

Invite Your Friends to Learn About NF

NF is conducting an informal session for anyone who wants to learn more about NF and its services. There will be a brief presentation, plenty of time for Q&A, and light refreshments. Please invite prospective members to join us on Tuesday, March 15, 10:30 a.m. to noon.

For more information and to make reservations, call the NF office. (We encourage you to come with your friends, if you like.)

“A Primer on Social Media”

Come learn about the “new media”! Jill Erickson, Reference Librarian, Falmouth Public Library, will present explanations and examples of Facebook, Twitter, Flickr, and YouTube on Tuesday, March 8th, 2 p.m., at Falmouth Public Library. Reservations are suggested (call 508-564-7543) to insure sufficient seating. Last-minute attendees also welcome.

Meet for Breakfast/Coffee

We have reserved tables at the Falmouth Grille (formerly Hearth and Kettle) for Monday, March 14th, at 9 a.m. Please join us if you can—it’s a great way to begin the week.

Meet for Lunch

We are reserving tables at the Coonamessett Inn for 11:45 a.m., Wednesday, March 23rd. Please call the office to reserve a seat or, if you find you can attend at the last minute, just come. We’ll simply add another chair.

Falmouth Academy Days

We are delighted that the Senior class at FA is offering members of NF another work day on Thurs., May 12th. They are willing to do chores, indoors or outdoors. This year, the Junior class would also like to offer their services to NF and have proposed Tues., May 10th. We need to know if enough of you are interested in taking advantage of these projects, so please call the office ASAP to let us know. If we don’t have enough requests to use both groups, we will cancel the May 10th workday. Thanks!



**Cynthia Smith, Member
Neighborhood Falmouth**
by Mavise Crocker

How many people, do you think, are born, educated, married, then work and live the rest of their lives in the town where they were born? It is safe to say, not many. Cynthia Smith is an exception, for Woods Hole has been her home for ninety-three years.

Cynthia lives in a house built in the mid-1800s, once owned by her father and close to the home where she grew up. She went to the beautifully preserved "grammar" school on School Street; in winter, she skated on many of the small local ponds; her friends all lived within walking distance; she worked afternoons and weekends in her father's fish market. She truly was in all respects a local girl.

Her connections to the town were firmly established from the time she was born into a family of three girls and a boy. Sam Cahoon, her father, owned the local fish market (where all his children worked), which meant that eventually she knew everyone in town. When her father opened another fish market in nearby Falmouth, teenage Cynthia drove the truck between the two stores, keeping them well supplied.

One of the most influential experiences of her young life was the time she spent at Sea Pines Camp in Brewster over three summers. During the years of the Great Depression, it was not often that families could afford to send their children to summer camp, but Sam Cahoon took good care of his children. It was at Sea Pines that Cynthia learned to sail a Cape Cod Knockabout.

Sailing was an activity enjoyed by the whole family. Before his marriage, Sam Cahoon was a professional sailor on the 40' sailboat *Quakeress*, owned by a wealthy Philadelphia family, so sailing came naturally to him. When he saw that his oldest daughter Cynthia also loved sailing, he bought not one, but two 18' Knockabouts so all his children could enjoy sailboat racing in this very competitive seafaring community.

After graduating from Falmouth High School, Cynthia attended Bryant College in Providence, RI, and it was here that she met her future husband, Homer P. Smith, who was from the Hudson area of upper New York, located along the Hudson River. They were married in December of 1942, when America was already deeply involved in World War II. Homer joined the Air Force and was assigned to a B-24 bomber group.

Because of his business studies at Bryant College, Homer was assigned to statistical control work, and served two years overseas in Cerignola, Italy. After the war ended, Cynthia and her husband planned to stay with the Air Force and were sta-

tioned in Pyote, TX, but when she became pregnant, she felt their child should be born a true Cape Codder, not in a distant Texas town. Homer therefore resigned from the Air force and they returned—to Cape Cod, of course! Homer, she said, was happy with the move, for he would be living again close to the water.

Once established in Woods Hole, it was not long before Homer Smith was hired as a bookkeeper by the Marine Biological Laboratory, and there he made his career for the next thirty years. Cynthia was happy also to be living near her family again, bringing up daughter Tammy and son Dick, teaching them to sail a Knockabout, and racing during weekends with her family and friends.

When her children were in junior high, she was asked by her friend, Fran Eastman, to take over a bookkeeping job at Eastman's Hardware for a few weeks while they found a permanent replacement...but Cynthia stayed on for twenty years, enjoying the work and the camaraderie with friends.

Cynthia is fortunate that her two children have also remained Cape Codders. Tammy and Dick both live in Falmouth—Tammy working at the Falmouth Public Library and Dick sailing year around on the *Patriot*, delivering daily newspapers to the Vineyard and conducting daytime and moonlight cruises on Vineyard Sound. Her sister also lives nearby, a few doors down from Cynthia. It is a tight-knit family with deep roots in the Falmouth area extending back almost a century.

NF/Senior Discounts

Falmouth Taxi Company: now offering a 25% discount to Falmouth Seniors. Be sure to ask for the discount if you use their service.

Eastman/Ace Hardware: 10% discount to members of NF on most items and available every day. Just show your membership card to the clerk.

Windfall Market: 5% Senior discount every Wednesday.

Family Foods: 10% Senior discount every Wednesday (no deli items or alcohol).

Mahoney's Garden Center: 10% Senior discount every Wednesday.