

Friends of the Winn House

Newsletter

Fall 2004

Edited by Bill and Judy Baker

DONORS SPUR HERITAGE MUSEUM'S GROWTH

by Barbara Woodbury
Curator, Ogunquit Heritage Museum

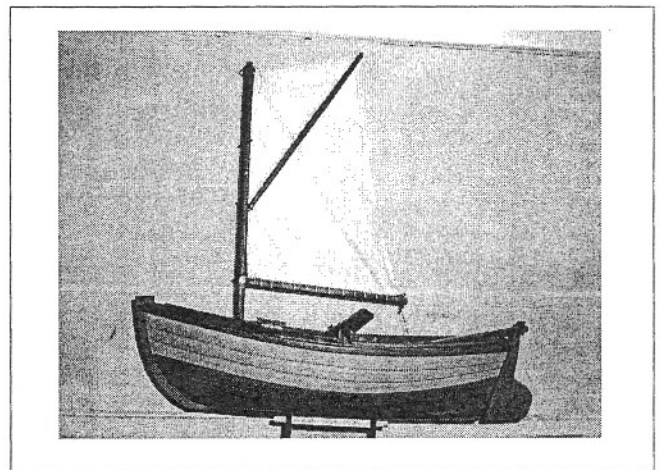
The word is beginning to get around that there is a new museum in Ogunquit, and many have already donated their special artifacts, furniture, ephemera, photos, art work, post cards, and special family items to this 'new' Ogunquit Heritage Museum. We welcome all gifts of this kind with the restriction that they relate to Ogunquit's history or are about a person or family, native or summer resident, who lived in Ogunquit. Some recent accessions include a model of an Ogunquit dory from Meredith Young, two rocking chairs from Gladys Shum, 17 pen and ink drawings of John Neill's from Margaret Gromlich, a clam basket and rake from Blanche Staples, a collection of memorabilia from Alice Ireland and many more items from generous donors.

We are developing a storage area for archives so that donations will be protected and kept safe. If you have a family history you would like to share, we will keep it in the Littlefield Resource Library, part of the Museum.

This year we will take a new step forward: the rebuilding of the ell that was part of the original structure. This additional space will give us more exhibit room as well as a bathroom. Drop by and watch the progress. With fingers crossed the new ell will be ready in time for our 2005 opening on June 1 st.

I would like to thank all of you who have contributed to the Ogunquit Heritage Museum. Our wish list includes a captain's sea chest; old charts, particularly of the

Ogunquit and neighboring coasts; any information about the early schooner trade, especially that trade out of Ogunquit; post cards; early photographs or even those of a decade or so ago showing Ogunquit's changing scene; and everything Ogunquit. If you are cleaning out an attic or barn, don't forget the Museum.



*Ogunquit Dory Model
created by Meredith Young
gift of the artist*

This year has been a most active year at the museum — many visitors, many donations and much participation in community events. Our Museum Coordinator, Paula Cummings, did a fantastic job greeting people and answering questions about Ogunquit history. Our museum committee: Carol Lee Carroll, Ellen Dennert, Susan Levenson and Susan Meffert, painted walls, created new exhibits, and hung new curtains.

A special thanks to the Friends of the Winn House for your financial support and encouragement.

From the Chair

by Bernadine Speers
Chair, Friends of the Winn House

As we get ready to close the Winn House for the winter, it is a good time to reflect on our accomplishments of this season. First of all, we met our goals for new members and exceeded our expectations for contributions. We continue to become better-known in the community through our activities and local publicity. **Thanks to all of you for your generous contributions during 2004.**

Above all, we raised our visibility with the *Win with the Winn House Raffle*. Gordon Lewis, Susan Meffert and Ellen Dannert organized a very successful, first-time Winn House raffle during the month of August which provided us with a lot of fun and generated great interest in the local community. **Thanks to Gordon, Susan, and Ellen, and the businesses that provided the highly sought-after raffle prizes.**

We look forward to moving ahead on the plans for the ell in the next few months. We're getting assistance from the Town of Ogunquit's architects in putting the ell construction out to bid. Even though this will be a very simple structure, it is also a public building so the added scrutiny of experts can only improve our chances of having a first-class addition to the Winn House - on the National Register of Historic Places and also named an historic landmark by the Ogunquit Historic Preservation Commission.

One of the best times of year at the Winn House is our annual celebration and exhibitions for Christmas by the Sea. Even though we are open for a brief period - December 11th and 12th, it's a time of real magic for everyone who stops by. This year the exhibits will be from two private collections. The first is a display of Dreidles to follow up on last year's very popular menorah exhibit. The second is a collection of folk artists' depictions of Noah's Ark.

Please stop in for a cup of hot cider, a step back in time to old New England, and to celebrate with other Friends of the Winn House.

Do You Remember?



Ogunquit Village School Thanksgiving Play 1946

Back row, left to right: Marcia Adams, Faye Allen, Florence Amick, Hope Moody, Janet Perkins, Kenneth Lindsay, Peter Moody, Roderic Wellwood, Nancy (Mayo) Emmons. Front (on floor): Mary Webber Littlefield, Gertrude (Genthner) Webber, Robert Fortune, Donald Cray. Against fireplace: Joan Smith. Kneeling: Jolene Rode. Behind kneeling girls: Carmen Brown, Suzanne Lawrence. Boys at desks: James Brewster, Nelson Derocher.

A Cove Childhood

by Blanche Staples

When I was young, all of my time was spent down at the Cove, and if the fishermen left a pair of oars in a punt, we'd get in and row off; they would get mad and they'd yell at us and we'd hurriedly bring the punt back in. Of course the fishermen used these punts to row out to their boats.

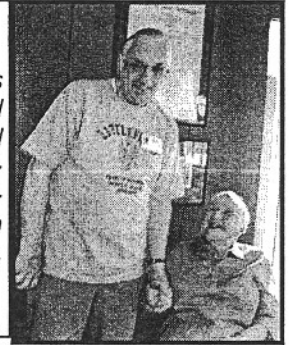
But, actually, I think they enjoyed having us kids steal a punt and spindle off with them, because we learned to row. We'd just go up and down the river; we wouldn't go out in the ocean, because our mothers wouldn't allow us to do that.

I sat down to row in the punt; I could never stand up in them like the fishermen did. I was too little.

And our mothers would say, "Now, don't you go in and get wet," "Oh, no, we're just going wading," and so we'd go wading and of course fall down and get soaking wet.

There's a wonderful rock in the Oarweed which is called Crow Island, not because it has any crows on it that I know of – they are mostly sea gulls. But behind that rock there are wonderful tidal pools, and we used to go down there and go into the tidal pools and there would be all sorts of starfish and little shells, and we used to open 'gift shops' down there on the rocks. We'd put paint on clam shells and pretend we were artist Angela Vedder. If you had called us a 'Cove Rat', you would have been perfectly right.

Blanche Staples shares a Littlefield story with Richard Littlefield at the Littlefield Family Reunion and Winn House opening, June, 2004



Do You Remember?

- *the Artists' Ball at the Ice House in the Cove—complete with mermaids clad in fishnet only, pirates and ships' captains, where J. Scott Smart and the artists held forth*
- *the riding stable where the Dorothea Grant Common and Winn House are today*
- *the dunes that were big enough to slide down*
- *when there were more summer people and fewer tourists*
- *there was a traffic cop directing traffic out of Beach Street and Shore Road onto Rte 1*

Special Thanks to the Charles Seaman Family for their gifts of the remaining copies of Charles Seaman's **Ogunquit, Maine, 1900 - 1971** and **Perkins Cove, Ogunquit** - available for sale at the Winn House.

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Blanche Staples