

# Narragansett Historical Society

On the Common in Templeton MA

## December 2022

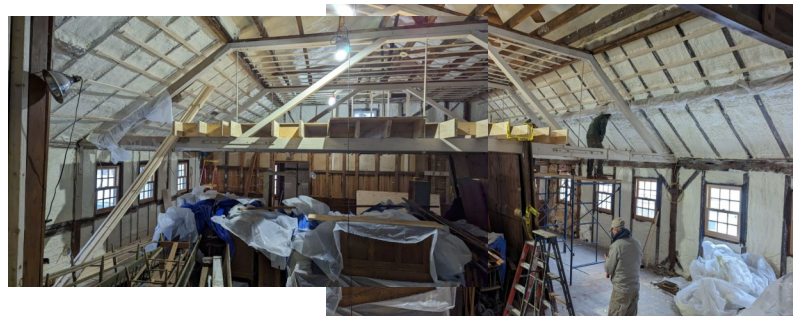
**There will be no January meeting & The building is now closed.**



Digging out the frame from storage from the Brooks Barn on Barre Rd. It is now being scraped and prepared for installation around the stained glass window. Thanks to Amy for scraping and John Brooks for storing it all these years.



Next up is the strapping for the blueboard, here are some current images from December Showing the stage with the Civil War frames in place and the prepared area with the raised ceiling for the church window. It won't be long until this space takes on an improved look.



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# Into the woods by Mary Miller

## Woods words

What we have been calling the long trail, the trail that follows the perimeter of the property, is mostly done. It was a hard slog, we were going through the ‘ slash’ the tree-tops left by the loggers. My goal for spring is some signs and or blazes to mark the trail, and a trail map. There are 3 trails ( all rough, still ) the goal for the short trail is that it be wide, and well maintained. The smaller loop needs a bit more love and signage. When snowshoe season comes, I will walk the trails and share it on social media and you can follow my footsteps.

Maybe I'll see you out there?



*Thank you \* Sponsorship \* Thank you*

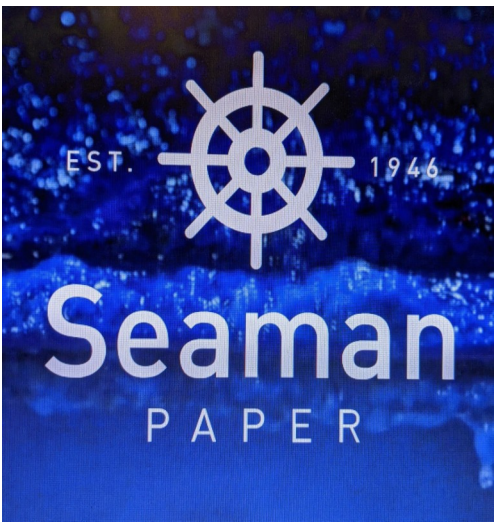
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SPONSORSHIP LEVELS					
ANNUAL CONTRIBUTION					
Platinum	\$5,000.00	Gold	\$1,000.00	Silver	\$750.00
Bronze	\$500.00	Event	\$250.00		

Lifetime memberships are still only \$100.00 sign up a friend to-

# Cabin Fever tentative date 2-26-23

**If you were a collector who showed in the past or a collector who would like to be in the show, now's the time to give us an email to set your place.**

**Our last show took place in our own building, we had some great collections, but not a great turnout of visitors.**

**So, we are back to February and the Baldwinville Legion, if they will have us.**

**Sign up today, limited tables, MAX 25.**

**Bottles, pencil Sharpeners, Pez, Pocket Watches, purses, hot-wheels, pens, glassware, phonographs, cameras, tinware, action figures, Tonka, Harper's Bazaar, photographs, postcards, or just about anything you can imagine.**

**If you collect it, you should show it.**

**It's a fun afternoon sharing your collection or talking to others about theirs. You'll be amazed at what you learn during the show.**

**Nothing is for sale, it's not a flea market, It's a collectors showcase.**

**Fun for all ages, if you've never been, make this one your first.**





## *"A moment in time"*

*By: Harry Aldrich Jr. Historian*

### THE DAY THE ROAD SANK

Much of this information is from a story by Mike Richard that was in the Gardner News back in May of 2006.

Most people in town now a days do not realize that at one time, Pail Factory Road went into Gardner and connected with Mill Street. That is, until May 3<sup>rd</sup> in 1941 when that section disappeared. It was on a Saturday morning and the town had a crew of men spreading gravel filling in areas that had settled. The superintendent at the time was Emil Hendrickson. Mr. Hendrickson along with Kenneth Lawrence, John Walinen, and Walter Smith had been spreading the gravel when Mr. Hendrickson suddenly noticed an unusual amount of settling in the road. The crew hurried to get the equipment out when suddenly the road began to sink into the swampy area around it. It states in Mr. Richards story the 45 foot telephone pole went down so fast that it smoked. A dump truck owned by Mr. Lawrence that was being used on the job was almost lost.

The road was what was known as a corduroy road which were common back in the when building a road over wet areas. It consisted of laying a layer of logs down and covering them with fill to form a road. A saw mill was located on the Gardner side. More and likely the logging trucks hauling logs to the mill had taken its toll on the road.

I worked with Kenneth Lawrence and I can remember hearing stories of the road sinking. When I plowed snow for the town, Pail Factory Road was part of my route and I noticed when you get to the end of the road, you can visualize where the old road existed. If you approach it from the Mill Street in Gardner, it still shows how the road just goes under the water and disappears.

Years ago there was a tub and bucket manufacturing operation on the Gardner side operated by Amasa Bancroft which is probably where the name Pail Factory came from. The saw mill in the same area was operated by Joshua Whitney.



# President's Page

by: Brian P. Tanguay



The heat and air conditioning units (2) have been installed upstairs in the Grange hall. They have yet to be hooked up to the electrical circuit.

The stained glass Church window has been moved to a secure section of the Grange hall to protect it from the Sheet rock installation and plaster. Once completed in January, we will finalize the plan to raise the window into its final spot. The ceiling has been raised to accommodate the window's height.

The two Civil war frames have been positioned against the back stage wall where they will be set permanently and out of the way of the sheet rock installation of the ceiling and wall.

Staging has been erected for the sheet rockers to apply all surfaces in one step, saving us hundreds of dollars in set up and multiple visits. Thanks to the hours invested by our volunteers who were willing to take on the responsibility of moving these precious artifacts into a safe positions.

To be a part of each process, see the results day to day, and help plan this project is such an honor. I can't imagine what all of our predecessors would think of what we have accomplished. Did they envision such an undertaking when we took possession of the old Grange hall? Obviously they didn't know about our acquisitions of the Civil War frames, the Church window, the E. Howard Tower clock, and the Archive room we created for the storage of documents and artifacts.

The plan we set in place a year ago, to find funding and raise money to complete the Grange hall restoration in a two year period appeared to be far fetched at best. But with lots of hours dedicated to the project and countless members stepping up, we are half way there after only one year. Which makes our goal attainable by the end of next year if not sooner.

Thank you to all who helped, Mitchell Caruso Electrician, C.M. Chartier and company contractors, Larry Bankowski, Heating units, and our volunteers who continue to amaze and excite our membership. Happy New Year everyone!

**2022 OFFICERS:**  
 President: Brian Tanguay  
 Vice Pres. Thomas Hurd  
 Secretary Amy Guthrie  
 Treasurer Kelly Elliot / Sue O'Coin  
 Curator: Brian Tanguay  
 Historian: Harry Aldrich

**2022 DIRECTORS:**

3 year	2 year	1 year
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Harry Aldrich	John Chouinard	Eileen Bouvier
vacant	vacant	vacant

**TRUSTEES:**  
 Tom Jeleniewski  
 David Huhtala  
 John Brooks  
 vacant



**Contact info:**  
 Main email: [nh1924society@gmail.com](mailto:nh1924society@gmail.com)  
 Newsletter Editor: Brian Tanguay

Find us on Facebook—Search for **TempletonMuseum (Narr Hist 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" 2000 members following  
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/2021191824825853/>

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



**Located at 1 Boynton Rd. and 9 Hubbardston Rd Templeton MA**

**Meeting Notice: 7:00 PM unless otherwise advertised**  
*We are now closed for the winter,*  
*NO meeting in January, as we work in the Grange hall and prepare for Cabin Fever in February.*



**Grange hall Restoration / 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.



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