

AACHS

Alexander-Crawford Historical Society
January - February 1983 Number 28

C A L E N D A R D A T E S 1 9 8 3

Tuesday, Jan. 18: Jack Dudley will give an informal talk on Early Court Days in Washington County when we meet at 10 a.m. at the cabin. The hostess is asking everyone to bring an empty soup bowl, soup spoon and sandwich for their lunch.

Tuesday, Feb. 15: 'Winters Past Remembered' will be the theme of our 10 a.m. meeting when members search their memories for stories of earlier days when their ancestors settled the county. Plan to stay to examine many of the fine additions to our library and files. Bring your sandwich, of course.

(editor's note: Does anyone know where our Society might purchase around 30 matching soup bowls at a discount for our Winter chowder meetings?)

Tuesday, Mar. 15: This will be SHOW AND TELL MONTH! All members and potential members planning to attend are urged to bring along some artifact to show and discuss.

Tuesday, April 19: Open board and Program Meeting, subject to be announced in the next issue.

Tuesday, May 17: Our third annual COMMUNITY (evening) MEETING at the Alexander Grange Hall to which the Public is invited. County Commissioner Arnold Davis will be our speaker following our annual CHOCOLATE CAKE WALK which begins promptly at 7 p.m. Arnold's subject will be 'FOLKLORE'.

Tuesday, June 21: Open Program Meeting: time, place and subject to be announced.

Tuesday, July 19: third annual HOME COMING at Pocomoonshine Lake for members and their families beginning at 3 p.m.

Saturday, July 30: A-CHS BLUEBERRY FESTIVAL at the Crawford Church (our summer headquarters) on the Airline.

Tuesday, August 16: Program meeting and a sandwich-salad luncheon at Pocomoonshine Lake beginning at 10 a.m.

Tuesday, Sept. 20: ANNUAL MEETING at Pocomoonshine Lake. More particulars later.

Tuesday, Oct. 18: Open Board Meeting and Program at Pocomoonshine Lake, 10 a.m.

Tuesday, Nov. 15: Same as above.

December: Annual Christmas Coffee. Date to be announced

We will be scheduling several evening programs at the Crawford Church this summer to which the Public will be invited; also in the planning stage are MULTI CRAFT Roonings to run on Tuesdays, June 6-27. More about these later.

MEMBERSHIPS NOW DUE

Our A-CNS Family now numbers 371, that is if everyone renews their memberships in 1983.

A regular membership remains at \$1.00 a year; a supporting membership is any amount over that dollar. (Six 20¢ stamps are also required to mail your 12-page bi-monthly newsletters to your address.)

Your Society wishes

to thank the following

Supporting Members for their 1983 contributions: Phyllis Perkins Archer, Mr. Albert W. Bailey, Donna Daughman, Ellwood & Marjorie Brown, Pearl Brown, Rae Clinemith, Florence Daly, V. Bradford Dawson, Norton Peers Davis, Lloyd Davis, Vesta Varnum Duff, Hazel Dwyer, Neal & Ruth Dwyer, Hilda Edgerly, Frank & Ruby Fenderson, Harold & Ellen Ferlason, Donald & Joan Frost, Frank Frost, Pliney Frost, Lewis M. Hadison, Lela Flood Hatten, Cynthia Hatfield, Mary Hatfield, Susan Dudley Kertz, Mrs. Keith Howe, Grace Gaffney, Halina Lowe, Don & Mina Phinney, Vinal & Ellen Perkins, Evelyn Pottle, Harley C. Palk, Envia & Viola Roberts, Rachel Saunders, Winifred Shea, Valoo Davis Vose, Catharine Walters, Lloyd & Ellen Walls, Bessie Wheaton and Millie Stanhope Winckler.

ALEXANDER-CRAWFORD HISTORICAL SOCIETY - EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

	(1982 - 1983)		
President	Jane Gerow Dudley	Alexander	454-8472
Vice President	Harold Ferlason	Darforth	448-7781
Treasurer	John M. Dudley	Alexander	454-8472
Secretary	Ken Smith	east Machias	259-3677
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Directors:	John & Marie Dudley	Rumford Center	
	Pliney Frost	Alexander	
	Donald & Audrey Kerner	Newark, Del.	
	Tim & Ellie Sarford	Alexander	
	Curice Thaxter	Addison	
	Lobuan Wallace	Crawford	
Genealogist	Ellen Ferlason	Darforth	448-7781
Alexander Historian	Pliney Frost		
Baileysville Historian	Grace Ober	Woodland	427-3220
Cooper Historian	Lizzie Perkins	Calais	454-2041
Crawford Historian	Ethel Wallace	Crawford	456-7890
Building Chairman	John Murchie Dudley	Alexander	454-8472
Membership & Newsletter	Jane Dudley		
Public Relations	Harold Ferlason		
Ways & Means	Ellie Sarford		454-2862
	Audrey Kerner		

Happy 158th Birthday, Alexander

ALEXANDER was incorporated as a town on January 19, 1825. The following essay, written by Ruth C. Huselley of Pleasant Lake, was published in the Calais Advertiser on Aug. 1976. We think it is worthy of reprinting...editors.

The Town of Alexander was settled about the year 1810, and organized in 1825. Coolidge and Mansfield in their History of New England name the early settlers as being Solomon Perkins, Caleb Pike, George Hill, Annanah Bohanon, William B. Crockett, Paul Morse, Samuel Cattel and Cyrus Young. The early settlers came principally from Massachusetts and New Hampshire.

Titles to their lands were obtained from Col. John Black, an English agent of the Bingham Land. Col. Black came to this country as aide to Gen. David Cobb of Gouldsbrough. When Cobb resigned as agent for the Bingham estate, Black succeeded him and remained in this position until 1850.

The town is reported as having received its name in honor of Alexander Baring, a son-in-law of William Bingham. He was made Lord Ashburton about this time, and it was he who as British Ambassador together with the American Secretary of State, Daniel Webster, settled our northeastern boundary.

Alexander is situated nearly midway of the eastern part of Washington County; Baileyville and Baring on its east boundary, Crawford on the west, Princeton on the north, Cooper and Meddybemps on the south.

Nearest seaport is Calais, 14 miles eastward; next Machias, 30 miles on the south. Nearest railroad in Baring approximately 10 miles away. Principal stream is the Wapskanegan. Bodies of water are Lake Beautiful (now called 'Pleasant') located in the western part of town; Barrows Lake on the southwestern corner; Shining Lake (now called 'Pocomoonshine') on the northern, and Meddybemps Lake on the eastern border.

'Lake Beautiful' has an area of approximately 500 acres and furnished water power for a saw and shingle mill for about six months of the year.

The only church edifice was of the Methodist denomination. Agriculture was the almost exclusive endeavor of its inhabitants, with the principal crop for export being hay.

Two villages existed in town: Lanesbrook and Alexander. There were five public school houses, which with other school property was valued at \$15,000.

Population in 1870 was 456. In 1880, 439.

Alexander like other towns has accepted the challenge of change. New homes are being built as many people have left the city to find peace and happiness in the country way of life. Modern transportation has made it possible for folks to live in the country and enjoy the privileges of the city. Camps have been built around the various lakes making this a vacation land for many people each summer. Pleasant Lake camping area has offered a rest area and a place of vacation to hundreds of tourists.

The town has one village store, a fire department, Grange Hall and several motels. All in all, it's a great place to live.

Winter and Spring, by Lyman Williams, Alexander

The twinkle of the snowflake
Upon the frostie ground
Soon form a white covering
Of beauty all around.

Soon the laughing stream
Will be singing a melody of it's own,
And the birds in the tree tops,
Like a "king upon his throne."

