



DAN RAYMOND HOUSE

SHEFFIELD HISTORICAL SOCIETY
SHEFFIELD, MASSACHUSETTS

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Dear Members:

As the new year rolls around, we have the following programs and activities to announce as part of our continuing efforts to educate, amuse and inform our membership. Please mark your calendar for our regular meetings which are the second Friday of each month at Dewey Memorial Hall, 7:30 pm, unless otherwise noted. See you there!

January 8. This was our annual Show n' Tell and Whatsit. Forty items were brought in and a very large crowd showed up to try its luck at guessing the use of some unusual items. No one was able to guess Arthur Chase's "goose walker". See if you can find one to outdo that next year!

Excellent refreshments and table decorations were provided by Irene Armstrong, Alice Ann Chase and Carl and Sally Proper.

February 12. Twiggs Myers of Berkshire School will present a program on the Battlefields of the Civil War. Mr. Myers will show slides taken during his sabbatical last spring, of the battlegrounds around Gettysburg, Pennsylvania. He will discuss the forts, generals and battles associated with Robert E. Lee and the Army of Virginia.

Valentine refreshments by Mssrs. William Browne, Michael Briggs, Christopher Coenen and James Miller.

March 12. Police Chief James McGarry will talk about the history of the Sheffield police force as well as discuss home security.

Do not eat too much for dinner because a special treat is in store with the refreshments by Kenneth Allen, Edward Babb, Milton Barnum and Richard Combes.

April 4. The postal history of Sheffield and Egremont will be the subject of a talk by Lee Drickamer and Leo L. Lincoln. Drickamer, a professor of biology at Williams College and Lincoln specialize in postal history.

Vi Howard, Margaret Philbrick and Rachel Willcox combine their talents for the refreshments.

May 14. David Rutstein, Story of America Told in Song, an audio-visual lecture on America's history as seen through sheet music, movies, etc. Mr. Rutstein is an ephemera collector and dealer with a shop in South Egremont.

Refreshments compliments of gourmets Vera Conklin, Olive Gaylord and Trudy LeGeyst.

June 11. Annual Meeting. This will be a covered dish affair at 6:30pm. Good old fashioned school days is the theme. The Society will provide dessert and beverage and as the time draws closer members will be contacted by telephone about what they should provide. Bring a place setting for yourself.

OF THINGS PAST

From the Turkey Quill: The Three Giblets report that at a roll call taken on October 26, eleven turkeys were reported missing. They were the reason for the success of the annual Turkey Dinner. It was a fun affair and everyone had a good time meeting old acquaintances while enjoying a good dinner. We sincerely thank all the nice people who attended and we appreciate the turkey roasters, pie bakers and those who prepared vegetables, not to mention those who went the extra distance and worked on Sunday to put it all together. We realized a profit of \$907.76 to be used toward renovation of the Dan Raymond House. We love you all! Many thanks. Penny, Jim and Milton

PS. At the dinner, someone took home a heavy duty aluminum cookie pan. We have in its place a regular weight aluminum cookie pan. Please look over your pans and see if you have one that doesn't belong to you. If so, kindly return it to Helen Rote or Milton Barnum. Thank you.

There are also two aluminum pie pans that are searching for an owner. Call Catherine Miller if these happen to be yours.

The annual Christmas Dinner was a sellout again this year with Virginia Drury and her committee serving a delicious roast beef dinner with all the trimmings for one hundred people. The theme, "A Child's Christmas" saw each table decorated with old toys, candles and greens. On the stage was an old fashioned Christmas tree trimmed with bright red bows and small wooden figures with child dolls arranged around a "mother" doll who was reading Christmas stories. As part of the program, Arthur Chase recited Twas The Night Before Christmas and the whole group joined in singing Christmas carols with Madge Valentine on the piano. The committee in charge of this event should be complimented on a wonderful evening.

The Dan Raymond House Committee would like to report a most successful Christmas Open House. The rooms were decorated in the Christmas spirit carrying out the theme of "A Child's Christmas". The weather was ideal and consequently high attendance added greatly to the festivities. The quilting group met the deadline for finishing the draperies, and there were numerous compliments about the improvements to the house from the year before.

OF THINGS TO COME

In the weeks ahead, Milton Barnum has agreed to put on a display of old tools at the Dan Raymond House. Subsequent displays are in the formative stage, and we ask anyone with a special hand embroidered piece or other type of hand work to please contact Marion Barnum or Lillian Preiss.

On Sunday, February 14 the Society will host a breakfast cooked over the open fire at the Dan Raymond House. Reservations, which are required and very limited may be made by calling 229-2569 or 229-8388. Two settings, 9:00 and 11:00 am. Please bring your own table settings. \$5.00 per person.

Carl Proper has announced that there are only four and one half months until our Outdoor Antiques Sale! Pray for good weather on that weekend as it promises to be the best sale ever.