

The Sou'West Voyage

TRADITIONS AND RECORDS

Norwood Cove

Southwest Harbor

Greening Island

Manset

Seawall

January 2012

Southwest Harbor Historical Society

Phil Whitney, President

Janet Patton, Vice

President

Wayne Patton, Treasurer

Diana Pinkham-Secretary

February is basketball tournament time in Maine. We thought it might be nice to mention a winning State Champion team, the only one that Pemetic High School ever had.

Board of Directors

John Burnham

Becky Burnham

Kathe Falt

Bruce Komusin

Bernie Mauger

Fred Pinkham

Aimee Williams

Warren Worcester

Bob Davis

Karen Craig

Rebecca Carlson

Ralph Stanley

Heneryetta Ponczek



Members of the Pemetic High School Basketball State Champions in 1957 from left to right: Harvey "Buddy" Sawyer, Steve Herrick, Neal Robinson, Galen Reed, David Carroll, Jim Carroll, Coach Clyde Hayden, Wayne Mitchell, Richard Billings, Jon Bouchard, Leslie Black, Reynold "Bouncy" Smith and Harold Hatch

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Presidents Report

The Historical Society has seen another year come & go. Although 2011 seemed to pass more rapidly than ever, the Society had perhaps its most productive year ever, since its formation in 2005. Our membership steadily increased, our financial situation improved considerably, more people showed interest in joining the Board of Directors, and many folks were actively involved with various projects.

Establishing a museum after years of effort was undoubtedly our single biggest success in our six year history. The location in the old schoolhouse in the center of the town could not have been more ideal. The museum has already proven a catalyst, seemingly energizing the Directors to contribute additional time & effort towards differing activities. Several members established a display case housing the first museum exhibit, which shared space with the Chamber of Commerce office during the Summer season. Jack Gilley coordinated locating & installing several historical business signs, which can be viewed on the walls of the lobby outside the Chamber / Historical Society entrance door. Bruce Komusin & Wayne Patton designed & oversaw construction of a beautiful, large "SWH Historical Society Museum" sign which will be installed on the exterior of the building this Spring. Diana Pinkham was busy soliciting advertising for the "Sou' West Voyage" newsletter. Janet Patton, with apparent participation or support of nearly the entire population of Manset & Seawall, continued to research, interview residents and gather reams of information & anecdotes to complete our next publication, a photo history of those two villages. Karen Craig, ably assisted by Bruce Komusin & Kathe Walton, conducted several historical interviews of older SWH residents, either videotaping the interviews or recording and later transcribing them.

Gifts of historical archival materials - old photos, documents, artifacts, etc., increased substantially as members & friends realized there was now a museum to house these possessions. Directors John & Becky Burnham stepped forward to assume the titles of "Museum Archivists". They have become responsible for collecting, documenting and displaying as appropriate these valuable gifts. They have many hours of enjoyable work ahead for them.

We also continued to work cooperatively with other historical societies in the area. John & Becky Burnham worked with the Tremont Historical Society to acquire and install cemetery stones for their ancestors, Thomas & Stephen Richardson, at the Crockett Point Cemetery in Bernard. A well-publicized ceremony was held in July, 2011. The Great Cranberry Island, Islesford and Mt. Desert Historical Societies have all been supportive of programs or historical research in various ways this past year.

2012 promises to be as interesting as 2011. We are in the process of filling several vacancies on the Board of Directors, bringing us to our full compliment of fifteen for the first time. These new members should bring even more enthusiasm and interesting projects to our organization. Work will continue on the aforementioned Manset / Seawall book, with publication anticipated for late Spring. Karen Craig plans to continue her string of fascinating interviews, gathering & preserving some great memories & stories in the process. Janet Patton & Bruce Komusin are collaborating to prepare for sale individually the many videotaped programs from our Summer Program series which we have presented over the years. We have had some memorable presentations (and audiences) which should soon be available to the public.

Finally, I would like to express my thanks and deepest appreciation to all who have supported the Historical Society in various ways this year. Many of you have provided financial support through your annual payment of membership dues. Still others have contributed valued memorabilia to the museum so that others might view & appreciate them. Perhaps the most gratifying support has been the fine financial response received to our first ever Financial Appeal Letter. Your contributions will enable us to move forward, not only to continue paying our rental bills, but expanding our displays, and purchasing needed equipment to further our research and reproduction of historical materials, and the presentation of same. We want gradual but steady growth and improvement in our organization. This will insure we continue to plan properly to produce quality products & programs, and enable us to eventually research thoroughly all historical aspects of the Southwest Harbor 'story'. Thanks to you we are making great progress towards these goals.

Phil Whitney-President



We are looking for the names of the people in this 1940 Boy Scout troop. A few are named already, but if you can help us with the rest we would appreciate it.

Plans for Programs For The Summer Season 2012

We are in the process of setting up our programs for the summer and we would love to hear from anyone who would like to volunteer or who would like to offer suggestions for a program. Please contact to us either through the email address at swhistory@yahoo.com

or

write to us at PO Box 272, Southwest Harbor, ME 04679

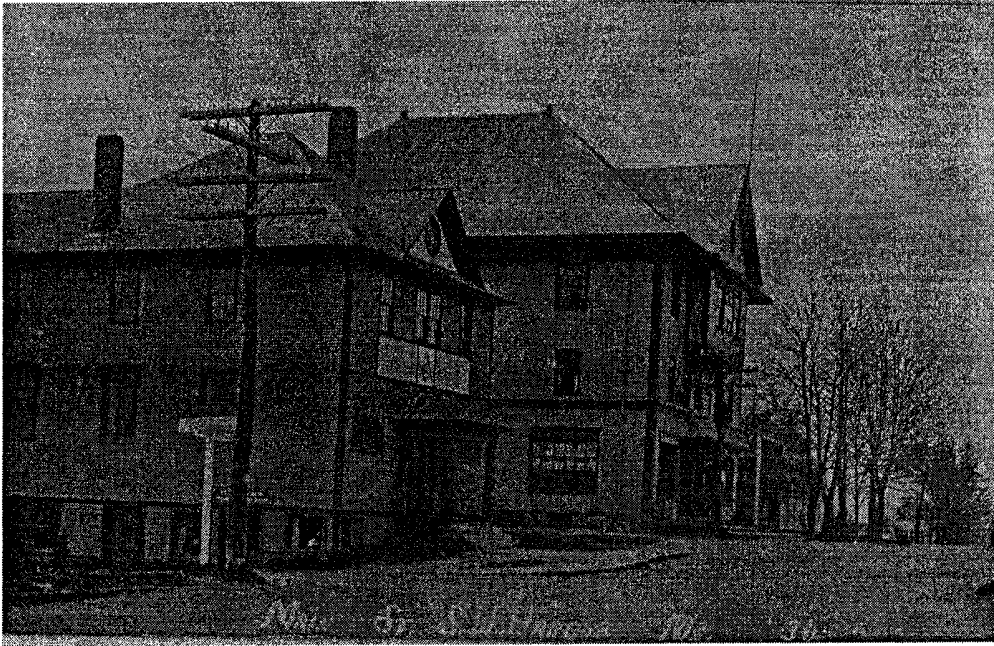
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From the Archive Collections Committee:

: If you have something that would help preserve the history of Southwest Harbor :
: and can part with it, please let the Historical Society know: :

: Mail: P.O. Box 272 Southwest Harbor, ME 04679

: Telephone: (207) 244-9264

: E-Mail: swhistory@yahoo.com
:



Downtown Southwest Harbor. The first building from the left was the Tremont Lodge building. It was partially burned in the 1922 fire that destroyed much of Main Street and then burned completely in 1939 and the present building was built that year. The next building was the original Odd Fellows Hall that was destroyed in the 1922 fire.

Photo donated by: Barbara Godwin

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The team won the game over Old Orchard Beach at the Colby Field House. While gaining the championship, they also had the well deserved honor of receiving the Good Sportsmanship award. The towns people showed the team how proud they were by hosting a banquet in their honor. More than 400 people showed up for the celebration that was given for the players. The team played 14 games throughout the winter months, winning all but one, a record that says a lot for the team and the coach.

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• This is the first issue of the Sou'West Voyager for 2012. We
• again would like to thank everyone for their continued sup-
• port and we hope you are enjoying our newsletter. A re-
• minder to everyone that dues for 2012 are due in January.
• There is a membership form in every newsletter, so be sure
• to fill it out and send it in now while it is fresh in your mind. If
• you are becoming a new member, please be sure to fill
• out all information on the membership form. If you feel you
• have already paid your dues but have not received your
• card, please let us know.

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A LOOK BACK:

July 8, 1903 Bar Harbor Record

The post office in Southwest Harbor was entered last Friday night by professional burglars, the safe blown open and about \$800 stolen. The work was so cleverly done that the office was not damaged in the least. The safe was covered with about \$100 worth of blankets and robes taken from a nearby stable, and the explosion was arranged so carefully that no sound was heard, The robbery was not discovered until about 5 o'clock when the front door was found open.

Ellsworth American Wednesday February 13, 1918

County News-Southwest Harbor: The huge snowdrifts and the ice in the harbor, both here and at Manset, are doing much damage to the wharves and the factory and fishing buildings. Mr. Wass and the fish dealers are taking every means to overcome the difficulty of the ice upheaval... Since the ice embargo and the bad state of the weather and drifted roads have made the hauling of freight from where it has been stalled in Bar Harbor, Southwest Harbor has had almost a famine on foodstuffs that are considered necessities. While we can not hope to have a boat running for weeks, those whose cupboards are bare of flour, meal, corn, sugar and molasses, etc., are looking with impatience for the merchants to find means of transportation for that freight so much needed.

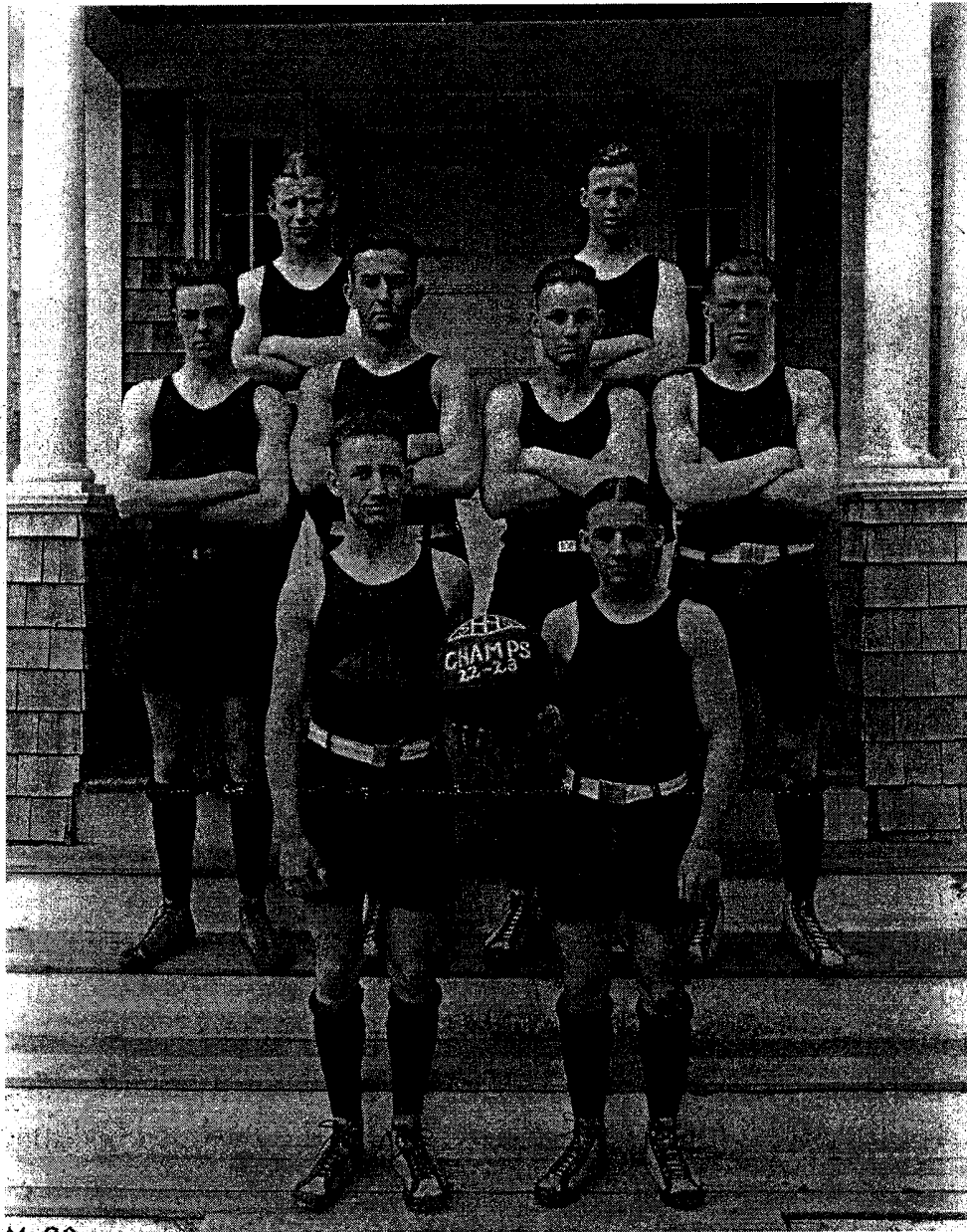
January 9, 2012: today I had a chat with Anne Carroll DeGolyer and asked her about her memories of growing up in Southwest Harbor in the 1940's. Her dad was Philip Carroll who owned the local drug store and her mom was Melissa Carroll who was very busy raising 5 daughters. The Carrolls lived on the High Road. Anne has many memories of seeing blimps flying over her home during the 2nd World War. She remembers thinking that they were just clearing the chimneys as they flew over. Another memory is playing baseball with the neighborhood children, Sonjia Mills, Ken and Elmer Beal, Patty Kelly and Sandra Berry behind Mrs. Miller's house . Kick the can and flashlight tag were summer favorites played in the adjoining driveways of the Carrolls and Robie Norwood's when Susan Banister was there visiting her grandparents. Sometimes Anne and Diane Rich would go to Mrs. Rand's home to play pickup sticks with her and Miss Stevens. The sticks were made of wood and were carved to look like garden tools and carpenter tools, all in natural wood. Anne remembers the first movie she saw, Mr. Belvedere goes to College, that she watched with her mother at our local Park Theater . Phil Carroll made the ice cream that was sold in his drug store and on the day the war ended he gave away free ice cream cones. Anne tells of the times that her dad would find small finger prints on the top of his newly frozen ice cream. And I remember many happy times spent visiting in the booths at Carroll's Drug Store, sipping 5 cent cherry cokes.

Karen Hupper Craig

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* Please send us your memories-it is a great chance to share *
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Dorothy and I were both born in 1925, she with four sisters and I was with two sisters and one brother. Life wasn't easy in the next few years, but most of the responsibility went with our parents, who furnished the food and housing (this was the depression years). Dorothy's younger years were spent sitting on what they then called "High Head", near the head of the harbor. That, and picking berries and skating on Chris Lawler's pond took a lot of her school years. I played a little basketball, baseball, and worked in the summer, as Dorothy did. She started earlier than I did, as she was a cook and housekeeper for a family when she was 12 years of age. After graduating high school, Dorothy went to the University of New Hampshire for courses, so she could enter the School of Nursing at New England Deaconess in Boston. She graduated as a RN. At the same time, I was drafted into the Army in July 1943. I spent 17 weeks of infantry basic training in Georgia and then spent the next two years in the South Pacific in combat. During that time I earned two Bronze stars. Dorothy worked at MDI Hospital in charge of the operating room. I, after a couple of jobs, started in the post office in Southwest Harbor. Dorothy retired after 30 years or so and I retired after 37 years in the post office.

Warren & Dorothy Worcester



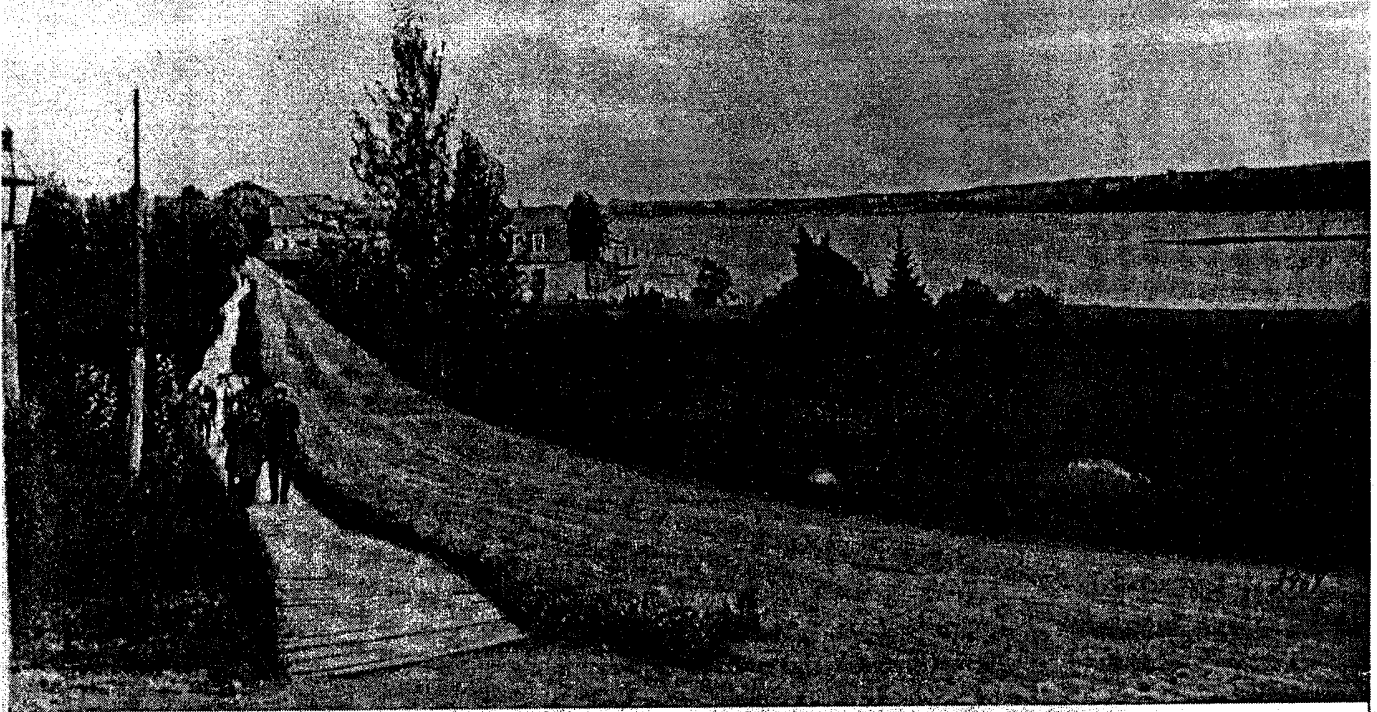
Southwest Harbor High Schools 1922-23 Champions :

Back: Harold Trundy, Harold Robbins

Middle: Richard Gilley, Ferdinand Dolliver, Ronald Robbins, Clifford Robbins

Front: Lester Wass, Henry Wass

S. W. Harbor looking toward Manset.



Post card of the Clark Point Road, looking from the corner of High Road and Clark Point Road. At that time the Herrick Road did not exist. Notice that there were few houses on the right hand side of the road. The first house that you see is currently owned by Merrill "Sonny" Stanley. The post card was from the early 1900's. The sidewalks you see were made of wood and you can just see the street lamp on the left. Across the harbor is Manset.

The photo was donated by Jarvis Newman