

# *The Sou'West Voyage*

## TRADITIONS AND RECORDS

Norwood Cove

Southwest Harbor

Greening Island

Manset

Seawall

June, 2015

SOUTHWEST HARBOR HISTORICAL SOCIETY

SWHHS.org

Published three times yearly: February, June, and November



20TH Anniversary of the SWH Town Bank at Dr. R.J. Lemont's Drugstore - 1912; Photographer unknown - copy by W.H. Ballard - Number 5504 - The Southwest Harbor Public Library Collection of Photographs

**Front Row, left to right:** Ralph Robinson, Everton Gott, Frank Gilley, Simeon J. Marshall or Henry L. Gray, Earl Gott, Franze Earl "Wimpy" Walls, Edwin "Ed" George Lord.

**Middle Row, left to right:** H. Chase Bickford, Fred A. Walls, James Crockett, Artemus Jean Haines Richardson, Edward Harold "Harry" Bennett, Saunders Ward Newman, Fred Sydney Mayo.

**Back Row, left to right:** Clyde Smith Gott, Clifton Robie Foss, Raymond C. Whitmore.

**Standing on the porch:** Young girl leaning on rail is Elsie Phillips, Dr. Robert James Lemont, Unknown girl, Bertha Robinson.

*The Bar Harbor Record on July 6, 1895, wrote an article describing the July 4<sup>th</sup> activities:*

"Another milestone in the onward march of the greatest nation on earth has been passed. It was a beautiful day and a great relief after the almost incessant stormy weather. Fire, powder, smoke and noises of every sort were prevalent; the small boy, with unbridled license to make all the noise he possibly could, regardless of anybody or anything, was in his glory. Most of the older ones looked on approvingly and the most sedate could scarcely restrain from relaxing and entering the spirit of the occasion.

(Cont'd on Page 3)

All of us at the Southwest Harbor Historical Society are looking forward to a summer season of programs we hope you will find as exciting as we do.

Our first program on Wednesday, June 17 at 7 PM, upstairs (there is an elevator for those who need it) in the old yellow schoolhouse that is now Harbor House will be A Night of Music with Ruth Grierson and Ralph Stanley.

Our second program on Wednesday, July 15 will be Bird Carving with a representative of the Wendell Gilley museum and local carvers.

Our third program on August 19 will be about lobstering, with John Stanley, veteran lobsterman.

Our fourth and last program of the season will be on September 16 and will be a presentation by John and Becky Burnham of the long-awaited Seawall/Manset book. We look forward to reviewing the book with much discussion on who lived where and when. The book will be available for purchase that evening. This will be preceded by a very brief annual meeting.

One of our goals this year, besides making sure that the antique horse trough is installed, is to improve the appearance of the first cemetery on Mount Desert Island which is on the High Road here in Southwest Harbor. The stones list dates back to 1837. The sign says, "The Old Burying Ground." The names included are Adams, Arnold, Clark, Cousins, Crockett, Douglas, Freeman, Gilley, Gott, Holmes, Hopkins, Mayo, Roberts, Robinson, Ross, Savage, Whitmore and Young. The last date listed was 1894 per Thomas F. Vining's book. One of our board members, Kathe Newman Walton, and her children have spent time in past years helping to get it cleaned up. You might be interested in looking it over and giving us any suggestions you have.

We would very much like to have your thoughts on the society and welcome all participation.

To a great summer,

Karen Craig, President (207-244-5267 or [kc232sw@yahoo.com](mailto:kc232sw@yahoo.com))

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**IN MEMORY OF.** Since our February 2015 issue contributions have been made to the society in memory of

Leonice Tracy Brown Lilley	
& Brown Family	by Leonice Bartlett
Edna Jellison	by George Jellison, Jr.
Edna Jellison	by Aimee' Williams
Jack Madore	by Loretta Rogers
Fred Pinkham	by Diana Pinkham

**DONATIONS.** We are grateful to the following people for their continuing support since our February 2015 issue:

Bar Harbor Bank & Trust	Mary Clement	Davis Agency
Peter Dolliver	Ann P. Eagan	Joanne & Richard Fuerst
Jack & Marguerite Gilley	Alexandra Harrison	Charles & Frances Johnson
Felton Kenney	Bernie & Marie Mauger	Cora Olgay & Alan Rosenquist
Christopher Rawls & Elizabeth Halpern		Niel Rising
Ingrid Rudolph	Cummins & Diane Speakman	Paula & Howard Vogel
Estate of Patricia Cousins Waters		

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Officers: Karen Craig, Pres.; Phil Whitney, V.P.; Bernie Mauger, Treas.; Henryetta Ponczek, Sec.; Board Members: Lynne Birlem, John Burnham, Bob Davis, Margaret Delehanty, Jack Gilley, Wayne Gilley, Ralph Stanley, Rich Viera, Kathe Walton, Warren Worcester.

Our acquisitions, displays, and general information about the historical society are located in the Southwest Harbor Chamber of Commerce room at Harbor House on Southwest Harbor's Main Street. Hours change with the seasons. Closed mid-October into May. You may also visit our website: **SWHHS.org**.

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“The Southwest Harbor band had made ample preparation for the entertainment and there was not a moment when time hung heavily on anyone's hands. This was the first celebration they had planned and great pains were taken to make it one long to be remembered. The early morning was filled with the clanging of bells and the exploding of fire-arms.

“The first feature of the day was the band concert given [by] the Southwest Harbor band, assisted by Lindall's band of Boston and Bar Harbor, at the rustic little band stand that had been erected for the occasion.”

There were several races in the forenoon: a boat race won by Lewis Robinson and Harry Gilley for the prize of a new boat; a tub race won by Bennie Allen with a \$1 prize; a bicycle race won by Stephen Harman with a \$1.50 prize; a foot race of 200 yards won by Charles Murphy with a \$1.50 prize. “This finished the races for the forenoon and a general rush was made for the large tent which had been pitched near the hall, in which tables had been arranged to accommodate about 100 guests. A fine dinner was served consisting of chicken, roast beef and clam chowder and a general array of good things. The band boys waited on the tables and the only fault to be found that so few were able to assist in serving. The tables were filled three times and a number were then turned away.”

In the afternoon there was a band concert and several more contests: a ball game between Northeast Harbor and Bar Harbor nine in the field near the Union church; a horse race with Gypsy the horse ridden by John Latty winning the \$5 prize; another bicycle race around Clark's Point won by Moses Ralph with a \$5 prize; and a sack race won by Moses Ralph for a \$2 prize.

“Then followed one of the most amusing features of the day. About ten men and boys tried to catch the greased pig, which weighed 125 pounds and was loosed in the large pasture near the band stand. In five minutes Bennie Allen had caught him by his hind legs, and the pig valued at \$10.00 was his.” There was also a greased pole climb. Half way up the pole the two contestants went to the sack race and then returned to the greased pole, which Willie Kelly won for the \$2 prize.

“Dancers then retired to Tremont Hall and passed the remaining afternoon tripping the light fantastic toe to the strains of the band, assisted by Lindall's orchestra of five pieces. At 6:30 supper was announced and the crowd again filled the tent and partook of as fine a supper as one could wish for. Dancing was again indulged in and continued until midnight, the hall being crowded all evening. A brilliant display of fireworks was much enjoyed.

“The entire program as advertised was carried out and much credit is due the band boys for the success of the affair. The boys commenced their preparations early in the spring and have worked hard and spared no pains to make this a very enjoyable occasion and they were indeed successful. The Southwest Harbor band need not fear that whatever they undertake in the future will be well patronized. The enjoyment of the day was enhanced not a little by a visit from the fantastics, from Manset. They were well got up and created no end of fun. They stopped in front of Holmes' store and had a band concert. To the Bar Harbor people there was nothing pleasanter for the day than the sail back and forth on the [steamer] Golden Rod. Capt. Crosby was extremely courteous to his passengers.”

*[Thank you to Meredith Hutchins, Charlotte Morrill, and all those who have done the research supporting the picture of the band.]*

# SOUTHWEST HARBOR

PERSONAL AND SOCIAL ITEMS

By Norman J. Walsh

Telephone CH 4-5497

## Complete Graduation Schedule At Pemetic High Is Announced

The complete graduation schedule for Pemetic high school was announced this week.

Baccalaureate Sunday at 8 pm. in the school auditorium will open commencement week at Pemetic. The baccalaureate sermon will be delivered by Dr. Stephen Sziksazi, professor of Old Testament language and literature at Bangor Theological seminary.

Senior prom will be held Monday.

Class Day exercises are scheduled for Tuesday at 1 pm. in the school auditorium.

Janet Bryant will open the program with a prayer. The flag salute will be led by Myron Sprague. The class history will be presented by Karen Hupper, Loretta Madore, Mary Anne Bunker and Vernon Johnson. Class prophecy will be given by Elizabeth Furtwengler, Donna Goodwin and Edith Stanwood. Jane Gott and Myron Sprague will present the class gifts. The class will be reviewed by Chester Lewis. Sharon Joyce will give the address to undergraduates. The response will be given by Leighton Wass of the junior class.

Graduation exercises will be held in the school auditorium at 8 pm. Wednesday. Addresses will be given by Muriel Trask, valedictorian; Elizabeth Furtwengler, salutatorian; Donna Goodwin, first honor; Vernon Johnson, second

honor; Sara Herrick, third honor. Class Marshal is Leighton Wass. Robert Holt is class accompanist.

Ushers at graduation exercises will be Susan Bunker, Karen Clark, Patricia Gray, Jane Hinckley, Korel Hupper, Bonnie Johnson, Bonnie Joyce, Leila Parker, Louise Robbins and Myrna Stanley.

Awards to be made include the Lurvey award, William Searls scholarship, to be presented by Thomas Searls jr., the alumni award, to be presented by Warren Worcester, the Andrew E. Parker award, to be presented by Mrs. Philip Carroll. Superintendent of schools, Carl M. Harmon will present the diplomas.

Members of the graduating class at Pemetic include Leslie Black, Janet Bryant, Mary Anne Bunker, Carl Butler, Anne Carroll, William Carter, Lewis Crafts, Robert Davis, Eleanor Fortenberry Elizabeth Furtwengler, Donna Goodwin, Jane Gott, Paul Gott, Phyllis Hamblen, Sara Herrick, Karen Hupper, Vernon Johnson, Sharon Joyce, Chester Lewis, Loretta Madore, Robert McKee, Avis Reed, Avis Rich, Philip Rich, George Sawyer, Jacqueline Sawyer, Myron Sprague, Edith Stanwood, Muriel Staples and Muriel Trask.

## Manset

Bessie M. Noyes  
Correspondent

Mr. and Mrs. Raynor G. Wellington of Belmont, Mass. have arrived at their cottage for the summer.

Peter T. Benson of Seawall is a surgical patient in the EMG hospital, Bangor and Mrs. Oliver Robinson, Manset, is a surgical patient in the MDI hospital. Their friends wish for them a quick recovery.

Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Taylor of Monmouth were weekend guests of Mr. and Mrs. Paul E. Hitchcock and son, Allen in Seawall.

Mr. and Mrs. Earl Smull of Haverstown, Pa. spent the weekend at their cottage in Seawall.

Mr. and Mrs. Roland Stanley of Cherryfield were in town Thursday calling on relatives and friends.

Bessie Noyes enjoyed the past week vacation from the Carroll drug store.

Dr. and Mrs. Lawrence McCaffrey were dinner guests Sunday of Mrs. S. M. Fox, Long Pond.

## Park Theatre

Southwest Harbor, Me.

ONE SHOW 7:30 P. M.

Fri. - Sat. June 5 - 6

FLAMING FRONTIER

with Bruce Bennett and  
Jim Davis

Sun. - Mon. June 7 - 8

NIGHT OF THE  
QUARTER MOON

Julie London  
John Drew Barrymore  
Nat King Cole

From the time Southwest Harbor separated from Tremont and became a town in its own right in 1905, it set aside money for the care of the poor and insane. The annual town reports show how much money was budgeted, how much was spent, on whom it was spent, and for what services. There was some sharing of expenses between Tremont and Southwest Harbor. Reading between the lines creates a picture of how a community attempted to care for its less fortunate neighbors during the early years of the 20<sup>th</sup> century.

In 1905 the selectmen were given the title overseers of the poor and supervised the \$1,300 that had been budgeted by the town council for the care of the poor and insane. The needy were divided into local poor, insane poor, and the permanent poor. Only \$458 was spent, without much detail being given about how and for whom the money was spent. That changes in subsequent years; information becomes much more specific.

As the years go by the poor and the services that they received are mentioned by name. They are cared for by local families where they receive "supplies," medical care, fuel, clothing, and even burial. For the first time in 1906 an insane hospital is mentioned for the care of one man. By 1907 many more people are being sent to the two insane hospitals in existence in Maine.

The two facilities for the "insane" were the Maine Insane Hospital in Augusta and the Eastern Maine Insane Hospital in Bangor. The Augusta hospital had opened in 1840 to handle the mentally ill, at that time estimated to be 562 people in all of Maine. Signs of insanity were mania, melancholy,



hearing voices, epilepsy, or just generally socially unacceptable behavior. Patients often were committed with little expectation that they would ever be released. Early treatments included bleeding, restraining patients in a "tranquilizer chair," and placing heated cups on the body to create blisters to draw out poisons.

The second state facility, the Eastern Maine Insane Hospital in Bangor, opened in 1901 to handle the overcrowding at Augusta. Patients were required to work maintaining the grounds, making and fixing furniture, doing laundry, and harvesting crops from the hospital's fields. In 1907 ten people were sent to the two hospitals from Southwest Harbor. The reasons for their committal are not in the annual town report.

By the 1911 town report the term insane is no longer being used, no comment being made about those formerly identified as insane. But while the insane hospitals are no longer mentioned from the 1911 town report onward, three other state institutions appear: the Good Will Farm at Fairfield, the Bangor Children's Home, and the Maine Children's Home for Little Wanderers. All took in needy children, sometimes for temporary care, sometimes providing adoption placement. Sometimes the children in a Southwest Harbor family were separated from each other and from their parents as they went to various places for care while the parent(s) remained in Southwest Harbor boarded in a private home.

(Cont'd on Page 6)



### **The Bangor Children's Home**

*First known as the Bangor Female Orphan Asylum (1836) then simply as the Bangor Orphan Asylum when it started accepting boys (1869). Once again its name changed to the Bangor Children's Home, and now the Hilltop School. It is now in operation as a day-care center.*

Other changes to treatment of the poor in Southwest Harbor are recorded over the years. For example, eventually the poor are no longer publicly named. Also other local services arise like Mother's Aid and the Southwest Harbor/Tremont Nursing Service. In addition, the three children's homes disappear from mention; instead there is state welfare and Aid to Dependent Children. Today there are many more local agencies providing help to those who need it, so much so that for the first time with the 2013 annual report the term overseer of the poor was dropped from the official title of the selectmen.

*(Author's Note. Information about the institutions mentioned here was obtained from various web sites: [bangorhilltopschoo.com](http://bangorhilltopschoo.com); [bangorinfo.com](http://bangorinfo.com); [centralmaine.com](http://centralmaine.com); [gwh.org](http://gwh.org); [maineschilrenshome.org](http://maineschilrenshome.org).)*

### **SUMMER PROGRAM SCHEDULE**

All programs are held at Harbor House on Southwest Harbor's Main Street at 7 PM. They are free, and refreshments are available.

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|--------------|---|
| June 17      | A Night of Music with Ruth Grierson and Ralph Stanley   |
| July 15      | Bird Carving, featuring a representative from the Wendell Gilley Museum and local carvers   |
| August 19    | Lobstering with John Stanley, veteran lobsterman  |
| September 16 | <i>Our Neighborhood—Manset and Seawall</i> , a publication of the Southwest Harbor Historical Society, previewed this evening by Becky and John Burnham |



We have received responses to some of the unidentified pictures from our last newsletter.



From John Burnham: "Standing is Harold King Parker, who is my uncle, seated is Albert "Uncle Al" King. Uncle Al's shack was along the shore of what is now 373 Seawall Road, north of the Cable Crossing Road. One of the buildings was later moved to the Willie Ward home. As Harold was born in 1900, the photo probably was taken in the 1920's or 30's."



From Agnes (Dolliver) Carr: "Photograph #4...is Robert Dolliver who is standing in front of his father's, Henry Dolliver, home in Manset. The photo was verified by Beverly (Hill) Stanch, niece of Robert Dolliver. I am cousin to Robert, but I wanted another member of the family to verify my thoughts."

We had a second response for this picture from Dr. Phillip M. Gilley, Jr.: "I believe the house shown in Photo #4 was the home of Fred and Lillian Mayo on Wesley Ave. Their children were Eleanor, Lawrence, Leonard and Barbara. I can't recognize the young man in the photo."

WONT BE LONG NO



In conversations with Karen Craig, Patricia Gray Lewis and Debra Reed Sanner have identified the following four ladies in the photo at left.

Leaving out the yawning young lady in back, they are from left to right

1. Mabel Worcester (born 1900, from Surry, husband Fred, aunt to Carrie Lewis);
2. Fannie Foss (Wesley Reed's aunt);
3. May Mitchell (sister of Fannie Foss);
- and
4. Beatrice Black (?)

**ITEMS FOR SALE**

**RECOLLECTIONS OF SOUTHWEST HARBOR, MAINE, 1885-1894.** By Jesse L. Parker, 1955. Edited by John P. and Rebecca D. Burnham, 2010. 52 pages. 8 1/2" x 11" spiral bound. This book is also for sale at our monthly presentations; at Sawyer's Market and at Carroll Drugs, both in Southwest Harbor; and on our website: **SWHHS.org**.

Members \$11

Non-members \$12

**DVD'S**

The DVD's are recordings of some of our summer programs. We now have seven programs available:

**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

Members \$11

Non-members \$12

Orders should be sent to Southwest Harbor Historical Society, P. O. Box 272, Southwest Harbor, ME 04679. Please add \$3 shipping cost per item. The DVD's are also for sale at our monthly presentations.

**MEMBERSHIP DUES**

There is still time to send in your dues for the 2015 membership year. If you have already paid your dues for 2015, you will have received a thank-you letter. **In addition, 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.**