

Dec. 1990



STOW-INFO

Newsletter of the Stow Historical Society

SOCIETY CELEBRATES PUBLICATION OF FRANNIE'S STORIES OF STOW

A public celebration of the publication of the late Francis (Frannie) W. Warren's "Recollections of Stow," will be held on Saturday, December 8, from 1 to 2:30 p.m. at the Randall Memorial Library.

For the past two years members of the Stow Historical Society--Mary Warren, Thelma Fletcher, Dorothy Sonnichsen and Carol Anthony--have been working on the book and will be on hand at the library to present the book. Refreshments will be served.

Most Stow oldtimers, already familiar with many of Frannie's stories of Stow, have eagerly awaited their publication. Now, newcomers will have a chance to share the sense of history that only Frannie, the fifth generation owner of Pilot Grove Farm and Stow Town Clerk for 42 years, could have had.

When Frannie retired in 1974 as Town Clerk, townspeople presented him with a book entitled, "A History of Stow," by Francis W. Warren. Inside, the pages were blank. Frannie had been given a mandate to write his story of Stow. Frannie's written recollections, in diary form, began in 1974 and continued until his death in 1988.

This landmark limited edition, available in time for Christmas, will be on sale at the library. Copies also may be obtained from the Stow Historical Society, c/o Carol Anthony, 206 Gleasondale Rd., Stow, MA 01775. Cost is \$8.00 plus mailing costs.

STOW HISTORICAL SOCIETY TO OPEN SEASON WITH CHRISTMAS TEA

Stow Historical Society will mark the holiday season with a Christmas Tea for members on Sunday, December 9, at 2:30 p.m.

The tea will be held at the home of Nancy and Tom Shepherd, 172 Harvard Road, and members are invited to bring guests to join in the festivities. Members are asked to bring a Christmas ornament or toy with memories attached to share with the guests. This sharing has been a highlight of past Christmas meetings.

MUSEUM CONFERENCE TO BE HELD AT OLD STURBRIDGE VILLAGE

The fourth New England Museum Association and Old Sturbridge Village Museum Archives Institute will be held at Old Sturbridge Village on April 19-20, 1991.

The sessions are geared for the beginner and include such topics as records management, appraisal, arrangement and description, reference and access, legal issues, preservation, management, automation, fundraising, exhibits, photographs, and outreach.

Institute faculty is made up of museum and archives professionals who share a national reputation. Registration is limited and the fee is \$90. Further information may be obtained from Barbara Sipler, 897-5996.

THANK YOU--The Society extends its thanks to donors of materials for its archives: Charlie Childs for donating Ellie's research records, and Thomas W. Ferguson, Jr., of Litchfield, Conn., for a paper on his boyhood recollections; also Olive Harris, John G. Burgess of Braintree, and W. W. Addy of Charlton, Mass., for other materials. We also are seeking to expand our photographic collection and would appreciate donations of old and new photographs of Stow.

JUST IN TIME--Here's a holiday recipe from the "20th Century Cookbook" by the Ladies of First Parish Church, Stow:

Date Cake.— One cup sugar, half cup butter, two and one-half cups flour; teaspoonful cream tartar, half teaspoonful saleratus, both sifted in with the flour; half cup of milk, one and one-half cups dates stoned, two eggs, without beating, added last, and stir rapidly; a little salt; nutmeg and vanilla for spice.

N. T. FLETCHER.

Can you guess the date of the cookbook? It was published in 1901 and sold at the annual church fair. Mary Warren donated the cookbook for our archives.

NEW OFFICERS--Officers for 1990-91 are: President, Barbara Sipler; Program Chair, Carol Anthony; Corresponding Secretary, Elaine Donaghue; Treasurer, Dorothy Sonnichsen; Refreshments, Ginger Pearlman; Curators, Ralph Crowell, Ralph Bernklow.

