

*Acton's 250<sup>th</sup>  
Anniversary Parade  
1985*



## ACTON 250th PARADE COMMITTEE AND

John C. Dolan, Chairman  
Donald W. Macaulay  
Robert S. Rhodes  
Malcolm S. MacGregor  
Paul C. Murphy  
Dorothy Williams  
G. Brooks Williams  
Ernest O'Clair  
Katherine N. Arnold  
Elizabeth A. Morrison  
Leslie Cheney  
Nancy B. Colson  
Barbara J. Parker  
John H. Loring  
Susan Christmas  
Wilson Bursaw  
Ronald Vavruska  
Michael Harte  
Toni Harte  
John S. Hawkes  
John Clark  
Richard E. Bedford  
Rita L. Dolan

### ABRHS:

Craig Camelio, Chrm.  
Jean Monroe, Artist  
Chris Drew  
Tracy O'Neil  
Christina Bankert  
Glenn Kuenzler  
Jeff Bortle  
Daniel Holway  
James Beverage  
Laura Lankford  
Per Lofgren  
Victor Srethabhakti  
Nader Salehi  
Marc Page  
Chris Brunell  
Mark Rotando  
Tara Lennon  
Willie Roberts  
Beth Coffey  
Mark Malnati  
Richard Andelman

### Representatives:

Don Gilberti  
Ellen Holway  
Richmond Miller  
Anita Dodson  
Alfred Steinhauer  
Edna Story  
Brewser Conant  
Whit Mowry  
Mary Hadley  
Barbara Nylander  
David Westlake  
Edwin Richter  
Wanda Null  
Valerie Siprelle  
Peter Armstrong  
Donald Saccone  
Judi Budiansky  
Judi Kotanchik  
Carol Holley  
Nancy Warner  
Richard Dolan  
Robert Moran  
Roberta Burkey  
Ethel Fogarty  
Austin Sheatsley  
Karen Trabert  
Judy Rice  
Ellen Valade  
Lawrence Quigley  
Barbara Tornstrom  
Deena Whitfield  
Bud Flannery  
Rene Beaudoin  
Kay Nicholson  
Susan Harrigan  
Larry Weil  
Michael Guzzo  
Shirley Passman  
Barbara Yates  
Lesley Murray  
Laura Hirsch  
Patricia te Duits  
John te Duits

## ACTON MINUTEMEN

Fred Hryniewich, Col.  
William K. Vickey, Maj.  
Earl Nadeau, Capt.  
Steven Campbell, 1st Lt.  
Frank Flowers, 2nd Lt.  
William Gladski  
Kenneth Gould  
Everett Davis  
Raymond Shamel  
David Campbell  
Edward Kelly  
Robert Adams  
Michael Ames  
Richard Becker  
Edwin Carell  
Sal Carmosino  
Arthur Chorlton  
Kenneth Chorlton  
Frederick Dawson  
Paul DerAnaniann  
Herbert Fisher  
Eric Haartz  
Ross Hamel  
Arye Hess  
Charles Husbands  
Walter Johnson  
Walter Kett  
Walter Laite  
Frank Look  
Donald McNiesh  
Robert Menapace  
Charles Morehouse  
Ralph Morse  
Albert Reed  
William Rogers  
James Stegeman  
Earle Tuttle  
Parker Vanderhoof  
Robert Werner  
George Wheeler  
Glenn Yancey

### Davis Blues

Steven Campbell  
Arye Hess  
Jonathan Streff  
Inge Swenson  
Charles Husbands  
Steven Martin  
Seth Jacoby  
Florence Corey  
Edward Kelly, Jr.  
Kenneth Gould  
Eric Patton  
Brian Hess  
John Corey

## ACTON TOWN SERVICES

### ACTON CIVIL DEFENSE AGENCY

Donald Macaulay, Director  
Anne Marie Desmarais  
John Hawkes  
Larry Hill  
Dick Hickock  
Connie Ingram  
Robert Ingram  
Ann Jones  
William Jones  
Norman Lake  
Carol Landry  
Charlie Landry

### ACTON FIRE DEPARTMENT

Malcolm MacGregor, Chief  
Rich O'Leary  
C.G. Frost  
Sparky: Keith Robinson  
Bill Soar  
Forrest Bean  
Peter Robinson  
Keith Robinson  
Paul Simeone  
Bill Klauer  
Bob Vanderhoof  
Kevin Lyons  
Bob Wetherbee  
Dick Swenson  
Gerry Finneault  
Jim Patton  
Don Anderson

Don White  
Jim Davis  
Peter Morrison  
George Williams  
Bob Saborian  
Bruce Stone

### ACTON POLICE DEPARTMENT

George Robinson, Chief  
Robert Rhodes, Safety Off.  
John McNiff, Sergeant  
Robert MacLeod, Sergeant  
Robert Parisi, Sergeant

### Patrolmen:

William Hayes  
Thomas Rogers  
Ronald Johnson  
Paul McGovern  
Paul Cogan  
Brian Goodman  
Bernard Harrison  
Bruce Nadeau  
James McPadden  
Eric Widmayer  
Raymond LaRoche  
Raymond Grey  
Jeffrey Dudley  
James Goodemote  
James Cogan  
John McMasters  
Christopher Browne

### ACTON WATER DISTRICT

#### Participants:

John MacLeod  
Joseph Lauzon  
Assisted by:  
Carl Troupe  
Jim Neville  
Robert Koch  
Robert Delaney  
Gary Odoardi

## ACTON-BOXBORO HIGH SCHOOL BAND

### Freshmen

Chris Augenstein  
Drea Caruso  
Jaina Clough  
Carrie Danville  
Andy DeVivo  
Julie Downey  
Marty Gruber  
Ken Haskins  
Shanti Kathuria  
Chris Russo  
Aimee Lucas  
Charles Lombardo  
Bill Lee  
Michael Lane  
Rick Klau  
Aaron Sher  
Carolyne Stockbridge  
Chris Tohline

### Sophomores

Annie Brown  
Andy Brydges  
Mike Calnan  
Craig Camelio  
Justin Campbell  
Patrick Cataldo  
Peter Cataldo  
Liz Dietz  
Chris Drew  
Kristin Granberg  
Erik Haugsjaa  
Daniel Holway  
David Hymes  
Glenn Kuenzler  
Kevin Leggat  
Laura McGuire  
Robin Morrison  
Andy O'Brien  
Tracy O'Neill  
Rick Reade  
Paul Rosconi  
Heather Shea  
Jennifer Stapel  
Sally Sylvester

### Juniors

Janine Atkins  
Monica Banko

Ted Chadeayne  
Anne M. Eldredge  
Mark Doerfler  
Peter Faria  
Suzanne Feener  
Natasha Grondstra  
Jason Lee  
Duncan McElroy  
Judi Moss  
Terry O'Neill  
Steve Richards  
Talia Sher  
Bill Stover  
Keith Thomas

### Seniors

Pascale Barate  
Scott Beverage  
Steven Crossland  
Becki Evans  
Christie Fanton  
James Kay  
Grace Lombardo  
Marianne Manning  
Chris McAdam  
Karen Meslener  
Karen Moore  
Neal Spurr  
James Treacy  
Scott Vrablik  
Susan Watkins

### Pom-Pom Girls

#### Seniors

Amy Baker  
Wendy Bettencourt  
Lisa Faria  
Lisa Kettell  
Bonnie King  
Sue Martin  
Deanna Mulbarger

#### Juniors

Cheryl Armistead  
Tara Dhar  
Jena Fredericks  
Julie-Kirsten Knowlton  
Stacy Larson  
Louisa Macalowicz  
Starley Rubow

### Sophomores

Carrie Bower  
Kristen Connel

### Majorettes

Ann Beaudoin  
Debbie Edmunds  
Jill Jacobson  
Caroline Kelly  
Kristine Kidd  
Sharie Poulin  
Kristen Resor  
Jen Ridley  
Martha Rutledge  
Catherine Vinal  
Julie Winfrey

### Flag Squad

Carolyn Cronin  
Barbara Hutchinson  
Karen Kramer  
Tracy MacDonald  
Anne Packard  
Lisa Progin  
Sally Radford  
Carolyn Somerville  
Sheila Taylor  
Gena Wolner

## SCOUTS

### ACTON BOY SCOUTS

Paul C. Murphy, Director

#### Explorer Post #7

Matthew Brodeur  
Richard Campbell  
Michael Coughlin  
Donald Cullinane  
David Dormer  
Denise Hicks  
Mark Hickock  
Dean Lambert  
Genevieve Landry  
Kevin Landry  
Joseph Landry  
John Landry  
Scott Landry  
Kevin Leggat  
Linda Macaulay

Michael March  
Scott Masson  
Duncan McElroy  
Kenneth Morehouse  
Jennifer Pfau  
Meg Stokinger  
Cliff Walker

### Troop 1 - Adults:

Peter Armstrong, SM  
Paul Bukowski  
Paul Hoff

### Youth:

Adam Armstrong  
Neil Atkins  
Matt Braman  
Robert Bukowski  
Paul DerAnanian  
Tim Dorren  
Dan Goldberg  
Joe Gross  
Tom Hamel  
Chris Hoff  
Steve Hoff  
Jason Holley  
Steve Kabakoff  
Wayne Landry  
Robert Lee  
Dave Mackie  
Chris McIntyre  
Mike Miller  
Brian Stephens  
Brian Turner

### Troop 11 - Adults:

Dennis Costich  
Dave McWalter  
John Tabaczynski, SM

### Youth:

Jason Bottle  
Matt Costich  
John Cuitkovich  
Paul Dormer  
Oliver Easterday  
Dan Humphreys  
Dave Humphreys  
Karl Kathuria  
Bryan Lary  
Mike LaVenture  
Phil Lowe  
Jeff Pavlock  
Jeff Quebec  
Ben Harris  
Jeff Shoneman  
Dave Sussman  
Thor Swenson  
Dave Tabaczynski  
Tom Tabaczynski  
Dave Whelihan  
Eric Williams  
Jeff Worfolk

### Troop 284 - Adults:

James Poulin, SM

### Youth

Noah Budiansky  
Scott Davis  
Michael Hinke  
David James  
Kevin Nessman  
Mark Preo  
Cary Ralls  
John Runk  
Adam Schussel  
Barry Smith  
Conrad Stuntz  
Peter Wagner

## CUB SCOUTS

### Pack 18 - Adults:

Elliott Lash, WL  
Paul Murphy

### Youth:

Michael Bearce  
Matt Coburn  
Gregory DerAnanian  
Michael Kadlec  
Rama Lash  
Gregory Murphy  
Daniel Parenteau  
Scott Smith

### Pack 32 - Adults:

Judy Checkowski  
Sandy Geneau  
Linda Kasberger  
Paula McCarthy  
Steve McGowan  
Suzie Mitchell

Bob Rossignol  
Don Saccone, CM  
**Youth:**  
Brett Bowen  
Jon Brody  
Gary Bruce  
Keith Campbell  
Brian Checkowski  
Matt Checkowski  
David Danielson  
Justin Geneau  
Jeff Guinee

Matt Kasberger  
Nick Kasberger  
Brian Kenah  
Michael Larson  
Mark LaVenture  
Andrew Mason  
Andy McCarthy  
Neil McGowan  
Billy Mitchell  
Mike Munroe  
Scott Nagel  
John Olenberger  
Joey Parsons  
David Rossignol  
Brandt Ryder  
Rob Saccone  
Chris Santillo  
James Sims  
Philip Tavernier  
David Testa  
Philip Wait  
Thomas Wehr  
Tom Weissensee  
David Westall  
Greg White  
Adam Wiltse

### Pack 70 - Adults:

Joe Schatz  
Karl Schlieff  
Judy Scott  
Mrs. Michalowicz  
**Youth:**  
Jeff Benz  
Jeremy Kintigh  
Ethan Budiansky  
Jesse McCullough  
Peter Hess  
Kevin Stephens  
Ben Harris  
David Benz  
Chris North  
Philip Hobson  
Brian Cumnick  
Jason Scott  
Alex Johnson  
Michael Acconcia  
Joe Michalowicz  
Joey Schatz  
Mike Vigliotta  
Myron Nay  
David Gorgone  
David Schaefer  
Joshua Schlieff  
Rick Emery  
Justin Pacy

## GIRL SCOUTS

### Troop #2037

Erin Downey  
Claire Murray  
Susan Chamberlain  
Kristin Fraser  
Amy Fincke  
Heather MacFadden  
Bethany Patten  
Kirsten Peterson  
Katherine Campbell-Kibler  
Leslie Baglio  
Laurie Anton  
Erin Harris  
Alyssa Winnick  
Kristin Guinther  
Katie Onorato  
Laura Balkovich

### Troop #2008

Meredith Kotanchik  
Sarah Bergeron  
Elise Bruschi  
Erica Fogg  
Carrie Knowlton  
Heather Lary  
Kim Rosen



THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

September 12, 1985

To the Citizens of Acton, Massachusetts:

I am pleased to send warm greetings to all those gathered to celebrate the 250th anniversary of Acton.

The spirit which has built and sustained your community reflects the energy which has forged America into a land of wonder. As a community held by fellowship and goodwill, Acton has become "home" to many who love it dearly. Further, it stands as an example of the blessings of liberty and freedom to those around the world.

My hearty congratulations on this proud, historic occasion and my best wishes in the years to come.

*Ronald Reagan*

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## SPANNING THE GENERATIONS

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On Sunday, September 22, 1985

Acton townspeople  
all origins and interests  
ages and size  
native and transplanted  
became unified  
in a rare moment  
in our history.



Anticipating  
and  
celebrating  
nostalgic  
yet  
joyful  
suspended  
in  
time  
as our treasures  
young  
and  
old  
gathered  
as  
one  
in dedication  
and  
exhilaration  
to traverse  
our Main Street  
in celebration  
of  
our Town's being!



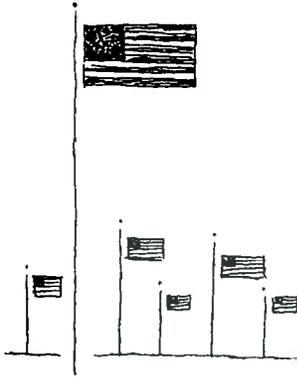
*In gratitude to all  
who planned  
worked  
marched  
contributed  
and cheered  
this book is dedicated!*

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## GETTING READY. . .

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At the Acton Civil Defense Headquarters, bedecked with bunting and flags, the Acton Selectmen, State Representative and Senator, Congressman and English guests await the 1 p.m. start of the Acton 250th Parade in South Acton.



Readying their wares are volunteers at the Acton 250th Committee T-shirt and memorabilia table across from the Acton Historical Society's Hosmer House on Main Street near Kelly's Corner.

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*"It's bringing Acton together." – Ellen Holway,  
Chairman of the 250th Committee*

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Gathered at the Town Hall in Acton Center, across from the Reviewing Stand and Monument, Actonians await the arrival of their Parade.



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## AND THE CANNONS BOOM. . .

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The Minutemen ready to fire, and signal the start of Acton's 250th Parade from the Acton Commuter Parking Lot in South Acton, which served as the assembly area for the first line fire apparatus from Acton and the neighboring towns, all Minutemen units, the 18th Army band, Heritage Hall Platoon and 14th Continental Army soldiers.



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## THE CONCORD INDEPENDENT BATTERY

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The Concord Independent Battery, firing the cannon of the Chelmsford Minutemen, salute Acton's 250th Birthday from the Acton Center Fire Station.

The original Battery guns, now displayed in the State House, and their current replacements in 1843, now in Concord, were dedicated to Acton's Isaac Davis and Concord's John Buttrick.

The Battery, whose roots go back to their assignment to Col. Barrett's militia in 1775, was officially established by the General Court as a volunteer Artillery Company in 1804, and continue to assist at historic and patriotic events.



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READYING THE ROUTE . . .

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ACTON POLICE DEPARTMENT  
ACTON FIRE DEPARTMENT

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Heralding the approach of the Acton 250th Anniversary Parade, and readying the route were the Acton Police Department motorcycle and vehicle units, and the first line apparatus of the Acton Fire Department, followed by fire engines from the neighboring towns of Boxboro, Maynard, Stow, Littleton, Carlisle, Bedford, Clinton, Marlboro, Harvard, and Groton representing their town's salute to Acton at her 250th Celebration.



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MASSACHUSETTS STATE POLICE MOUNTED UNIT

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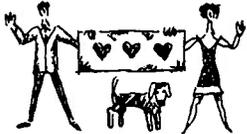
The State Police Mounted Unit, Acton's newest residents, housed at the recently built horse barn on Wetherbee Street, were applauded as they pranced along the route.



## WAITING AND ANTICIPATING. . .

For three brief hours in Acton History, Actonians joined with family, friends and neighbors to line the three mile route from South Acton to Acton Center to pay tribute to its Past, celebrate its Present, and dedicate itself to the Future.

The largest event of the year long celebration, was the Acton 250th Anniversary Parade. Two years in the planning, the Parade included over 140 units, 85% from Acton, and 2000 participants.



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**AND THE PARADE BEGINS. . .**

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**THE PRESIDENT'S LETTER. . .**

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**U.S. NAVY COLOR GUARD  
U.S.S. CONSTITUTION  
CHARLESTOWN, MASSACHUSETTS**

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**U.S. ARMY COLOR GUARD  
FORT DEVENS, MASSACHUSETTS**

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**SONS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION  
COLOR GUARD**

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18th ARMY BAND  
FORT DEVENS

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THE AMERICAN HERITAGE  
ASSOCIATION

U.S. Army Intelligence School  
Fort Devens

THE SPIRIT OF AMERICA BRIGADE  
14th CONTINENTAL ARMY  
THE HERITAGE HALL PLATOON



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**ACTON SELECTMEN  
AND ELECTED OFFICIALS**

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**Acton Selectmen:** Gene Manalan, Chair-  
man, Donald Gilberti, Dore Hunter,  
Pamela Resor, Jack Ormsbee

**Boxboro:** Sue Ellanbas

**State Representative:** John H. Loring

**State Senator:** Argeo Paul Cellucci

**Congressman:** Chester Atkins



## THE ACTON CONNECTION

In 1974 Christine and David Johnson from Acton, England, wrote to the "Mayor" of Acton, Massachusetts, expressing their interest in our forthcoming Bicentennial. The letter was forwarded to the Historical Society, from then on the friendship began.

Acton in England is a small parish or village with a population of approximately 1800, in the township of Sudbury, about 40 miles northwest of London.

David Johnson is an English teacher and the local historian and his wife, Christine, the Clerk of the Parish. Both were very interested in learning more about our Acton and its Indian history. They were, at that time, involved in the restoration of their Parish Church, which dates back to before 1086.

In the years that followed the Bicentennial, several Actonians, in particular, Peg and Donald Kinzie, corresponded with the Johnsons and were their guests while touring England.

As plans were being formulated for the 250th Anniversary Parade, the Historical Society felt it only fitting to invite the Johnsons. David could not attend, but Christine accepted and joining her from Acton was Chris Moss, Chairman of the Parish, and Fred Lane, a professional photographer. During their stay here they were hosted by "Acton House" and Brewster and Betsy Conant.

The visitors enjoyed a full week of 250th festivities, including tours of Acton, dinners, visits to Concord, Boston and Vermont, with a reception held in their "honour", given by the Historical Society at the Womens' Club.

On Sunday, September 22nd, that glorious day, they performed their official duty by riding in a horse-drawn buggy along the Parade Route to the Reviewing Stand.

Later that day, Christine, Chris and Fred cut the three large Birthday Cakes at the 250th Party held at the High School. In the evening our guests put on a beautifully unique slide show depicting the history of their town, Acton, and its people and the countryside.

The latter part of their stay in Massachusetts was threatened by a hurricane but they were very fortunate, "Gloria" struck the day after they flew home.



Christine Johnson, Chris Moss and Fred Lane



Chris Moss, Chairman of the Acton Parish Council



Fred Lane, Acton photographer. His aerial photo of Acton, England now hangs in the Town Hall.

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THE ACTON MINUTEMEN

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MINUTEMEN AND MUSKETS. . .  
FIFERS AND DRUMMERS. . .

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Acton Minutemen, Aleppo Minutemen of Wilmington, Assabet Minutemen, Bedford Minutemen, Capt. Nathaniel Warner Company, Gloucester, Charlestown Militia Company, Concord Minutemen, Continental Navy of the United Colonies, Lexington Minutemen, Lincoln Minutemen, Littleton Minutemen, Massachusetts Council of Minutemen, Menotomy Fife and Drum Corps, Old Bridgewater Minutemen, St. John's Fife and Drum Corps, Stoughton Grenadiers, Sudbury Drum and Bugle Corps, Westbrook Drum Corps of Connecticut.





**ACTON · 1985**  
**250**  
**YEARS**





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**THE ACTON MINUTEMEN**

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"I haven't a man who is afraid to go" spoken by Captain Isaac Davis, the first officer killed in the Revolutionary War, at the Concord Old North Bridge. This was the inspiration behind the organization of today's Minutemen.

The Acton Minutemen are still volunteers and were organized in January 1963, making their first public appearance on April 19th of that year. They marched to the Old North Bridge over the same trail as the original minutemen when they led all the others and fired "the shot heard 'round the world." This landmark of history became, and still is, an inspiration to oppressed peoples everywhere.

The modern Acton Minutemen are organized to continue the commemoration of Acton's unique place in American history. They participate each year in Crown Resistance Day observances; have received international notice by marching in the inaugural parade for President Lyndon Johnson, and were part of the special services at the Old North Bridge in recognition of the death of John F. Kennedy.

The Minutemen assisted in the dedication of the Freedoms Foundation's Medal of Honor Grove at Valley Forge, and annually are leaders in Memorial Day services as Acton honors its war dead.

The Acton Minutemen continue to keep the patriotic spirit alive and hope to instill their pride of country in all those who see them go marching by.

Our Minutemen led the 250th parade and we who watched felt that proud spirit!




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**ACTON'S LIBERTY TREE**

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Acton's Liberty Tree at the old Hunt Homestead in South Acton, was represented by a float including George Washington's "horse", which was tethered to the tree during his passage through Acton in 1775. Many gatherings were held there on historic occasions during past years.




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### WALTHAM AMERICAN LEGION BAND

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The Waltham American Legion Band, led by Dorothy Slamin Hill, not only plays with fine precision, but sings along the way. A first drum majorette in the 1930's, Dot Hill also became the first woman to enlist in the U.S. Coast Guard, and has led the band for presidents and brought countless trophies home to Waltham. Their rendition of "God Bless America" at the reviewing area had everyone singing, smiling and in tears. . . a Parade highlight.




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### O'NEIL CONSTRUCTION COMPANY

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The Acton Center School, which once stood at the corner of Nagog Hill Road and Main Street, had been attended by three generations of the O'Neil family. So, it seemed fitting to them to do a replica of the historic Acton landmark, which they proceeded to plan at one sixth scale.

With the help of family members, Dick O'Neil completed the school, down to the finest detail, and then mounted and displayed his float, with his family riding beside him in the Parade, bringing back fond memories to many who remember.



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## JOSEPH PERRY PLUMBING COMPANY

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Founded in 1952, the Joseph Perry Plumbing business, which serviced most of Acton during its years of rapid growth, is now owned by the second generation, and is represented by a third generation in their float.



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## PERRY'S VERMONT SUGAR HOUSE

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The Perry Maple Sugar House float represents Joe Perry's newest business, since his retirement in 1984 to Vermont, and is his salute to Acton's 250th Birthday.

*"The parade, planned to reflect the town's history, present-day life and future, included something for all ages."*

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## ACTON HOUSING AUTHORITY

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The Acton Housing Authority, created in 1970, was a continuation of Acton's 250 years of caring for its own. The organization provides for appropriate housing for low and moderate income residents of Acton.



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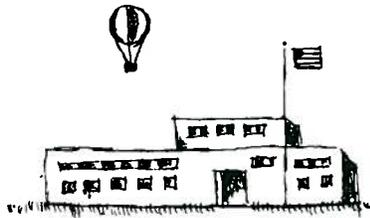
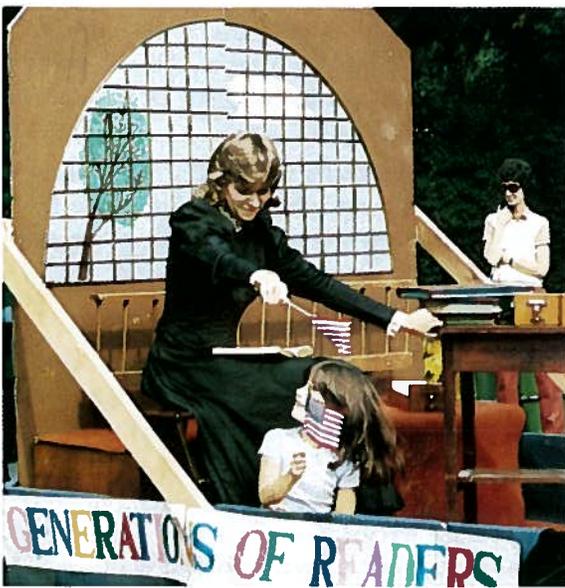
## ACTON MEMORIAL LIBRARY

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The Acton Memorial Library, established in 1890, prides itself in its long hours, active children's programs and extensive community services, including museum passes, Polaroid cameras, extensive large-print books section, genealogy section and groups and a concert series at the library.

The library float created a feeling for the Memorial Library physically and functionally. Built by the library staff and maintenance man, it included a replica of the arch window, and to add authenticity to the scene, worn remnants of library carpeting.

Participants represented librarians, literary characters and patrons of all ages using books and materials, both at the library and at home.



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## ACTON JUNIOR WOMEN'S CLUB

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The Acton Junior Women's Club's objective is to bring together young women of the community who are interested in promoting good fellowship, providing service, advancing along the lines of general culture, and participating in civic activities, and cooperating with the Mass. Federation of Women's Clubs Junior Membership.

Their red pickup truck, decorated in patriotic colors, advertised the AJWC and its recent activities such as Breakfast with Santa, Hospice, finger printing children for loss protection, senior citizen parties, and bike safety week. . .



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## THE WHEELMEN

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The Wheelmen is a non-profit organization dedicated to the history, preservation, collecting, and riding of antique bicycles. All riders cheerfully volunteer their time, travel, expenses and bicycles. Donations help support the club both nationally and locally.

The Wheelmen included Highwheel bicycles with riders in uniforms, as well as safety bicycles from the 1890's and a boneshaker from the 1860's. They performed tricks along the route, and were especially active when the Parade stopped.

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West Acton residents of the Central, Summer, and Willow Street area organized to plan and construct a depiction of the history of West Acton through its former industries: agriculture, blacksmithing, cigar, woodenware, and blaine manufacturing.

"The Village Spirit of West Acton" banner, carried by children in costume, was followed by a garden tractor, dressed to look like a train engine driven by a "conductor". It pulled a float, decorated with horseshoes and harness to depict agriculture, and posters representing the Isaac Davis birthplace, the Mead home, (symbolic of the Victorian architecture present throughout the center), and a sign "First Rails Then Commerce". To share the community spirit, children and adults passed out balloons with greetings.

Following the trailer, women carried signs denoting former industries: Knowlton Cigar Manufacturing, Bradley Blacksmith, Acton Pipe Company, E. Hall and Sons Woodenware, and Conant Blaine. Notable West Acton residents Minetta Lee, Mildred Ericson, and Donald Feltus rode in a convertible.

During the 250th year, displays were placed in the store front window at Quality Cleaners to educate residents of prominent events in West Acton history, and were also included on the West Acton float. Festive music on a tenor sax and tuba was played along the route.





**CAMPFIRE BOYS AND GIRLS**

Founded in 1910 as Camp Fire Girls, the organization expanded in 1976 to include boys at all levels. The purpose is to provide opportunities for youth to realize their potential and function as self-directed, caring members of the society.

The Birthday Cake float, constructed by John Goliash and his family, celebrates Campfire's 75th and Acton's 250th Birthdays.

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## NORTH ACTON

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From North Acton, Old West Road residents Betinna Norton, John Norton, and Ian MacPherson proudly represent one of Acton's oldest roads, dating back to colonial times. The unique "Will's Hole" quaking bog is located in the Town Forest there. One of the oldest mill sites in the region is located on Nashoba Brook, which spills its way through North Acton and the Ice Pond to East Acton. The Town's oldest cemetery, located on the Acton Carlisle Road dates back to colonial days, while a stone dwelling, common to the Norsemen, has been found there, as well. . . they are justly proud!

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## MIDDLESEX COUNTY SHERIFF'S MOTORCYCLE UNIT

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The Middlesex County Sheriff's Motorcycle Unit is comprised of professional law enforcement officers of the Middlesex towns who give freely of their time and effort to provide assistance and support to the cities and town of Middlesex County, and engage in the fine precision drill maneuvers.

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## ACTON-BOXBOROUGH NEWCOMERS CLUB

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The Acton-Boxborough Newcomers Club has been in existence for almost 20 years. It was founded to provide a means of bringing together new members of the community in order that they might become familiar with the people and the community in which they live.

This club was responsible for providing transportation for the Senior Citizens to all the events involved with the 250th celebration, especially the Parade, in which they participated.



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*"It really reflects community effort," . . . spectator's comment.*

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## ACTON WOMEN'S CLUB

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Representing the Acton Women's Club, one of Acton's oldest organizations is the 1910 EMF touring car driven by Dr. Frank Roth, accompanied by Club members. The Club is located at the historical "Chapel" building, in Acton Center which it has restored. Many Acton brides have held their receptions there, and in the Jenks Rose Garden at the rear.

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## IDYLVILDE FARM

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Idylwilde Farm, a family-owned and operated business, has been raising and selling produce at their farm stand for 17 years.

Their float included all their own colorful home-grown pot mums, corn stalks, squash, etc. on a large horse-drawn farm wagon. Participants included the Napoli Family of three generations. Behind the float was an antique farm truck loaded with huge pumpkins and fall produce. Driving the truck was Maurice Foote, and his passenger, Mrs. Thomas Napoli, mother and grandmother.



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*"The historical significance of the floats educated the young and sparked a trip down memory lane for older residents." - Middlesex News*

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## McWALTER INSURANCE COMPANY 1922 CADILLAC

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A two generation family agency in Concord, the McWalter Insurance Agency opened it's Acton office in 1982.

In the 1922 Cadillac, representing the agency are David and Grace McWalter, and senior citizens Frank and Zillah Averett.




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### ACTON BOXBOROUGH COMMUNITY CHEST

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Extending its hand to the Community, are the agencies of the Acton-Boxboro Community Chest, which was founded in 1981 to seek community financial support for 17 voluntary agencies serving families, the elderly, youth, and the mentally and physically handicapped.

A Dixieland jazz band played lively melodies from inside the antique style trolley representing the agencies, whose banners and pennants lined the sides of the trolley. The float symbolized the historic nature of the occasion and the traditional values of "giving" in our society as people help people, which has contributed to building America's strength and the freedoms we enjoy.

Two costumed members of the Open Door Theatre, a member agency, walked beside the trolley along the route.




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### THE CHILDREN'S DISCOVERY MUSEUM

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The Museum was created in 1982 to provide Educational opportunities for children and their families, to explore and make discoveries about themselves and their world with emphasis on natural and physical sciences, arts, humanities, and enjoyable creative activities that contribute to the growth and development of children. (Bessie, the Dinosaur, is the 15' long fiberglass mascot of CDM. She usually sits on the front lawn of the museum, sporting headgear appropriate to the season, so she thoroughly enjoyed her walk thru Acton for the 250th Anniversary Parade.)




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### ACTON WATER DISTRICT

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"Acton's Pure Water" is aptly described in the Acton Water District float display which included a symbol of Acton's newest water filter system. The only one of its kind in New England, it allows Acton to exceed all State and Federal standards for organic chemicals in drinking water, making Acton standards one of the strictest anywhere.



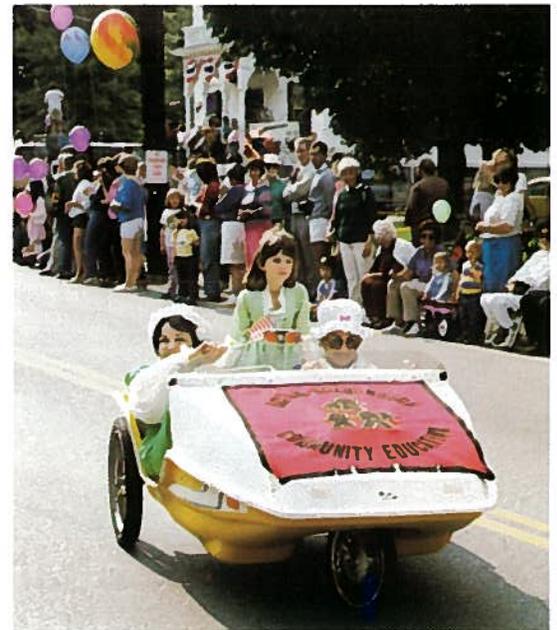
## ACTON BUSINESS AND PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATION

The Acton Business and Professional Association was formed eight years ago to unite the business and professional community, to increase awareness of community activities and interests, to become more fully informed about Town affairs, and participate in town planning. The group meets monthly.

## ACTON-BOXBOROUGH COMMUNITY ED

Acton-Boxborough Community Ed provides opportunities to the community for life-long learning, individual expressions in self improvement, cooperative community action and creative problem solving, and was formed ten years ago.

A three wheeled pedal car of bright yellow fiberglass with the red Community Ed banner and three occupants in colonial dress was "manually" pedalled along the parade route.



## CITATIONS DRUM AND BUGLE CORPS

The Citations Drum and Bugle Corps based in Burlington, has competed for some 20 years, and are currently winners in Class A East and Drum Corps International. Comprised of 65 members, they offer a fine opportunity for young people to achieve in a highly disciplined and competitive environment while enjoying new friendships and travel. Their most colorful uniforms, lively beat, and intricate flag coordination are ear and eye-catching.

Putting the Parade together, Parade Chairman Jack Dolan steps off with the Citation Band as he checks his list for the next unit to come.

## A SALUTE TO ACTON'S OLDEST AND FINEST



Parade Marshal Lowell Cram, who has reached his 95th Birthday, rode in the Parade in a 1986 Corvette.

Many of Acton's senior citizens have devoted their lifetime to Acton, and quietly yet effectively strive to serve and to preserve its heritage.

During the Parade, many chose to enjoy the festivities from front lawns or porches along Main Street, others sat in special reviewing areas, while some rode in antique cars with family members or friends, or on floats or horse drawn wagons.

Representing them in the Parade were Lowell Cram, Parade Marshal, and the honored families, the Tuttle and the Lowdens.



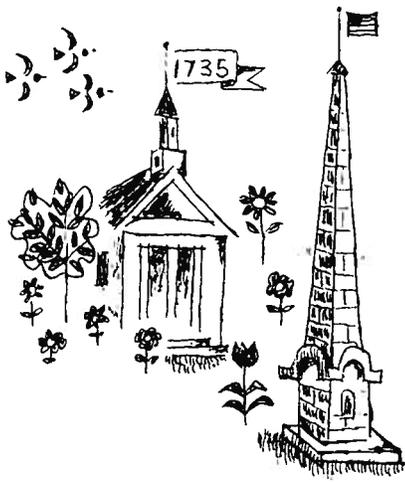
Driving the bright red 1912 Buick Touring Car owned by Eric Haartz is Milton Page, accompanied by Acton Senior Citizen Carrie Merriam.



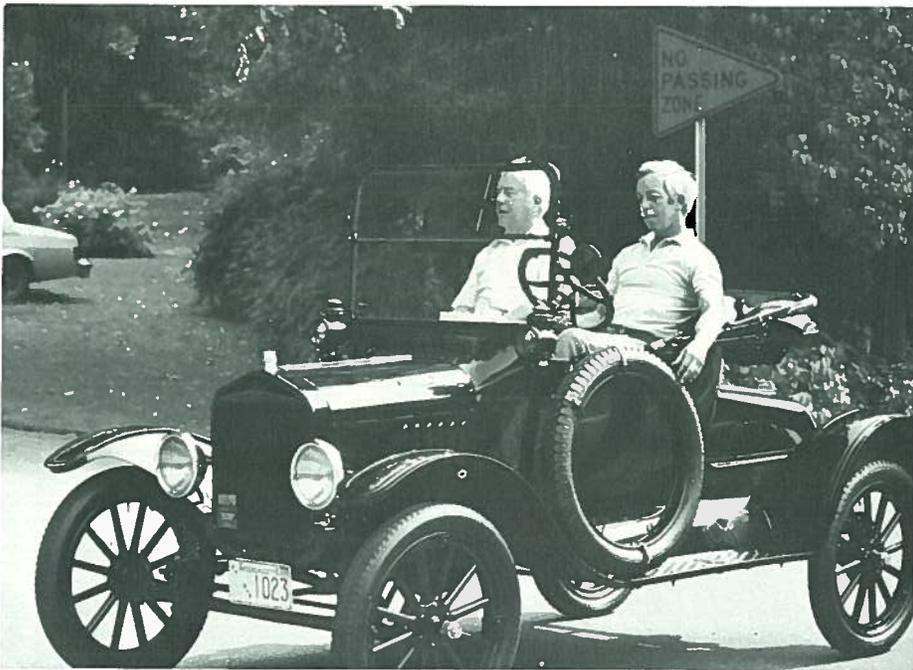
Theron Lowden, who served in World War I, watches the Parade from the Reviewing Stand, adjacent to Acton Monument, honoring Acton's Revolutionary War heroes.



John Whittier and George Tuttle watch the Parade with Christine Johnson, from Acton, England (left) and Annabelle Shepherd, Concord Selectman. The Reviewing Stand was offered to Acton by Concord, of which it was a part from 1635 to 1735. Concord's 350th was celebrated the prior week.



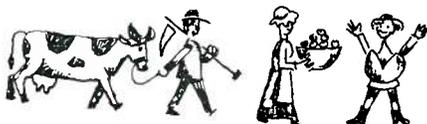
Distinguished West Acton residents, Minetta Lee, Donald Feltus, and Mildred Ericson ride with the West Acton neighborhood float.



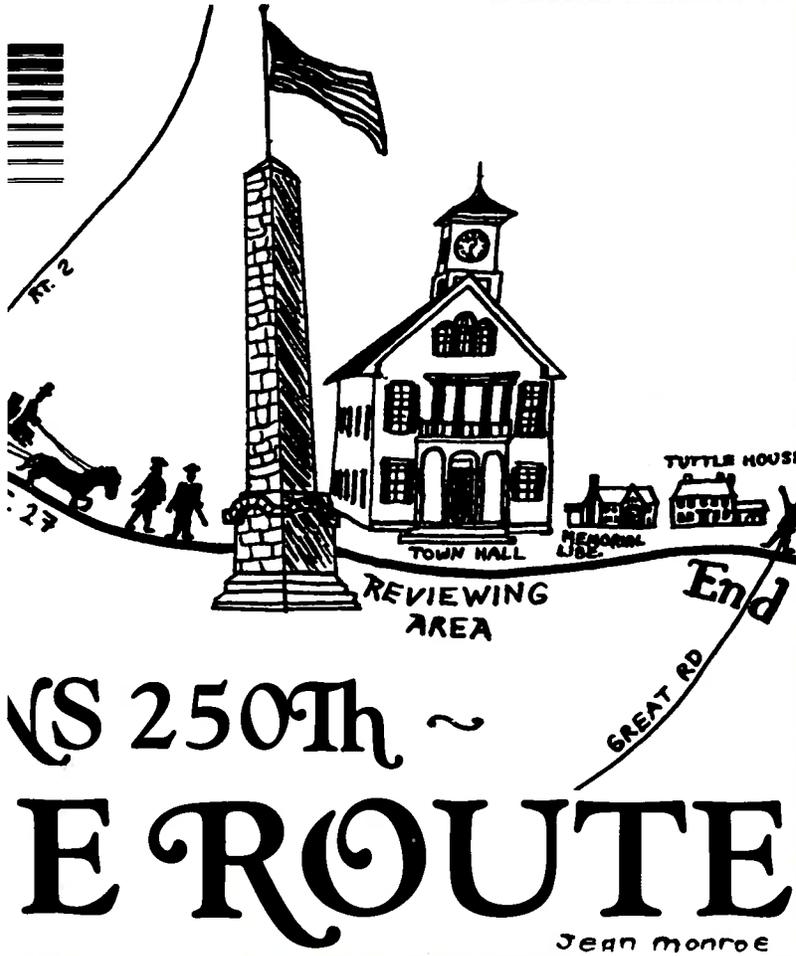
Riding in his 1917 Model T Ford is David Spinney with his father Earle Spinney.

**AMONG THE ANTIQUE VEHICLES:**

- 1905 Cadillac, Donald Rising
- 1910 EMF Touring Car, Dr. Frank Roth
- 1912 Buick Touring Car, Milton Page, Haartz Auto
- 1916 Model T Ford Touring Car, Don Spinney
- 1917 Model T Roadster, David and Earle Spinney
- 1924 Model T. Ford, Dr. Gilbert Carley
- 1929 Model A Ford Panel Truck, Nate Palmer
- 1930 Model A Ford Pickup Truck, Dave and Tom Napoli
- 1931 Model A Roadster, William Batten
- 1940 Ford Woody Station Wagon, Joseph Crowley
- 1953 Chevy Sedan, Robert, Arthur and Emily Conquest
- 1953 Chevy Hardtop, John Malcolm
- 1955 Ford Sedan, Forrest Bean
- 1955 Ford Pickup Truck, George and Kara Williams
- 1955 MG TF 1500, Julie Kennaugh
- 1959 Jaguar, Jim Greenbaum
- 1964 Olds Delta 88, John Clark
- 1967 Rolls Royce Silver Shadow, Michael T. Mahoney
- 1985 Cadillac Stretch Limosine, Tom Gosselin









## ST. ANN'S BAND

The St. Ann's Band of Neponset with over 70 participants in the Color Guard and Band, are a Class A ranking CYO competitive band with fine precision marching and music, uniformed in colorful red and black. They also marched to honor St. Elizabeth's Parish, celebrating its 40th year in Acton, and whose pastor, Father Paul Walsh is celebrating his 25th anniversary.



## ACTON BOXBORO AFS

AFS International/Intercultural programs are dedicated to peace through the promotion of worldwide learning and living experiences for high school students, young adults, and families from all walks of life. Acton AFS will celebrate its 25th year in 1986. Since 1961, 39 Acton students have lived in 23 different countries and 37 foreign students from 27 countries have lived in Acton.

ABRHS students carried flags of some nations that participated in the AFS Program in the 250th Parade.

## DEREK AND MARK McNEILL'S ACTON MONUMENT

Derek and Mark McNeill, 8 and 11, decided that Acton's monument of the future with robots, would be their contribution. So with the help of their mother, grandmother, and a few friends they acquired a trailer and built and decorated the monument.

On the morning of the Parade, the newly constructed monument had disappeared. However, the Minutemen came to the rescue with a Monument that had been in the 1935 Parade. They helped the boys affix it to their float, then the boys added some special touches. With their mother at the wheel, accompanied by their grandmother, they hopped on their float, joined by their youngest brother, and began their unforgettable ride down Main Street, their determination rewarded.

*"Residents tipped their hats to the weather committee for providing perfect temperature. . . Sunday, became cool, breezy and sunny, just the right way to celebrate 250 years of history."—The Middlesex News*



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## BOBBY'S RANCH HAYWAGON

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Bobby's Ranch, located in Acton, featured its horsedrawn haywagon which still takes Actonians on rides throughout the year, and sled rides in the winter months when snow allows for a touch of yesteryear.



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## GALLANT AND BROCK INSURANCE AGENCY

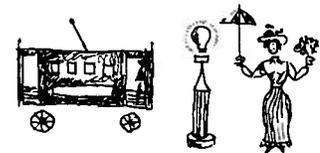
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A knight with a lance upon a white steed, the Agency logo, represented the Gallant and Brock Insurance Agency. The family-run full service Agency has been serving area residents since 1936.

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*"This is the best thing that's happened to Acton in 50 years—we never had a parade with floats before!" . . . Dorothy Stonecliffe, former Acton resident of 22 years who came back from Florida to enjoy the event.*

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The first antique vehicle in the parade acclaims Acton's #1, as a young Actonian lifts her sign through the open rooftop of Jim Greenbaum's 1959 Jaguar.



### ACTON BOY AND CUB SCOUTS

The 75th Anniversary of the Scouting Movement in America coincided with Acton's 250th to make this a banner year for the Scouts, highlighted by the production of their float, built by Troops 1, 11, and 284.

The Scout Float was a depiction of Acton Minutemen, led by Captain Isaac Davis, going across the Concord Bridge to confront the British, and included constructing the Bridge. A reenactment took place between the uniformed Scouts along the route.

The function of the Boy Scouts is to develop a sense of God, Citizenship, Self and Leadership in all boys of the Scouting Movement. The purpose is to lead boys toward responsible adulthood.



**ACTON GIRL SCOUTS  
AND BROWNIES**



**ACTON 250th SCOUT  
PATCH**

The first unisex Scout Patch in the nation was designed by ABRHS student Jean Monroe and earned by Acton Boy and Girl Scouts fulfilling Badge requirements and participating in the Acton Celebration.



## ACTON GIRL SCOUTS

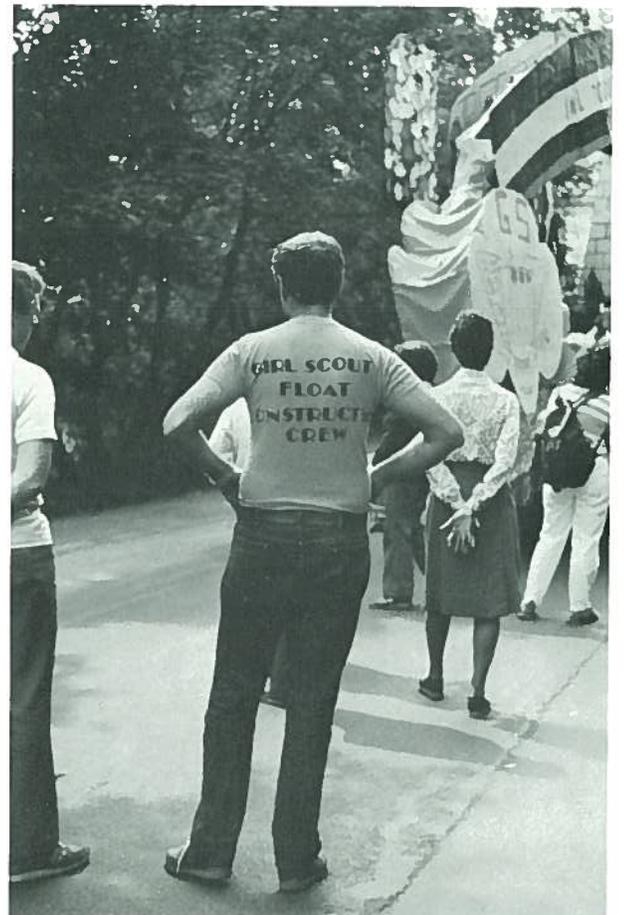
Brownies, Juniors, Cadettes, and Seniors joined together to make 1985 a special year.

Senior Scout Ann Fogarty designed a Patch Program. Requirements for earning the patch took the girls on a historical Acton tour, literally and figuratively. They researched life in early days of Acton, and when and how things changed. A bicycle tour book of Acton was republished. Two hundred patches were earned.

A Girl Scout Community townwide encampment was held at Cedar Hill in Waltham, where girls spent the week doing colonial crafts like needlework, quilling, quilting, candlemaking, and beadwork. Senior/Cadette Troop 2001 came dressed in colonial costume and provided instruction and colonial color to the event.

The Senior Scouts led by Lara Madison began work on a self-guided nature trail in the Nagog Hill conservation land as a Gold Award Project and birthday gift to the town. The Acton Conservation Trust provided funds to make the trail handicap accessible. It will be maintained by the Scouts to provide future projects, and for the enjoyment of the town.

Over 100 girls worked on the float, and participated in the Parade. Scout dads Charlie Abraham and Allen Warner supervised building the float, that symbolized the Rainbow of opportunity available to young women in scouting. Senior Scouts in colonial garb helped serve lunch to parade participants. The Scouts reflected that in 2035, they will be mothers and grandmothers of the Girl Scouts in the Parade.



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## ACTON 250TH ARTISTS

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Acton 250th artists riding in the Parade include Robert Conquest, Margot Schmidt, and Alfred Olschewski. Jean Monroe, marched with the Parade Committee.

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## LOWELL NATIONAL HISTORIC PARK RANGERS

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The Junior Rangers participating in their unit signified two different groups. Some wore the "uniform" of green tee-shirts and yellow volunteer caps and others wore reproductions of period clothing representing the Millworkers of Lowell. They also carried large puppets of "Smokey the Bear" and "Junior Ranger". They were accompanied by Adult Park Rangers and volunteers.

Junior Rangers are volunteers, aged 11 to 15 years, who help in the staffing of information tables and children's programs in conjunction with the Lowell National Historical Park.



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## FRIENDS OF THE ACTON NURSING SERVICE

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The FANS, or Friends of the Acton Nursing Service, was founded in 1983 to provide monetary and philosophical support for Acton's own Public Health Nursing Service, to enable the service to continue and enlarge its responsiveness to the health needs of Acton residents. Selma Garber and Ann Paranya carry the FANS banner, followed by President Ruth Porter and Secretary Rosalie Berry.



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## SOUTHBRIDGE BOATHOUSE

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SouthBridge Boathouse of Concord is a two generation business with strong family ties to Acton. Their Nashoba Brook float represents Acton's earliest Indian settlements on the brook that winds from North Acton through East Acton to Concord.




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### THE ACTON HISTORICAL SOCIETY

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The Acton Historical Society float for the 250th Parade featured a model of the restored Hosmer House. This restoration has been the main project of the society for the past ten years. A reproduction of the 250th Anniversary Commemorative Quilt was also displayed. The hand-stitched original was made by women ranging from their early twenties to those in their eighties. It, along with a scrap-book describing each of its thirty squares, is on display in the Memorial Library.

The Historical Society float was planned by Edna Story, and she also painted the society's logo. The replica of the quilt, which is now hanging in the Hosmer House, was painted by Edna Story, Sandy Schmidt and Anita Dodson.




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*"The historical significance of the floats educated the young and sparked a trip down memory lane for older residents"–  
Middlesex News*

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Portraying the Minuteman riding to warn "Captain, Robbins. . . the British are coming" reenacted each April 19th at Robbins Park is Phyllis Novick on "Cream", who accompanied the Robbins Park float.



The ten "little Red Electric Motor Cars" maneuvering along the route to the delight of young and old alike are owned by members of the Aleppo Shrine, who donated their time to raise funds for the Shriners Burns Institute and Crippled Children's Hospital operated by their organization.




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ANTIQUÉ PUMPER

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"The Tom Thumb", owned by the Acton Historical Society, and restored by Bill Klauer, is one of Acton's oldest fire pieces.

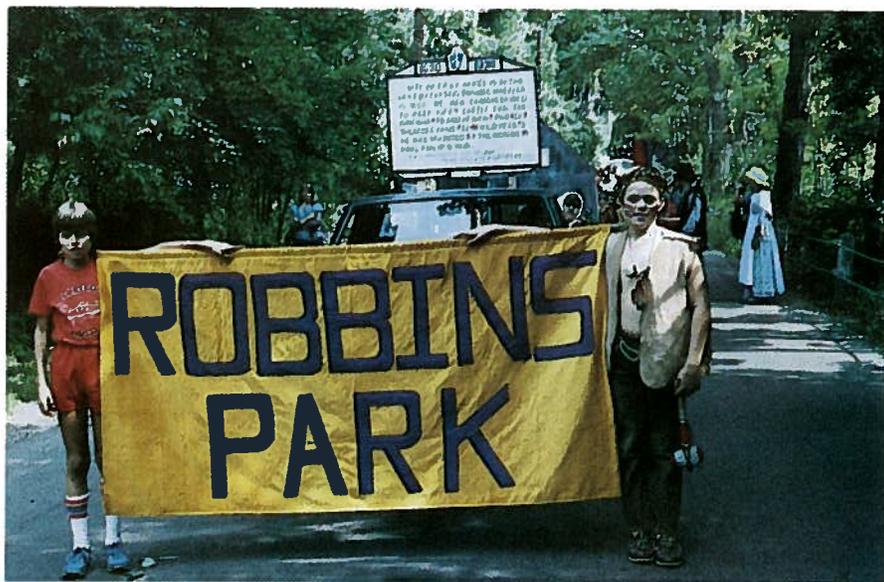


## ROBBINS PARK

"The First House in Acton" was the theme for the Robbins Park neighborhood float, since Acton's first house was built there in 1668 by Thomas Wheeler. Adults and children, old and new residents, came together to study the historic details and plan their float.

A large banner led the unit followed by a resident on horseback, representing Capt. Wheeler. The float included a carefully built replica of the 1st house, and a framed rubbing of the historical sign at the house site on Alcott Street. Small children in colonial dress rode in the back of the truck. Older children in costume followed the float carrying signs naming all the streets in Robbins Park.

The park residents celebrated that evening with a cookout at the neighborhood pool.



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## THE SQUARE WHEELERS

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A non-profit organization formed in 1962 in conjunction with the Acton Center Woman's Club with the idea of making money for a scholarship. The Club is now incorporated and provides citizens of Acton and the neighboring towns a facility for learning and dancing contemporary square dancing. The Club continues to award scholarships on an annual basis. There are approximately 180 members. Classes are conducted each year and the members dance on a regular basis the first three Fridays of the month from September to June.

The Square Wheeler Anniversary banner preceded the parade unit, followed by two cars carrying non-walking members, a small truck with the caller and sound system, three lines of eight dancers each, and three antique cars. The square dance caller called throughout the march and at intervals the dancers gave a brief demonstration of square dancing. The dancers wore colorful western style clothing, the ladies in full skirts and crinoline petticoats and the men with western shirts and handkerchief ties or bolas.



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## RED FOX FARM RIDERS AT ERICSON'S MILL

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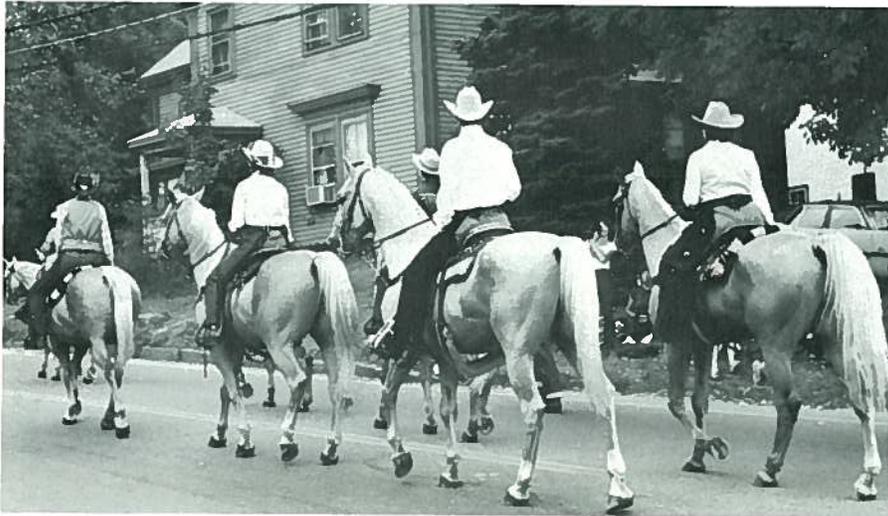
## FROM HOOFBEATS AND WAGONWHEELS. . . TO MODEL "T'S AND STRETCH LIMOS



Scenes of yesteryear came to mind as fine Belgians pulled hay wagons, and the horse and buggies traveled down Main Street. Arabians, Appaloosas, Palominos, Welsh Connamas, and Quarter Horses, to name a few, were groomed to their finest and ridden with pride.

Manes and tails were brushed to a glorious sheen, some braided and bowed. Shiny leather harnesses and gleaming metal rivets with little flags accenting here and there, seemed to make the wearer step more proudly.

Red Fox Farm riders donned costumes representing figures of legend and history, or the traditional West. And the State Police, riding Lucky, Seth and Tags, exhibited the high discipline and temperament of specially chosen breeds in their role as horsemen.



### ACTON EQUESTRIANS

Representing Acton's historic periods on horseback were Marcy Gamester as an Indian, Gene Joyal in a Civil War General's uniform, and Ruth Landry on an antique saddle in western attire, carrying a replica of the flag carried at the Old North Bridge on April 19th, 1775.



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## ACTON GOES ROLLING ALONG...

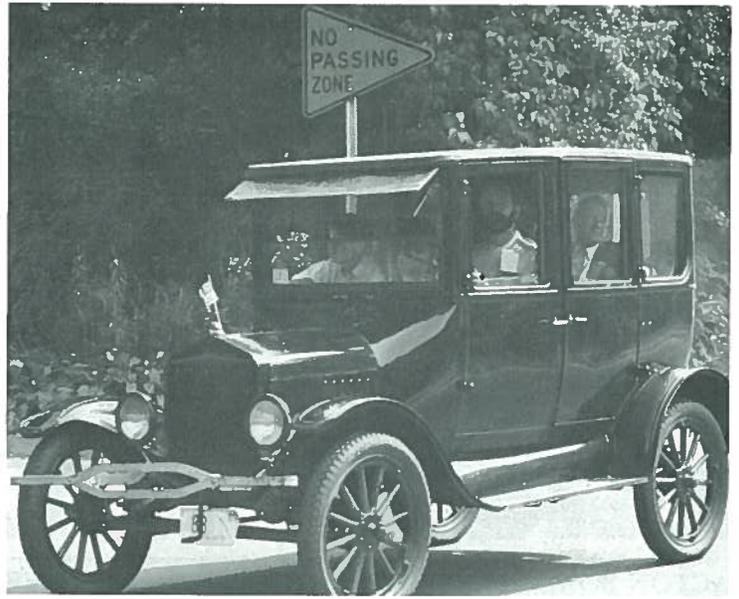
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From the single cylinder 1905 Cadillac to the high powered luxury model of the 1980's, times have changed.

The vehicles which Actonians have sought from years past, tool-ed, tuned, and polished, represent a great dedication to, and ap-preciation of, the automobiles of the past.

They represented a history of Acton transportation as they put-ted and hummed along, to allow fellow Actonians an opportuni-ty to enjoy the fruits of their labor.

The Chevy Corvette was the ultimate in style, and the limo, in comfort and controlled environment. Wonder what 2035 has in store?



Dr. Gilbert Carley and his son, Todd drive along in their 1924 Ford Model "T", accompanied by Acton senior citizens.



One of the oldest antique vehicles in the Parade was the 1905 Cadillac driven by Don Reisling



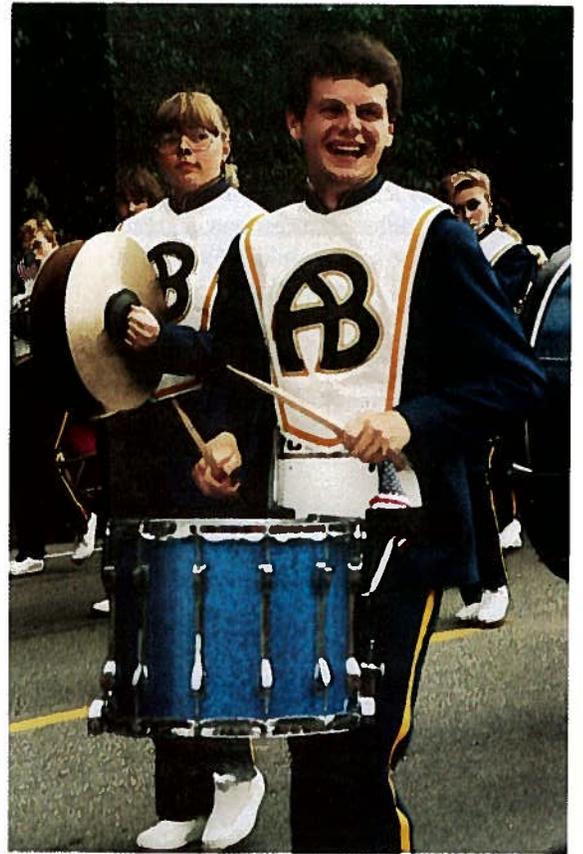
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### AMERICAN TAXI AND LIMOUSINE OF ACTON

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Providing transportation for the guests from Acton, England throughout their visit was American Taxi, whose powder blue stretch limousine also provided transportation for parade guests, and added a most luxurious and modern touch to the parade of transportation that started with the horse and buggy and continued through vehicles of the 1900's, included in the Parade.





### **ACTON BOXBORO HIGH SCHOOL BAND AND CHEERLEADERS**

The Acton Boxboro Regional High School Band, Acton's pride and joy, includes not only the Band members, who entertain at concerts and special occasions, but the Pom Poms, Majorettes, and Flag Squad for a total of some 170 young people.

Besides playing at school gatherings, they entertained in Florida, Washington, and Bermuda.

The Flag of Excellence was presented at the ABRHS in 1984 by Presidential Assistant Andy Card for the High School's overall excellence and educational performance in national competition. Ceremonies were also held at the White House.






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**MINUTEMAN RIDGE  
HOMEOWNERS' ASSOCIATION**

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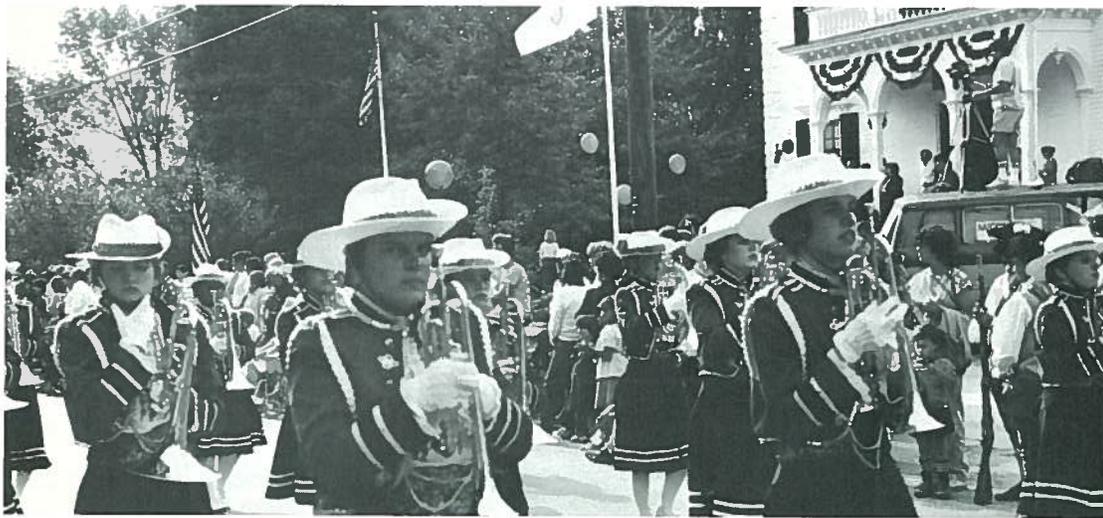
**“The Spirit of the Minutemen”**

Minutemen Ridge, 25 years young, is a community of 82 families living on a rocky ridge adjacent to the schools and overlooking a charming duck pond. The spirit of the community, not unlike the spirit of the Minutemen, brought us all together to create this float.

“The Spirit of the Minutemen” float portrays our pride in our past and in our present. Over 70 people worked to create the float including 35 children who rode on it and walked beside it at different times throughout the parade representing ducks, competitive swimmers, and, of course, historical figures.

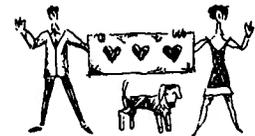
Costumes, tools and activities from the past to the present were worn or displayed between our famous present-day landmarks: our rock and our new duck house. The original duck house (now retired at the duck pond) and most of the houses on the Ridge were built by Porter Jenks; the new duck house was built for the parade by present resident, Chet Paradise.





## THE SUBURBANETTES

The Suburbanettes of Southern New Hampshire are one of only eight competitive all-girl Drum and Bugle Corps in North America. With an average age of fifteen, they have competed against corps of all ages from all over the country, winning 42 first place awards in their last 48 contests, and will represent the U.S. Drum and Bugle Corps in competitions in England, Holland, and Germany in the summer of 1986.



## B.J. ROGERS SCHOOLHOUSE 1735-1985

Eleven year old B.J. Rogers had an idea, and with his grandmother's encouragement, and the help of his family it came into reality.

The schoolroom then, in 1735, is depicted with rows of children, brothers, cousins, and friends in typical clothing and furnishings and a "scolding" teacher. The 1985 version has the most modern equipment and children relating to their teacher in a comfortable environment. Former Supt. William O'Connell is commemorated on the wall in between the transition.



## MIDDLESEX COUNTY 4H FIFE AND DRUM CORPS AND FLOAT

The Middlesex County 4H Fife and Drum Corps, a non-profit educational and self-supporting organization, was founded in 1972, and is a member of the nationwide 4H, dedicated to the education and development of young people. Its members, ranging from 10-17 years, come from Concord, Acton, Stow and the surrounding towns. They play historical music of the colonial era.

Their float planned, made, and decorated by the members, consisted of livestock and poultry of many varieties raised by the members who exhibited them, and the 4H motto and symbol.

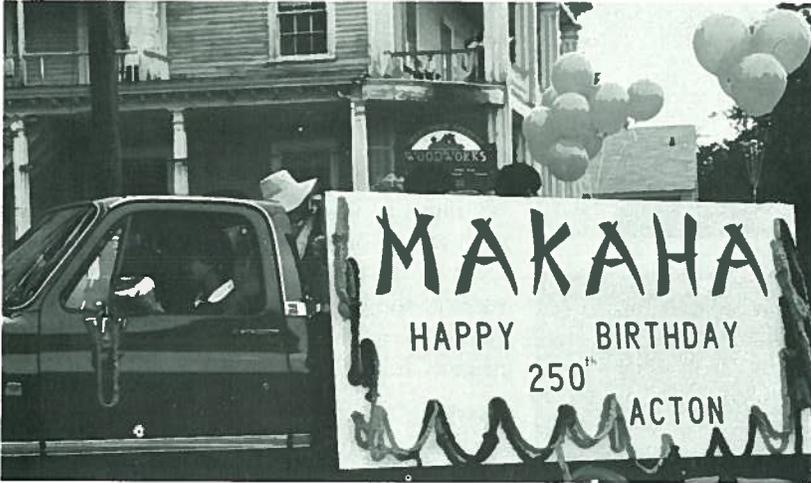




## EMERSON HOSPITAL EMERGENCY VEHICLE

Saving vital moments in an emergency, the Emerson Hospital Paramedic team can rush to the scene in their well-equipped Emergency Vehicle, providing a life-saving service to Acton residents.

Then, working with Acton's own emergency ambulance service, patients may be quickly transported to nearby Emerson Hospital for the best in modern medical care.



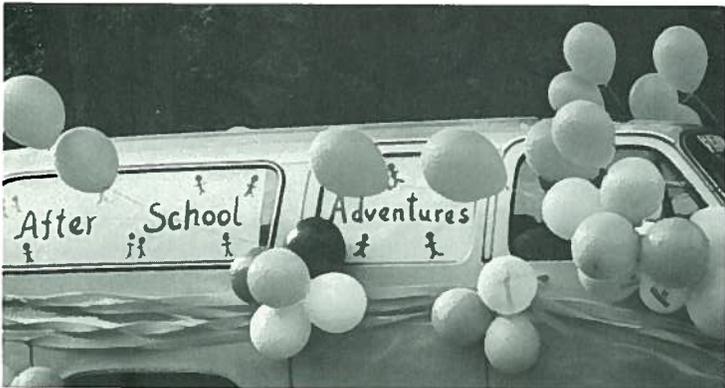
## THE MAKAHA

Acton's first Chinese Restaurant, located on Great Road, saluted Acton with a red truck filled with its personnel and colorful balloons and a "Happy Birthday to Acton".



## NORTHBRIDGE CONSTRUCTION

"Freedom's Soil", built by the Northbridge Construction Company, depicts the importance of the family and the Bible in building our nation. Three generations are represented, with the youngest at the plow. A tree is nurtured and grows from the open pages of the Bible, and an outline of the United States in red, white, and blue stands above.



## AFTER SCHOOL ADVENTURES

An activities oriented day-care program, After School Adventures, offers over 30 mini-courses for children from Kindergarten to 6th grade. Their float was a decorated suburban in birthday balloons and streamers.

## WEST CONCORD DANCE ACADEMY

Presenting their program, "Dancing in the Streets," members of the Dance Academy in varied colorful costumes of favorite shows, danced along Main Street to "Sesame Street" and current popular tunes in an inviting and animated style to the joy of all ages.



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## IRONWORK FARM IN ACTON

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The Ironwork Farm name is derived from the 1000 acre plantation (now South Acton) granted in 1654 to Simon Willard of Concord. The land was acquired by the Ironworks in 1660 and became the first village settlement in Acton when incorporated in 1735.

Formed initially for the preservation of the Jones Tavern, built in 1732, it now owns the Faulkner House (1707) now on the National Register.

The Iron Work Farm float depicted the textile industry in South Acton which played such an important part in the early development of the town, with its loom, and pictures of the buildings in the square, including Ericson's Grain Store, site of the original fulling mill.

Carrying the Iron Works banner were Barbara Nylander and Margaret Bodge followed by Whit Mowry and Jim Donald. Distinguished citizens Hayward and Betsy Houghton rode on the float, with Judy Donald. Susan Master-Karnig worked at the loom. Members of the South Acton Civic Association assisted.



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## McCARTHY-TOWNE P.T.S.O.

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The McCarthy-Towne's float was an expression of the schools' philosophy of "Teachers and Students, Partners in Learning". Following this theme and wanting it to be a school project, the PTSO rented a school bus using funds from a school fair. Twenty-five students made collage posters, and all students signed the large letters spelling out McCARTHY-TOWNE. A cooperative decorating party was held on the morning of the parade, then 28 children, two from each home room, 6 parents, 2 alumnae, and the principal rode the bus, tossing favors to the spectators.

The posters and signature letters were later used to decorate the cafeteria for all to enjoy and remember the special day. Kathy Chamberlain directed the project.





## ACTON FIRE FIGHTERS

The South Acton Fire Station 2 was the staging area for the fire apparatus, which then proceeded to the Municipal Parking Lot at the Railroad Depot. All first line fire apparatus preceded the Parade along the Main Street Route, and then returned to duty status in their respective Towns. . . but on the way they responded to a REAL fire!

Among the many Antique Fire Engines, were those from Newburyport, Pepperell, Carlisle, Burlington, and Amesbury who escorted Acton's "Tom Thumb" and "The Baystate" which made an impressive water display along the Parade route.



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## U.S. MAIL

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The antique U.S. Mail Truck of the early 1900's represented the Acton Chapter of the AARP, which was founded in 1980 to assist with the social, economic, physical, and intellectual needs of Acton Seniors. Anna Reip, the first AARP President, represented the organization.



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## THE BAY STATE

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The Bay State, a hand tub owned by the Acton Firefighter's Association was built in 1853, and was purchased by the Acton group in 1960.

It was restored by the Firefighter's for a 1961 hand tub muster season, then fell into disrepair in 1973. In 1985, with the help of many talented members, the Firefighter's Association rebuilt the Bay State and resumed muster competition, and became a highlight of the Parade in September.

The Bay State is a hand drawn engine that requires 30 to 40 people to pump its two, six and a half pistons.

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## ACTON PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT

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Acton Public Works Department made and erected Parade signs, and for the first time, all areas of the Town were alerted to the "oncoming event".

Also, 50 barrels were obtained for trash from the vinegar works in Littleton, painted and placed along the Parade route.

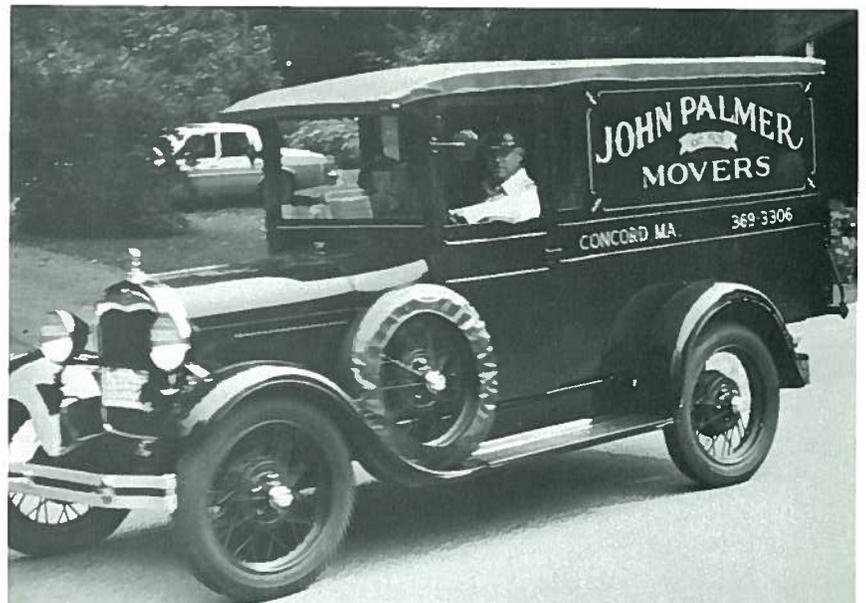
The Town of Concord generously offered use of their reviewing stand for the Parade and it was placed in Acton Center adjacent to the Monument.

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## PALMER'S MOVING COMPANY

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The oldest moving business in the Acton-Concord area is represented by the bright red Palmer Moving Truck, driven by family members who represent the two generation business.



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## ACTON'S FAITHFUL VOLUNTEERS. . .

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The Acton Civil Defense Agency quietly and efficiently prepares for, and handles, emergencies of all magnitude throughout the year. Their dedicated volunteers, under the leadership of Don Macaulay, had an emergency response plan ready for any need during the Parade, which included three first aid stations and one mobile unit. Ann Marie Desmarais was medical liaison officer assisted by the Clinton CD Unit, Health First, and Medi-Check.

The morning of the Parade, flags were placed along the route, chairs arranged for guests and special needs, and communication set up with the Radio Club, Civil Defense personnel, and police units. CD personnel also served as division marshals in the assembly area with the assistance of the Explorer Scouts. One hour before the Parade start, flags were distributed to children along the entire Parade route.



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## . . . SERVING THE MARCHERS

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The Acton Corporation, which provided facilities for Parade meetings throughout the planning stages, and were hosts for our English guests on their arrival and departure, made available their large parking area for Parade dispersal. Bus service and comfort stations were provided for participants, and refreshments, planned by the Minutemen, were served by Senior Scouts and leaders in colonial attire.



Burger King of Acton, which provided meeting rooms, distributed Parade route tray liners to customers, and contributed the American flags for Parade participants, also served refreshments at the Acton Corp. dispersal area, with Manager Karen Trabert and Assistant Sean Mahoney.

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## ACTON ROTARY

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The Acton Rotary, part of a worldwide service organization, has four avenues of service: Club, Community, International, and Vocation. Their meetings are held weekly.

The beautiful ten foot high Birthday Cake celebrating Acton's 250th year, which was the grand finale for the Parade, was provided by the Acton Rotary, which was also celebrating their organization's 80th year.



---

*"Acton loved its parade!*

*"Sunday was a day for the whole town. . .*

*"No one was left out. There were business people and kids, service groups and social organizations, schools and churches, young and old. And those without a float to sit on or a vintage car to ride in waved their flags and sang along with the bands and were just as much a part of the occasion as those who paraded down the street. . . The outcome was the entire town's."*

*Jean Dormer, The Beacon, editorial.*

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**FIRE DEPARTMENT'S "SPARKY"**



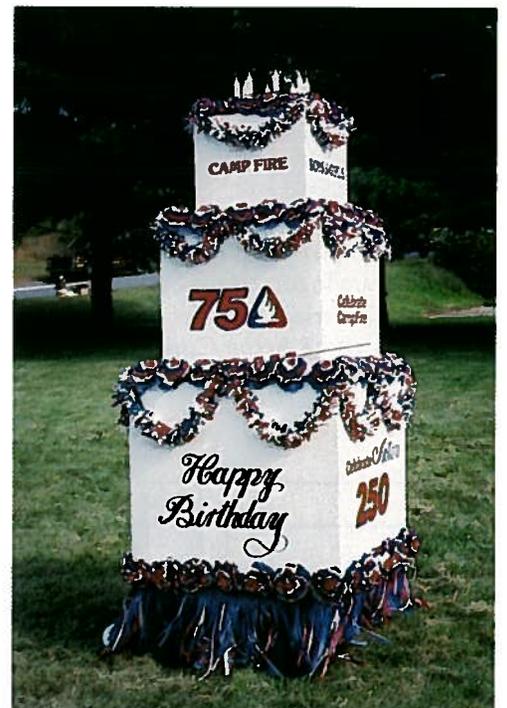
**UNIVERSITY OF LOWELL BAND**



**EXPLORER SCOUTS**



**250th PARADE COMMITTEE**

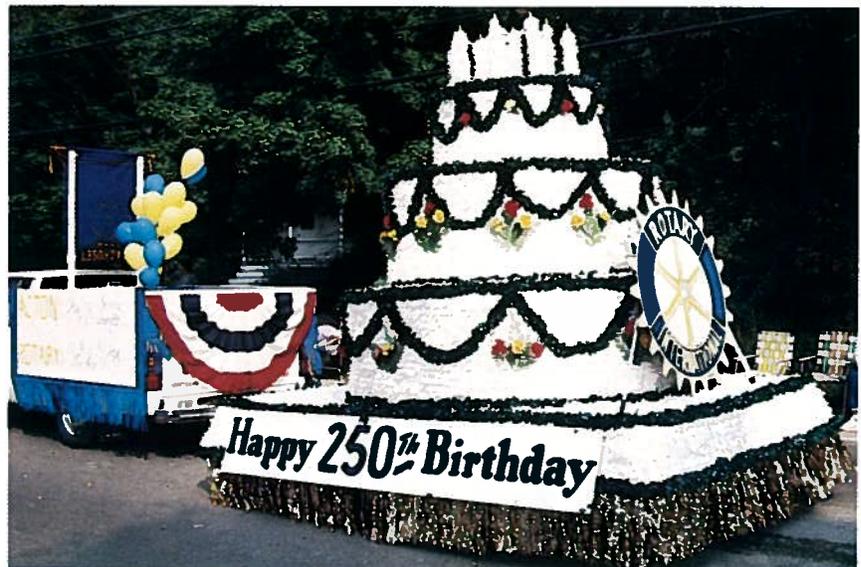
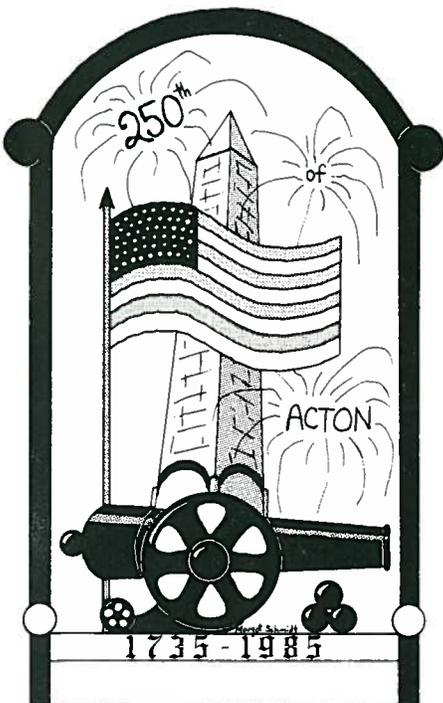


**CAMPFIRE BIRTHDAY CAKE  
75/250**



**"ACTON SHOWS HOW TO THROW A GREAT BIRTHDAY PARTY. . . 20,000 ATTEND ACTON PARADE"**

Sharon Baker, MIDDLESEX NEWS



**"ACTON'S 250th BIRTHDAY PARADE TOOK THE CAKE!"**

Kathleen Hickey, THE BEACON

**ACTON 250th PARADE SPONSORS**

Middlesex Savings  
for *St. Ann's Marching Band*  
Massachusetts Hardware  
for *Waltham Legion Band*  
Union National Bank  
for *University of Lowell*  
Hudson National Bank  
for *Scout Patches*  
Burger King of Acton  
for *American Flags*  
Pedal Power  
for *The Wheelmen*

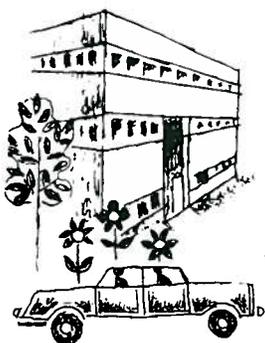


**Donors:**

Acton Corporation  
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F.J. Ratta  
Foster and Foster  
Leader Federal Savings  
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Acton Civil Defense Agency  
Acton Fire Dept.  
Acton Police Dept.  
Acton Public Works Dept.  
Acton Boy Scouts  
Acton Girl Scouts  
Acton Amateur Radio Club  
Acton Explorer Scouts  
Acton Auxiliary Fire Dept.  
Acton Nursing Service  
Acton Public Ceremonies  
Committee  
Acton 250th Celebrations  
Committee  
Acton Town Hall Staff



...and many others who assisted the individual floats. . .



**PARADE BOOK SPONSORS**

**Founders:**

Assabet Savings Bank  
Acton 250th Committee  
Baybank Harvard Trust  
Concepts Unlimited, Inc.  
Roy Smith Management Corp.



**Patriots:**

Acton Photographers  
Bursaw Gas & Oil  
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Great Road Shopping Ctr.  
Joseph G. Perry, Plumbing  
and Heating  
Pippert Studio  
Scheier, Scheier, and  
Graham P.C.



**Minutemen:**

Acton Chapter, AARP  
Beacon Communications Corp.  
Erikson's Grain Mill  
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Gallant & Brock Insurance  
Middlesex News  
Nuclear Metals Inc.

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Idylwilde Farm Inc.  
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**And other donors:**  
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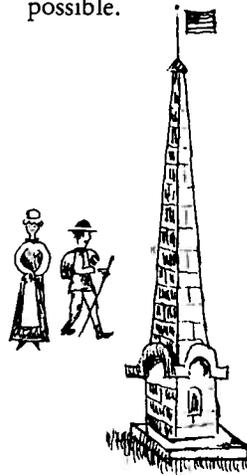
...whose generous contributions allow this book to be printed and offered at an affordable price.

**PHOTOGRAPHERS**

**Beacon Communications**  
Laura Lyons, Photographers  
Cover photo and others  
**Acton Photographers:**  
Joseph Johnston  
Nancy Johnston  
**Pippert Studio:**  
Dorry Richter  
**Williams Photographers:**  
Dorothy Williams  
G. Brooks Williams  
Christine Johnson  
Fred Lane, and  
Chris Moss of  
Acton, England



...And many other generous persons whose photographs help make this book possible.



...Acton's oldest historical documents are in need of evaluation, restoration, and preservation. Any funds remaining from the sale of this book will be used for that purpose.

Printed by  
CONCEPTS UNLIMITED, INC.  
in North Acton



**AND THOSE WHO HELPED:**

**Acton Memorial Library:**  
for collecting photos and materials  
exhibiting Parade photos and contest winner entries  
providing Parade list information for public proofing  
**Acton 250th Artists:**  
Robert Conquest  
Jean Monroe  
Alfred Olschewski: Acton  
History in Figures  
Margot Schmidt



**Acton Channel 17**  
Maureen Schriekle

**THE ACTON 250th PARADE BOOK COMMITTEE**

Rita Dolan  
Nancy Johnston  
Dorry Richter  
Margaret Richter

With the valuable assistance of:  
Susan Harrigan  
Barbara Parker  
Charles Pappas  
David Sironen  
Ellen Valade  
Dorothy Williams  
G. Brooks Williams

In planning to list some 1500 people and units, we risk the introduction of human error and restricted sources of information. Your understanding is appreciated.

Dianne Schaefer  
Johanna Stone  
Heather Ann Taylor  
Katherine Witbeck

**Troop #2011**  
Heather Amsler  
Angelica Giustolisi  
Cathy Hosmer  
Maggie Hunt  
Ingrid Johnson  
Jenny King  
Laura Kuosmanen  
Laurel Perry  
Molly Rice  
Diane Sarantakis  
Jennifer Tseung  
Amanda Xiarhos

**Troop #2023**  
Amy Kotanchik  
Kelly Berenger  
Jessica Brommelhoff  
Stephanie Dow  
Caroline Fenton  
Elizabeth Hogan  
Alyssa Jeanson  
Jennifer Kodis  
Jennie McKay  
Rebecca Ogrodnick  
Christina Pavlock  
Meghan Porter  
Allison Rafuse  
Hannah Richards  
Sarah Shinnick  
Jennifer Sills  
Stacy Sparrow  
Kristin Veley  
Amanda Thomas  
Kira Stretton

**Troop #2017**  
Jennie Brumm  
Claire Forbes  
Marita Hall  
Delia Hom  
Kelly Morgan  
Kristine Nagel  
Elizabeth Schuster  
Libby Williams

**Troop #2012**  
Jennifer Bonzagni  
Karen McDonough  
Cathy Capeless  
Laura Chaskelson  
Becky Turner  
Karen Wagner  
Kelly Evans

**Troop #2015**  
Rachel Holley  
Maria-Christina Blanco  
Rebecca Blau-Shane  
Kerry Lynn Connelly  
Yonaira Cortes  
Allison Heldman  
Laura McDonough  
Katie Pearson

**Troop #2032**  
Patty DeFrancesco  
Laura Estabeook  
Stephanie Haney  
Kristina Humphrey  
Edie Kabakoff  
Mary Larkin  
Jessica Locke  
Susan Manchester  
Anne McDonough  
Allison Warner  
Jennifer Zensen

**Troop #2018**  
Tobey Sparrow  
Andrea Dow  
Charlene Bergeron  
Jill Berglind  
Tanya Bowen  
Amanda Howison  
Kim Knowlton  
Amy Smith  
Jennifer Toschik  
Kara Veley

**Troop #2897**  
Lynn Burkey  
**Troop #2006**  
Deana Becker

Sara Beth Carter  
Ariel Frey  
Valerie Hadden  
Kim Halpert  
Katie Guzzo  
Alison Martino  
Alison Olmsted  
Rachel Ruderman  
Andrea Gregory  
**Contributors:**  
Calico Corners  
Acton Supply  
Colonial House of Pancakes

**THE VILLAGE SPIRIT  
OF WEST ACTON**

Barbara Tornstrom, Chrm.  
**Participants:**  
Chuck Carroll  
Emily Carroll  
Sarah Carroll  
Jessica Cochrane  
Karen Girondel  
Zander Girondel  
Cory Keith  
Nancy Keith  
Sandy Macone  
Brian Manter  
Darin Manter  
Ian Manter  
Linda Manter  
Stacey Metzger  
Sue Metzger  
Becky Page  
Christina Pitts  
David Pitts  
Jay Pitts  
Penny Pitts  
Jamie Richey  
Barbara Tornstrom  
Eric Tornstrom  
Jakob Tornstrom  
Patricia Pasquerosa  
Jim Pitts

**Special Thanks:**  
Dr. David Smith  
Nathan Roberts  
Sue & Bruce Metzger  
Williamson & Snyder  
Families  
The Carrolls  
The Girondels  
The Keiths  
The Manters  
The Pitts  
The Richeys  
The Tornstroms  
Myrt & Russ Williamson

**ROBBINS PARK**  
Judy Rice, Chairwoman

**Youth:**  
Jeff Casaletto  
Katie Casaletto  
Timmy Fitzgerald  
Ann Knapp  
Ellen Knapp  
Alison Larkin  
Katie Larkin  
Maureen Martin  
Michael McCarron  
Debbie McCarron  
Chris Meier  
Seth Meier  
Kevin Meier  
Beth Hamel  
Hartley Johnson  
Holly Johnson  
Keith Mroczka  
Kara Mroczka  
Jonathan Novick  
Rachael Novick  
Melissa Reif  
David Rice  
Brian Rice  
Eric Rice  
Sean Walsh  
Mark Walsh  
Brian Weissensee  
Jeff Weissensee  
Tommy Weissensee

**Helpers:**  
Peter & Taryn Bertoami  
Dan & Kathy Casaletto

Judy & Sam Rice  
John & Mary Martin  
Don & Wendy Knapp  
Ed & Carol Mroczka  
Ron & Angela McCarron  
Fred & Joan Weissensee  
Ann Kulsick  
Larry & Wendy Israelite  
Jim & Carol Williams  
Irene Krason  
Marge Matson  
Rosanne Walsh  
Nancy Johnson  
Kathy Olin  
Phyllis Novick  
Diane Reif

**Donations:**  
Marge Evans  
The Norton Family  
The Reilly Family  
The Novick Family  
The Casaletto Family  
The Kathuria Family  
The Runck Family  
The Manchester Family  
The Kulsick Family  
The Knapp Family  
The Johnson Family  
The Martin Family  
The Rice Family  
Ashley Pomeroy  
Casey & Hayes Moving Co.  
The Acton Cemetery Dept.  
The Mroczka Family  
The Frame Workshop

**MINUTEMAN RIDGE  
"The Spirit of the  
Minutemen" Float**

**Children:**  
Jenny Barba  
Tony Barba  
Matt Blute  
Meghan Blute  
Jenny Costello  
Sarah Dickerman  
Carolyn Hall  
Meredith Hall  
Don Johnson  
Ingrid Johnson  
Naomi McManus  
Careena Melia  
June Melia  
Heather Murray  
Alex Nephew  
Katie Nephew  
Elizabeth Olenberger  
John Olenberger  
Christine Oliver  
Lori Paradise  
Bobby Parenteau  
Danny Parenteau  
Jay Peabody  
Kelly Peabody  
Carolyn Policani  
Danika Policani  
Joey Policani  
Vanessa Policani  
Jennine Portante  
Anne Quigley  
Rosemary Quigley  
Matt Valade  
Rachel Valade

**Adults:**  
Clare Abare  
Carl & Elaine Barba  
John & Sally Blute  
Kathy Castner  
Betsy Dickerman  
John & Mary Giorgio  
Jane Griffith  
Win & Sandy Hall  
Betty Hollister  
Ivan & Sarah James  
Diane Jepsen  
Joyce Johnson  
Ann Melia  
Kevin & Betty McManus  
Karen Murray  
\*Bob & Nancy Nephew  
Fritz & Gretchen  
Olenberger  
Don & Betty Oliver  
Chet & Marylou Paradise

Alan & Mary Lynn  
Parenteau  
Bette Peabody  
\*Lynn Porter  
\*Larry & Marybeth Quigley  
Trudy Schmidt  
Peggy Snook  
Jan Stearns  
\*Al & Ellen Valade  
\*Float Committee Members

**Donors:**  
**Float:**  
ABC Cesspool Co.  
**Driver:**  
Scott Hartwell  
**Costumes:**  
Act/Tunes, Inc.  
**Costumers:**  
Marilyn Abbot  
Kay DeFord  
Ginger Lopez

**Antiques:**  
Larry Sorli, Jr.  
Larry Sorli, Sr.

**Shrubs:**  
Sudbury Gardens  
**Aesthetic Consultant:**  
Lynn Porter  
**Duck House:**  
Chet Paradise

**SQUARE WHEELERS**

**Participants:**  
George and Dottie Annis  
Patrick and Elizabeth Buffet  
Ed and Rose Mary Cleary  
Mario and Dot Ellero  
Bob and Barbara Graybill  
Bob and Mary Jenkins  
Moe and Paulette Joyal  
Bernie and Vivian King  
Moose and Hazel Longhi  
Betty Mercier  
Gil and Este Noble  
El and Doris Pillsbury  
Ed and Margaret Richter  
Dave and Ginny Rivenburg  
Earl and Peggy Russell  
Earle and Elanor Towne -  
drove a Model T Ford  
Dave and Thelma Westlake

**Square Dance Caller:**  
John Thompson

**Drivers of Antique Cars:**  
John Howard  
Dave Thibeault

**Banner Girls:**  
Kristen Curley  
Jennifer Herbst  
Stephanie Morey  
Peggy Richter

**ACTON HISTORICAL  
SOCIETY**

**Participants:**  
Brewster Conant  
Carol Mowry  
Jean Brzenzinski  
Sandy Schmidt  
Miss Schmidt  
Anita Dodson

**Planned by:**  
Edna Story  
**Assisted by:**  
Fred Steinhauer  
Betsy Conant  
Bill Klauer  
Lawrence Story

**ACTON MEMORIAL  
LIBRARY**

Wanda Null  
Valerie Sipprelle  
Lisa Rheault  
Elizabeth McDonald  
Dayle McGillivray  
James McGillivray  
Linda Potter  
Jason Potter  
James Potter  
Laura Null  
Richard Carter  
Ashley Carter  
Paula Centauro

Lisa Bracken  
Sara Gardner  
Jennifer Gardner  
Jenny Sipprelle

**ACTON-BOXBOROUGH  
COMMUNITY  
EDUCATION**

Kay Nicholson  
Irene Dreyer  
Katie Ryan

**ACTON BOXBORO AFS**

Barbara Yates  
Sally Dietrich  
Lisa Moriner  
Tonya Dale  
Jade Moran  
Peter Keenan  
Max Larssen  
Laura Richardson  
Ted Lowry

**ACTON JUNIOR  
WOMEN'S CLUB**

Laura Hirsch  
Matthew Hirsch  
Sue Scott  
Becky Scott  
Carol Peabody  
Adam Peabody  
Shirley Duclos  
Laurie Clout

**ACTON WOMEN'S CLUB**

Dr. Frank Roth  
Lynn Jones  
Madeline Kadubaski

**ACTON HOUSING  
AUTHORITY**

**Participants:**  
Betty McManus  
Barbara Yates  
Marlin Murdoch  
Charles Landry  
Leah Nazarian  
Joseph Mercurio  
Jim Sargent

**Donors:**  
AC Chevrolet  
Sudbury Gardens  
Wickes Lumber

**ACTON CAMP FIRE  
BOYS AND GIRLS**

**Leaders:**  
Elaine Meyer  
Cathy Goliash

**Members:**  
Annette Goliash  
John Goliash  
Nicole Goliash  
Amity Law  
Brad Meyer  
Michelle Meyer  
Stephanie Meyer

**McCARTHY-TOWNE  
SCHOOL**

**Participants:**  
Two students from each  
classes:

**Coordinator:**  
Margo Grallert  
Kathy Chamberlain

**O'NEIL  
CONSTRUCTION**

Acton Center Elementary  
School

Richard O'Neil  
Linda O'Neil  
Todd O'Neil  
Ricky O'Neil  
Kelly O'Neil  
Mark O'Neil

**ACTON BUSINESS  
& PROFESSIONAL  
ASSOCIATION**

Those who worked on the  
float were:  
Edward Flannery  
Jerry Portante  
Nancy Brandt  
Henry Hogan III  
Kathy Klier  
Nancy Silva  
Roy Smith  
Carol Macone  
Mr. & Mrs. Jonathan Avery  
Robert Rowe  
Deena Whitfield  
and their sons & daughters

Those who helped on the  
float were:  
Barry Harsip  
Marcia Feena  
Edward Flannery, Driver  
Bob Hovey  
Lois Pruet  
Luther Bielinki

**SOUTHBRIDGE  
BOATHOUSE**

Shirley Rimbach Rohan  
George Rohan  
David Rohan  
Christine Rohan  
Martha Rohan  
Neil Rohan

**LIBERTY TREE HOUSE**

Marguerite White  
Chris Nelson

**NORTHFIELD  
CONSTRUCTION**

**Participants:**  
Richard Van der Berghe  
David Van der Berghe  
David Reigelman  
**Assisted by:**  
Toni Harte  
Michael Harte

**PERRY PLUMBING  
AND HEATING**

**Participants:**  
Eric Corey  
Jody Friend  
Katrina Friend  
Gretchen Friend  
Amy Carroll  
Gary Corey  
**Assisted by:**  
George Perry  
Amy Carroll  
Gail Friend

**CHILDREN'S  
DISCOVERY MUSEUM**

Nancy Jones  
Jessica Jones  
Seth Jones  
Don Verger  
Sandy Verger  
Robbie Verger  
Carolyn Verger  
Walter Hoyt  
Rita Marie McConnon  
Wick McConnon  
Tommy McConnon  
Marna Oliveros  
**AFTER SCHOOL  
ADVENTURES**  
Beverly Lessard  
Diane Driscoll

**GALLANT AND BROCK**

Tori Thatcher  
Sarah Clough





*On to the Future. . .*