

**East Bridgewater, Mass.
 sesquicentennial
 1823 - 1973**

Reflections of Time Past
by Thomas E. Reynolds

Introduction...

June 9-16, 1973 was a very special week to thousands of people in East Bridgewater, Massachusetts, commemorating the one hundred fiftieth anniversary of the incorporation of the town as an autonomous community, on June 14, 1823. With this in mind, the East Bridgewater Sesquicentennial Committee has created this booklet to preserve the memories of the celebration for future reference in a well-organized manner. The booklet intends to show that the Sesquicentennial was carried out for the future as much as for the present, in order that points of local historical interest might not pass on with our forefathers, and be lost forever. The celebration serves as an indication to future generations how the people of 1973 worked, lived, and thought in East Bridgewater and America so that they might use this information to help make the world a more pleasant place in which to live.

The Sesquicentennial Committee offers this booklet to all who participated in the celebration with sincere gratitude, as it is aware that everything which was accomplished during the entire project would not have been possible without the overwhelming support of thousands of people inside and outside of East Bridgewater. It is the hope of the Committee that this booklet will be both enjoyable and informative to readers and researchers alike, and will be the most complete story of the celebration possible.

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Planning...

"sesquicentennial (-sen-ten i-al), adj. of, or pertaining to, a century and a half: n. the celebration of the one hundred and fiftieth anniversary"

The above definition, taken from Webster's Dictionary, could pass for any dictionary quotation in outlining the meaning of the word "sesquicentennial". However, the statement, simple and technical as it is, falls short of expressing the total meaning of the term on a broader basis. "Sesquicentennial" is a symbolic word. . . it involves many people working together who set common goals and spend a good deal of time trying to reach them. In striving for these goals, people set up standards of perfection which they try to follow as closely as possible in an attempt to establish the ideal. The concept of perfection is an important goal, because it symbolizes total concentration and attention as a means to achieve something in the best way possible.

The work is based on the significance of a date, which, in this case, would be a one-hundred and fifty year anniversary. This significance is very important because it promotes a reason for people to set aside a small amount of time periodically to reflect upon the accomplishments of the past, and the needs of the community at the present and future, which many people are too busy to be concerned with at any other time of the year.

As we strive for perfection in everything we do, it becomes seemingly impossible to find words that convey ideas precisely enough so that maximum expression may be reached. With this in mind, the definition of the term "sesquicentennial" has only been touched upon, making it necessary to find specific examples to develop a proper concept of the word.

This booklet deals in describing the events leading into, during and after the week of June 9-16, 1973 in the Town of East Bridgewater, Massachusetts, which celebrated the one-hundred fiftieth anniversary of its incorporation at that time, being established on June 14, 1823. The atmosphere generated in the town during the sesquicentennial week created very special memories for several thousand people and spurred an exciting new interest in the otherwise obscure history of East Bridgewater. This story of the sesquicentennial in East Bridgewater is an attempt to define that cumbersome word by demonstrating the human aspects of creativity and excitement which the term represents.

If you asked anyone in East Bridgewater what the word "sesquicentennial" meant prior to September, 1971, chances are good that people wouldn't have known how to pronounce the word, let alone know what it meant. And, while in June, 1974, the average

East Bridgewaterite still stumbles over the pronunciation of that word, most people in the town at least have a clear conception of what it symbolizes.

"East Bridgewater Sesquicentennial, June 9-16, 1973" were the words appearing on thousands of bumperstickers, posters, flyers, newspapers, books, etc. in the community drumming up support for East Bridgewater's one hundred fiftieth anniversary of its incorporation June 14, 1823. The sesquicentennial anniversary was conceived of by a Committee of ten people established in September, 1971 by the East Bridgewater Board of Selectmen. This panel was appointed to investigate the feasibility of conducting a one hundred fiftieth anniversary celebration.

Those appointed were as follows: Thomas S. Morey, Chairman; Dorothy G. White, Vice-Chairman; Margaret O. Alexander, Secretary; Anna K. Negri, Treasurer; Gladys M. Hennessey, Evelyn M. Pittsley, Elaine S. Powers, Edna L. Whitmore, Wayne O. Hudson and Thomas E. Reynolds. Later on, due to the resignation of Mrs. Powers, Mr. Richard F. Bartlett was appointed to the Committee.

The Committee adopted a theme for the celebration: T. S. Eliot's "Time Past. . . Time Present". Also, a sub-theme of "Pioneering In Industry" was used as a tribute to the town's varied early industries.

The Committee started to plan the celebration at the end of 1971 to include such things as exhibits, a homecoming day, an old-fashioned supper, a town meeting re-enactment, a pageant, a huge parade, and a ball, to be held during one week in June, 1973 which would include June 14th, the anniversary of the incorporation of the town. Other ideas were discussed such as the minting of a commemorative medal, a commemorative stamp, a book on the history of the town and several smaller items.

Once the town appropriated \$6,000.00 at the 1972 Annual Town Meeting, projects to get the celebration underway began. On March 30th of that year, the Committee entertained Mrs. I. A. Y. Tester, the Honourable Lord Mayor of Bridgwater, England at the East Bridgewater Junior High School. Members of the Board of Selectmen told Mrs. Tester that some sesquicentennial medals would be sent to Bridgwater, England when they were produced.

The anniversary board discussed restoration projects at the beginning of the year, such as the replacement of the old iron watering trough in the center of town, the marking of historic homes, and the restoration of the Rogers and Sheldon mill site, located off West Union Street at the intersections of Cross and Emerald Streets.

Initial steps were taken to produce the medal and

obtain the mill site in May, 1972. Also, the Committee began a somewhat controversial investigation as to the whereabouts of a large copper weathervane which was mysteriously missing from the top of the Water Department barn, originally being placed there by members of the Hobart family. Discussion arose over what kind of animal the weathervane represented, but it was generally thought to be a six-foot long greyhound.

The Committee obtained three rooms on the second floor of the Town Office Building Annex during the summer of 1972 for the purposes of having office space and headquarters.

The bowl section of the original watering trough, which stood in East Bridgewater center in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries, was discovered in Hanson being used as a fish pond, after an article was placed in the **Brockton Enterprise** inquiring to its whereabouts. Surprisingly, members of the Committee were able to obtain it from Mrs. Percy Brown of Hanson, who responded to the article in the paper by calling East Bridgewater's Town Clerk, Mrs. Elaine S. Powers. Mr. Franklin Santilli, with the help of his father, Mr. Alexander Santilli of Alloy Castings, Peter Santilli and Scott DeChambeau, finished the trough by casting a new base and center pole, and painting it when it was completed. Mrs. Dorothy White obtained a lamp to top off the trough from Mr. Everett Slater of Abington. The East Bridgewater Savings Bank has been responsible for planting the trough with lovely flowers since the replacement. In the summer, it was planted with geraniums, vincas, and petunias; in the fall, yellow chrysanthemums; and in the winter, evergreens. The watering trough stands as a lasting and visible memorial to the Sesquicentennial.

Another early project of the Committee was the commemorative medal, which was first made available in November, 1972, designed by Richard F. Bartlett, and struck by the V. H. Blackinton & Co., Inc. of Attleboro Falls, Ma. The face (obverse) of the East Bridgewater Sesquicentennial Commemorative Medal depicts the early buildings of the Carver Cotton Gin Company including a beautiful bridge spanning the Satucket River. The structures have long since been replaced, but the location is still the same. The Carver Cotton Gin Company is one of the many early industries which played an important part in the life style of this town. The words "Pioneering In Industry" and "Time Past. . . Time Present" appear along with the dates 1823-1973.

The seal of the Town of East Bridgewater, one of the most attractive in the Commonwealth, has been in existence since the turn of the Twentieth Century, and serves as the reverse of the commemorative medal. Article II of the Annual Town Meeting of March 7,

1898, authorized the Selectmen "to choose and procure a corporation seal for the Town for printing purposes." The seal was designed by Mr. Jarvis Burrell, a local printer and well-known citizen. It depicts the purchase of the land known as Bridgewater from Chief Ousamequin (Massasoit) of the Wampanoag tribe, by Captain Myles Standish, Samuel Nash, and Constant Southworth, representing the men of Duxbury on March 23, 1649 upon Sachem Rock in the area known as Satucket.

Still another project was the commemorative stamp, designed again by Mr. Richard F. Bartlett, printed by the Leyden Press of Plymouth, Ma. and made available in December, 1972. On the stamp is Deacon Samuel Keen's Workshop, built in 1822, framed by what is now the Bedford Street bridge over the Matfield River in Joppa Village (Elmwood). The shop was located at the end of the road known today as Keene Lane. Along the border of the stamp are symbols of the town's early industrial activity.

In late 1972, the Committee adopted an anniversary seal depicting the Old Brick Store in the center of town, which became the symbol of the celebration, being used extensively in the book, on tickets, posters, programs and other materials.

During the time that all of the main activities and projects were being carried out, a committee of approximately 50 people was busy gathering material to compile the first complete history of East Bridgewater. The book was written and edited by David K. Wilson, designed and laid out by Richard F. Bartlett and Robert J. Clark and researched by a Committee of eighteen people. Published by the R. E. Smith Printing Company, Inc. of Fall River, MA, the book went on sale June 8th, 1973 after thirteen months of hard work, one day before the start of the formal sesquicentennial activities. Through the efforts of Mrs. Dorothy White and her committee, all of the funds needed to see the book through to its completion were raised.

A sign was placed on Hobart Park in the center of town announcing the anniversary activities to the townspeople in May, 1973. Plans are to change the words on the sign in the near future to read: "East Bridgewater, Mass. Settled, 1660; East Parish, 1723; Town, 1823". The painting of the sign was done by Alton J. Frabetti.

Finally, the week of the celebration arrived, which seemed so far away back in 1971 when the Committee was first organized. The **Bridgewater Independent/East Bridgewater Star** published a special newspaper at this time which described all of the sesquicentennial events in detail as well as some informative historical articles.



Here are detailed accounts of all the happenings of each celebration day during the week of June 9-16, 1973:

Sun.. June 3...

One week before the actual sesquicentennial celebration began, the East Bridgewater Jaycees sponsored a canoe race to coincide with this town's 150th anniversary. The event was one of the Jaycee's most pleasant undertakings, due to the Rat Pack Paddlers of Barre, Massachusetts.

The race started at 11:00 a.m., Sunday, June 3rd with the course running from Bridge Street to Route 106 and return.

Terry Bishop and David Muir were co-chairmen of the project, with a large amount of help from the membership of the chapter including Bob DiFazio, Dick Anderson, Peter Watson, Bill Cafferky, Bob Reed, Dick Geer, and Brooks Bartlett.

Trophies were awarded to the first place winners in each of the classes that were run.

The Jaycees wish to thank the following for their assistance: the East Bridgewater Police Department, the First Parish Unitarian Church for the loan of a canoe that was used as a safety boat, and to Liberty Grove Exxon, Braintree, for a two-way radio which was loaned to the Jaycees for safety communication from point to point during the race.

The winners and classes were as follows:

CLASS	NAME	TIME
A-1	Bill Thomas Don Brown	23 min. 37 sec.
A-2	Larry Gauthier Earl Cooley	25 min. 07 sec.
A-3	Robert Barnes Janie Gauthier	26 min. 23 sec.
A-4	Kathy Murray Alice Kiablic	34 min. 18 sec.
A-5	Richard Otto Dennis Priest	24 min. 14 sec.

A-6

Richard Frazier

Dennis Priest

27 min. 08 sec.

A-7

Class closed due to lack of applicants

A-8

Bill Thomas-Don Brown 24 min. 17 sec.

Scot Bevis - Don Brown, Jr.

The Week Begins... June 9-16, 1973

Sat.. June 9...

Saturday morning opened up being very sunny and comfortably warm to get the Sesquicentennial celebration off to a pleasant start. The day was designated "Homecoming Day" as an invitation to all present and former residents of the town to participate in the week-long celebration. Highlights of the day included Homecoming Day activities and a tea at the East Bridgewater YWCA, Exhibits at the High School from 10:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m., a Library Open House from 10:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m., and Indian Dances, a Water Show, and a Beard-Judging Contest held at the YWCA later in the afternoon.

The Homecoming Day Committee worked very hard to send out invitations and prepare the activities for the day. Letters were sent to all graduates of East Bridgewater High School from 1900 to the present year and were directed towards those who were no longer living in the town. Three hundred letters were mailed, with the cooperation of the Library staff.

Guest Books were made available at three locations in the town for all visitors and townspeople to sign; the places being the YWCA, the Fire Station and the Library. People who visited the Exhibits also signed a guest book which was placed at the High School later in the week-end.

Members would like to thank Mrs. Dorothy Pearson who was the hostess for Homecoming Day at the East Bridgewater YWCA.

Visitors were entertained on the lawn of the "Y" by boy scouts from Braintree, Massachusetts who presented old Indian dances. Also, members of the Bridgewater Antiphonal Brass Society performed some

early and varied music, with the emphasis of the program being on late seventeenth and eighteenth century works. Those who performed were as follows: Thomas Reynolds, trumpet; Daniel Willis, trumpet; John Kearns, trumpet; George Noyes, trombone; David Willis, trombone; and Michael Palmieri, bass trombone.

Members of the Homecoming Day Committee were appropriately dressed in the costume of the 1800s, and greeted visitors in the front hallway.

The red cloth table covering on the Guest table was hand woven and dyed by a grandmother of Mrs. Arthur L. Leland, a descendant of the early settler, Samuel Allen. Punch was served to all from a table which featured an attractive antique silver service belonging to Gladys M. Hennessey. The centerpiece was arranged by Edna Godfrey in a vase belonging to Homecoming chairman Ruth Snow.

As Homecoming Day was progressing at the YWCA, Exhibits at the High School opened at 10:00 a.m. to the general public. The Exhibits, held on Saturday, June 9 and Sunday, June 10, attended by over 1000 people each day, were made up of numerous historical items and artifacts, and demonstrated different stages of life in East Bridgewater. The Exhibits were divided into five areas: the Gymnasium, the lower lobby, the upper lobby, and the cafeteria, with some outdoor exhibits as well.

The Gymnasium featured a large number of interesting exhibits. There was a large quilt display on the risers of the gym which would be to the left after walking into the entrance way. A list of quilts exhibited are as follows: One Log Cabin Quilt, One Bear's Paw Quilt, top unlined, and Two Hit or Miss Quilts, tops unlined by Mrs. G. Herbert Snow. All were handmade of cotton by the grandmother of Robert E. Lee, Mrs. Snow's great-grandmother, circa 1800. One signature quilt, one double Irish chain quilt, and one Indigo Blue Windmill quilt by Mrs. Edwin E. Whitmore, circa 1800; one Beige Wool & Linen handloomed bed-cover by Mrs. Howard C. West, a family heirloom of late 1700s vintage; one log cabin quilt, one star pattern quilt, two very early homespun couch covers by Mrs. Earl A. Peterson, the quilts being circa 1800 and the covers being circa 1860; one velvet quilted throw by Mrs. Ernest A. Rockwell which was made about 1873 by Mrs. John Shaw McCrillis of Brockton, an owner of the White Star Laundry and a grandparent of Mrs. Rockwell; one Indigo blue wool and linen hand-loomed bed-cover, c. 1790, one cotton quilted dark print four post bed quilt, c. 1800 and one crazy quilt, embroidered in silk and velvet pieces, dated 1883 by Mrs. Frank VanUmmersen, which were inherited from her grandmother Martha Prescott Foss.

Along with the beautiful quilts on display, a "quilting bee" was held by the Senior Citizens in the same area of the gym so that people could see how quilts were made. Actually, in technical terms, the Senior Citizens tied a quilt made by Alice Pratt, president of the organization, and had it suspended on quilting bars, arranged to make the quilt look like one, large outstretched rectangle. Those ladies who tied the quilt in period costume were as follows: Irma Thomas, Florence Pearson, Ida Clark, Ruth Lee, Flora Grover, Maude Edson, Elizabeth Clogston and Alice Pratt.

A demonstration of relief carving and lettering in wood was given by Jonathan D. Burrell of East Bridgewater including a number of examples of his work. All of his pieces were custom designed and handmade in the most appropriate material. One such work of his was part of a series on the life and history of the Vikings depicting an Indian watching a Viking ship sail by. Mr. Burrell is a great-grandson of the local printer Jarvis Burrell who designed East Bridgewater's town seal in 1898.

A very interesting exhibit along the back wall was a display of early cast iron toys and models by Mr. Harry Jones of East Bridgewater. A list of items in his exhibit included the following: Lionel standard gauge train and passenger cars, number 390, made in 1930, Ives trains and passenger cars made in 1864, and the late 1920s, several "O" gauge Lionel trains dating from 1920-1940, large cast iron toy horse-drawn steam fire engine, several cast iron toy wagons and early iron autos, large standard gauge American Flyer passenger train of 1940, and about twenty model steam engines made from 1860 to the 1900s from such countries as Germany, France, Belgium, and the United States with such names as Marklin, Bing, Weeden, Corliss and Plank.

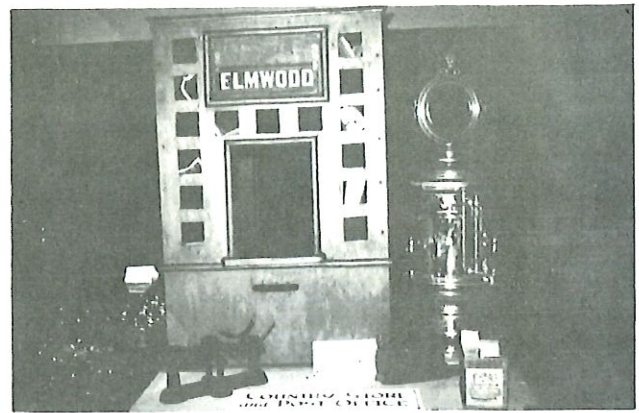
The Carver Cotton Gin Company made its presence known in the sesquicentennial by setting up a fine exhibit of historical items from the old factory. Those articles and pictures were as follows: a scale model delinter over 70 years old, samples of processed cotton seed, etching of the old plant, picture of 50-year men taken at a party in the 1930s, office picture of 1938, painting of factory before it burned - June 17, 1879, owned by Lloyd Cote, picture of factory showing electric car tracks, illustrated catalogue of 1929, group picture of personnel in the 1800s, list of Carver veterans of the 1906-1916 era, 70 years or older or who had 18 years of continuous service, and many old postcards showing the factory, river, building the bridge over the Satucket, and others owned by Lloyd Cote. Another East Bridgewater firm, the Woodard and Wright Last Corp. exhibited such things as last molds for defective feet.

An authentic East Bridgewater Mail Wagon of nineteenth century vintage was displayed in one corner of the gym. The wagon - minus its chassis and wheels, was quite interesting due to the lettering still on the outside, the wooden work on the inside, complete with mail slots, and the sliding doors with glass windows in them. The outside covering of the wagon was some kind of dark, canvas material stretched over a wooden frame. The wagon was approximately five feet high and seven feet long, and had a black vinyl covering (which replaced earlier leather) in the rear with a back light sewn in. In the front, a wide glass windshield allowed for ample vision in the enclosed wagon, and below the windshield, two small holes allowed the reins for the horse to be inside the box-like vehicle so that the mailman could drive easily. This exhibit was donated by Roger E. Woodard and restored by the Sesquicentennial Restoration Committee.

A trip to the old Country Store was relived as part of an exhibit in the gym, sponsored by Francis and Lucille Flagg, proprietors of a store and post office in Elmwood. The exhibit featured many historical items such as the original Elmwood post office boxes, old candy cases, a coffee grinder, a tobacco cutter, an old gum machine, a butter churn, a soda fountain made of silver which was mounted on the counter with separate tanks, and a root beer barrel. Mrs. Flagg was in costume, and gave away gum, penny candy, and other delights. Also, she had some pieces of ginger on display.

On an historical note, the original Elmwood store was established in 1837, when the area was known as Joppa Village, and the Post Office was established in 1860, with the postmaster being appointed by Abraham Lincoln. The store has been maintained and owned by only two families - the Churchills and the Flaggs.

This country store exhibit was certainly a 'must' for everyone who attended the Exhibits.



The Jay family of Stoughton, Massachusetts provided exhibits of early crafts. Old time carpentry was set up by Carl A. Jay, the art of being a cooper by N. Peter Jay, and outside, the science of being a blacksmith by father Harold J. Jay. This family had an impressive collection of old tools which were also displayed inside.

A list of other exhibits in the gymnasium included a number of varied places and things: Bridgewater Brick Company Exhibit, items from a foundry in Bridgewater, Alloy Castings exhibit, and a printing press.

At 3:00 p.m. on Saturday and Sunday, Mr. Charles W. Williams presented a dowsing demonstration in the gym for one hour. He showed people how dowsers find water, what the dowsing rod looks like, and how he uses angle irons and the pendulum. He stated that a competent dowser is able to determine where the vein of water is, whether or not it is deep or shallow, how far down it is, how wide it is, and how many gallons per minute it produces. He demonstrated how the dowsing rod dips when it passes over a vein. This exhibit was truly fascinating.

Moving into the lower hall, a gallery of local paintings was set up. A list of the works, coordinated by Mr. Richard F. Bartlett were as follows:

<u>SUBJECT</u>	<u>MEDIUM</u>	<u>ARTIST</u>	<u>LOANED BY</u>
First Parish Church	Pencil	Harriet Southgate	Margaret Alexander
Eldredge House	Pencil	Sarah Eldredge	Artist
Library, north view	Water Color	Richard F. Bartlett	Mr. & Mrs. Edmund Nutter
First Parish Church, autumn	Water Color	Richard F. Bartlett	Mr. & Mrs. Richard Alexander
Samuel K. Nutter place	Water Color	Richard F. Bartlett	Mr. & Mrs. Richard Alexander
Central Street view	Water Color	Richard F. Bartlett	Mr. & Mrs. Theodore Haines
Old Freight House	Water Color	Richard F. Bartlett	Artist
Rear of Carver Works	Water Color	Richard F. Bartlett	Artist
View of house, Oregon St.	Water Color	Richard F. Bartlett	Artist
Old Dr. Bannerman house (demolished)	Water Color	Richard F. Bartlett	Artist
Old Jones House and Library	Water Color	Richard F. Bartlett	Mr. & Mrs. Earl Peterson

A lovely collection of flower arrangements graced the lower lobby of the exhibit area under the direction of Mrs. Richard F. Bartlett. The following list includes the kinds of flowers that were in each container, and indicates who created each arrangement: Salmon Oriental Poppies, White Siberian Iris and ferns in a large pottery container by Miriam Houghton; Peonies, Bachelors' Buttons, Coral Bells, and Blue Baptisia in an old iron teakettle by Mabel VanUmmersen; Pink Carnations, Baby's Breath, Delphinium, and Statice in a small wash bowl and pitcher by Beatrice Holbrook; Herb Bouquet - Statice, Blue Iris, Blue Baptisia, Old Woman, Old Fashioned White Roses, Lady's Bedstraw, and Sage in an old blue ginger jar by Mabel Bartlett; Lavender Sweet Rocket, White Spirea in a Colonial Lady Container graced "Grandmother's Tea Tray", set with old lavender sprig china by Mabel Bartlett; Yellow Roses in a crystal vase by Rachel Scheehl; Small Yellow and Bronze Chrysanthemums in a yellow-flowered china vase by Martha Grippen; Peonies in a large, white basket by Geraldine Bumpus; Orange Poppies and Deeper Shade Lilies in an old, copper tankard by Geraldine Bumpus; Yellow Roses in a pewter tankard by Mabel Bartlett; Blue Iris, Blue Baptisia, and Mosquito Bush in a pewter pitcher by Irma Thomas; a Dried Arrangement in an old, tin candle-mold by Christine Cote; Purple Iris, Lemon Lilies and Hosta Leaves in a tall cut glass vase by Margaret Sheehan; Coral Bells and Beauty Bush in a low green bowl by Virginia Fuller; a Bouquet of Old-Fashioned flowers in a pewter pitcher by Mildred Siscoe; Old-Fashioned Roses and Mint in a white ironstone sugarbowl by Anne Ewing; and Pansies and Artemisia in a china cup and saucer by Irma Thomas.

Also in the lower lobby was a postcard collection coordinated by Margaret O. Alexander. Besides the many postcards, there were pictures and articles such as the School Bell from the West School, an incense burner from Saint Bridget's Church which burned in 1893, a Paisley shawl and Fireside Rocker belonging to Gladys M. Hennessey, and a George Washington tablecloth and Samuel Keen's Rocker belonging to Margaret O. Alexander. Postcards and pictures were borrowed from: Gladys Hennessey, Barbara Edson, Margaret Alexander, Wayne Johnson, Bill Luddy, Marjorie Eaton, Rachel Scheehl, and Lawrence Burrell.

The American Legion, Fred Bates Morse Post No. 91 had a very interesting military display in the upper lobby. The exhibit contained the following: pictures of men from East Bridgewater in World War I, taken on the Common; picture of present American Legion Color Guard; display of books, magazines, guns, rifles, parachute harness, leggings, trenching tools, and a

machette; display of German officer's sabre; an original picture of the flag raising at Iwo Jima; and a book of pictures by Lieutenant Commander R. J. Reynolds, including shots of the Torpedo Squadron No. 40, aboard the S. S. Swanee, an escort carrier in action in the Pacific. On the side wall was a huge Nazi flag, which had once flown over the German headquarters in Strausburg. Also, the national and Legion flags were exhibited. Mr. Herbert Sprague coordinated the exhibit.

Other items in the foyer included the following: Rare maps and books displayed by Michael Fruzzetti; painting of a Keith ancestor, books, and a serving piece given to Mrs. Keith's grandfather by Daniel Webster, exhibited by Mrs. Robert Keith and Mrs. Marian Hogue; an old warming pan and fire buckets by Charles Millet; and the Old Bridgewater Historical Society exhibit in the glass case containing books, maps and a Conant document signed by John Hancock. Also included there was a free franked letter from S. L. Mitchell dated February 16, 1819 to Mr. Allen Latham of Chillicothe, Ohio; turnpike stock from the Boston to New Bedford Turnpike Corporation; Pew-holder deeds which people had in the 1700s to declare that they were entitled to sit in their particular pew in church every Sunday and had paid the regular fee; and a deed for Isaac Nutter's store, all property of Mrs. Margaret Alexander.

In the display case at the Central School Edna L. Whitmore arranged articles of the 1820 period including children's clothing, handiwork, lamps and candlesticks, school books, writing equipment, games, toys, bullet pouches, powder horns, and objects made of wrought iron such as latches, chains and nails. She also talked about the history of East Bridgewater to the fourth graders and showed slides of local scenes and historic sites.

Some exhibits were not confined to the indoors, and thus became outdoor features, such as a carriage, a blacksmith, animals and craftsmen.

The carriage owned by the Moore family, Pleasant Street, East Bridgewater, was driven at the High School during the exhibit as well as in the Sesquicentennial Parade.

The vehicle was a Trap of very elegant design, manufactured by the Henry Hooker Carriage Company, New Haven, Connecticut, and sold by French & Company, Boston, Massachusetts, to Mrs. Garelick, Dedham, Massachusetts, in about 1900. Mr. Moore purchased the carriage from Mrs. Garelick in 1961 and completely restored it during 1971 through 1972. The Trap was much larger than most, and was a sporting vehicle used for picnics, country driving, and other informal occasions. This carriage may be driven with

a single horse, pair, or unicorn, which is a pair with an additional single horse out in front.

The pair of horses were registered Morgans, bred, raised and trained in East Bridgewater by the Moore family. They were brother and sister, named Pineview Patrician and Pineview Princess, respectively.

An extensive blacksmithing display was organized by Mr. Harold J. Jay of Stoughton, which complemented exhibits set up inside by his sons.

Anston Boelsma and Rusty Barnard worked on making hand-hewn shingles and beams under the trees in front of the Town Office Building. To create shingles, they used straight-grained cedar stock eighteen inches long, and split it using a homemade tool called a froe, which was a wedge-shaped blade used in a vertical position. The wood was struck with another early tool, a mawl or beetle made of wood. After the froe was driven down into the grain of the wood, it was smoothed with a draw-shave or draw-knife. It was then fashioned with the knife pulled inwards towards the person making the shingle until it suited his liking. For making beams, logs were secured, and a tool known as a dog (a metal bar one inch thick and two feet long which bends at each end) was driven into the logs to secure them to a support. A chalkline was established as a guide to cut the log properly, and a broad axe carefully finished the job to its final refinement.

On the lawn in front of the Water Department barn was an exhibit of farm animals by a 4-H club under the direction of Mrs. Sybil Perkins and Mr. Robert Ewing. The animals were cared for and guarded all night long by younger members of the Green Pastures 4-H Club assisted by the Shepherds Five, another 4-H group. The livestock exhibit included the following animals: goats, pigs, chickens, rabbits, dairy cows, beef cows, and sheep. Donald Perkins and Dennis Holman stayed up with the animals the entire evening of June 9th and into the early morning hours of Sunday, June 10th, to insure that they would be safe.

The 4-Hers who assisted with setting up the exhibit were as follows: Becky Perkins, Cheryl Potvin, Heidi Grippen, Ronald Randall, Heidi Wagner, Beth Wagner, Jody Wagner, Peter Santilli, and Linda Lewis. All of the members got an opportunity to milk a Jersey cow belonging to Joan Grinnell during the weekend.

Some of the animals were tied up, others were penned, and some had lean-tos. The exhibit proved to be a delightful one for children and adults alike, as well as having a practical aspect to it - the lawn in front of the Water Department barn was well clipped by these grass-chomping creatures.

Kitchen Exhibit



The cafeteria was full of beautiful and creative exhibits, being the only area not mentioned thusfar. In the area to the immediate right of the doorway leading into the cafeteria was an old-time kitchen corner, arranged by Christine Cote and Edna Whitmore. Red-patterned cloths covered two tables on which were displayed old kitchen utensils - cutlery, wooden bowls, knife boxes, buckets, mixing spoons, yellow crockery mixing bowls, iron spiders and kettles, cookbooks, tin ware of all sorts - everything that the housewife would have used. At one end of the table were two place settings with bone-handled cutlery and white ironstone china. At the rear, were two hand-made clothes racks displaying aprons, towels and tray cloths. Dried herbs - sage, chives, basil, mint, thyme, and calendular flowers for coloring butter in the winter, were hung on the wall. On a spool what-not, set against a blue and white woven coverlet, were collections of small tin ware.

An interesting exhibit of rug-hooking was organized by Mrs. Antoinette McGrail. Relating to how she started in the craft with little previous experience, Mrs. McGrail demonstrated how quickly she was able to become a skillful hooker. Mrs. McGrail buys her own designs, and then hooks her rugs around the patterns. With the use of a "stripper" or cutter, she cuts the wool very fine and is able to hook as many as eight shades in a single flower. She dyes her own swatches because the colors are more subdued than commercially dyed ones. In this way, more variety in shades may be obtained. Mrs. McGrail has made many rugs, chair pads, pictures, door stops, stair runners, and numerous other articles.

Mr. & Mrs. Cecil Hoyt displayed a cobblers bench which was a precious antique, and Mrs. Dorothy White had a collection of old cobblers tools and boots to complement the bench. This was set up on the right side of the cafeteria.

The Dolls and Old Toys Exhibit featured early toys for children of all ages, from wooden blocks and an abacus to fine French dolls.

A very fine antique train was exhibited by Michael Fruzzetti. William J. DiRenzo displayed a collection of iron banks. Alice Cobbett exhibited a small leather horse and cart and also a set of lead soldiers, British Grenadiers complete with castle and cannon.

Iva Sawyer contributed a tin head doll and antique doll's high chair. An early a.m. Dream Baby in an old time baby dress and bonnet and a child's Schoenhut xylophone were displayed by Ann Sprague. Richard Bartlett, by request of several people, brought in a mechanical frog bank in which the frog leaped backwards into the water.

Edna Whitmore loaned many items of interest, a fine French Jumeau doll and a complete doll's bedroom set. A hundred year old doll carriage with three wheels held a China head doll with glass eyes and a bisque German doll, all dressed in period clothes. Books, abacus and blocks were also part of her contribution.

Many interesting items were exhibited by Barbara Alexander, among them a complete Mickey Mouse Band, early toy cars, a beautifully dressed doll in a handsome child's size cane rocker, and a collection of nineteenth century doll's clothes.

Dorothy White contributed a hand-made doll's rocker with the original design in perfect condition.

Mabel Bartlett displayed an early China head doll, finely dressed, and a very early doll's bed with three choice patchwork quilts.

Lillian Peppe, who set up the display, contributed a four-room Victorian Doll house, completely furnished in antique doll's furniture and with the dolls themselves in residence. An 1858 Greiner doll, a Schoenhut girl doll of 1912 and a Steiff Teddy Bear added interest, as did a hand-made 1920 touring car filled with dolls of that period.

It would be impossible to list everything on display. The response and interest in Dolls and Old Toys was really overwhelming. There were offers of more and larger items (such as rocking horses) than there was room for. Surely one of the unchanging facts is the joy that both adults and children find in the dolls and trains and toys of long ago.

Mr. Roland Engstrom of East Bridgewater brought a collection of old Indian relics to the cafeteria, exhibits as treasured artifacts of the past. Included in this display were the following: one pottery bowl from Lake Assawompset, one sandstone bowl from Florence, Mass., twenty, eight and one half by eleven inch frames listed as follows: six frames of arrowheads

from Florida, one frame of gem bird points, from Oregon, one frame of relics from Bolton, Mass., and twelve frames of arrowheads from East Bridgewater and surrounding towns, ten frames of sixteen by twelve inch frames from East Bridgewater and surrounding towns, eight pipes - four soapstone and four sandstone, three pestles from East Bridgewater, three gouges and celts from East Bridgewater, one banner stone from this town, one vertebra of an Indian with an arrowhead embedded in it and one Indian horse bridle from Western Indians.

The exhibit of Edward C. Patt was a collection of old clocks and the various tools and methods of repairing them. The use of the different tools and how they were used was explained by him and the various types of clocks were displayed and demonstrated. Mrs. Patt assisted him during the exhibit.

The following clocks and their description are as follows:

Walnut Gingerbreadclock-was made by E. Ingraham & Co. of Bristol, Conn. and had patented dates Oct. 1, 1878-Nov. 11, 1879.

Mirror Side Shelf Clock - has cherubs in front of mirrors on the sides. This clock was manufactured by Wm. L. Gilbert Clock Co., Winsted, Conn. 1871-1934.

Seth Thomas Flat Top Imitation Marble Mantle-clock- manufactured in the early 1900s.

Seth Thomas Flat Top Black Wood Mantleclock-Circa 1880-1920.

Oak Mission Tall clock- Custom made with Sessions movement in the early 1900s.

Seth Thomas "Sharon" Steeple clock-after 1938 this style was made either as an eight day wind-up or an A/C TP, but was not in such good proportion as Ingrahams original.

Grandmother Gingerbread clock-Shorter than a regular Gingerbread. Manufactured by E. Ingraham Co., Bristol Conn. Patent Oct. 8, 1878-Nov. 1879.

Small Banjo clock-manufactured by the Sessions Clock Co. Forrestville, Conn. Provincetown model with eight day lever time.

Black Wood Mantle clock-manufactured by E. Ingraham Co. Patent Oct. 8, 1878-Nov. 11, 1879 in Bristol, Conn. Eclipse model with cathedral gong.

Steeple Clock - the case was made for Wm. L. Gilbert Clock Co. The previous owner spoiled the antique value by having the original movement replaced with an electric movement.

Oak Gingerbread clock-Famous Ingraham model "Gila" from their "River Line." At the left of the base is a barometer and on the right is a thermometer. This also has a calendar dial. Circa 1903.

Oak or Kitchen Shelf clock-this model was manufactured by Ingraham from 1899-1905.

Schatz 400 Day or Anniversary clock-made in Germany 1949 and is wound once a year.

Carriage Musical Alarm clock-made in Germany. Circa 1910.

Reproduction School House clock-copy of old school house clock as originals are hard to find.

Shelf Clock with Figure Eight Door-case was made for Daniel Pratt & Sons Co., Reading Mass. 1797-1871 but movement is an eight day Ingraham which strikes on the hour only.

Early Bird Alarm clock-on the face a robin pulls on a worm with a scene of the rising sun in the background. The maker is unknown. This clock was purchased at George Root's grocery store located in the center of East Bridgewater, Mass.

All clocks displayed were running and some struck on the hour and half hour.

There were two movements on display - one was cleaned and repaired and in running condition compared with the other that had nothing done to it and was dirty and in need of repair and not running.

Clock tools and parts that he uses in his clock repairing that were on display in an old country store candy case were as follows:

- main springs
- broken main springs
- clock bushings
- clock hole closing punches
- hand vise
- pin vise
- five sided cutting broaches
- crank keys
- suspension springs
- main spring let down handles
- fine files
- main spring winder
- jewelers saw
- bushing tool
- wire bender
- anvil block
- gear pullers
- one inch micrometer
- a ladder movement

The art of weaving and needlepoint was demonstrated in an exhibit by "The Craft Tradition", a store on Route 28 in West Bridgewater center which specializes in weaving supplies, custom needlepoint, handthrown pottery, wooden toys, and weaving and needlepoint classes.

Old costumes and accessories were arranged by

Edna L. Whitmore in the far front corner of the cafeteria. Paisley shawls were used for the background and tables were covered with dull gold brocade and woven striped shawls. All of the costumes were from local families. Michael Fruzzetti loaned a princess type natural colored linen dress with self colored embroidery of the 1900 period and a midnight blue gown with bustle and fringe from the 1880s. Miss Ethyl Hoyt showed a child's dress of brown silk and velvet from 1900 and a paisley tea gown, about 1880. Dorothy White displayed a black silk dress, richly trimmed with beads and lace arranged against a black shadow-lace shawl with long, white kid gloves and a white feather fan. Margaret Alexander showed the red and blue striped gown of Mrs. Branch Byram from the 1850s. Edna Whitmore displayed a white Swiss muslin wedding gown with lace trimming, narrow satin ribbon, skirt deeply flounced at the back, and satin ruching, worn by her mother, Florence E. (Ward) Leonard in 1901. She also showed the wedding gown of Susan E. (Ward) Weston, 1880, cocoa brown silk with matching brocade front, bustle back and fringe trimming with a fitted stole. Still another displayed by Mrs. Whitmore was a tropical blue taffeta wedding gown with same color fringe, full-skirted, of the 1869 period, worn by Laura A. (Ward) Cobb. She arranged a black gown, of heavy ribbed silk, black lace and satin ribbon trim, with leg-o-mutton sleeves from the 1880s and a man's cream satin brocade vest, cane, gloves and tall silk hat. Accessories shown were a sable cape and muff, a brocaded parasol, gloves, mitts, hand-embroidered handkerchiefs, hand-knit and embroidered stockings, bonnets, laces, fans, sashes and combs.

A chair-caning exhibit was done by Mrs. Martha Grippen and Mrs. Louise Glover. Mrs. Grippen explained how she first learned to cane out of necessity to repair an old family chair. Basically, cane is derived from a reed which needs to be kept wet so that it will be easily workable. It can be woven into numerous patterns, but the most popular one (as well as being the most basic) is seven step caning. The background of the exhibit was a setting of furniture from the colonial period and the attire of the ladies added much to make it authentic. The caning was demonstrated on a rocking chair which was another particular point of interest since many questions were posed to the ladies about caning technique. Both Mrs. Grippen and Mrs. Glover learned chair caning by attending practical arts classes.

The braided rug exhibit created much interest for all. The exhibit was one of a series in the hand crafts with hooking and crewel work also being displayed.

The booth was arranged by Anne Ewing using all of her own rugs and accessories. A Deacon's bench was

used for the background with a paisley shawl thrown over one arm. Two braided pillows were used at each end and the center held an old tin spice box used now by the owner for her sewing supplies.

A 1900 rocker painted aqua blue gave a touch of solid color - and a very old, tin hat box, brought long ago on her grandmother's wedding trip from London, held the extra wool in bright colors for the braids.

A large braided rug held the center of interest on the floor. It was a three circle rug which butted every row four times around. It was nine feet long, done in shades of brown, gold, and red.

On the table was a five by seven rug done in shades of gold, green and red, with a wallpaper sample used to match shades. This was striking in color as it matched the wallpaper so well.

Another rug in the making was a so-called "hit or miss" and is done in blues, browns, and gold bound with three rows of browns and dark plaids.

She showed three methods of braiding and of holding the braids for easy workmanship: the first was a three foot high wooden holder with a spring clamp, the second was an antique sewing bird, used many years ago as the only thing for holding braids exactly tight, and the third, showing how braiding is done today without any mechanics at all.

Crewelwork, a fun craft for young and old alike, was demonstrated by Mrs. Miriam Houghton. It is embroidery, using woolen thread on linen cloth, for a long wearing article. The yarn may be coarse or fine, the cloth fine woven or loose, according to the use of the item when completed. A person gets the greatest pleasure from this art when designing his own sampler and color scheme and working in as many stitches as can be fitted into the pattern to make it interesting and expressive.

One of Mrs. Houghton's pieces was a motif developed into an original crewel design using many stitches. It showed a bizarre nineteenth century Pennsylvania Dutch practice to control the forces of nature, in which the peach trees were whipped before breakfast on Good Friday to guarantee a good peach harvest.

Mr. Allen B. Howland, Senior Vice-Commander-In-Chief of the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War, set up a display commemorating different aspects of the Civil War or the War of the Rebellion.

The Civil War Exhibit was in reality a tribute to the Grand Army of the Republic, the veterans of that conflict who served their community in peace for many years following their service in the War of the Rebellion.

Featuring some military artifacts from the war, it also included articles from each of the G. A. R. posts of East Bridgewater; the Justin Dimock Post No. 124 and the A. C. Munroe Post No. 212. Badges, papers, and personal items of local men were included, many of those loaned by the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War.

Mr. Arthur Dewhurst had an interesting display of hand-made violins. He first got started in this hobby in 1950, when \$30.00 worth of material and 150-200 hours of labor were required to properly make violins. After his first four years of violin-making, he had produced ten violins and one cello. The violins were made of different kinds of wood; for the back, curly maple was used, the front was spruce, and the fingerboards were black ebony, with pegs being black ebony or rosewood.

This man's involvement in the Sesquicentennial, being 81 years old, was also very special in that he was the first truck driver for the A. R. Parker's dairy and worked for the Brockton Edison Company as a switchboard operator for many years. The Sesquicentennial Committee salutes Arthur Dewhurst for his fine contributions to this community.

Mr. & Mrs. Alex Rubolino of Brockton very attractively displayed many beautiful hand-carved birds of life size and miniatures as well.

The Rubolinos are a husband and wife team who have done much research and observing to obtain natural positions and colors of these birds. Alex does the carving and his wife, Lucy does the painting.

Jean Holton, assisted by Rachel Scheehl, Patty Ortenzi and Betty DeChambeau arranged an exhibit of antique design.

Articles displayed on beautiful paisley shawls owned by Mrs. Willard DeChambeau included decorated trays of many shapes and sizes, decorated furniture, tinsel painting on glass, etc.

This was a working exhibit as these ladies painted during the day. Techniques demonstrated were: reverse painting on glass, decorating with oil paints, stenciling and free-hand bronze work.

Mr. Earl Peterson also displayed some early books, etc.

During the afternoon people were startled by a violent thunderstorm which poured buckets of rain-water over East Bridgewater around 5:00 p.m.

The Exhibits were well received, being held on the next day, Sunday June 10th from 1-5 p.m. also. All of the exhibitors were in nineteenth century costume. In the evening, people stayed overnight to guard the exhibits against possible vandalism. Certainly, the

exhibits had to be on the list of outstanding efforts in the sesquicentennial.

Later in the day, while the Exhibits were going on, two more activities were happening at the YWCA as part of Homecoming Day.

The East Bridgewater Jaycees held their beard growing contest judging first, which was the culmination of five months of beard growing for the men who participated. From the time in February when thirty-four men registered to compete in the contest, to the day of the judging, eighteen men "weathered the storm" and remained as contestants on June 9th while the sixteen other men dropped out for a number of reasons, such as hot weather, itchy chins, and upset wives. Ms. Marie Hilstrom and Ms. Judy Burns of Brockton, two local commercial artists, served as judges of the event, much to the delight of those who participated. The five men who were selected as the finalists were as follows:

Most Distinguished Beard, Eugene Davidson; Longest Beard, Kenneth Pratt; Most Affectionate Beard, Harold Mosher; Roughest Beard, Franklin Santilli; and Longest Single Hair, Richard Forgeron. The winners were awarded with suitable trophies.

After the contest was over, the YWCA held a Water Demonstration in their pool to the rear of the main building. The program for the water show was as follows:

1. "THE HAPPIEST GIRL IN THE WHOLE U.S.A." - Debbie Brown, Lori Westerman, Lorraine Gozzo, Ginny Gozzo, Beth Hermanson and Robin Morgan - Members of the Dolfinettes (Dolfinettes is the name of the teen-age synchronized swimming group from the Y.W.C.A.)
2. BEGINNERS - ADVANCED BEGINNERS - INTERMEDIATES - SWIMMERS - ADVANCED SWIMMERS - Children from East Bridgewater, who were in Y.W.C.A. swimming classes, demonstrated the skills learned in the various levels of swimming. (Red Cross Standards)
3. "THE WORLD IS A CIRCLE" - Members of the Dolfinettes - Jean Campanini, Ginny Atchison, Lorraine Gozzo, Beth Hermanson.
4. WATER SAFETY AIDES - Mark Cahill and Bonnie Simpson from the Water Safety Aide class taught and demonstrated the progressions used in teaching the front dive. Their pupils were from one of the beginning swimming classes.
5. SENIOR LIFE SAVING - Jane Horner, one of the Senior Life Saving Teachers, explained the front head hold release and tired swimmers carry while four students demonstrated - Jean Campanini, Gregg Horner, Susan Horner and Sharon Rainey.
6. COMPETITIVE SWIMMING - A medley relay race was demonstrated by the Y.W.C.A. competitive swimming team. There were 12 participants divided into three teams.
7. "POPSY" - A synchronized swimming solo by Jean Campanini (Member of the Dolfinettes)
8. TINY TOT AND KINDERSWIM CLASSES - The 3-6 year olds from Y.W.C.A. classes jumped into the pool, swam the width on their stomachs and returned on their backs. They then jumped or dived from the diving board.

9. "LIVING TOGETHER, GROWING TOGETHER" - Dolfinettes.

The show was extremely interesting and unique providing an enjoyable addition to the sesquicentennial.

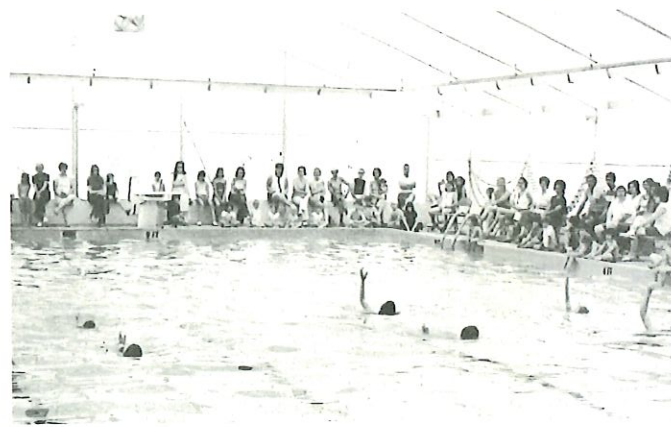
During Homecoming Week-end the library was a stop for many people. The feature of its exhibit was its latest gift, a portrait of William Vinton, great grandson of Hugh Orr, painted by Bass Otis and given by the Vintons to Robert Orr Harris in 1911. This charming portrait was presented to the library by Mrs. Cary, the former Grace Harris, in memory of her father Judge Robert Orr Harris. In addition many pictures, newspapers, school yearbooks and other East Bridgewater memorabilia were brought down to the main floor from the historical room. During the week-end trustees and staff worked together to provide hospitality: Miss Leia Canelli, Mrs. Irene Nardi, Mrs. Betty Jean Cooper, Mrs. Joan Leland, Mrs. Marion Hornstra paired with trustees Mrs. Elizabeth Hurd, Mrs. Louise Archer, Mrs. Frances Philbrick and Mrs. Marion DeChambeau. Mrs. Richard Whitmarsh, Sr. was a special guest hostess, she having worked in the library under Miss Siddall. In keeping with the past, switchell was the only refreshment served. If not thoroughly enjoyed by all, it was a good conversation piece. Flowers for the building were done by Mrs. Marie Roan.

Persons volunteering to loan East Bridgewater material for the exhibit were former librarian, Mrs. Margaret Mason, Mrs. Ida R. Currie, the Rev. Paul John Rich, Mrs. Marion DeChambeau, and Mr. & Mrs. Carl Eastman.

The library open-house was held from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. on Saturday, June 9th and 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. on Sunday, June 10th.

Sun.. June 10...

Sunday morning opened up being bright and sunny with no clouds in the sky and one just knew that the weather for the whole day would be perfect.



The Water Show

This day was designated "Religious Heritage Day" and some of the individual churches in the town responded by commemorating the sesquicentennial in their own ways.

At the Methodist Church, the pews were filled with many people who wondered if the morning service would be held "as usual" or if it was going to be something different.

Rev. Michael Stotts was attending a conference and the Lay Leaders conducted the service. Anything could have happened, and sure enough, it did.

Before the service actually started, there was a continuous "buzz" of conversation, since many had come in costume as suggested by the East Bridgewater Sesquicentennial Committee. All ages were dressed as befitted the occasion.

The choir was in exceptional "voice" that morning when singing an anthem for the service.

The congregation did its part by participating in prayers, responsive readings and singing hymns.

At about the time when it was customary to hear the sermon, there were loud footsteps at the rear of the church and everyone turned to see what was causing the commotion.

There standing in the doorway, was a figure in black. It was a man in a black flowing cape, black breeches, a flat top, wide brim black felt hat, and riding boots. From his appearance, it was evident that he had been in the saddle for some time and had no doubt tied his horse to a tree in front of the church.

In his hand, he carried a Bible and a few papers on which was written his sermon. He strode down the center aisle, mounted the altar, shook hands with the Lay Leaders and said, "I am the Circuit Rider".

He was invited to preach and forthwith proceeded to do so. Before starting the sermon, he read from his notes about what had transpired at some of the settlements on his "circuit" including births, deaths, and marriages. He also told of the building of new churches in some of the settlements with ever increasing attendance at religious services.

For the benefit of those not acquainted with the history of the church, he related the events leading up to the erection of the church building and encouraged everyone to continue to attend church regularly.

He reminded everyone that it was well to read the Bible daily and that each could talk with the Lord as he saw fit everyday, not only on Sunday.

In conclusion, he stated that while he had to be at the next settlement by sun-down, he would remain after the service to meet with each and everyone.

During the last verse of the last hymn, he walked down the center aisle, stopped, waited until the "Amen" at the end of the hymn, gave the benediction, and Burt Bouldry walked slowly out of the door.

Those in costume gathered outside for picture taking.

At other churches, parishioners were in costume at Saint John's Roman Catholic Church and the Elmwood New Jerusalem Church. At Saint John's, Monsignor Daniel Scully's sermon topic dealt with different historical aspects of East Bridgewater and the church.

At 1 p.m., many things opened at the same time: The Library Open-House, The Exhibits at the High School, and the Chicken Barbecue which was followed by a Strawberry Festival and Band Concert at the East Bridgewater Commercial Club.

The Chicken Barbecue Committee, made up of many townspeople with a large percentage of them being Commercial Club members, fed over two thousand people. In fact, estimates of the crowds were over 3,000!

The huge, green and white striped tents provided a comfortable atmosphere to eat under. Mr. John Brooks set up a Public Address system on a rise of land right next to the Club building.

Mr. Philip Carey acted as a Master of Ceremonies and called attention to the various activities which were being held that day.

Mr. Donald Bingham directed many activities for the youth, including a softball game, sack races, relays, and other athletic events.

Other activities included a band concert, K-9 police dog show, a doll carriage parade, and hayrides.

The band concert was performed by the South Shore Concert Band under the direction of Richard Whitmarsh. The program included a number of selections such as:

The Orange Bowl March, Fillmore; Star-Spangled Spectacular, Cohan; Come Back to Sorrento, Nestico; Selections from "The Umbrellas of Cherbourg," LeGrand; The American Legion March, Parker; The National Emblem March, Bagley; and The Viking March, King. The following selections were from the library of East Bridgewater Native and Musician, M. Clifton Edson: Selections from "Katinka," Friml; Selections from "Maytime," Romberg; Our Fighting Men, Panella - and the Governor Douglas March, Burrell. (This march was published by Edson in Elmwood.)

A colorful DOLL CARRIAGE, BICYCLE AND COSTUME PARADE was held with the following winners:

DOLL CARRIAGE WINNERS

	1	2	3
Prettiest	Tiffany Brooks	Nadine George	Michelle Spagone
Most Original	Kerry Kennedy	Patricia McCarthy	Susan Sullivan
Patriotic	Denise Dube Cherie Dube	Carolyn Lopez	Gina Malaspino
Historical	Kim Serra	Donna Solari	Jody Ortenzi

BICYCLE THRU 8 YRS.

Prettiest	Susan Hrenko	Peter Fitch	
Most Original	David Flavell	Terry Luddy	
Patriotic	Daniel Mulkern	Sean Lindahl	Gary Saccocia
Historical	Christopher Cannon	Barbara Sullivan	Robert Fletcher

BICYCLE THRU 12 YRS.

Most Original	Robbie & Jonathan Fitch
Historical	David Oicles

COSTUME PARADE - ALL 1ST PRIZES

Robert Nickerson
Allen McCarthy
Robert McCarthy 3rd

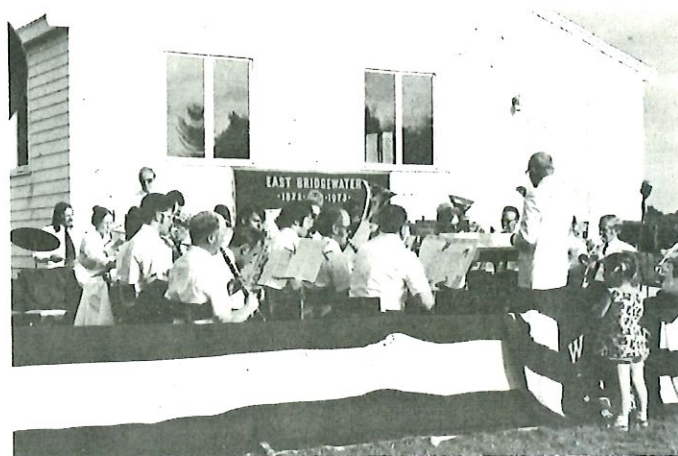
The judges were Miss Edith Greifenburg of Bridgewater, Ms. Diane Larson of East Bridgewater, and Ms. Marion MacDonald of West Bridgewater. The event took place in the parking lot behind the main club building.

An interesting K-9 police dog show was held - 6 dogs were used under the direction of Bob Tirrell of Halifax, John McGinn of Bridgewater, Marty McIsaac of Hanson, James Meteiver of Abington, Gary Young of Hanover, and Skip Connally of Milton. The following demonstrations took place: 1) Obedience Test, 2) Attack Work, 3) Attack Work under gunfire, 4) Stolen car chase with three dogs, 5) Purse Snatching Demonstration, 6) Crowd Control using two dogs to push back a crowd 75 feet. A question and answer period was held afterwards. All of the dogs, as well as being members of their own local corps, were members of the U. S. Canine Corps.

Edmond, "Brother" Kenneally, in the driver seat of the old hay wagon, pulled by his three small draft horses Chief, Dick and Ed, was the highlight of the day for hundreds of children.. The rides were such a tremendous success that at one point a police officer was summoned to quell the crowd. Mrs. Paula Battaglia and Mrs. Linda Mulkern were in charge of the event, assisted by Misses Kathleen and Coleen Carey.

Many parents also enjoyed the hay rides, as the smaller children were often reluctant to leave mother or father behind.

The rides left the Commercial Club drive turning left onto North Water Street, to Grove Street turning



The South Shore Concert Band at the Commercial Club

right, and onto North Bedford Street with another right turn, ending the ride by going back to North Water Street and returning to the Commercial Club, where there was always a never ending crowd of children waiting for a ride.

Another feature of the day was a bus from the W. H. Luddy & Sons Company, used as a shuttle to transport people from the Commercial Club grounds to the Exhibits being held at the Library, and the High School, as well as to some of the Standish Museums. The Exhibit Committee is grateful to the Luddy firm for also providing a trucking service to set up the exhibit at the High School.

The American Legion had a hot dogs and hamburgers booth set up, also.

The menu of the chicken barbecue included: chicken, potato salad, cranberry sauce, a roll, and coffee. Cole slaw was substituted for potato salad on a few occasions. The chicken barbecue committee served 1800 chickens and used about 350 pounds of charcoal to cook them. The fires in the pits were started at 8:00 a.m. and the chickens were put on to cook around 10:00 a.m.

There was one large pit at the barbecue which was fifteen feet long by three feet wide, containing five racks. There was also a liquor booth in a big trailer not far from the pit.

It was interesting to note that the size of the tent used to eat under was half the length of a football field, so it was more than sufficient to hold the large crowd that attended.

The Strawberry Festival, held under a separate tent, offered strawberry shortcake, strawberries and ice cream, strawberry jam, and other strawberry delights. The area was decorated with potted strawberry plants with berries and the ladies were dressed in the costume



*Phil Carey & Bob McCarthy
Setting up table for Chicken Barbecue*

of the early nineteenth century, wearing long, checkered skirts, long white aprons with strawberry pins on them, and white mob caps.

The Strawberry Festival Committee served 1500 people in all during the day. Members of the Committee whipped twenty-seven-and-a-half gallons of cream with a restaurant whipper borrowed from Maxwell Pearson, and obtained sixty gallons of ice cream. It took three hundred boxes of strawberries to serve the massive crowd, many of which were mashed and put in twenty gallon plastic containers.

Aside from strawberries, the area also had cold tonic and ice cream cones available. The Committee says it went through one hundred twenty-five cases of tonic.

The whole affair ended with the cutoff of the last piece, the "Star Spangled Banner" by the South Shore Concert Band around 7:00 p.m. The Chicken Barbecue was certainly another fine undertaking in the sesquicentennial.

Wed.. June 13...

Wednesday was one of those days which was sunny during most of the morning, but by late afternoon, had become hot and steamy with an overcast sky that brought occasional light rain around 5:00 p.m. This cleared up gradually, however, and the evening became quite pleasant, even though the heat still remained. The main feature of the day was a concert performed by the East Bridgewater High School Alumni Band held at 7:30 p.m. in the Michael J. McCarthy Auditorium at East Bridgewater High School.

The Alumni concert was the first serious attempt to get many former band members together of all ages to help promote music in the public schools, as well as providing an interesting social and musical experience. The program, lasting approximately forty-five minutes, featured four guest conductors as well as the present Supervisor of Music, Daniel A. Lasdow. Those conductors were as follows: Anthony C. Ferrante, Supervisor of Music in East Bridgewater from 1955-57; John L. Schuller, Jr., Supervisor of Music here from 1963-68; Gerald J. Farmer, Supervisor from 1968-70; and Richard Whitmarsh, EBHS Alumnus and conductor of the South Shore Concert Band.

The program performed was as follows: the Star Spangled Banner by Francis Scott Key, conducted by Daniel A. Lasdow; Music For A Ceremony by John J. Morrissey, conducted by Anthony C. Ferrante; Little March, by Clare Grundman conducted by Daniel A. Lasdow; A Colonial Rhapsody, by Edward Madden, conducted by John L. Schuller, Jr.; Trumpeter's Lullaby by Leroy Anderson conducted by Daniel A. Lasdow with trumpet soloist Thomas E. Reynolds; The Viking March by Karl King, conducted by Richard Whitmarsh; Tanglewood by John Tatgenhorst, conducted by Gerald J. Farmer; and Battaglia by W. Francis McBeth, conducted by Daniel A. Lasdow.

Personnel for the program included the following: FLUTES, Joyce Carnes, '75; Deborah Frazer, '75; Theresa Kerrigan, '75; Parnel Rubin, '76; CLARINETS, Valerie Coats, '76; Linda Coutts, '72; Daniel DuCille, '71; Gerald Farmer, conductor; Anthony Ferrante, conductor; Joseph Ferrante, '74; Marie Healy, '76; Wayne Hudson, '71; Alexis Jennings, '76; Michelle Latremouille, '76; Susan Eldredge Lewis, '66; John Reynolds, '75; and Sandra Vieno, '74; SAXOPHONES, Joseph Conlon, '75; Michael Craig, '71; Brian Ferreira, '75; and Stephen Mitchell, '75; BASSOONS: Rebecca Eldredge, '69; Terri Wainor, '72; and Laurie Weare, '74; BARITONES, Peter Brown, '73; and John Schuller, conductor; FRENCH HORNS: Karen Brotherton, '70; Ann Edwards, '75; Jane Alexander Haines, '66; Joan Sawyer Leland, '50; Donald Perkins, '75; William Perkins, '72; Clinton Spinney, '34; and Cynthia Stone, '70; TROMBONES, Edward Buckland, '74; James Edwards, '76; and Grace Reid Hill, '68; TRUMPETS, Philip Bouldry, '75; Kathleen Buckland, '55; Douglas Harlow, '75; Robert Harmon, '50; David LaRosa, '65; Daniel Lasdow, conductor; David Lindstrom, '75; Thomas Reynolds, '72; Richard Whitmarsh, '41 conductor; and Howard Wilbur, '57; SOUSAPHONES: Burton Bouldry, '56; Ernest Kroese, '66; and David Rockwell, '71; PERCUSSION: Ellena Adcock, '70; Michael Dias, '75 and Dorothy Ferry, '46.

One of the things that the Sesquicentennial had been trying to accomplish was to establish ongoing

projects. Interesting enough to note, that in 1974 on May 31st a Second Annual Alumni Band Concert was held, being a tremendous success, which showed cause for the formation of an Alumni Band Association. Thus, the Sesquicentennial contributed its part in furthering music in East Bridgewater.

Thurs.. June 14...

Thursday morning started out to be a perfect day, with a cloudless sky and comfortable temperature to make East Bridgewater's one hundred-fiftieth birthday most pleasant. Members of the Sesquicentennial Committee were wondering if this weather was too good to be true, since an outdoor supper was planned for that evening. We know that Saturday morning, June 14, 1823, (the day of East Bridgewater's incorporation as a separate town,) was bright and sunny with a temperature in the mid-fifties, which was cool for that time of year. It got warmer as the day progressed, and by noon time, the thermometers were reaching eighty degrees. In any case, the best possible thing that could have happened did - the entire day featured absolutely perfect weather, much to the delight of the Sesquicentennial Committee. Thanks to Leonard Hill of East Bridgewater, who kept an account of the weather in this town from January, 1806 to August, 1869, we were able to know what the weather was like one hundred-fifty years ago, and be encouraged for the prospects of a day exactly one hundred-fifty years later to be as bright and sunny as it was in 1823.

The highlight of Thursday morning was a drawing of THE GAME, the Massachusetts State Lottery at the Fernandes Super Market Parking area on Route 18. beginning at 9:00 a.m. At about 8:00 a.m., people started to gather around what looked like a house trailer with no windows which housed the mechanical equipment used for the drawing. At 8:30 a.m., the Lottery officials started to open up the trailer, revealing the works inside and setting up a large stage in front of the trailer. The interior of the van, done in a striking yellow and green motif, housed two clear plastic revolving wheels, numbered zero through nine, each containing one small, orange ball. Each wheel was driven with a motor which was activated by pulling a lever to the right downwards, being held in that position until the person wanted to release the wheel and let it freely spin, allowing it to come to its own gradual stop. While the wheel spun, the ball inside jiggled wildly, bouncing off slots corresponding to the numbers showing outside. As the wheel gradually slowed down, the ball started to let up to the extent that it was no longer bouncing all around the wheel, but it was getting caught in the slots along the



The Game

outside rim of the wheel, and slowly changing from one slot to another until the point when the wheel stopped. At that time, gravity found a slot to hold the ball in a final resting position, which corresponded with a number on the outside of the wheel. Thusly, each number that appeared on the lottery tickets was individually chosen.

By 9:00 a.m. a sizable crowd of five hundred people had gathered in the parking lot, many in early costumes, waiting for THE GAME to begin. A public address system had been set up with State Lottery Director William E. Perrault getting things charged up. When he was not talking, music was being piped over the system.

A little after nine, the drawings began. Mr. Perrault chose six people to "help" him spin the wheels and determine what each number would be. The six people, who went up in this order, were: Town Clerk, Elaine S. Powers; Selectman, Charles M. Repeta, Jr.; Chairman of the Board of Selectmen, Dana G. Chase; Selectman, Robert E. McCarthy; Sesquicentennial Committee Chairman, Thomas S. Morey; and Sesquicentennial Committee Vice-Chairman, Dorothy G. White. Three numbers for the final winning lottery number were drawn from each wheel. The complete, six-digit winning number was 215017. Afterwards, numbers were selected for the Million Dollar Game. The affair ended about 10:30 a.m., with the Million Dollar number being 88717.

Later in the day, at 5:00 p.m., an Old-Fashioned Supper was held at the East Bridgewater Junior High School with ideal weather. Tables were set up on the circular lawn in front of the school seating six to eight people each. The tables were covered by blue and white checked gingham tablecloths and were graced with mushroom baskets full of lovely wild flowers - daisies, grasses, red clover, arrowwood,

buttercups, yarrow, purple vetch, daisy fleabane and others. On each place setting was a small, brown paper bag held together by blue and yellow ties, which contained a small loaf of bread in an oval foil pan.

The menu, printed on a small yellow paper, consisted of the following: Baked Ham, Potato Salad, Cole Slaw, Corn Bread, Brown Bread, Baked Beans (Kidney, Pea, Yellow Eye), Coffee, Milk, Lemonade, and Washington Pie for dessert. Florence Tarantino and her staff at the High School baked the brown bread and the Kidney and Yellow Eye beans. Mary Davidson and her staff at the Intermediate School baked the corn bread, and Eleanor Ellis and her staff at the Central School made the small souvenir loaves of bread at each place setting.

The waitresses wore costumes of the nineteenth century in red prints and blue prints with mob caps and white aprons. Those who served as waitresses were the following: Mary Davidson, Margaret Meyero-witz, Marie Tokan, Arlene Hill, Betty Wynn, Sophia Stec, Catherine Mormino, Eleanor Hennessey, Patricia Morehouse, Leila Curley, Winifred Reardon, Virginia Fuller, Rose Baggia, Agnes Zentz, Linda Zentz, Lou Hanson, Rachel Merry, Jamie Zentz, Marion Zentz, Pamela Anderson, Leslie Ellis and Ecla Waugh.

Arlene Hill stood nearby and passed out paper bonnets made by children at the Central School for the women guests.

At the end of the supper, whatever leftovers, food, flowers, beans, tablecloths and so forth that were left was sold. Cornelia LaRosa and Karen Hennessey put the leftover food in cartons to be sold.

Mildred L. Siscoe, Chairman of the Executive Supper Committee estimated that 560 guests and workers were served.

When the supper ended about 7:00 p.m., a very skilled group of Indian Dancers performed outside on

the grass behind the tables.

No historical commemoration would be complete without mention of Indians; especially in New England where the tribes that inhabited Massachusetts were quite helpful to the early settlers.

Symbolic dancing of the tribes told a story not unlike modern ballet. The dance team researched the subject and demonstrated, with great agility, stories of a deer hunt, a buffalo hunt, and a challenge dance. In the challenge dance, the leader challenges the braves to pick up a feather from the ground with his mouth. After several attempts, one dancer is successful. In a humorous vein, the skunk dance and the puddle dance were well received by the audience.

The War Dance and Victory Dance were the most vigorous performed. The War Dance was for exciting emotions before going into battle, similar to a football rally, etc. The Victory Dance pantomimes a fight between two braves to their death.

The team performed the Spirit Dance symbolizing the power of good over evil when a stricken brave was restored to good health by the power of the good spirits. The closing dance, Death of an Eagle combined the ideas of pollution, modern living and ecology problems of today with the whole idea of the way the native Indians used the land intelligently and never laid anything to waste. The once plentiful eagle is now an endangered species due to man's stupidity in all phases of living in our natural habitat.

The Indian dance team was organized in 1965 by Dale Julius of Central Street who is still the leader. As part of the Troop 32 Boy Scouts of the Methodist Church, it has performed in the area for many scout and cub meetings. All of the colorful, ornate feathered costumes were hand made by the members of the team as part of their Indian Lore Merit Badges.

The original members were Dale Julius, Glen Julius



The Old-Fashioned Supper



Indian Dancers at the Supper

(U.S. Navy), Kenneth Thompson (U.S. Air Force), and Philip Beach.

Team members who performed at the Junior High were Patrick Clish, Tim Clish, Richard Tirrell, Stephen Holman, Dennis Holman, David Edwards, Billy Gilbert, Barry Gilbert, Billy Thompson, Joseph Ferrante, Dan Clish, Steve Mello, assistant leader, and Dale Julius, leader. Drummer for all dances was Donald Perkins.

In the cafetorium, the Bridgewater Antiphonal Brass Society performed works from the fifteenth to the nineteenth centuries. Some of the pieces were as follows: Rondeau, John Joseph Mouret; Canzona Prima a 5 by Giovanni Gabrieli; Sonata from "Die Bankelsangerlieder" by Anonymous; Two Ayres for Cornetts and Sagbuts by John Adson; Contrapunctus I by Johann Sebastian Bach; and Sonatas by Pezel. The same people who performed on Homecoming Day and at the Exhibits, performed here.

"June 14th, 1823. What kind of a day was it? A day like all days, filled with those events which alter and illuminate our times. And you, were there." These were the words of Thomas E. Reynolds, who started the Town Meeting Re-Enactment off after reading the Articles of Incorporation which was preceded by a short introduction by Narrator Donald Cahill. This town meeting, a re-enactment of the first town meeting held on July 4, 1823, was made up of many townspeople actually playing the parts of some of the people who attended the first meeting. As the introduction to the meeting was going on, the stage was set up with all forty six men standing in a frozen position with dark blue lights giving an evening effect. When Mr. Reynolds stepped off the stage, the lights were turned up and much commotion followed trying to get the meeting underway. In the background, a specially made projection screen showed large slides of historical pictures in the town. The first slide was a picture of the town seal on the commemorative medal, and this slide remained until the meeting actually got started. The cast for this meeting was as follows: Narrator, Donald Cahill; Town Crier, Thomas E. Reynolds; John M. Goodwin, Philip Smith; Circuit Rider, Burton Bouldry; Bartholomew Brown, Robert Hammond; Judge Nahum Mitchell, Philip Carey; Captain Ezra Kingman, Jr. - Bruce Beaman; Isaac Alden, 3rd, Kenneth Jenkins; Abishai Stetson, Maynard Stetson; Alfred Whitman, Robert E. McCarthy; Ellis Holmes, Bernard Fitzsimmons; Ruel Lincoln, Robert Bezio; Reverend John Reed, Stanley Goldman; Seth Gurney, Maxwell Pearson; Oliver Pratt, Herbert West; Lot Whitmarsh, Jr., Edward Whitmarsh; Joseph Chamberlin, Jr., Charles Thomas; Alvin Shaw, Francis Boyd; Tom Whitmarsh, Paul Garabedian; William Bird, Erwin Tom; Ephraim Hyde, Franklin

Santilli; Isaac Brown, Jr., Jack Julius; Levi Keith, Gordon Chase; William Harris, Richard Bartlett; Francis Cary, Peter Hrenko; Peleg Osborne, Howard Wilbur; Galen Latham, Norman Marchant; Moses Bates, Leon Wagner; Arnold Wade, William Whitmore; Lewis Keith, Ronald Putt; Marcus Robinson, William Genson; Samuel Newhall, Thomas L. Reynolds; Nathan Whitman, Jr., Berj Kambegian; Jacob Bates, William A. Luddy; Azor Harris, Harold Mosher; Joseph Keith, Thomas Morey; Jacob Tirrell, Jonathan Burrell, Stephen Snell, John Grant; Alvin Cole, John Hacker; Joseph Allen, Jr., Chester Leland; Isaac Pratt, Charles Repeta; Nicholas Wade, Edwin Whitmore; Charles Robinson, Frank Houghton; Elbridge Keith, Melvin Boimila; Nathan Kingman, David Libby; and Charity Alden, Constance Fitzsimmons.

Amidst all of the heckling, the meeting went quite smoothly. At the end, some of the dignitaries of the evening spoke including Robert E. McCarthy who read a proclamation by Governor Francis Sargent designating June 9-16, 1973 as "East Bridgewater Sesquicentennial Week" in the Commonwealth. Greetings from President Richard M. Nixon were read by Selectman Dana Chase, and Selectman Charles M. Repeta, Jr. had a few words to say. At the end of all of the various greetings and presentations, a wrestling match was held, typical of the activities usually following a town meeting. Those who participated in the match were: John Morse, Paul Morris, Charles Webb, Richard Tirrell, and referee Carl Eastman.

The author and director for the Town Meeting Re-Enactment was Loretta G. Ring. Assistant Director was Constance Fitzsimmons, Costumes were by Anna Silva, Dorothy Valliere, and Constance Fitzsimmons; Audio-Visual effects were by Donald Cahill, Thomas Reynolds and Patsy Guarino; Properties were by Leon Wagner and Theresa Keohane, Typist was Theresa Keohane; Coordinator was Thomas E. Reynolds and Usherettes were Julianna Carroll and Christine Snow. Reference Sources were: *Bostonian Society Publications*; Dwight Foster and James Estabrooks, *Thomas' Town Officers*; William A. Herrick, *Powers, Duties and Liabilities of Town and Parish Officers in Massachusetts*; Town Reports, Town of East Bridgewater; Clarence M. Webster, *Town Meeting Country*; and Joseph F. Zimmerman, *The Massachusetts Town Meeting - A Tenacious Institution*.

The program ended with a slide of the obverse side of the commemorative medal, and soft music.

The program, which was certainly unique as well as entertaining, was well received by a crowd of over five hundred people with standing room only in the Junior High Cafetorium. The entire program, lasting from 8:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. was a fitting way to

end the actual birthday celebration of June 14th and served as a reminder that there is much local talent in the town to be drawn from to create more community experiences in the future.

Fri.. June 15...

Friday evening was very warm for the time of year and it felt uncomfortable once in a while. This was made up for, however by the feature of the night which was a production by the East Bridgewater High School Class of 1975 entitled "East Bridgewater, 1920". The music, the dances, the morals, and the news events of the Roaring Twenties were portrayed on the High School Stage in the Michael J. McCarthy Auditorium at 8:00 p.m.

The theme of the presentation emphasized the social and national activities as they affected the town of East Bridgewater. The features of the program were: a photographic slide show of the history of the town in the 1920's, musical routines that were hits in this era set in local places, such as in the well-known A. R. Parker establishment, and the traditional vaudeville show designed to capture the mood, tempo, and style of entertainment of that decade.

The program was made up of the following scenes: Scene I, Opening Scene, A. R. Parker's (Friday afternoon); Scene II, Bathing Beauty Contest (Friday night); Scene III, Minstrel Show, (Saturday afternoon); Intermission; Scene IV, Minstrel Show (continued); Scene V, Dance Hall, (Saturday night); and Scene VI, Sarah's House on Central Street, (Sunday night). Also featured were the Paula Coffey Dancers in revue.

The following members of the Class of 1975 participated in the production: Susan Adams, Denise Bingham, Karen Boucher, Laurie Bradbury, Barbara Burrell, Jane Caddell, Paulette Chausse, Patricia Clancy, Darlene Clark, Jean DeLorenzo, Eileen Donahue, Jean Farrell, Nancy Gibbons, Yvonne Goulart, Anita Gomes, Karen Hamilton, Sandra Knight, Theresa Kerrigan, Kathy McCarthy, Marsha Moxley, Cindy Pelaquin, Cheryl Reardon, Jayne Ridder, Kim Ridder, Susan Snow, Marianna Snow, Patricia Wolfe, Robert Beatty, Paul Batti, Philip Bouldry, Jay Carey, Michael Dias, Alfred Flateau, Keith Frasier, Brian Ferreira, Richard Holt, Gary Kashgagian, Glen Morton, William McKinley, Charles Melchin, Stephen Nutter, Paul Poshkus, Donald Desmarias, Brant Winsor, Greg Kashgagian, Robert Jenkins, David Lindstrom, John Reynolds, Francis Pike, Nanette Haskins, Brenda Nixon, Cindy Gary, Diane Ortenzi, Mary Fitzgerald, Lorrie Cavicchi, Nancy Nadolny, William Coutie, and John Baker. The pianist for the evening was Gail Grandmont and the drummers were Greg Kashgagian

and Michael Dias. Some of the people in the audience were dressed in 1920's period costume.

Appreciation was extended to Pat Snow's Dance Studio, the First Parish Unitarian Church, the East Bridgewater United Methodist Church, and Saint John's Roman Catholic Church for assistance in making the program a success.

This very enjoyable and ambitious presentation helped add a unique sparkle to the sesquicentennial, due to the large number of young people who participated. The class advisors at the time, Miss Denise Ryan and Mr. David Wilson, had much to be pleased with that Friday evening.

Sat.. June 16...

Saturday was a very comfortable day, with cool temperatures and an overcast sky. This proved to be a blessing for one of the three featured events which took place on this day, namely the Sesquicentennial Parade, organized by the Fred Bates Morse Post No. 91, American Legion under the direction of Mr. Richard A. Farnham. The parade, certainly the largest that East Bridgewater has ever seen in its one hundred-fifty year history, was attended by a crowd estimated to have been over 10,000 people.

The planning stages of the parade were started in late March, 1973 with the Parade Committee meeting three to four times a week arranging units, permits, financing, and scores of details. A guideline to follow was formulated by reviewing the efforts of parade committees in surrounding towns.

It was the desire of the Parade Committee to create as large a display as possible without presenting a burden on the taxpayers of East Bridgewater. With this in mind, the committee asked various organizations in the town to present programs to help raise money for the parade, as well as promote it at the same time. Local businesses were asked for contributions, and bumper stickers were sold to enlarge the fund.

Among the larger contributors were the following: the American Legion, \$500.00, the Commercial Club, \$500.00, the Foxboro Company, \$500.00, and the Jaycees, \$500.00. Programs were printed and all contributors were listed.

In order that this parade would be of interest to young and old alike, all local organizations were asked to participate. The townspeople responded to the appeal for units enthusiastically, and, in large part, were responsible for the success of the entire project.

One member of the parade committee who did an outstanding job was Daniel Lasdow, supervisor of

Music in the East Bridgewater Public Schools. Through his efforts, a number of school bands were contacted and participated. The East Bridgewater schools were represented by two bands, and they were well received by spectators.

The parade lineup was noticeably lacking military bands and units, due to cut backs ordered in Washington. The parade didn't suffer at all, though, as this was made up by the fact that over twenty bands and drum and bugle corps were present to provide music for the many units.

At parade time, more than one hundred twenty units and sixty antique automobiles were scheduled to participate. They were organized into six divisions, which were set up to contain a variety of units.

The divisions were as follows: First Division: Staff and Military, PC Thomas Hall, Marshall; Second Division: American Legion, SVC Fred Fuller, Marshall; Third Division; V. F. W., Commander William Mooror, Marshall; Fourth Division; Commercial Club, President Robert Jones, Marshall; Fifth Division; Jaycees, Robert Reed, Marshall; and Sixth Division: Scotland, U. S. A., Lord Mayor Germaine Bouchard, Marshall.

The route selected for the parade was along Bedford Street from the corner of Highland Street to East Bridgewater Center, and then up Central Street to the Junior High School. The first three divisions marshalled at the Foxboro Company parking lot, and the last three, at the Commercial Club field. The total length of the parade was 2.7 miles.

The reviewing stand was set up in front of the Town Office Building on Central Street and was well staffed. Kenneth Jenkins of Post No. 91 received guests and the salute from the units was received by Grand Marshall Richard A. Farnham, Commander Post No. 91. Among the guests were: the members of the Sesquicentennial Committee, Senator John M. Quinlan, Senator John F. Parker, representative and Selectman Robert E. McCarthy, County Commissioners George Ridder, Edward Kirby, John Franey and Selectmen Dana G. Chase and Charles M. Repeta, Jr. Also on the stand was the National Chaplain of the American Veterans, the Reverend Francis J. Crowley of Rockland. County treasurer Lawrence Marden was also present.

Many letters were received with best wishes for a successful parade. Among these were from Senator Edward M. Kennedy, Senator Edward W. Brooke, Governor Francis W. Sargent, Attorney General Robert Quinn, Secretary of State John F. X. Davoren, and Lt. Governor Donald Dwight.

Congresswoman Margaret Heckler was to be present but due to the death of her father was unable to



The East Bridgewater Viking Band in the big parade

attend. A message was also received from the President of the United States, Richard M. Nixon praising the town for its contribution to the growth of this country.

Some facts on the parade not mentioned heretofore are as follows: The units of the parade if on the road together would have extended approximately $4\frac{1}{2}$ miles. The step-off was at 1:00 p.m. and the last unit arrived at the Junior High School at 3:30 p.m. A summary of participants showed about 4000 marchers, a number of horses and wagons, 60 antique cars, police motorcycles and cruisers, fire trucks, fifteen floats, high wheel bikes, four dancing troupes, bag pipe bands and etc.

A video tape was made by Thomas Reynolds lasting one and a half hours.

At the conclusion of the march a finale was held at the Junior High School field. The principal speaker was Senator John F. Parker who delivered a magnificent speech which cited the role of East Bridgewater in the development of the country.

Refreshments were handled at four locations. The Military units were served at the Junior High School cafeteria by a committee headed by Emily Rocha. The youths were served tonic and ice cream at St. John's Church by the Holy Name Society. Adults were treated at the Commercial Club and at the American Legion Hall.

This report can only give facts and information about the parade. It lacks in its ability to show the great spirit showed by all the people of East Bridgewater in backing this project. All departments of the town are to be congratulated for their cooperation with the parade committee. The Board of Selectmen was very cooperative and aided in many problems encountered. The police department under Chief William Tardie was most helpful rerouting traffic and handling the many thousands of people present. The school department under Supt. Stanley Goldman made all

facilities available and aided whenever possible. The highway department was kept very busy cleaning up the debris after the parade was over.

Radio communications between the units was provided by Roger Pearson and the entire parade was covered by the South Shore React Club. Aid stations were provided at the schools along the route and were staffed by school nurses. Ambulances were provided by the Tri-Town Ambulance Service.

The following accounts are detailed descriptions of the local floats which participated in the parade:

PROGRAM
SESQUICENTENNIAL PARADE
EAST BRIDGEWATER
SATURDAY, JUNE 16, 1973
1:00 P.M.

Grand Marshall - Richard A. Farnham, Cmd. Post 91, American Legion
1st Division (Staff and Military)
1st Division Marshall - Thomas Hall
Formation: Foxboro Co., Rt. 18

1. State Police (Motorcycles)
2. E. Bridgewater Fire Department
3. E. Bridgewater Police Color Guard
4. E. Bridgewater Police
5. Taunton Police Band
6. Division Marshall - Thomas Hall
7. Color Guard
8. Grand Marshall - Richard Farnham; Parade Adjutant, Ken Jenkins
9. Honorary Marshalls - Clarence Bolinder & Charles Noyes (car)
10. Honored Guests
 - a. Congresswoman Margaret Heckler
 - b. Secretary of State John Davoren
 - c. Senator John Quinlan
 - d. Senator John Parker
 - e. Representative Robert J. McCarthy
 - f. County Commissioners: George Ridder, Francis Kirby, John Franey
 - g. Selectmen: Dana Chase and Charles Repeta
11. Sesquicentennial Committee
12. Clergy
13. A. S. A. Band, Fort Devens
14. Coast Guard Color Guard
15. H.H.D. 3rd BN 101st Artillery, Brockton
16. Naval Reserve Color Guard
17. Third Regimental Guard and Rifles
18. Cardiac Ambulance

2nd Division - American Legion
2nd Division Marshall - SVC Fred Fuller
Formation: Foxboro Co., Rt. 18

1. Marshall - SVC Fred Fuller, Post 91
2. Department Color Guard
3. Departmental Officers:
Robert Groccia, Department Commander
Ernest Montrand, Department Vice-Commander
George Powers, Department Vice-Commander
Philip Carey, Department Treasurer

4. Post 91 Color Guard and Post Members
5. Post 91 Auxiliary and Junior Auxiliary
6. Gold Star Mothers (car), Mrs. Clogston, Mrs. Moskos
7. WWI Widows (car)
8. Waltham Legion Band
9. Post 40 American Legion Color Guard
10. Hanson American Legion Color Guard 226
11. Hanson American Legion Scout Troop 226
12. Rockland American Legion Color Guard 147
- 12a. Duxbury American Legion Post 223
13. Danielson, Conn. Color Guard
14. Other Legion Color Guards
15. Imperials Drum & Bugle Corps
16. Snow Girls, E. Bridgewater
17. 40 & 8 Locomotive
18. Troop 28 Boy Scouts
19. Pack 28 Boy Scouts
20. Troop 28 Float
21. Imperial Junior Drum & Bugle Corps
22. Old Colony Model T's and Golden Agers
23. Tri-Town Ambulance

3rd Division - VFW
3rd Division Marshall - William Mooror
Formation: Foxboro Co., Rt. 18

1. Marshall - Commander William Mooror, VFW
2. VFW District Color Guard
3. Department and District Officers
4. Bridgewater VFW
5. Sancians Drum & Bugle Corps
6. Massed Colors, VFW
7. VFW Members
8. The Carolettes, Whitman
9. Pack 29, Boy Scouts
10. Silver Lake High School Band
11. E. Bridgewater Library Float
12. E. Bridgewater Library Children's Marching Unit (Pick-up at Library)
13. Church of Scientology Float, Boston
14. Joannettes Drum & Bugle Corps
15. Antique Cars, South Shore Auto Club (10 cars)
16. Tri-Town Ambulance

4th Division - Commercial Club
4th Division Marshall - Robert Jones, Pres., Commercial Club
Formation: Commercial Club, E. Bridgewater

1. Marshall - Robert Jones
2. E. Bridgewater High School Color Guard
3. E. Bridgewater Senior & Junior High School Band
4. Paula's School of Dance
5. Garden Club Float
6. YWCA Float
7. Sir Thomas Moore Drum & Bugle Corps
8. Elmwood New Church Float
9. Kiwanis Key Club Float
10. Redmen's Band, Wakefield
11. E. Bridgewater Baseball League Float
12. E. Bridgewater Commercial Club Float
13. Colonial Minute Men
14. Wilbur Porter - Ox Cart
15. South Shore Antique Auto Club (10 cars)
16. E. Bridgewater Police Ambulance Cruiser

5th Division - Jaycees

5th Division Marshall - Robert Reed

Formation: Commercial Club, E. Bridgewater

1. Barone Cadets Color Guard
2. Division Marshall - Robert Reed with Miss Jan Bearce, Miss East Bridgewater Jaycees of 1973
3. Color Guard, American Legion Post 22, Whitman
4. W. Bridgewater Junior & Senior High School Bands
5. Pat's High Steppers
6. Parents Without Partners Float
7. Democratic Town Committee Float (Old Town Meeting)
8. Norwood Debonaires Drum & Bugle Corps
9. Luddy Antique Truck
10. Luddy School Bus with Kids
11. Intermediate School Band
12. Intermediate School Float
13. United Methodist Church Circuit Rider
14. Lions Club Antique Car
15. South Shore Antique Auto Club (10 cars)
16. E. Bridgewater Police Ambulance Cruiser

6th Division - Scotland USA

6th Division Marshall - Lord Mayor Germaine Bouchard

Formation: Commercial Club, E. Bridgewater

1. Mrs. Boelsma, Horse and Colors
2. Division Marshall - Lord Mayor of Scotland USA, Germaine Bouchard
3. Sons of Union Vets Color Guard
4. American Legion Pipe Band, Dedham
5. Scotland Float
6. Scotland Redmen
7. Scouts
8. Oliver Ames High School Band
9. Educational Advisory Council Float
10. Boy Scouts of East Bridgewater
11. St. Joseph's Conquistadors Drum & Bugle Corps, Wakefield
12. Senior Citizens Float
13. Girl Scouts
14. St. Agnes CYO Drum & Bugle Corps
15. State Coach
16. 4-H Horse Club Float and Riders
17. Rough Riders
18. South Shore Antique Auto Club (20 cars)
19. E. Bridgewater Police Cruiser

The Snow Girls of East Bridgewater were all decked out in blue and white sequined costumes, the first non-military local unit to appear in the parade. There were 110 girls in all between the ages of five to twenty, who marched.

Division Three saw an impressive float prepared by the Cub Scout Pack 29 of the Union Congregational Church in East Bridgewater. The float depicted the town seal, with the three men of Duxbury and Chief Ousamequin. In the background, was a large gold seal surrounded by pine trees. The rear of the float featured a log cabin with a cub scout riding alongside. Both sides of the float spelled out "Pack 29" with blue crepe paper on yellow. A truly creative float.

The library endeavored to have its part in the sesquicentennial keyed to the theme, East Bridgewater - Time Past - Time Present. Its entry in the parade was a trap drawn by a pair of horses symbolizing early bookmobile service to outlying sections of the town. In the early twentieth century, Miss Lucy Siddall had sent books to Elmwood with Benjamin Hill, farmer and milk peddler, and to Northville and Beaver by Simon Sheehan, grocery delivery man, in his horse drawn wagon. To commemorate this early service Mr. Frank Moore and his daughter Bonnie volunteered to lend and drive his trap in the parade, with Chairman of the Board of Library Trustees, Elizabeth P. Hurd and Librarian, Grace Eastman as passengers. Anne P. Hynes made the red, white and black signs, Public Library, 1913, for the trap. Time Present was represented by the Eastern Massachusetts Regional Bookmobile provided by the Eastern Regional Library Service carrying banners which said "Serves East Bridgewater 1973". This was driven by James P. MacManus the regular driver of the Bookmobile.



Librarian, Grace C. Eastman and Library Trustee Chairman, Elizabeth P. Hurd enjoying the scenery from their horse-drawn trap.

Both times, past and present, were represented in an entry of the children's department which was a representation of their biennial parade, Books on Parade. The committee in charge was Joan Leland, Marion Hornstra, Ina May Marland and Helen J. Curley, assisted by Lorraine Roan, Lynne Langton, Frances Philbrick, Linda Olson, Karen Dixon and Betty Guarino.

Children marching were: Paul Voegtlin as "Abe Lincoln", Robin Gomes as "Annie Oakley", Jody Maphis as "That Barbara", Kim Sprague as "The Cat in the Hat", Beth Roscoe, Bonnie Brooks, Denise Dube all with very different interpretations of the spider "Charlotte", Patricia Peterson as "Cinderella", Linda Sullivan as a clown, Annmarie Meaney as "Dorothy", Gayle Hickey as "Dorrie the Little Witch", Lisa Cabral as the fairy from the "Wizard of

Oz", Lisa Byrn and Marcia Jaquith as "Heidi", Marie Wentworth and Chris Duncombe as "Huckleberry Finn", Bob Langton as "Humpty Dumpty", Patti Grace as "Karen" from "The Red Shoes", Lisa Davis as "Little Bo Peep", Laurie Hatfield as "Little Miss Muffet", Anne Roan as "Little Red Riding Hood", Mariellen Meaney as "Mary Poppins", Michael Sprague and Peter Grandmont as the Peddler and Monkey from "Caps for Sale", Helen Beaman as "Old Mother Hubbard", Karen Reardon as "Paddington", Brenda Rowley as "Posy" from "Ballet Shoes", Suzanne Maynard and Lisa Lockhart as "Raggedy Anne and Andy", Tricia Taylor as "Tom Sawyer", Laurie Langton as "Wicked Witch of the West", Linda Harlfinger as "Willie Winkle", Katy Graham as "Captain Hook", and Brian Taylor and Scott Hickey carrying the Books on Parade banner as Alice's Playing Cards.

The Paula Coffey School of Dancing and Baton prepared a float and marching unit for Division Four, with the students and parents participating in the construction of the float. The theme decided upon was "Ye Olde Candy Shoppe". One hundred tiny tots rode on the huge Army trailer truck that was transformed into a fantasy candyland. A set of red stairs held the candy mints, the lollipops, and the gumdrops. The little candy canes lined the sides and the Charleston Chews were seated on two round platforms on the back of the truck. A giant-size Life Saver decorated with miniature candies was placed on the very end of the trailer and the front platform supported a half dozen six-foot stuffed animals. James Coffey III and Gary Saccocia were the candy men and they distributed candy from the top platform of the truck along the entire parade route. The National Guard Armory of Bridgewater, under the direction of Captain Hannon, donated the truck for this occasion.

The marching unit from the Coffey school was led by the senior and junior majorettes, who wore old-fashioned costumes designed expressly for the sesquicentennial. The girls wore straw skimmers with black and white streamers, huge bustles and tall white boots. These costumes were designed by Mrs. Sylvia Ortenzi and executed by Mrs. Jeanne Clark. This group was led in march by Mrs. Jane Donahue, Miss Cathy Clark, Miss Robin Vita, and Miss Paula Medeiros.

The second division of majorettes was led by Mrs. Joyce Lucier and their costumes were executed by Mrs. Janice Repeta. These girls also wore straw skimmers, pleated drapes and sequined collars and cuffs. The design was similar to the first division, but the primary color was blue.

Adding color and interest to the contingent from



Pack 29 Cub Scout Float

the Coffey school was a group of ten Keystone cops, ten Raggedy Ann and Raggedy Andy dolls and a small unit of dainty, pink ballerinas who threw rosebuds and candy kisses to the crowd. The original marching unit of the school, "The East Bridgewater Majorettes", who were attired in their usual peacock blue military uniforms, also marched.

The entire unit was organized and constructed by Mr. & Mrs. James Coffey of 55 Spring Street, East Bridgewater.

The Garden Club had a beautiful float in Division Four depicting an old house with rambler roses over an arbor with two lovely girls, Terri Ann Baker and Patricia Baker, in period costume. They sat in a garden full of gorgeous flowers and helped to illustrate the theme of the float: "He who makes a garden walks hand in hand with God." The truck that carried the float, as well as the shrubs and flowers on it was donated by Al Richards of Beaver Nursery.

Another interesting float was sponsored by the East Bridgewater Young Women's Christian Association (Y.W.C.A.) which depicted its swim program and Camp Satucket Summer Day camp. The children of the Brockton Y.W.C.A. "after school and Saturday program", directed by Darcy Greene, took part in the parade. Many people worked hard to make this float very successful.

Still in Division Four, the Elmwood New Church float depicted early religious education in Elmwood in 1836 at one end of its long trailer. Rev. Arvid Anderson was in the pulpit, with the Bible in his hand, and the children sitting on benches were as follows: Brenda Johansen, Lisa Eagan, and Debbie Johansen. Midway down the truck was Simon, the tanner, from the late 1600s. Kenneth Pratt represented this character currying a hide, assisted by Bob Horton. The home shoe industry of Elmwood was depicted on the far side of the trailer representing the 1700s. A



Anna Silva, Costume Committee Chairman, getting a royal escort

cobbler's bench with shoemaker Robert J. Clark was at the side of the float, and the Elmwood Country Store and Post Office was in the rear, featuring old mailboxes and barrels of candy with Leslie Clark, Bonnie Aldrich and Lisa Aldrich minding the store. Each group of participants was in period costume.

The Kiwanis Key Club float had some interesting features. It was a re-enactment of the purchase of Bridgewater at Sachem Rock in 1649. Those members who were on the float were: James Brown, Richard Tirrell, William Thompson, Patrick Doyle, Glen Morton and Philip Smith.

The float entered by the East Bridgewater Boy's Baseball Association was originally an old hay wagon that was loaned by Mr. Jerry Neaveill of 493 Central Street.

The theme of the float was the old and the new in keeping with the other festivities of the week. Three of the boys wore authentic reproductions of baseball uniforms that were worn in the years 1870, 1876, and 1902. These uniforms were all hand made by Mrs. Robert Gill, after making patterns from illustrations in a book. The remaining boys on the float wore their regular, double knit, modern-day baseball uniforms.

The boys on the float were: Michael Neaveill, Michael Lynch, Alan Corle, Kevin Corle, Kenneth Weir and Daniel Horsman.

The float was attended by league president Robert DeChristopher and a league manager Al Weir. It was towed by a garden tractor operated by Robert Roscoe.

The Commercial Club float, again in Division Four, represented different aspects of the club's community involvement. Those students who were awarded scholarships by the club on graduation evening, were present on the float, being Cathy M. Clark and Michael

V. Naujunas of the Class of 1973, EBHS. Robert Pray represented the club-sponsored softball team. Gerald Towle and son represented the club-sponsored Little League team, the cheerleaders were sponsored by Mrs. Patricia Bradbury, and Thomas Jones represented the club-sponsored Pee-Wee baseball team. The float depicted a football field in orange and black.

The Avon Greenhouse & Flower Shop, Inc. of Avon, Mass., sponsored a float entitled "WEDDING ECHOES". Dick & Carol Cannon, owners of the Avon Greenhouses and residents at 16 Sherwood Circle, East Bridgewater, designed and created the entire float. A low bed approximately 30 feet long was covered with artificial grass. On a raised platform in the front were two six foot trellises adorned with artificial camilla trees in pink. On the left corner was a small living willow tree that gracefully enhanced a Victorian blue love seat on which sat the lovely Ruth Ann Sands wearing the only wedding dress from out of town. It had a beige background with a dark brown floral print and was trimmed with beige lace and was previously owned by Samantha Winters of Boston who was married in 1883. Ruth Ann was holding an arm bouquet of long stemmed yellow roses.

On the rise of the platform was the sign "WEDDING ECHOES" made of yellow poms with a leather fern background and a border of white and orchid poms. Here stood Denise Clay of East Bridgewater wearing the wedding dress of Charlotte Lever married June 16, 1903, please note the date, 70 years to the day. The fabric was gray linen trimmed with pink and cotton lace trim. Denise carried an old fashion bouquet of pink roses and marquerites with baby's breath in a lace collar. Next to her was Paulette Chausse who was demurely appealing in the wedding dress of Ellen Adelia Gay Tisdale married December 23, 1873. This was a rust colored faille with self ruffles down the front. She carried a modified cascade of yellow roses and orange freesias with an orange and yellow and gold bow. Then came Diane Kennedy who was prominent in the gown of Mrs. Frank (Florence) Collamore, married 1887. The material was a deep burgundy, draped train and tight long sleeves. Diane carried a white garden basket overflowing with red roses, pink miniature carnations baby's breath and sprengelia. Spaced effectively were green palm trees, candelabra, a large iron garden urn containing red roses, white Fuji Mums, peacock feathers and greens. The border was of red geraniums in brick containers and parasol baskets containing mixed colors of poms and daisies.

The final bride was Judy Wickett of Brockton, outstanding in the china silk wedding dress of Martha Louise Tisdale Metcalf, married 1899. She carried a

two foot cascade of red roses, stephanotis, and was standing in an eight foot archway of assorted colors of carnations and poms. The trailing ramp displayed the sign of Avon Greenhouse and Flower Shop, Inc. and was bordered with peacock feathers, roses and poms.

A special acknowledgement in gratitude to the generous donors of the wedding gowns.

Mrs. Robert Ewing of 208 Elm St., East Bridgewater

Mrs. John Read of 59 Hobart St., East Bridgewater

Mrs. Robert Alexander of 439 Plymouth Street
East Bridgewater

Mrs. Manuel Silva, Costuming Committee Chairman
of 276 N. Bedford St., East Bridgewater

An organization called "Parents Without Partners" sponsored a float in Division Five. The group conducts a program in which lectures, publications, and recreational activities are used to aid the single parent and his children. The float was an example of one such program. The children on the float, dressed in the costume of the 1870s, were winners of the Brockton Area Chapter 525, Children's Exhibit Contest, held to encourage talent in the creative arts. The major feature of the float, the shoe, symbolized the industry which made Brockton internationally famous for footwear.

The Sixth Division was titled "Scotland, U.S.A.", representing a small village in the southern part of Bridgewater. Not only was Scotland's Lord Mayor Germaine Bouchard present, but the area was represented by two floats as well. The first float depicted the many clans of Scotland and the second float was made up of the Scotland Redmen, representing a group of Indians know as the Nipteneke Tribe. The Great Prophet and Grand Sachem was depicted by Harvey Ellis of Bridgewater.

The East Bridgewater Educational Advisory Council sponsored a float in Division Six. The theme of the float was the same as the theme of the entire celebration - "Time Past. . . Time Present". The float was divided into two sections, the first one being a classroom of the 1800s, and the other section being a modern day classroom. Used as a divider between the two was a large blackboard with modern math problems on the new side, and older arithmetic problems on the old side.

In the 1800 school room were three pupils dressed in the attire of the era - boys in knickers and shirts, and girls in long dresses and bonnets. They were seated on an old, three seater bench with a desk in front of them. Some had lap desks, used for storage or for paper work. The pupils were: Mary Lyons, Marybeth Packard, and Mark Jaquith. Their teacher was

Mary MacPherson, who was also dressed in a long dress with matching bonnet and scarf.

In one corner was the "dunce" stool, and David Lynd was temporarily seated upon it. In the opposite corner was the old school bell, rung frequently by Mrs. MacPherson, and the inevitable potbellied stove.

Children walking along one side of the float were the "Huck Finns" of that time. They were playing hookey and taunting those who were attending class. They also passed out candy to the little ones along the parade route. A few of the daring girls of that time were skipping school to go swimming, being Marion Zentz and Carol Johansen, dressed in typical bathing suits of the times. The boys were: Chipper Wagner, John Wallace, and Scott Kingsley.

In the modern classroom, there were several math bingo games and puzzles placed on two modern school tables with colorful chairs to match. A large globe was on the center of one of the tables. Dressed in a modern pants suit was the modern teacher, Helen Kingsley.

Children, dressed in neat pants and shorts, were seated around the tables working independently. Children participating in this half of the float were: Frank Mayhar, Donny MacPherson, and Heidi Wagner with Christopher Packard being the official flag bearer.

Also, some children of the 1970 era were representing "school skippers." They were attired in jeans and jerseys of red, white and blue colors. These children included Tina Howard, Ellen Howard, Steven Simmons and Steven Manchester. It was an interesting float, to say the least!

The Senior Citizens were represented in Division Six by the officers of the organization riding in an antique Ford beach wagon. The officers were: Alice Pratt, President; Irma Thomas, Vice-President; and Ida Clark, Secretary. Mr. Benson of Stoughton was the owner and driver of the car. All were dressed in costume and carried old American flags.

The East Bridgewater Public Health Nursing Association featured a float in Division Six, with some members riding on a beautiful black buggy owned by Brad Waterman of Hanson. President Anna Silva, also Chairman of the Costume Committee was seated in the front wearing a lovely early costume.

Nurses Gladys Farren and Marjorie Rockwell were dressed in old-fashioned nursing garments made by Mrs. Rockwell and rode in a 1912 Ford owned by Edward Hill.

Helen Hoyt, Vice-President and Edith Morton, Treasurer, rode in an antique express wagon along with Ruth Matthews, Mildred Siscoe, and Bertha

Barney. These ladies were chosen to ride according to their availability and the number of years that each had served on the executive board. Jean Holton, who arranged transportation for the nursing contingent, rode up front with Mrs. Silva and Brad Waterman in the buggy.

Three ladies had to get out and walk (just like old times). One wheel froze on Mr. Waterman's wagon and the climax of the incident was a picture of the wagon on the front page of the Boston Globe.

Another interesting float was a depiction of an old fashioned picnic with Mrs. Bruce Babbitt, Mrs. Russell Valliere, and Miss Marcy Valliere (three and one-half years old) in period print gowns and sunbonnets sitting in a rural setting with the picnic spread before them.

The Democratic Town Committee entered a float which depicted an early town meeting. The people on the float, dressed in period costume, were: Thomas O'Brien, Louise Walsh, Grace Walsh, Harold Walsh, Lawrence Marden, Mary Ellen Leonowicz and John Clark. A large rug, some colonial furniture, and wigs for the men were donated by the Rev. Paul John Rich of the First Parish Unitarian Church.

Thirty units which participated in the parade on a voluntary basis were presented engraved plaques.

The parade, a really fine undertaking which was planned so well by Mr. Richard Farnham and the American Legion, was probably the largest ever held in East Bridgewater, and contained countless interesting floats, marching units and musical units. Space and time do not allow for elaborating on the magnificent job done by each unit, but the Sesquicentennial Committee wishes to extend its thanks to everyone who participated in the parade to make it the great success that it was.

The parade ended on the grounds of the East Bridgewater Junior High School where the Grand Finale took place. Many local, county, and state dignitaries were present to join in the festivities and wish East Bridgewater and its citizens well on the occasion of its one hundred fiftieth anniversary.

A highlight of the Grand Finale was a letter received from President Richard M. Nixon, wishing East Bridgewater a happy birthday read by Dana G. Chase, Chairman of the Board of Selectmen. Selectman-State Representative Robert E. McCarthy also addressed the several hundred in attendance.

State Senator John M. Quinlan, R-Norwood, senator for this area, was introduced and spoke a few words. Afterwards members of the East Bridgewater Sesquicentennial Committee were recognized, many dressed in period costume.

At that point Thomas S. Morey, Chairman of the Executive Committee and Master of Ceremonies, introduced State Senator and Mrs. John F. Parker, R-Taunton, at which time, Senator Parker delivered his principal address of the ceremony, which was well received by all.

At the conclusion of the Grand Finale, the "Star Spangled Banner" was played by the East Bridgewater High School Viking Band, under the direction of Daniel A. Lasdow.

The following is the principal address of the Grand Finale given by Senate Minority Leader John F. Parker, R-Taunton:

PRINCIPAL ADDRESS
BY SENATE MINORITY LEADER
JOHN F. PARKER, TAUNTON
SESQUICENTENNIAL OBSERVANCE
EAST BRIDGEWATER, MASSACHUSETTS
SATURDAY, JUNE 16, 1973

As time is measured, the number of 313* years is but a speck of dust as we apply these years against the history of this earth.

But, applying these 313 years against the civilized history of this land of America comprises almost all the years, except 40, that would take us back to the landing of the Pilgrims at Plymouth in the year 1620.

And so, today, in this splendid Town of East Bridgewater, the citizens of this town and guests by the thousands celebrate a birthday in the community's history. Not 313 years to be sure, but 150 years since incorporation by Act of the State Legislature and inclusion in the then growing list of towns desiring their own local government.

The celebration of a Sesquicentennial Observance is something in any area to quicken the pulse and trip the heart with pride, that a given community had come to a point in its history where it had completed 150 years of town government.

I join with you today in your pride, for by any measure 150 years is a long, long time.

But before I make any further note of this 150th anniversary, I return again to my opening remarks and my reference to 313 years, for I think something ought to be said about those years and what they mean to the people of East Bridgewater.

Think in your mind here today, just for a moment, the year 1660. That was just 40 years after Captain Myles Standish, William Bradford and others had brought to the shores of America their little ship May-

*Ed. Note: 313 years refers to the year 1660, when Samuel Allen first settled in the area which became East Bridgewater.

flower and landed its 106 passengers at Plymouth and not more than a few miles from where we assemble today.

From those early days of Plymouth Colony, courageous individuals fanned out to settle other areas on this eastern seaboard of Massachusetts. This was a beautiful land. Beautiful in the spring and summer, but terrible and foreboding land in winter. It was a lonely land, where a man and his family were required to face dangers, almost beyond comprehension. But, still they came, pushing into the wilderness, looking for that opportunity for freedom, independence and opportunity.

Here, where we stand today, was in the 1600's a vast forest area occupied only by tribes of the Wampanoag Indians, who had hunted and fished these lands and lakes for thousands of years. Their great Indian Chief, Massasoit was chief of the Wampanoags of this area and elsewhere. He was a friendly man and through his beneficence, these lands now East Bridgewater and Bridgewater, West Bridgewater, Halifax, Brockton, parts of Abington, Hanson and possibly some other lands were made available for settlement by the so-called white man. The deed was signed at Sachem Rock in this town on the Satucket River, on March 23, 1649.

While many white men probably came here temporarily to hunt and fish, the first known settler to take up residence in what is now East Bridgewater was a rugged individual named Samuel Allen, a native of Braintree who built a cabin on the east side of the Matfield River.

Picture if you will, Samuel Allen's residence in this community, in 1660, 313 years ago. Everything that went into his humble cabin had to be hewn from the forest by hand. Everything he ate had to be grown or killed in the forests. Everything he wore had to be spun from thread and his clothes were sparse and to say the least, itchy. His cabin had no windows, probably a dirt floor, there were no lights. His knowledge of what went on in the world was non-existent. The dangers of the forest were very great, for they were unknown. The winters were bitter, cold and terrible, the summers hot and humid, and loneliness was an overriding fact of life.

Samuel Allen was by any standard a rugged pioneer and adventurer, whose hands were calloused from dawn to dusk struggle just to survive. Sam Allen was a strong man and this strength carried him through to eventual public office as the Town Clerk of Bridgewater and deacon of his church. But he was the first settler and tribute must be paid to him today. For without the Sam Allens of the world, nothing would have ever been settled.

On this Sesquicentennial Observance it is well to mention a few other names also: Nicholas Byram, Thomas Whitman, who settled here two years after Sam Allen and then Robert Latham, whose wife had a direct connection with the original Pilgrim settlers. Hardy, sturdy, God-fearing individuals, who faced whatever the terrors with fortitude and courage and carved out here in these lands a steady, but often precarious existence.

A salute to them and others who followed, on this Sesquicentennial Observance. The dire circumstances under which they lived would be, by today's standards unmatched in any area of America for downright poverty. That is why no one ever wrote a poem about these pioneers, nor did they write one themselves. Life was too hard.

But no matter the dangers, the privations, the loneliness and whatever, more and more people flowed in to the forests to carve out their future. Bridgewater grew and grew, slowed down temporarily by King Philip's Indian War, which ravaged great parts of Massachusetts and saw many homes in this area burned by the Indians.

When the war was settled, progress began anew, only to be slowed again by the Revolutionary War, which saw many of the fine young men of the Bridgewater area off to do their bit in the cause of liberty and independence.

In the meantime, industry began here. Grist mills, saw mills, slitting mills, nails, shoes, a tannery, forges, all part of a growing society, sprung up along the Satucket and Matfield Rivers and elsewhere. The Bridgewater area was prospering and with this prosperity naturally came a desire by the inhabitants of the East Precinct of Bridgewater to strike out as a separate community, to become its own town or as we would say today, to do its own thing.

And, so it was, that the people took the bold step and it was not easy to break away from Bridgewater, with which the East Precinct had been a part of since the early days. But in any event, nearly 200 residents of this area petitioned the State Legislature, that inasmuch as other parts of Bridgewater had broken away and that in order to produce tranquility, and economical and prudent government, the inhabitants of the East Parish of Bridgewater were desirous that their parish be incorporated as the Town of East Bridgewater.

The big day came on June 14, 1823, 150 years ago, when both the House and Senate approved the Act of Incorporation of the Town of East Bridgewater and it was signed into law by Governor William Eustis, a revolutionary war veteran.

150 years have passed since that historic June day, when the joy of an incorporated town became a reality here in East Bridgewater and it is our obligation now today to salute those nearly 200 petitioners who asked for this town. It is our obligation to salute the first selectmen: Alfred Whitman, Isaac Alden and Abishai Stetson and the first town moderator, Honorable Nathan Mitchell and Ezra Kingman, town clerk and treasurer and the other officials and school board members. Their task in moving this community from a parish to an incorporated town was monumental.

Possessed with solid pioneer spirit, they succeeded and subsequent years and decades indicated again and again the righteousness of the cause for a separate Town of East Bridgewater.

Your sesquicentennial journal, so ably written by David Wilson, assisted by willing and conscientious townfolk of our period of 1973, tells the story from beginning to end of the history of East Bridgewater. It should be read and digested by one and all. It carries this town through the long decades of its struggle for recognition as part of Massachusetts. It tells of the terrible days of the Civil War and the contribution made by the young men of this town, including the loss of many fine young men in that conflict and the Congressional Medal of Honor to William Osborne for his heroism at the Battle of Malvern Hill.

It tells the story of the industries, the cotton gin factory and the men who worked for 10 cents an hour and less and always the struggle for a man to find a piece of land and make it his home for his wife and family.

It tells the story of the willingness of men and women over these 150 years to serve in public office and help this town progress, such men as Samuel Allen the first settler, Isaac Alden, one of the first three selectmen and the incredible record of Reverend Baalis Sanford, who started serving on the school committee in 1829 and was on and off the board for 33 of the next 48 years, quitting because of old age in 1877.

I suggest you read this sesquicentennial book. It is filled with stories of the pride of the people of East Bridgewater, who have met whatever the tasks in war and in peace, giving of its sons whenever the call has come, in whatever the conflict, patiently weaving its cloth as part of the fabric of America.

As these men of the ages and, their women beside them, built this town and this nation, and we look back and revere them for their efforts, were they here today on this platform, men like Samuel Allen, Ezra Kingman, Hugh Orr, your first state senator and

many others, and were they given an opportunity to speak, I am sure they would have been amazed at what is around them. Like all politicians, they might say, "Gee, we ran this town on \$600 for public schools and look at it now." Or they might say, "Care of the poor was only \$560 in 1823 and we ran the rest of the community on \$800 and look at it now, 150 years later, millions of dollars which was beyond our wildest imagination."

But these men would then be quick to add as they sidled up to this rostrum in their ill-fitting clothes, "This is why we started it all. We wanted everyone to have a chance. We dreamed of education, warm homes, jobs, a vital vibrant community. We knew that never in the history of man had this been possible under the rule of oppression. We knew that liberty and independence and the good life had a chance in America. And in our simple way, in our little corner, we planted the first seeds here in the Town of East Bridgewater. What we see now is just reward for all the heartaches, terror and loneliness of those early years."

So, as we celebrate this 150th anniversary, you too must, as did the pioneers of this town, look to the future, to cleaner waters, less air pollution, better transportation, cure of deadly diseases, better community life and broader education. The end of 150 years is only the beginning of another for the people of East Bridgewater and America.

America has always been considered as a willingness of heart, to do things, to make them happen.

That was the spirit my friends, so well understood by those whom we honor today, your people of the past 313 and 150 years. So, pick up the links of the chain, forge new links in the chain and pass along to your descendants a heritage as great or greater than the one you have received.



The Grand Finale

Saturday evening featured the last activity of the celebration week: the Sesquicentennial Ball, held at Square Acres at 8:00 p.m. In keeping with tradition, the women of the Ball Committee and the Sesquicentennial Committee were given old fashioned bouquets and were dressed in period costume. The hall was decorated in a floral theme and a reception line was formed to greet people as they arrived. The Sesquicentennial Banner, with gold lettering on a blue felt background displayed during the week and carried in the parade, was displayed along the front of the stage. A Grand March was led by the Executive Committee and followed by the Ball Committee. Music for dancing was provided by the Ted Vallee quartet. After the Grand March, a demonstration was given by Mr. Howard Hogue and some of his dancers at Square Acres. Mr. Hogue mentioned, in his introduction, that this was the first Saturday night in twenty years which did not feature a square dance and that 1973 was also Square Acre's Twentieth Anniversary. He explained that the dance floor was originally from the old Town Hall which was torn down in 1961.

The dance demonstrations which were held were as follows: Hull's Victory Dance, danced to celebrate Hull's Victory in the War of 1812; the English Lancers Dance, dating back at least two hundred years; the Waltz Quadrille, a type of dance from 1850 to the 1930s; the Irish Waltz, dating back to 1900; Tnicking, a stick dance from the islands, symbolic of the crane dancing through the rushes; and the Square Dance, as called by Benjamin Lovett in the 1930s.

At 10:00 p.m. a delicious buffet supper was served consisting of roast beef, chicken salad, ham, baked beans, potato salad, cole slaw, rolls, gingerbread topped with whipped cream, molasses cookies, and coffee. At the end of the evening, sparklers were lit on a birthday cake made by Mrs. Farnham, which was decorated with the American flag.

The festivities came to a close at 1:00 a.m., and an enjoyable time was had by all.

The Dust Settles...

Two committees not mentioned thusfar which played important roles in the Sesquicentennial were the Costume and Restoration Committees.

The Costume Committee, chaired by Mrs. Anna Silva, was organized in November, 1972. The first thing that the Committee did was to publish a request for peoples' ancestral treasures. The Committee was interested in the dress of people worn during the average work day as well as formal attire for more festive occasions. The clothes would be portrayed

during Sesquicentennial Week, vividly bringing back some East Bridgewater scenes of bygone days. Chairman Anna Silva contacted Mrs. Laurence Romaine of the Middleborough Historical Society, Mrs. Russell Carver of North Middleborough, Mrs. Francis Flagg of Elmwood, the East Bridgewater Public Library and Mrs. Barbara Read, trying to find sources of early costumes. Her efforts proved to be successful - they resulted in the loan of many boxes of clothing, old and new, and treasured clothing in particular, such as Mrs. Read's Great-grandmother's wedding gown, and two of her aunts' wedding gowns. Carol Cannon spent many hours at the "Artichoke Shop" in Boston, looking for outfits that would be suitable for the celebration. Mrs. Cannon was also instrumental in securing donations of material; twenty yards of colored print used in the waitresses' dresses, and many yards of taffeta in various colors, used in making gowns for the Ball and vests for the men. Anna Silva donated material, both plain and figured, for mens' vests which were used in the Town Meeting Re-Enactment. She made dozens of the vests herself for this purpose, which eventually became so popular that men in the Barbecue, the Parade and the Ball were interested in wearing them. She also made and donated some of the material for the aprons and lace-trimmed caps worn by the waitresses. Others who lent clothes were Dorothy White, Margaret Alexander, Anne Ewing, Frances Leland, William Tirrell, and Carol Cannon.

The borrowed clothing was cleaned, mended, tagged, and catalogued, to insure its safe return. Vice-Chairman Dorothy Valliere donated her attic space where costumes were set up to be displayed for those wishing to borrow them. According to Mrs. Valliere, she lost twenty pounds running up and down the stairs with prospective customers, always with a smile.

The following activities were aided directly by this Committee: Supper Committee: cut, fitted, and finished long, cotton printed dresses, white aprons, and lace trimmed caps. (Aprons and caps were also used by waitresses at the Barbecue.) Town Meeting Re-Enactment: furnished suits, coats, hats, jackets, vests and ties; Parade: many borrowing clothes from Mrs. Valliere; Ball: mens' suits, coats and vests plus ties, and womens' gowns, some newly made and others from display.

The Costume Committee also helped out downtown merchants who wanted to get into the spirit of things; Mrs. Silva made red and white striped vests for those working in the Rexall store, blue and white vests for the Weaimtoplease Market, and vests and ties for Bank managers and employees.

Certainly the Costume Committee was a great asset to the Sesquicentennial.

The Restoration Committee, under the direction of Thomas L. Reynolds, was also very active. Starting at about the same time as the Costume Committee, the Restoration Committee accomplished many things. Among them were: the replacement and restoration of the old iron watering trough in the center of town, the marking of historic homes, one hundred fifty years old or older, and the restoration of the beautiful mail wagon displayed at the Exhibits. The following is a list of homes which were marked by the Restoration Committee:

The Thomas Whitman House, Back 1676, Middle 1680, Main house 1852, Mrs. Myron Whitman, 282 Whitman Street.

The Whitman House, 1680, Rebuilt by David French, 1802; Mr. Everald Cote, 421 Plymouth Street.

The John Hayward House, 1710; Mr. & Mrs. Norman C. George, 625 Union Street.

The James Keith House, 1714; Mr. & Mrs. John J. Creedon, Jr., 325 West Union Street.

The Isaac Harris House, 1727; Mr. & Mrs. Franklin J. Santilli, 1040 Central Street.

The Arthur Latham House, 1734; Mr. & Mrs. Robert Dennis, Jr., 530 Bridge Street.

The Joshua Pratt House, 1740; Mrs. Elizabeth Weichel, 385 Walnut Street.

The Hon. Hugh Orr House, 1742; Mr. Albert M. Grenier, 419 North Central Street.

The Thomas Latham House, 1748; Mr. & Mrs. Warren Bush, 558 Plymouth Street.

The William Hearsey House, 1750; Mr. & Mrs. Eugene MacKenzie, 479 Washington Street.

The Israel Hill House, 1750; Mr. & Mrs. Theodore Wainor, 710 Plymouth Street.

The Keith/Hill House, 1752; Mrs. Dorothy G. White, 233 West Street, Elmwood.

The Woodward and Charles Latham House, 1760; Mr. & Mrs. Ralph Morse, 382 Bridge Street.

The Edward Mitchell House, 1771; Mr. & Mrs. Frank N. Houghton, 35 East Street.

The Job Bearce House, 1780; Mr. & Mrs. William Flaherty, 460 Plymouth Street.

The John Wade House, 1780; Mr. & Mrs. Harmon Boelsma, 448 Pond Street.

The Nicholas Wade House, 1780; Mr. & Mrs. Anston Boelsma, 272 Pond Street.

The James Keith House, 1782; the East Bridgewater YWCA, 633 Plymouth Street.

The Benjamin Harris House, 1787; Mr. & Mrs. George Snow, 16 Bennett Lane.

The Ephraim Hyde House, 1789; Mr. & Mrs. Walter Quigley, 8 Union Street.

The Isaac Brown House, 1790; Mr. & Mrs. Edward Cavicchi, 301 Washington Street.

The Joseph Noyes House, before 1791; Mrs. Gwendolyn Barker, 329 Central Street.

The Beaver School, 1794, Moved, 1843; Mr. & Mrs. John Walsh, 466 Summer Street.

The Bartholomew Brown, Esq. House, 1798; Miss Patricia Donahue, 18 Bedford Street.

The Chamberlin House, c. 1800; Mr. & Mrs. Richard F. Bartlett, 48 Plymouth Street.

The Sampson Washburn House, 1800; Mr. & Mrs. James Lopez, 108 Elm Street.

The Martin Whiting House, 1800; Mr. & Mrs. Winslow Woodworth, 410 North Central Street.

The Deacon John Whitman House, 1802; Mr. & Mrs. Jack Stengel, 129 Whitman Street.

The Deacon Samuel Keen House, 1805; Mr. & Mrs. Charles Angell, 43 West Street.

The Heman Keith House, 1805; Mr. & Mrs. Gordon Hatfield, 492 North Central Street.

The Welcome Young House, 1805; Mr. & Mrs. Robert B. Fitch, 346 Central Street.

The Rev. James Flint House, 1806; Mr. & Mrs. Donald Roan, 81 Central Street.

The Old Brick Store, 1806 Swanson-Flood, Inc. 49 Bedford Street.

The Cap't. Nathaniel Cross House, 1810; Mr. & Mrs. Ernest F. Reid, 77 North Central Street.

The John Harris House, 1811; Mrs. Harold MacDonald, 4 Bennett Lane.

The Isaac Keith House, 1815; Mr. & Mrs. William H. Westerman, 584 Plymouth Street.

The Reynolds House, 1818; Mr. & Mrs. Richard Perkins, 337 North Central Street.

The Galen Latham House, 1820; Mr. & Mrs. Robert Philbrick, 968 Plymouth Street.

The Walter Tribou House, 1820; Mr. & Mrs. Robert Cooper, 170 Whitman Street.

The Heman Keith House, 1821; Mr. & Mrs. Philip Bouldry, 480 North Central Street.

The Scott Keith House, 1821; Mr. & Mrs. Charles Wilson, 232 North Central Street.

The John Soule House, 1822; Miss Ethyl Hoyt, 307 Pleasant Street.

The Simeon Wood House, 1823; Mr. & Mrs. Nelson Perkins, 370 West Union Street.

The Historical Commission will continue to mark the other old homes in town whose owners did not register with the Sesquicentennial Committee.

When members of the Restoration Committee picked up the Old Mail Wagon from Mr. Roger Woodward to get it in shape for the exhibits, they found that it was quite dirty and very worn. The group brought the wagon back to its headquarters, where members proceeded to sweep out the inside, hose down the outside and inside with water, and clean the windows. After doing this, the stenciling on the wagon was much more readable and visible. On the sides, there was a U. S. Mail logo used in the late nineteenth century, and across the front, the words East Bridgewater appeared. The Committee then made the sliding wooden doors operable, and replaced the aging leather flap on the back of the wagon. This was changed to a dark vinyl material, with a back light sewn in. The last thing that had to be done was the restoration of the roof. A new covering was placed over the roof in two spots, keeping in mind the idea of keeping the colors as close as possible. With the help of Mr. Lester Reynolds of West Bridgewater, an upholsterer, the finished product was very authentic and looked very presentable. It is this Committee's eventual goal to mount this body on a set of wheels.

One of the main projects that the Restoration Committee would have become involved with was the reconditioning of the Rogers and Sheldon Mill Site off West Union Street. Since many felt that there were more stone remains to work with than at the Peter Oliver Mill in Middleborough, the Committee intended to have this area made as a park, since it was one of the goals of the Executive Committee to leave some lasting memorials to the Sesquicentennial for the townspeople to enjoy in the future. The land, property of the Brockton Edison Company, comprises approximately 2.7 acres, and the Company is negotiating some kind of settlement which would allow it to turn the mill site over to the town. Talk of restoring the mill site has been going on since May, 1972, but as of July, 1974, little affirmative action has been taken. The Executive Committee turned the jurisdiction of the Mill Site over to the Historical Commission, and the Restoration Committee still awaits word to be allowed to begin work at the site.

Members of the Restoration Committee hope that they will be able to continue as a unit of the East Bridgewater Bicentennial Commission.

The A. G. Peterson & Sons, Co. of Arlington provided bunting and other decorations on a rental basis during the celebration week. Those buildings decorated were the Schools, the Town Office Building, the Water Department Barn, the Public Health Nursing

Building, the Library, the Fire and Police Stations, the Tree Department Building, and some of the local businesses. The decorations helped to add some pageantry to the celebration.

The week of June 9-16, 1973 was certainly a special week to the Town of East Bridgewater, because for the first time in many years, the Town was touching many residents' lives in forms other than tax bills and Town Meetings. The Sesquicentennial instilled a public pride in the community that has really changed the thinking of many of its residents, bringing back social experiences in modern forms from thirty or forty years ago to demonstrate how far communities and people have drifted apart, due to such forces as the television and the automobile. People rediscovered the excitement of doing things together and working in large groups to reach common goals. People also discovered how much others living only a few miles away from themselves had to offer.

The last event sponsored by the Sesquicentennial Committee was on October 21, 1973, when a supper and audio-visual mass-media presentation of East Bridgewater, 1973 was held at East Bridgewater High School. The activity, attended by about three hundred people, featured a video-tape of the Sesquicentennial Parade, a showing of "Since Sachem Rock", a television documentary done on the history of the town in 1971 by Wayne O. Hudson and Thomas E. Reynolds, and a sound slide presentation of historical and modern aspects of the Town of East Bridgewater.

To say that everything went smoothly would be a total understatement. Everyone worked extremely hard, all activities were attended by sizeable crowds, and even the weather, which made that week the only sunny one of June, cooperated to the extent that Committee members were suspected of making deals with the United States Weather Service. The only grey point of the celebration was that the sesquicentennial banner was stolen.

The East Bridgewater Sesquicentennial Committee members were honored to be the featured guests of the Library during its Annual Open House held December 9th, 1973. Video-tapes of the Sesquicentennial parade, and the town's history, were played in the children's room; the High School Chorus under Mr. Daniel Lasdow, sang Christmas Carols from the balcony; and the Board of Selectmen presented the Executive Committee with awards, which read as follows: "Presented to (Name) In Recognition of Your Dedicated Service as a Member of the Sesquicentennial Executive Committee. Your Contribution to Our Community is Deeply Felt and Gratefully Acknowledged. (Signed) Dana G. Chase, Charles M. Repeta, Jr., and Robert E. McCarthy (Board of Selectmen)

December 9, 1973." This was printed over a large, gray anniversary seal and placed in an attractive, white folder with individual names embossed in gold on the cover.

The Library made a special bookmark for the occasion which was designed by David J. Frazer. It depicted the watering trough in the center of town with the words "Light of 150 Christmas Tides" printed underneath. Light collations were served, and many, many people turned out to make the Open House very successful.

The East Bridgewater Sesquicentennial Committee extends a personal thanks to the Library Trustees and Librarian Grace C. Eastman and her staff for the fine evening in the Committee's behalf.

On May 4, 1974 a testimonial dinner was held in honor of Mr. Richard A. Farnham, Past Commander of the Fred Bates Morse Post No. 91, American Legion, sponsored by fellow Legion members, for the fine contributions he has made in the Legion and in the community. Members of the Sesquicentennial Committee were present to show appreciation for Mr. Farnham's tireless efforts in organizing the outstanding parade held during the celebration week. On behalf of the Committee, Thomas S. Morey, Chairman presented Mr. Farnham with a *Golden Dome Citation* signed by Gov. Francis W. Sargent, Senate President Kevin B. Harrington, Senate Minority Leader, John F. Parker.

Reflections...

Even though the Sesquicentennial has drawn to a close, there are many things that remain to be done. With the completion of a time capsule of 1973, which will be stored in the safe at the Town Office Building, to be opened in fifty years, 2023, the work of the Sesquicentennial Committee will be over. It is the hope of this Committee that the anniversary celebration will prove to be a beginning to pursue the things which still need to be accomplished in the areas of historical preservation, protection of the environment, solutions to problems such as the energy crisis, proper planning, and social and recreational advancement. Testimony of progress made in these areas during and after the Sesquicentennial comes about with the establishment of the East Bridgewater Historical Commission, Recreation Commission, and Bicentennial Commission. There is much interest in sponsoring an "Old Home Day" every year and forming an historical society, as a direct result of the Sesquicentennial.

To everyone who cooperated fully and supported the Sesquicentennial - the Board of Selectmen, the State and County Authorities, the Town Departments

and in particular the Library and School Departments, the people who served on committees, the local merchants, those who gave of their time serving in official capacities such as police officers and custodians, and finally, to all people who attended and appreciated the efforts of the Sesquicentennial's various sub-committees, the East Bridgewater Sesquicentennial Committee extends a wish of godspeed and prosperity for all in the next one hundred fifty years that lie ahead.

It is the hope of this writer that the definition of the word "sesquicentennial" has been made more vivid through this account and has demonstrated the intrinsic value of conducting such affairs to be vital to the growth of any healthy community.

Thomas E. Reynolds
July 4, 1974

Finances...

FINANCIAL REPORT OF THE SESQUICENTENNIAL COMMITTEE

Statement of Income and Expense for the period ended,
December 31, 1973

Income	
Appropriation	\$6,000.00
Commemorative Sterling Silver Medals	3,000.00
Commemorative Bronze Medals	1,530.00
Commemorative Medal-Lucite Encasements	545.00
Commemorative Medal Key Chains	8.00
Commemorative Stamps	607.00
Postage	1.00
Total Income	<u>\$11,691.00</u>
Expense	
Commemorative Sterling Silver Medals	\$1,330.00
Commemorative Bronze Medals	554.00
Commemorative Medal-Lucite Encasements	637.50
Commemorative Medal Key Chains	12.50
Commemorative Medal Dies	650.00
Commemorative Stamps	864.58
Incorporation Charge	25.00
Sesquicentennial Banner	105.00
Souvenir Booklet	700.00
Publicity: Central Sign, Posters, and ads	465.60
Postage and Miscellaneous Supplies	193.75
Costumes	251.40
Parade: Programs, Services, Ins., Refreshments, etc.	1,108.61
Exhibit: Flyers, Signs, and Refreshments	335.88
Restoration: Fountain, House plaques	350.05
Homecoming Day: Refreshments and supplies	50.18
Town Meeting Reenactment: Equipment	124.11
Public Buffet, Refreshments and Janitorial services	242.50
Total Expense	<u>\$8,000.66</u>
Unexpended Balance:	
Appropriation Account	\$2,957.84
Special Account	<u>732.50</u>
	<u>\$3,690.34</u>
	<u>\$11,691.00</u>

THE SESQUICENTENNIAL INC.

Statement of Income and Expense for the period ended,
December 31, 1973

Income

Anniversary Book Subscriptions	\$4,811.60
Anniversary Book Sales	3,000.00
Contributions for Parade Bands	2,627.00
Interest Income	61.87
Chicken Barbecue	1,036.33
Costume Ball	969.67
Strawberry Festival	514.60
Town Meeting-Reenactment Supper	572.93
Total Income	<u>\$13,594.00</u>

Expense

Anniversary Book, Printing and Binding	\$4,510.00
Newspapers, "The Bridgewater Star"	250.00
Publicity, Postage, and Supplies	142.18
Services	500.00
Interest Expense	7.81
Costume Ball (Orchestra Deposit reimbursement)	25.00
Parade Bands	4,720.00
Strawberry Festival	177.28
Town Meeting - Reenactment Supper	113.72
Total Expense	<u>\$10,445.99</u>
Unexpended Balance	<u>3,148.01</u>
	<u>\$13,594.00</u>

Anna K. Negri
Treasurer

Committees...

EAST BRIDGEWATER SESQUICENTENNIAL COMMITTEE

Thomas S. Morey, Chairman; Dorothy G. White, Vice-Chairman; Margaret O. Alexander, Secretary; Thomas E. Reynolds, Assistant Secretary; Anna K. Negri, Treasurer; Gladys M. Hennessey, Historian; Edna L. Whitmore, Historian; Richard F. Bartlett, Artist; Wayne O. Hudson, Publicity; Evelyn M. Pittsley, Elaine S. Powers, (resigned)

COMMEMORATIVE STAMP COMMITTEE

Dorothy G. White, Chairman; Richard F. Bartlett, Artist; Anna K. Negri, Wayne O. Hudson, Thomas E. Reynolds

SOUVENIR PROGRAM COMMITTEE

Robert J. Clark, Lucinda N. Clark, Dorothy G. White, Margaret O. Alexander, Gladys M. Hennessey

PUBLICITY COMMITTEE

Wayne O. Hudson, Thomas E. Reynolds, Margaret E. Riddell

CORPORATE SEAL COMMITTEE

Wayne O. Hudson, Thomas E. Reynolds, Richard F. Bartlett

MEDAL COMMITTEE

Richard F. Bartlett, Artist; Edna L. Whitmore, Wayne O. Hudson, Thomas E. Reynolds, Anna K. Negri, Merchandising Chairman; Elaine S. Powers, Town Clerk; the East Bridgewater Savings Bank, the Plymouth-Home National Bank, the East Bridgewater Co-operative Bank

HISTORICAL BOOK COMMITTEE

David K. Wilson, Editor; M. Frances Guerin, Chairman; George C. McCabe, Jr. and Donald A. Oakley, Vice-Chairmen; Edna L. Whitmore, Secretary; Gladys M. Hennessey, Assistant Secretary; ADVERTISING: Dorothy G. White, Chairman; Margaret O. Alexander, Vice-Chairman; Patricia A. Cahill, Wayne O. Hudson, Donald E. & Lois R. Nelson, Thomas E. Reynolds, James E. & Delphina A. Rogers, William W. Whitmore; CONSULTANTS: Grace C. Eastman, Anne P. Hynes, Joan S. Leland, Isabelle R. Odabashian; PUBLICITY: Wayne O. Hudson, Thomas E. Reynolds; RESEARCH & REVIEW: Gladys M. Hennessey, Chairman; Frank N. Houghton, Thomas E. Reynolds, Edna L. Whitmore, Marjorie A. Winsor; FORMAT-DESIGN-ART: Richard F. Bartlett, Chairman; Robert J. Clark, David J. Frazer; MERCHANDISING: Donald E. & Lois R. Nelson, Dorothy G. White; PICTURES: Donald E. Cahill, Photographer; Edna L. Whitmore, Co-ordinator; Frank N. Houghton, Wayne O. Hudson, Thomas E. Reynolds, Dorothy G. White, Edwin E. Whitmore; RESEARCHERS: Lucinda W. Clark, John B. Cormier, Jocelyn W. Hanson, Gladys M. Hennessey, Frank N. & Miriam Houghton, Wayne O. Hudson, George C. McCabe, Jr., Thomas S. Morey, Anna K. Negri, Donald E. & Lois R. Nelson, Donald A. Oakley, Thomas E. Reynolds, Dr. Ellen M. Shea, Edna L. Whitmore, Amy K. Winsor, Marjorie A. Winsor

HISTORIC HOUSES COMMITTEE (part of Restoration Committee)

Margaret O. Alexander, Carol R. Dixon

RESTORATION COMMITTEE

Thomas L. Reynolds, Chairman; Norman C. & Shirley M. George, John F. & Margaret A. Hacker, Wayne O. Hudson, Donald E. & Lois R. Nelson, Ellsworth L. Nickerson, Peter Santilli, Claire E. Reynolds, John J. Reynolds, Thomas E. Reynolds, Franklin J. Santilli, Dorothy G. White, Scott DeChambeau, Richard M. Hennessey

EXHIBIT COMMITTEE

Michael Fruzzetti, Chairman; Lena G. Peterson, Vice-Chairman; Rachel Scheehl, Secretary; Margaret O. Alexander, Richard F. & Mabel I. Bartlett; Wayne A. Benson, Roger E. & Loraine A. Burger, Christine M. Cote, Roland E. Engstrom, Robert B. & Anne K. Ewing, Rosemary L. Hatfield, Gladys M. Hennessey, Jean E. Holton, Wayne O. Hudson, Lillian C. Peppe, Earl A. Peterson, Thomas E. Reynolds, Frances M. Santilli, F. Mabel VanUmmersen, Mary C. Walker, Dorothy G. White, David K. Wilson, Edwin E. & Edna L. Whitmore

HOMECOMING DAY COMMITTEE

G. Herbert & Ruth E. Snow, Co-Chairmen; Bradford & Laura A. Alexander, Dr. Donald B. & Florence K. Bannerman, Mary A. Bertocci, Leila Canelli, John L. & Mabel L. Grant, Gladys M. Hennessey, William F. Hennessey, Harold B. Hoyt, Robert A. & Frances A. Leland, Atty. Edmond W. & Dorothy H. Nutter, Margaret D. Sheehan, Roger E. Woodard

YWCA AFTERNOON WATER SHOW COMMITTEE

Jeanne McDuffy, Genevieve Duncombe, Phyllis Hancock, Marilyn Johnson, Dorothy M. Pearson

STRAWBERRY FESTIVAL COMMITTEE

Evelyn T. Toppan & Helen M. Carey, Co-Chairmen; Ann Tardie, Harriet L. Farnham, Christine A. Golob, Ruth Garabedian, Dorothy P. Hall, Phoebe D. Hallquist, Mildred Harrington, Priscilla Longueil, Mary Mattie, Barbara J. Preble, Claire E. Reynolds, Delphia A. Rogers, Evelyn A. Santilli, Grace A. Thomas, Eileen L. West, Frances Yakavonis

BAND CONCERT COMMITTEE

Richard Whitmarsh, Chairman; John E. Brooks, Co-ordinator; South Shore Concert Band Members

CHICKEN BARBECUE COMMITTEE

Philip E. Carey & Robert E. McCarthy, Co-Chairmen; FOOD: Wallace McCann, Robert Robichaud, Philip McNally, Francis Foley, Raymond Robideau, Sr., Raymond Robideau, Jr., Fred Blackwell, Albert Mondeau, Angelo Rocha, Peter Furia, Jan Craig, Robert Reardon; GROUNDS: Robert Thomas, Kenneth Longueil, Richard Braley, Franklin Santilli, Manuel Andre, Dennis Andre, Lawrence Preble, Joseph Battaglia, Alfred Savard; POSTERS & ART: Albert H. Stevens; ATHLETICS: Donald Bingham, Roger Maphis, Robert Smith, Joaquim DaSilva; PUBLICITY: Carl W. Eastman, Cynthia Eastman; TICKETS: William Kelleher, Edward Barnicle, John Gilbride, Maynard Stetson, Victor D'Arpino, Richard Braley, Alfonso Forni, Thomas Cyrs, Gordon Hatfield, Fred Boni, Melvin Levangie, George Leavitt, Gordon Chase, Roy Auguston, Dale Hatfield, Berg Kambegian; DOLL CARRIAGE & BICYCLE PARADE: Helen T. McCarthy & Mary C. Walker, Co-Chairmen; Juliette B. Gregoire, Louise M. Glover, Eleanor S. Nickerson, Carolyn A. Auguston, Florence M. Tarantino, Gail Lorrey, Helen M. Thorndike; HAYRIDES: Linda Mulkern, William Mulkern, Paula Battaglia, Joseph Battaglia, Colleen Carey, Kathleen Carey, Edmond Kenneally; SERVERS: Roseanne C. Wood, M. Elaine Dube, August Dube, Jr., Pepper Peterson, Ronald C. Peterson, Sharon E. Waldron, James E. Waldron, Jr., Jeanne M. Kinsella, Deb Kinsella, Susan Uronis

SUPPER GENERAL COMMITTEE

Mildred L. Siscoe, Chairman; Mary E. Davidson, Eleanor F. Ellis, Emily M. Rocha, Florence M. Tarantino; SUPPER PREPARATION: Emily M. Rocha, Chairman; Anne Balfour, Theodora Coutts, Dianne O. Gay, Doris E. Lepine, Carmella Merolli, Jane A. Olson, Jean A. Porter, Jean O. Tower; RUNNERS: Florence M. Tarantino & Mary A. Ahern, Co-Chairmen; Andrea Doyle, Karen Hennessey, William Hubbard, Susan Riberio, Kent Taber, Jr.; KITCHEN: John Curley, Karen Hennessey, Maurice L. Hennessey, Cornelia LaRosa, True Tower; DECORATIONS: Eleanor F. Ellis, Pauline K. Wood, Central School cafeteria staff; TICKETS: Ralph T. Davidson, Arlene D. Hill, Winnefred J. Reardon; WAITRESSES: Mary E. Davidson, Chairman; Pamela B. Anderson, Rosemary Baggia, Leila Curley, Leslie A. Ellis, Virginia A. Fuller, Lou Hanson, Eleanor M. Hennessey, Arlene D. Hill, Margaret E. Meyerowitz, Rachael Merry, Patricia R. Morehouse, Catherine T. Mormino, Winnefred J. Reardon, Sophia A. Stec, Marie C. Tokan, Ecla W. Waugh, Betty F. Wynn, Agnes H. Zentz, Jamie A. Zentz, Linda L. Zentz, Marion Zentz

TOWN MEETING RE-ENACTMENT COMMITTEE

Loretta G. Ring, Chairman; Philip E. Carey, Constance B. Fitzsimmons, Stanley B. Goldman, Theresa Keohane, Thomas E. Reynolds, Stephen P. Trombley

BALL COMMITTEE

Roberta A. McCarthy, M. Elaine Dube Co-Chairmen; August J. Dube, Jr., Anthony C. & Nina V. Ferrante, Peter B. & Virginia M. Furia, Gladys M. Hennessey, Wayne M. & Patricia A. Henry, Dr. George D. Leavitt, III, Rep. Robert E. McCarthy, Sylvia M. Ortenzi, Selectman Charles M. Repeta, Jr., Janice L. Repeta, Atty. John C. & Priscilla L. Wheatley; FOOD: Theodore J. & Ann M. DiRenzo, Richard W. & M. Patricia Ortenzi, George W. & Beatrice Scott; HALL: William T. Luddy; DECORATIONS: Jeanne M. Kinsella, Chairman; Elaine D. Bradford, Patricia A. Grace, Aurelia Leavitt, Delia A. Luddy, Judith A. Mahaney, Dorothy C. Miksch, Joan M. Peterson, Alice A. Poshkus, Roseanne Wood; BAR: Neal E. Nichols; TICKETS: Pearl Santilli, Chairman; Dominic S. & Anna I. Capachione, Alexander Santilli, Louise Walsh

COSTUME COMMITTEE

Anna R. Silva, Chairman; Marjorie I. Anderson, Bertha J. Barney, Rosemary Baggia, Majella Bouchard, Carol A. Cannon, Irene I. Chausse, Louise A. Duffany, Lucille W. Flagg, Helen M. Hoyt, Carol M. MacHardy, Vera H. Napolitan, Frances L. Pratt, Barbara M. Read, Irene Savard, Florence L. Sexton, Dorothy Valliere

"EAST BRIDGEWATER, 1920" PLANNING COMMITTEE

William McKinley, Susan Snow, Paul Poshkus, Susan Adams, John Baker, Gary Kashgagian, Miss Denise Ryan, Advisor; Mr. David K. Wilson, Advisor

JAYCEE'S CANOE RACE COMMITTEE

Walter Bishop, Chairman; David Muir & Robert DiFazio, Co-Chairmen; Richard Anderson, Peter Watson, Paul Ulianelli, William Cafferkey, Paul Nisby, Steven Tirrell, Robert Reed, Richard Geer

PARADE COMMITTEE

Richard A. Farnham, Chairman; Ronald Olson, Vice-Chairman; Robert Hill, Recording Secretary; Kenneth Jenkins, Financial Secretary; Harold I. Barnes, Sr., Treasurer; Wayne Johnson, Publicity; Wayne Dunbar, Communications; Philip Carey, Department Liaison; Lawrence Golob, Herbert West, William L. Kingman, Sr., Photographer; Daniel A. Lasdow, Supervisor of Music, East Bridgewater Public Schools; PARADE END REFRESHMENTS: Junior High School, Emily M. Rocha; St. John's Church, Holy Name Society; American Legion Hall, Frank LaRosa; Commercial Club



The East Bridgewater Sesquicentennial Committee. Seated, left to right: Edna L. Whitmore, Gladys M. Hennessey, Evelyn M. Pittsley, Dorothy G. White; Standing, left to right: Thomas E. Reynolds, Anna K. Negri, Thomas S. Morey, Wayne O. Hudson, Margaret O. Alexander, Richard F. Bartlett.