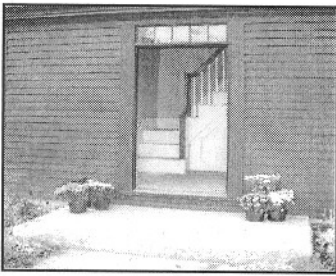


Friends of the Winn House

Spring 2005 Newsletter

edited by Judy and Bill Baker



Ell Nears Completion Help Sought to Finish Interior

by Barabara Woodbury, photos by Pete Woodbury

As the Winn House opens for a new season, we have completed phase one of the ell, the shell. Contractor Bob Centore did a fine job and we are now eager to finish the interior so it can be used for exhibition space.

Two yard sales helped spark our current fund raising campaign; we have applied for several grants; and are also asking for your help to complete the interior. The Ogunquit Rotary has already donated two windows and painted the outside of the ell; the Ogunquit Women's Club has donated all the fixtures for the bathroom; and the Kennebunk Savings Bank and the Littlefield Newsletter have made important contributions. We have volunteer carpenters ready to finish the inside. Our community support is so gratifying.

If you can help underwrite a window, door or other needed item, are able to donate or are good with a hammer, please contact us at 646-0436. Our goal is to raise \$15,000.00; we have currently received \$5300.00 plus \$900.00 from our Patriot's Day weekend tag sale. Special thanks to Susan Levenson and Pete Woodbury for chairing this event and most of all to those who contributed to the sale and to our fund.

We are thankful to Blanche Staples for donating faithful copies of her colorful Charles H. Woodbury canvas of fisherman Aaron Donnell painting his dory, a Cove fishermen's yearly ritual; as well as her



The new Winn House ell, showing the roof completed, the doors in place, and the shell essentially done.

painting by local artist Edward Hergelroth of fishermen's shacks in Perkins Cove. Center stage is the shack that belonged to Blanche's father, Warren Hutchins.

Carrie Charpentier will begin creating children's programs about Ogunquit history, one of our main goals. Our enthusiastic and knowledgeable Paula Cummings will be back this summer as our Museum Coordinator. Please drop in, welcome Paula back, and see our new exhibits.

Ells are a unique part of Northeastern architecture. Because of the cold and snowy winters, farmers built a connecting ell between barn and house. Farmers could then milk their cows and tend to their animals on mornings when the snow fell deep and the wind blew strong without going outside. The original Winn House ell was moved to another location and became a private home when the Winn House was moved to Jacobs Field.

From the Chair

by Bernadine Speers

This will be a remarkable year of transition at the Winn House. The reconstruction of the original ell, planned as an educational wing, will be completed this summer. Our enlarged museum will allow adequate space for programs for students of all ages. An expanded exhibit area will feature Ogunquit's marine history and boat building project.

The Friends of the Winn House will take an active role in supporting this final phase of the building by bringing an increased emphasis to the educational programs and projects that will now be possible to house in the ell. We offer grants to educators, historians, architects, and scholars who will use the facility to provide educational outreach programs. Grant applications will be reviewed by the Board each spring to support projects for the next year.

Past projects funded by the Friends include videotaped histories of the Winn House and the community through the 'Do You Remember?' series, equipment to display exhibits in the Winn House, and the development of an elementary school program on Ogunquit marine history. Applications for grants are available to anyone seeking funds to further our goal of communicating the local marine, art, architectural, horticultural, and social history to our school children, summer visitors and residents.

We hope you will help us celebrate and finish this important addition to your Ogunquit Heritage Museum.



Do you remember the Ogunquit Donut Shop on Route 1 across from what is now the Gorges Grant Hotel?

Do You Remember...

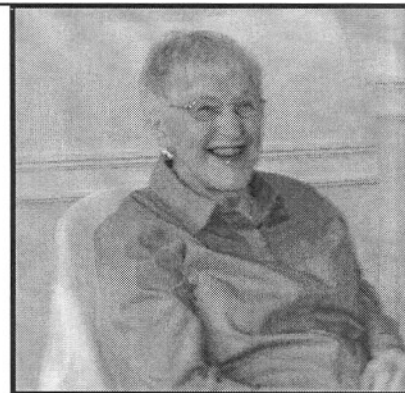
Thanks to Mary Littlefield

- sledding down from the High Rock Hotel and trying to stop before you slid onto Main Street?
- gathering at the old Tower Drug Store to catch the school bus to the high school?
- getting off the bus after school and running into the drug store to sit at the counter and have a vanilla Coke and a Devil Dog?
- playing on the porches of the High Rock Hotel in the winter when it was closed for the season?
- the My Sister and I Dinette run by Adelle and Amelia Ayoob where H.M. Crumpets now stands?
- having Esselyn Perkins as a teacher at the Village School?
- the rubber hose Esselyn Perkins kept in the bottom drawer of her desk? You never forgot anything she taught!
- shopping at Maxwell's for your meat, groceries, and hardware needs?

My Mother, A Lobsterman's Wife

by Blanche Staples

We've heard about Ogunquit's captains, lobstermen, farmers, and artists – but what of their wives who stayed at home? Blanche Staples remembers her mother feeding the family through hard times.



My mother cooked clams in every way you could think of! We had clam chowder! And we had fried clams! And we had scalloped clams! We were sure to have at least steamed clams and we were sure to have clams at least once or twice a week because my father went clamming and they were free.

My mother would go to the Cove and if the fishermen had just come in, if they had codfish, they'd give one to her, and she'd bake it; and if it were a haddock, they'd charge five cents a pound.

We had very little meat; we did have chicken on Sunday. We were lucky to get it once a week! We had lots of stew. The butcher would throw in a good marrow bone, there would be very little meat with it, but mother would manage to make the stew with the marrow bone, so we'd be sure to have that once a week.

We knew what we were going to have to eat Mondays: my mother always had corned beef and vegetables, boiled dinner, because she washed on Monday. She put the clothes in a big copper washtub and boiled them on the back of the wood stove all day; she had to keep the stove going to keep the wash water boiling. In the middle of summer it would be 120 degrees! We always had dinner at noon time because my father got up about 4 o'clock in the morning and he would be famished.

And then Monday night, we had red flannel hash. You shredded the left over corned beef, you chopped up the potatoes, the carrots and beets and rutabagas very fine and put it all in with the corned beef in a deep, black frying pan. Then you heated it and it browned nicely; that was red flannel hash.

We knew that on Saturday night we were going to have beans; we didn't have any hot dogs to go with it. When you had beans, you had beans, and that was it. But my mother made biscuits every day of her life. I never remember a meal we didn't have any; we always, always, had biscuits.

Dandelion greens were one of my mother's favorites. The minute the spring came and the dandelions came up, my mother was out in the yard digging up the dandelions. I never liked them because they were too bitter; but my mother and my father loved them. When she had more than we could eat, she canned them in glass jars and we'd have greens all winter.

Everybody had a little garden. My mother grew root vegetables. She'd bury the carrots, potatoes and beets in a big box of dirt down in the cellar, and they would keep about all winter. Cabbages kept well too. We couldn't have fresh vegetables year round.

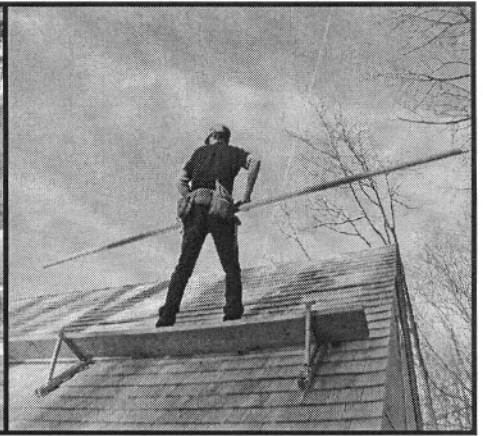
We were too poor for me to ride horseback at the riding school in Jacobs Field where the Winn House now sits. It was \$2 an hour in my day; but my mother would make apple jelly, because my grandfather had apple trees, and she'd let me sell it. And I remember wanting to ride horseback so badly, that I would give them eight jars of home made apple jelly for a one hour ride.



The excavation the day before Thanksgiving, 2004...



The front wall raised one cold winter day...



Shingled at last; the exterior is nearly done...

The shell is nearly done.

Now we need your help to complete the inside.

Here is what we need:

_____ A gift of a 6' folding table (we need 3) - \$45

_____ A gift of wire shelves - \$100

_____ A gift of an air conditioner - \$250

_____ A gift of a water closet - \$200

_____ A gift of 5 Halogen bulbs (we need 20) - \$25

_____ A gift of a door - \$150

_____ A gift of 4 folding chairs (we need 20) - \$35

_____ A gift of an exhaust fan - \$100

_____ A gift of a Monitor Heater - \$1200

_____ A gift of barn doors - \$3500

_____ A gift of a window (we need 2 more) - \$475

_____ A gift of a front door - \$2000

_____ A gift of a bundle of shingles (we need 40) - \$25

_____ A gift of a granite front step

_____ A gift of a fire protection system - \$2475

_____ A gift of a granite bench

Any amount toward any of these is welcome.

Please find my gift of \$_____ enclosed for a designated item or donation.

Name_____ Address _____

Please make checks payable to: The Winn House.
PO Box 875, Ogunquit, Maine 03907