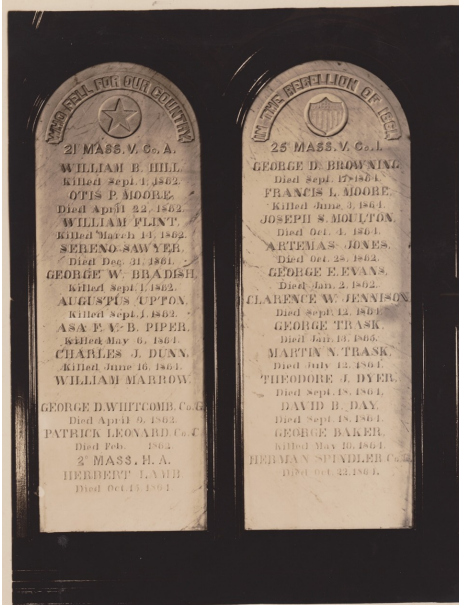


Narragansett Historical Society On the Common in Templeton MA

September 2016

A quick reminder of the important collection we have on the Civil War. Our next project will be to properly preserve these many artifacts and display them with the respect they deserve.



**Pumpkin Fest
Is Coming**

October 29th

**Carve and enter
Your pumpkin**

**Create a
Scarecrow and
Display it on the
Common.**

Plan on it !



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

Calendar 2016

OCTOBER 29th Pumpkin Fest, Saturday, on the Templeton Common.

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

February Date TBD. Cabin Fever Collectors showcase

The building is Open

Tuesday nights from 6-8 and on Saturday afternoons from 1-5

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

Your help is needed at the food tent, in the building, & organizing the event. Don't be shy, call or send an email to let us know you are able to help.

Thank you: Brian Winters for volunteering to help us with the proper installation of an exterior flood light on the back porch entrance. Now as you walk around to gain access using the back kitchen door, you will be greeted with a well lit walkway and as you exit, the light will guide you safely down the steps and back to your car. Most of you will never use it, but those of us who lock up at night will thank Brian each time they exit the building.

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.

Engine Show 2016

Our show this year brought in more exhibitors and the weather was perfect. Every volunteer worked hard to make this event a great success. We welcomed two new life members that day and opened the doors to the Society for the entire community. Lots of smiles and many great comments about our organization. This is such a cool event with so many different types of motorized vehicles, tractors, and machines, I would like to make the suggestion to change the name of the event next year to **MOTORPALOOZA 2017** what do you think?



Gold Sponsors



Silver Sponsor



Bronze Sponsors



Event Sponsors



Please consider the environment before printing this email.

Sponsors



Craft Fair 2016

We had a great two days during the craft fair selling baked goods, keeping the building open for visitors to enjoy, and signing up new members to reach our goal. Thanks to all of our volunteers for taking the time to be there on behalf of the Society.



Grange hall Curtain. See Harry's Story



“A moment in time”

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

Advertising Curtain (See previous page for photo)

This month I will be talking about the advertising curtain that was discovered on the back of the stage upstairs in the Grange Hall. I do not know when the curtain was made up but my guess is that it goes back at least to the 1930s if not older. The curtain shows advertisements from businesses, who I assume paid to have their ad painted on the curtain. I will attempt to describe them and tell what I know or remember about them starting from the left.

The first one on the upper left, **Nyman & Nyman** did painting and wall papering. One of the owners, Oscar Nyman was also a member of the fire department and served on the committee for the Templeton Center School when it was built in 1941. I have been told that he fell to his death while doing a job in Fitchburg. Next is **E.R. Robillard's Pharmacy** that was located on Parker Street in Gardner. **Woods Garage** was located at the intersection of Summer St. and Chelsea St. in South Gardner. They were a car dealership that sold Plymouths and operated an ambulance service. The ambulance service still exists today.

The next two are **Chairtown Lumber** and **Royal Steam Heater Company** who are still doing business at the locations today. The **William P. Hawley Insurance Company** was located in Baldwinville. Mr. Hawley resided on Pleasant Street. The **Templeton Light Department** was as we know it today except that they also operated a store on Central Street and sold electrical appliances. **Farm Service Stores** I know nothing about but wonder if they might have been the Farmers' Cooperative. **Rod's Electric** specialized in automotive electric rebuilding starters etc. They were located in Gardner and owned by the Rod brothers who lived in town.

Wirthmore Feeds and Coal was located on Main Street in Gardner. My dad used to buy grain from them. I can remember during the war how the grain came in sacks made of cotton fabric and my mother would use it to make aprons and such. The building was later known as Manca's Warehouse and was destroyed by a fire years ago.

The first National Bank was located just up from the Colonial Hotel. The empty building still stands but I do not think it is being used. The bank changed owners several times and is now T.D.North on Pearson Blvd. Next is **Ki's Beauty Shoppe** which was owned and operated by Karen Holmbo on Main Street in East Templeton. Next is **Templeton Garage** which was owned and operated by Karen's father, Jack Holmbo. The garage was later sold to Tovio Huhtala and is owned by his grandsons, the third generation. The Holmbo family lived right next to the garage. They purchased the octagon house on the corner of Mechanic Street and started a chicken farm. The garage was taken by the state when Route 2 was constructed and is still there in ruins. The house was moved to a location on Barre Road and is still in use today. The **W. E. Aubuchon Co.** was located in West Gardner. The company relocated a few times and is now located on Pearson Blvd. The **Plain View Bakery**, was located on Central Street and the **American House** was at 38 Parker Street, both in Gardner. The **Butterfly Beauty Shoppe** was at 20 Parker Street. **Lemas Furniture Co.** was at 76 Parker St. There are several others from Gardner that I know very little about. I also am not familiar with **Smith Brothers Heating Oil** in Baldwinville.

Lovell's Garage was owned and operated by Perley Lovell and is now operated by C.O. & S in East Templeton. Many people think the garage was in Templeton Center but they are mistaken. Perley's brother Clarence operated the garage in the center.

F.E. Johnson and Son is now the Templeton Country Store. The cover of our book shows Mr. Johnson standing in front with two others. The next one that I remember is **George Lebroke Grocery and Meats**. This was the Clover Farm Store that was in the center located in what is now Nygard's Animal Hospital. Then there is **Twin Dairy Farm** which was in Petersham, owned and operated by the Elliott family I remember them going to the houses and walking in and putting the milk in the refrigerator for the customer, something that you would not do today.

The **Hatton Press Printers** was located in Gardner. Their shop is now the location of the Stasukelis Appliance Store.

Parkers Auto Sales is now Parkers Autobody on Willow Street and **Wheelen Inc.** is now Wheelen Supply in Gardner still in business today.

President's Page

by: **Brian P. Tanguay**



What a great summer! A little too dry for those that garden, fish, or just want a green lawn. We did save on mowing this year, I think I only mowed every two weeks and that was just to cut down the tall weeds.

I hope you all got a chance to enjoy the events and the fun that comes with summer. We had great turnouts for the craft fair and our Kite festival and don't forget the crowds we see every Tuesday night. Now we need to work on those Saturday afternoons, sometimes we get a crowd, but some Saturdays are very quiet. Some have mentioned we should open Sunday afternoons for those who enjoy a cruise around Central Massachusetts stopping at antique stores, ice cream shops, and Historical Society Museum buildings. All it takes are a few volunteers to keep the building open and safe.

Look at how far we have come in such a short time, from only being open Saturday from 1-5 in July and August to being open twice a week from May to November. Now that's progress, not to forget the support of the community and the businesses and banks who support us annually. (see page 4)

If you are interested in hosting the building, please speak up, stop by, or email us.

There probably won't be the spectacular color show this year with our autumn leaves, if they do put on a show, it will be a quick one. Keep in mind our Pumpkin Fest, and Jack Frost Festival are coming fast and we could always use your help.

I want to thank the "Society" for allowing me to save the clock. Can you believe it all started Dec. 2012? For me, it was an honor to be in charge of such a great project. It has given me the training to add the service to my business and begin another journey in my field. I have begun a job in Vermont for a Church that hasn't had the clock running in over 20 years. I'm almost done setting it up and cleaning it. The pendulum working on it's own recently.

I hope I have set an example of how important it is to volunteer for projects that help the community and the Society. The Clock restoration from the Baptist Church was the catalyst to open the eyes of the community and get them excited about the Historical Society again. We have had so many new members join from that project alone. They have since become active members contributing many hours and offering to help in so many ways.

Each project has brought in new interest to the Society and it's needs; The attic insulation, the front steps, painting the door and windows, painting the document room, painting the kitchen, making a new platform for the refrigerator, sprucing up the garden, preserving the Grange hall curtains, hosting the building, and creating slide show presentations.

Keep up the good work.

There's plenty more to come!

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
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Tom Jeleniewski	Jessie Duguay	Tom Hill
Dennis Rich	Ann Lyons	William Buckler

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 **1,300 friends and counting!**

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

September 28th Document room 7pm

October 26th Document room 7pm



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