

January

Winter 2014



Col. Artemus Lee

Featured portrait

Colonel Lee lived overlooking the common in Templeton in a large house he built in 1829 which is now a private home and houses several businesses. The Col. was a prominent member of town holding the political position of Representative to the Massachusetts House. He spent many hours in Boston working on the committee responsible for filling the Back Bay and creating The Public Gardens. The Col. married Lucy Bond. Together they had a son Charles who served in the Civil War as a Captain.

1 BOYNTON ROAD, PO BOX 354, TEMPLETON, MA 01468

Narragansett Historical Society

2014 Calendar of Events 2014

Our Directors met recently to come up with a calendar of events for the year. This is a quick recap of what was discussed.

April 28th Earth day: A good time to clean up the back yard and garden. Start at 9:30 and come when you can to help.

Starting **May 2** and continuing through to **August 29th**, the building will be open Fridays from 1 to 4 pm. See Beth for details

June 21 Town wide picnic. Waiting on confirmation.

June 21 4pm Winchendon 250 parade with our antique bikes and our fire pumper along with firefighters and members.

June 25th Clock show presentation

Garden Teas: 3 are scheduled so far **July 12, Aug. 2, and Aug. 16th**

Sept. 20th Cemetery tour

Sept 27th 2nd annual Engine/Car show

Sept 28th, Rain date for Engine/Car show.

October 26th Pumpkin festival

Dec 6-7 Christmas Event & cookie sale/ Jack Frost Festival

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

Welcome new members

We want to welcome the many new members who signed up this past year. Many of whom jumped right in to the Society and started working on projects of interest to them. Everyone is impressed with the amount of work being done, along with the motivation and momentum of 2013.

Our excitement started with saving the Baptist Church Tower clock. People could not stop talking about how great this acquisition is and what a fantastic addition it is to our collection.

Visitors toured the building during our open hours every Saturday through the summer culminating with the craft fair in August where we saw the most visitors to our building in several years.

September brought the Wolf Show with our new friends at the Otter River Sportsman's club

October with its cold winds greeted our first annual Engine/Car/ Tractor show.

And finally closing the year with a combined community event in December with our annual cookie sale and the newly formed Jack Frost Festival.

Each event brought more interest and more new memberships to our Society group.

Thank you all so very much for joining; can't wait to see you all at 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

<p style="text-align: center;">DONATIONS ACCEPTED</p> <p style="text-align: center;">YES! I would like to make a donation to the Narragansett Historical Society</p> <p>I/We have enclosed a check in the amount of \$_____.</p> <p>Name _____</p> <p>Address _____</p> <p>City _____ State _____ Zip _____</p> <p style="text-align: center;">THANK YOU</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Narragansett Historical Society and send to NHS, PO Box 354, Templeton, MA 01468.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Donations are tax deductible to the extent allowable by law.</p>
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Earth Day

While the garden and back yard look nice to the many who take a quick peek you might want to take a longer look and notice the fence is coming down, sections are missing, and if you take the short walk out back into the woods, you will see years of overgrowth that needs our attention. Grab a hammer, hand saw, gloves, wagon, and rake and come on down on April 28th starting at 9:30am. Spend an hour or two helping spruce the yard up for the new year.

Directors will be there to help the process go smooth and quickly. The more hands we have, the easier the job will be.

Won't you consider stopping by? If you're not able to donate your time, bring your camera and capture a moment in History with us. 100 years from now visitors will be looking at those pictures and making comments on them while touring the museum just as we do today.

Let's make history together.

Winchendon Parade June 21, 2014 at 4pm

Harry Aldrich spoke to the fire chief and he's excited to have some of his men march along side the antique Narragansett #6 Fire pumper from our collection.

Also, John Brooks will be driving his 1930 Model A car and our 3 antique bikes will be making a comeback to the parade circuit once again.

Roger Bryant will be so proud to see his restored bikes in the sun for all to enjoy.

Bring your camera for this event.

Hope to see you there.



Member profile

This member profile was a suggestion by one of our newest members as a way to get to know each other. Feel free to share your profile with a picture to go along with your story.



Mary Hadley Grimes

January 2014

New to the Historical Society, we are not new to Templeton. My husband, Jerry taught at Narragansett 50 years ago and was Advisor to the class of 1964. Our first real estate purchase in Templeton was a family cemetery plot in Pine Grove. We then found a sweet little ranch house and have settled in to spend our retirement years back here. The other day as I was working on painting the Document Room, I took a break to study some of the pictures on the walls and discovered the one behind the front door: a hand-written list of the names of the Charter Members of the Historical Society. Much to my surprise I noticed there were family members on that list. Lucy Hadley, a great aunt – one of three sisters whom as children, we visited many Sunday afternoons; George, his wife Pauline and their son Howard and there was Lucien Norman Hadley, my great grandfather. His signature was beautifully executed. What a thrill. It was as if they were saying “Welcome Home”, Mary.

Tea for two

We have a long time tradition of serving tea in the garden with our host making everything from treats to sandwiches serving coffee, tea, and lemonade. Each host would usually bring their daughter along with one of her friends dressed appropriately and worked as servers carrying trays of treats for the many who enjoyed sitting in the garden on sunny afternoons. Currently we are hosting 3 teas this summer with the hopes of hosting more depending on commitments from our members. See the front page calendar for dates. Contact our president Beth, for more info. Her contact info is on the last page. Cost is \$5.00 per person.

On occasion, we have the accompaniment of musicians performing live for us, or some soothing tunes from our lovely neighbor Pam.

WGAW Radio

One of our new members and our volunteer advertising agent Virginia Strahan has been in communication with WGAW Radio management discussing a program on the radio that will help get us some much needed exposure. For the sake of this publication it could be called “A Moment in Templeton History”. The concept is for a Historical Society member to visit the radio station and record a conversation or a story to share with the listening audience. As far as regularity, that would depend on how much content we can come up with and a spokesperson to do the talking. This will give you a chance to participate in a great program. We certainly have the content to keep this program going all year long, with a chance to communicate some of our events on the calendar.

If you have a good speaking voice and would like to offer your time, contact Brian for details. Contact info is on the last page of this newsletter. I don’t see how we can pass this program up. We can use several volunteers for this project.

REWIND Tower Clock show

If you missed the clock show presentation last year, we are running it again, this time with more info and a surprise to be announced.

Many have asked if we can play the clock show again.

Mark your calendar for June 25th at 7pm in the Grange hall.

Stay tuned as we get closer for details on the evening.

Bring your friends, neighbors, and family

Your donation will help programs like this continue to educate and excite our visitors.



Cemetery Tour

September 20th in conjunction with the Worcester Historical Society's event we will host a cemetery tour featuring members dressing in period clothing speaking of past stories of people and events in Templeton's History.

If this is something you are interested in, we certainly will enjoy your company on this day. You could either help with the event to guide visitors to certain locations in the cemetery or you could dress as a past member of our town and re-create how life was back in their day.

Contact Beth for more information, see the last page for her contact info.



Engine Show Cars, trucks, tractors, and boats

This years event will be on September 27th from 9am to 5pm. Rain date is Sunday the 28th.

We are planning a bigger and better event hosting many different groups of collectors. Similar to last years successful event, featuring antique engines, vintage cars, trucks, and tractors, and even the special steam powered toy boat should make it's debut.

Organizers are hoping to bring a larger collection spreading across the common. With the possibility of a swap meet for those restorers who have too many parts in their garage. This will be the perfect time for like minded collectors to find those hard to find parts to get their project running.

Vendors are welcome, swap meet people will need to make a donation to the Historical society to set up a space.

Contact Brian Tanguay for details, info on the last page of this document.

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

What's up now?

Busy with brush and paint are Mary Grimes and Lee Cunningham in our document room. Notice the dark old color now brightened up with blue walls and light wood-work. Beth's choice of light blue is just what those walls have been begging for.

Once the outside walls warm up they will be painted, hopefully (weather permitting) this room will be ready for our first meeting in the spring.



After a 50 mph gust of wind blew the copper top right off our roof and safely landed in the front yard without hitting any of our beloved neighbors, Roger and Brian carried it up and secured it to the chimney. Insulation was added to help keep the warm air from escaping.

This chimney was formerly used by the living room in the front first floor, the old kitchen out back, and the two rooms upstairs, one being the document room as you can see in the above picture.

These fireplaces have been closed down for many years and they have been a constant source of heat loss. With this repair, we are certain to retain at least some of the heat. Now to insulate the attic, one more project checked off the list.

Just when you thought all the cool stuff was lost forever from the Hospital Cottages for Children, we received a phone call asking if we were interested in their autoclave which was in their way. They mentioned it might weigh 100 lbs, when in fact it was well over 200 lbs.

Thank You to Seth Tanguay and his very strong friend Jarrod Foley for their help in carrying this beast into the Grange hall.



Proposed Bylaws Changes

Our bylaws were last updated in 2011.

Since then we have changed our meeting dates to the 4th Wednesday of the month. It is stated in our bylaws that we hold our annual meeting on the 3rd Monday of May.

Our bylaws state that there are two Vice Presidents. It was suggested that we only need one.

Our next meeting we will hold a vote to make these changes. Please make it a point to be there to show your support and voice your opinion.

narragansethistoricalsociety@yahoo.com to email questions or volunteer for an event.

OFFICERS:
President : BETH ARSENAULT
 (978) 939-2510
Email Address: treadylady00@aol.com
1st Vice Pres. HARRY ALDRICH
2nd Vice Pres. JOYCE PROVENCHER
Secretary CHRISTINE STONE
Treasurer DEBBIE CAISSE
Curator: BRIAN TANGUAY
Historian: HARRY ALDRICH

DIRECTORS:
Dennis Rich
Charlie Carroll
Jeannie Pleines
Mark Moschetti
Carol Caisse
Kerry Bettez
Tom Jeleniewski
Open
Open

TRUSTEES:
 BRIAN TANGUAY
 TOM JELENIEWSKI
 MARY BARNES
 open

Narragansett Historical Society
 Contact: **Brian P Tanguay**
Building & Grounds Supervisor

Contact Brian Tanguay mention the Historical society
 Phone: Home: 1-978-939-2053
 Work: 1-978-630-1011
 Cell: 1-978-895-2980
 Fax: 1-978-632-3723

ITEMS FOR THE NEXT NEWSLETTER ARE WELCOME any time.



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. Sign up soon. 632 friends and counting!

Meeting Notice: 4th Wednesday of each month unless otherwise advertised.

February 26th Wednesday night at 7pm we will meet at the Town Office . 690 Patriots Rd,

March 26th Wednesday night at 7pm we will hold our monthly meeting at the Town Office.

April 23rd Wednesday night at 7pm. To be announced as to the location.

A special thanks to the Selectmen for offering us a warm place to meet during these cold winter nights.

May 28th Wednesday night at 7pm ANNUAL MEETING & Election of Officers and Directors
 (in the document room) of our building.

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

