

## **Remembrances of Fourth of July**

We are newcomers to Annisquam having purchased our home here only in 1997. We bought the house for the view of the cove – we didn't even know about Lighthouse Beach until after we were owners. We moved in just before the Fourth of July. We heard something about the parade and gathering from neighbors passing by as we moved in but we didn't really know what to expect. When the day dawned and we heard the bell and followed the excitement and music and people to the center of the village (our house was right across the street), I thought we had blundered into a Norman Rockwell painting. Kids, adults, pets in red, white and blue. A Dixieland band playing patriotic music (the old Clamshell Five). Marching around the square with intermittent renditions of songs I learned years ago as a school girl. It was so small town, so warm and authentic, so fun and patriotic all at once – we were thrilled with it all! Gert Griffin was still alive and sat in a chair in front of her house and rang a bell. Doris and Bob Lundberg arrayed teddy bears and dolls on their front stairs (as Christine and Paul still do). It was wonderful, and has remained wonderful every year since. David always says, "If the celebration were any better it wouldn't be half as good." We wouldn't miss being here on the Fourth for anything!

Ginni Spencer

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