

The Albert Dix Table

by Ralph Larson

Recently the Hebron Library Trustees discovered an inscription, handwritten in pencil, on the underside of the large table that has been in the library for many years.



The inscription reads:

made by Ted and Charles Hilner
for Albert Dix Nov. 16, 1937

As none of the current Trustees are longtime residents of Hebron, we did not know who Albert Dix was!

An Internet search starting with the 1940 and 1930 U.S. Census showed he was not a year-round resident of Hebron, but a summer resident. He was listed in the 1940 U.S. Census as a resident of Prides Crossing in Beverly, Massachusetts; carpenter Charles Hilner was also a Beverly resident. Further searching found that Albert Dix and his wife Fannie purchased two lots on opposite sides of West Shore Road (sometimes referred to as Ledge Road in Grafton County Deeds) prior to WWII. Albert died in 1952, and Fannie sold the lot on the lake side of the road in 1960. The second lot eventually came to be owned by Albert Dix Jr. who died in 1995. His heirs sold the property.

Albert Dix, Jr. was well known in town for many attributes, including, I am told, the carving of wooden birds and the ringing of a bell on his lawn. He was a very generous person who would not take “no” for an answer if you didn’t accept items he offered you. He lived in Prides Crossing for many years where he was caretaker at one of the large oceanfront estates. At some time in his life he was a logger in the western United States.

If you would like to hear more stories of this colorful past resident, I suggest you stop by the Hebron Village Store in the early morning and bring up his name to the old timers having their daily morning coffee together. The Library Trustees are interested in learning how and when this table was acquired. We have been told that the table was in the Library when it was located on the 2nd floor of the Hebron Village School (Hebron Academy Building) when Isobel Blodgett was the Librarian. If you have any other information about the table, please contact our Librarian Robin Orr.