

# A-C-H-S

Alexander-Crawford Historical Society

May-June 1982

Membership: 233 adults

Number 24

Resident voters of Crawford attending their annual Town Meeting, March 29th, voted unanimously to let us rent their little church on the Airline for our summer headquarters. Early plans include replacing broken window panes, putting up our sign and installing two flower boxes in the front. (See editorial Page 11)



2ND ANNUAL COMMUNITY MEETING  
TUESDAY, MAY 18 at 7 p.m.  
ALEXANDER GRANGE HALL

Our May 18th speaker is related to our Downeast: Wentworths, Seaveys, Smalls, Fernalds and Hopkins - and he divides his winters and summers between Jonesport, Me. and Independence, Mo.

His name is Reed M. Holmes and he has written a book entitled The Forerunners, a true tale of 156 passengers (men, women & children) who sailed on Aug. 11, 1866 from Jonesport, Me. to Jaffa, Palestine, with the intention of establishing a model farming community on "the waste lands" with their Yankee expertise - in preparation for the coming of the Messiah and the returning of the Jews from all over the world to their Holy Land.

The colonists sailed on the Nellie Chapin which was built for this voyage. Her hold held prefabricated houses and pine shutters built by the voyagers, and the best farm equipment then available. This story is one of great courage, and misguided faith in an unstable leader - and, as the introduction writer puts it: "In this case history's lessons come as an extraordinary tale of YANKEE SAINTS ABROAD."

Chocolate Cake Walk will precede the program at 7 p.m. Proceeds will be used to purchase liability insurance for our summer headquarters.

## THANK YOU CRAWFORD!

A L E X A N D E R

Saturdays, May 1-29: School-in-the-Woods for our local Junior members (ages 5-15 years). This is the 2nd quarter of our Spring Session. We meet 10-11:30 a.m. at the Pocomoonshine lakeside cabin of Jack and Jane Dudley. A CHECKERS PLAYOFF contest will conclude the term. Winner will receive a citation for the best "A-C Checker Player of 1982". (The school will reconvene in September).

Tuesday, May 18: Community Program meeting and Chocolate Cakewalk. Public invited to attend. 7 p.m. Alexander Grange Hall. No admission.

Tuesday, June 15: Monthly board meeting open to members and their guests. Session begins at 10 a.m. at the Dudleys', and is followed by the program (see Page 2), genealogy session and brown bag lunch.

A-C-H-S Library Hours, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. third Tuesday of every month for members only. Library currently housed at the Dudleys'.

Wednesday, July 14: 2nd Annual Family Picnic at the Dudleys. Genealogy talk begins at 3 p.m. over dish supper at 5 o'clock.

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# Activities at Home



**TUESDAY, JUNE 15th:** Members are inviting guests to hear the fascinating story about Col. John Allen's canoe trip (July 1777) with 500 Indians in 128 canoes, from 'Schoodic Lake' (the St. Croix), through Big Lake and down 'Allen Stream' through Princeton, Plantation 21, Alexander and Crawford Lake to the East Machias River, which will be detailed by our guest speaker. This is a fine time to meet Dr. John Howard Ahlin of Machias, historian and author of the now famous book MAINE RUBINCON: Downeast Settlers During the American Revolution.

**WEDNESDAY, JULY 14th:** has been set for our 2nd annual FAMILY PICNIC. Thirty members and their families signed the 1981 guest book. We're wondering now how many will be attending this year? Yes, we're having it here again at Pocomoonshine Lake. The covered dish supper will be served around 5 p.m.

**SUNDAY, JULY 18th FISH FRY:** Your society will be sponsoring a public FISH FRY, under the expert direction of our favorite chef, Ken Smith of Memory Cove, at our summer (church) headquarters on the Airline. The ways & means committee, headed by Ellie Sanford & Audrey Ketner, will be meeting May 25 to finalize the details. More about this in the next newsletter.

**SATURDAY, AUGUST 21:** We will be honoring our teachers at our 2nd Annual HOMECOMING potluck supper at the Dudleys' lakeside cabin this date. It will be a potluck supper at 5 p.m., but our curator, John Herbert Dudley, suggests that serious genealogists come around 3 p.m. to allow more time for uninterrupted family history discussions.

**DONATIONS:** We are most grateful to these members who have made recent contributions to our General Fund. Without such assistance it would be impossible to put out this newsletter: Truman & Eva Day, Norma & Leland Day, Susan Spearin Leach, Alta Jeffery Beal, Nancy Winter, Catharine Walter, Donna Baughman, Millie Winckler, the Dudleys, Bruce W. Hazelton, Mary Hatfield, Paul V. Noddin, Lois Donnelly, Mona Brothers and Muriel Varnum Smith. We also thank Lilian Thompson for her handknitted contributions to our School-in-the-Woods TRAVELING BASKET which helps to support sundry expenses.

## ALEXANDER-CRAWFORD HISTORICAL SOCIETY - EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE ( 1981 - 1982 )

|                            |                               |                    |          |
|----------------------------|-------------------------------|--------------------|----------|
| President                  | Jane Dudley                   | Alexander          | 454-8472 |
| Vice-President             | Harold Fenlason               | Danforth           | 448-7781 |
| Treasurer                  | Millie Winckler               | Calais             | 454-3695 |
| Acting Secretary           | Ken Smith                     | E. Machias         | 259-3677 |
| Corres. Secretary          | Mary Williams                 | Waite              | 796-5519 |
| Directors:                 | John & Marie Dudley           | Rumford Center     |          |
|                            | Pliney Frost                  | Alexander          |          |
|                            | Donald & Audrey Ketner        | Pocomoonshine Lake |          |
|                            | Tim & Ellie Sanford           | Alexander          |          |
| Building chairman          | John M. Dudley                | Alexander          |          |
| Newsletter & Membership    | Jane Dudley                   |                    |          |
| Public Relations           | Harold Fenlason               |                    |          |
| Ways & Means               | Ellie Sanford & Audrey Ketner |                    |          |
| Genealogist                | Eilen Fenlason                | Danforth           |          |
| Alexander Historian        | Pliney Frost                  | Alexander          |          |
| Crawford Historian         | Ethel Wallace                 | Crawford           |          |
| Church & cemetery research | Ruth Dwelley                  | Alexander          |          |
| School research            | Millie Winckler               |                    |          |
| Curator                    | John H. Dudley                |                    |          |
| Current events record      | Orris & Marian Cousins        | Alexander          |          |

# Letters from our Members

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Alta Jeffery Beal, Jonesport: I was glad to note that the old church may be used by the society. Our two grandfathers, James P. Jeffery and Frank W. Fenlason were carpenters who helped to build it. My mother had public suppers in her home to buy furnishings for it. Many a visiting minister was "put up" at our home after an evening service.

Bruce W. Hazelton, P.O. Box 67A Cumberland, Maine 04021: I have no geneological connection with Alexander-Crawford. I collect town histories of Maine. My primary interest is in the Postal system with emphasis prior to 1900. I would like very much to see an article on the dates, people, locations, etc. of the Post Offices of A-C. I would even pay extra for a thorough research including photos of where the P.O. were.

Mary Hatfield, Newport, Me.: Thank you so much for sending along the two newsletters! I have been thoroughly enjoying them! Alexander is my home town. My mother, Edith Hatfield, and my sister, Emma Turner, still live there by the school. I am a second grade teacher in St. Albans.

Audrey Ketner, Pocomoonshine Lake: Nothing like a week in Florida to make one yearn for the woods and temp of Maine. Certainly enjoyed last historical letter. It was a super issue.

Marjorie Marsh Quigg, Bangor: It was delightful to read in the news of your dedicated efforts in connection with the Alexander-Crawford Historical Society. Bravo! I am eager to see your newsletter, and if you have back issues containing local history items and genealogy, I will be pleased to have them if you will let me know the cost. I have long been interested in town history books and genealogies, and look forward to adding your newsletters to my collection. (Curator of Brewer Historical Society)

Sue Jellison, Lake Luzerne, N.Y. I've been meaning to write to let you know that as much as we enjoy the newsletter monthly, every-other-month would be all right with us. It must be very difficult to put together such a wonderfully educational & newsy letter every month. Please say "Hello!" to Jack and all the Extension and Historical Society people for me.

Jennie P. Boynton, RFD #2, Box 294, Brewer, Me. My grandparents lived in Crawford and/or Alexander, Ephraim (sp.?) and Alice Jameson Noddin. He died and is buried down there, after which the rest of the family 'migrated' to the Medway area. An outstanding characteristic of my ancestors was their great belief in the supernatural. 'Ghosts' and 'Signs' ran rampant. But of course this probably used to be true of all rural areas, in Maine and elsewhere. I have read that the nearer people lived to the ground, the more superstitious they were. My folks lived as near to the ground as one could get - they were very poor people.

Lewis M. Hardison, 212 Spanish Oak Lane, Kerrville, Texas 78028: You are all doing a fine job in Washington Couty & wish I was closer so could work with you. Received a lot of good information from Pliney Frost. Someday I will find out where the James Flanders shown on Bingham Lands list 1823-1830 came from and names of his parents.

Dr. Albert W. Bailey, Longboat Key, Fla.: Congratulations on your expanded newsletter, and also on the probable use of your own headquarters. The list of those early settlers on the Bingham Land in Alexander is very useful. We did the same thing in our Baileyville Book and have used it many times. How family names in the early days bring back memories! Keep up your good work.

Note: Just above D.F. Woodward are the names of W.H. Clark and J. Stevens. No buildings are shown on this map.

