



## Middletown Springs Historical Society, Inc. Middletown Springs, Vermont 05757

January 1978

To the Members and Friends of the Society:

As I assume the Presidency of the Middletown Springs Historical Society for the second time, I want to express to Retiring President Laurence A. Kenney and his fellow officers and trustees my thanks, and the thanks of the entire membership, for the splendid job that was done during his tenure of office in the year 1977. Mr. Kenney has turned over to me an organization that is strong and vibrant in every respect and he has been most generous of his time and talent in transferring his records and files to me.

I am deeply impressed by the strides the Society has made in its organization and its accomplishments in the seven years or so since I last served as President. The committee structure is excellent and undoubtedly has contributed much to the work that has been done. I am also very much pleased by the willingness of trustees and members to accept committee chairmanships for 1978.

Mrs. Katherine Kelley has resigned as Membership Chairman after more than seven years of devoted service, both as a Trustee and Membership Chairman. She has always played an active, working part in all of the projects and activities of the Society, and she will be missed by all of us. In December of 1977, Mrs. Kelley became a Life Member of the Society, a most generous act on her part.

A brief review of the Treasurer's Report for the year ended December 31, 1977, indicates that we must speedily take steps to improve our financial status. We started the year with a bank balance of \$4,894 and ended the year with one of \$1,352. Our expenses during 1977 were \$16,552, which exceeded our income of \$13,010 by \$3,542. Highlights of the 1977 income picture are dues receipts of \$1,176, gifts for kitchen alterations of \$2,305 and a fabulous sum of \$5,659 earned by the Mini Mart. The largest single outlay on the expense side was \$9,457 for work in the Adams House, including kitchen alterations. Utilities required \$1,513 and insurance amounted to \$1,113. These financial figures indicate that we are now running a very substantial little operation.

The Membership report for 1977 indicates that we ended the year with 187 paid members, including 29 life members.

I am able to report to you that through the efforts of Retiring President Larry Kenney, the Cecil Howard Charitable Trust has voted a grant of \$500 to the Society toward the cost of equipping, furnishing and providing heating facilities in the Adams House. This is indeed good news.

Work on the decorative gateway to the Old Cemetery nears completion, according to David Wright, and the ornamental gate structure will be erected when weather permits.

The Society's objectives for 1978 represent an extension of those for 1977 and must include the following:

Fund Raising Activities

- Mini Mart
- Strawberry Festival
- Special Donations
- Grants

Increased Town Involvement

- Broader local membership
- Increased use of local people on committees
- Wider use of the Adams House
- More general meetings of interest to the town
- Programs involving use of school children

Museum

- Continue acquisition and storage of artifacts
- Cataloging
- Planning for eventual use of library space when it becomes available

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The Society's Objectives continued:

Completion of Authorized Building Projects

Weatherproofing

Roof repairs - *over from above*

X Exit door from stencil room

Coat hanging facilities - *Remove shelving & put up hanging*

Establish storage facilities *on second floor* for museum articles

Installation of Hubbard Plaque ~~etc.~~

Old Cemetery

Complete ornamental gate

Complete cemetery grave index

Mineral Springs Park

Improved visitor's register

The 1978 Mini Mart will be under the direction of Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Turnauer and we are most grateful that this fine, capable couple have agreed to undertake this responsibility. The Mini Mart dates have tentatively been set as follows: Auction, preferably on Wednesday, 5 July, alternatively on Thursday, 6 July; Mini Mart on Saturday, 8 July, with a second Mini Mart sale on Saturday, 15 July. Final decision on the dates will be left to Mr. and Mrs. Turnauer after determining the availability of the auctioneer.

1978 should be an active and productive year for the Society if we all carry out our assignments. Particularly we should emphasize immediate membership renewals and new members. Appended hereto is a list of officers, trustees and committee chairman for 1978, together with a membership enrollment blank.

My thanks and greetings to all the membership and may 1978 be a good year for all of you.

Sincerely,

  
Donald E. Geddes  
President

Middletown Springs Historical Society

Officers, Trustees and Committee Chairmen for 1978

President - Donald E. Geddes  
Vice President - Chester Rostkowski  
Treasurer - Joseph Turnauer  
Secretary - Sue VanderSande

Trustees

Above four officers

Edmund Ritchie

Paul Sipple

Kate Dudley

David Wright

Nan Gilmour (representing Kay Feurlicht)

Theron Krouse

Gail Lamson

Terry Roberts

1978 Committee Chairmen

Buildings and Grounds - David Wright

Finance and Rentals - Joseph Turnauer

Historical Research - Herbert Davison

Membership - Edmund Ritchie

Cemetery - David Wright

Promotion - Dell Feurlicht

Park - Theron Krouse

Museum - Hazel Grover

Decoration & Furnishings - Jane Purrington

Special Programs & Events - Sally Kirkwood

Long Range Planning - Tom Kirkwood

Public Relations - Gail Lamson

*If you are a Life Member or have already mailed your 1978 dues please disregard form below.*

Please (re)enroll me as a member of Middletown Springs Historical Society, Inc. in the category indicated, *(Gifts are tax deductible.)*

Individual(\$1)  Family(\$2)  Contributing(\$5)  Sustaining(\$10)  Patron(\$25)  
 Life(\$100) *If you contribute \$10. or more you are entitled to a complimentary copy of Frisbie's History of Middletown. Check here if you wish a copy ---*

NAME \_\_\_\_\_ DATE \_\_\_\_\_  
(please print)

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

