



Friends of the Ogunquit Heritage Museum

Spring 2012 Newsletter

Mission of the Friends:

To Support the Educational Goals and Programs
of the Ogunquit Heritage Museum

Remembering Norm . . .

We remember our friend Norman Wilkinson who passed away two days before Christmas. Norman was Vice President of the Friends and an unflinching partner. He attended every meeting and volunteered for every single task in spite of his physical problems. He brought with him a dry wit, optimism and humor. We all loved Norman and miss him dearly.



Norm Wilkinson

Norman was born in Liverpool, England in 1930 where he grew up and served as a radio operator for the British Merchant Marine. On one of his voyages from England to the States he met Dorothy who was a passenger on board traveling home to America. They married in 1958 and he became a US citizen in 1960. In the intervening years, until their retirement to Wells in the 90s, Norman pursued academic studies and a professional career at the University of Michigan where he earned a PhD in English Literature and taught the performing arts. Subsequently, he accepted a position in the Drama Department of the University of Maine in Orono where he taught for many years until the move to Wells.

Retirement for Norman meant hours of involvement and commitment to several community organizations in addition to the Friends. He gave generously of his time and energy to the Wells Congregational Church and the Ogunquit Rotary Club. He was especially devoted to the Wells Public Library Committee where he used his talents to present to delighted audiences readings as well as the skits he created. He also arranged for and organized monthly art exhibits and receptions at the Library for the works of local artists. As a Board member of the Ogunquit Performing Arts, Norman could always be counted on to transfer his love and knowledge of the cinema into wonderful and informative introductions and commentaries at the Committee's movie presentations. And Norman was an outstanding MC at Ogunquit's Spring Flings.

Farewell Our Man For All Seasons!!

(Written by W. Mason and B. Treen)

All Friends and Guests are Invited . . .

2012 Season Open House

Saturday June 16, 2012

3:00 - 5:00 p.m.

Ogunquit Heritage Museum
Obed's Lane, Ogunquit, Maine

Exhibits Preview

Refreshments

Museum Opens

June 1 for the Season

Hours 1:00 - 5:00 Tues - Sat

June through September

**The 38th Annual
Ogunquit Antiques
Show & Sale**

September 15th and 16th, 2012
at the Dunaway Center
School Street
Ogunquit Maine

Saturday, 10 am - 5 pm Sunday, 10 am - 4 pm

18 Antiques Dealers from Maine, NH,
Vermont & Massachusetts
will exhibit a wide variety of items including silver,
porcelain, crystal, Victoriana, country furniture, oils
and prints, Depression and fine glassware, jewelry,
textiles and printed materials.
Something for everyone!

Admission \$5 Parking at Obeds Lane
Half-price for show-goers who prepay at the lot

Contact: Pat Dateo 207-251-4402

Sponsored by the Friends of the Ogunquit Heritage Museum
In memory of J. Norman Wilkinson, Ph.D., past Vice President
For the benefit of the Ogunquit Heritage Museum at the Captain James Winn House

(Poster created by Virginia Sousa)

President's Letter . . .



Henry Hokans

As I enter my second year as President of the Friends of the Ogunquit Heritage Museum, I continue to be fulfilled working with the Board of Directors. Our major goal is to secure the future of this delightful small museum. It may be little in size compared to the great museums

of cities like Boston and New York, but it is doing its job—that is preserving the history of this coastal town that we all love and take pride in.

That heritage, from the first settlers who faced hostile Indians and yet managed to survive in this wilderness, to those who built the first farms and mills, through the generations of fishermen, artists, and all who contributed to the future of Ogunquit, is being tended and stewarded here at the Ogunquit Heritage Museum.

We hope many more will join us in this worthy endeavor—as leaders and contributors—and also, as those who enjoy the refreshing annual exhibits so well put together by our hardworking Curator and Board members.

It is YOUR MUSEUM--come and enjoy and support it.

Cordially, for the Board of Directors,
Henry Hokans

Accessions . . .

Martin and Fay Fitzgerald

Paperwork from the original Christmas by the Sea in 1987

Evelyne Harper Neill

Matted print of the Cove from the Dan Sing Fan

Carol C. Kobus

Bronze sculpture of her father Henry Card

Louise Tragard Galanes

A small history of the Beachmere Hotel

A 1958 *Ogunquit Breeze* newspaper

6 photographs of Perkins Cove

Richard and Mary Littlefield

A poster (1980) celebrating Ogunquit's separation from Wells

Two vintage panoramic prints of Ogunquit

Harriet and Alan Yaffe

Ogunquit Fire Company 100th Anniversary (2001) booklet

Thanks for the Donations!

Our Newest Accession . . .



Henry Card Immortalized in Bronze

Ogunquit Heritage Museum Committee

Carole Lee Carroll, *Chair*

Gary Littlefield, *Vice Chair*

Susan Meffert, *Secretary*

Eva Nudelman, *Treasurer*

Charles Dahill

Pam Lynch (alt)

Robin Fagerlund

Stuart Nudelman

Louise Galanes (alt)

Peter Woodbury

Susan Levenson

Barbara Woodbury, *Chairperson Emerita*

Paula Cummings, *Museum Coordinator*

Friends of the Ogunquit Heritage Museum Board of Directors

Hank Hokans, *President*

Bobbi Treen, *Vice President*

Sue Michaelson, *Secretary*

Marilyn Eimon, *Treasurer*

Benita Braggiotti

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Pat Dateo

Wini Mason

Bob Glidden

Bob Perkins

Bob Joyner

Gail Trust



Friends of the Ogunquit Heritage Museum Spring 2012 Newsletter

Peter R. Woodbury, *Editor*

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Museum Chair's Report . . .

Once again it is my privilege to serve on the Ogunquit Heritage Committee. As we enter our 11th year, I am thinking back on all the work done by the long list of people who have participated in making the Ogunquit Heritage Museum a reality. I think the museum owes a great deal to all of these people, but I think we must especially thank Isabel Lewando whose dedication and wonderful way of expressing things helped to spearhead the early effort. We will miss her greatly.

For the museum committee it is the typical active spring season. We are knocking on doors searching for artifacts to borrow and haunting the libraries looking for research.

The emphasis this year will be the architecture of Ogunquit. It is a more extensive subject than envisioned, and I imagine it will be continued in the summer of 2013. Featured this summer will be the Whistling Oyster restaurant, the Barbara Dean restaurant and guest house, Stonecrop Cottage, Millstone Manor, the Ogunquit Library, the Ogunquit Playhouse, the Island House and the Sparhawk and Lookout Hotels. Paula Cummings, assisted by her docents, will be returning to help guide one and all through the museum. I guarantee visitors will have an informative and pleasant time and hope to see you during the summer.

Carole Lee Carroll



Carole Lee Carroll

A Look Back . . .

As we approach our eleventh season at the museum, allow us to look back at how it all began.

The Winn House was built circa 1780 by Captain William Winn. After twelve different ownerships the house became the property of Phyllis Perkins. It was located where the Gorges Grant Motel now sits until 1986 when Mrs. Perkins gave it to the town for preservation as an historic treasure that had been listed in 1979 on the National Register of Historic Places. It sat fallow for more than a decade on part of the Dorothea Jacobs Grant Common during which time interested townspeople offered many visions and proposals for its use. When volunteers came together to offer their time and expertise, a committee was formed whose main focus was to restore the building which the town had moved to its present location to prevent further deterioration.

This ad hoc restoration committee became The Winn House Restoration Committee and eventually was renamed The Ogunquit Heritage Museum Committee under the aegis of the Select Board. Over time, dozens of people and several Ogunquit Select Boards collaborated to make this gift to our town a reality. And ultimately in 2001, it became the Ogunquit Heritage Museum, the perfect place to showcase Ogunquit's maritime, fishing and art history as well as a significant repository of the town's historical documents and artifacts.

The archives at the museum can trace not only as far back as our settlement but it has a very graphic history of the town during the '50s that many of us still recall. For your pleasure we reprint here an article written by Charles Littlefield Seaman, a devoted citizen and amateur chronicler who wrote volumes about the town that he donated to the museum's library.

"Until about the mid 1950s anyone living in Ogunquit didn't have to leave the environs of the Village. Everything a person might need was within reach on Main Street. Ogunquit was a Village Corporation within the Town of Wells. This of course all changed when Ogunquit became a Town in 1980, but until the 1950s it was all here.

"Ogunquit could boast four grocery stores. There was the A&P which was owned by Bill Sherburne. It was located in the Clark Block where the Harbor Candy Store is today. At the other end of the block known as the Littlefield Block was the First National Store (today it's the Village Market). We had a Red & White store owned by Willis (Bill) Littlefield with the help of his wife Alice and was located in the Jacobs Block between the Community Trust Co. and the

Continued, page 4...



A Look Back . . . (from page 3)

original Bessie's Restaurant. The other store was probably the best known; it was the C. L. Maxwell's Grocery and Hardware Store located on the corner of Rte 1 and Berwick Road. They were famous for delivering groceries and their hardware section had almost any kind of pot or pan, seeds and fertilizers. You could buy a shot gun, rifle and of course shells. They delivered twice a day. You could call in your order in the morning and it would be delivered before noon. If you forgot something, then you just told the driver you needed something. It would be delivered later that afternoon. Most of their accounts were paid by the month.

"Ogunquit had three garages that sold gas. The Shell station was located next to today's Village Inn. It had been run by Erborn Hilton and later owned by Mac Keyes. Jacobs garage had mechanics and they sold Fords. Hutchins Garage also had good mechanics and sold Chevrolets. Both Hutchins and Jacobs sold fuel oil. Hutchins also sold cord wood for fireplaces and furnaces.

"Ogunquit had two barbers. There was Ted Crotty and Trapper Warren, both located on Main Street. Next to Ted Crotty's was a beauty shop for the ladies. These shops were next to the Post Office and on the other side of the PO was Towers Drugstore which had a lunch counter. Almost every morning during the off season you would find the same people having coffee and donuts or muffins. Flo was the mainstay behind the counter and more recently she was famous for her hot dog stand in Cape Neddick and her secret sauce. There was another hardware store that was run by Earl Kennedy who was an electrician. His store was located on Shore Road on part of the Jacobs Garage property just about where the entrance to the bank is today.

"There were doctors here then who made house calls. Dr. Gerald Smith had his office just off Shore Rd, down a lane behind the Barn Gallery. Dr. Tower had his office on Beach Street and Dr. Matioska's office was located almost across the street from Hutchins garage. And we cannot forget our Dr. Ruth Endicott who with her husband Miles Freeman still reside in town. Dr. Smith charged \$5 for a house call. Ogunquit had a dentist; Dr. Filson whose office was in his home on Scotch Hill.

"Shackford & Gooch from Kennebunkport delivered fresh seafood each Friday. They had fish, scallops, clams and other seasonal fish. Cushman's Bakery from Portland had all sorts of breads, cookies, donuts and cakes. Bernard's Bakery located on Shore

Rd. (where Wild Blueberry now stands) also delivered. Alvah Bernard was the primary baker and his brother Gilbert delivered each week. Joel Perkins had milking cows and delivered milk. This was before homogenized milk so the cream rose to the top and it was easily whipped. Burton Dodge and his son Ellis delivered fresh meat weekly. They each had a refrigerated container on the back of a pickup truck. Special orders were placed and along with more ordinary beef you could have a turkey or a rib roast. There were plumbers, carpenters, masons and an appliance store for radio and if you had one, TV repairs."

With the advent of malls in Portsmouth and supermarkets in Wells, much inevitably changed within these four square miles. But on a quiet night in our imagination we can still see the way things used to be in our *Beautiful Place by the Sea*.

(Compiled by W. Mason and B. Treen)



Welcome New Members . . .

Ann and Bill Farr
Mrs. Patricia Mason
Mr. and Mrs. Robert E. Tilley

Endowment Contributions . . .

\$500.00 by Fidelity Charitable Grant

In Memory of **Norman Wilkinson**
\$225.00 by Marilyn C. Eimon

In Memory of **Blanche Staples**
\$150 by Marena Bragg

In Memory of **Adrian Asherman**
\$100.00 by Ellen Asherman

In Memory of **Dr. Perry Eimon**
\$100 by Marilyn C. Eimon

In Honor of **Primmy Winkler**
\$50 by Susan Meffert

In Honor/memory of **Bud Mayo**
\$ 25.00 by Marilyn C. Eimon

\$ 15.00 by Nancy N. Hogan