the customer in a fashion by charging a 5 cent deposit. This particular bottle might have been used for school milk or cream. Embedded in this

*Cont'd on Page 3*

As the new president of the Southwest Harbor Historical Society, I want to thank Patty Pinkham for her leadership during the last year as we transitioned into our new home, the former Manset Union Church, now known as the Manset Meetinghouse.

Those of you who know me are aware of my passion for this former church and the Southwest Harbor Historical Society. The past year was truly a year of transition, as we developed many committees to assess our new home, expand our monthly programs, and begin our capital campaign. The attendance at all of our programs has been heartwarming, as it was greater than we had expected.

Currently we are in the process of having the sanctuary painted, so it can become an area for our exhibits of the rich history of Southwest Harbor and Manset, as well as the area for our future programs. Our biggest project will be the repairs to our leaning steeple. There are also stained glass windows that need renovation, as we want to maintain the original environment and integrity of the building.

This winter we will continue to work on projects in the building, plan our programs for the coming year and organize and inventory our archives. Since we want to expand our presence in the community, and on the island, we are welcoming input from the community for future programs and possible future events.

Aimee (Jellison) Williams, Southwest Harbor Historical Society  
207-244-7735 [aimeewilliams363@gmail.com](mailto:aimeewilliams363@gmail.com)

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**DONATIONS.** We are grateful to the following people for their support:

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Cont'd from Page 1

bottle is the story of many of the small dairy establishments in Maine. It comes from a time when almost each town or city had its own small local dairy or even more than one dairy.

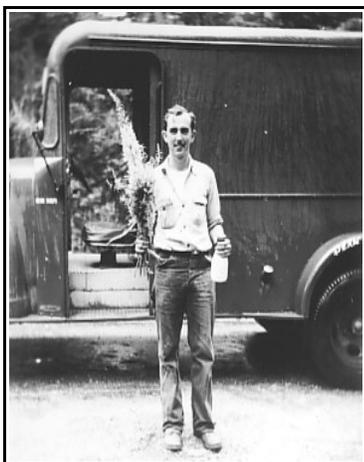
“My own family dairy history started in 1937 when my grandfather O. J. Clark (Owen) went from working as chauffeur for Atwater Kent (radio manufacturer—wealthy Bar Harbor summer resident) to working for Wm. Pierson Hamilton (another wealthy summer resident and Alexander Hamilton's greatgrandson) on his dairy farm in Bar Harbor as a milk delivery man. Hamilton gave that enterprise up after a couple of years and the valuable milk routes that Hamilton had established were up for grabs. O. J. saw his opening. That is when Clark's dairy began....It went from a very small setup where the milk was stored in a wooden box full of ice in their garage in Bar Harbor (Salisbury Cove), to O. J. building a state of the art processing plant in Southwest Harbor a few years later. For years the milk was obtained from local farms and eventually as the local farms shut down Clark's SW Dairy had to buy milk from as far away as Aroostook County.



“We did home delivery right up until we closed. At some point in the 70's someone doing a study on viability of small dairies went on the truck with one of our delivery men, Hank Joyce. Hank was an old man at the time; he had been with us since the 1940's and was a favorite of many customers. The study determined that small dairies like ours weren't profitable enough to last, which proved to be true. It functioned many years employing many local people until 1980 when it closed.

“There are perhaps two big periods of change that had a negative impact on small local dairies. The first being the laws in the 1920's and 30's that required dairies to meet necessary hygiene standards to sell milk. I'm not sure exactly what all the standards were, I understand that the farmers were faced with putting in concrete floors in place of wood floors and better refrigeration amongst other things. Small family farms that were selling raw milk faced high investment costs to buy the equipment and make necessary improvements to meet the new standards. It may also be that the public demand for pasteurized milk was the biggest factor, I'm not sure. These factors affected small farms that had a small herd of cows the most. The other factor that impacted the dairy industry that affected the bigger dairies happened in the 1970's. As I understand, that was when there were changes to price standards set by the state. Those price standards set minimums that helped keep the small to mid-sized dairy processors profitable. Also, at that time, grocery chain stores were soliciting contracts with dairies to supply products at the lowest prices. I know that our dairy sold some milk at cost to make production efficient.

“Today, milk bottles (and milk caps) like this one are considered collectables. Years after Clark's Southwest Dairy closed, my father and I started collecting old local bottles....We have a display in the Bar Harbor Historical Society of bottles from over 35 different dairies that were here on Mount Desert Island. There were many more farms that sold milk, the number of farms will never be known mostly because without a bottle or cap with that dairy's name to mark its existence, it often vanishes from all memory.” *(See the other milk bottles that Clark has given to our society on Page 5 of this newsletter.)*



After returning from WWII, Jack went to work with his father, O. J. Clark. Soon they became partners and moved the operation to Southwest Harbor from Bar Harbor. The site for the dairy was where Mount Desert Spring Water is today. It was chosen because of the pure water available from an artesian well on the property. Pure water was essential to clean the equipment and milk bottles. Many customers may remember Jack as their milkman until the dairy was sold in 1981. After selling the dairy, Jack moved to Gardiner, where he was a property assessor for the city of Gardiner. He was quickly promoted to the position of city assessing administrator until he retired and moved to Augusta where he also did property appraisals. At left he is shown delivering flowers and milk to someone at the Seawall Campground in 1951.

## SOUTHWEST HARBOR HISTORICAL SOCIETY ANNUAL MEETING September 18, 2019

Present: Patty Pinkham, Pres.; Aimee Williams, VP; Lynne Birlem, Treas.; Henryetta Ponczek, Sec'y; Board Members John Burnham, Karen Craig, Al Michaud, Kathe Walton, Leslie Watson.

The meeting began at 7:02 PM.



**President's Report.** Rather than make an oral report, Patty passed out a list of the happenings of the past year: We hosted two concerts given by Danny Harper and his band; opened our museum for limited hours with small displays; held a class reunion and a family reunion; catalogued items in the Digital Archives on our website; conducted an inventory of the building; had regular meetings of our 5 committees and of the full board of directors; purchased Quickbooks for our financial needs; welcomed high school students to help us on their Community Volunteer day to get work done on and around the building; held our own spring cleanup day; continued involvement with the History Trust, a collaboration of 11 organizations working to further the history of MDI; joined the Southwest Harbor & Tremont Chamber of Commerce; are in the process of assessing our steeple restoration cost; applied for grants; petitioned the town of Southwest Harbor for funds to help with our operating costs this upcoming year, for which we received \$2,500. Sadly we lost a long-time board member, Wayne Gilley, who passed away in the spring. He was instrumental in our purchase of this meetinghouse.

**Secretary's Report.** The minutes from last year's annual meeting were accepted without discussion.

**Treasurer's Report.** The report consisted of two items: a fiscal year-end report and a 2019-2020 proposed budget. Revenue for FY 2019 was \$52,938.02; expenses, \$42,313.27 for a difference of \$10,624.75. Treasurer Lynne stated "We're a hell of a lot better off than we were a year ago today....What isn't perhaps apparent is that we now have a capital account and it covers everything except regular, ordinary operating expenses. So we've separated those two out. We know we can run on about \$10,000-\$15,000 a year...ultimately that will become a much clearer picture." The proposed budget projects income of \$14,400 and expenses of \$14,400. Isn't that great how that works out! Detailed figures for both the year-end report and the budget were on a handout and are available in our files. The budget was approved.

One other monetary item was setting membership dues for the coming year. They will remain at \$15.

**Elections of Board Members and Officers.** After legal consultation it has been established that officers, who are elected to one-year terms, must also be voted in as board members (3-year term) in order to have a vote on society issues. Voted in as board members are Kathe Walton (3 yrs.), Aimee Williams (3 yrs.), Lynne Birlem (3 yrs.), Bernice Klausky (3 yrs.), Julie Fernald (3 yrs.), Patty Pinkham (1 yr.), and Henryetta Ponczek (1 yr.). Voted in as officers for one year are Aimee Williams, Pres.; Leslie Watson, VP; Patty Pinkham, Treas.; Henryetta Ponczek, Sec'y.



**Capital Campaign Report.** Incoming president Aimee Williams delivered the capital campaign report. Total income is \$207,024.49; total expenses, \$137,837.10 for a savings account balance of \$69,187.39. We have pledges of \$2,750. In addition to \$2,500 awarded to us by the town, other sources of income are grants being applied for, personal contacts with donors, a mass mailing, and anything else we can think of. Projects in various stages of planning include steeple repair, stained glass window repair, signage, lighting, etc.

**Committee Report.** For years John Burnham has been giving a report at our annual meeting. This year is no different except that this time he's on camera. John heads the Collections Committee. "The Committee is now well established in the new quarters and has added many Southwest Harbor historical items and has prepared displays for the two cases in the Meetinghouse, mostly that relate to the monthly programs. In addition to materials related to and found in the Manset Union Church, we added Pemetic Yearbooks (collection now complete) and town reports; local business signs, including an 'Entering Southwest Harbor,' 'Harborside Studio,' and 'Whitney's Electric' signs; wooden puzzles; a spinning wheel; Clark Southwest Dairy bottles; a collection of old nautical receipts and records; and a wood pew door from the church were acquired. All items are on the Society's digital archive and will eventually have scanned copies and photos added to the entries." (See Page 5 for pictures of some of these items.)



Adjournment was followed by our September program, **The Evolution of the Claremont Hotel**, presented by Maurice "Joe" Marshall.

Submitted, Henryetta Ponczek, Secretary

Items that have not been featured in previous newsletters.

1.



Ship's port/starboard combination bow lantern, late 1800's to early 1900's. It has two glass panels, one red, one green, and a brass kerosene tank with wick inside the lantern. It was donated by John and Becky Burnham. It has been in their Manset home for generations.

2.



Ship's sounding lead, 8" long, used to read depth of water. From Lee Wilbur.

3.



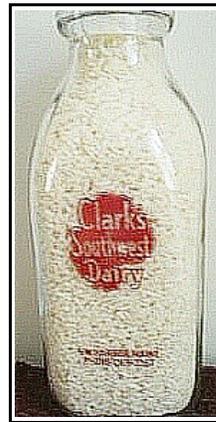
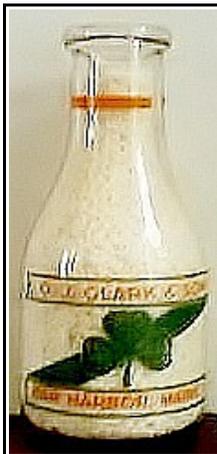
Pew door from the Manset Union Church. It has a small label at lower right giving the following information. "Pew door originally finished natural. Pews sold to subscribers for \$10 each. Constructed 1830-1839. Successive colors: Natural, grained, red, brown, & present." It has a number 2 on it and measures 17" by 35". It came to us with the building.

4. Three milk bottles from Clark's Dairy given to us by John Clark, Jr.

The first says "O. J. Clark & Son, Bar Harbor, Maine" and stands 9 3/4 inches.

The middle one says "Clark's Southwest Dairy" and stands 8 3/4 inches.

**The third one is a tiny one, only 5 3/8 inches and says "Clark's Southwest Dairy."**



**IN MEMORY CONTRIBUTIONS**  
since our June newsletter

**The Sou'west Voyage Nov 2019 Page 6**

**In memory of Wayne Gilley by**

Ken & Linda Ballou	Mary E. Gilley	Northbridge Middle School
Linda & Philip Bowes	Eleanor Gilley Herrick	Christine E. Poulin
Maxine Carroll	Ruth Jellison	Nancy Sgariglia
Karen Craig	Bud & Peggy Kenney	William Small
Lauri Fernald & Margaret Sumpter	Elsie LaCount-Frost	Margaret Sochia
Robert & Jean Fernald	Local 301, Mail Handlers Union	Alan Spurling
Vince & Janet Gabrielli	Ruth & Robert Mitchell	Ellen Stanley
	Shirley Moczynski	Joan Terry

**In memory of Jarvis Newman by**

Mary C. Basley	Stephen & Nancy Homer	Victor & Ellen Mercer
John & Becky Burnham	Kate & Steven Hughes	Carol Pendergrass
Barbara & Mark Campbell	Yardley & Scott Jenkins	Diana Pinkham
Maxine Carroll	Ruth Jellison	John & Gail Reeves
Marilyn & Don Chambers	William & Margaret Johnston	Frank Roberts
Bradley Cole	John & Margaret Kelley	Janice & Gordon Roberts
Karen & Jerry Craig Family	James & Sally Anne Kellogg	Loretta Rogers
John & Heidi Crock	Weldon & Andrea Leonard	Sheila Smallidge & Jennifer Mitchell
Phyllis Crockett	Carol & Paul Lidstrom	Arlene Spurling
Tammy Clark Dickey	Faye Masterson	Edie Stanwood
Larry & Meg Eaton	Marilyn Mays	Harlan & Naomi Wechsler
Susan & Thomas Hodge	Robert & Lois McKown	

**In memory of**

Oscar, Inez, Emery Krantz by Charles & Frances Johnson  
Rear Admiral and Mrs. Edward Ellsberg by Edward (Ted) Ellsberg Pollard  
Bernice & Walter "Pa" Hamblen by G. Bernice Klausky  
Jonathan Brown "who has been laid to rest behind the old Manset Union Church for  
188 years" by Cynthia Robertson  
Dolliver, Jellison, and Kenney Families by George Jellison, Jr.  
Kenneth & Ruth Amiro by Waverly (Mitchell) Cotton  
Raymond D. Billings by Margaret Walker Mitchell  
Margaret Delehanty by Jean A. Hauritz  
Dorothy Marshall by Rebecca Madeira Castle  
Jack Madore by Loretta Rogers  
Carolyn Dolliver by Lawrence Cole  
Thirza & Henry Wass by Leighton Wass  
Snip & Beverly Lewis by Sherri Hiller  
E & H Spurling by Clayton & Denise Strout  
Mel Phillips by Helen Phillips  
Fred Pinkham by Diana Pinkham  
R.M. Hays, MD by Susan Pope Hays  
All Veterans by Harold Beal

**In honor of**

Peggy Walls by Eugene Walls  
Clarence LaCount by Stephen LaCount  
Margaret Mitchell (mother) by Susan Robinson

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**Your membership expiration date is listed above your name on the blue address page. If you have paid for 2019, your name will also appear on this list.**

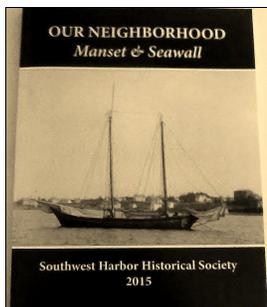
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Abbot, Alice	Gilley, Jack	Pollard, Edward Ellsberg
Albers, Brenda & Bruce	Gilley, Wayne & Mary	Ponczek, Henryetta
Allen, Leon, Jr. & Patricia	Goldthwaite, Sheldon	Potter, John
Allen, Richard	Gott, Sandra & Stan	Raup, Henry A.
Amendt, Alan R. & Diane	Gross, Robert & Karen	Reed, Beth
Amstutz, Barbara & Mark	Hayes, Nancy & Joe	Reed, David & Janice
Andrews, Alexandra & Dave	Hays, Susan Pope	Riemer, Louise
Atlee, Dick & Sarah Corson	Henry, Eric & Kate	Robbins, Eleanor
Beal, Harold & Marcia	Herrick, Steve	Roberge, Korel & William
Beal, Mary	Holtzman, Betsey	Roberts, Gordon & Janice
Benson, David & Anne	Homer, Peter & Linda	Rogers, Loretta
Birlem, Lynne	Hutchins, Kristin	Saucier, Jennifer
Booher, Jennifer	Jellison, Jr., George	Seavey, Erland
Bradford, Rusty & Lynne	Jellison, Ruth	Soules, George
Braun, Duane & Ruth	Johnson, Charles & Frances	Speakman, Cummins & Diane
Brookes, Ken & Ellen	Judd, Lee & Ann	Spurling, Elaine
Burnham, Becky & John	Kelley, John & Margaret	Stanhope, Charles
Bush, Natalie Spahr	Kenney, Felton & Peggy	Strasbaugh, Wayne
Butler, Ned & Liza	Kenney, Jane	Strong, Janet & Robert Hoyt
Carlson, Rebecca	Klausky, G. Bernice	Sundberg, John & Beth
Carr, Agnes Dolliver	Lawrence, Sam	Terry, Joan
Caulfield, Mary	Lawrence, Sam Jr.	Thurnau, Kathleen
Clement, Polly	Ludwig, Helen	Towers, Laurel & Fred
Cline, Andy	Madara, Jr., Ed & Rosalinda	Tuttle, Georgia
Colquhoun, Leza	Mayerhofer, Joy & Bert	Vekasi, Jim & Mary
Craig, Karen	Mastroianni, Dana	Walls, Gene & Peggy
Davis, Bob	Mauger, Bernie & Marie	Walton, Kathe
Deafenbaugh, Charles & Paula	Michaud, Al & Donna	Waters, Jennifer N. & Todd
Diaz, Hector	Miller III, Philippus	Peterson
Dimond, Richard	Mills, Dalen & Liz	Watson, Leslie
Eagan, Ann P.	Mitchell, Patrick & Ellen	Whitney, Phil & Karin
Evans, Ken & Mary	Morneault, Jr., Loman & Lori	Willey, Jim & Cathy
Falcichio, Eleanor	Newman, Susan	Williams, Aimee
Fernald, Elaine	Norberg, Robert & Katrina	Worcester, Mark
Fleming, Jan	O'Leary, Edward & Christine	Worcester, Warren
Freundlich, Jill	Olgay, Cora & Alan	Wozniak, Keith & Mary
Fuerst, Joanne & Richard	Rosenquist	Young, Jacqueline
Gibbons, Jack	Oxman, Jeffrey	Young, Jason
	Pinkham, Patty	

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**ITEMS FOR SALE**
**BOOK**

**OUR NEIGHBORHOOD—MANSET AND SEAWALL.** 2015. 160 pages with compact disc. 8 1/2" x 11". Features 365 buildings with comprehensive deed work; 125 photos. This book is also for sale at our presentations; at Davis Realty Agency, Carroll Drugstore, and Sawyer's Market, all in Southwest Harbor; the Southwest Harbor Public Library; Sherman's Bookstore in Bar Harbor; and on our website, **SWHHS.org**, where there is an order form.

Members \$33                      Non-members \$35  
Please add \$4 for shipping.

**DVD'S.** The DVD's are recordings of some of our summer programs. You may go to our website, **SWHHS.org**, where there is an order form for these DVD's, or you may just write us directly with your order.

**On Fishing;** Wendell Seavey, Speaker  
**Ice Cutting;** Jack and Wayne Gilley, Speakers  
**A Southwest Harbor Boyhood;** Ralph Stanley, Speaker  
**The United States Coast Guard;** Rich Viera, Speaker  
**The Granite Industry;** Stephen Haynes, Speaker  
**The WWII K-14 Blimp Mystery;** Earl Brechlin, Speaker  
**The Steamboat Era of Southwest Harbor;** Ralph Stanley & Phil Whitney, Speakers  
**Family Photos of an Earlier Southwest Harbor;** Kathe Newman Walton, Speaker

Members \$11                      Non-members \$12  
Please add \$3 per item for shipping.

Orders for the books and DVD's should be sent to Southwest Harbor Historical Society, P. O. Box 272, Southwest Harbor, ME 04679. You may use the order form on our website or simply write a note with your request.

**MEMBERSHIP DUES**

There is still time to send in your dues for 2018 and 2019. **The date above your name on the blue address page shows when your membership expires.** We look forward to receiving your dues so that we may continue mailing you the newsletter. We are now offering you the option of receiving the newsletter by email. On this month's blue cover sheet there is a spot for your email address. **Fill in your email address only if you wish to receive future newsletters that way.**

**WEB SITE INFORMATION (swhhs.org)**

Our website is a wealth of information about the historical society. Along with basic information about our constitution by-laws, list of board members, tax status, and contact information, there is a complete list of our hundreds of holdings. It is searchable by key word. There is a listing of our presentations from the beginning of the society's inception and a copy of each newsletter that we've ever published. There are forms for ordering our publication and DVD's, plus a membership form. There is an article about the Boston Post Cane, the formation of the society back in 2005, and photos that you might be interested in viewing.

Officers: Aimee Williams, Pres.; Leslie Watson, VP; Patty Pinkham, Treas.; Henryetta Ponczek, Secy.;  
 Board Members: John Burnham, Karen Craig, Julie Fernald, G. Bernice Klausky, Bernie Mauger, Al Michaud, Ralph Stanley, Rich Viera, Kathe Walton, Leslie Watson.