

ELIOT HISTORICAL SOCIETY

**Minutes of Meeting for November 3, 2008
John F. Hill Grange Hall, Eliot, ME**

President, Denny Lentz called the November meeting to order and welcomed everyone. There were 53 in attendance.

Secretary's Report Dorothy Hansen read the minutes of the October meeting. After a question the minutes were approved.

Treasurer's Report Julie Johnson read the Treasurer's report with debits for postage and Grange Hall rent. There was an Eliot book sold and an Acadia Royalty check giving a balance of \$1,492.01 in the general checking account. There were debits for an electric bill and some landscaping costs leaving a balance of \$915.52 in the #8 schoolhouse fund. With an interest credit there is a balance of \$12,126.25 in the savings account. Our CD with \$5,281.43 is maturing. After a discussion it was agreed that \$5000 would be transferred from savings and added to the maturing CD of \$5,281.43. That new CD would earn 2.50% for 6 months. Julie also said that she just received a reimbursement of \$15 due to cancellation of Eliot Days.

Correspondence Report Denny said that he ask Peggy Eliot to send a birthday card to Morgan Willis at Baran Place. She sent a thank you to Bob & Shirley Parker for their donation of Florence Moulton's school bell and other memorabilia. Also two sympathy cards were sent to Donald Webber Jr. and Donald Webber Sr. on the death of Mrs. Webber Sr.

COMMITTEE CHAIR REPORTS

Program Carol Zamarchi reported that she is doing well with lining up next year's programs. If anyone has a suggestion for interesting programs, please let Carol know.

Collections Julie Johnson said the collections committee toured the Sarah Orne Jewitt historical home in South Berwick recently followed by a lunch and a planning meeting. Julie said she has received donated items from Florence Moulton's estate including Florence's school hand bell used at the Lincoln school. Julie will get a display box and plaque for displaying the bell at the school. She also has received some documents and papers donated from Barbara Sullivan. Mr. Russo has donated pictures of the Eliot Boy Scout Troop

from 1912. Julie would like to locate some mannequins so clothes from our collection could be in a display at Kennebunk Savings Bank.

Building Paul Johnson said that he has no workdays scheduled at this time. He & Julie have been busy working on the Raitt Cemetery and the Raitt & Frost Cemetery, which they have adopted. It was time consuming to clear brush and debris and then setting up most of the stones that had fallen. Denny said we are always looking for people interested in volunteering to work on the building committee. If anyone is interested just let Denny know so he could get you on Paul's list.

PR/Publicity Carolyn Bogh said that an article she sent did appear in the Sentinel addressing the funds that Kennebunk Savings Bank provided to the Eliot Historical Society through votes from the community investment ballots. Carolyn also said that Walter Hanson had donated a primer to the #8 school house.

Fund Raising Carol said that our major fund raiser is selling the tickets donated to us from the Goransson's for opening night of "Meet Me in St. Louis" at the Seacoast Repertory Theatre on November 28th. She has a few tickets left to sell. It is 100% profit for us.

Education Jeanette Paul said she is looking forward to the student's visitation to our #8 School House next spring. Carolyn said that the teachers are looking forward to it as well.

Bi-Centennial Planning Zip Zamarchi said that the planning committee has been meeting. They are looking for people interested in helping and ideas for activities.

OLD BUSINESS

Denny gave a big thanks to Carolyn Bogh for all her time and effort to complete the typing of the Bainbridge Parson documents. Carolyn said that we are able to retain copies of Mr. Parson's documents and she has given them to Julie to be sorted for our collection.

NEW BUSINESS

A guest for the evening, Dawn Sciascia on Adlington Rd., said there is a nearby cemetery and that she has researched the worn stones to determine the people or families buried there. Roseanne will talk with her about the cemetery adoption

project. Dawn also has a concern about an open well at the old Briggs home on Brixham Rd. At this time sixty-five Eliot cemeteries have been adopted.

A new website has been created to share historical info relative to Eliot. Denny said a big thank you to Eric Christian for all his work on it. Eric said if people want to be a part of it they should give Eric their e-mail address. Eric said he would be putting the approved minutes of our meetings on our Eliot Historical Society web page.

Six people including Carolyn and Dick Bogh attended a meeting about recording “oral history” with the objective to learn how to interview people. Carolyn said she has typed up some pointers for those interested. It was decided that we would make a purchase of a video camera for this use.

Paul said that he submitted before the deadline an itemized request of \$3250 to the Town of Eliot for next years budget.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The remaining tickets for Seacoast Repertory Theatre tickets can be purchased from Carol and could be used as Christmas gifts.

Edward Hanson has received his Eagle Scout Award. He has invited EHS members to a ceremony on November 22nd at the Kittery Trading Post from 2-4.

A motion was made, seconded and approved that the business meeting be adjourned.

Denny then called on Carol to introduce our evening’s speaker, Mimi Clark. Mimi came to speak to us about Millie McCloud, a resident of Eliot born in 1911 and died in 1993. Mimi started her talk by saying, “I never knew Millie McCloud”, but she had the privilege to restore Millie’s house on State Road. During that time she met neighbors and acquaintances of Millie and was told about her unhappy childhood. Because she had a lazy eye she was somehow labeled retarded. Her mother and stepfather abused her and never sent her to school. She probably gained freedom after her parents passed on. Millie was a petite person and capable of running her family’s dairy farm. She loved animals & flowers. She basically just lived in the kitchen of her home. She lived quite simply and never drove. She walked where she needed to go including Portsmouth and often took rides from people. A lively discussion ensued as many guests for the evening knew Millie and were able to share their experiences with Millie. Most of these people witnessed that Millie was probably

the happiest person they knew. The current owners of Millie's home shared a picture of Millie & her mother. Mimi passed before and after pages of pictures of Millie's home. Mimi brought artifacts from the house and pictures from the walls that she later donated to the Historical Society.

Refreshments were then served by Julie and Paul Johnson.

**Respectfully Submitted
Dorothy Hansen, Secretary**

NEXT MEETING—December 1st

DECEMBER REFRESHMENTS—Carol and Zip Zamarchi