

Sebago Historical Society Presents

# Early Transportation



*Even the women folks helped improve the condition of the Convene Road. See inside back cover for excerpts from a 1928 Portland Press Herald story. The five workers depicted above are, left to right: Miss Nellie M. Haley, Mrs. Bertha Neal, Mrs. Charles A. Dennett, Mrs. Eva Hanson and Mrs. Emily Robinson.*

2005 Calendar

# January 2005



*Early winter snow road treatment. Note chains on tires.*



*In the winter of 1934-'35, Percy Bachelder plowed a road on the ice of Sebago Lake from North Sebago to Muddy River.*



*Elmer Larrabee shown with his plow in the mid 1940's.*



*Winter 1928-'29*

*Prior to being plowed, the town roads were rolled. The town first plowed its roads in the winter of 1928 - '29. The entire town was plowed by one tractor driven by Chester Wormhood and George Mullen. It was a novelty that everyone ran to the window to watch.*

# February 2005



*Showing a pair of horses at work*



*1934-'35 Cars & snow plow on the ice of Sebago Lake.*



*Late 1920's or early 1930's Chevrolet - known as Hon's Chevie.*



*First snowmobile made for Dr. Fickett of Naples supposedly to make house calls and loaned to Ed Jewett for mail delivery. Left to right: W. M. Nason, Ernest Jewett and George Jewett on the wheel. Taken by Alice Batchelder in front of her home.*

# March 2005

*David P. Field and his grocery  
delivery truck c. 1938,  
So. Bridgton, Maine.*



SOUTH BRIDGTON CASH  
MEAT & GROCERIES  
11-12-13

2008 JANUARY 2008  
1



*Lawrence Boynton from Bridgton drove a meat  
delivery business in Sebago for many years.*



*Jose Murch  
and  
grandson,  
Kenneth  
Powers. Jose  
delivered  
milk in the  
area for 40  
years.*

April 2005



*Norwood Dunlap delivered milk and dairy products in Sebago from the late forties to mid sixties. Mildred, his wife, always rode with him.*

*There were many home delivery businesses. Norris Scribner drove a Cushman Bakery truck in the 1940's and 1950's. Salem Catir drove a dry goods truck, and when in Sebago, spent the night at the home of Mark and Grace Snow. Percy Sanborn sold fish from his delivery truck. The Raleigh man also was well-known in the area.*

*Many local residents delivered their surplus garden produce and homemade bakery products to the hotels, summer camps and summer residents. One known delivery vehicle was a 1932 Ford V8 owned by Phil and Lucretia Douglas.*



*Early delivery wagon for the Grand Union Tea Company.*



*Clarence Spinney of Bridgton selling Jean McKenney a pastry from his M and M bakery truck during the fifties.*



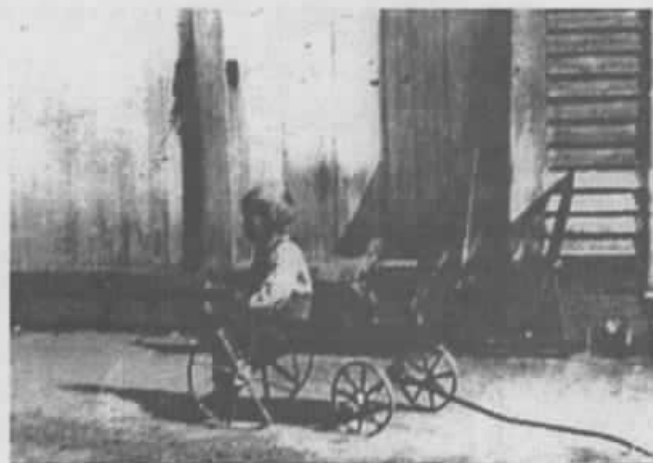
May 2005



Above:  
June  
Douglass  
in an  
early  
version of  
a walker.



Elsie Davis in a wicker baby carriage



Howard Davis 1911, North Sebago



Left: Young Al Martin with his  
bicycle 1894. Photo by J. F. Haley



Above: Clayton Douglass on  
early tricycle circa 1933.

June 2005



*Rose and Sarah Haley in front of John Haley's home in Convene.*



*Frank York transporting tourists for Ansel Brackett.*



*Shirley Usher and Henry Weed in a wagon pulled by Dinah in Convene, Maine. Probably in the late 1930's.*



*In front of Elmer Larrabee's home in North Sebago.*

July 2005



*In 1909, Edwin Brown bought the first car in Sebago. It was a two cylinder Maxwell, and Edson and Herbert Brown and Henry Weed learned to drive in that car. By 1910, there were four cars in town. Ed Douglas owned a 1909 Stanley Steamer, Henry Weed had a 1909 high wheel Ford. The fourth car was owned by Fred Fitch.*

*Above: Boarding house guests out for an afternoon bicycle ride.*

*Right: This is a 1901 Geneva steam car, Model-A Run-about which was manufactured in Geneva, Ohio. It has a kerosene light on the side and self generating bicycle lights on the front. John Haley took this photo in front of his farm in Convene.*







August 2005



*Wm. H. Milliken's Boat Landing, East Sebago*



*Curtis Sanborn transporting water craft over land.*



*Boats at Bachelder's Brook in North Sebago.*



*Steamboat Landing near Lakecroft Inn, North Sebago*

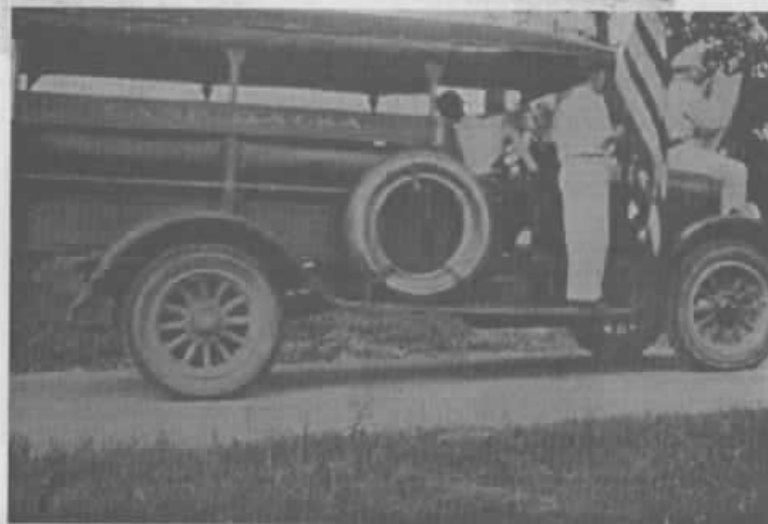
# September 2005

*Right: Old Pierce Arrow truck at Kennebunkport, Maine on 1927 Potter Academy class trip to Washington, D.C. It was the first of 7 stops to repair or change flat tires.*



*Left: Arthur Richard's truck and the Potter Academy school bus that he drove many years.*

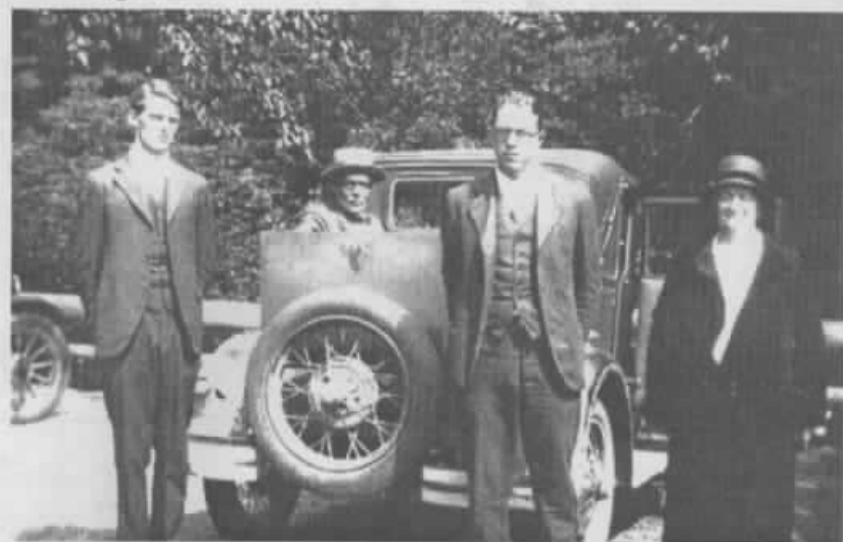
*The Washington D.C. tour bus used by the 1927 Potter Academy class trip.*



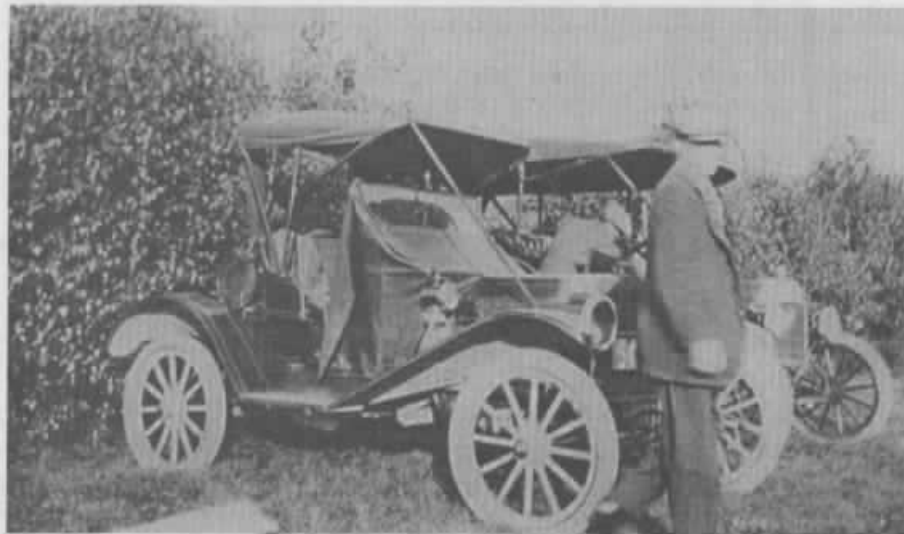
# October 2005



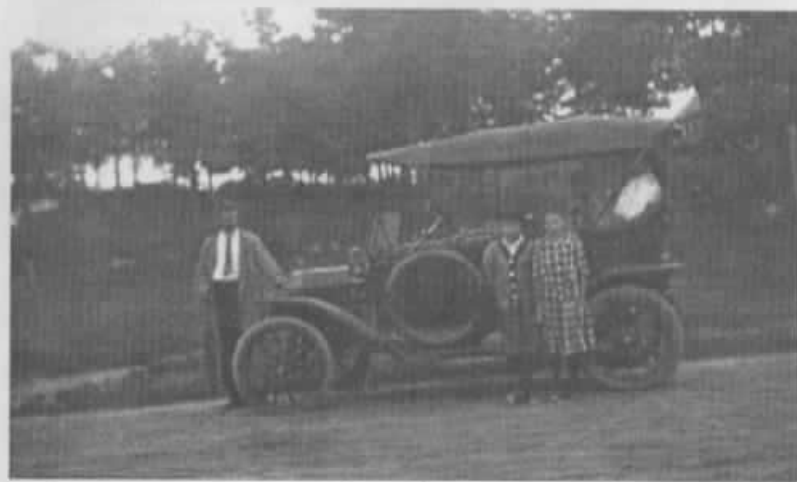
*Barbara Richey with her dog taken in 1937 in a Ford car.*



*Fred & Maud McKenney with sons Harry and Dennis with their late 1920's or early 1930's Model A Coupe with a rumble seat.*



*Ed Douglas with his Maxwell car around 1912.*



*Ralph, George and Lennie Mullen standing by an old Model T Ford.*

November 2005



*Early town service vehicles.*



# December 2005



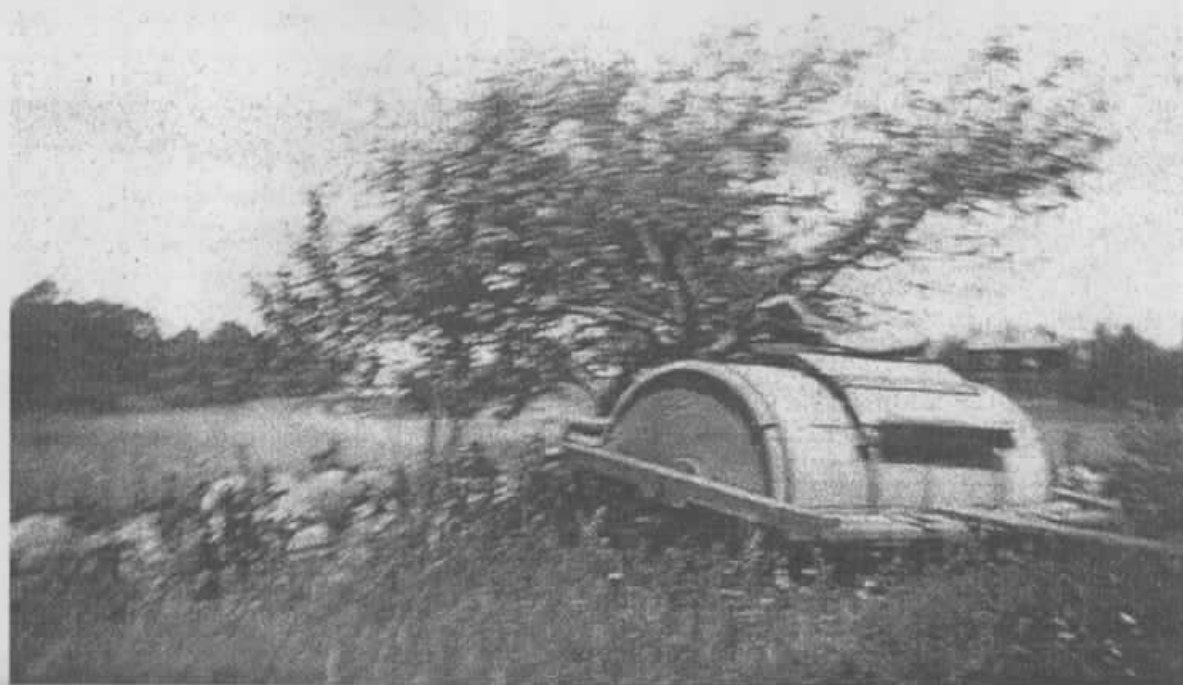
Left: Margaret Barnes and family on a snowmobile ride. This Polaris was one of the very early snow machines in the area. The first Sebago resident to own a snowmobile in Sebago was Gordon Irish.



Horse and sleigh 1925.



1925 Emma Lewis Dora Martin







*Right: East Sebago  
1900 Mail  
Stage Coach*



*Above: Automobiles in East Sebago, 1922*



*Left: A cloudburst in August, 1938, washed out the  
bridge over Bachelder's Brook in North Sebago.*

## *About the Cover*

### **By Raymond E. Dame**

Sebago, Sept. 11 - Unique in the annals of Maine was the construction gang which gathered here early this morning to make sadly needed repairs on the town road leading to Convene and Hiram. It was a construction gang enlisted from a small army of citizens, men, women and children, who volunteered to contribute a few days' labor to the community with no demand nor desire for monetary compensation.

It was a construction gang extraordinary, with a noted psychologist, a prominent physician, summer residents, local farmers, busy wives and small school children in the ranks, each wielding a shovel, pick or hoe with a genuine will to work, exemplifying a remarkable community spirit.

The movement to improve the road, for months virtually impassable, strewn with huge

boulders and rutted to the bare rock ledges by heavy summer rains, was instigated by the energetic Dr. Charles A. Dennett, a summer resident here several years and enthusiastic booster for the Sebago region and the State of Maine, a native of Portland and 40 years practicing physician in Arlington, Mass. Possessed of an innate faculty for organization, he had little difficulty in arousing the citizens to the urgent need of repairs on the Convene road. His proposal met with the universal approval of the farmers, as well as of the Sebago Road Commissioner.

#### **Get Quick Action**

Action was started immediately, culminating this morning in actual operations when a crew of 20 men and women armed with picks and shovels and five pair of horses dragging a scraper and wagons arrived on the scene ready to turn to for a long, hard day's work. As the morning progressed and the news spread, the

gang was augmented by other workers. In the afternoon at the close of school, children abandoned their books and joined their parents in common effort.

Taxes in the Town of Sebago are high, almost excessive. An increase in the existing rates which would provide adequate funds for road construction and repair would be too great a burden for the farmers to bear. Their present activities are testimony that they realize that if the roads are to be maintained they must devote some attention and labor to them.

That is why the citizens of this town have forsaken their daily tasks, the men their chores and the women their housework, to labor at no expense to the community. For the same reason, Benjamin Douglass, road commissioner, has offered to work all day for even a month without pay and one man has risked leaving his hay in the fields in order to lend a hand in the work. To the same end Dr. Dennett has

applied himself with the assurance that "building roads is much more fun than playing golf."

#### **Story of Road**

As recounted in the family circle gathered about the warmth of an open fire on a glacial Winter's night, the story, perhaps a bit more elaborate in detail, is that Dr. Alonzo Norton, a typical old country healer, narrowly missed losing his life and his horse when his nag, laboring to a distant farm house, slipped into a trip of quicksand at this very point. Only prompt expedient and ready assistance saved the animal, already sunk to his neck, from complete submergence. When brush, boards, stones and logs had been thrown into the treacherous sands, the combined strength of a half dozen men was just sufficient to drag the beast from a grasping grave to a solid surface. After a brief rest Dr. Norton and his nag were able to complete their errand of mercy.



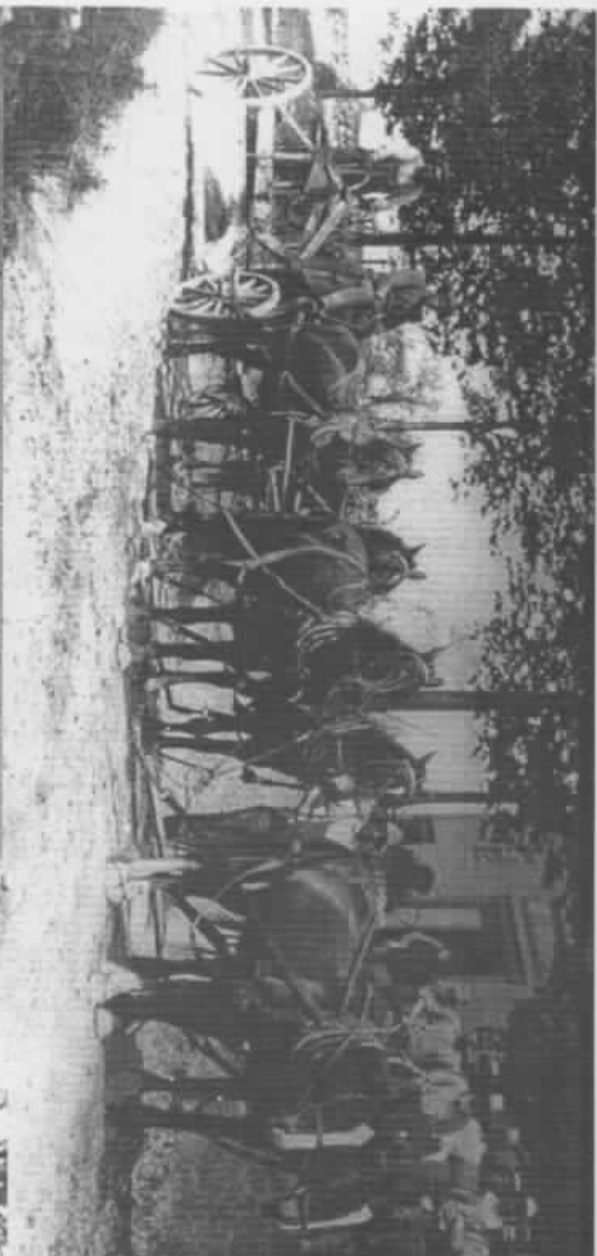
*This 1935 Harley is still being used by Bruce and Scottie Doughty of Sebago.*



*Walter Hale used this 1939 Harley to travel from his home at Peaked Mountain to his business in Westbrook in 1940.*



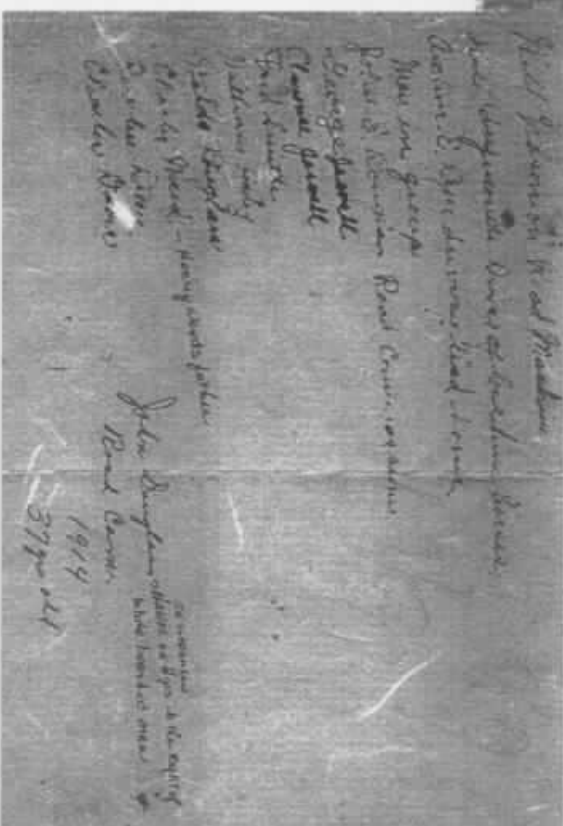
*Rick Hendrickson with his plane in the early fifties. In summer, Rick landed his plane in Louis Chessy's field on the Hancock Pond Road. During winter months he landed on Hancock Pond. The Hendricksons had a summer home on Winn Mountain.*



Left: Horse drawn road grader by the Haley residence, Convene.

Below left: Names of those in photo

Below right: Grader at work in front of Larrabee farm in North Sebago.



We wish to thank everyone who contributed to this calendar with photographs and information, which is as accurate as we can determine. Our selections were chosen to represent early transportation 50 years old or older.

#### Calendar Committee

Diana Letellier, Roberta Douglass, Kathie Whitcomb, June Allen and George Tinkham.