

The Sou'West Voyage

TRADITIONS AND RECORDS

Norwood Cove Southwest Harbor Greening Island
Manset Seawall

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Chris Rawls, President Phil Whitney, Vice President

Rebecca Carlson, Secretary Maurice Joseph Marshall, Treasurer

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From the President:

This summer has been a particularly busy one for the Southwest Harbor Historical Society. We have had monthly programs on Norwood Cove, The Park Theater, and Clark Point which were well attended and enjoyable. We encourage members to contact us with ideas for future programs. We appreciate your membership. It supports these programs and activities of the Society. Your membership also allows us to provide information of our local history. Members are encouraged to become involved in our efforts in documenting and preserving Southwest Harbor history. We are always conscious of the fact that your level of participation is voluntary. We are grateful for any part of your valuable time that you can share. Recently Society representatives met with the Southwest Harbor Comprehensive Planning Committee to explain the organization and mission of the Historical Society. The Comprehensive Planning Committee asked the Society to aid them in developing a list of historically significant sites in Southwest Harbor and to explore various methods to preserve these areas. This new task has reminded us all of the important role that the Southwest Harbor Historical Society can play in a community with such a rich past.

Chris Rawls

LOOKING BACK :

(items of interest in the local newspapers of years past)

August 15, 1946 Bar Harbor Times

On August 7th the Square Deal Club held its monthly meeting at Odd Fellows Building and the members voted to start a buyers strike against the high cost of foodstuffs and issued a strike call as follows: The Square Deal Club of Southwest Harbor, an organization formed by some of the wage earners of Mt. Desert Island, does hereby pledge itself and its members to carry on a Buyers Strike against the high prices now being charged for food in the retail stores where we live and work. We pledge that we will not buy meat, seafood, fruit, or any other items upon which the price has risen sharply in recent weeks, nor will we purchase any item on which the price is not plainly marked, nor will we buy any more food items than are necessary for our family use from day to day until prices are again considered reasonable. We seek the support of all workers in this fight to bring down the cost of living.

(Janet Patton)

Recent Activities:

During the past quarter, the SWH Historical Society continued to be active on several projects. A Dell Computer and Power Point Program were purchased and training provided to the officers. This purchase will allow the Society to computerize its large collection of historical photographs for public presentations, and permit more colorful, varied historical programs.

The MDI Historical Society graciously donated to our Society a copy of "The Creation and Growth of Acadia National Park" by Paul & Dorothy Richardson, a fascinating and detailed account of how the famed and beautiful bridges and roads of Acadia National Park were constructed.

Discussions continued on increasing membership levels, enhancing our budget, and searching for a permanent home for the Society and its archives.

On June 21st, the SWH Historical Society presented its first presentation of the Summer Season, "A History of Norwoods Cove". at the American Legion Hall. Janet & Wayne Patton prepared the show, with Janet deftly operating the new Power Point Program like a seasoned old pro, and Wayne accompanying her by reading a (somewhat) prepared script for the photos shown. The informal presentation allowed plenty of opportunity for reminiscing and questions from the large audience, and everyone present appeared to have a very enjoyable, nostalgic evening. Thanks to Janet & Wayne for their special efforts

Phil Whitney

From the Archive Collections Committee:

We have been slowly but surely collecting historic items for our collection. When they began digging up the old village green park in preparation for the new village green park and the new veteran's monument, we were fortunate to find some equipment from the old blacksmith shop that used to stand there. We also have some items from Clark's Dairy and the sign from the Live Yankee store on Main Street. This was the former Searles 5 & 10. A lot of photos are being gathered. More information next newsletter. If you have something that would help preserve the history of Southwest Harbor and can part with it, please let us know at PO Box 272 Southwest Harbor ME 04679, 244-9264, or swhistory@yahoo.com.

Rebecca Carlson

In Memoriam:

Arthur L. Reed October 11 1924 – July 19, 2006

Southwest Harbor native. Owner of Gilley Plumbing & Town plumbing inspector

Kathleen Goodman Bowman December 14, 1920- August 22, 2006

Artist & Carftsperson-founder of the Wednesday Spinners & Acadia Spinners

Your membership is very important to us. Additionally, donations over and above membership help the Southwest Harbor Historical Society record, store, and present historic photos and artifacts of Southwest Harbor history. Thank you for considering an additional gift to the Society

WHERE & WHEN?



MOORE'S GARAGE prior to 1926 when it burned.
It was replaced by Southwest Motor Company building

WHERE & WHEN?



Upcoming Events:

The Program Subcommittee has established a lengthy, varied list of historical program topics to be researched and presented during the coming months. These topics range from memorable individuals to noted businesses to historical overviews of sections of the town. Presentations may be held in the SWH Library, at the American Legion Hall, or at other locations appropriate to the particular program. Proposed programs include: **October 18th - Tribute to Myrna Fahey.** In addition, our neighboring society, the Great Cranberry Island Historical Society, has accepted an invitation to visit SWH and provide a presentation later this year. Please watch for further announcements regarding these events. All programs are subject to change. We look forward to seeing you at these programs as we go back in time.

Phil Whitney

Vice president

WE NEED YOUR HELP!

Questions have been asked about the origins of the Mill Dam. Why it was built and who built it. If you have any information, please contact us!

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