

SKOWHEGAN RESIDENCE

(Taken from MCS Anecdotes)

MCS' homes to be topic of 1999 MCSL exhibit

Margaret Madeline Chase was born soon after noon on December 14, 1897, in a small six-room, white clapboard home built by her grandfather, John L. Murray, when he was first married (1860s). Except for brief intervals, Margaret always lived in that house with her parents, Carrie and George Emery Chase, and her brothers (3) and sisters (2) until she married Clyde H. Smith May 14, 1930, at which time she moved to what she called, "the big house." It was a house of thirty-two rooms which her husband had purchased earlier and where they lived during their ten years together and for several years after his death, she made it her home.

In 1945, it was made into a hospital named for her husband (Clyde H. Smith Memorial Hospital) and she returned to her mother's home where she had lived so many years. It was there that her headquarters, her staff and her entire Senate campaign was rooted. This was home to her but hardly adequate for her for any length of time. She felt that she was welcome but that if she were to continue in public life, as seemed to be her destiny, that she must have a home of her own. From her recollection, the story follows:

In my opinion, it is important that a public official have a residence in the town called home. For years I had thought the one place that I would like to live would be overlooking the Kennebec River. The one site I felt would be to my liking was the area across the road from Judge and Mrs. Edward F. Danforth (Mrs. Danforth was Florence Waugh, an active club woman), but they owned it, used a large part of it for flower gardens and had no wish to dispose of it. As time went on they both passed away and the property went to their niece, Alice Danforth, a local florist.

Roland Taylor Patten, a neighbor and friend of the Danforths, lived east of their residence on Norridgewock Avenue earlier called Neal Hill. He was the editor of the Independent Reporter where I was employed from 1919-1928. I had spoken to him about my interest in the Danforth property and he offered to see what he could do to persuade the new owner, Alice Danforth, to sell a parcel of land to me. He told me from time to time about his calls at the Danforth home, his many approaches, all without success until he decided he would try a new attempt.

Mr. Patten was in my Washington office helping me on legislative matters. He had earlier sold his home to Mr. and Mrs. William H. Hinman so had no residence in Maine. He made his home at that time with Supreme Court Librarian and Mrs. Oscar Clarke on Newark Street in Washington. As he explained to me, he talked with the new owner Alice Danforth, telling her of his plans for the future and his willingness to sign a statement that the land would be used for residence purposes only until one evening she agreed to let him have the land he wanted. On August 21, 1946, she sold him the land known as the Butler lot, (12 rods by 10 rods) and on September 30, 1946, the adjacent lot of 12 rods directly across from her home—the land at the west was purchased later. On August 28, 1946, and January 30, 1947, he transferred it to me and I immediately started planning for my new home.

Word soon got around about my plans and Parade Magazine, in asking for an interview with pictures, visited Skowhegan and took the picture which was used of picnicking on the hill overlooking the Kennebec River from the north side of the river. My political enemies immediately attacked me saying it was a campaign gimmick—that I would never build a home on the site, that if elected to the Senate, I would be living in Washington, not Skowhegan. Having felt that an elected public official should have a home in the town, district or state electing him, I paid little attention to this line of talk—perhaps even more determined than ever to have a home on the Kennebec.

During the 1948 Senatorial campaign I found myself spending considerable time flying to and from Washington and some waiting for connections and weather. One evening there was a three hour delay in Boston. I was a bit weary and trying to get my mind off the mail and the campaign. I took an envelope from my mail and started sketching the type of house that I wanted on that hill. It was one of the small envelopes people use in writing and I was using the back of it.

Not a perfectionist in either writing or sketching, it was a very rough looking picture that I was drawing as a voice said, "Good evening, Mrs. Smith, how are you spending this three hours, drawing pictures?" I replied that I was trying to outline what I had in mind for my new house. He looked at it, asked me some questions and said, "Let me take it and see what I can do with it." He was the architect from Auburn, Maine, Alonzo J. Harriman. Later and for years he and his wife, Pearl, were my closest and dearest **(Cont. on pg. 4)**

(Residence-Cont. from front cover)

friends. From my crude marks and description and his patience and desire to please me came the house that I had built by Stewart-Williams

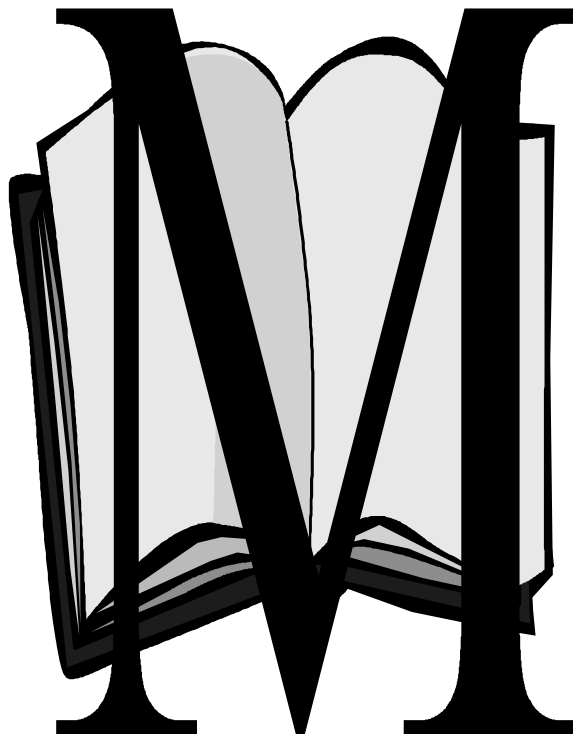
CHARLIE CRAGIN RECEIVES BIG “M” AWARD

Since 1963, the Maine State Society of Washington, DC has presented its Big “M” Award to Maine people or people with Maine connections to recognize their outstanding contributions and service to Maine and its citizens and to the State’s continuing role in the affairs of the nation; for attaining the highest achievements in the recipient’s profession; or for exemplifying the finest attributes of a concerned citizen who has been involved in state or national affairs, projects, or programs. Charles L. Cragin, Acting Assistant Secretary of Defense for Reserve Affairs, was chosen to be the recipient of the 1998 award. A Portland native, Charlie joins thirty-eight other previous recipients including Senator Margaret Chase Smith who received this recognition in 1969. The Maine State Society was established in the Nation’s capital in 1894 by a group of “Displaced” Mainers intent on bringing a “Little touch of Maine—a little taste of Home” to its members in the Washington area. Today its 1,100 members live in twenty-six states (including 50 who reside in Maine), the District of Columbia, and five foreign countries. Annual events include baked bean suppers; December holiday celebrations; lobster dinners; Cherry Blossom Festival; and programs which raise funds for scholarships to deserving Maine students attending Maine colleges and universities.

Charlie Cragin entered the Navy upon graduation from high school and remained affiliated with the US Naval Reserve, retiring as a Captain after 36 years of service. His awards include the Legion of Merit, the Defense Meritorious Service Medal; two Meritorious Service Medals; two Navy Commendation Medals, the Army Commendation Medal and the Naval Expeditionary Medal. He received bachelor of science and doctor of law degrees from the University of Maine and served as an attorney for twenty years with the Portland law firm of Verrill & Dana prior to entering federal service. In 1982, he was a nominee for governor of Maine. For six years, he served as Chairman of the Board of Veterans’ Appeals of the Department of Veterans Affairs and received its highest decoration, the Exceptional Service Medal. He is an active member of the Margaret Chase Smith Foundation Board of Directors and MCSL Advisory Committee.

Previous recipients of the Big “M” Award have been Rudy Vallee, James V. Day, Donald Larrabee, May Craig, Fred Clough, Jr., Arthur Hauck, Edward Curran, Edmund S. Muskie, Clifford G. McIntire, Robert Hale, William D. Hathaway, John H. Reed, Peter Kyros, Sr., Jeanette Cloutier, David Emery, William S. Cohen, James B. Longley, Peter Damborg, Joseph E. Brennan, Olympia J. Snowe, George J. Mitchell, Katharine Bigelow, John R. McKernan, James Ambrose, Edward Hews, Kenneth M. Curtis, David Moulton, Homer Ward, Jr., Marjorie and Lewis Pearson, Jane and Caspar Weinberger, Frederick Hutchinson, Vincent McKusick, Victor McKusick, Duane Fitzgerald, and Michael Bordick.

Congratulations, Charlie!



THE WHITE HOUSE PROJECT PUSHES FOR A WOMAN PRESIDENT

The White House Project, a non-profit, non-partisan public awareness effort dedicated to changing American politics over the next decade, supports qualified women for the highest office in the land. Men and women of this forum are working to endorse women from all walks of life in successful campaigns for the U. S. presidency and other high political offices. It has committed itself to raising awareness of women's leadership in American politics and mobilizing women of all ages to participate in civic life. With the advice of leading scholars and analysts, twenty women have been suggested for their character, vision, leadership skills and accomplishments. Included in the list are Carol Bellamy, Carol Browner, Linda Chavez-Thompson, Hillary Rodham Clinton, Elizabeth Hanford Dole, Maria Echaveste, Marion Wright Edelman, Dianne Feinstein, Ann Fudge, Bernadine Healy, Kay Bailey Hutchison, Mae C. Jemison, Claudia Kennedy, Mary Landrieu, Wilma Mankiller, Angela Oh, Judith Rodin, Donna Shalala, Olympia J. Snowe, and Christine Todd Whitman. Qualified as these women are, it must be noted that they may or may not be interested in running for the presidency.

In 1964, a highly qualified woman did run for the presidency—**Margaret Chase Smith**. In a White House Project advertisement which pictures women who have changed history, Senator Smith is shown with Sojourner Truth, Frances Perkins, Madeleine Albright, Rosa Parks, Jane Addams, Jeane Kirkpatrick, Barbara Jordan, Susan B. Anthony, Billie Jean King, Sally Ride, Oprah Winfrey, Amelia Earhart, Bella Abzug, Shirley Chisholm, Toni Morrison, Eleanor Roosevelt, and Elizabeth Cady Stanton. For more information, contact www.thewhitehouseproject.org

“SEE HERE, MR. FARLEY”

Here's a lively letter from a U. S. Senator's Wife

(Taken from MCSL Scrapbook v. 205, p. 23)

(History: James A. Farley related a story to Jack H. Pollack, columnist for This Week Magazine, entitled “We'll Never Have a Woman President” on January 18, 1959. Mr. Farley was one of America's best-known political figures. He managed the successful 1932 and 1936 campaigns of President Franklin Roosevelt. But he broke with FDR in 1940 over the third-term issue, resigning as Postmaster General and as chairman of the Democratic National Committee. Now the wife of Senator Richard L. Neuberger of Oregon talks back. Like Margaret Smith, she entered politics through her marriage. After marrying journalist Dick Neuberger who was elected to the Oregon State Senate, Maurine ran for the State Assembly, was elected and they became a political team such as Oregon had never before seen. When Dick was sent to the U. S. Senate, Maurine returned to being a housewife until his death. In 1961, she was elected to the Senate and became the second woman Senator, joining Maine's Margaret Chase Smith. The following is Maurine Neuberger's response to Mr. Farley's opinions of a woman president.)

Dear Editor:

So James A. Farley thinks the White House is beyond the reach of 87,858,000 American females! I profoundly disagree, despite my respect for Mr. Farley's political skill and wisdom. I fear it is characteristic of the average male to be so smug and self-confident that he really believes only a member of his own sex can be trusted to run our country. Have men always performed with such consistent success that nobody of the opposite sex should ever be given a chance?

Jim Farley listed three major reasons why he contends there never will be a “Madam President” within lifetimes of any of us:

1. **Know how:** He claimed no woman could amass the varied experience necessary for the Presidency. What about Margaret Chase Smith of Maine? She has been a telephone operator, circulation manager of a newspaper, executive of a woolen mill, lieutenant colonel in the Woman's Air Force Reserve, secretary to a Congressman, member of the House, and is now, United States Senator. Put Mrs. Smith's experience up against that of any male mentioned for the White House in 1960, and her fitness will compare most favorably. And what of American women like Eleanor Roosevelt, Mrs. Oswald Lord and Eugenie Anderson? How many male politicians could match their experience overseas in diplomacy or with the UN?

2. **Nerves:** Women are “too emotional” to cope with the vast burdens of the White House, Mr. Farley contends: Emotional instability and neurotic tendencies are said by psychologists to lurk at the root of most crime. Although women comprise over half of our population, only 11 percent of the people arrested for major crimes in 1957 were women, according to statistics of the FBI. Physical well-being and health are other contributing factors (**Cont. pg. 9**) **“Mr. Farley,” cont. from pg. 3**

to emotional steadiness. American males live an average of 67 years but females live for 73 years. “Weaker sex,” as applied to women, is another legend with its roots in masculine self-esteem.

3. **Prestige:** Mr. Farley emphasized that a woman President could not “command respect” in world negotiations. Now, isn't such a remark exactly like a man? Surely members of her own sex, all over the globe, would rejoice that a woman finally had reached the diplomatic summit. Negotiations with a woman in a dominant role could acquire a dignity and universal acceptance never before

of Augusta. Williams was a friend of mine and had been one of my husband's younger card playing friends.

All of this developed only after many discussions as to the proper design. I wanted the house back from the street, settled into the ground, built in a way that would give me the full view of the town and the river. The river side was to be modern, all glass and the street side small farm house type windows. Thinking about the future, I said it must be planned so that in my later years it could be divided into two houses so that I could continue with the comforts of home and view and have people in the house but not living with me. All of this was quite an order. An architect like Alonzo Harriman did not like two types of architecture, the old and the new in one residence, neither did he think much of roughing in a kitchen in the west wing under the cedar closet. There were some compromises but generally speaking the house is like I wanted it to be and had sketched out on the envelope at the Boston airport in 1948. (My first disappointment was when I found the house was not set down into the ground, that the cement foundation—so unsightly—gave it the appearance of being on stilts. To overcome this appearance, new brick steps were built over the original and presently buried steps. Also the brick window box was bricked down 10 feet at an extra cost of \$1,000. With the presently buried steps, if ever discovered, glass covered jars of keys to the house will be found.)

I won the primary campaign and the general election. The plans went on and the house was built contrary to the predictions of my 1948 opponents. The house has never been closed, but rather ready at all times for me to come in at my convenience. It has been costly to maintain with the heavy taxes, the peeling paint, the gravelly ground and the vandalism. It has never been without a part-time housekeeper as well as a caretaker. When the property evaluations were changed, my brother called me and asked if I knew that I was paying the highest residential land tax in the town. The taxes increased from the first \$600+ to \$1800 when the place was taken over by a Board of Trustees headed by James Webb of Washington for a Margaret Chase Smith Library.

There have been a few changes made—the breezeway and garage on the east and the sun room and terrace on the west end. Both were done by John Dionne, a local carpenter. When President Eisenhower came to Skowhegan in June, 1955, my home was his headquarters and the red room was his. Two large thermopane French doors on the river side proved to be too heavy and were replaced, leaving the glass to be disposed of or used. I decided they were too fine to destroy or store and would make an excellent addition to the red room—thus to save two windows I built a room, a bath, a closet and a terrace. Also, as time went on, I was able to acquire more land including land west of my house from the Danforth estate (Mrs. Dorothy Staples, who was left all of the Danforth property). On June 2, 1955, I purchased the second west parcel of 12 rods from Dorothy B. Staples (Danforth heir).

After Eisenhower's visit I asked Dorothy Staples who lived across the street in the original Danforth place (the property was left to her by Alice Danforth because of "Dot's many kindnesses") to sell me the land west of my property. She at first declined and then agreed to sell me all to the Yeaton property, west. This new purchase included the right-of-way by Central Maine Power and sewer rights, the sewer right-of-way being cancelled in 1972 when town sewer went in. On September 4, 1946, Mr. Patten purchased from Chester Nutting a (12 rods on the river bank) small parcel/east near the river which squared it off. On September 6, 1946, Patten sold it to Smith. Had I known at the beginning that I could have extended as I did, I would have had the stone wall go the entire length instead of 700 feet since it was built for only \$2.00 a foot by two men from Auburn.

Keeping it open the year around has been costly but I have had great comfort in feeling that it was ready for me or my guests at all times and that as a public official I had a home in the town where I was born and brought up. Thanks to Mrs. Agnes Staples and Mrs. Lillian Demo it has been well kept and to Kenneth Goodrich and Lawrence Demo the grounds continue to be presentable, but most of all Bill Lewis has helped me in the planning and given me encouragement when I needed bolstering up because of costs and problems going with property and people. Evergreen trees were planted by Bill Lewis and his father, William C. Lewis, Sr. Among these trees was a hickory given me by Mrs. Jeannette Mitchell from her farm east of Skowhegan. It was one of two hickory trees in the town of Skowhegan—she keeping the other one. The furnishings are a mixture of pieces from the big house I lived in when the wife of Clyde H. Smith, also from my mother's and from my World War II apartment in Washington with a piece now and then added. **It's home and I like it.**

*Editor's note:

The property is now owned by Northwood University of Midland, Michigan, and houses the political papers, artifacts, and memorabilia of Senator Margaret Chase Smith. The breezeway was removed when the MCSL was built in 1982 and the garage was moved to the west end of the property. Agnes Staples, Lawrence and Lillian Demo, and Kenneth Goodrich are now deceased. Val Dionne, nephew of John Dionne, was one of the carpenters involved in the 1955 addition and responsible for a 1998 office space addition to the Library when working for his son, Stephen Dionne. There has been much debate about the correct spelling of Neil Hill—in this anecdote, it is spelled as Neal Hill but has been officially designated by the Town of Skowhegan as Neil Hill. Conceivably, the glass jar containing house keys is long gone with the many renovations/additions to the property since 1949.

1999 marks the 50th anniversary of the building of the Skowhegan residence. The many houses in which Senator Smith has lived will be the focus of an upcoming exhibit this year—watch for details in future newsletters. See page 10 for photos of home in 1949 and 1999.

FIELD TRIP FUND CONTINUES TO BENEFIT FROM BOOK SALES

One of the Library's biggest supporters and a man filled with ideas for the future, Herbert Paradis continues to work toward the betterment of our tomorrows through today's children. At a recent book promotion at Barnes and Noble Bookstore in Augusta, ME, editors Herb Paradis and MCSL Research Associate Angie Stockwell spent a few hours promoting "**What Can I Do For You,**" a personal reminiscence of Senator Smith by many of her friends. All book sales support the field trip fund which brings students from Maine schools to the Library to learn about Senator Smith's long and distinguished career in public service. As you read through the newsletter, it will become clear that the funds have supported visits by many deserving school groups. Books may be purchased at the Library for \$14.95.

Two Margarets (Smith on left; Webber on right) stand beside Peter Webber in the fall of 1989 at Sugarloaf Inn in the Carrabassett Valley area of Maine.

SUGARLOAF MOUNTAIN CO-FOUNDER DIES

"She was one of the grand ladies of Sugarloaf. She was a friend of the mountain," said a friend of Margaret Pat Webber at her passing on December 17. A close friend and member of the MCSL Advisory Committee, Margaret Webber and Senator Smith were great correspondents and often started their day with an early morning chat around six. Known affectionately as Nana Webber, Margaret Webber had a great love of her family and never failed to "brag" about her children and grandchildren when she and Senator Smith wrote or spoke. When writing letters of condolence, Senator Smith would often say, "Death is a part of a plan by Him who knows best and we must not question it. Continue on as your family would want and know that my thoughts and prayers are with you." The Library staff prays that the Webber family will know that, indeed, our thoughts are with them.

GOOD READING FOR A WORTHY CAUSE
Herb Paradis holds "What Can I Do For You" at Barnes & Noble book promotion

LILLIAN DEMO, LONGTIME SMITH HOUSEKEEPER, PASSES AWAY AT 95

Featured in this issue is the story of the origin of the Skowhegan residence of Margaret Chase Smith. Untimely as it seems, the passing of Lillian Demo evokes fond memories of her devotion to Senator Smith and her attention to the Smith home.

Lillian passed away on November 24 at a local Skowhegan nursing care facility. She was first employed at the Maine Spinning Mill in Skowhegan and for many years served as a private-duty nurse. Well known as "Moma" Demo, Lillian also served as a nanny for several Skowhegan families. In her later years, she worked as the housekeeper for Senator Smith, always maintaining the home in Senator Smith's absence in meticulous fashion and making it ready for its owner when Senator Smith would return from Washington to relax or campaign.

Thank you, Lillian, for your tireless devotion. You will be missed by all who knew and loved you. Our condolences to your family.

Lillian Demo seated right, visits with Senator Smith (center) and Marion Knight, during a 1993 ceremony at the United Methodist Church where Skowhegan "Over 90" residents were honored. (Health care worker is unidentified)

“WE COUNTED THREE TOILETS IN HER HOUSE”

Thank you notes from students after visiting the Library always prove most interesting. From the Garrett Schenck School homepage: “We went to the MCSL and had our picture taken by her picture. We saw her urn. We found 15 magnifying glasses that Mrs. Smith used to read. We counted three toilets in her house.” Students from the 4th, 5th, & 6th grades of the Albion Elementary School enjoyed their visit on December 4 and thanked Assistant Director David Richards with the following words. Says Adrienne Moores, “Mrs. Smith has encouraged me to never give up. Thanks a lot. It was cool. It was the first time I enjoyed an historical museum.” Writes Corey Vigue, “If she were alive today, I’d say this—**I’m proud to have you in our country.**” Well said, Corey!

Albion Elementary School students

*Editor’s note: Isn’t it amazing that when trying to impress young children with the historical significance of all that is being seen at the Library, the number of household toilets stands out in their minds? God bless the children!

Above left: Tyler Shores accepts check from Dr. David Richards in support of the Canaan Elementary School’s field trip to the Library on December 2, 1998, under the direction of teachers Marc Poulin and Judy Clapp. A class group photo is shown above right.

Students from the Wilbur Mallett Elementary School, Cascade Brooks School and Mt. Blue High School, Farmington, ME, visit on December 16, 1998. Doing a computer search for any reference to the Mallett School proves rewarding when a

Seth Taylor, Dale Boyce and Andrew Stewart with teacher Jim Carrey of the Benton Elementary School visit on December 10, 1998. Dr. Richards gives them a guided tour and highlights the more than 500 scrapbooks maintained by Senator Smith’s Washington staff. *Scrapbooks continue to be maintained with current items mentioning Margaret Chase Smith or Library

HOPES FOR A MARGARET CHASE SMITH ONE DOLLAR COIN ARE DASHED!

Shoshone Indian woman, Sacajawea, has been chosen to adorn the new \$1 coin to enter circulation in the year 2000. Maine Senator Olympia Snowe had suggested that Margaret Chase Smith's visage adorn the new coin but Sacajawea won the toss! Remembered for assisting Lewis and Clark in their exploration of the Louisiana Territory and search for a Northwest river passage to the Pacific Ocean, Sacajawea will join another important woman, Susan B. Anthony, in having a one dollar coin minted in her honor. An editorial in the local **Morning Sentinel** says it best, "that a woman is being recognized again is significant enough; still, it would have been nice to have Smith's face on that coin."



LIFE AND THE WORLD

October 21, 1958, broadcast by Leon Pearson of NBC News

Students of human behavior make a generalization about women—to the effect that they prefer to follow, rather than to lead. But the experts add a footnote that when a woman deviates from that norm, she makes a blazing tangent through the sky. Witness, the lady Senator from the State of Maine. Senator Margaret Chase Smith is a Republican, but does she follow the party line, with docility? Well, no. An analysis of the roll-call votes taken during the last session of Congress reveals that there were five Republican Senators who voted against the Party more than half the time. And one of these was Margaret Chase Smith of Maine. All voted against the GOP majority on more than 50 percent of the 87 party-line votes. And all qualify as liberals within their own party.

I suppose it is this quality of independent thinking which—in part at least—has endeared Mrs. Smith to the voters of Maine. They like someone who will hoe a stony field or row against the incoming tide.

By the same token, they like someone who is competent without being flamboyant. If you hear Mrs. Smith on the platform, following a thumping political orator, you fear, at first, that she is too quiet, too unassuming. But the next impression is that she knows her task, and that she intends to be treated, in the political scene, as the men treat each other.

She was not the first woman to represent the State of Maine, but the first woman to win a place on the House Naval Affairs Committee. She was a strong opponent of the late Senator McCarthy, at a time when most of his colleagues preferred not to speak out.

Mr. Washburn's Bloomfield Elementary School (Skowhegan, ME)
4th grade class visit on November 3, 1998

Women, Work, and Community program holds its Training for Tomorrow, Next Steps graduation at the library on December 17, 1998. Family members and friends listen to the presentations.

Teachers from Good Will-Hinckley School brought students for a guided tour of the Library facilities on December 18, 1998. Pictured above are: Karen Bernatchez, Peggy Lightbody, and Darrell Fisher. Readers may remember that Good Will-Hinckley is the site of the birthplace of Senator Smith's ancestors and the current site of the U. S. Senator Margaret Chase Smith Gallery in what was once referred to as the Chase Homestead.

SEE STORY OF MCS RESIDENCE ON FRONT PAGE & PAGE 4

50th Anniversary of Skowhegan Residence

*MCS Residence
1949
(above left & right)*

*MCSL Courtyard, Front
Entrance, Aerial View
1999
(left, center, right)*

"Friends" Newsletter is published by the Margaret Chase Smith Library. Editor: Dr. Gregory P. Gallant; Coordinated by Angela Stockwell with the assistance of Vanessa Caron, Lynnette King, Byron Pooler, and David Richards. The Library is a non-profit research center and museum of 20th century political artifacts committed to bringing the ideals of Senator Smith's career in public service to the people of Maine and the nation.
Tel. 207-474-7133; e-mail: mcsl@somtel.com

**Friends of the Library Newsletter
Margaret Chase Smith Library
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CODE OF ELECTION ETHICS COMMITTEE CONTINUES ITS EFFORTS FOR FAIRPLAY IN CAMPAIGN PRACTICES

Charlie Biebel, Sally Bryant, Gregory Gallant, Nancy Grape, Merton G. Henry, Charlie Morris, Ted Potter, Brad Rourke, and Bart Wexler meet to discuss the Maine Code of Election Ethics on December 11, 1998.

[VOTERS] "LIKE SOMEONE WHO WILL HOE A STONY FIELD OR ROW AGAINST THE INCOMING TIDE."

MARGARET CHASE SMITH: MODEL PUBLIC SERVANT PUBLISHED

Dr. Marlene Boyd Vallin, a speech communication professor at Penn State Berks-Lehigh Valley College, Reading, Pennsylvania, is proud to announce the publication of her new book by Greenwood Press. Says Dr. Vallin, "the book is doing well. At a conference in Portland last October, it was nominated for a book award...which is sponsored by the Organization for the Study of Communication, Language, and Gender (OSCLG)."

In 1992, Dr. Vallin met with Senator Smith to discuss oratorical style and presentation in preparation for her book which deals more specifically with analyses of the many speeches made by Margaret Chase Smith during her career. Included in this are her speeches entitled "Women and Leadership;" "No Place for a Woman;" "Answer to a Smear;" "Election Eve Radio Speech;" "Women's Progress;" "Declaration of Conscience;" "Nuclear Credibility;" "The Kennedy Twist;" "Anti-ABM;" and "I Speak as a Woman."

Dr. Vallin, pictured with Senator Smith in 1992, states the purpose of the book is to

"SKOWHEGAN GIRL" PROGRAM SCHEDULED FOR JUNE

Administrative Assistant Vanessa Caron is busy making plans for a week-long summer program, the purpose of which is to provide knowledge and experience the roots of Skowhegan's most famous citizen. Its aim is to instill a sense of pride, reinforce values, and provide an historical lesson to young children. "Skowhegan Girl" is based on the time when Margaret Chase Smith grew up in Skowhegan at the turn of the century. Plans include reading from the American Girl Series, making crafts from the period (paper dolls, cross-stitch), cooking, playing traditional games (croquet), taking an historical tour of the town, holding an ice cream social, and participating in other exciting events. If interested in this program, contact Vanessa at 207-474-7133 or e-mail vcaron@hotmail.com.

COMING UP IN 1999

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| March 23 | Northwood University's 40th anniversary |
| April 30 | MCS Essay Contest Winner awards |
| May 14 | Maine Town Meeting |
| June 15, 16 | Advisory Committee Meeting |
| June 21-25 | "Skowhegan Girl" Program |
| July 13-16 | University College Program |
| July 27-30 | University College Program |
| August 1 | Margaret Chase Smith Day (tentative) |
| November 7 | Appreciation Day (tentative) |

MCSL TO PARTICIPATE IN “NATIONAL CONNECTIONS” READING SERIES

The MCSL is one of forty libraries nationwide selected to participate in the “National Connections” reading and discussion series for adult new readers. The project is offered by the Vermont Council on the Humanities in partnership with the American Library Association (ALA) Public Programs Office and funded by a grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH). “We are delighted to be a part of the national expansion of a project that gives adult literacy students an opportunity to be a part of the humanities experience, says David Richards, assistant director at the MCSL, who will travel to Chicago for a February 18-20 training workshop.

“National Connections” uses children’s literature to offer adult literacy students an opportunity to gather with their peers to discuss timeless themes and to make connections, sometimes for the first time, between books and their own lives. Richards has been involved in the Maine “connection” by way of the “New Books, New Readers” program which has been highlighted in previous issues of this newsletter. If you wish further information regarding this program, contact Dr. Richards at 207-474-7133 or e-mail davidr@somtel.com.

The Library continues its support of the **New Books, New Readers** program. Participants are pictured above in a December 9, 1998, photo.



COMMUNITY SERVICE SHINES AT NOKOMIS REGIONAL HIGH SCHOOL

The MCSL was especially pleased when Principal Kevin Held from Nokomis Regional High School (Newport, ME) brought members of community service-oriented school groups to visit the Library on January 8. Accompanied by Dwight Littlefield and John McKim, students Kellie Harding, Eric Driscoll, Gina Wolfe, Jonas Eldridge, Michelle Butcher, Kathleen Coons, Kerri Blazej, and Benjamin Wintle represented such Nokomis groups as the Junior ROTC, band, Jobs for Maine Graduates, National Honor Society, Agricultural Club, and Key Club. Dedicated to volunteer community service, members have contributed to the Newport Food Bank, donated to the Salvation Army, repainted over the graffiti on a local mill, sponsored an annual Christmas dinner and concert for the elderly, and raised over 13,000 lbs of potatoes which were donated to the victims of the Honduras flood. David Richards spoke to the group about service and aspirations — two topics near and dear to Senator Smith. A check was presented to support future student community service projects.

Nokomis students visit on January 8

achieved. Indeed, even Mr. Khrushchev might think twice before betraying his promises and pledges to a woman!

Maurine Neuberger