

Narragansett Historical Society



October
2015



Events and Meetings for 2015

Summer / Fall

OPEN every **Tuesday night at the Museum from 6-8pm**

Oct. All Month display "Death becomes her" features mourning dresses, jewelry, and hair wreaths

28th Meeting 4th Wednesday 7pm in the Document room

31st Pumpkin Festival Noon to 9pm

Nov. 14th Sponsor and Volunteer appreciation day. 4-8pm at the building

18th Meeting 3rd Wednesday in the Document room

Dec. 6th Jack Frost Festival Sunday from 1-5 Parade at 4, tree lighting at 4:30. Bake sale, open house, wreath sale, raffle drawing.

16th Meeting 3rd Wednesday in the Document room

*******2016*******

Jan 27th Meeting at the High School Library 7 PM

Feb 24th Meeting at the High School Library 7 PM

Feb 27th Cabin Fever Collectors Show at the

Baldwinville Legion Noon To 5pm

On the Common
Templeton MA

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

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.

November 14

An Evening at the Museum is planned for Saturday night Nov. 14 from 4-8pm. *Kamaloht* will be serving up some favorites while we listen to the sounds of *the Garden and Orchard Consort*.

The evening is a way to show appreciation to our sponsors and volunteers who helped make 2014-2015 a success.

Stop by to show your support and appreciation for everything they do to keep the building safe and clean.

A \$15.00 donation at the door is appreciated for this event.

Enjoy our newly updated displays throughout the building while discussing our coming events and projects.

An evening social you won't want to miss. The Public is encouraged.

Dec. 6th

Jack Frost Festival is coming.

Santa will be here in a better location for easy access.

Parade will include floats, the Narragansett Marching Band, Boy Scouts, etc.

Sign up your group to participate soon.

Elsa and Anna from Frozen have agreed to be there since they had so much fun last year.



Engine Show

With excellent weather and a downtown common filled with tractors, engines, cars and trucks our 3rd annual engine show was a success. The food tent was superbly run by our many volunteers and everyone enjoyed the day. We had fewer vehicles than last year but more enthusiasm to fill the day long event.

Thanks to everyone who attended and especially to our volunteering members who made the day!

New Event Sponsor

We would like to welcome our newest event sponsor for the Pumpkin Festival and the Jack Frost Festival. Our deepest gratitude goes out to the Athol Savings Bank for supporting our events and helping us succeed in our efforts to create these festivals for our neighbors to enjoy.



ATHOL SAVINGS BANK
Proud of Our Past, Focused on the Future



Join Us for...

~ DEATH BECOMES HER ~

Tuesdays 6-8pm and Saturdays 1-5pm in October

Which leads us into the Pumpkin Festival on
Halloween, Saturday, Oct. 31.

Speak to our "Widow" Every Saturday at 2pm

The Narragansett Historical Society Presents

Pumpkin Festival

2015



Saturday October 31 Noon - 9 pm

at 1 Boynton Road Templeton Common

GAMES / CARVED PUMPKIN CONTEST / HAUNTED WALK

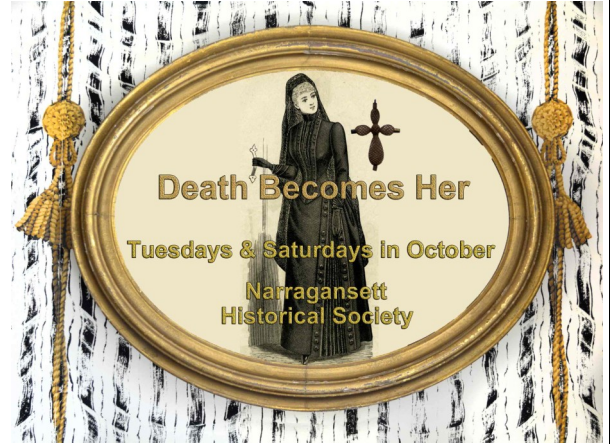
FAIR / FOOD / PRIZES / HORRIBLES PARADE

“Death Becomes Her”

*“Black is becoming; and young widows, fair, plump and smiling with their roguish eyes sparkling under their black veils are very seducing.” – Robert de Valcourt, *The Illustrated Manners Book*, 1855*

"Death Becomes Her," an exhibit on the change in the style of mourning clothes during the mid 1800s to the early 1900s, including the Civil War, when many women decided against wearing mourning clothes because there had just been too much death. The exhibit will be open Tuesdays and Saturdays in October, with a presentation by a costumed interpreter (a 60-something widow dressed in black) at 2 p.m.

each Saturday. On display will be three of the historical society's framed hair wreaths, as well as hair jewelry, along with other objects of mourning, as a lead-in to the Pumpkin Festival. Fashioning human hair into jewelry and wreaths was a popular craft during the period, a way for families to honor and remember their dear departed. And an “experienced” young widow, dressed fashionably in black, could be quite a catch as a wife, especially if she had money. Come and see.





“A moment in time”

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

MY EARLY YEARS WORKING FOR THE TOWN

My dad was the Tree Warden in town for over twenty five years and I started out working with him when I was around fourteen. My job back then was walking down the roads painting Gypsy Moth eggs in the trees with creosol. We used a brush on a long pole to reach as high as we could and cover the eggs and destroy them. I also at times, helped him cutting trees up with the cross cut saw as the town did not own any chain saws back then. It was a little different working with the cross cut. There was one person on each end and when the guy on the other end pulled the saw through to his side you had to pull it back. When I slowed down or wasn't pulling my side, Dad would tell me that I was riding the saw.

I worked with Dad all during the time that he held the job either after school or on my days off after I started a job with Sears Roebuck. He taught me a lot about cutting a tree and landing it where you wanted it to land. He was very good at it probably from being a logger in his younger days and of course, like many young boys, I got to where I knew it all. Well, we took down a good size Elm on Wellington Road one day and I told him where I thought it would land. Dad did not agree with me but I guess he figured it was time to teach me a lesson as I wasn't about to give in. He handed me the saw and said cut it. I notched it toward where I wanted to land and started cutting. Well, I was close but not close enough. I took out about fifteen feet of Mr. Trudell's picket fence and spent the next few days or evenings replacing and painting the fence for free.

After Dad gave up the job, I got elected for the position and held it for eight years before giving it up. It was a very interesting job and I can say that I had a good teacher. Before I got through, I started a program where we would go to a nursery and purchase the trees that they had left in the fall and give them to home owners with the stipulation that they had to be planted with in fifteen feet of the road. There were several varieties and it was a good way to replace trees and getting the home owner to care for them. There are many trees in this town that I can, I PUT THAT TREE THERE WITH MY DAD.

President's Page

By: Brian P. Tanguay



Our membership drive is still on. The total membership has grown from 220 to 342 in only 15 months. What an accomplishment in such a short time. Keep it up! Our goal is to reach 400 by next May. The only way this can happen is for each of us to sign up “JUST ONE” new lifetime member over the winter. Give a lifetime membership to a family member, friend, or simply ask your neighbor if they are a member yet. You would be amazed at how many people are waiting to be asked.

New to town? Just bought that great house down the street. Stop in and let them know who we are and what we have been up to. Invite them to an event or a meeting. Or just bring them down on a casual Tuesday night and introduce them to our building and the great collection inside.

First step is to join, second step is to find what you like, and third step is to get involved. Get involved at your pace, start slow and find something you enjoy such as Genealogy, Civil War, Photography in the 1800's, Factories around the town, Musical instruments, Furniture, Textiles, or tea pots. There is something for everyone to enjoy and to discover. Sign up a friend today, it's the only way to insure our future and save our past.

Community Foundation

A recent meeting was attended by our President along with several surrounding Historical Society and Museum groups to discuss opportunities provided by the Foundation. Some of these details will be discussed at our October meeting along with more information shared in the coming newsletters. As quoted from their website: “The Community Foundation of North Central Massachusetts invests in our region's vital nonprofits through its distributions, awarded through [General Endowment Grants](#), [Donor Advised Funds](#), [Field of Interest Funds](#), [Scholarships](#) and [Designated Funds](#).”

Learn more at their webpage: <http://www.cfncm.org/Home.aspx>

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
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 Tom Jeleniewski Janet Haley
 Ann Lyons Jessie Duguay
 Tom Hurd

TRUSTEES:
 Tom Jeleniewski
 David Huhtala
 Brian Tanguay
 John Brooks



Contact info:
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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.

ITEMS FOR THE NEXT NEWSLETTER ARE WELCOME any time.



Sign up soon **1,052 friends and counting!**

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

October 28th 7pm in the Document room

November 18th in the Document room 7 pm

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

