

A-C.H.S.

Alexander-Crawford Historical Society
Mar/Apr 1984 Washington Cty, Me. Issue 35

YOUR SPRING-SUMMER CALENDAR

Tues., March 20: OUR EARLY POSTAL SERVICE as recounted by Sammy Saunders, Calais Postmaster, retired (1982); and one of Washington County's past rural mail carriers, Rupert Day of Crawford. (See 'Birthdays' Page 2)

Tues., April 17: NAMES AND NICKNAMES FROM OUR FAMILY TREE is the intriguing subject this Spring meeting.

Sat., May 19: 4th annual CHOCOLATE CAKE WALK to be held this year at the Crawford Town Hall (opposite Thyrlle & Dolly Hanson's store) on Route 9, at 7 p.m. More about this next issue.

Tues., June 19th: HOW OUR ANCESTORS DRESSED. Members are urged to dress colorfully for this session.

Sat., July 21: 4th annual HOMECOMING at Pocomoonshine Lake beginning at 3 p.m. Potluck supper at 5 p.m.

Sat., July 28. BLUEBERRY FESTIVAL, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at Crawford Town Hall.

Tuesday, Aug. 21: STORY TELLING SESSION featuring Frank Fenderson, Smugglers Cove; Sammy Saunders, Border City; Harold Fenlason, Grand Lake & Jack Dudley, Pokey Lake.



ALEXANDER (Circa, early 1900s)
Bert Thistlewood, his wife and two daughters, and Lewis Frost and Blanche Pickett...Left to right:

Mae A. (Fenlason) Thistlewood (1877-1944, daughter of Frank Willis Fendalson and Martha Angevine Bailey. She was a cousin to Harold Dwelley.)

Lyra F. Thistlewood (1898-1962);
Vivian Thistlewood (1901 -)
Albert C. Thistlewood (1872-1939);
Mabel Blanche Pickett (?)
Lewis Frost (1885-1969) Photo loaned
by Pliney Frost

Unless otherwise specified, all of our monthly meetings are held at the Dudleys' Pocomoonshine Lake cabin at 10 a.m. Members each take a sandwich for the noon hour lunch, and the hostess serves a soup or salad.

MEMBERSHIP inquiries are being directed to A-CHS, RR #1, Box 1616, Alexander, Maine 04694.

2. Native Birthdays

Rupert Day

(Born Mar. 28, 1903 in Crawford)
Sunrise Apts. 7850 16D
Calais, Maine 04619

Inez Lehan Frost

(Born Apr. 2, 1906 in Alexander)
Surrey, Maine 04684

Alberta Harriman Leighton

(Born Apr. 30, 1905 in Alexander)
Sunrise Manor, Apt. 14F
Calais, Maine 04619

Edna Flood Perkins

(Born Apr. 6, 1894 in Alexander)
Woodland, Maine 04694

Best
Wishes



Your birthday is your day to acknowledge the unique event that is yourself. For you are a unique event, a private miracle, an original creation of the Creative One, who has not made two blades of grass or two stars or two atoms alike--- and above all, not two human beings. (Author unknown)

State of Maine Birthday, Mar. 15, 1820

STATEHOOD: Following the Revolution, frontier settlers who resented being ruled from Boston pressed for separation from Massachusetts. Coastal merchants, who held the balance of political power at the time resisted the separation movement until the War of 1812 showed that Massachusetts was unable or unwilling to provide adequate protection for the people of the district against British raids. With popular sentiment unified behind statehood, the separation movement went forward. Congress established Maine as the 23rd state under the Missouri Compromise of 1820. This arrangement allowed Maine to join the Union as a free state with Missouri entering a year later as a slave state, thereby preserving the numerical balance between free and slave states in the nation. By this time the population of Maine had reached nearly 300,000. The new state had nine counties and 236 towns.

The above article is taken from the MAINE ALMANAC (1978) by James E. Brunelle, which has been donated to our Library by Harold Fendalson (Copied with permission of the writer).

NORTHEAST BOUNDARY DISPUTE:

The precise boundary line between Maine and New Brunswick, (Canada) remained a matter of often-heated argument for years after the close of the Revolutionary War. The dispute festered and smoldered until 1839, when it threatened to erupt into open warfare. The Maine Legislature that year raised funds to support a military force of 10,000 to protect the state's border claims at Madawaska. Several hundred British regulars were dispatched to the scene from Quebec. At this point the U.S. Congress enter the picture, approving \$10 million for military expenses should war break out. Nearly 50,000 troops were readied for action, and Major General Winfield Scott was dispatched to the scene. Scott managed to work out a temporary agreement between the two parties before the so-called "War of Aroostock" reached the point of bloodshed. The Webster-Ashburton Treaty, hammered out in 1842 by U.S. Secretary of State Daniel Webster and English special minister, Lord Ashburton, finally settled the question of where Maine's northeast boundary lay.

Maine Register 1876

*information furnished
by Ernest Scott
of South Princeton, Me.*

THIS ISSUE WE SALUTE OUR EARLY MAIL SERVICE

ALEXANDER is described as being 30 miles N. of Machias, and 14 from Calais. First settled, 1810. Formerly Plantation No.16. Incorporated, Jan.19,1825. Population: 1850, 544; 1860, 445; 1870, 455. Valuation 1860: Polls, 96; Estates \$54,154; 1870, Polls, 95, Estates \$73,997.

Postmaster: J. Spearin, jr.
Selectmen: C.M. Huff, B.A. Strout, Jeremiah Spearin, jr.
Town Clerk: A.H. Perkins
Treasurer: W.M. Lee
Constables: C.M. Huff, B.W. Tyler, H.A. Crafts
School Committee: Howard Lee, George Berry, J.K. Thistlewood
Clergyman: Charles Rogers, (Wesley) Meth.
Justices: C.M. Huff, Feb.11, 1873
Quorum: B.W. Tyler, Feb.18, 1874 T.
Merchant: Wesley Flood
Manufacturers: John K. Thistlewood M. Brown, carriages; J. W. Dwelley, lumber; B.A. Strout, smith
Hotel: Elisha Perkins

CRAWFORD: 24 miles N of Machias. stage-line to Calais. Incorporated under the name of Adams, Feb.11, 1828. Name changed to present one, Feb. 23, of the same year. Valuation: 1860, Polls 68; Estates, \$28,883; 1870, Polls 54; Estates, \$30,351.

Postmaster: Daniel L. Seavey
Selectmen: N.S. Fenlason H.A. Averill, A.J. Dwelley,
Town Clerk: D. F. Wormwood
Treasurer: D. F. Wormwood
School Committee: D.F. Wormwood, N.S. Fenlason
Justice: D.F. Wormwood, Jan.14, 1873.

BAILEYVILLE: 35 N. of Machias. On stage-line from Machias to Calais. Incorporated Feb.19, 1828. Population: 1850, 431; 1860, 363; 1870, 377. Valuation: 1860: Polls, 75; Estates, \$50,624; 1870: Polls, 64; Estates, \$53,641.

Postmaster: James Robbins
Selectmen: H.W. Anderson, Eli Thornton, N.B. Spearin,
Town Clerk: James Robbins
Treasurer: John D. Lawler
School Committee: J.F. Staples, H.W. Anderson, N.B. Spearin
Clergymen: Vacant. Bap.
Justice: J.D. Lawler, Feb.4, 1874 Quorum

COOPER 24 miles N. of Machias. Terminus of stage-lines from Machias and Calais. Formerly No. 15, and included Meddybemps west of Denny's river. Settled 1812. Incorporated Feb.6, 1822. Population: 1850, 562; 1860, 468; 1870, 360. Valuation, 1860: Polls, 91; Estates, \$39,272; 1870, Polls 84; Estates \$34,809.

Postmaster: Alice C. Sawyer
Selectmen: T.J. Burbank, L.C. Foster, Alvah Doten
Town Clerk: Jason L. Doten
Treasurer: Thomas J. Burbank
Constable: S.T. Sadler
School Committee: C.N. Yeaton, H.W. Smith, J.L. Doten
Clergemen: M.S. Dunton, Meth.; Vacant Cong.
Justices: W.B. Doten, Feb.10, 1875,
Quorum: T.J. Burbank, Feb. 17, 1875 Trial.
Manufacturers: J.W. Cary, wheelwright; L.C. Foster, W. Creamer, smiths.
Hotel: Nathaniel Sawyer
