

Narragansett Historical Society On the Common in Templeton MA

August 2016

Kite Festival August 14th

Around 200 visitors ran through the field at Brooks Farm either flying a kite, making giant bubbles, or relaxing in the shade to listen to the sounds of Whiskey Johnson, The TLC band, and Shades of Grey.

Temperatures soared into the 90's but the wind held a steady 15mph to keep the kites in the air. Volunteers served hot dogs and hamburgers with plenty of cold water to keep everyone nourished and hydrated.

Our second annual event proved to be bigger and better than last year thanks to Mother nature with storms raging through the night before and holding off until the last item was packed away and our volunteers headed home.



The music ranged from Civil war, bluegrass, country and modern day rock & roll.

Kites soared through the air, some anchored to chairs like the striped one which flew on it's own from 11am to 5pm until the win died down and it came to rest on the top of the tallest tree, where it will rest overnight or longer.



Check Us Out at: www.narraganssetthistoricalsociety.org and on FACEBOOK

Calendar 2016

Events being planned by the historical society during this year include:

SEPTEMBER 24th Vintage Car, Small Engine and Tractor Show, Saturday, 10-4pm, co-hosted by the Narragansett Historical Society and the Central Massachusetts Steam, Gas and Machinery Association, on the Templeton Common.

OCTOBER 29th Pumpkin Fest, Saturday, on the Templeton Common.

DECEMBER 4th Jack Frost Festival and Christmas Tree Lighting, Sunday, in conjunction with the Town of Templeton tree lighting, on the Templeton Common.

The building is Open

Tuesday nights from 6-8 and on Saturday afternoons from 1-5

Sign up to help with your favorite event to make each one successful and fun.

Your help is needed at the food tent, in the building, & organizing the event. Don't be shy, call or send an email to let us know you are able to help.

Gift DONATIONS

The Society is proposing anyone interested in donating items to the Society in the future consider having it in Archival Condition. This will better preserve the item for future years

DONATIONS ACCEPTED

YES! I would like to make a donation to the
Narragansett Historical Society

I/We have enclosed a check in the amount of \$_____.

Name_____

Address_____

City_____ State_____ Zip_____

Thank You

Narragansett Historical Society and send to
NHS, PO Box 354, Templeton, MA 01468.

Donations are tax deductible to the extent allowable by law.

Garden Styles by Tina Tanguay



Gardens of early times were often basic, utilitarian and consisted of enclosures interspersed with vegetables and herbs used for cooking as well as for medicinal qualities. When time and money allowed, plants were grown beneath windows and around front doors which added fragrance and softened exteriors. Hollyhock, pennyroyal and sweetbrier were favorites. Several types of garden designs were adopted to showcase the fruits of their labor. Landscape gardens date from 1795-1805. It depicts the art of laying out grounds in imitation of natural scenery. English Cottage Gardens date from 1837-1901, the Victorian era. It was considered a poor man's garden, where beauty was incidental. The purpose of this type of garden was to feed the cottagers family. No space was wasted in this garden. Colonial Revival Gardens date from 1876-1920. It evokes the design of the Colonial period of the United States and was designed to meet contemporary needs. The image of the Colonial Revival Garden is symmetrical, axial layout with a sundial at the center for a focal point. This garden consisted of an uncomplicated layout of gardens – a central pathway flanked by beds on either side. Paths were packed dirt early on, covered with crushed clamshells or gravel. Brick walkways were used in some locals and around wealthier homes and became a staple. The perimeter was defined by low boxwood hedges which were also handy for drying sheets in the sun, however picket fences were also popular. Fruits and vegetables provided color and visual interest, but early gardens were rarely ornamental, except for the occasional sundial. These gardens were neat and trim, composed of terraces, simple raised beds which added structure and made planting, weeding, and harvesting easy.

Colonial Revival Gardens dating from the 1920-present were intended to be purely decorative. Garden structures added to the romance. Trellises, arbors and pergolas all were popular. A wide assortment of "old fashioned" flowers were planted. In larger yards horse chestnuts, sycamores, and tulip trees provided shade. The gardens on the Narragansett Historical Society grounds depict many of the design elements of the Colonial Revival Garden that became popular in the 1920's. The decorative nature of the garden design can be seen by the large curved garden, plants along the border of the property, a raised garden bed, picket fence, sundial, pea stone path, a brick walk, large shade trees, and cement footings of a once popular pergola.

Take a moment to enjoy the gardens of the Narragansett Historical Society and take notice of these elements as well as the large collection of perennials, shrubs and trees. Many of these plantings have been a part of this landscape for decades and some of the trees have been around for a century.



1930's image of the garden showing the pergola

Gold Sponsors



Silver Sponsor



Bronze Sponsors



Event Sponsors



Please consider the environment before printing this email.

Sponsors



Which Tea would you like to see?

We've done Downton Abbey, Beatles, Games in the Garden, & Mad Hatter.

Each one a success in both fundraising and having some old fashion fun.

Give us your ideas so we can keep the interest alive.

Woodstock? Flappers & Zoot Suit Jazz?

Let's hear your thoughts to fill our garden with visitors and future members.



4th Annual
**VINTAGE CAR,
SMALL ENGINE
& TRACTOR
SHOW**

Co-hosted by the
Narragansett Historical Society
and the
*Central Massachusetts Steam,
Gas and Machinery Association*

BRING THE FAMILY

~FOOD TENT~
~FREE MUSEUM TOURS~

Join Us
on The Common, Templeton, Ma
September 24, 2016
10am-4pm



Game Day in the Garden

The theme for the afternoon brought out the kid in all of us. Card games, board games, and lawn games including Giant Jenga and Yahtzee were the center of attention Saturday afternoon August 6th.



Tom Hurd, Jessie Duguay, Patty Lyons and Julie Crosby tried their hand at cards while Ann Lyons & Mary Grimes tackled the giant Jenga.

Janet Carr of Stowe, formerly of Hubbardston Road, Roger Henshaw and Kathy Bennett enjoyed a game or two as the afternoon flew by.

A quick shower cooled it down but everyone enjoyed the day just as we did years ago. We'll do this again so keep an eye on our schedule.





“A moment in time”

by: **Harry Aldrich Jr. *Historian***

KEEPING THE FARM GOING

After my last two stories about the loss of our farms in town, it was brought to my attention that there are some people trying to make a comeback in one way or another.

One of the bigger ones is the old Woodbury farm on Barre Rd. Arthur LeClerc purchased the farm years ago losing the old barn shortly after to a fire. The barn was replaced with a new structure and it was used for a small family business and later turned into rental apartments. He later started raising raspberries to sell. Arthur has since passed on and his son, Matthew intends to bring the old farm back. He is operating under the name, Valley View Farm. There is a vegetable stand that is open all season, selling all types of home grown or home made goods. He has chickens and sells fresh eggs. He also sells meat of many different kinds that is grown on the farm.

In Brooksvillage there is Pease Orchards who are open all during the fruit season. They carry many different varieties of apples as well as peaches and vegetables and gifts. This is a third family generation operation now being operated by Bob, David & Amy Pease. On South Rd. Bev Bartelomeo runs Bart's Farm and on Farnsworth Rd., the Symond's family, both sell garden plants.

There are several locations On Baldwinville Rd., owners of the old Cutting Farm sell fresh eggs and they have built a sugar house in the field so, I am assuming they will sell maple products? Further down is The Kitchen Garden where you can purchase plants and fresh vegetables, ice cream, baked goods including Finnish Breads and more from Joyce Dossett. A little further down you come to Ben & Madeline Haley's stand, a self-service stop selling all kinds of garden plants and fresh vegetables. They also sell fresh eggs year round. Just below them at Baptist Common is The Farm, which is owned by John and Doris Brooks who make different kinds of fudge that they go around to the different fairs and function and sell along with popcorn. About a mile or so further down Baldwinville Rd. you will find Echo Hill Farm which is owned by Gerald and Carol Skelton they have a small store set up in their barn where they sell different types of items along with blueberries and vegetables raised on their farm.

These are a few of the small businesses trying to bring back some of what we had in town. I probably have missed some for which I apologize. My suggestion is to support them and buy local to help make their work worthwhile.

Harry

President's Page

by: **Brian P. Tanguay**



It's been a busy summer to say the least. Keeping up with everything has been a challenge and one I knew wouldn't be easy. The building is shaping up very nicely with organizing the books and recording the textiles so we know what we have in the collection. Volunteers are making great strides in both recording as well as properly storing each artifact.

The Community fund is started, but a small snag has held up moving stocks until all the paperwork can be properly completed and recorded. I truly could use some help in organizing our financial records, a task that hasn't been properly done in our 80 plus years of existence. That and the created documentation which has piled up into one corner of the store which was found to be placed in numerous locations throughout the decades. We work on it from time to time on a Tuesday night, but it will be a while before that job is complete, especially since we generate more each week.

Events are in full swing for the season. The collectors show, Downton Abbey, Game Day, Kite Fest, and a few days from now (as I write this article) the Craft Fair will be upon us. Our next big event will be the Engine / Car Show in September, help is always needed and appreciated to make the day a little easier for all included.

A comfort we can appreciate is our sponsorships we are blessed with as you can see on page 4 along with the many others who donate their time and services and ask for nothing in return some wish to go anonymous. Entertainers, food suppliers, ice, coffee, supplies, tables, tents, rubbish removal, bakers, and man power all are happy to help make sure our Historical Society will succeed in saving the building and the great collection we were left to care for.

Please remember to ask a friend to join us in our efforts. Becoming a life member is a one time donation that will make a difference and you can say you had a hand in helping sponsor a part of an event or to help pay for a repair, preserve an artifact, and build that pergola in the garden. Propose the question, would you give \$100.00 to help the Museum in Templeton? I'm thinking most people would if they only knew it would be that easy.

Time for me to go and mow the lawn or weeds as most of us have this year, trim the bushes, and fix those steps in front of my store.

Thank you to all of our Volunteers who make it a joy to be a part of this great Society.

Brian

OFFICERS:
President: Brian Tanguay
Vice Pres. Vacant
Secretary Christine Stone
Treasurer Debbie Caisse
Curator: Brian Tanguay
Historian: Harry Aldrich

DIRECTORS:

3 year	2 year	1 year
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Tom Jeleniewski	Jessie Duguay	Tom Hill
Dennis Rich	Ann Lyons	William Buckler

TRUSTEES:
 Tom Jeleniewski
 David Huhtala
 Brian Tanguay
 John Brooks



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 Newsletter Editor: Brian Tanguay

Find us on Facebook—Search for **Narragansett Historical**. It's filled with the History of Templeton, Baldwinville, Otter River and East Templeton. Pictures, stories, and faces of the people who lived here years ago. Some new images will be shared also of around town. Take a look, add a comment, or ask us a question. Friends have been sending images to us and posting online. We fill out the history to go with the photograph and post it for your enjoyment.

ITEMS FOR THE NEXT NEWSLETTER ARE WELCOME any time.

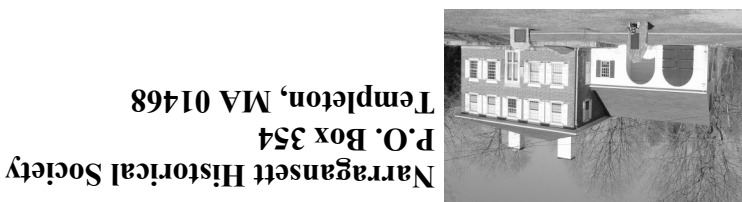


Sign up soon **1,250 friends and counting!**

Meeting Notice: 4th Wednesday of each month at 7:00 PM unless otherwise advertised.

August 24th Document room 7pm Mt. Grace representative

September 28th Document room 7pm



Narragansett Historical Society
 P.O. Box 354
 Templeton, MA 01468