

Narragansett Historical Society

On the Common in Templeton MA

December 2017

A time of giving

There are many ways to give to the Narragansett Historical Society to create a lasting legacy or be a part of a fund set up to sustain our annual bills from year to year.

1. Sign up as a life member or give the gift of membership to a family member or close friend. Lifetime members are still only \$100.00, no renewals, no reminders, and the money can be placed in our fund at the Community Foundation building it up for years to come.
2. Make a direct donation to the fund at <http://www.cfncm.org/Home.aspx> it is 100% tax deductible and covered under the IRS 501 (c) 3 designation.
3. Create your own fund at the Community foundation under your name and setting it up to benefit the Narragansett Historical Society. Funds start at \$10,000.00
4. Include us in your estate planning, either making annual installments starting now, or leaving a lump sum to be added to our NHS Fund currently at \$11,600.00 and growing.
5. Send your donation directly to the Narragansett Historical Society and indicate if it is to be used for postage, heat, preservation, or for the general fund.

Please consider us in your gift planning. We will benefit greatly, more so than if you gave to a major institution like Harvard or Yale. Every dollar will make a huge impact on our survival.

For more information please email us at the address on the bottom of most pages in this newsletter.



Grange hall update

33 windows are all installed on both floors and in the cellar by Harris construction, two doors front and back are in and working, the trim is just about finished and the project “phase 3” is completed as promised by Bill Harris. Bill went above and beyond with this phase by using his own cash to buy our windows in hopes the CPC grant money would reimburse him, it took almost a month after the windows arrived and many were installed before the “red tape” was cut through to pay Bill the deposit. Tighter restrictions on spending, even grant money, is now in place making it harder for outside contractors to use those funds. Now that the job is completed, we are working through the red tape again to get the balance of the approved grant money to pay Bill. The job is done, completing almost all of what was promised from a four year old estimate. I am confident when I say that Bill is not making what he should and he is doing some of the work as a donation to the Society.

A local builder and supporter of many jobs in town including the Senior Center, Bill deserves a thank you from the town and if you see his truck give him a shout out for all the good he is doing for all of us.



Bill on the far left helping with the Civil War frames. On his own time.



All windows are installed in the Grange hall



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.

Jack Frost 2017

Jack frost showed up a bit taller than last year, Buddy the elf was on hand along with Santa and many of our faithful members all doing a great job in hosting this years event. The parade was met with a larger crowd than last year cheering on the Girl scouts, Boy scouts, police cruiser, fire truck, ambulance, Selectman John Caplis, and of course, Santa waving to all the children lining Baldwinville Rd.

Inside the Historical Society building decorated living room with Christmas tree and a chair for Santa to allow our visitors to take pictures as the kids asked Santa for that special gift. In our old kitchen we filled the tables with baked goods, cookies, whoopee pies, and holiday breads for everyone to bring home and add to their desert table. The new kitchen was host to mulled apple cider, cocoa, and egg-nog to finish off the holiday spirit.

The parade ended on the common in front of the Christmas tree where the Narragansett band played a selection of holiday music and the girl scouts sang Christmas carols with Santa. The event was capped off as the town officials headed the countdown 3-2-1.. To light the tree starting the holiday season in town.



We hope to work with other community groups to make this event bigger and better as each year arrives. Contact us here if you are willing to help organize this event in 2018 The community enjoys it, the kids love it, and we take pride in helping.

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





“A moment in time”

by: Harry Aldrich Jr. *Historian*

Is There Really A Santa Clause?

When I was very young, I was always told that there was a Santa Clause by my parents. This is also how I brought up my three children. When I was old enough to start school, some of my classmates would tell me that it was not true and that there was no such thing as Santa. I think that this probably around the time that I started to realize that they were correct. My parents never actually told me one way or the other. They just kept me believing as long as they could. On Christmas, I would leave a cup of coffee and cookies for him and when I got up in the morning, the coffee would be gone and there would be a little hair in the bottom of the cup to help make me a believer. One morning, I can remember going outside and looking up on the roof for tracks. I actually believed that he came down the chimney. Never did find any tracks, Dad didn't go that far.

Christmas was very important to Dad, and he frowned on any of the gifts being open before Christmas morning. I remember one year he had gotten Mom a gift as he always did and I had seen what it was. I told her what he had gotten and when he found out, I received a stern talking to about what I had done.

I remember one year, I had wanted an electric train for Christmas. On Christmas morning I got up around three in the morning and found the train under the tree. I was one very happy boy and started setting it up immediately. They came into the living room and saw me setting it up and made me go back to bed.

As I said, this is also how my wife and I brought up our children to believe. I worked for Sears Roebuck when we were first married so I quite often got some real good deals on toys during the holiday. There was no shortage of toys for them. One year my oldest son got into the attic where we had them hidden and did a little snooping. When we found out what he was doing we removed them and found another place to hide them. The next time he went into the attic to look, they were all gone. He told us what had happened and our answer was that Santa was probably storing them there until Christmas morning and because he had gone up there he had taken them back. He had a pretty long face for a while but he stayed out of the attic, and I think we had made him a believer for a little while.

I can honestly say that after working in a store and dealing with people during the holiday that there probably is a Santa. It was nice meeting all those people and hearing the Christmas wishes from them weather you knew them or not. Everybody was just so happy and friendly.

So, you see, that jolly old man in red might really exist. You just have to believe.



President's Page

by: **Brian P. Tanguay**



Closing out 2017

As we prepare our holiday parties with friends and family, I look back over the past 12 months to reflect of all that we have done. So many good things happening which will be captured in these newsletters and the collection put together in our 2017 yearbook Harry is creating.

There are so many volunteers doing so much for the Society in hundreds of different ways. Our members and friends come out to do what they enjoy. Not for the notoriety, not for a gift of any sort, but only for the fact that it needs to be done and they have the time and effort to complete that task. From moving historic objects into new displays, baking tasty treats for our bake sales, setting up an event for the community to enjoy, writing articles for the papers, newsletters, and advertising posters, and so much more, I would need a few more pages to list them all.

Many of these dedicated souls are here day after day, event after event, and never a complaint other than an occasional shout out for more to join in and see what they are missing. These are the ones who deserve a Thank You, a gift certificate, or some sort of recognition, but each time we discuss their achievements, I get the same response, "I don't want anything, I did it because I enjoy it".

This is my 26th year as an active member of the Society, staying just out of the public eye for most of them doing what I thought needed to be done without asking for anything in return. This is why I assume most of our new members are getting involved, because they are willing to help where they can.

So as you sit there at the computer reading this newsletter, or for those of you who print it out and read it in the living room by the table lamp. Please know that I am speaking to you when I say, on behalf of the entire Historical Society, **THANK YOU FOR WHAT YOU HAVE DONE** to get us to this place in time. You may think it was no big deal, but the fact that you stood up and did something, that alone is great.

2018 will prove to be a challenge for all of us, we have reached a threshold where we will need you more than ever. Many things have changed in our lives and each one of us need the support of our over 400 members to stand up and ask what they can do to help out. Find your strength and passion in history and put it to good use.

Many of our sponsors are committing to continue their support as I speak to each one of them. Some are moving up in their support packages as they can see a positive change in the direction of the Society. With community involvement, membership commitment, and the participation with other local groups, we will certainly create a solid organization that will withstand anything put in front of us.

The Grange hall will be our game changer, so we need to open that building as soon as possible to offer more programs, and indoor events utilizing the space to create better fundraisers going forward.

As your President, my main focus has to be the continued growth and strength of the Society.

To every member, sponsor, and friend. **Happy Holidays, Merry Christmas** and **Happy New Year**

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/narragansethissoc/>
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.

December 20th at the Senior Center in Baldwinville 7pm

January 24th at the Senior Center in Baldwinville 7pm

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



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