



Friends of the Winn House

Newsletter • November 2003

Edited by Bill & Judy Baker

Celebrating Ogunquit's History

The Ogunquit Heritage Museum at the historic Winn House celebrated its first year anniversary by honoring the artist colony and Ogunquit's maritime history. Recognizing the Ogunquit Art Association's 75th anniversary, an exhibit featured ephemera and paintings by past Association presidents. First president Charles Woodbury and current president Nancy Davison along with current members were represented.

In collaboration with the Ogunquit Museum of American Art, a walking tour was developed to include Ogunquit's historic sites around Perkins Cove. The tour was conducted by Marcia Brazer, Isabel Lewando, and Barbara Woodbury. It included fishing shacks and artist studios and the tour's climax was a visit to the Charles Woodbury studio so graciously hosted by the Brazer family.

In addition, a weekly walking tour, conducted by costumed Robin Fagerlund, of historic Ogunquit Village was established. The tour took visitors along the Ogunquit River, at one time the site of shipyards, docks, and fish houses serving Ogunquit's early maritime fleet.

The Ogunquit Heritage Museum at the Winn House had a lot to celebrate. Sixteen years ago the house was moved from Route 1 to Jacob's Field, and a few years later, to its current location. After 4 years of restoration, the

house has become a fine example of late eighteenth century architecture. Visitors from a number of states, and as far away as the United Kingdom toured the Winn House this past summer, discovering its characteristic Maine architecture and charm.

We would like to thank everyone who made our dreams come true for the Winn House and we look to a future with great promise of more exciting things to come.

Do You Remember?

Sunday, November 16, 2003

2 p.m. at the

Ogunquit Memorial Library

Join us and share stories, photos, and memorabilia about people, places, and events in Ogunquit...the Village, the Cove, fishing, the Village School, summer folks, and all that make Ogunquit a unique place by the sea.

Sponsored by the Ogunquit Heritage Museum and the Friends of the Winn House

ROBY LITTLEFIELD REMEMBERS

About the first prominent American artist to come here was Charles H. Woodbury. He had an art school in Boston. He came here first in about 1890, stopping at the Ogunquit House, next door to the Methodist Church. He liked the place so well he bought land adjacent to Perkins Cove and had a studio and later a dwelling house built there. His summer art school became one of the best known in this area. He married one of his pupils, Susan Oaks, daughter of Judge Oaks of South Berwick. For a wedding trip he hired a horse and wagon and coachman to bring them here from South Berwick. Her father, who was quite a prankster, disguised himself and arranged with the livery to act as coachman. On the way here from South Berwick he got them lost and they spent their wedding day night roaming the woods around the base of Agamenticus Mountain.

Another artist who came here years ago was Hamilton Easter Field who bought the Adams Island house in Perkins Cove and had a summer school of painting there. He was one of the first, if not the first, to have nude models pose out on the rocks. Of course the young boys were curious and tried to peek. He had guards posted to keep them away. One day Joe Weare, then just a youngster, got caught peeking and was mauled by a guard.

When Joe got home his Aunt Bessie, who was quite spirited, asked his father what he was going to do about it. "Nothing," said Henry who was a peaceable soul. "Well I'm going to," said Bessie. In telling about it afterward, Bessie said, "I told him if I heard of their doing to any boy what they did to Joe I would come down and horse whip them." Field tried to reply, but each time I opened up, the harder he stuttered, so he couldn't say a word."

From *The Ogunquit Breeze*, Roby Littlefield, editor, Midwinter Bulletin, 1975

Did you know that ...

- **The Winn House has been restored to its 1825 structure?**
- **The Winn House uses post and beam construction?**
- **Most of the paneling in two of the rooms is original?**
- **A center chimney serves three downstairs fireplaces?**
- **A restoration craftsman plastered the rooms?**

Would You Donate...

- **Small fans?**
- **Small air conditioner?**
- **Local historical photos?**
- **Staples gift certificates?**
- **Small refrigerator?**
- **Family archives?**
- **Period furniture?**
- **Fishing artifacts?**
- **Historical paintings?**
- **Old post cards?**

WINN HOUSE VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR

Good teachers never stop teaching, and that may be why Blanche Staples, longtime teacher at Ogunquit's Village School, faithfully volunteered her Saturdays to give informative tours of the Winn House. Her effort is due to her dedication in preserving Ogunquit's heritage so that it will not be lost. Blanche has also volunteered at the Ogunquit Village School as part of its history project and at the Ogunquit Museum of American Art.

Heritage Museum Future Plans

The Ell – Next year we hope to construct a replica of the original ell, that connected the Winn House with its barn. A 35X18 post and beam building will house maritime exhibits, have running water and a welcome center.

The Littlefield Resource Library - A library dedicated to researching the Littlefield family has been established at the Ogunquit Heritage Museum. It was the dream of the late Charles Littlefield Seaman to establish such a resource, and the Museum has accepted the project. About 120 volumes and archives were donated by Charles last summer to start the collection which is now known as the Littlefield Resource Library. Many of the books came from Neil Gerrish, a Littlefield relation from Florida, who researched his family in great detail. The volumes consist of computer print-outs, copies of town vital records, the Franklin manuscript, indexes, cemetery records, and other research aids.

The newest addition to the library has been a file cabinet donated by Charles' daughters Allison and Meredith for whom the Museum is very grateful. Additional material from Charles' archive will be added when it can be organized into more usable form.

It is expected that some funding will be applied for from the Friends of the Winn House, a recently formed group in Ogunquit of which Charles said, "I am behind this 100%."

The library is expected to open its doors by the spring of 2004.

Financial Report to Friends of the Winn House

Income from donations	\$7990	
Expenses for 2003		(\$2711)
Projects funded by Friends		(\$3270)
<hr/>		
Balance for 2004	\$2009	

Projects Funded by Friends: \$500 to videotape the history of the Winn House, \$1000 for educational exhibits, \$770 for the Littlefield library, \$1000 to develop an elementary school program on Ogunquit marine history.

As you can see, our dollars are going to good use at the Ogunquit Heritage Museum. If you would like to make a year-end, tax-deductible donation to fund additional projects, please send your check and the form below to:

Friends of the Winn House
P.O. Box 723
Ogunquit, ME 03907-0723

Please make checks payable to
Friends of the Winn House

Name _____

Street/P.O. Box _____

City, State, Zip Code _____

Amount _____ **Date** _____

WE THANK OUR CHARTER MEMBERS

Builders

Newell Perkins
Jon & Bernadine Speers
Blanche Staples

Benefactors

Robert & Karen Hanson
Gordon & Donna Lewis

Advocates

Peter & Barbara Woodbury

Patrons

Wyatt Littlefield Baker
Beachmere Inn
Norman & Marcia Brazer
Phil Cavaretta
Edward & Anna. Hampson
Dawn Hill & Jim Nadeau
Philip L. Kimball
Gary H. Littlefield
Lewis & Pat Mason
Paul & Wini Mason
Susan Meffert
Moores Sparhawk Corp.
Christian Perkins
Fred & Betty Salfeety
Mary-Leigh Smart
Joanne S. Tomao
Jonathan West
George & Joan Yorke

Families

Adrian & Ellen Asherman
Bill & Judy Baker
Phil & Fran Clark
Ralph & Nancy Davison
Scott & Beverlee Drury
Norman & Nancy Fording
Jordan & Muriel Freedman
Fred & Jane Garland

Forest R. Haselton
Henry & Louise Hokans
Susan Levenson
Richard & Mary Littlefield
Daniel & Doria Lohnes
Paul McGowan
John & Norma Miller
Norman Nickerson
Stuart & Eva Nudelman
Ogunquit Rotary
Jay & Jean Smith
Harold E. Staples

Friends

Eleanor L. Adams
Sally H. Alexandre
Eric Andrews
Ken Bartuka
Roger W. Brown
Wandah Clark
Charles & Eileen Dahill
Eunice Desjardins
Sybil W. Dupuis
Arnie Ginsburg
Mary R. Haines
Beverly Hallam
Betty & Ludmila Hoffmann
John & Jean Ladderbush
Les LaFond
Lorraine Latuillipe
Zana M. Littlefield
Debora Marathon
Marjorie C. Murphy
Richard & Phyllis Norton
Dorothy Robinson
Fran Scully
Suzanne Stillings
David & Virginia Tank
Denise Thorne
Steve Williams
Yorke Associates

Students/Seniors

Diana Abbott
Robert Bolduc
Judi Dineen
Jeanne F. Gagne
Glodean K. Gates
Frank J. Glazier
Nancy M. Glendenning
Betty Hanson
Carol C. Kobus
Alan & Leila Kupper
Lorraine Latuillipe
Isabel Lewando
B. Fryer Littlefield
Kay Diana Littlefield
Bruce A. Martin
Peter & Deborah Meigs
Charlotte Moody
Evelyne Neill
Grover & Margaret Perkins
Helene Rutledge
Bernice Sarno
Charles L. Seaman
Robert & Janice Smith
Bernard & Elaine Stein
Grover & Dolores Strauss
Jean Wallace-Fearon
Ray & Sue Wiggins
Norman & Dorothy Wilkinson
Betty S. Williams

Special thanks to those who donated to the Charles Seaman

Memorial Fund: Eleanor
Adams, Martin & Peggy
Damren, John & Margie
Florentine, Linda Hanscom,
Phyllis Hetzler, Susan
Hutchinson, Jon & Bernadine
Speers, Peter Woodbury,
George & Joan Yorke, Patricia
Young, Robert & MaryJo
McDonald, William Eaton,
Melinda Brian & Phoebe
Tudor and Benjamin Hedges.