



WHITEFIELD HISTORIAN

Newsletter of the Whitefield Historical Society

March 2010

Boston Post Cane Presented to Mary Edgerly Creamer

By Lucy Martin

Mary Edgerly Creamer, who turns 96 on March 26, 2010, is the latest in a line of local residents stretching back 100 years to receive Whitefield's Boston Post Cane. Making the honors February 13 was former Whitefield Historical Society president Karen Mitman.

Mary's brother Loring, 93, of Woolwich, and his wife Gerry attended the gathering at Mary and daughter Betty Creamer's brick home on Head Tide Road, along with numerous other family members, friends and neighbors.

The Edgerlys, originally from Augusta, grew up in the Plains section of Whitefield. When the family moved to town, Mary was in kindergarten. As a first grader, she boarded in Kings Mills with the Ernest Dunton family to attend school there, since there was no school between 1920 and 1922 on the Plains. When she went home for weekends, she walked part of the two and a half-mile distance between the village and her Thayer Road home with the Crocker children. Her mother would meet her partway down Crocker Avenue to walk her daughter the rest of the way home.



Mary Edgerly Creamer, 95, receiving the Boston Post Cane and Certificate from former WHS President Karen Mitman

Townhouse Road, in the house now owned by Deborah Voigt.

Mary's father, Jason Edgerly, received the cane in 1968 from Selectman Ted Jewett at the annual town meeting. The first cane was presented in 1909 at the Whitefield Centennial Exercises to Samuel Kennedy who was 93 years old.

In the 1990s town officials couldn't account for the cane's whereabouts so once it was retrieved, they decided to keep the iconic gold-headed black stick safely at the town office to avoid losing it. The practice today is to present the cane ceremonially, but to give the recipient a commemorative certificate to keep.

Come hear about

Treasures in Deeds

*Stories about family life in the 19th century
discovered by Libby Harmon in old deeds*

At our

Annual Meeting And Election of Officers

**Wed., April 7, 2010 at 7 PM
Refreshments**



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List of Boston Post Cane Recipients

The following list has been constructed by Libby Harmon from newspaper accounts:

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| Samuel Kennedy, 93 | 1909 - 1910 |
| William H. M. Kennedy, 92 (son of Samuel K.) | 1943 - 1952 |
| Eudora Jewett Tibbetts, 95 | 1956 - 1958 |
| Alma E. Cooper, 87 | 1958 - 1965 |
| Jason O. Edgerly, 94 | 1968 - 1970 |
| Arthur F. Merigold | ? - 1979 |
| Belle Fowles Douglass, 101 | 1979 - 1980 |
| Mary Anne Kelley, 99 | 1981 - 1983 |
| Emma Pelletier Chase, 95 | 1987 - 1988 |
| Eugenia Jewett Heath, 94 | 1988 - 1998 |
| Loretta Dolan Armstrong, 106 | 2001 - 2003 |
| Florence Belle Russell, 102 | 2004 - 2008 |
| Mary Edgerly Creamer, 95 (dau of Jason Edgerly) | 2010 |

If you have any information which would help complete this list, please send it to:
WHS, PO Box 176, Whitefield ME 04353,
e-mail: whitefieldhistoricalsociety@gmail.com



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The Seth Tarr House on the Head Tide Road burned in January, 1935. Phil and Barbara Russell later built their house on the site. This picture, taken ca. 1880, was donated by Evelyn Tarr Joslyn and prompted Libby Harmon to undertake her deed research which she will discuss at the Annual meeting on Wednesday, April 7, at the Town House, at 7 P.M.



Whitefield Historical Society
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