



Middletown Springs Historical Society, Inc.

Middletown Springs, Vermont 05757

January 1977

Greetings to all Members and Friends:

Our New Year in Middletown Springs started off with zero weather and a good ground cover of snow -- a time when vigorous activity was necessary for physical comfort! And the same applies to the Historical Society: vigorous activity is called for if we are to reach the goals set for 1977.

Our Community New Year's Eve Party was a success attracting over sixty people for an evening of fellowship. The Trustees presented an inscribed pewter Revere bowl to Herbert Davison under whose guidance as President the Society has prospered since the fall of 1973. He has our deep appreciation for all that he has accomplished for the Society and for our community.

The new slate of officers and trustees assumed office January 1st. They are: Laurence A. Kenney, President; Edmund Ritchie, Vice-President; Paul M. Sipple, Treasurer; Mrs. John L. Vandersande, Secretary; trustees include Mrs. Cecil Dudley, Miss Hazel Grover, Theron Krouse, Thomas A. Kirkwood, Mrs. Dora Parker, Mrs. Edwin Roach, Jr., and David Wright.

The accompanying collage highlights activities of 1976.

Our Treasurer reports a bank balance of \$4,893.80 as of January 1st of which \$1,575. and \$743.50 are earmarked for Historical Research and Old Cemetery Improvement. Much of the work in the restoration of the Old Cemetery, beautifying the Mineral Springs Park and renovating the Community House has been volunteered by local members. Now, our Bicentennial funds are exhausted and we must find new resources as well as new members and contributions to carry on the work we hope to complete in 1977.

Increased membership and increased community involvement are our two primary aims in 1977. The campaign for new members will start at a general meeting at St. Anne's Hall on February 11th with refreshments and an interesting program highlighted by "Weather Signs and Portents" by Mrs. Paul Fenton. Additional general meetings are planned for summer and fall.

High priority this year will be given to specific jobs at the Community House to increase the facilities for community use. This involves overall structural reinforcements, and heating, plumbing and carpentry work on the first floor to meet sound safety standards. Completing our project of erecting a decorative gateway to the Old Cemetery and further improvements in the cemetery's appearance will also be prime objectives. At the same time we hope to make progress with our local town and family Historical Research and with preparing facilities for receiving, recording, storing and displaying articles of historical interest in a room to be set aside for Museum purposes.

Our Mini-Mart and Auction will be held Friday and Saturday, July 8 and 9. Articles, both new and used, large and small, are urgently needed. Delivery may be arranged by calling me. (Telephone: 235-2129.)

1977 promises to be a vigorous year. Your help in the past is deeply appreciated -- it is needed now more than ever. Please renew your membership today so that we know we can count on you. Many thanks, and good health during the coming year.

Sincerely,

Laurence A. Kenney

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President

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