



# Middletown Springs Historical Society, Inc.

Middletown Springs, Vermont 05757

## Newsletter

October, 1985

Dear Friends:

This Newsletter is going of course to all regular members of the Historical Society. This time, though, it is also going to two other groups of people right here in our own town: those who have not renewed their membership in the last year or two, and those who have never been members - or at least not for several years.

We hope that the first group will remember and rejoin. We miss them and would welcome them back.

To the other group we earnestly ask for your help and cooperation in carrying out the many jobs the Society is doing. We feel that you approve of our projects such as the Mineral Springs Park, fixing up the Adams House for a community center, pushing through our application for the town's membership in the National Register of Historic Places, sponsoring events like the Strawberry Festival, setting up a museum of Old Middletown, and researching the many requests for information about early Middletown residents.

This activity takes some money and a lot of volunteer help. Your modest membership fee, and your willingness to help when needed, would give us a big boost. Our number of active town members is small, and we would welcome a lot more. The museum, for example, will need more helpers that we have now.

Renewal of memberships are usually sent out in January or February, but if you use the slip below for a new membership, it will be counted for 1986. Won't you join us?

### AN ACTIVE SUMMER

The summer season was as interesting and busy as we expected in the Newsletter of last June. The Strawberry Festival was a success. Many visitors came later.

In the weekend of July 19 to 22 thirty-two signed the guest register in the Mineral Springs Park. They were from eight states other than Vermont.

### NATIONAL REGISTER

A letter came from the State Division of Historic Preservation saying that they had approved of our application for membership in the National Register of Historic Places, and that it had been forwarded to Washington for final action.

### THE NEW MUSEUM

The museum that we have worked so hard to develop got off to a good start. The "grand opening" came on August 18, and for the next seven Sundays the featured displays were local quilts, the Gray horsepower machines, Dana Carpenter: naturalist & pharmacist, Montvert Hotel, spinning and weaving, old-fashion dolls, and maple sugaring.

The eight museum displays drew 192 visitors, most local, but others from nine states besides Vermont. A decision has been made to reserve the front west or "rock" room exclusively for the museum, but changing or rotating displays will come mainly during the months of June through September. The members of this

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Please make checks payable to M.S. Historical Society and send to Mrs. John Vandersande, Birch Hill, Middletown Springs, VT 05757. The dues are ; Individual-\$4; Family-\$5; Contributing-\$10; Sustaining-\$25; Patron-\$50; and Life-\$100

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Name

Address

Zip

Amount

committee are Janet Webber, Elsie Norton, Ginny Turnauer, and Hazel Grover. The committee in charge of receiving gifts or loans for the museum are Elsie Norton, Jane Purrington and Carolyn Haynes.

The addition of a display case in the Town Library for alternating exhibits has been well received. Elsie Norton is in charge of the project.

#### VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Developing and operating the museum requires a great deal of volunteer work. We urge interested friends with a little spare time to speak with a member of the Museum Committee listed above.

#### NEW BUSINESS

The last regular museum opening will be held on Sunday, October 20 at 2 p.m. Featured will be an apple festival with many desserts to taste.

#### ANNUAL MEETING

The members of the Historical Society will hold the annual meeting on Saturday, October 26, with a potluck supper at 6 p.m. Please bring a caesarole or a dessert.

Following the election of trustees and any other business, Delight Gartlein, Director of the Pember Museum in Granville, will talk about the founders of that museum, Franklin and Ellen Pember,

who were close friends of Dana Carpenter, Middletown's earlier pharmacist, photographer and naturalist.

#### ELECTIONS

The Nominating Committee, headed by Edmund Ritchie, offers the following for election as Trustees for a two-year term: Delight Gartlein, Carolyn Haynes, Karen Kay, Jane Purrington, and Gwen Wilder

Society members may offer other names in nomination by a written request to the Chairman of the Nominating Committee 48 hours before the annual meeting.

Those remaining as Trustees are Peggy Carr, Herbert Davison, Ginny Turnauer, Sue Vandersande, and Janet Webber.

#### MEMBERSHIP

Please use the slip on the other side of this letter if you wish to have a membership that is good for right now and through the year 1986.

Cordially yours,

*Herbert Davison*  
Herbert Davison  
For the Trustees

MIDDLETOWN SPRINGS HISTORICAL SOCIETY, INC.  
Middletown Springs, VT 05757

