

St George Historical Society Newsletter

P O Box 14, Tenants Harbor, ME 04860

www.stgeorgehistory.com – website

207-372-2231 – tel.no.

stgeorgemainehistory@gmail.com – email address

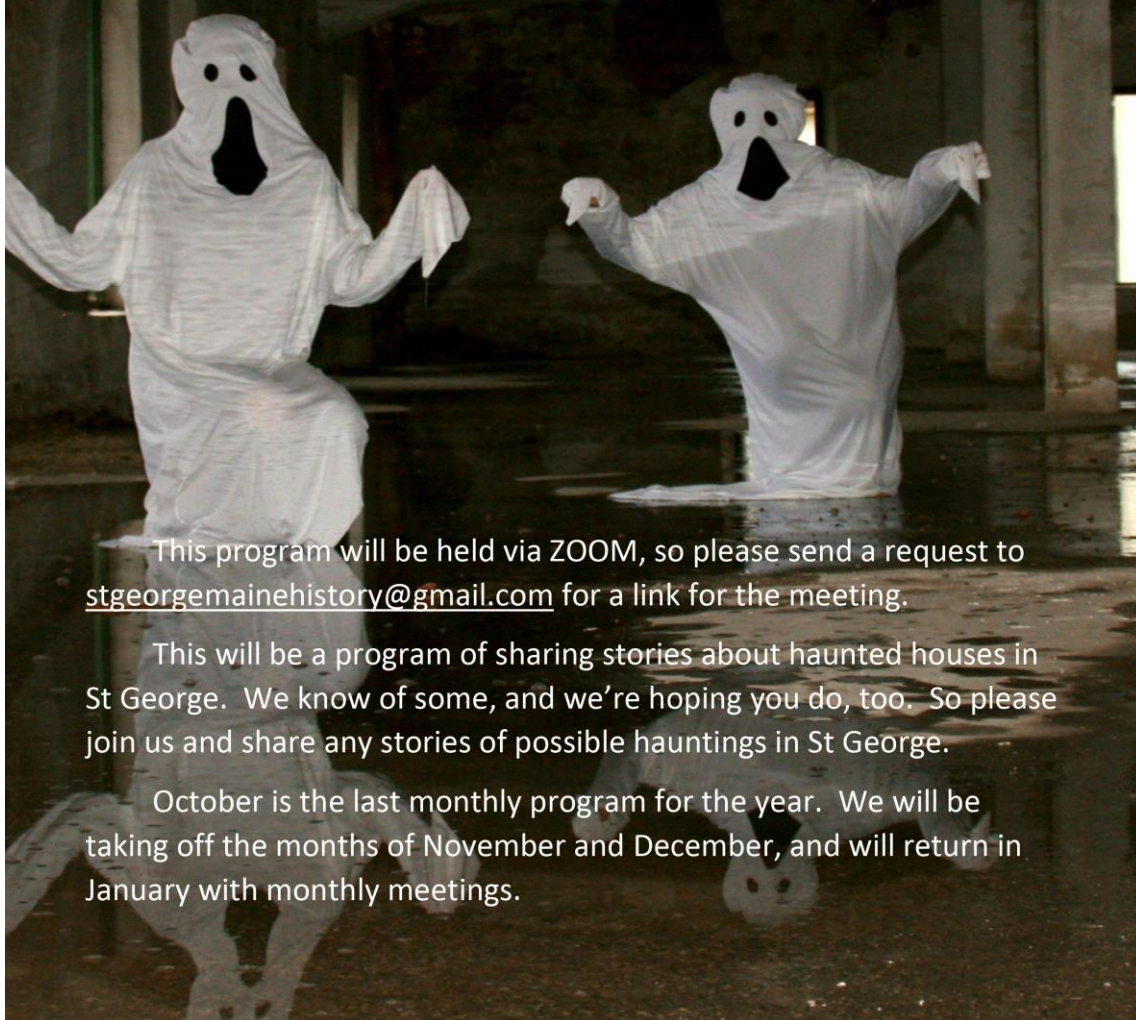
An IRS 501(c)(3) non-profit organization

Oct 2022

St George Historical Society's Monthly Program

Haunted Houses of St George

Thursday, October 27th, 7:00pm – ZOOM Meeting



This program will be held via ZOOM, so please send a request to stgeorgemainehistory@gmail.com for a link for the meeting.

This will be a program of sharing stories about haunted houses in St George. We know of some, and we're hoping you do, too. So please join us and share any stories of possible hauntings in St George.

October is the last monthly program for the year. We will be taking off the months of November and December, and will return in January with monthly meetings.



A Brief History of the St George Ambulance

Annual Report, Town of St. George, Maine

As the St. George Fire Department consists almost entirely of the St. George Volunteer Fireman's Association members, I find it fitting to make a report on their contributions to the Town in the past year. Their main contribution, is the free ambulance service. Since 1956, the year it was put into service, to the year 1959, eighty-nine (89) calls were answered. This saved the citizens of the Town about \$3,000.

Excerpt from the 1958 Town Report

As the newspaper clipping above says, "through their efforts and the generosity of the townspeople, have provided the town with a free ambulance service to meet any emergency." This was the case for almost 60 years – the generosity of the townspeople provided funding to buy ambulance vehicles, equipment and supplies; and the ambulance crew members volunteered their time for not only responding to calls, but for the many hours of initial and ongoing training.

Over the years the number of calls increased. In 1960 there were about 50 calls a year. The 1970s saw an average of about 75 calls, with the 1980s seeing an average of about 100 calls. Again, all handled by volunteers – and free to the residents and visitors of our town. This continuous increase in calls, and the everchanging protocols that required more training and the need for a paramedic on calls, led the Ambulance Association to make a major change – hire responders to be on call and to bill for the service to help pay for the increased cost. This change began about 10 years ago and has evolved to where there are three (3) full-time paramedics. The ambulance service also has seen the number and types of annual calls increase. In 2021 they responded to 252 911 calls, 142 Community Paramedic visits, 52 ALS Intercepts to South Thomaston, 13 Mutual Aid calls and 378 Vaccines given. They have also continued to make Community Paramedicine visits to many surrounding areas

When the Association started to change operations by having full-time employees, it began asking for partial funding from the town. As costs have increased, so has the amount requested from the town. The ambulance service has become a major full-time business that is overseen by the volunteer group known as the St George Volunteer Firefighters and Ambulance Association. This growth caused the Association to take a realistic look at what they have and what is needed for the ambulance service to continue and provide the necessary level of service to the residents and visitors of the town.

There are currently talks with town officials to assume the responsibility for the operations of the ambulance service, with a vote to be taken at the next Annual Town Meeting scheduled for May 2023.

Early View at the “Clark Island turn” From the estate of Jim Skoglund



As we sort through the numerous papers and photos we have received from Jim's estate, we come across some unique photos. On the back of the photo – with a date of July 28, '67 - is written the following [*with notes added in brackets*]:

This picture taken by Eva Kinney Gilchrest from her door [*she lived at the house where Jim Skoglund grew up, where his sister Marta now lives*] out across to Clark Island turn. Percy Jones house to left [*where Jim Parker now lives*] and Steve Jones house – now owned by Wendelaar [*across the street*]. Big barn shows up to left. Holmstrom house [*now Felton*] not built. Ed Works house that burned doesn't show. Must have been late 1800s or early 1900s. Aunt Eva died 1902 or 1903.

Eva Kinney married James A Gilchrest – Jim Skoglund's grandfather – in 1887 and she died from “consumption” in 1903. The man in the photo is probably James Gilchrest.

Membership Dues

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

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

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

Coming Events

Thursday – Oct 27th – 7pm – the monthly program on Haunted Houses of St George.

Saturday – Nov 26th – 10am to 2pm – Old Library Museum will be open for those looking for Christmas gifts – we have lots of books!

We will be taking off the months of November & December – see you in January!

View of Clark Island bridge from island
Real Photo Postcard from Jim Skoglund's estate



St George Historical Society, Inc.

P O Box 14

Tenants Harbor, ME 04860

stgeorgemainehistory@gmail.com

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Membership runs for a calendar year – Jan 1st to Dec 31st

Name _____

Address _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

Email address _____ Phone (optional) _____

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

Areas of interest _____