



DAN RAYMOND HOUSE

SHEFFIELD HISTORICAL SOCIETY
SHEFFIELD, MASSACHUSETTS

01257

Volume IX, No. 1
Summer, 1981-82

Dear Friends:

Summer for the Historical Society is usually a slow time but the amount of news to report and the level of activity merit a brief dispatch. A report on our regular meetings which begin on September 11, will be given in a later newsletter.

DATES OF IMPORTANCE --

July 12 is the date of our annual summer picnic which this year will be a covered dish affair, previous announcements to the contrary notwithstanding. So take note of that change and bring either a covered dish or a salad along with the usual place setting, chair, or blanket. Beverage and dessert will be provided. Dan Raymond House lawn - 4:00 pm.

July 25. Tag Sale. Save your goodies to donate as this is in place of our annual auction. The site is Dewey Hall from 10:00 am to 3:00 pm. Bring donated items to Dewey on Thursday, July 23 from 2:30 to 4:30 and 7:00 to 9:00 pm. This is one of our major fund raisers so mark your calendar now.

August 6, 7, and 8. Open House at the Dan Raymond House in conjunction with the annual antiques show which is put on by the Old Parish Church. While details are as yet incomplete, one of the historical displays will be a doll show.

A reminder that the Dan Raymond House is open each Friday afternoon from 2:00 to 4:00. Come on in and share some of our local history with your weekend guests and see with your own eyes the continuing progress including the nine over six windows built by Ed Warren.

OF THINGS PAST --

The Society's annual Antiques Market, 1981, has come to a successful end. Chairman Carl Proper and his people report a tentative profit of \$4,000 which will help in the Dan Raymond House restoration. Dealers numbered 137 and 940 paid their way in to enjoy the quality displays and beautiful weather. Carl deserves a special thank you from all of us for his continuing efforts on behalf of the Society. The tentative date for next year is May 29.

The June meeting was our annual meeting which brought us a new slate of officers for the coming year. Catherine Miller will continue with the second year of her two-year term as president, Milton Barnum and Lillian Preiss continue as trustees. New officers are as follows: Vice president, Chris Coenen; Secretary, Agnes Boardman; Treasurer, Marion Barnum; and Trustee, Penny Browne.

At this writing, June 30, 1981, the old covered bridge was returned to its position spanning the Housatonic River, after extensive renovation by Milton Graton Associates. This Society and individual members played an important role in the success of this project.

ANNUAL MEETING -

Officers and Committees for 1981-82 -

President, Catherine B. Miller
 Vice-president, Christopher Coenen
 Secretary, Agnes Boardman
 Treasurer, Marion Barnum

Trustees -
 Milton Barnum
 Penny Browne
 Lillian Preiss

Curator of Dan Raymond House -
 Lillian Preiss

Curator of Photography -
 Christopher Coenen

Dan Raymond House Committee -
 Marion Barnum
 Irene Cranmer
 Richard Combes, Consultant
 Ethel Mertching
 Lillian Preiss
 Carl Proper
 Sally Proper

Dan Raymond House Grounds Committee -
 James Miller
 Loring Boardman
 Arthur Chase
 Margaret Philbrick
 Caroline Treiber

Antiques Fair -
 Carl Proper
 Sally Proper

Newsletter -
 James Miller
 Grace Arzt

Treasurer, Development Fund -
 Viola Bagnaschi

Turkey Dinner Committee Chairpersons -
 Milton Barnum
 Penny Browne
 James Miller

REPORT FROM THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE -

Major emphasis has been directed toward the Dan Raymond House and its contents. Money was appropriated for the completion of the second bedroom in the apartment of the house with the work to be done by the tenant. A new heating system is to be installed this fall. Two furnaces will heat the apartment and the Society's headquarters separately. This big project is to be supervised by Milton Barnum and Carl Proper. The windows and trim are being painted Lynchburg Green and new windows installed. The bay window in the south parlor will be removed in Spring 1982 and the wall bricked in. Plans are in motion to begin the task of cataloging and filing several hundred glass plate negatives that Cris Coenen has put in order. The executive committee is looking for some individuals with a willingness to assist.

OF THINGS PAST -

The Dan Raymond House Committee wishes to thank everyone for their cooperation during the wonderful doll exhibit held August 6, 7, and 8. About 100 people stopped by to visit and admire the lovely dolls and also to observe the improvements that have taken place in the house since last summer. We had promises of some antique additions for the house as a result of the visits. The Quilters group has graciously consented to make the curtains for several of the rooms in the Dan Raymond House. This will be a fall project and will add greatly to the interior of the house.

A couple of local young ladies (ages 11 or 12) discovered the house for the first time and enjoyed it so much they went out and brought in some friends to see the lovely collections of dolls.

I am so pleased with the increased interest shown each year, that it makes it so worthwhile being open each Friday from 2 to 4 p.m. and also for special events. Please stop by and say hello.

-----Marion M. Barnum, Chairman

Under the energetic direction of Carl and Sally Proper the Society again enjoyed the rewards of a successful Antiques Fair during the Memorial Day weekend. The Propers presented the Society with a check for proceeds of \$4,000 to be used on the Dan Ray-

OF THINGS PAST (continued) -

Our Tag Sale, in lieu of the annual auction, realized a net of \$680. This money, too, is for the Dan Raymond House work. While the selling itself was fun, the ladies who worked so hard in preparation of the event certainly exceeded what the Society could reasonably expect from them.

The Quilting Group recently announced the winner of the most recent quilt made by the group. She was Miss Tamara Delmolino, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Delmolino, Lime Kiln Road, Sheffield.

About 25 members and friends availed themselves of the opportunity to attend the Annual Picnic. Ample food, good fun, and a slide show on Sheffield prepared and narrated by Lillian Preiss made for a successful afternoon.

REMINDER -

It's dues time again, still available at the popular prices of yesteryear. Single membership is \$3.00 and family membership \$5.00. If you are unable to attend a regular meeting, dues can be sent to Marion Barnum, Treasurer, Sheffield Historical Society, Sheffield, MA 01257.

The Sheffield Historical Commission will hold a dedication of the new Old Covered Bridge on Sunday, October 4 at 2:00. The public is invited to come early, enjoy a picnic and inspect the work of Milton S. Graton Associates. William Preston, vice-chairman of the Commission, will be master of ceremonies. The Society as well as many of its individual members played a major role in this historic restoration.

Hear Ye! Hear Ye!

The big plump turkeys are on the loose. If you see anyone stalking the fields of harvest this fall, don't shoot. It'll be Penny, Jim, and Milt. They're headed for the game in preparation for our annual Turkey Dinner.

We hope the harvest will be in and the north foundations will be banked so that we can all take time out on October 25 to enjoy this fine dinner at the American Legion Home on Route 7. Dinners will be served this year at 12:00 p.m. and 1:30 p.m.

We have 13 turkeys being roasted, 40 pies being baked for this super affair so don't eat for a week ahead of time. You'll make the cooks happy, and you will be able to get out those clothes that you put away after you went on that last diet.

Don't forget, October 25. Come and bring a friend.

----- The Three Giblets

The 250th Anniversary of Sheffield Committee has held three Photo Discovery Days, during which Chris Coenen, our curator of photography, has copied old photographs of the town brought in by area residents.

The Committee is planning to publish a photographic record of Old Sheffield in 1983 to celebrate the 250th anniversary of the incorporation of the town. Anyone who has pictures he would like to share for this purpose may bring them to any meeting of the historical society.

The Dan Raymond House Committee will again host a holiday open house in December. This is one of your best opportunities for a visit as the house will be decorated for the season.

Lillian Preiss is preparing a brochure on the Society and the Dan Raymond House for review by the Executive Committee and Trustees. The purpose is to answer questions about the Society and its programs for people who are interested in them.

The January Meeting will be the traditional Show and Tell, 'so keep your eyes open for that "stumper".