

Winter Harbor Historical Society

P.O. Box 93, Winter Harbor, ME 04693

August 2017

NEWSLETTER

Captain Elisha (Lide) Bickford House 40 Sargent Street



Elisha Bickford (1821-1905) grandson of Winter Harbor's earliest settler, Joseph Bickford is believed to have built this home, which passed to his son, also named Elisha (1865-1956), but better known as Captain Lide. Capt. Lide began his life at sea at aged 12, sailing the east coast on multiple schooners transporting lumber and staves for barrels. At age 19, he sailed the schooner, **Orizimbo** (built in Gouldsboro) to Brazil with general cargo, returning with sugar. In an interview with Bernice Richmond for the Peninsula Gazette, Captain Lide recalled sailing on the **Orizimbo** to Sierra Leone on the west coast of Africa with lumber, flour and oil. At age 20, he became master of the schooner, **Hiram** carrying lumber to Boston and returning with corn. On the **Angola**, he transported cargo to New York City and returned with kerosene and on the **AB Crabtree**, he carried granite from Sullivan for the curbing in Providence, Rhode Island. In the early 1900's Captain Bickford changed from schooners to sailing pleasure boats for Grindstone Neck residents: the **Dorothy** for William Bliss, **Firefly** for William Duff and later, William White and finally, William Schieffelin of Ashville. For nine years, he sailed Schieffelin's **Lucille** and then the **Mystery** for Henry Harper of Grindstone. He continued to work on shore for BT Bickford's Yacht Storage in Winter Harbor.

According to Mrs. Richmond, when Capt. Lide was asked if anything unusual happened during his years of sailing, he answered proudly, "Never ran a boat ashore; never was shipwrecked."

Capt. Lide and his housekeeper, Grace Holt passed the house on to Wilson Payne, long time owners of Spectacle Island. Two navy owners added a garage and deck in 1990 and Roger and Pearl Barto renovated the house in 2005.

Enjoy the Peninsula Gazette, a local newspaper written from 1954-1960 on the Winter Harbor Historical Society web site.

Receive news and updates on Winter Harbor Historical Society Facebook.

Events

August 2 at 7pm at Hammond Hall

Historic film: **Around Cape Horn**. documents daily living and a wild storm aboard the sailing ship, Peking in 1929.

August 15 at 1pm at Winter Harbor Town Office

Historic Walk: Participants will be guided throughout the village of Winter Harbor by Annabelle Myrick Weston (1873-1943), granddaughter of the first settler on Schoodic Point (aka Pearl Barto). Participants must register at winterharborhistory@gmail.com.

August 16 at 7pm at Museum

Program: Area Projected Summer Colony Resorts (winners-losers) speaker Willie Granston

September 20 at 7pm at Museum

Sargent Street Then and Now speaker Pearl Barto

Museum

Visit the Winter Harbor Historical Society Museum on Saturday afternoon from 1-4pm throughout August.

Thank You

Thank you to Barbara Campbell for the Grindstone Inn china for our museum display and to Linda Barton for Grindstone Inn silver setting. Dale Torrey has passed on business records from Morton Torrey for our preservation. Thank you all for donations for our July yard sale.

Annual Meeting



Sanford Phippen

Winter Harbor Historical Society

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Photo Collage: John Michael Hayes

The Winter Harbor Historical Society welcomed speaker, Sanford Phippen at our annual meeting on July 19, 2017. Mr. Phippen and Historical Society president, Diana Young shared memories of screenwriter, John Michael Hayes, former resident of Grindstone Point. Mr. Phippen has written an article, expected to be published in September for the Worcester Literary Review about Mr. Hayes' years in Maine, as Worcester was Mr. Hayes' hometown. Mr. Phippen described his research and interviews regarding the Hayes family for this article and read descriptions of parties and social events from the Peninsula Gazette.

Since the Hayes family lived through the winter in their large home, Sandy Phippen shared the challenges of simply drilling a well to supply the household, before the summer water supply ended. His humorous account of Mr. Hayes (dressed in white jeans) offering to assist with changing a tire had our audience engaged, while Sandy, also imparted his deep regard for Mr. Hayes' skill as a writer.

Mr. Phippen offered hilarious accounts of conversations between Mr. Hayes and Elizabeth Taylor and then of Sandy's later personal meeting with Ms. Taylor. Sandy thanked David Joy for taking him to the site of a hunting camp in Township #7 that was enjoyed by Mr. Hayes and David's father, Austin Joy. Sandy acknowledged Debbie Martin and the Winter Harbor Library for sharing other artifacts for his research. Sandy's anecdotes provide a window on Hollywood's prolific and talented writer and his influence and connection with Winter Harbor.

The following officers and board members were elected:

Winter Harbor Historical Society

President: Diana Young

Vice-President: Deborah Joy Martin

Secretary: Pearl Follett Barto

Treasurer: Cathy Lilly Carruthers

Building & Grounds: Brent Hurd

Board Members

Johanna Smith Dan Keegan

Billy Bickford Sharon Coombs Marge Gerrish

Barbara Campbell

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