

# Denmark Historical Society

P.O. Box 803  
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## Proposed Amendment of By-laws

There are two proposed amendments to the By-laws under consideration. In order to make these changes we need to follow the following rule:

### Section 3. Amendments

These By-Laws may be amended by a majority vote of the Members present and qualified to vote at any Annual or Special meeting. The notice of the Annual or Special Meeting, as provided for hereinabove, shall include notice that amendments to the By-Laws will be proposed at the meeting, and that a copy of the current and proposed By-laws may be obtained from the Secretary, or viewed at the Denmark Public Library during its open hours of operation.

A copy of the current By-laws is at the Library and available for review. This copy includes notation of the proposed changes. The same information is included below.

Current wording that is proposed to be removed is noted by <remove: **brackets and bold**>

Additions to the wording are **bold and underlined**

These items will be discussed and a vote to consider them taken on MARCH 14th, 2011 at a Special Meeting to be held at 7:00 PM in the Historical Society meeting room in the lower level of the Denmark Public Library.

In order to include more members in the business of the Historical Society, and to more accurately reflect the media possibilities available the following amendments were proposed.

## ARTICLE IV Meeting of Members

### Section 1. Annual Meeting

The Annual Meeting of the Members of the Corporation shall be held in <remove: **August**> **June** of every year in such place in Denmark, Maine or in such other place in Maine as the Board of Directors may determine: **PROVIDED HOWEVER**, that in any given year a different date and time for the Annual Meeting, within three months after the end of the fiscal year of the Corporation, may be fixed by the Board of Directors. In the event that for any reason the Annual Meeting shall not be held as herein provided, a Special Meeting may be held in lieu thereof, and any action taken at such meeting shall have the same effect as if taken at the Annual Meeting.

### Section 3. Notice of Annual and Special Meetings

The Secretary shall give notice stating the place, date, time and purpose of each Annual and Special Meeting of the Members at least twelve (12) days before the meeting. Posting of a notice of such meetings stating the place, date, time and purpose of the meeting at the Denmark Public Library, the Denmark Town Office and the Denmark Post Office at least twelve (12) days before the meeting, **or inclusion in the prior DHS newsletter to all members if mailed not more than ninety (90) days, but at least twelve (12) days, prior to the meeting** shall be construed as providing notice to Members: **PROVIDED HOWEVER**, notice of the Annual Meeting or a Special Meeting of Members may be made by publication in the Thursday Editions, for two weeks prior to the meeting, in <remove: **the Denmark section of**> the Bridgton News.

# Denmark Business: Then and Now

## Fifty-five Year Old Denmark Business Going Strong

By

JoAnne R. Harbourt

Don't look for a storefront or business sign in the village, but if you have a cabin, a second home, take lengthy vacations, or just need help around the house; chances are you know Herbert Payne. Herbert has been in the business of caring for people's houses for over 55 years. It is a business he began with his siblings when he was only fourteen years old.

Herbert's family moved to Denmark from Eliot, Maine when he was just four years old. His father had been injured in a Kittery Naval Shipyard accident and was no longer able to work or live in the harsh seaside environment. In 1945, Francis and Relaiifa MacIntire Payne purchased the Trumbull farm on Bush Row Road and moved with seven of their eleven children to the Denmark countryside.

The farm had to be self-sustaining for the large family and while Herbert's father helped to work the farm, his health issues and limited stamina meant that everyone had to pitch in to



help. Even at the age of four, Herbert had his own list of chores to do and he learned about responsibility and a strong work ethic at a very young age.

Herbert attended elementary school at the Denmark Schoolhouse in the village, in what is now the Denmark Municipal Center. During those years there also were four other schoolhouses in Denmark. Cora Hall, Grace Hale, and Edith Smith were the teachers at the school in the village. Herbert recalls that it was acceptable in those days to use a paddle on students who behaved badly, but mostly he avoided being punished as he knew he would be in twice as much trouble at home.

Working on the farm from first light to dark and going to school was a way of life during Herbert's formative years. In addition to hauling water, taking care of livestock, and general farm chores, they logged pulpwood on their property for the S.D. Warren paper mill in Westbrook. Ralph Hasty would arrive at 4:00 AM with his truck and the Payne kids would load it up with eight cords of wood. If they were lucky, the kids could get a ride from Hasty to the Civil War Monument where they caught the Fryeburg Academy bus, if not they would have to walk the two miles.

Herbert also recalls lots of good times from his Denmark childhood days; fishing, swimming, sledding, and small town fun. Most Denmark roads were not paved and many were not cleared in the winter. In the 1940s and '50s all the land between Berry Road and Bush Row Road was open fields planted with potatoes, corn, and other vegetables. "You could see forever and a kid could go anywhere," Herbert remembers fondly.

The roads were so bad the school bus would often topple on its side in the deep spring mud. Herbert described how they would have to run to a nearby farm for horses and everyone would help upright the bus and push it out of the mud. The only time the Payne children skipped school is when they got a last minute tear in their dungarees and their Mom didn't have time to mend it, or they needed a haircut.

The Payne kids started the house care business in 1955. Even with school and all their home chores, they knew that having extra money meant extra work. After school they would walk or snow shoe to the houses in their care to shovel snow off the roofs, dig water lines, get them ready for the owners to visit, or just check to make sure everything was okay.

Then as it is now, Fryeburg Academy was a college preparatory

school and classes were demanding. Herbert said you really had to stay on top of things. He reminisces about Mr. Blake's *Problems in Democracy* class. Mr. Blake wrote the text book for his class. "He didn't even have to open the book to teach and you had to be on top of things or you would get 'the look' over his glasses," remembers Herbert.

In his sophomore year Herbert purchased his first car with some of his "house" money, a 1949 Ford convertible.

He laughs as he recalls how his friends would sneak out of class early to claim the front seat. The 1949 Ford heater did not reach the back seat! Recalling how hard it was to get gasoline, Herbert says they often used kerosene, but that made it hard to get the car started. They would go into Bridgton for a movie and park at the top of the hill at Mike's Esso station (now Ken's Kove) so they could push the car down the hill to get it started.

After high school (class of 1961) and during his military service his house care business continued to grow. While stationed in Virginia, Denmark friends helped Herbert maintain his clients and make sure that their houses were cared for. Herbert had intended to become a Navy man, but the Navy was looking for torpedo men to send to Vietnam. Instead Herbert joined the Army as a quartermaster. In 1963, he was sitting on a plane headed for Vietnam. Just before takeoff he was pulled from the plane. His company continued on to Vietnam, two-thirds of them never came home. To this day, Herbert does not know why he was pulled from the plane and did not have to go to Vietnam.

At the end of his military service, Herbert came home to Denmark, married, continued to help his parents with the farm, went to work full time for an oil company, helped to raise his daughter, participated in community activities, and maintained his



thriving house care business. He describes the 1970s as all work and sleep—with very little of the latter.

In 1997, Herbert fell on the ice while delivering oil. He was badly injured and spent 37 months in therapy trying to regain the strength in his back and legs. While the accident slowed him down a bit, his house care business never skipped a beat. Once again Denmark friends helped until Herbert was back up to speed.

Herbert now cares for 38 houses; often you can spot his blue pick-up truck as he slips in and out of camp roads on his daily rounds to check up on his houses. His daily rounds find him supervising an electrician or plumber, delivering new washing machines, hauling away the old, turning the heat on for arriving owners, or closing up the house after they have departed. These days Herbert often hires someone to shovel the snow off roofs or cut down a large dead tree, but he is no less attentive to the houses in his care. Herbert's House Care Service is a Denmark business with all the quality of service and attention to detail that Denmark businesses are noted for.

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Below are photos of the Hazel Ingalls Mill in the summer of 1941. Some of the names are Winn Pendexter, Charles Osgood, Tinker Osgood, Bill Brine, ? Sanborn, Bill Porter, Persey William.





On September 25th, 2010 the Denmark Historical Society held an Open House to welcome residents and interested members to our newly renovated meeting room and archives. The attendance was terrific!

Many new friends were made as we looked over the fascinating snapshots and other historic artifacts.





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## Please remember our troops at this special time of year

Meetings are held at 7:00 PM on the Second Monday of every month in the lower level of the Denmark Public Library.

The next meetings scheduled are:

Jan. 10th, 2011 (business meeting), Feb. 14th (archive workshop), and Mar 14th (Special Meeting)

### Membership Application / Dues Receipt

Please include this information with your application or dues payment.

\$10 per year - Individual    \$15 per year - Family

\$100 - Lifetime    \$40 per year - Corporate (includes business card ad)

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

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I am interested in:

- Genealogy (indicate for self or research for others)
- Helping with programs
- Working in archives
- Being a Board Member / Trustee
- Working on fundraising
- Cataloging
- Marketing/ Artistic
- Youth outreach
- Website development
- Other \_\_\_\_\_

\* If you are a part-time resident include alternate mailing address and months you will be away.