

The Sou'West Voyage

TRADITIONS AND RECORDS

Norwood Cove

Southwest Harbor

Greening Island

Manset

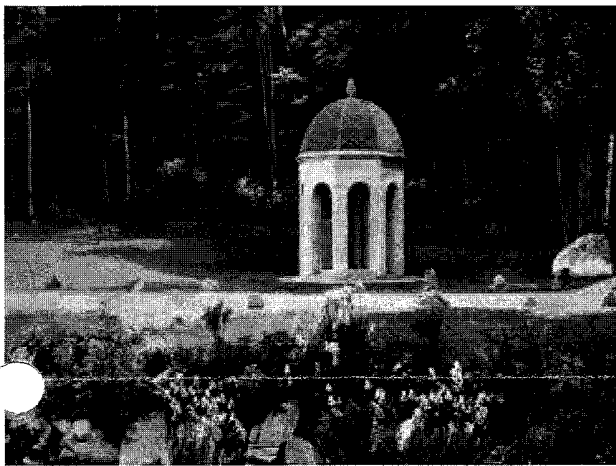
Seawall

June 2016

SOUTHWEST HARBOR HISTORICAL SOCIETY

SWHHS.org

Published three times yearly: February, June, and November



On July 8, 1916, Sieur de Monts spring was dedicated as a national monument. It thus became a federally protected unit of the national park system, the first located east of the Mississippi and the first created by private donations. It would become Lafayette National Park in 1919 and finally be renamed Acadia National Park in 1929.

In this centennial year for Acadia National Park, our historical society has partnered with the park and approximately 275 other groups and businesses to remember that time.

In 1916 the park had not yet extended its reach to our side of the island. Seawall campground and picnic area, Wonderland, and Ship Harbor were still owned privately by familiar family names. Paths through the surrounding mountains were being maintained by a young village improvement association. Eventually maintenance would pass to the national park. It was undeniable that the lure of Mount Desert Island's natural beauty was affecting the development of Southwest Harbor. All one had to do was look at the rise and fall of our large summer hotels. Before 1916 seven large hotels had been operating; in 1916 only four remained.

For better or worse, the recognition of Sieur de Monts spring as a national monument would prove to be a further factor in Southwest Harbor's identity.

Ah, welcome June, and welcome to what looks like a very busy summer on Mount Desert Island. Our historical society will be presenting two programs this year. The first will be in August, Wednesday the 17th at 7 PM at Harbor House. It will be a lively presentation by Phil Whitney, prepared by Henryetta Ponczek, about the year 1916 in Southwest Harbor. This will be our program representing our connection to the Acadia Centennial. The information in this newsletter is just a teaser for the August program. The second program will be in September, Wednesday the 14th at 7 PM. This is our annual meeting and will include election of officers, a very brief business meeting (as in five minutes) and then will go on to a slide program of old Southwest Harbor by Kathe Newman Walton. People, places, and things, bringing back lots of memories with opportunity for questions and comments as the show goes along will be the agenda. Be sure to look for the many opportunities to take part in the Acadia Centennial programs that are being presented all through this year. Enjoy the season.

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

IN MEMORY OF. Since our February, 2016, issue contributions have been made to the society in memory of

Raymond E. Billings	by Margaret E. Mitchell
Julie Rice Speakman	by Cummins E. Speakman
Fred Pinkham	by Diana Pinkham

DONATIONS. We are grateful to the following people for their continuing support since our February, 2016, issue:

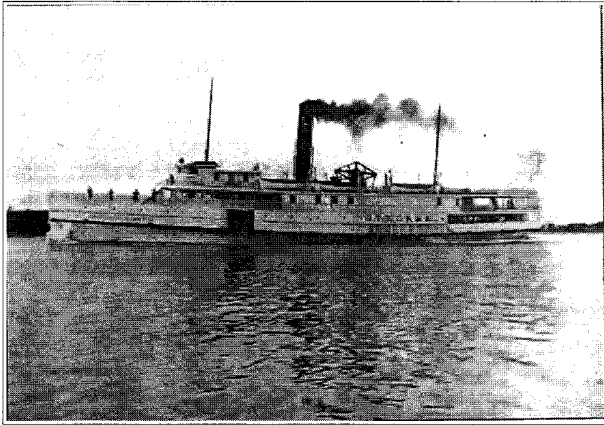
Duane & Ruth Braun	Margaret Delehanty	Mary & Ed Dysart
Joanne & Richard Fuerst	Susan Pope Hays	Betsey Holtzmann
Jack & Maggie Kelley	Sam & Mary Lawrence	Dalen & Elizabeth Mills
Jeffrey Oxman	Judith Pott	Charles Stanhope
Paul White	John & Mary Williams	

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

Newsletter Editor: Henryetta Ponczek

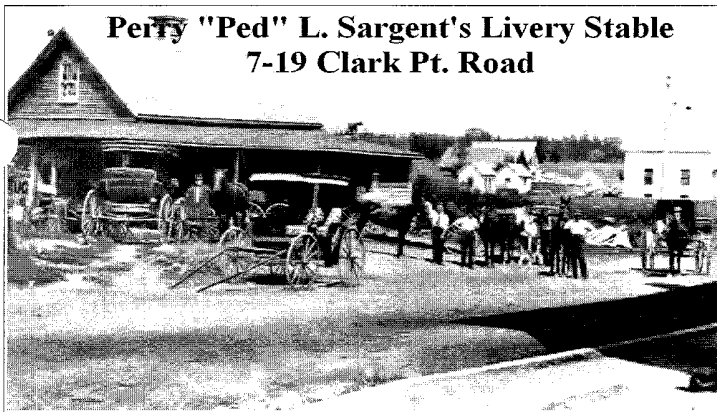
Our acquisitions, displays, and general information about the historical society are located in the Southwest Harbor Chamber of Commerce room at Harbor House on Southwest Harbor's Main Street. Hours change with the seasons. Closed mid-October into May. You may also visit our website: **SWHHS.org**.

1916 was a year in transition as far as transportation methods were concerned. Steamboats, horse and buggy, and autos were all being used.



The Norumbega and J. T. Morse were still arriving at the Clark Point wharf. A young Dave Benson in the last days of the J. T. Morse remembers: "The J. T. Morse left at 5:30 AM from Rockland after transferring freight and passengers from the Boston boat that arrived in Rockland around 3 AM... After leaving Rockland, the Morse stopped at North Haven, Stonington, Southwest Harbor, Northeast Harbor, and Seal Harbor, and arrived at Bar Harbor at 11 AM." The

J. T. Morse could carry as many as 400 passengers. It ran until the early thirties.



**Perry "Ped" L. Sargent's Livery Stable
7-19 Clark Pt. Road**

Passengers might be met by a horse and buggy from Perry "Ped" Sargent's livery stable at 7-19 Clark Point Road. When horses and carriages became a thing of the past, he kept automobiles for hire. By 1922 he was making changes to his stable and garage to accommodate more cars, but by 1936 he had sold his lot where a filling station would ultimately be built.



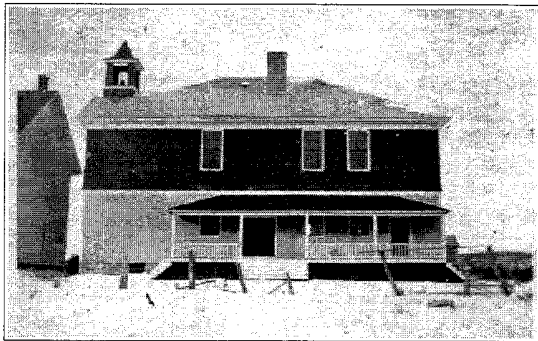
This humorous postcard conveys the controversy that surrounded the introduction of cars on MDI. In 1903 the state gave towns the option of banning autos. Southwest Harbor and Tremont quickly opened their roads to autos; Bar Harbor and Mount Desert did not give in until 1913 and 1915 respectively. So by 1916 autos could legally be found on all MDI roads.

Postcard pub. by M.T. Sheanan,

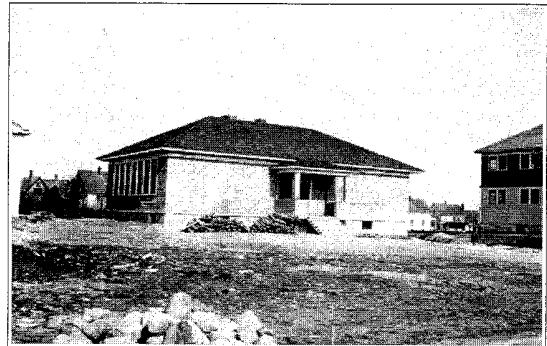
Boston; No. 5903-SWH Pub. Lib. Collection of Photographs

In 1916 Southwest Harbor's Freeman High School had been open for only eight years but was already overcrowded. The building housed primary grades through high school. Students ranged in age from five to 21.

Superintendent Charles L. Clement recommended that a two-room school be built for the primary grades. This school opened two years later in 1918.

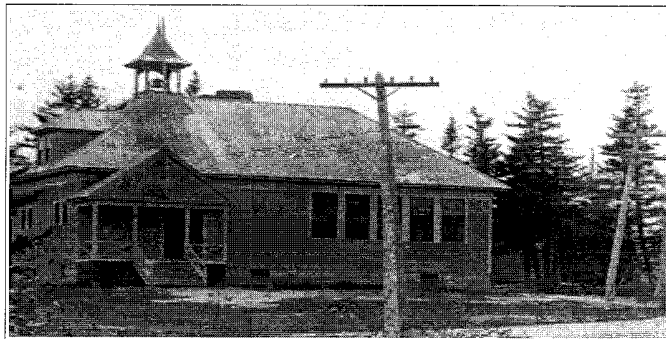


Freeman Grammar School



Primary School, 1918

Manset and Seawall had their own "common" grammar schools; high school-age students from these areas were transported to Southwest Harbor by A. I. Holmes.



Manset Grammar School



Seawall Grammar School



Pupils at the Manset Grammar School are featured during 1915. Identified are, front; Ora Newman, Mildred Hopkins, Helen Decost, Evelyn Hopkins, Paul Snowman, Raymond Chisholm and Calvin Dolliver. Second; Morris Dolliver, Davis Robinson, Mary Norwood, Hazel Ramsdell and James Hancock. Third; Percy Torrey, Henry Ramsdell, Milton Dolliver and Rodney Decost. Rear; Franklin Ward, Lowell Noyes, John Hopkins and Julia Hancock.

The picture at right from 1915 gives some idea of what students were like in 1916.

Brown-tail moths are a problem. Notices are posted and pruning is done.

Board of Health expenses involve the following:

1. A medical convention is held between Southwest Harbor, Bar Harbor, and Seal Harbor to discuss infantile paralysis;
2. There are three weeks of quarantine work done at the steamboat wharf;
3. Four watchmen are paid to be at Indian Point to guard the road to Southwest Harbor: Wm. H. Norwood, Elvin Higgins, Marvin Mayo, and Roger Higgins.

Pool tables are licensed and bring in \$20.

Sidewalks are variously plank, gravel, and concrete.

Street lamps use kerosene and were originally placed near houses whose owners would furnish the kerosene and maintain the lamps. On the state road by 1916 Lowell Bickford is paid for oil, globes, and tending the lights. In 1917 electricity would come.

Bird clubs have been formed in most schools. Supt. Charles Clement plans to have all schools organized for these. "This gives the pupil a practical knowledge of bird life, and will be a source of pleasure to him as well."

The Village Improvement Association (VIA) had just been established in 1914 and is hard at work. During its existence it would be involved in

1. Laying out the trails to mountain summits,
2. Setting shade trees on village roads,
3. Keeping roads clean and oiled,
4. Naming village roads and making road signs,
5. Contributing to the library,
6. Agitating for fire-fighting equipment,
7. Originating the idea of a village green and providing money for the first payment on the land.

Main St., S. W. Harbor, Me.



SOUTHWEST HARBOR

PERSONAL AND SOCIAL ITEMS

Mrs. Norman J. Walsh

Telephone CH 4-5497

Weekend guests of Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Grindle at their cottage on the Manset shore were their daughter Ruth Ann, Ann Flewelling, Shirley Pratt and Bonnie Joyce, all of Portland.

Mrs. R. Morgan Grindle of Babylon, Long Island, New York arrived Friday to join her husband and daughters at the home of his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Grindle.

Mrs. Welch Forbis is a patient at MDI hospital.

Midshipman Russell Westerfeld was a weekend guest of J. Terrence Walsh at the home of his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Norman J. Walsh.

Mrs. Fred Mayo has returned from MDI hospital.

The Southwest Harbor boy scouts will sponsor a baked bean and casserole supper May 12, 5:30 to 7 at the Congregational church vestry.

Mrs. Norman J. Walsh returned Monday from MDI hospital where she was a surgical patient.

The girl scouts of Troop 16 will visit the state fish hatchery at Orland Wednesday where they will have a guided tour. This is in conjunction with their conservation badge.

Pemetic Notes

Pemetic high school will hold its annual fashion show, and shop exhibit at the auditorium Friday evening. The science exhibit will be displayed at the laboratory. The fashion show starts at 7:30 and the exhibits may be viewed before and after the performance.

Three Pemetic students, Avis Bennett, Donna Wentworth and Ellen Martel accompanied by bandmaster Alton Robinson and

Mrs. Robinson participated in the flute clinic at Rockland Saturday sponsored by the Eastern Maine Music Festival Association of which Mr. and Mrs. Robinson are members. They attended the luncheon and meeting of the organization held at the Thorndike Hotel at noon.

Earl Alley F. N. E. N. of the weather ship Cook Inlet, entered the Brighton Marine hospital Tuesday for treatment.

Mr. and Mrs. Calvin Alley were at Columbia Falls Monday to attend the funeral of Mrs. Alley's uncle, Millard Rockwell.

Mr. and Mrs. Calvin Alley spent the weekend with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Clarence Beal, at Cranberry Island.

About 32 members and friends of the Eugene M. Norwood post, American Legion witnessed the ceremony of the burning of the mortgage at a special meeting held at the Legion hall Tuesday evening by post adjutant, Arthur Mitchell.

Shower

Susan Diane Burgess, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Ronald Burgess, whose marriage to Frank Morry took place Saturday was honored last week at a shower given by Alice Tapley and Jonalce Crafts at the Congregational church vestry. Charlotte Campbell of Bar Harbor dipped punch and the hostesses were assisted in serving by Dinah Tapley, Joanne and Kathy Burgess. A bridal cake, silver candelabra and spring flowers decorated the table.

Other guests were Mrs. Ronald Burgess, Mrs. Vesta Clough, Mrs. Malcolm Clough; Mrs. Byron Campbell, Seal Cove; Mrs. Ernest Campbell and Nancy Gallie, Tremont; Mrs. Sherman McFarland, Hulls Cove; Mrs. Harold Beal, Manset; Mrs. Arthur Reed, Mrs. Howard J. Crafts, Mrs. Raymond Reed jr, Mrs. Nathaniel Mitchell, Mrs. Ralph Reed and Nancy Reed.

Sonia Mills, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Crosby Mills, scored the only touchdown with a 32 yard run when her sorority, Pi Beta Phi, of Sargeant College, Boston participated in an exhibition football game under the

lights at Braves Field. The game ended in a tie 6-6. The team had only 1 1/2 hours previous practice and their uniforms belonged to members of the football team of Boston University.

Mrs. Howard Crafts will continue to receive the news through the month of May while Mrs. Norman Walsh is recuperating from recent surgery.

The annual meeting of the Southwest Harbor - Tremont nursing service will be held May 15 at St. John's Episcopal church undercroft, and will open with a 12:30 luncheon. The business meeting and election of officers will follow.

Speaker will be Richard King, director of the Mt. Desert Island child guidance association.

Mrs. Herbert T. Wilbur, chairman of the nursing service, in extending an invitation to all members and interested friends to attend, called attention to the purpose of the organization. She stated that the service provides general welfare to both permanent and temporary residents in sickness and health, under the supervision of an MD and a full-time RN. It also provides ambulance service and has appliances available for nursing care.

Members of the luncheon committee to contact for reservations are Mrs. George Neal, chairman, Mrs. Harvey Sawyer, Mrs. Lester Radcliffe, Mrs. Raymond Whitmore and Mrs. Ralph Phippen.

The nominating committee consists of Mrs. Stanwood King, chairman, Mrs. Wallace Birlem and Mrs. Robert Rich.

Irene and Mary Cousins returned Saturday from a ten day visit with their brother and sister-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. Sanford B. Cousins at New York city. They accompanied Mrs. Cousins from Brunswick to New York by car, following a visit of the couple here April 13 and 14.

Mr. and Mrs. Lyle Newman and Mr. and Mrs. Laurence S. Newman returned Saturday from Delray Beach, Florida where both couples have homes and where they spent the winter.

A. Dwight Black of Surry assistant state horticulturist, was guest speaker Friday evening, when the Friday Club met at the Congregational church vestry, with hostesses Mrs. Alton Robinson and Mrs. Howard J. Crafts.

Black's timely topic was "Gardens" and much interest was evidenced in the question and answer period which followed.

Refreshments were served from

Park Theatre Southwest Harbor, Me.

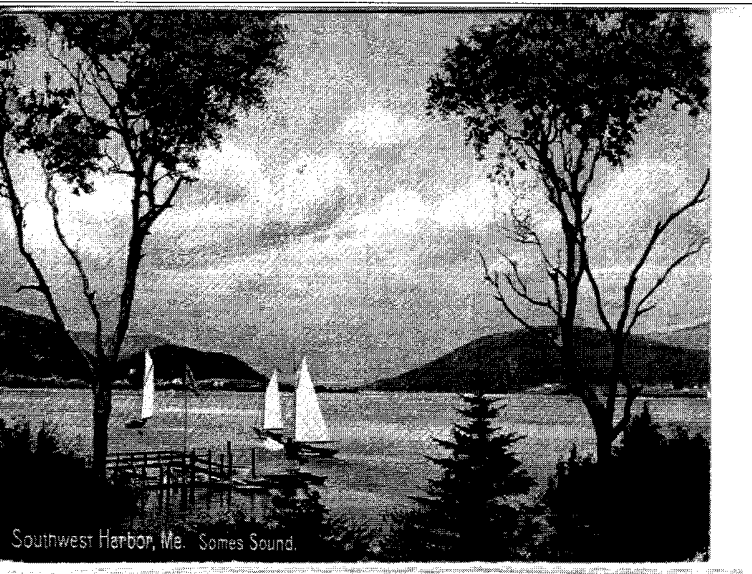
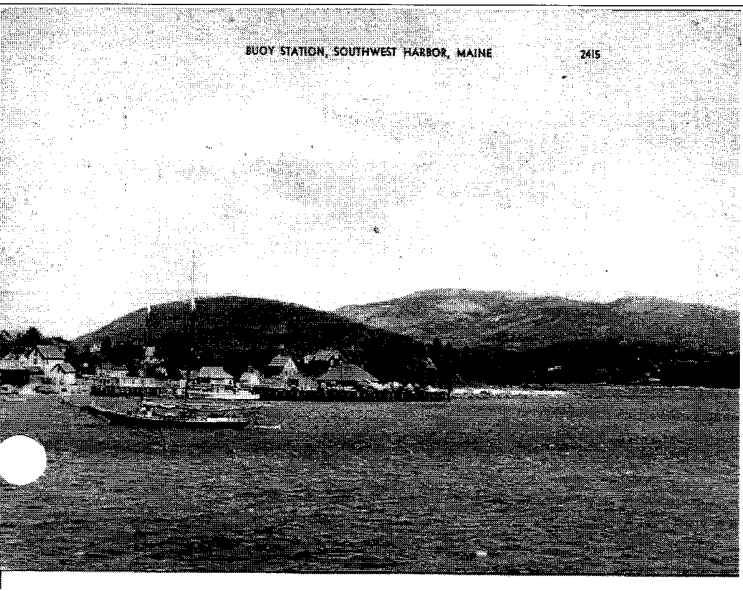
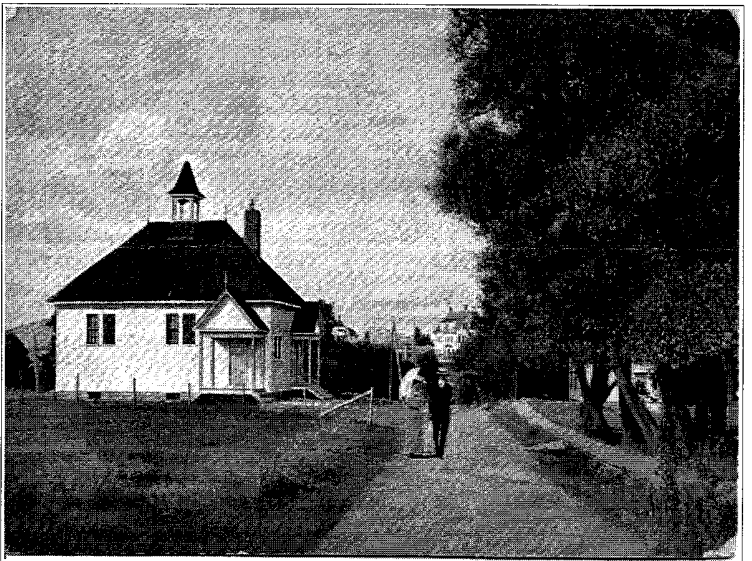
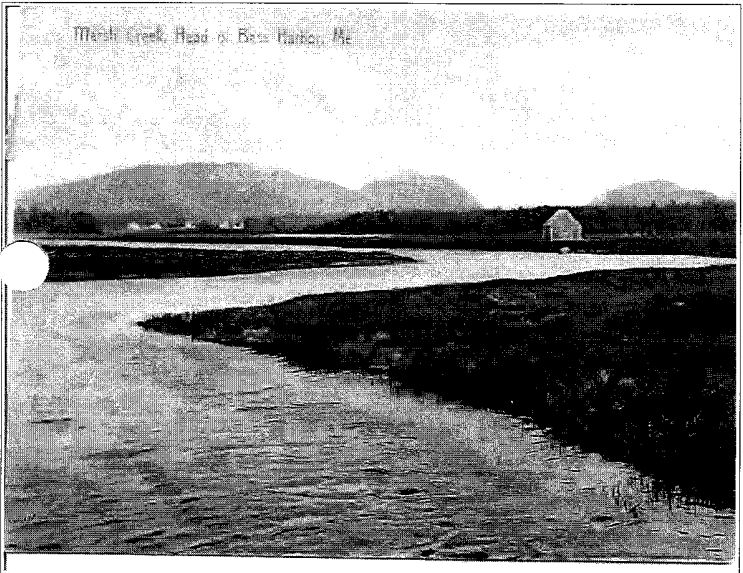
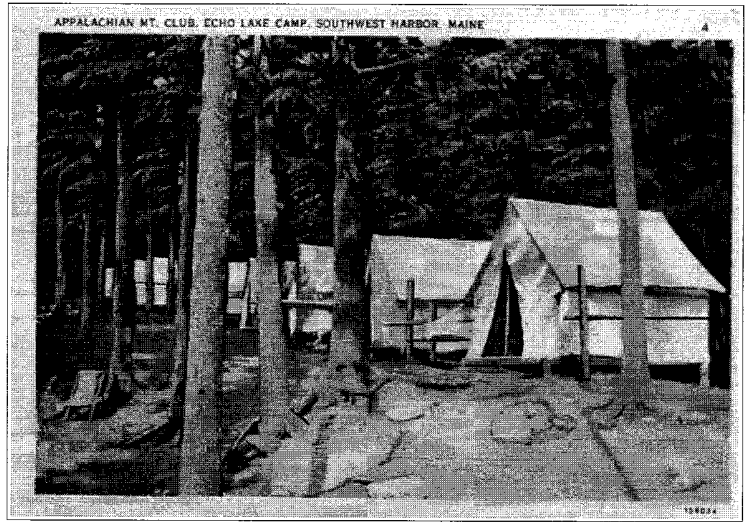
One Show at 7:30 P. M.

Fri. - Sat. May 4 - 5

MYSTERIOUS ISLAND

Gary Merrill - Joan Greenland

POSTCARDS FROM THE PAST



ITEMS FOR SALE**BOOKS**

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 presentations; at Sawyer's Market and at Carroll Drugs, both in Southwest Harbor; and on our website: **SWHHS.org**.

Members \$11

Non-members \$12

Please add \$3 for shipping.

NEW ***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 Drugs 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**.

Members \$33

Non-members \$35

Please add \$4 for shipping.

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

Please add \$3 for shipping.

Orders for any of the above items should be sent to Southwest Harbor Historical Society, P. O. Box 272, Southwest Harbor, ME 04679.

MEMBERSHIP DUES

There is still time to send in your dues for the 2016 membership year. **The date above your name on the 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.**