

Town of Eddington · February 22, 1811

EDDINGTON

Historical Society

NEWSLETTER

SUMMER 2022

President's Message By Margaret Dougherty

EDDINGTON
Historical Society

2023 Calendar
Classic Autos

CALENDARS

E.H.S. has 2023 Classic Autos calendars available for \$10 each. Available at the E.H.S. Fall Bazaar, October 1, 2022, and year-round at the Eddington Town Office.

EHS MEMBERSHIP

Eddington Historical Society meets at the Eddington Town Office on the third Sunday of each month at 1pm. You are invited to join us!

Annual dues: \$10,

Life membership: \$50.

Thank you for your support!

SPRING BAZAAR

The Spring Bazaar was a great success for raising money for the EHS building fund.



FUTURE HOME OF

EDDINGTON HISTORICAL SOCIETY

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Now Accepting Donations
Please call 843-7402 for more information

The Eddington Historical Society is a registered 501(c)(3) non-profit entity. All contributions are tax deductible to the extent allowed by law.

Civil War Veteran MELVIN SYLVESTER JELLISON



Melvin Jellison with GAR Medal

*Melvin Jellison Ceremony -
November 11, 2019*



November 4, 1846 - September 10, 1947

The Civil War might have seemed like miles away to many who lived in the Pine Tree State, but Maine had their own contributors ready to travel far from home and serve as soldiers trying to unite their country. One of those young men was Melvin Sylvester Jellison.

Melvin was born in 1846 and grew up with his brothers and sisters on the family farm and was educated in a one-room school house. He spent 100 years and 10 months in his small community, but things changed for three years. Melvin's care free days ended when he and his father, John, decided to enlist in the Union Army. They were in different regiments. The date of Melvin's enlistment was August 1, 1862, as a Private, Co. B, 6th Maine Regiment Infantry in Bangor, Maine.

Melvin saw more action than his father. He fought in the Battle of Antietam (Sept. 17, 1862), just months after his enlistment. He went on to fight in the Battle of Mayes Heights, Fredericksburg,

and Salem Church (1863). In June of 1863 he was at the Battle of Brandy Station; July of 1863, found him in Gettysburg with the Howes Brigade; in the same month at Big Round Top; and in 1864 at the Battle of the Wilderness. He made it to Spotsylvania Court House and in June was at the Battle of Cold Harbor, Va. In July of 1864 he was sent to muster out and then volunteered 30 days for the defense of Washington.

One of Melvin's favorite stories was when he was at Washington Military Hospital as a guard. "One day while on duty a plain looking man with a tall stove pipe hat rode up and walked to the entrance. Melvin asked him to give the 'countersign.' However, the man did not know the countersign but said he was the President of the United States. Melvin had never seen President Lincoln so he did not know if he should believe him. The Sargent of the Guard was called to identify President Lincoln. Melvin started to apologize, but Lincoln gave him a pat on the back, shook his hand, and said, "Don't apologize, my boy. It's all right. You only did your duty." Melvin saw President Lincoln several more times and Lincoln always gave a nod and a smile.

Returning home from the war, Melvin married Broocksy DeBeck and they raised four children. For over 60 years he attracted attention when he drove his four or six horse team to Bangor on errands or to stock up. Horses were one of his greatest pleasures. Melvin was a farmer raising his own provisions. At only 4 years of age, he drove an ox team (he held the goad stick because the oxen knew the way to go.) He was a teamster hauling cedar shingles, birch logs, and anything that needed to be taken Bangor way. He was also a Road Commissioner around 1905 and built the first state aid road in this area. He loved to fish for brook trout and had some favorite holes on his own back lot. During the 1920's and 30's he would work at the Bangor Fair around the horses he loved, and there he made many friends.

In his 90's Melvin went to Bangor to be in the Armistice and Memorial Day parades. In 1945, Melvin was the last GAR (Grand Army of the Republic) Civil War survivor from Eastern and Northern Maine. For several years he was the lone member of the B.H. Beal Post 12 in Bangor.

November 11, 2019, The Last Soldier Ceremony for Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War was held for Melvin Sylvester Jellison to honor and forever mark the resting place of the last Civil War soldier of Penobscot County, Maine.

References:

- *Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War provided history of Union Army enlistment and service.*
- *Family History of Melvin S. Jellison by Grandson R. Leon Williams memories of Grandpa*
- *Report by Great Granddaughter, Margaret Dougherty*

RECIPE

From Maine Cookbook, 1924

Great Grandmother's Molasses Cake

- ½ c. sugar
- 1 c. molasses
- ½ c. lard (melted)
- 1 tsp. rounded baking soda
- 1 tsp. cloves
- ½ tsp. ginger
- 3 c. flour
- ½ tsp. salt

Add salt, soda, spices and sugar to flour. Sift into bowl. Add molasses. Mix well then add 1 cup boiling water. Beat.

Bake 350°F 30-35 minutes.
Enjoy!

***"We may live
without friends,
we may live
without books,
but civilized
man cannot live
without cooks!"***

WHY?

by Pam Dorr

"Well, the night brings the day and the day brings the sun
And the clouds come back when the day has begun,
Sometimes those clouds may be black and not white
And the day almost looks like the night."

"Why?"

"Well, sometimes the clouds cause the rain to fall,
And the rain helps the grass to grow real tall,
And it helps the flowers and plants to grow."

Those little blue eyes really want to know,

"Why?"

"Well, if the plants grow, we'll have good things to eat
And you can stomp in the puddles with your little feet.
Then the sun comes back out and wants to play."

Those little blue eyes look to the sky

And out comes the question,

"Why?"

"The clouds are so fluffy and white
But we can't see them at all at night."
A little head turns and looks above
And bright blue eyes turn to you with love,
"Why?"

"Well, because when it's dark, the stars appear
And sparkle through the night far and near.
The man in the moon looks down from above."
Those little blue eyes are still filled with love,
"Why?"

"Well, I think it's time now to go in and read.
This day's come and gone with incredible speed,
And I'm going to tell you and I'm not going to lie.
Sometimes I simply just don't know,

"Why?"

Now as the years go racing by,
I think of the look in those little blue eyes,
And I realize with some surprise
Just how precious was that little question,

"Why?"

MUNICIPAL RESOLUTION

*The 2021 Eddington,
Maine Spirit of America
Foundation Tribute honors*

PAT WILKING

for commendable community service.

A resolution by the Selectmen of the Town of Eddington reads as follows:

Whereas, Pat is celebrating being active in Boy Scouts of America for 50 years this year. She has held many positions; from Cub Scout Pack Leader, Boy Scout Troop Leader, Girl Scout Troop Leader, volunteered at the Boy Scouts of America local store and is the Treasurer for her Pack. She has been a Chartered Organization Representative, Committee Member, Committee Chairman, Merit Badge Counsel, Lion Guide, Katahdin Area Council 216 Employee and Executive Officer for Cub Scout Pack 23. All of these positions also involved much Training and Certification in many different areas.

Whereas, Pat has been involved with the Town of Eddington Boards and has held numerous positions over the years. She was the Treasurer for 2 years, on the Planning Board for over 13 years, Board of Appeals for 16 years, Cemetery Board for 2 years, Building Committee for the New Town Office, Eddington School Board, worked at the Polls

on Voting Day many times and volunteered to count Ballots.

Whereas, Pat was a member of the Town of Eddington Bicentennial Committee and helped plan and raise funds for 3 years before the Bicentennial Celebration in 2011. She also participated in and helped with the many events held in 2011



???, Shawna Hinckley, Pat Wilking

Whereas, Pat was the Chair of the Eddington/Clifton Civic Center (Comins Hall) for 3 years and also worked many at suppers at the Hall. She was also the Treasurer and volunteered at the Shoestring Thrift Shop for over 15 years

Whereas, Pat was a member of the Eddington Fire Department Ladies Auxiliary from the early 1970's into the 1980's after she encouraged her husband, former Fire Chief Siegfried, to become involved and he fell in love with the Fire Service

Whereas, Pat has been the Brewer Federal Credit Union Supervisory Committee Chair for 12 years

Be it Resolved by the Eddington Selectmen that Patricia "Pat" Wilking is hereby recognized for her exemplary citizenship and outstanding achievements and honors brought upon this community, with the 2021 Eddington Spirit of America Foundation Tribute.

Selectmen: Mark Carreira, David McCluskey, Ray Wood Jr., Pam Chapman, Deana Doughty

Town Office Staff: Shawna Hinkley, Denise Knowles and Theresa Clair

At the Annual Town Meeting on June 21, 2022

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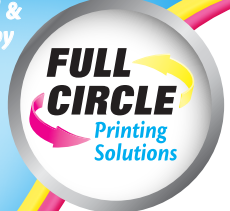
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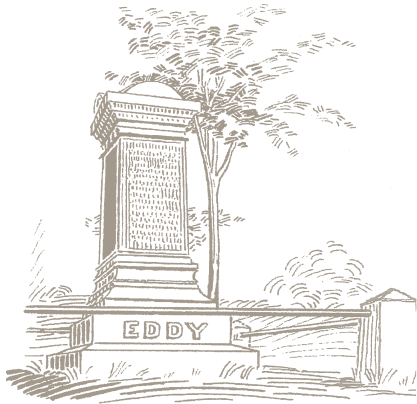
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EDDINGTON

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Eddington Town Office
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EDDINGTON HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Fall Bazaar

OCTOBER 1ST 2022 • 10:00 TO 2:00

EDDINGTON TOWN OFFICE LAWN
Concessions • Crafts • Vendors
Fire Truck • Classic Cars

BENEFIT FOR EHS BUILDING FUND