

# Narragansett Historical Society

## On the Common in Templeton MA

# August 2017



The rain came in strong on Saturday so we postponed the kite fest until Sunday and it could not have been a better time for all. Over 50 families came to Brooks Field to enjoy a sunny, cool, and dry day of flying kites, making giant bubbles, eating hot dogs, pop corn, and fudge. Tractor rides added to the fun and music filled the field with a special appearance by Matthew Mann and his dance routine of Michael Jackson moves. Julie provided the DJ music while Jessie cooked the dogs. Dad & Mom showing their kids how to fly a kite and creating memories was the best part of the day. Thanks to everyone who helped make this day a success and thanks to all the families for coming. See you again next year, same place, same time. Don't forget to buy a kite. Next time someone tells you to go fly a kite, invite them to our event.

# Calendar 2017

**Aug 23rd Membership meeting 7pm**

**September 16th Heritage tea, food from around the world.**

**September 23 MOTORPALOOZA 2017 on the common**

**September 27 Membership meeting 7pm**

**October 25th meeting 7pm**

**October 21 & 22 Haunted walk**

**October 29 & 30 Haunted walk**

**Dec 3rd Jack Frost Festival, parade, santa, bake sale, and more**

## 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  
PO Box 354, Templeton, MA 01468.

Donations are tax deductible to the extent allowable by law.

# What's New?

A brand new 60 gallon hot water heater courtesy of our GOLD sponsor Chair City Oil. Fully installed and delivered for our main building.

Our cleanup will be so much better after events, teas, or just normal use. Thank you to our friends at CCO for all you do.



# WINDOWS

Yes, Windows are in the Grange hall, new ones, and by the time this newsletter arrives, they will all be installed.

4 years is a long time to wait and fight to get this project done, but we did it. Special thanks to Bill Harris & Co. for their dedication to our building.



# Motorpalooza 2017



**Sept. 23rd. Templeton Common**

**Narragansett Historical Society Presents:**

**Cars, trucks, motorcycles, farm engines and more**

**Anything with a motor is welcome to show**

**Fun for the whole family Food & Music**

**Featuring Boothill Express**  
Thanks to the Templeton Cultural Council  
*11am to 4pm*



# Sponsorship

# Gold Sponsors 2017



## Silver Sponsor 2017



Thank you to our sponsors.

Your support will ensure the success of our community driven events.

If you would like to become a sponsor, please contact us here via email. Talk to your place of business to see if they want to get involved through sponsorship, participation, donations, or services.

## Bronze Sponsors 2017



# SCOTTY'S POTTIES

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Our biggest supporters are all of you! Our membership. If you are an annual member, consider becoming a lifetime member at only \$100.00 by doing this, you will be making a donation to our cause, and saving us time and money each year asking for your renewal.

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## Event Sponsor



***Sept 16th Heritage tea party 2-4:30pm***  
***Come and enjoy favorite treats from your childhood.***  
***French, Irish, Polish, German, Finnish, and more***  
***Bring a recipe from your family to share with others***

**Asian Tea party**

Amy Guthrie hosted an Asian themed tea party in the garden with her three daughters who are always a great help in the building throughout the year. The weather was perfect and the company traveled from Rhode Island to enjoy our tradition. This tradition has been going on since the 1930's in this garden, previously it was hosted by Society members at their own home gardens. Thanks to our charter members for finding this place to house the collection and hold our functions. They would be proud of our tea hosts for continuing this afternoon event. If you want to host a tea, contact us at the email listed on the bottom of the previous page or message us on Facebook. Thanks to all who helped out.



**Asian-inspired  
Tea Party**  
Narragansett  
Historical Society





# “A moment in time”

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

## REMEMBERING DOCTOR ROBERTS

I wonder how many people in town can remember Doc. Roberts. Doc. Roberts was the doctor in town when I was a boy. I had many dealings with him in my younger years. His name was Oscar Roberts and he was what you would call an old country doctor. He came to your house whenever he was called day or night. If it was late at night you could usually see his pajamas sticking out of the bottom of his long coat and he always had that black bag with him that always seemed to have just what he needed in it.

Back when I was just a little shaver, I didn't want anything to do with him but as I grew up I realized how much the people in town respected him. Years ago the people in town named the bridge over Route 2 on Baldwinville Road for him. The sign is still there but it could use some attention.

My first run in with Doc. Roberts that I can remember was when I caught my big toe in the spokes of my tricycle and tore it up quite a bit. I was scared to death when they brought me to him but he put me back together and I still have that toe so I guess he did a good job.

Later during my elementary school years, it seemed like figured out how to catch a different disease each year. One year it was Chicken Pox, then Mumps, Measles, and then Scarlet Fever. Scarlet Fever was the one that got everybody's attention. They made my parents put a yellow quarantine sign in the front window and the school destroyed all my books. I really didn't feel that bad and could not understand what all the fuss was about. I guess I was pretty lucky as I never had any after effects from it.

As I got older I can remember some of the older guys talking about the doctor's car that he use to have. Apparently during world War II , new cars were very hard to come by unless you were someone of importance such as a doctor. I guess it was a popular year as not many were manufactured.

Many years later when I was employed by the town, someone did a painting of Doctor Roberts and it was hung on the wall of the Baldwinville Cooperative Bank for everybody to see. I do not know where it went after the bank closed. I asked around hoping that I could find it and perhaps have it displayed at the historical society museum but I was unable to locate it. I have been told that it might have gone to his family.



# President's Page

by: **Brian P. Tanguay**



I mentioned on Facebook, I think it was last week, how proud I am of our members. I'm sure if you go back in our previous newsletters, this sentiment has been repeated several times and it is well deserved. Hours are spent in various ways to make the building look clean and presentable. The gardens look fantastic again this year and with those two giant Ash trees gone, the focus is directed more on the flowers, bushes, and that beautiful Japanese Maple tree covering the sunken garden.

You drive by the building on a Tuesday night and notice at least a dozen cars out front and many of you will stop in to see what is going on. Collections are being organized and cataloged, rooms are being spruced up, new displays are being created, and I can't get over how much room we have in the cellar now that it is cleaned up and organized. Power is run from cellar to the civil war room, outdoor lights are installed, rails are put up in the store to hang pictures and artifacts, tea parties are generating new memories and private parties are booked for bridal showers and birthday parties.

All of this activity is run by a huge group of dedicated, historically motivated, and genuine members who want this Society to succeed. The last time I counted, I came up with 80 names of individuals who stepped up to show their support. I'm sure I could count over 100 right now. They bake for our bake sales, make chili for our events, take pictures, transcribe documents so the next visitor will be able to understand and enjoy the sermon or letter written 150 years ago. There is not enough room on this page to fully explain all that is happening inside and out over the last few years. To witness this transformation of energy and excitement is enough to keep our Directors, and Officers motivated.

Now that we are moving forward on phase 3 of the Grange project, I can see the light at the end of the tunnel growing brighter as we figure out how to proceed with the next 3 phases bringing us to the part where we have a grand opening and offer the building as a center for meetings, presentations, music, and dinners to bring the community closer through history.

Our recent victories are sweet, enjoy them, share them with your friends and family. Know that what you have done, no matter how small a part you played, the impact is tremendous. Just a few years ago, I couldn't find many people who knew where the Narragansett Historical Society was, or what it was for that matter. But now, I am stopped on the street, and people come to my store just to tell me how pleased they are to hear of all the good things happening at the Historical Society.

We can truly say that we are part of history by taking that step, be it a baby step or a giant leap in helping out when we can, doing what we like, and having fun sharing our experiences with our newly formed friendships that will last a lifetime and once Harry puts it in our yearbook, it will last forever.

Stop in and check out our yearbooks, Harry has created a few so far and there will be plenty more to come.

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

**DIRECTORS:**  
**3 year**  
 Darlene LaClair  
 OPEN  
 OPEN  
**2 year**  
 Amy Guthrie  
 Tom Jeleniewski  
 Dennis Rich  
**1 year**  
 Tom Hurd  
 Jessie Duguay  
 Ann Lyons

**TRUSTEES:**  
 Tom Jeleniewski  
 David Huhtala  
 John Brooks



**Contact info:**  
 Main email: [narragansethistoricalsociety@yahoo.com](mailto:narragansethistoricalsociety@yahoo.com)  
 Newsletter Editor: Brian Tanguay

Find us on Facebook—Search for **Narragansett Historical Society**. 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 from around the town. We have created a "page" instead of a "profile"

<https://www.facebook.com/narragansethissoc/>  
**Located at 1 Boynton Rd. Templeton MA**

**ITEMS FOR THE NEXT NEWSLETTER ARE WELCOME any time.**



**Meeting Notice: 4th Wednesday of each month at 7:00 PM unless otherwise advertised.**  
**August 23rd Membership meeting 7pm Document room**  
**September 27 Membership meeting 7pm Document room**

**Thank you to the Templeton Senior Community Center for helping us print 45 copies of our newsletters each month for those without email accounts.**



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