



Weymouth Historical Society

P. O. BOX 56, SOUTH WEYMOUTH, MASSACHUSETTS 02190



HOLBROOK HOUSE

Vol. 18 No. 3

NEWSLETTER

Dec. 1982

"Come, bring with a noise
My merrie, merrie boyes
The Christmas Log to the firing..."

Yule Time Spirit: We all may not have logs burning but we do have special warmth in December and we welcome all our new members:

Carol L.H. Burton	45 Old Stone Way, E.W. 02189
M/M Vincent DiGravio (Lucia)	591 East St., E.W. 02189
M/M John Hyland (Cynthia)	107 Pond St., S.W. 02190
M/M William Johnson (Barbara)	41 Massasoit Rd., N.W. 02191
M/M Carl Schuler	480 East St., E.W. 02189
Gail E. Ward	76 Brae Rd., N.W. 02191

HAPPY NEW YEAR: We know you will enjoy Members Night on January 19. Because this has been a popular feature of our program for several years. We learn from each other and leave with a greater appreciation of each other's talents and interests.

On February 9 Ron Clarke will speak on "Old Prints-Their Art and History". He is our program chairman and will give us a good background on this subject. Be sure to mark the date on your calendar.

Presents From All: The third annual Bakeless Bake Sale was a great success and added \$301.00 to our treasury. We want to thank all who contributed their support to this project:

William and Kathleen McGrath, Louise MacDonald, Chris and Wilbur Stanton, Ruth Pope, Helen Bicknell, Ruth Tirrell, Jane Jewell, Shirley Wood, Martha Robitaille, Harry and Jennie Belcher, Evelyn and Ramon Walker, Russell and Beverly Oliver, Elizabeth Hollis, Earl and Muriel Pithie, Adrian and Frances Eckberg, Beatrice MacLean, Ruth Loud, Margaret T. McGrath, Miriam Delahunt, Eleanor Cooney Smith, Marjorie Bowen, Dorothea and Herbert Scott, Chet and Betty Kevitt, Mary E. MacKay, M/M Albert Dutra, Josephine Ray, Helena Joyce, M. McKenzie, Phyllis and George Thompson, Joseph and Eleanor Kolb, Elmer and Irene Mitchell, Robert and Mary Lou McIlvene, Gordon Teague, Miriam Sturgeon, Mary Kibby, Joanne and Jim Palmieri, Harold and Louise Olson, Walter and Marilyn Briscoe, John and Eleanor Murphy, William and Barbara Johnson, Doug and Doris Welsh, Vincent and Lucia DiGravio, Vera Freeman, Candace and Michael Wright, Louise Clarke and Dorothy Jordan, and Herbert and Barbara Holmes, Marion Carpenter, Dorothy McCormick.

It's Winter Again: This is our annual snow statement:

Should a storm arise on the day of our meeting all efforts will be made to put an announcement on station WJDA when it is necessary to cancel. If, however, the station is off the air before the snow and sleet really hit us, it will be left up to the members to call the officers to find out whether or not the meeting will be held. Their telephone numbers are on the current program card. It should also be emphasized that a school cancellation in the morning cancels all meetings at schools that day.

Symbolic Lights: Those of the Jewish faith annually celebrate in December the anniversary of the Re-dedication of the Temple as a "Feast of Lights" (Hanukkah). Christians have made the Nativity their feast of lights.....to illuminate the nations.

The Christmas Book--Weiser

Just think of how often the symbol of light enters our speech and every day life and be glad that no matter what we as individuals may believe, we can help to carry on traditions from the past and also look to the future.

Thank You Note: To carry on the thought above we want you to know that we have entered the modern world in spite of our leanings toward the past. We wish to thank David Warden of Hingham who has put our membership list on his computer and prints our address stickers as a gift to the society. He is the Stantons' son-in-law and we certainly appreciate his interest and help.

In Memoriam

Lois B. Smith

Last Minute Gifts: There are not many copies left of the history of Weymouth which was written in connection with the Historic Model Project. The money advanced from a special fund has been returned and when the red bound volumes are gone, there will not be a re-printing.

There are also copies available of the book on the shoe industry and the anniversary history is still available at the museum. Call Chet Kevitt if you are interested.

Highlighting History: The museum hours will resume on January 18th. The attendance has been good and a planned new exhibit will bring added interest. The hours are 2-5 on the first Sunday of the month and 7-9 on Tuesday evenings excluding the week of the Sunday opening.

Museum continued: It has been found that not many people come in during the holidays as is only natural with Santa to keep everyone busy so the volunteers get a rest period of a month at that time. If you have some free time, call Chet at 335-4804 and he will appreciate your help as a guide.

Christmas Customs: At a time when modern heating fuels were unknown, the firewood to be burned during Christmas assumed special significance. A huge log was selected and brought to the house with great ceremony. It was called the "Christmas log " or "Yule log".

In some places the Yule log was the whole trunk of a tree carefully selected on the preceding feast of Candlemas (Feb. 2) and stored away to dry out during the summer. The unburnt parts were put aside and preserved because the new log of next year had to kindled from wood from the old one. The main purpose of the log was to blaze and burn on the hearth during Christmas eve and Christmas day.

The Christmas Book- Weiser

"With the last yeares brand
Light the new block, and
For good successe in his spending
On your Psaltries play,
That sweet luck may
Come while the log is a-teending."

Robert Herrick

Chris Stanton 7-8360
Betty Kevitt 5-4804
Editors