

# *Narragansett Historical Society*

## *On the Common in Templeton MA*

# *January 2023*

**Next meeting February 1, 2023 at the Senior Center 7pm**

Grange hall views from January. The sections between the windows will be two wall cases built in place to safely display some of the many artifacts in the collection.



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# Vice President

*Thomas Hurd*



Hello everyone, you may have driven down Hubbardston Road and wondered about the piece of machinery hanging out in front of the Grange building, once housed in the Smith, Day & Co in Baldwinville, it was the drive assembly for the freight elevator that brought the products between the first and second floors in the late 1800s to very early 1900s.



There were 8 wire cables connected to the frame of the elevator car that went up and over the Spoked wheel on the drive machine and then down to a counterweight to balance the load on the drive wheel. This elevator may have been driven by a water wheel in the river that most of the factories of the time used to power machinery, however looking at the building it appears that there are electric wires on the front left corner of the building, the belt would have been around the flat wheel shown on the left side of the machine and connected to an electric motor.

The picture on the right shows the Smith, Day, and Co in the late 1800s or 1900 Prior to the fire on October 11, 1907 that completely destroyed the building, in the Picture on the left you can see the Elevator frame toward the back of the building.



If you look closely in the picture on the right, you can see what may be the Elevator machine and the cables that ran the car up and down in the Ruins of the building. It is sad that so many of these old factories are no longer standing.



It is an exciting time for the Historical Society, walking Trails being created, thanks to Mary Miller, The Grange is getting closer to opening to the public thanks to the Volunteers, Contractors, and the many hours Brian Tanguay is putting in applying for Grants, and monitoring the progress, I personally cannot wait to see it as a vibrant community center again, as a youngster I spent many Saturday nights there for supper, my mother was a long-time member.

Please join us in supporting this and the many other projects going on, if you are not a member consider joining, if you are not a life member, please consider upgrading your membership, and be proud that you helped with the restoration of the grange, the upkeep of the main building and the restoration of our artifacts.

We will be opening the main building mid-April to early May, depending on when the snow disappears, for our 2023 season. Next event is the very popular Cabin Fever show on Sunday February 26<sup>th</sup> 11 to 4 PM, Baldwinville Legion, 3 Central Street \$5.00 at the door, Hope to see you there.

**Tom**

*Thank you \* Sponsorship \* Thank you*

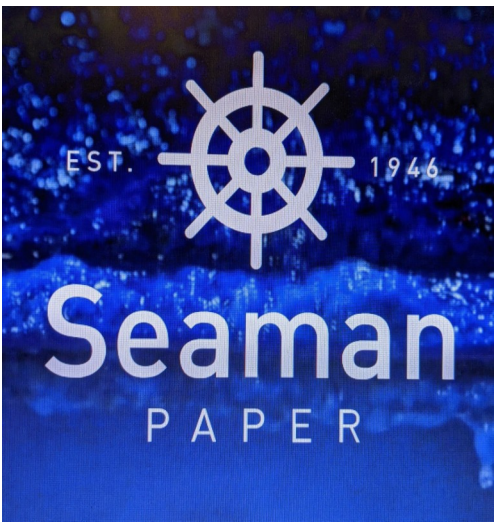
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SPONSORSHIP LEVELS					
ANNUAL CONTRIBUTION					
Platinum	\$5,000.00	Gold	\$1,000.00	Silver	\$750.00
Bronze	\$500.00	Event	\$250.00		

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

# CABIN FEVER COLLECTORS SHOW



Sunday February 26th  
11-4 pm  
Baldwinville Legion  
3 Central Street  
Parking out back  
\$5.00 donation



**NARRAGANSETT HISTORICAL SOCIETY'S  
8TH ANNUAL  
UP TO 25 COLLECTIONS ON DISPLAY**



## *"A moment in time"*

*by: Harry Aldrich Jr. Historian*

### The Templeton Lunch (Taken from Sept. 2014)

The Templeton Lunch was a favorite hang out when I was growing up. There would probably be four or five of us at any given time and we were allowed to hang out there as long as we didn't make a commotion and sat in the booth that was in the back corner of the building or played the pinball machine. Once in a while we would get out of hand and be asked to leave. We usually did as we were told and returned later and all was forgotten.

The lunch was owned and operated by Hervy and Ruth Cormier. Hervy was always known as Snowball by most that knew him. I can remember when I was around eight or ten years old, Hervy would set up a pop corn machine that he had in front of his house on the sidewalk and sell pop corn. The machine was on wheels and he would roll it out in the evening and weekends. During the day he worked for Gem Crib in Gardner.

Later he put up a small building and started selling hot dogs and burgers too. As his business grew he eventually added on to the building and gained a reputation for serving breakfast and home cooked meals. My Aunt Clara worked for him for many years baking pies and cooking meals and Snowball operated the grill.

The business thrived for many years until Snowball passed on. After that it slowly dwindled out and never got back up to par again. Several different people tried starting it up again but it would never be the same. The building still stands but has been closed for years.



# President's Page

By: Brian P. Tanguay



Grange hall update: The drywall is done, the heat is on, the windows are trimmed, wainscoting is back up, and the walls are being painted as I type this note. This project is moving so quickly, each morning I stop by to monitor and lend a hand as the work crews arrive. Tuesday nights a few of us head to the hall to do some organizing and most recently, staining the window frames to prepare for the walls to be painted.

There are also meetings with contractors, and the members of the CPC to keep them updated on the progress. Everyone is pleased with the quality of work being done by C.M. Chartier & Co. and the outside workers brought in to do specific jobs. The drywall hangers were there for three days, plaster crew members arrived soon after and applied plaster to the ceiling and walls in 4 days, then Chartier's men arrived to reinstall the wainscoting and window frames.

As hectic as it is, and at a time when my business is at it's busiest, somehow it's working out and we haven't missed a beat. With less snow than normal, we can still park off the road. Our goal is to create parking out back, a private donor is willing to help us purchase the land if we get the green light from the owner. This would be the crown jewel of the project and provide us with a safe area to park and enter the building easily. Cross your fingers.

The new year brings new opportunities for sponsors and donations to help us with this project.

I'd like to offer a huge THANK YOU to all of our sponsors who have supported us over the past year, some have been giving for 6 years now. We certainly wouldn't be where we are now if it weren't for their support. Go to our sponsor page and support them if you can.

Grant season is upon us, and I'll be filling out more applications to raise the funds needed to finish the Grange hall along with the many inside projects needed to create displays and highlight the many interesting artifacts we have amassed over the years.

Get involved any way you can. You'll be a part of Templeton's history!

**2023 OFFICERS:**  
 President: Brian Tanguay  
 Vice Pres. Thomas Hurd  
 Secretary Amy Guthrie  
 Treasurer Kelly Elliot / Sue O'Coin  
 Curator: Brian Tanguay  
 Historian: Harry Aldrich

**2023 DIRECTORS:**  
 3 year Mary Miller  
 2 year Amy Guthrie  
 1 year Jessie Duguay  
 Harry Aldrich John Chouinard Eileen Bouvier  
 vacant vacant vacant

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



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 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,*  
**Meeting Feb. 1, 7pm at the Senior Center**



**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