

Narragansett Historical Society

On the Common in Templeton MA

March 2023

Next meeting April 5, 2023 at the Senior Center 7pm

We have spoken about the Stained glass window from the Trinitarian Church, it's been moved so many times, I've lost count. We have moved it from the wall, to the center of the room, back to the wall again and the next move will be to stand it up for the final resting spot. I created a paper cut-out to show the actual size, standing 14 1/2 feet tall. We are ready to create a light box and frame to secure the window. Thanks to our donors who gave the funding we'll need for projects like this one. No taxpayers money will be used and many of these projects will be done by volunteers, so our funds will be used for building supplies and lighting.



A sound system is being proposed with wireless microphone, CD player, and powered speakers, if approved, this system will be capable of being used on the common for outdoor events, on stage for indoor musical events, or just for background music. Saving us money over time from rentals. It will also provide musicians the needed equipment for some of our smaller musical events.

A cabinet maker is helping create display cases for the walls to house some of our historic artifacts, keeping them safe and visible for visitors to enjoy during our open house days and nights. Again using private funds donated.

Thanks to Chair City Oil, GFA Federal Credit Union, the Mass Cultural Council, and an anonymous fund located in the Community Foundation, for their generous donations to the Grange hall restoration project. Also a thank you to our continued sponsorships at the Gold level for 2023, Chair City Oil, Huhtala Oil, & Tanguay Jewelers. All sponsorship money will also be used in the Grange hall this year. Please visit our sponsors and thank them for their support. See page 2 for the list of our event sponsors, Each one of them help with our events providing you with something fun to do all year long.

Silver Level Sponsor

SCOTTY'S POTTIES



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— Lawn and Tick —



Event Sponsors



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Vice President

Thomas Hurd



What once was...



I Hope you all faired well from Nor'easter on the 14 and 15th.

All the Buildings in the Pictures above have one thing in common, they are no longer standing, when these pictures were posted on Facebook, the common comments are wish they were still standing, I do too, that is one of the reasons I am so passionate about restoring the Grange hall, The Historical Society is moving forward with this project at an incredible pace, funds from private donations and from the CPC with Templeton voters approving the funding, but lately seems like there is some Concerns and mis understanding where the money comes from with the recent CPA grant request, the website communitypreservation.org has a good explanation of where the money comes from:

"Locally Raised Revenue

Community preservation monies are raised locally through the imposition of a surcharge of not more than 3% of the tax levy against real property. Contrary to a common misconception, the CPA surcharge does not raise the tax rate for the adopting community; it assesses a surcharge on property tax bills after they have been calculated based on the community's current tax rate.

Community Preservation Trust Fund

The CPA statute, signed into law in 2000 by then-Governor Paul Cellucci, created a statewide Community Preservation Trust Fund, administered by the Department of Revenue (DOR). This Trust Fund provides matching distributions each year, at variable rates, (depending upon the amount of revenues collected that year, and the number of communities participating in the program) to communities that have adopted CPA. All CPA communities are guaranteed a disbursement from the Community Preservation Trust Fund as an incentive for participating in the CPA program.

We are extremely thankful for the support from the CPC, the Select board, Townspeople, the Contractors and all the Volunteers that have helped in many ways.

If you had thought that any one of these building should have been saved, please consider Volunteering or a monetary donation no amount is too small to help save the Grange hall, for more information email us at nh1924society@gmail.com or reach out on the Facebook page, or simply stop by the main building when we open in April .

I plan on having the water turned back on April 12, and Officially re opening the main building on Saturday April 22 for the 2023 season, stop by. Also, keep an eye out for our event list and help where you can.

Tom

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

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*Thank you * Sponsorship * Thank you*

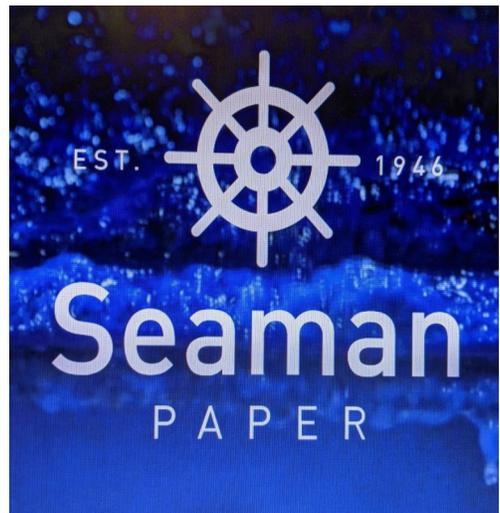
Gold Sponsors 2022



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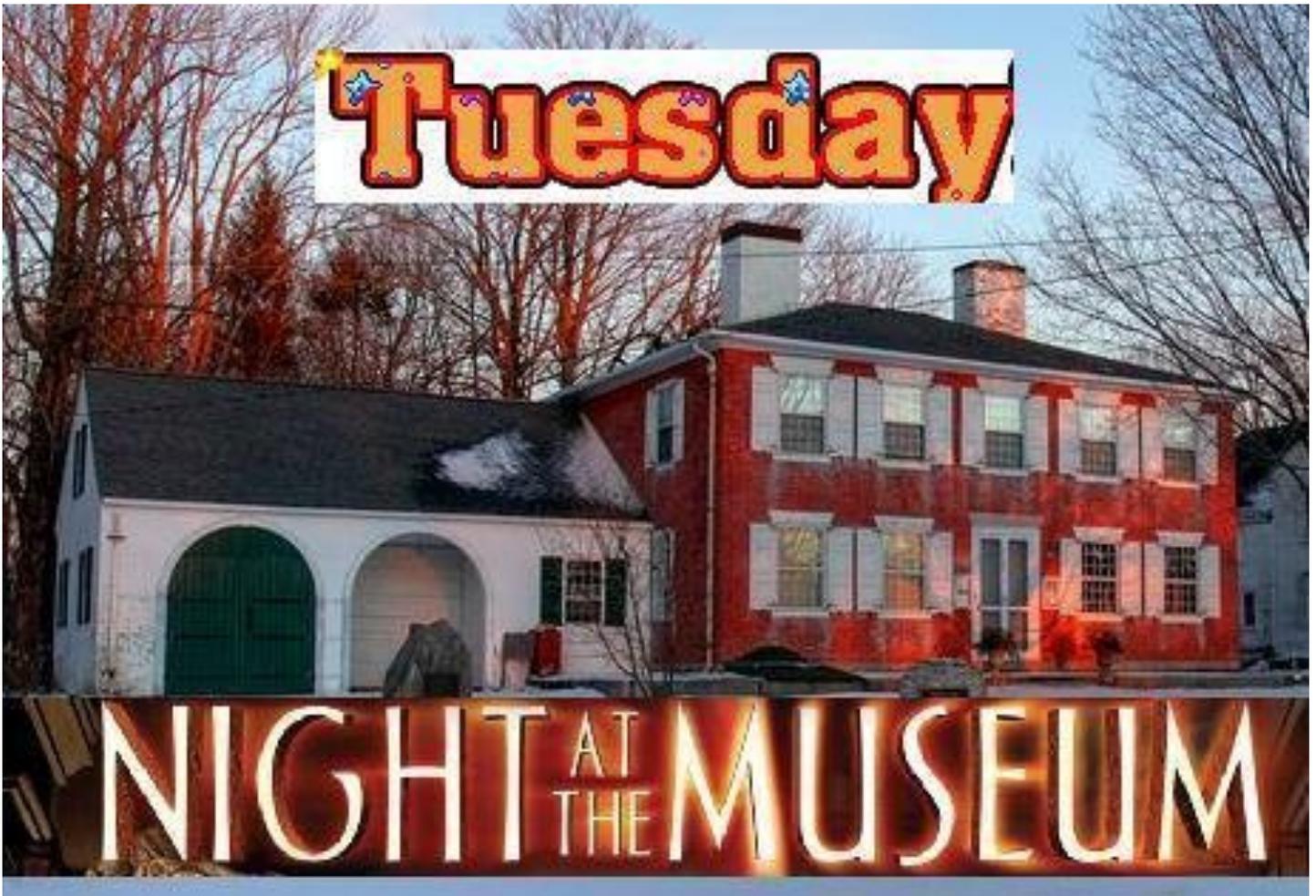


SPONSORSHIP LEVELS

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-



Stop by any Tuesday night from 6-8pm

Stay tuned for our Saturday hours coming in April, usually from 1-5 depending on volunteers and holidays.

These are your buildings, let's share them with the town.





"A moment in time"

By: Harry Aldrich Jr. Historian

REMEMBERING BACK THEN

I was just thinking about how nice it was growing up in town. When I started school in 1946 as I remember it, there were no school buses like today. There were a few people in town that owned what was then known as station wagons that were hired by the town to bring children to school. This was for students that lived in the outer limits of town. Any other students had to walk or transported by a family member of friend rain or shine. Today the parents would be in an uproar if this were true.

When it came to purchasing food, there was at least one store in each precinct available and most everything you needed was there including meat and a butcher. Today we have one store in the whole town that has a butcher and sells meat in Templeton and two Cumberland Farm stores in East Templeton and Baldwinville. There were many farms in town where you could purchase dairy products from and many families would have a dozen or more chickens to provide them with eggs and poultry meat. Today very few have chickens and at the store a dozen eggs cost more than a gallon of gas.

When it comes to the weather, we had snow storms far worse than most of what we have nowadays. I can remember the town having to hire Walt Lawrence to open South Road with his dozer because the trucks could not make it through the drifts. In the fall the highway department would be out putting up snow fence in the fields to cut down on the drifting. There were few if any snow blowers back then. Some people owned snow scoops but they were not very popular. Many of us kids would take advantage of the snow earn money shoveling for people. I used to use my father's coal shovel.

When summer came around it was time to plant the garden. My father would dig up the garden with a spade and set aside a small section for me. Whatever he planted I planted too. He always saved a few seeds for me. One thing I always planted was water melon although I never had any results.

Come fall our favorite play area was the town common. We would take up massive piles of leaves and jump in them. I can remember the minister coming out of the parsonage in the evening and telling us to go home. I believe it was Rev. Pearson. We also played a game called kick the can and would hide out in back of the historical building.

Wouldn't it be nice to be able to turn back time every once in a while and go back for a bit.



President's Page

By: Brian P. Tanguay



Work has begun on the first floor at the Grange hall, all of the outside walls have been opened up to expose the studs, blocking is installed to provide nailers for the sheet rock. Once completed, we can rough in the new wiring for outlets and lights. Next will be spray on insulation to provide that blanket of warmth for the winter and cooling for those hot summer days.

Plans have begun to supply heat and air conditioning for the first floor and bathrooms, propane is one option considered by Chair City Oil, we are thankful for David Tourigny for his advice in the matter. Once completed, it will go to the board for a vote. The work going on now is paid for by the remainder of the CPC grant. Once depleted, we have raised just over \$90,000.00 in unrestricted funds which will help with the continued restoration plans on the first floor, the front entrance, and the kitchen along with the many small projects needed.

We are on the CPC's submission to the May town meeting for \$80,000.00 which will be used for the full installation of two bathrooms, one will be fully compliant with the ADA and the other will be a unisex bathroom with a changing table option. This will provide the Grange hall full handicap access to the building and the facilities, one of the only fully compliant buildings on the Templeton Common. One more feather in our cap to offer our visitors the comfort needed during events in town. It will also bring in more visitors anxious to see the work we've been doing for the past year. Please attend the town May meeting to voice your support. Some talk around town is spread with only half of the story leading to negative comments.

Our efforts to raise \$287,000.00 in two years will be just about \$35,000.00 short of our goal. We are confident that our grant writing efforts will meet and exceed that goal giving us the funds needed to put in a driveway on the left side, and parking spots out back for handicap access. We also have opened up communications with the land owner to work out a deal on the land to have even more parking and some picnic tables, lights, and park benches to host visitors during our events who want to sit outside. This will be the finishing touch on this entire project.

With the work done on the second floor, our Tuesday nights have started back up, but this time we are at the Grange hall doing some cleanup, moving artifacts into place and preparing for the lights to be installed. It's going to go fast, so if you want to lend a hand and be a part of this historic project, stop by from 6-8pm. Parking is limited, so if you park on South Rd and walk through the fire station parking lot, it will be close enough, or park on Boynton Rd.

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



Contact info:
 Main email: 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 still closed for the winter at the main building, Tuesday nights at the Grange hall from 6-8 have begun.
Meeting April 5, 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