



Weymouth Historical Society

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



HOLBROOK HOUSE

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NEWSLETTER

December 1983

WELCOME AND MERRY CHRISTMAS: We are delighted to have the following new members join us:

Mrs. Bessie Starkie 65 Hollis St. S.W. 02190
Mr. & Mrs. Ellis Fields, Jr. 50 Squanto Rd. N.W. 02191

HAPPY NEW YEAR: Some fine programs have been planned for us in 1984.

January: Our speaker will be Judith Wiers whose topic will be "New England Shipwrecks, Saviors and Survivors". She has been one of the moving forces behind the establishment of the Hull Lifesaving Museum and we are happy to report that in July of this year the Massachusetts Historical Commission voted \$18,000 in matching development grants to Hull for the museum.

February: We shall carry on a tradition established several years ago of hearing from our members about their collections, hobbies and interests. We have had many interesting talks and displays in the past and everyone looks forward to this occasion.

A LOOK AT THE FUTURE FROM OUR PRESIDENT:

FUND RAISER - MARCH 31, 1984

Please remember this date and mark your calendar now to be sure. On this date we will be holding an APPRAISAL DAY FOR ANTIQUES AND COLLECTABLES. The appraisals will be conducted by Robert W. Skinner, Inc., New England's leading auctioneers and appraisers.

We need your help to put this project over the top and we can do it if we really work. We have engaged the appraisers for this date and location and further details will be announced shortly.

Tell your friends and neighbors about it. Just think! That old vase that came from Aunt Mary's house or that old painting in the attic could be valuable. Let's find out!

Don Cormack

OUR WINTER MESSAGE: Sorry! It's that time again.

(over)

Just think of Longfellow:
"Silent, and soft, and slow
Descends the snow."

or Dickens in "The Holly Tree"
"The old lady up in the sky is picking her geese
pretty hard today."

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 or sleet really hit us, it will be left up to the members to call the officers to find out whether or not the program 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 school that day.

MANY THANKS: Our hosts at the museum are among our best publicists for our efforts to teach Weymouth residents about Weymouth. We want to thank last year's hosts from November 1982 to May 1983: Eleanor and Don Cormack, Louise and Harold Olson, Kevin Smith, Muriel and Earl Pithie, Chris and Wilbur Stanton, Evelyn Walker, Ed Walker and Betty and Chet Kevitt.

CHRISTMASTIDE: "Stockings are hung, says an old legend, because once, long ago, the good St. Nicholas tossed a bag of gold for a young woman to use as her dowry, and it fell, by chance, into a stocking hung by the chimney to dry.

The Dutch in America celebrated St. Nicholas' Day on December 6th, the date of his death, as had been their custom in Holland. And when the English took over the Dutch city of New Amsterdam and renamed it New York, they too hung stockings by the chimney but on the eve of December 25th, the traditional date for the English celebration of Christmas."

"Wildlife's Christmas Treasury"
1976

We'll see you next year.

Chris Stanton 7-8360
Betty Kevitt 5-4804
Editors