



# CALENDAR

## Events and Meetings for 2015

- Feb. 25th Meeting 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday 7pm at the High School Library**  
**28th Cabin Fever Collectors showcase: Kamaloht Saturday**
- Mar. 25th Meeting 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday 7pm at the High School Library**
- April 22nd Meeting 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday 7pm at the Document room**  
**25th May Day basket making at the Otter River Sportsman Club**
- May Tuesday night at the Museum begins. Every Tuesday from 6-8pm**  
**27th Annual Meeting Elections 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday 7pm in the Document room**
- June:** Building open hours begin Saturdays from 12-5  
**27<sup>th</sup> First Tea in the Garden from 2-5 Downton Abbey**  
**24<sup>th</sup> Meeting Wednesday 7pm in the Document room**
- July:** Closed 4<sup>th</sup> of July weekend  
 COA is hosting a mac & Cheese cookoff on the common  
**Golf Tournament at Templewoods. Look for details to follow**
- Aug. Craft Fair 15<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> bake sale, raffle, open house, free tours.**  
**26<sup>th</sup> Meeting 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday 7pm in the Document room**
- Sept. 23<sup>rd</sup> Meeting 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday in the Document room**  
**26<sup>th</sup> Engine Show cars, engines, tractors, music and more**
- Oct. All Month display "Death Becomes Her" features mourning dresses, jewelry, and hair wreaths**  
**28<sup>th</sup> Meeting 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday 7pm in the Document room**  
**31<sup>st</sup> Pumpkin Festival watch for details**
- Nov. 18<sup>th</sup> Meeting 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday in the Document room**
- Dec. 6<sup>th</sup> Jack Frost Festival Sunday from 1-5 Parade at 4, tree lighting at 4:30. Bake sale, open house, wreath sale, raffle drawing.**  
**16<sup>th</sup> Meeting 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday in the Document room**

On the Common  
Templeton MA

# Sponsored by

These are our 2015 sponsors. If you would like to sponsor our efforts to save the Historical Society and preserve Templeton's past, contact us at the email on the bottom of the page.

Our sponsors make it possible for us to continue our mission to preserve the artifacts handed down through the generations and to restore the building where they are displayed for the public to enjoy.



## 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 \_\_\_\_\_

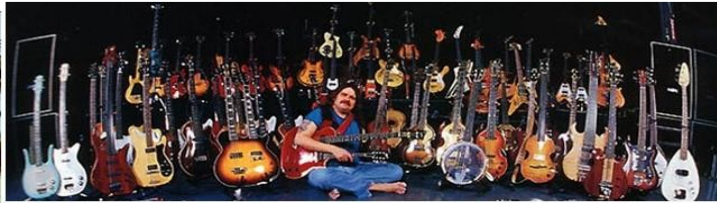
City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

*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.

# Cabin Fever Collectors Showcase



Show off Your  
**collection**



**1st annual Cabin Fever Show**  
Sponsored by the  
**Narragansett Historical Society**  
Templeton MA



**Dust off your collection and display it for all to enjoy.**

Donation at the door, bring a food pantry item for a discount  
**To benefit the Templeton Museum**

**Saturday Feb. 28th from noon to 5**  
In East Templeton  
At **Kamaloh**



**Advanced registration required to showcase your collection**  
Send a message to [narragansethistoricalsociety@yahoo.com](mailto:narragansethistoricalsociety@yahoo.com) for application.



# Tuckers on Norcross Hill

The property at 68 Norcross Hill was bought, for Fred and Mable Tucker, in Nov. 1906 from Ora V. Norcross and Martha S. Norcross (widow of Austin Norcross). Fred and Mable had five children, Beatrice, Edwin, Blanche, Gordon and Minna. The property came to Edwin Locke Tucker upon the death of his parents. The family has always referred to the place as “the Farm”.

Edwin and Eleanor Tucker had four children, Gordon, Susan (me), Byron and Karen. Dad, Col. E. L. Tucker, U S Army, moved many times during his career, so we all went along most of the time. In between moves we often stayed up here on Norcross Hill with my Grandparents until housing was found at the new assignment. Another time we lived on Baldwinville Road (called South Main St. then) for a few years.

In 1957 Dad retired from the military, and the family settled here at 68 Norcross Hill. He made many improvements to the house as well as the fields and woods. He taught at Narragansett Regional for about 10 years and retired again! He was active on town committees, was chair of the Historical Commission, and was a member of the Historical Society. He passed away in 1993 and Mother (Eleanor) in 1994. Karen became the owner of the property on Norcross Hill at that time.

Karen taught science at Narragansett Regional School for 38 years, and lived on Norcross Hill. Gordon Tucker became a U S Air force officer; (Edwin) Byron Tucker became a U S Navy officer and both families were very mobile, living wherever the assignments took them.

I worked as a Registered Dietitian Nutritionist for 40 years, four in Massachusetts and then 36 with the Veterans Affairs Medical Center in Palo Alto, CA. I married Al Frugoli in 1965, we bought a house in CA and we had one son, Alfred. My husband passed away in 1993, I retired from the VA in 1995 and in 1996 Alfred and I moved back to Norcross Hill and joined Karen in the farm. Alfred graduated from Springfield College in 1997, worked in Worcester and lived up here in our log house at 88 Norcross Hill. He got his Masters Degree from Worcester state University. Alfred and his wife Heather and their three children now live in Chelmsford MA.

Byron was killed in action in Vietnam in 1967 and his family now lives in Virginia. The old primary school building on Baldwinville Road, that is now affordable apartments, is named *The Tucker Building* after Byron.

Gordon lives in CA with his daughter and son-in-law. He drives east every summer to stay up here at “The Farm” with Karen and me. Then he drives back to CA in early October. He stops along the way to visit with various relatives and friends and seems to enjoy the long drive.

The house at 68 Norcross Hill was first entered in the record of Deeds in 1807 according to research Dad did. So, the house undoubtedly was built before that, say 1799 (sounds good!!) Anyway, it has had many years standing here on the east side of the hill with its view of Baldwinville, Gardner, Old Town Winchendon, Temple Mountain, Ipswich Hills, Mt. Watatic, Ashburnham Hills, and viewed from out in the fields, Mount Monadnock to the north.

*Susan Frugoli 2-9-2015*



# May Day

What ever happened to those May baskets? Our members are planning a May basket-making day on April 25th at the Otter River Sportsman Club. Your children will be able to make a May basket for Mom, Grandmother, or their favorite teacher.

There may even be a May pole set up for the kids to enjoy and create new memories of Templeton.



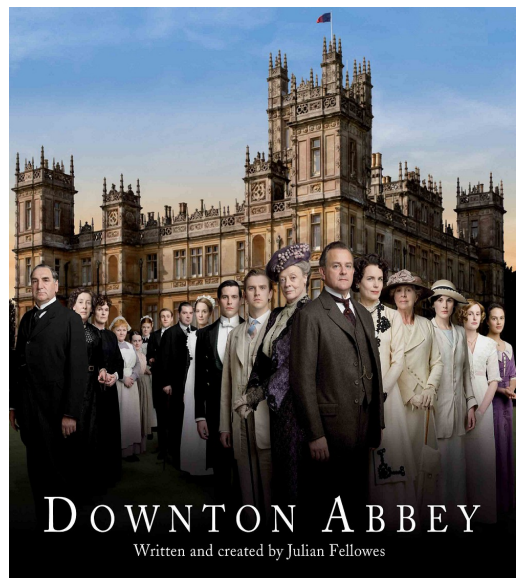
# June Tea with a kick

This year our Tea in the garden begins with a tribute to Downton Abbey. Our staff will suggest you come dressed best to fit the theme. The plans are still in the works for the June 27th start to our summer season of Saturday afternoon teas. Hosted by Mary Grimes.

With the theme idea, we will probably have one or two teas a month instead of every week allowing our volunteers the time needed to set up and bring their ideas to life.

If you have an idea for a tea and would like to host one, please contact us soon so we can advertise and help make it a successful afternoon.

As always, the building will be open for a tour during the tea and with our new volunteers we plan on being open every Saturday for visitors to enjoy the building and its artifacts. Hosts are always needed to keep the building safe so please let us know if you have a Saturday with nothing to do, you will be welcome as a volunteer. While you are hosting the building you will also enjoy the many photo albums and documents on display. Maps, deeds, genealogy, town records, and paintings are just the beginning of what you will find in the document room.



# July Golf Tournament

This year we are planning a golf tournament with Templewoods, slated for July. Plans are under way now to bring our first tourney to Templeton. If you are an avid golfer you will want to get involved with this one. There will be plenty of fun in the sun and prizes. Your ideas are welcome. Thanks to the staff at Templewoods for helping us create a fun event along with a chance to improve our game.





## “A moment in time”

by: Harry Aldrich Jr. *Historian*

### Hanging out in front of the post office

Another favorite area for us kids in town to hang out at was in front of the old Templeton Post Office which was located in the center of town.

There was a big flat stone that sat next to the sidewalk and we would sit there and talk when we had nothing else to do. This was also a favorite spot for some of the elders during the day time. In the fall there would be a lot of traffic being that this was the Mohawk Trail and people would be out enjoying the foliage .

Most of the time we managed to keep out of trouble but there was one day that comes to mind when I would say we did not make any new friends. We had been sitting there killing time and a gentleman stopped and asked for directions. I do not remember where he was going but we sent him out on the Partridgeville Rd. and told him to go out there and take his first right which at that time would have been South Main St. We told him to continue on and bear right at the next two intersections and he would be all set. As you may have already figured out, this brought him right back to the center of town. He did not have many good words to say to us when he returned and of course we were foolish enough to have stayed there. This was not anything that I am proud of but that and ringing door bells and running were some of the things that kids did back then. I guess the only good thing that I can say is it beats stealing or damaging a persons property.





# President's Page

By: Brian P. Tanguay



One of my pet projects is the research on Sarah Goodridge. Knowing that our Historical Society has the second largest collection of her miniature paintings on display in the country has created a decade of research ranging from organizing the documents currently stored in the upstairs closet, to labeling each portrait with a proper description. I have scoured the internet saving every image from other Museums and Historical Societies who share a collection as we do. In the 1960's Eleanor Whidden realized that some of the miniatures were handed down to family members who didn't have a strong sense of keeping the family collections. She heard that some of Sarah's paintings were to be sold to the Boston Museum of Fine Arts and her passion brought her to buy the paintings and donate them to the Narragansett Historical Society where he felt they belonged. She is a descendant of Sarah and had a few of her own in her private collection, which also made their way home to Templeton. This is all documented in her notes to Helen Parkhurst and Mrs. White, both founding members of the re-organization of the Historical Society.

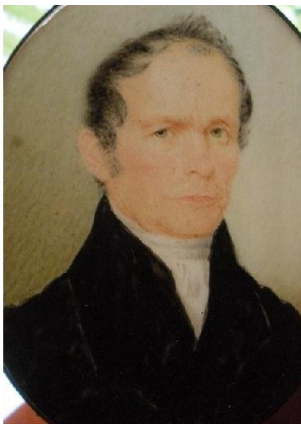
In Eleanor's notes she mentions a portrait of a woman and a man who is believed to be Sarah's Mother and Father, but no proof of this was ever found. The family resemblance is believable, but the dates do not add up. The images below are; in color the donated portrait from Eleanor, the oval black and white image is a portrait from the Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York with a label of "unknown" as was ours. In our scrap book and in the Grange are two identical images one a pencil drawing seen below in the center and the other a large painted portrait. The pencil drawing appears to be a copy of the portrait in the Grange.

Could this be Sarah's portrait painting of her Minister Charles Wellington from the First Church? The years match up, the resemblance is very close, and it was very common for parishioners to save photographs and paintings of Ministers during this period of time. I invite you to compare these images and paintings for yourself once the snow melts and the building is open again for the season.

If this information is found to be true, we can share our findings with the Met in New York and these portraits will finally have a name listed for the first time in many years.

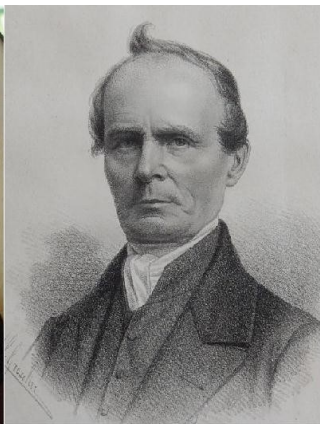
**CHARLES<sup>1</sup> WELLINGTON** was born on 20 Feb 1780 in Waltham, Middlesex, MA. He died on 03 Aug 1861 in Templeton, Worcester, MA. He married (1) **ANNA SMITH** on 20 May 1807 in Templeton, Worcester, MA. She was born on 29 Aug 1783 in Halifax, Nova Scotia. She died on 24 Apr 1830 in Templeton, Worcester, MA. He married (2) **ADELAIDE RUSSELL** (daughter of Absalom Russell and Sarah Frink) on 27 Jul 1831 in Templeton, Worcester, MA. She was born on 25 Nov 1795 in Paxton, Worcester, MA. She died on 22 Mar 1870 in Templeton, Worcester, MA.

Unknown



Original from NHS

Charles Wellington



Pencil from Scrap book

Dated: 1825 unknown



original from The Met

Charles Wellington



At the Grange hall

**OFFICERS:**  
 President : Brian Tanguay  
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 2nd Vice Pres. Howard Sands  
 Secretary Christine Stone  
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 Curator: Brian Tanguay  
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 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.

*Thank You to the Council on Aging  
 For printing our newsletters  
 For those without emails.*



Sign up soon.

**911 friends and counting!**

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

**February 25th at the High School Library 7pm**

**March 25th at the High School Library 7pm**

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

