

STORYTELLING, CANING, CORNHUSK DOLLS

Tuesday, Oct. 20th: Columnist Ken Smith, of Gardner's Lake, will tell stories of the earlier days of our area when members meet at the Dudley's at 10 a.m. for our monthly session. Bring a sandwich for your lunch if you plan to stay through the noon hour. Beverages will be served by the hostess.

What does Ken Smith (one of our most recent members) know about Alexander and Crawford??? "Back more than a hundred years now," (he recently wrote in the Machias Valley News-Observer) "my Grandmother and her sister Sue lived with a whole parcel of kinfolk in Alexander. Their name was Dwelley. Gram married Daniel Smith of Crawford, and 'Sister Sue' married Daniel Seavey, also of Crawford. And their offsprings became cousins, and cousins we still be!"

So be prepared for a fine morning. And harken you Seavey members, this newsletter brings a very special invitation to your clan, and to any other potential members of our society.

CORNHUSK DOLL instructions will begin the same day at 12:30 p.m. under the direction of Ellie Sanford. She reports she will supply all the materials necessary. This will be our first fall session of the Revival of the Old Arts Workshops. Jack Dudley will also instruct members interested in the art of caning chair seats and backs. (He orders his own personal materials from H.H. Perkins Co., 228 Shelton Ave., New Haven, Conn. who also offer a booklet, Instructions in Methods of Seat Weaving, whose cover claims "A chair is only as good as the seat that is in it!")

SEPT. ANNUAL MEETING: Twenty two members attended the celebration of our first year when the officers listed in our Sept. newsletter were elected. Also added to the executive board was the name of Don Ketner as a director. Service awards presented during the Recognition Coffee honored Ellen Fenlason, Audrey Ketner and Pliney Frost. The day before this meeting Dr. John F. Murtaugh of Pocomoonshine Lake became our 200th member.

SCHOOL-OF-THE-WOODS: Eight children, four chipmunks and one red squirrel attended our Sept. 19th session at the Dudley's log cabin. We learned about the Eastern Chipmunk whose Passamaquoddy Indian name ASAKQUAHAWK was supplied by Joseph A. Nicholas of Pleasant Point. Other early fall sessions have covered the habits of UNK WUNK, the porcupine; and MOKTAQUES, our Snowshoe Rabbit. The latter is also named the Varying Hare because of its winter coat of white which turns to brown in warmer weather.

DONATIONS: We sincerely thank the following for their generous donations during the last month; John Bodger, Omar Cousins, John & Marie Dudley, Frank Frost, Audrey Ketner, Arline Lowe, Elva Seamans and Bessie Wheaton. These are helping immensely with the printing expense of our monthly newsletter. Our JUNIORS also wish to thank Joey and Tanya Wallace's mother, Linda, for the delicious chocolate and apple brownies she sent to the School-of-the-Woods session recently.

REQUEST: We've had a request for the first four newsletters issued, Reports 1-4, between May and August 1980 under the name of the Alexander-Crawford Historical Committee. Collector members desiring these issues may obtain typed copies by writing to the Alexander-Crawford Historical Society, RR #1, Box 1616, Alexander, Me. 04694. (Please include a large self-addressed stamped envelop and 50¢ for each issue.)

MEMBERSHIP in our society is \$1.00 annually, but stamps are needed if you wish the monthly newsletter mailed to your address.

CALIFORNIAN CONTACTS
OUR SOCIETY FOR
MEMBERSHIP & HISTORY

...Stanley Colwell
P.O. Box 55
Penryn, Calif. 95663

Editor's note: On July 27, 1981 we received a visit from Robert and Phyllis Larson (2662 Bellwick, Hubbard, Ohio 44425) who were searching for additional information concerning Moses Bonney, Mr. Larson's great, great, great grandfather. They had stopped at the cemetery on the South Princeton Road where Moses is buried, before coming here.

Since their visit the Larsons have contacted Dr. Albert W. Bailey and have been successful in obtaining a copy of his History of Early Baileyville Maine and its Pioneers (1972) now out of print and difficult to come by. The Larsons joined our society while they were here, and took out two gift memberships for relatives back home in Ohio.

A month later we received a letter from Stanley Colwell of Penryn, Calif., who sent stamps for the newsletter, and membership dues. This letter, in part, follows....

August 29, 1981, Penryn, Calif.: My father, William Henry Colwell was born in Princeton in 1855, the next to youngest child in a large family born to William Colwell and Dorcas Bonney Colwell, the daughter of Moses Bonney and Elizabeth Chattis Bonney.

According to information handed down to me, Moses was a very early, if not the earliest, resident of the Princeton area. My younger sister Glenna Colwell Davis, and her husband, Richard, visited the Princeton area a couple of years ago and made the acquaintance of a 'kinfolk' Willard Bonney, who was friendly and helpful. Richard Davis's people also came from an area not far from Princeton.

Quite a few people from Northern Maine migrated to Humboldt County, Calif., the area of the Redwood Lumber Forests centered around Eureka. I think most of this moving took place before the turn of the century. I know my father first came out here in 1877. His oldest brother, Uriah, born, I believe, in 1831, came west much earlier, coming "around the horn" in a sailing ship to San Francisco, traveling from there over the Sierras to early-day Virginia City, Nevada. He later settled in Oregon.

My Cousin and 1/2' Jacqueline Larson, is a descendant of Uriah; granddaughter, actually, I think. Enough for now. I hope to hear from you soon and to take a trip back there, perhaps next fall.

Very truly yours, Stanley Colwell

P.S. My sister still lives in Eureka. Actually my father didn't get to that part of California until after 1900. After two years around Truckee, cutting fuel wood for the railroad, he went to Tombstone, Arizona and spent most of the next 25 years in the Southwest and Mexico.

Editor's note: A letter postmarked Aug. 20, from Phyllis Larson, rather explains the Colwell-Larson relationship. She reported: "My mother-in-law, Jacqueline Larson wrote a letter to Dr. Bailey. She got an immediate reply from him. Jac and Dr. Bailey are "cousins". Dr. Bailey had an extra copy of his book and Mrs. Larson sent the check to him for it. He stated in his letter that he is 86 years of age; his letter was so well written. Our thanks to you for your help and your hospitality.

Truly yours, Phyllis Larson

MOSES BONNEY was the first settler of Princeton, and the first to live on Pocomoonshine Lake, where he built his log home in 1820 in sight of the water- then named 'Shining Lake'.....

Ca 1807

This month's Genealogist Forum
Compliments of a friend

JUNIOR MEMBERS SCRAPBOOK

(We're growing too....23 Juniors)*

School in the Woods

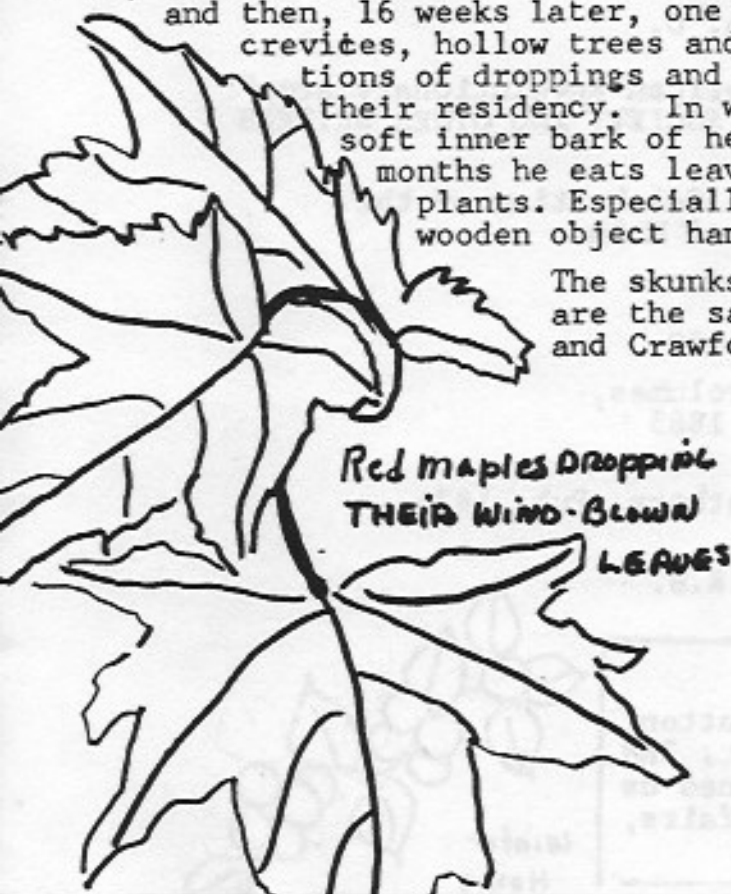
3.



Winter holly
in red berry
now....

OF SKUNKS AND UNK WUNKS! "Skunks and porcupines are both very nice people," remarked Mr. Dudley putting down his newspaper. "Why do you say that?" I asked looking up from the red 'School-of-the-Woods Tree Book' I was studying. "Neither is aggressive," he kindly explained. "They're not offensive, they're merely defensive." He had been reading about an Augusta woman who encountered a skunk while walking her dog. The unfortunate polecat had its head stuck in a glass jar and the sympathetic woman was able to remove the glass without distressing results to herself, to the skunk or her dog. Mr. Dudley had a similar experience in Calais. He was walking home one evening when he came upon a skunk strolling slowly through the dusk with a tin can over its head. "I stopped him and said I'd like to help. He seemed agreeable. I told him to brace his feet and lean backward as I pulled forward. The skunk leaned back on its heels. I pulled, it tugged and off came the tin can! The skunk looked up at me, then he bowed politely and walked away. He was a gentleman," Mr. Dudley added admiringly. "UNK WUNKS (porcupines) do not throw their quills either!" he continued with his nature lecture. "They are extremely slow moving and clumsy. The only mobile part is the tail which is used as an offensive instrument". Loosely attached sharp quills up to four inches long cover the entire upper surface of the body and tail. (Undersides are finely furred). When disturbed UNK WUNK will back up to its tormentor, raise its quills and lash a barbed tail in its face. The quills, so painful to remove, can seriously injure or kill their victim. At this time of year we often see porcupines lying along the highways where they have been hit by motor vehicles. UNK WUNK is moving about, becoming increasingly restless. Mating will take place in November and then, 16 weeks later, one young will be born. Dens are in rocky crevices, hollow trees and under abandoned buildings. Accumulations of droppings and bark damage on nearby trees attest to their residency. In winter UNK WUNK exists on twigs and the soft inner bark of hemlock, spruce, elm and poplar. Other months he eats leaves, aquatic vegetation and soft meadow plants. Especially addicted to salt he chews on any wooden object handled by man.

The skunks and porcupines our ancestors watched are the same species we see today in Alexander and Crawford woods and fields.



Red maples dropping
THEIR WIND-BLOWN
LEAVES

Look for rose hips and red cranberries this month; for the hackmatack trees whose needles are turning gold; and for the slate-colored JUNCO, a dark grey little bird which flashes its white outer tail feathers when it flies off.

Our JUNIOR PAGE this month
is by courtesy of
TODD'S HARDWARE INC., 181 Main St.
in Calais

SOCIETY LIBRARY HOUSED AT POCONOONSHINE LAKE

Jack Dudley has built some extra book shelves in his log cabin's common room to house our society's growing library until other more suitable quarters can be found. Among our reference and history books are those from the late Judge Frederick A. Powers' (of Houlton, Maine) personal collection which were donated to our society in August 1980 by Mrs. Hale Tongren of Clifton, Va. Until last month these books were stored in boxes in Lloyd and Mary William's barn in Waite.

1. Collections of the Maine Historical Society Documentary History Second Series - Baxter Manuscripts; Vols. IX, X, XIII, XIV, XXIII & XXIV
2. LAWS OF MAINE - 1897
3. History of PARSONSFIELD, Maine 1771-1888 by J.W. Dearborn, M.D.
4. Life and Times of HANNIBAL HAMLIN 1809-1891 by his grandson Charles Eugene Hamlin Cambridge, Riverside Press, 1899
5. MAINE in the Northeastern Boundary Controversy by Henry S. Burrage, D.D. - State Historian 1919
6. MAINE, a History, Resources, Attractions, and Its People. Editor, Harrie B. Coe Vols. III & IV
7. MAINE, A History, Centennial Edition, Biographical The American Historical Society, New York, 1919 (2 Volumes)
8. MAINE, A History, Centennial Edition Editor-in-Chief, Louis Clinton Hatch, Ph. D. Member of Maine Historical Society Author of "The Administration of the American Revolutionary Army" Assisted by MEMBERS OF MAINE HISTORICAL SOCIETY AND OTHER WRITERS Volumes II & III
9. WAYMOUTH TERCENTENARY, An Account of the Celebration of the Landing of George Waymouth on the Coast of Maine
10. HISTORY OF MAINE, by William D. Williamson Vols. I and II Hallowell: Glazier, Masters & Smith - 1839
11. PERSONAL MEMORIES OF U.S. GRANT in two volumes, New York, Charles L. Webster & Company, 1885 Vols. I and II
12. CRABB'S English Synonymes - Harper & Brothers, Pub. 1874
13. Early History of Institutions - Maine by Sir Henry Sumner, K.C.S.I. LL.D. F.R.S. Henry Holt & Company, New York, 1875

A memorial donation to our building fund has been given in the name of Ralph B. Hatton of Charlotte (1904-1981) who died on Sept. 2nd. Ralph and his wife Leta Flood Hatton joined us in February. Very active in community affairs, he will be remembered with love...



Winter
Holly