

# *The Sou'West Voyage*

## TRADITIONS AND RECORDS

Norwood Cove

Southwest Harbor

Greening Island

Manset

Seawall

November 2013

SOUTHWEST HARBOR HISTORICAL SOCIETY

**SWHHS.org**

Published three times yearly: February, June, and November



As they trekked down Flying Mountain after a magnificent December day of hunting, Lloyd Carroll, Jones Tracy, Fred Tracy, Guy Robinson, and young Charlie Ray are ready to boast of their jack rabbit catch. Wild game hunting each fall was almost as common a pastime for local men as the tall tales they spun about their expeditions. (Courtesy of James Carroll). From Earle G. Shettleworth Jr. and Lydia B. Vandenberg, **MOUNT DESERT ISLAND: SOMESVILLE, SOUTHWEST HARBOR AND NORTHEAST HARBOR, 2001.**

I have served on the board of the Southwest Harbor Historical Society since 2009, this past year as vice president. I have enjoyed doing 18 historical interviews and plan to do more. It was also my pleasure to serve on the centennial committee in 2004 and 2005. I have lived in Southwest Harbor since 1955 and married a descendant of Daniel Gott of Gott's Island.

Some of the goals I have for the society are to increase membership by sharing the stories of our history and eventually to have a permanent home for the treasures that residents entrust to our keeping. My biggest goal is to encourage the sharing of all the gifts that our board members bring to the table.

I look forward to a year of learning and fun as I serve as the president of our society, 2013-2014. Thank you.

Karen Craig

**IN MEMORY OF.** Contributions have been made to the society in memory of

The Brown and Freeman families:	Anna, Ada, Leonice, Wanita,
Florentine	by Leonice Bartlett
Elise Felton	by Louise C. Riemer
Wallace Klausky	by Grace B. Klausky
Anna Maria Leland Mayo	by Barbara Barry Smith
Fred Pinkham	by Ken and Helen Beal

Officers: Karen Craig, Pres.; Phil Whitney, V.P.; Bernie Mauger, Treas.; Henryetta Ponczek, Sec.; Board Members: Becky Burnham, John Burnham, Bob Davis, Jack Gilley, Wayne Gilley, Susi Homer, Bruce Komusin, Janet Patton, 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**.

At the society's annual meeting, several board members were reelected for a three-year term and board officers were installed. Elected to a one-year term are officers Karen Craig, President; Phil Whitney, Vice President; Bernie Mauger, Treasurer; and Henryetta Ponczek, Secretary. Those reelected to a three term were Bob Davis, Jack Gilley, Wayne Gilley, Bruce Komusin, Janet Patton, Henryetta Ponczek and Kathe Walton. There were also committee reports:

### **Treasurer's Report**

Over the last fiscal year ended August 31, 2013, the bank balance decreased \$334 to \$7,773 evidencing the need to increase membership and other sources of revenue such as publications and advertisements in our newsletters while controlling expenses.

Bernie Mauger, Treasurer

### **Acquisitions**

We are constantly adding to our collection and have processed about 70 items this year. Many items are print materials, such as Pemetec yearbooks, town reports and ledgers, local photos, and newspaper features. We now have a corridor alive with old business signs and have accumulated 32 boxes of labeled items and a four-drawer filing cabinet of local paper material. The "Finding Aid" list is available here in our office in the Chamber of Commerce room and on the society's web site: [swhhs.org](http://swhhs.org).

John and Becky Burnham, Acquisitions

### **Publicity**

The publicity committee has been very active in getting the word out about our programs during the past year. Notices of our activities are supplied to the Mount Desert Islander columnists and calendar and the town TV channel. Our yellow triangular signs are posted on almost twenty public bulletin boards and the "talking sign" draws a lot of attention each month in front of the Bar Harbor Bank. The large "Museum" sign on the front wall of Harbor House has likewise been well received. Any ideas about further publicity are always welcome.

Bernie Mauger, Publicity

### Woman Has Two Grandchildren And Two Great Grandchildren In Graduating Class At Pemetic



In the picture with Mrs. Vinal Beal (seated center) of Manset are four members of this year's graduating class at Pemetic — two of her grandchildren, and two great grandchildren. Standing are grandchildren Al Michaud (left) and Dennis Ellis. Seated are great grandchildren Kenneth Beal and Rebecca Vine.

Mrs. Vinal Beal of Manset is the matriarch of a family which includes 19 graduates of Pemetic high school—four children, nine grandchildren and six great grandchildren. That is, it will include that many June 8 when two of Mrs. Beal's grandchildren and two great grandchildren graduate in the same class. Al Michaud, son of Mrs. and Mrs. Al Michaud sr., and Dennis Ellis, son of Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Ellis, are the grandchildren—Rebecca Vine, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Alfred Vine, and Kenneth Beal, son of Mr. and Mrs. Elmer Beal, are the great grandchildren.

But that's not all. There are 15 of Mrs. Beal's great grandchildren now in the schools of Southwest Harbor and Bar Harbor. There are five great grandchildren of pre-school age in Southwest Harbor, Bar Harbor, and Connecticut. And there are two great great grandchildren at Isle au Haut.

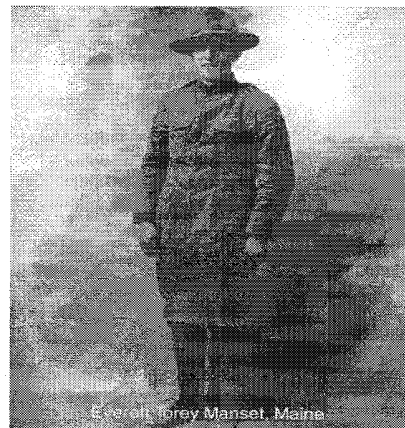
Judging by the attendance at our programs, the series was a success. Here are summaries of those programs.

**May 15                                      War Veterans Remember; Warren Worcester Organizer**

Warren did a thorough job of recruiting veterans to speak about their war experiences. We heard from friends and relatives of deceased WWI vets; several WWII vets; and men involved in Vietnam and the Cuban Missile Crisis. Jack Gilley displayed Cpl. Raymond Frost's WWI infantry uniform, as well as several other war artifacts that he had received from the families of Raymond Frost and Everett Torrey.



Raymond Frost



Everett Torrey

**June 19                                      Stanley Fish Wharf; Jack Gilley Organizer and Speaker**

Jack presented an evening of stories and thoughts about the Stanley Fish Wharf from 1945 forward, including reflections from his late friend and work mate, Linwood Ginn. Linwood's letter about his experiences at the wharf and Jack's recollections told the story of a place that acted as anchor and community center for many on the Manset shore.

**July 17                                      Seawall, Wonderland, and Ship Harbor  
Karen Craig Organizer; Dave Benson Speaker**

Mr. Benson described life in the Seawall area during the first half of the 20<sup>th</sup> century, from a family farm where he was born and raised, to the development of Acadia National Park on that land. His personal anecdotes drew memories from many of those in the audience.

**August 21                      Ralph Stanley, A SWH Boyhood; Phil Whitney Organizer**

Judging by the laughter from the audience, people enjoyed Ralph's stories about his youth in Southwest Harbor. His memory of school days, long-ago businesses, and distinctive personalities was remarkably detailed. Audience questions and comment rounded out the evening.

**September 18                      US Coast Guard; Rich Viera Organizer and Speaker**

With irrepressible energy Society board member Rich Viera, himself a former coastguardsman, led the audience through the history of the Southwest Harbor installation. He introduced us to current guardsmen and women and several local people with firsthand experience of working and living at the Clark Point location.

**October 16                      The Granite Industry  
   Susi Homer Organizer; Steven Haynes Speaker**

At printing time this program had not yet occurred. But Steven Haynes of the Maine Granite Industry Historical Society Museum is a familiar figure on Mt. Desert Island. His knowledge of the history and techniques of the granite industry is enormous. His power point presentation and granite splitting demonstration are eye opening.

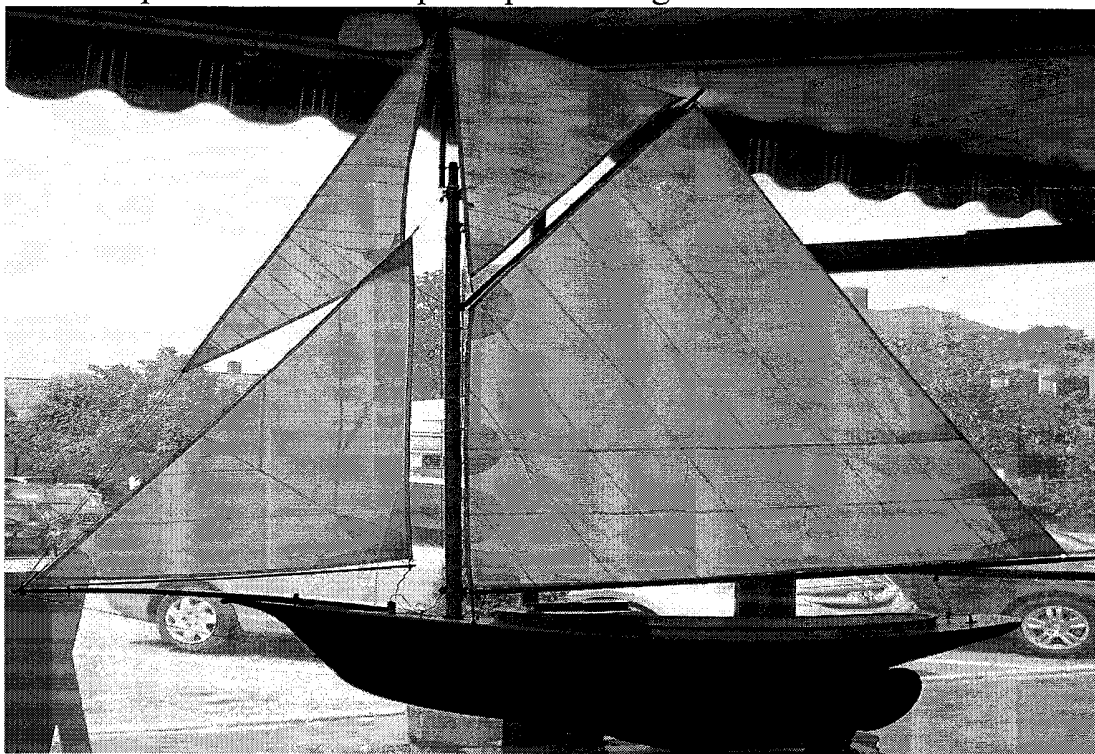


**MEN AND OXEN AT THE QUARRY**

The Friendship sloop is a boat designed originally to meet the need of working fishermen for a large, rugged sea boat. Its evolution began in the 1890's on Bremen Long Island off the coast of Friendship, Maine. Several men claim to have created the original design. But Wilbur Morse, born in 1853, is a name frequently associated with it. He was "the most productive of all Friendship sloop builders and the man who made the model popular all along the coast." (P. 52)

With the advent of reasonably dependable gasoline engines in the second decade of the 20<sup>th</sup> century, by the end of World War I fishermen were generally using power boats, and few if any sloops were built for fishermen after that time. (P. 29) It wasn't until the 1960's that it was reborn as a yacht. (Preface, xi)

During the 1960's and 1970's there was a revival of interest in Friendship sloops by recreational sailors, and (Ralph) Stanley played a major role in the revival by restoring old sloops as well as building new ones in the old style. (From SWH Public Library Collection of Photographs #11637). And in 1968 Jarvis Newman of Manset took the lead in the development of Friendship sloops in fiberglass.



Today the our historical society is the grateful owner of a Friendship sloop model, the Amy R. Payson. It is a gift of Niel Rising of New York and is on display at Sail Acadia on Clark Pt. Rd. This picture doesn't do justice to the approximately 5 1/2' by 5 1/2' model.

Page notations in the above article refer to FRIENDSHIP SLOOPS, Roger F. Duncan, International Marine Publishing Co., 1985.

## 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 the Southwest Harbor Library, and at Carroll Drugs 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. At this time there are two DVD's available. One features RALPH STANLEY talking about the Prohibition era and how it was "observed" in Southwest Harbor. The recording was made on August 19, 2008 and runs approximately one hour. The second is EARL BRECHLIN speaking about the US blimp downed offshore in WW II.

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 2013 membership year.** In our February newsletter we made a mistake by affixing stars to the wrong mailing labels. We will no longer be using stars on mailing labels to indicate paid dues. **If you have already paid your dues for 2013, you will have received a membership card.** We are a 501(c)3 organization, giving you the advantage of a tax deduction on your federal tax form.