# Narragansett Historical Society On the Common in Templeton MA

# August 2019

Narragansett Historical Society Presents:

# Motorpalooza '19

September 22, 2019 12-4 pm On the Common, Templeton Center

Any motor welcome Free admission Lunch and snacks for sale Music by Boothill Express

Music sponsored by a grant from the Templeton Cultural Council

The museum at 1 Boynton Road will also be open.









Doing what's right for you."

### **Event Sponsors**



#### **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

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Page 2nh1924society@gmail.comto email questions or volunteer for an event.

#### 2019 Calendar

**September 22nd** Sunday MOTORPALOOZA 2019 With Boothill Express, sponsored by the Templeton Cultural Council, open house, food tent, and so much more.

**October 12** we plan to expand on the Civil War Day featuring a Civil War band, multiple tents for soldiers, a camp fire with food served from the pot, all planned to focus on the newly displayed Civil War artifacts, pictures, and stories currently set up in the Document room.

Pick an event and help get it off the ground, organize, advertise, and make it a success. It all depends on you.





## Warren Eames / Lucas Baker



Warren Eames was thoughtful enough to save the many drawings of Lucas Baker, not to mention the butterfly collection. His Grandson Adrian is working with the Society to preserve this important collection. <u>Sketch by Lucas Baker 1905 Whitingham VT</u>

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







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#### **Grange hall updates**



The ceiling tiles are torn down, nests are removed and cleaned up. The walls are stripped down to prepare for the wiring. This indoor project is moving rapidly. Thanks to Larry Burke and Son and family for helping with the project. This part of the job is funded by a grant from the Community Foundation of North Central Mass.

Once we get approval, the handicap ramp will be installed by Bill Harris in the back entrance which will be our main entrance since we will be parking out back. A plan is in place to cut trees on our prop-

erty which will provide us with at least 9 spots to park. If we can utilize the space in the half acre lot which is now woods, we could realize at least 30 spots, leaving enough trees to hide the cars from the neighbors.

We hired an architect to help with the plans as we move this project forward, he will help with proper wording and help with submitting the correct applications to the CPC and to the Community Foundation as we continue with each step of the restoration.

While we are working on the second floor, we see better ways to set up the stage, to showcase the two Civil War Frames.

A light box will be designed for the Church stained glass window to show our visitors what it looked like when the sun was rising during Church services.

Posters will be created to show what the Church looked like back in the day.



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### "A moment in time"

### by: Harry Aldrich Jr. Historian

#### **MY EXPERIENCE AT SMOKING**

My first experience at smoking happened when I was very young. My grandfather was a pipe smoker and had quite a collection of pipes. As a young boy, I was fascinated by his collection and watching him lights his pipe. He had worked for the Bourn Hadley Company most of his life and had cut half of one of his fingers off working there. When he lit his pipe he would pack the tobacco down with the stub of his finger while lighting it. In later years when I was probably around8 or 9, I had observed that my grandmother would save the tea bags when they had tea and dry them out for gramps to smoke in his pipe. After seeing this, I just had to try it. I took one of his old pipes home and a couple of unused tea bags and tried it out in back of the barn. Shortly after, I think I turned green. I don't think I have ever been that sick since.

A few years later I picked up a machine that my uncle had for rolling his own cigarettes. I got the idea of making them out of dried leaves and gave it a try. They looked like the real thing but when you lit them, they would catch fire and burn up. I had failed again.

Once I was old enough to smoke, I took it up, the only reason if any was to keep up with the others. I never did get to be a heavy smoker and toward the end of 1962 I gave it up. I had enlisted into the Coast Guard and my first assignment was on a weather patrol in the North Atlantic in October on Ocean Station Bravo. I got sea sick and did not feel like smoking. I was on that ship for two and a half years and never smoked again.

#### **President's Page**

#### by: Brian P. Tanguay



#### Dog days of summer

More like mad dog days of summer. Lots going on in so many areas of the Society. Donations arriving, organizing the collection in the Grange hall in preparation of the walls and ceilings coming down, which as I type this letter, the dumpster is almost full and the demolition is almost done. Fast work in a hot space. Many thanks to Larry Burke for his hard work. That means the room is almost empty except for the tower clock, and the pews from 3 different churches. They have been moved from one side to the other as the work continues.

The newest donation is a unique collection of butterflies sealed in picture frames with pressed flowers, made by Warren Eames and his Mother, the last Baker who lived in the Whitney Tavern building on Route 2A in East Templeton. The Lucas Baker family lived in that house dating back to the early 1800's leaving most of their pictures and papers including pencil sketches and paintings. We are sure to offer a display in the document room to share these newly donated items. Thanks to Adrian Eames for taking care of these precious items and for thinking of the Historical Society as a safe place to preserve them.

If things weren't busy enough, last week I was scanning some 100 images into the computer at home in relation to the Eames collection when I noticed it was running very slow, I decided to stop for the night and when I went back in to my office, the computer had a black screen with a few simple words. "CPU overheated" I shut it down for an hour or so, only to get the same screen upon startup. After trying a few tricks, it was evident that the computer did not recognize my main hard drive, so in to the shop it went. I got a call that no data was lost and he was able to fire it up with no issue. I asked for a new hard drive "solid state" for quicker speed. It went smoothly until the next day, smoke began to billow out of the power supply box. A meltdown of sorts ensued, I lost two backup drives, the video card, power supply, and a few fans. Lucky for me, it happened in the shop and not in my home, I had an external hard drive that saved all of my files for home and for the Society. So I went old school Saturday night preparing this newsletter on paper while I waited for the computer to be fixed.

Here I am finishing up the newsletter on Sunday night, preparing for the meeting on Wed. night the 28th and keeping an eye on the Grange as the work continues.

So much for dog days of summer where I usually get to relax out back, hit the river, or float in the kayak, don't worry, I'm still getting out there doing the fun stuff, playing with my one year old granddaughter, and enjoying those precious hours with my wife. I'll pause for a moment to think what it's like to be retired, only to see my friends who have taken that next step in life only to say, "How did I ever find time to go to work?" I guess it never slows down, it only shifts gears.

Enjoy these last days of summer, look forward to a beautiful New England Fall, and prepare for the inevitable winter season that will be upon us in just 4 short months.

nh1924society@gmail.com to email questions or volunteer for an event.

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





August 28th at the building 7pm

any time. **Templeton MA** Meeting Notice: 4th Wednesday of each month at 7:00 PM unless otherwise advertised

