

PHIPPSBURG HISTORICAL SOCIETY
MAY 2016

SOCIETY NEWS

ANNUAL MEETING

DATE: Aug 23, 2016

TIME: 7pm

Place: Sportsman's Club

KEYNOTE ADDRESS

Come join us for the annual PHS membership meeting Tuesday August 23rd, 2016, 7pm at the Phippsburg Sportsmen's Club. This year we will focus on our current museum exhibit and feature a slideshow history of the 1940's sea moss operation on Head Beach followed by talk/ presentation on Maine's modern seaweed industry with Sarah Redmond of Maine Sea Grant. Refreshments and Maine seaweed salad will be served. Christopher Sewall will be the presenter.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Hello Members and Friends,

Thank you, thank you, and thank you!

Your generosity has helped the museum to reach our goals, which at one time were only dreams.

Our research room will soon be climate controlled. Winter and summer our artifacts will be preserved as best we can. Soon the board will be pursuing climate control for the original building as well. That will certainly be complicated! Volunteers have installed a dehumidifier that works continuously. Air quality is clearing up nicely. Volunteers have also installed automatic lighting, re-arranged, catalogued, run errands, maintained the grounds and kept the museum open for guests.

Our exhibits are always changing and you are invited to stop in and visit. The Murphy

House move and use as a fishing heritage exhibit space is still in progress and we have great ideas for the future.

Thank you for your time, efforts, energy and support.

Respectfully, Jessie Sutfin, PHS President

MUSEUM DISPLAY FOR 2016- 2017

Birth of a Marine

Industry: Sea Mossing at Head Beach

The ocean has long been the backbone of our local economy, but during the 1940's Phippsburg witnessed the birth of a new maritime industry-the commercial harvest and processing of marine algae, also known as sea moss or seaweed. A company called Marine Growth Inc. established an extensive drying and processing operation across Phippsburg's Head Beach. The new PHS exhibit documents this short-lived operation and the commercially important seaweeds that continue to be harvested along our shores.

Christopher Sewall and Lynda Wyman worked to present this exhibit.

PHIPPSBURG HISTORICAL CALENDAR

The compilation of information for a 2017 Phippsburg Historical Society calendar is in progress, and should be in circulation by mid June. Each month of the calendar will feature a historic Phippsburg landmark, private or public, past or present, with a brief narrative description of each landmark. Calendars will be available at a donation of \$10 each.

The PHS Board of Trustees wish to thank the following Phippsburg businesses for supporting of our project with their advertising: Coastal Comfort, Harry Doughty

& Son, Lakeside Framing, Pine Tree Service Center, Ed Skillin Inc., Sidwell Art Gallery, Window Works, Jim Koehling Mooring Services, Mike's Minor Maintenance, Head Beach Campground, Anna's Water Edge Restaurant, Drummore Bay Concert Hall, Lobster House, Rock Garden Inn, Avalon Builders, Seguin Island Ferry, Mark Hawkes & Sons Firewood, Clam Hunter Seafood, Kennebec Kennel, Dan Gurney Firewood, Cellar Salon, Purseline Bait, R.W. Stevens, Malago Breeders.

Also our thanks to the individuals who shared their knowledge, photographs, and/or time with making a successful fund raiser for the Society: Roger Hutchins, Robert "Red" Moore, Robert Cushing, Thomas Totman, John Morse, Fred Morse, Vicki Blaisdell, Gary Morong, William S. Gilman, Josephine York, Thelma Chambers, Lorana Pierce, Dorothy Beals, Audrey Koehling, Allison Jacobs, Carol Doughty, Sylvia White, Louise Dauphin, Theresa Green, Patrick Sheckleton, William Wyman, Gloria Grey, and Jack Henderson

TRUST RESERVE

In the past there has been some confusion as to what the Phippsburg Historical Society has meant by the amount of money that is "set aside" in the Trust Reserve. Below is an explanation of what an "Operating or Management Reserve" consists of:

"An operating reserve is an unrestricted fund balance set aside to stabilize a nonprofit's finances by providing a "rainy day savings account" for unexpected cash flow shortages, expense or losses. These might be caused by delayed payments, unexpected building repairs, or economic conditions.

Reserves should not be used to make up for income shortfalls, unless the organization has a plan to replace the income or reduce expenses in the near-term future. In short,

reserves should be used to solve timing problems, not deficit problems.

A commonly used reserve goal is to have enough money set aside for any major expenses.

However, each nonprofit should set its own reserve goal based on its cash flow and expenses. Organizations that have contracts or fees with regular and reliable payments don't need as much in cash reserves as organizations that rely on periodic grants, fundraising events or campaigns, or seasonal activities.

To be a viable operating reserve, there should be a board agreement and policy about how reserve funds can be used: When they can be used, who is authorized to use them, and how this is reported to the board."

CLIMATE CONTROL AND ARCHIVING COLLECTION

The income through memberships, memorial donations, admissions, sales of books along with annual appeal, and cookie walk has raised the necessary capital for climate control. In addition, we have been able to purchase a new computer, internet access at the museum, and a flat file for storing oversized documents (maps etc.)

The doors into the archival room will be complete before the opening of the museum. Thank you Craig Chapin and Greg Chapin.

We have also achieved our goal to catalogue Phippsburg Historical Museum objects and documents with the very professional work of Margaret Webb. When the database is complete it will be an invaluable resource to visitors, history and genealogy researchers. Many thanks to Margaret!

MURPHY HOUSE UPDATE

The restoration work on the Murphy House - Fishermen's Museum is moving forward and we expect the majority of the exterior work to

be completed before winter. There will be a major musical and poetry fundraiser later in the summer. Several local musicians are volunteering their musical talents and original poems by Sparky Pierce will be read. Please be on the watch for the date and time. Donations are welcome and may be sent to the Town Hall or to the Phippsburg Historical Society noting that the donations are for the Murphy House-Fishermen's Museum. This project honors the fishermen and the musical traditions of the Phippsburg, West Point and Sebasco communities.

ON THE NET

Our long time web master, **Charlie Main**, is retiring his services this year. A very big thank you to Charlie from PHS board. You have laid a strong web foundation for the museum.

We look forward to **Margaret Webb** taking over the reins.

Phippsburg Historical Society has a website and a FaceBook page. Please visit and like us! Phippsburghistorical.com

VOLUNTEERS

NEW HOURS

Thanks to the efforts of Lawson Beals and Merry Chapin, we have enough volunteers to expand our hours this summer.

OPENING: June 27 to October 15

Open Monday- Saturday 10AM to 2PM

Volunteers are always in short supply for the museum. From staffing the museum during the summer, to cleaning, arranging, and helping with cataloging, many hands make light work!

Please contact our new Volunteer

Coordinator: Lawson Beals, 207-212-3864

PO Box 69

Phippsburg, Me 04562

OR: Phippsburg Historical Society

PO Box 21, Phippsburg, Me 04562

Phippsburg Historical Society From August 1, 2015 to May 30, 2015

Donations:

Purse Line Bait Co, Jennifer Bichrest

Jane Pickett

in memory of Ruth & Kirk Roberts:

Anita Sweet

Helen C Menz

In memory of Diane Cushman:

Robert Cushman

In memory of Madelaine Pierce:

Paul and Lorana Pierce

In memory of Raymond Mullins:

Judy and Jerry Mullins

In memory of Shirley and Anna Pratt:

David and Gloria Barnes

In memory of Arlene Ruth James:

William James

In memory of Phoebe White:

John and Kathryn White

In memory of John B Carney:

Ann C Carney

In memory of Anda Bijhouwer:

Elnora Joseph-Bijhouwer

In memory of Priscilla Freeman Martin

McCartney:

William R Freeman

Richard A Young

Jeffery Elwood McCartney

Ann C & Eugene J Richter

Arlene & Frank Ollayos

Nicholas & Susan Mason

Deborah B Tarr

In memory of Barbara Mason

Kenneth S & Marjorie M Burton

Ann T. Snipes

Hatfield Elementary, Sunshine Fund

Barbara & John Kukulka

Rita M James

Nancy Bennett

Margaret M Sullivan

Other donations & grants

The Charles L Read Foundation c/o Rodger K
Herrigel

Frederica Cushman

Jean Q Eberle

Melville T Cottrill

Edwin H Pert

Kenneth & Lori Follett

William A Lowell

Peter A Hutchinson

Donald C Wheeler

Judith P & Gerald V Mullins

Houghton Trott

Curtis B Henderson

Douglas and Jessie Sutfin

Samuel Jones & Rebecca Halbrook

Keith & Lurene Wallace

David & Gloria Barnes

Rock Gardens Inn

Lloyd & Lorraine Lowell

Robert H Cushman

Loren S & Leslie Mellott Hunter

Leroy & Barbara Clark

Joseph & Doretta Braun III

Jane P Morse

Elliot & Martha Silver

Rodger & Jillian Herrigel

John G & Elizabeth B Morse

Richard Quimby

E Legard

John & Dorthy Bradford

Donald & Louise Dauphin

William J James

Carol Main

Murphy House Donation

Purse Line Bait

Financial Report

Roland Bisson, Treasurer, will present
financial report at the annual meeting.

School House Reunion

Members of the classes 1951 to 1953, when
Mr. Earl Fox was schoolmaster at Phippsburg
Center School, are invited to a reunion.

Hosted by Gloria Gray, on Sunday **July 24,**
2-4pm. Come and reminisce about the fun
and pranks and learning that have become
the stuff of legend!

Membership Mailing List

Our membership mailing list is seriously in
need of updating. We will provide a form at
the annual meeting for you to make changes
and add e-mail addresses.