

# St George Historical Society Newsletter

P O Box 14, Tenants Harbor, ME 04860

[www.stgeorgehistory.com](http://www.stgeorgehistory.com) – website

207-372-2231 – tel.no.

[stgeorgemahinehistory@gmail.com](mailto:stgeorgemahinehistory@gmail.com) – email address

An IRS 501(c)(3) non-profit organization

April 2021

## April 2021 Zoom Program Halls IGA 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary



*Etta and Almond Hall – Oct 1954*

On Thursday, April 29<sup>th</sup>, at 7:00pm, the first program of the 2021 season will be a Zoom meeting about the store that was opened as Halls IGA in April 1946 – the first self-serve store in Tenants Harbor.

Learn about the history of the building, what existed before self-serve stores, and share stories about the “good old days” at Hall’s!

To be a part of the audience, send an email to [stgeorgemahinehistory@gmail.com](mailto:stgeorgemahinehistory@gmail.com) and request the Zoom meeting ID and the passcode. If you need assistance with setting up your computer for Zoom, please let us know. It really is easy to do!

The meeting should last about an hour to an hour and a half. It will be the first meeting that we will be using Zoom, so please be patient as we discover this new way to hold meetings!

## 2021 Museum Schedules



### Marshall Point Lighthouse Museum

The Museum will open on weekends starting May 1<sup>st</sup>, with full seasonal hours starting May 29<sup>th</sup>. During the summer the Museum will be open Sunday and Monday from noon to 4pm and on Tuesday through Saturday from 10am to 4pm.

### Old Library Museum

The Old Library Museum will be open every Saturday from 10am to 2pm, starting May 29<sup>th</sup> and ending on October 9<sup>th</sup>. We will also be open by appointment only. So, if you know you will be in town on days other than Saturdays, and would like to stop by and visit, please call us at 207-372-2231 and leave a message. Or send us an email to [stgeorgemahinehistory@gmail.com](mailto:stgeorgemahinehistory@gmail.com) requesting a day and time. In order to maintain safety, masks will be required, and occupancy may be limited.

### Schoolhouse Museum

We will have this open on Saturday, May 29<sup>th</sup>, from 10am to 2pm. If there is enough interest, we will consider more hours. Also, we will try to accommodate visitors by appointment. Please use the same contact information listed above.

### Andrew Robinson House

The Committee working on this site is looking to hold an Open House on Sunday, August 15<sup>th</sup>. The 15<sup>th</sup> of August is special to this site as it is the birthday of Andrew Robinson. Please watch for more information for open house times and details on what will be happening!

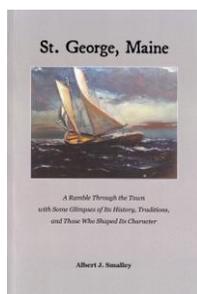
## Cemetery Preservation Fund

In 2019 a special fund was created to help preserve some of the old stones in our local cemeteries. Due to your generous donations the fund is almost up to \$1400!

We are looking forward to the restoration of some gravestones in 2021. If you would like to donate to this fund, please send donations earmarked for this fund to:

**St George Historical Society**  
P O Box 14  
Tenants Harbor, ME 04860

## Reprint of History of St George NOW AVAILABLE



The Historical Society has reprinted Albert Smalley's "*History of St George, Maine*". It has many new old photos added to Smalley's "ramble through the town" and a more readable font. Copies are \$32 each. If you would like a copy, please contact us via email, or call and leave a message at 372-2231.

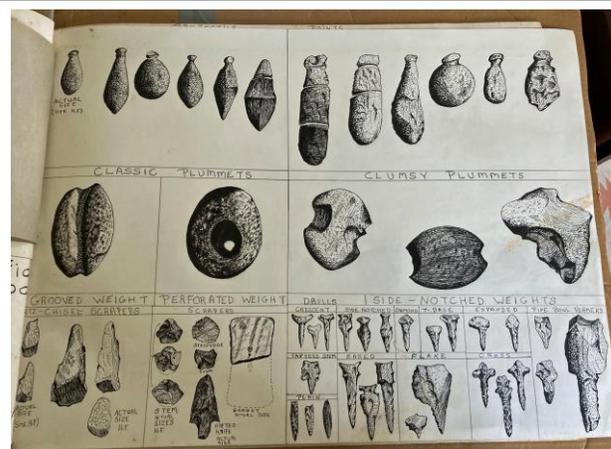
## Membership Dues

Membership dues cover the calendar year and are \$10 / individual and \$15 / household.

To renew your membership for 2021, please send the appropriate amount to the address below.

An application form for a new membership can be found at the end of this newsletter. Please send dues and/or application form to:

**St George Historical Society**  
P O Box 14  
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## Local Indian Artifacts

We recently received an inquiry about several boxes of Indian artifacts with the only identification being the Archie McLaughlin collection. The inquiry was in hopes that there was a list of each artifact and where it was found.

The picture above is from an oversize (about 2' X 2½') "book" with about a dozen pages of sketches by Archie McLaughlin. It is in the Old Library Museum and focuses on the history of local Indians and artifacts.

Archie lived on Watts Avenue in Tenants Harbor and died in 2000. Does anyone know about Archie's collection? Don Wood lived in the Wildcat / Willardham area and also had quite a collection of Indian artifacts. Any info would be appreciated!

## St George Genealogy

### Mark Your Calendar – May 27th

The May program of the Historical Society will be a discussion on researching the family history of people who lived in St George. It will cover some background on the settlement of the area so you don't confuse the name St George with St George's. Other things covered will be little-known on-line sources, and some items that may require in person research.

This program will be a Zoom meeting on line and will require a meeting ID and passcode. Contact [stgeorgemainehistory@gmail.com](mailto:stgeorgemainehistory@gmail.com) for this information.

# St George Historical Society

## 2021 Monthly Zoom Programs

- 29 April 7pm The 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Halls Market – 1<sup>st</sup> Self-Service Store**  
A walk down memory lane with pictures and stories about the many years that we shopped at Halls Market.
- 27 May 7pm St George Genealogy**  
A discussion on how to research the early families of St George.
- 24 June 7pm Early Settlers of Warren, Maine**  
Presentation by Deb Mansfield and Karin Larson on the early settlers of Warren, the earliest settlement in the area known as St Georges.
- 29 July 6pm Walking Tour of Ridge Cemetery**  
To take advantage of the daylight, this walking tour will begin at 6pm.
- 26 Aug 7pm Lighthouses & Life Saving Stations of St George**  
Learn the history of these important parts of maritime life.
- 30 Sept 7pm One Room Schoolhouses of St George**  
In 1883 there were over 1000 students in St George and over a dozen one-room schoolhouses. Now there are a little less than 300 students.
- 28 Oct 7pm Annual Meeting & Plans for the Coming Year**  
October is our annual business meeting when we elect new officers for the coming year. We'd also like to hear from you on what programs we should be looking to do in 2022. PLUS, we may have a surprise presentation!

If you'd like to attend any of our Zoom Meetings, please send an email request to [stgeorgemainehistory@gmail.com](mailto:stgeorgemainehistory@gmail.com) and ask for a Zoom Meeting invitation that will include a meeting ID and passcode.

We are planning on Zoom Meetings for the 2021 season, except for the Walking Tour in July, BUT if things change to allow in-person meetings, we will be sure to let you know! Stay safe!!!



## Capt Frank O Hilt – Lighthouse Keeper

*A few months ago the Historical Society was given photos, papers, etc from the estate of Willard Hilt of St George. Willard was the son of Capt Frank Hilt, a native St Georger who went to sea, served as lighthouse keeper on Matinicus Rock, and also at Portland Head Light. Following is a brief biography of Capt Frank.*

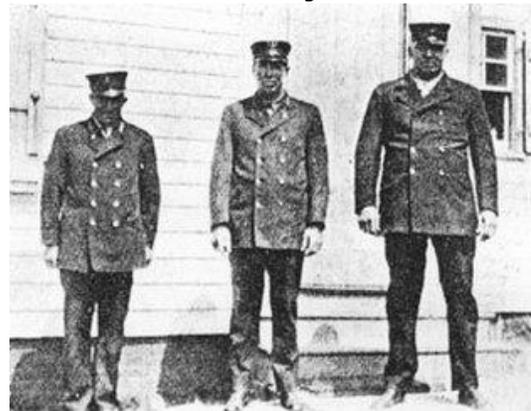
Frank Oliver Hilt was born in 1879 in St George, the son of George A Hilt and his wife, Rebecca Willard. At the age of 21 he was listed in the census records as a farm laborer. In 1906 he married a local girl, Dora Robinson. This was also about the time he went to sea. By 1910 the census records have him as the captain of a vessel. The following is a picture of him (center) on the schooner J S Lamprey with other men from St George – Artie Thomas & Lew Robinson.



Capt Frank became an assistant light keeper at the Matinicus Rock Light Station from 1913 to 1919, then principal keeper from 1919 to 1929.



*Matinicus Rock Light Station*



*Keepers at Matinicus Rock – Hilt on right*

Capt Frank left Matinicus Rock Light in 1929 and became the principal keeper at Portland Head Light in Cape Elizabeth, remaining there until his retirement in 1944. He returned to his hometown of St George. Not remaining idle, he worked as the captain of a vacation schooner out of Rockland until his death in 1949 at the age of 70 years.



**St George Historical Society, Inc.**

**P O Box 14**

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**MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

Email address \_\_\_\_\_ Phone (optional) \_\_\_\_\_

Type of Membership:      Individual / \$10 \_\_\_\_\_      Household / \$15 \_\_\_\_\_

Areas of interest \_\_\_\_\_