

Narragansett Historical Society



Giving Thanks

Our most recent work crew accomplished the complete job of blowing insulation into our attic and installing the vents needed to allow the attic to properly breath.

David Tourigny our newest member offered to help us since he was once hired to do just that for his company Chair City Oil.

Mike Therriaut, Thom Hurd, Susan and Tom Spuhler, Mary Grimes, Harry Aldrich, and Brian Tanguay all manned the hopper to keep the insulation going while David directed the insulation into the attic floor. Each person had an important job to make sure the insulation was broken up and dropped into the hopper in small pieces. It took over 4 hours to blow in the 20 bags of fiberglass insulation.

Taylor Rental of Gardner was generous enough to lend us the machine at no cost.

Christof Chartier of C.M. Chartier in Templeton has asked if he could help in any projects, once approached he stepped up and ordered the insulation and the vents from his supplier charging it to his account. After his crew delivered the materials, he only requested payment of \$500.00 and donated \$300.00 to the project. His crew then came down one morning to install the 4 attic roof vents at no charge to the Society.

Our warm blanket has made a huge difference in the second floor and will make a tremendous difference in our heating cost this year.

We purchased this building in 1934 and for the first time in 80 years, we can begin to extend our research days in the building into the late fall and early winter. Thank you to all who made this project a complete success.

Turn to page 4 for pictures

**On the Common
Templeton MA 01468**

Feb. 28th 2015 Cabin Fever Collectors showcase



Do you have a collection that you treasure? Maybe you have been saving up for years, only to have them collecting dust in your house. We are planning on a winter event that will showcase each of your collections. Whether you save

postcards, Barbie dolls, toys, pocket watches, quilts, sewing tools, or hood ornaments we want to display them for the public to see. In the next few months details will be finalized, forms will be created, and a location will be secured. Tentatively we are thinking of Feb. 28th Saturday afternoon at Kamaloht where owner Tom Royer has graciously agreed to host our unique event. This is not a yard sale, it is a multi member collections display. Visitors will be interested to see the many different items not usually seen in public. Refreshments, conversations, and a nice way to spend the afternoon on a winter day. Stay tuned for our Cabin Fever Collectors show.



Sign up early to be in the show:

Contact us at the email on the bottom of this page to receive your application.

There is no charge to set up your collection

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.

Jack Frost Festival

Surprise visit by Elsa, Anna, and Olaf from FROZEN

Jack Frost Festival and Tree Lighting

On the Common, Templeton Center, Mass.



Sunday, Dec. 7
from noon
until after dark

Inside at the **Narragansett Historical Society:**

- Sit on Santa's lap for an "instant" photo with the Jolly Olde Elf himself from 1-3 p.m.
- Bake Sale of Yuletide treats
- Hot Cocoa
- Tour the museum for a taste of Templeton's past

Outside on **The Common:**

- Parade, 3 p.m. (Santa and the Narragansett Warrior Marching Band from Narragansett Regional High School and Middle School)
- Lighting of the Christmas tree, 4:30 p.m.
- Gansett Chorus
- Sing-a-long of holiday songs around the tree
- and **JACK FROST** himself!

Dress warmly, in case Jack Frost begins to nip at your nose, and come join us for some old-fashioned Christmas family fun!

Please bring a canned good to help the Templeton Food Pantry provide for those in need this holiday season.



Vintage paper Santa, tree ornament with skirt, from Germany, circa 1902

Attic insulation project



A copy from Shirley Peabody's Collection
Speaking of the tower clock now on display
in our collection at the Grange hall.

OLD FAITHFUL

By G.E. Crouse,
September 1938

For many years the old church stood
With spire pointing to the sky
While in the tower a faithful clock
Gave forth the time to passers by;
And day and night from out the tower,
The clock pealed for the passing hour.

Then came the fateful hurricane,
Like some great monster of the air,
Uprooting trees, destroying homes
And spreading havoc everywhere.
It madly beat the old church tower –
The clock still pealed the passing hour.

The spire that pointed to the sky
At last went hurtling through the air,
Crashed through the roof and ceiling too,
And o're the pews hung balanced there.
The clock safe in the standing tower
Pealed forth as e'er the passing hour.

For though it lost its face and hands,
Carried to earth when the spire fell,
It never stopped, not an hour lost,
It had its tongue – the old church bell –
And the dauntless clock within the tower,
Ne'er ceased to tell the passing hour.

Brave clock, you've touched the hearts of all,
You seem to say to every one,
"Cheer up, we've been hard hit, 'tis true,
But we're still going to carry on."
Well done, friend clock within the tower,
Long may you tell the passing hour.

TWO NEW URNS

Twas time for the Jack Frost Celebration
And all through the dusty old rooms
Was an atmosphere of jubilation
As we washed and pushed our brooms.

Now came the tree and the decorations
With ribbons and candles and greens,
All placed so there was a transformation
And each room could smile and preen.

But what about the front tribulation
Where the once lovely pair of urns
Had succumbed to old age mutilation
And retirement was now their turn?

But such items of proud veneration
Were beyond what could be bought,
When Lowes Store, with no remuneration,
Donated some stately new pots.

Sporting Tina's evergreen creation
The museum now opens with pride
And the entrance an anticipation
Of the wonder of what is inside.

MEG
2014





“A moment in time”

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

JOHNSON’S CIDER MILL

One of our favorite places to walk to in the fall when we were young teenagers was Johnson’s Cider Mill down on the Otter River Rd. It was owned and operated by Louie Johnson, a life long resident and well known farmer in town. Louie was always self employed as a farmer as far as I know and did all types of farming. He ran a slaughter house, ran a dairy farm, raised all kinds of vegetables, had a good size apple orchard, sold garden plants and of course ran a cider mill. In the summer we would sneak into the orchard and steal a few apples every once in a while and sometimes Louie would catch us and chase us out yelling get the gun to scare us. In later years I had talked to Louie about this and I believe he got a bigger kick out of it then we did.

When fall came and he started pressing cider, we would go down and watch him operating his press and sample the cider. Sometimes we would buy a gallon and ask Louie to give us some of the hard stuff. He would give us some that was a little aged and had a little bite to it and we thought it was hard. We would go back to the common and drink it and hoop it up a little playing in the leave piles thinking we were pretty big while Louie was back at the mill laughing at us.

Louie and the farm are gone now. When the state put RT2 through town, they pretty much put Louie out of business. He tried fighting them but couldn’t win. The highway was put right through the middle of his farm cutting it in half. What is left of the apple orchard can be seen when you drive down the east bound lane.

Lifetime Membership

We only have a few more weeks to sign up new members for 2014. If you need an application, send us a request through our email account. Each life member will receive our newsletter filled with important information that may interest them to get involved. Sign up a neighbor, a co-worker, or a family member.

You can even give a lifetime membership as a gift this holiday season. What a great gift that would be.

Our goal was to sign up 50 new members this year and we are closing in on that goal, you could be the one that gets us there.

Join Today

You’ll go down in history....

Pumpkin Festival followup



The Pumpkin Fest was brought back by many requests throughout the town. The School got involved with scarecrow building and pumpkin carving. Madame Volka (Susan Spuhler) brought a fortune teller tent to the event. A food tent was set up By Karen Rich and Mary Grimes with pies, hot dogs by Howard Sands, donuts and pop corn by Ann Lyons. Vendors came to sell their home made treats, soaps, and teas. Children filled the common playing games from days gone by such as bowling using pumpkins and gourds, bobbing for apples, ring toss, & penny toss to name a few run by Kerry Bettez and several students from RHO Kappa.

Our volunteers worked hard to make it a family event bringing in facepainting (Ari Winters) and belly dancers from Shimmy and Shape of Barre MA. Headed up by Jessie Duguay and Julie Crosby our visitors could not have been more pleased to see the fun their children had viewing the carved pumpkins and scarecrows.

The building was open for free tours and it was filled for the entire day, even though the weather cooperated with us and gave us full sun and a warm glow on the town.

This is what a Historical Society does best. When the entire town is talking about how much fun it was and to share it with those who missed it creating a buzz to insure it will be bigger and better next year with an even larger crowd of visitors and vendors.

Many hours went into this event and many hands helped to make it a huge success. Please consider having fun with us at the next event and lend a hand if you can.



OFFICERS:
 President : Brian Tanguay
 1st Vice Pres. Beth Arsenault
 2nd 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
 Kerry Bettez Mark Moschetti

TRUSTEES:
 Tom Jeleniewski
 David Huhtala
 Brian Tanguay
 John Brooks

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

Contact info:
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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.

Sign up soon. **845 friends and counting!**

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

Due to the holidays, we will meet a week early in Dec.

**December 17th at the Narragansett Regional High School Library 7pm
 Setting up the 2015 Calendar of events. Bring your final ideas.**

January 28th at the High School Library 7pm

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

