

Narragansett Historical Society

February

2016



Our Carriage shed featuring Civil War, GAR, and Firefighting artifacts.

+++++

*****2016*****

Feb 24th Meeting At the Council on Aging Baldwinville 7pm

Feb 27th Cabin Fever Collectors Show at the

Baldwinville Legion Noon To 5pm

March 23rd Meeting 7pm COA Baldwinville

The COA building is located off Bridge Street on Senior Drive, the first Right after Greenlawn Cemetery behind the condo buildings.

*****Get involved *** Volunteer *** You'll be glad you did! *****

**On the Common
Templeton MA**

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

Sponsored by

These are our 2016 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.

GOLD Sponsor



Bronze Sponsor

TANGUAY JEWELERS



Event Sponsors

For the Cabin Fever Show

Colonial Co-Operative Bank

Baldwinville Legion Post 373

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.

Calendar 2016

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

Cabin Fever Collectors Show, Feb 27th from noon to 5 at the Baldwinville Legion.

May Day Celebration, Saturday, April 30; May baskets and May pole dance, Otter River Sportsman's Club.

Downton Abbey Revisited, Saturday, June 25; picnic and entertainment in the garden, Narragansett Historical Society.

Special patriotic program, Saturday, July 9, in conjunction with the 2rd Annual Mac N Cheese Festival hosted by the Friends of the Templeton Elders.

Go fly a kite! Date to be announced

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

Annual Pumpkin Fest, Saturday, Oct. 29, on the Templeton Common.

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

Closed during the winter, the Narragansett Historical Society, located on the historic common in Templeton Center, will re-open for the season Tuesday nights from 6-8 in April, and on Saturday afternoons from 1-5 beginning in July, through the fall. For exact times and dates, check the website and our Facebook page.

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

Window Blinds

During the Jack Frost Festival, while decorating the rooms, one of the blinds in the living room simply fell apart. Once removed we noticed the material that held it together was completely worn out from the constant sunlight beating down on them. A call was made to our past President Darcy Canu who originally installed them back in the late 1980's. She quickly volunteered to replace them at wholesale cost of merchandise only and offered to install them as her gift to the Society building. She completed the job on Saturday Feb. 20th giving the living room a clean look and for the first time installed new blinds in the store front and on the east side windows. Thank you Darcy for your efforts to help preserve and protect our collection.



Donation

Nancy Heaney recently donated a detailed history of the house in which she and her husband, Bernard, live at 716 Baldwinville Rd., Baldwinville. Bernard had written this detailed history as a present for their children. When it was suggested that the Narragansett Historical Society would greatly appreciate a copy she decided to donate one. It's in a three-ring binder, divided into chapters, and even contains a brief history of Templeton. The house was built circa 1846 and was first owned by Eden Baldwin, who sold it to Gilman Day. The Heaneys bought it in 1972. It will be on display in the document room once the building opens this spring.

Wright's Tavern

By George Barnes
Telegram & Gazette Staff

TEMPLETON - One of the town's most historic buildings was damaged by fire early Wednesday.

Firefighters were able to save the main house at 29 Boynton Road, but a rear section of the house and a garage were destroyed.

The cause of the fire is under investigation, according to Fire Chief Raymond LaPorte.

The chief said firefighters were called out at just after midnight to battle the fire. He said the rear section of the building which was formally a barn was in flames when firefighters arrived.

"They made a great stop," he said.

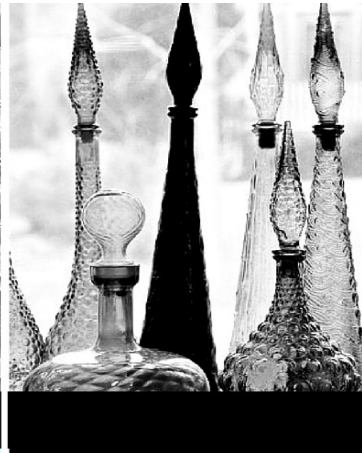
He said firefighters were able to halt the fire on two sides, preventing it from reaching the main house and a garage area on the other side of the former barn.

The house is the second oldest home in town, built in 1763. Known as the Joshua Wright Tavern, it was originally built as two houses in front of the First Church parsonage. It was later moved to its current location, next to the Boynton Public Library. The library was not damaged in the fire.

The building was owned for many years by George and Marjorie Pushee, who ran a kindergarten and later an antiques business in the section damaged by the fire. After Mr. Pushee died last year, it was purchased by Rudolph Sundstrom of Templeton.

Firefighters from Barre, Gardner, Hubbardston and Winchendon assisted Templeton.



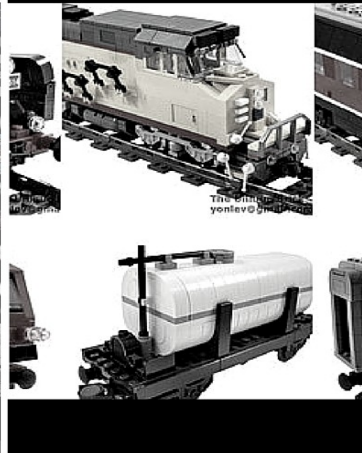


2nd Annual
**CABIN FEVER
 COLLECTORS
 SHOW**
February 27th ~ 12pm - 5pm
Baldwinville Legion

Dust off your collection
 and display it for all to enjoy.
*Advanced free registration is required to
 showcase your collection*

**~\$5 Donation at the Door~
 Refreshments Available**

Presented By
 NARRAGANSETT HISTORICAL SOCIETY
 narragansetthistoricalsociety@yahoo.com





“A moment in time”

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

I REMEMBER

I wonder how many people in town remember when the store in Templeton Center was a real country store. That is what I would have called it back then. It was called The Templeton Coop and was operated by Paul Tietinen. He took over the Coop which was located on RT2A going toward East Templeton in what was last known as Dan's Pine Shop. He moved the grain store up town and combined it with the store. He carried just about everything you would ever need. There were two gas pumps out front and you could buy kerosene also. You could buy grain for your livestock or pets by the 100 pound bag or by the pound. He carried halters for cattle, all kinds of gardening tools and material, nails, traps for pests etc. You could even buy ammunition for a rifle or shotgun there. This part was all out in the barn. When you went into the store there was a good size meat cooler and what is now called a deli. You could buy cold cuts, sliced cheese and many different cuts of beef or pork. There was a walk-in cooler in the barn and he cut the meat right there while you waited and also ground it up if you wished. The store was well stocked with other food items too. When I was very young, the store was known as Johnson's store. I don't remember much about the Johnson family other than that they had a son named Gene who has visited our museum a couple of times in recent years. I think Mr. Tietinen took it over from the Johnson's but I am not positive about that.

Another memory is the removal of the water tower in back of the Grange. The tower was used by the Landlords Inn when it was operating and was taken down around 1945. I watched the workers take it down from my parent's bedroom window. I could not see the tower but I had a good view of the tank on top. I don't know where it was removed to but I use to think they had brought it down to the railroad station and put it on the train. The concrete pillars for the tower still sett behind the Grange today.

When I was a boy, we use to have peddlers that would come around every once in a while. Joyce Provencher and I use to talk about a certain one that came around quite often. He was a little short chubby Jewish gentleman who I was told lived in Winchendon. I wonder how many people are around that remember him. His skin was very dark which was probably from being out in the sun all day. He never came with a vehicle, we always saw him walking even sometime when we were driving toward Winchendon, and we would see him heading home on Rt202. He always had a big black suitcase that was bulging out from being over filled. He always had socks to sell and they would be hanging out of the suitcase as he walked down the road. He would never leave until he sold you something. He would keep lowering the price until you gave in. I think sometime mom would buy some little thing just to get rid of him. That's it for now

Harry

President's Page

by: Brian P. Tanguay

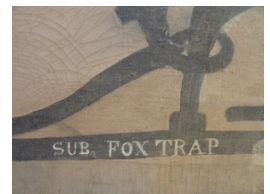


Mother nature is surely giving us a break this winter, with spring like temperatures and that feeling that winter is almost over. I'm sure she's holding out as all of us hard core New Englanders well know it's not over till it's over. Our Cabin Fever show is sure to be an exciting afternoon so please take an hour or two to visit our collectors.

This winter has allowed us to continue working in and around the building with some of the many projects on our list. It feels good to check off a few and consider what's next. We can now put the building back to it's normal state thanks to Darcy who just installed all of the new blinds. A few hands would make the task a lot easier to complete. Send me an email if you are available during a weekend afternoon or morning, we have several volunteers willing to open the building to allow our members time to get a few things done. The rooms need to be decorated, re-organized, and cleaned up for the coming spring season.

If you have an idea for a display to feature, such as factories, the flood of 1938, photographs from the 1890's, or daguerreotypes we have so many interesting collections that can be the main focus for a feature of the month. All we need are your ideas and your time to help set it up. Let's make the building a central part of the community where you can stop by and learn something about Templeton to share with your friends, family, and neighbors.

I'll leave you to enjoy the images of the Sub Fox Trap painted for a political parade back in 1840. This painting has so many messages about the election. Find out more by visiting the Museum this spring.



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

DIRECTORS:
 Karen Rich Tom Hill
 Dennis Rich William Buckler
 Tom Jeleniewski Janet Haley
 Ann Lyons Jessie Duguay
 Tom Hurd

TRUSTEES:
 Tom Jeleniewski
 David Huhtala
 Brian Tanguay
 John Brooks



Contact info:
 Main email: narragansethistoricalsociety@yahoo.com
 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 **1,165 friends and counting!**

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

February Meeting 24th at the COA building off Bridge Street 7pm

March 23rd at the COA building off Bridge Street on Senior Drive 7pm

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

