

Narragansett Historical Society

On the Common in Templeton MA

October 2017

Motorpalooza 2017 took place on the common September 23rd under blue skies and perfect temperatures. Boothill Express filled the common with music that could be heard all around town. Cars, trucks, tractors, motorcycles, engines, and even a gas powered washing machine were part of over 70 show pieces topping last years count. Night Owl of Clinton registered the cars and presented the People's choice award. The food tent was buzzing with activity and we raised over \$1,200.00 on the day. Looking forward to next year, bigger and better. Good job to all our volunteers.



Calendar 2017

October 25th meeting 7pm

October 28, 29, & 31st Haunted walk

Nov. 3rd, Friday at 9am to 1:00 Grade 3 guided tour

Nov. 15th Wednesday night Monthly meeting ONE WEEK EARLY

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

Our apologies for the last minute changes to the Haunted walk. Due to scheduling conflicts and other personal matters, we decided to have it on one weekend instead of two. With the bonus night of Halloween for the finale.

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.

Haunted Walk

HAUNTED HALLOWEEN WALK

6 - 8pm

Sat. Oct. 28th

Sun. Oct. 29th

& Tues. Oct. 31st



Creepy Clowns,
Carnival Antics & More !

~\$5 DONATION PER/PERSON~



The Narragansett Historical Society

1 Boynton Rd, Templeton

For more information 978-833-0255

We could always use more help, stop by early to offer your support for our event. Or come and enjoy the hard work our volunteers have put into this Halloween spooky house tour. Email us now if you plan on helping out.



Grade 3 tour Nov. 3rd **Making Memories**

Here is something fun to do and secure a great memory for our children. Our building will be open to the third grade thanks to Jessica LeClerc who organizes this tour for 100 students each year. "There will be four classes going. There are approximately 25 students in each class. We will have 2-3 adults per class for chaperones, including the teachers. We will hopefully be having 45 minute rotations that would go from 9:15-12:15 as a ball park. One of the rotations will be the guided tour of the museum."

If you have time on that Friday, meet us at the building around 9am to help out, keep an eye on the building, talk to the children and help them experience all that we have in our collection.

Come to the building on Tuesday night or Saturday afternoon to get an idea of what we need from you. This is one tour that is fun, and will secure our future with new members and future Officers.



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

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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

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.

Event Sponsor



Historic Visit

We had a surprise visit from Crawford & Ann Lincoln on Saturday September 16th. Traveling from Enfield Connecticut, Crawford wanted to visit the portrait of his Great-Great-Grandmother Harriet Bond-Lincoln which has graced the wall above the fireplace in the front living room.

Crawford shared some information we never had in our story of the portrait which is believed to be painted by Robert Peckham of Westminister MA (1785 —1877).



Their visit was two fold, they brought with them two family photographs one of Harriet in her later years and the other of her with her 3 sisters Catherine Bond Harding, Harriet, Martha Bond Lincoln, and Lucy Bond Lee as seen below.

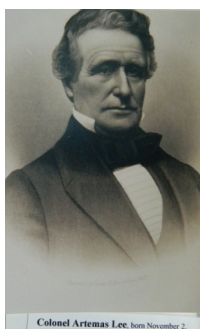


The Bond girls were born in North Brookfield MA and spent their early childhood in the house of Miss Elsa Stone, which is now the Country Mischief.

Harriet went on to marry Addison Justin Lincoln in 1853 at the age of 32 which may just be the year of her portrait in our collection.



Their Father Moses was said to run a store in Templeton, but no other information was available to determine which store it was. One interesting addition to the story was Harriet's sister Lucy, it turns out Lucy married Artemas Lee who built the house and store on South Road which is now the Country Store. Did Moses work at the Country store for Artemas? I'm sure we will find out in the near future.



It was a pleasure meeting Crawford and Ann they also left us with an original Pin used by Harriet and passed down 5 generations and used for years by Ann on special Occasions. Thank you for sharing your family history and for your generous donations to the Society





“A moment in time”

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

THE NIGHT THE HIGHWAY BARN BURNED

On November 23rd, 1993 a large portion of our highway garage and equipment was destroyed by a fire. At the time, I worked there for the Templeton Sewer Department and a member of the fire department. All the workers had gone home and it was around supper time. I had just sat down to eat and the fire alert was going off and the dispatcher announced that a fire had been reported at the garage. She had sounded the alarm a few times with no firefighters responding so she notified the chief of the situation not knowing that our base radio had already been destroyed in the fire so the alarm was not going out. She was told to switch over to a back-up system and got the alarm out to the firefighters. I drove one of the engines from the Templeton Center station and as I pulled into the highway garage yard, all the electric doors on the building were going up and down due to wires being shorted by the fire.

Firefighters from all four of the town stations fought the fire but with all the equipment burning in the building it was pretty well gone. They were able to save two of the bays thanks to a firewall separating them from the rest of the garage. Most of the towns snow fighting equipment were either lost or heavily damaged. With winter setting in, the town was in a lot of trouble.

Now just to show you the kind of neighbors we have, the entire neighboring town offered help of some kind. We were loaned two dump trucks with plows and sanders from the state and the town of Athol loaned us a complete truck all set-up. Anything that was needed was loaned to us by our various neighboring towns and city.

The town was able to rebuild the garage and get it back into operation with money from the towns insurance but there was not enough coverage to replace all the equipment that was lost. There were two six wheel dump trucks, a bucket truck for tree work, the street sweeper, a one ton dump truck and a front end loader that were a total loss. A lot of smaller equipment and hand tools were also destroyed. The remainder of the heavy equipment was sent out to different repair shops to be repaired. Much of what was repaired only lasted for a few years. For many years the town had to hire out the street sweeping and could only afford to sweep the main streets in town.

Today, the department still feels the effect of the fire. Due to the financial conditions of the town, they have not been able to replace much of the equipment some of which is the same equipment that went through the fire.



President's Page

by: **Brian P. Tanguay**



Our board of governors and I have been chipping away at our project list as you have seen over the years either first hand or through our newsletters. The “House” is in order, safe, dry, and mostly painted. We are now moving forward with the preservation of the collection and the first place to start is our book collection, maps, and ephemera. These items are in desperate need of attention and we can now begin the process of organizing them, protecting them, and storing them in a place that will keep them for years to come. Digitizing is one safety measure so we know their condition and it offers us a workable format to share, study, and research without further damaging the originals.

Thanks to the Hadley Family, we are closer to completing a climate controlled room to be created in the Grange hall on the left side of the stage. The Hadley’s have donated funding to purchase the heating and air conditioning unit, and will cover the cost of construction as well. They will be delivering a large genealogy collection on their family to be stored along side our collection. Preliminary work has begun to clear out the area and prepare for the insulation, sheet rock, electricity, and proper venting to create the room for our items. A section of the room will have storage for all of our maps as well. If all goes well, we have the space to create a second room on stage right to properly store the dresses, quilts, and more.

Obviously the collection we are trusted with is our most important responsibility and we all take it very seriously, which is why we have been working so hard to secure the buildings with roofing, walls, windows and more. It’s very rewarding that we are all taking part of this historic task. Imagine over the past 93 years we have never had a filing cabinet, nor did we have a place to put one. With the new room, we will have multiple filing cabinets to store our records, membership lists, & documents created at each meeting, newsletters, meeting minutes, trustee reports and so much more. All in order and easy for the next generation to dig through easily without having to search through the entire building just to find one piece of information.

We have several teams working at each step of the process and many more members waiting in the wings ready to step up to do the tasks they know how to do. Our membership has grown to the point where we have someone from each profession making this process so much easier on all of us.

In almost every organization similar to ours, there are just a handful of members who have to do it all, and in the end, that is a recipe for failure, burnout, and a stagnant Society. I’m happy to report we are strong, growing, and secure in our efforts to stay on track. Keep up the good work, let us know if you want to help out. We’re sure we can find a spot for you. We welcome your support.

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
Darlene LaClair	Amy Guthrie	Tom Hurd
OPEN	Tom Jeleniewski	Jessie Duguay
OPEN	Dennis Rich	Ann Lyons

TRUSTEES:
 Tom Jeleniewski
 David Huhtala
 John Brooks



Contact info:
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 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/narragansetthissoc/>
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.

October 25th 7pm Membership meeting 7pm Document room

November 15th A week early due to Thanksgiving

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

