

# *The Edge of Hawley*

*The Journal of  
The Sons and Daughters of Hawley*



*Volume XLII, Number 4*

*Autumn 2022*

From the Bylaws of the Sons and Daughters of  
Hawley, adopted July 12, 1981 ...

*The purpose of this organization shall be to stimulate interest in preserving the historical buildings and sites of Hawley; to educate people about the history of Hawley; to stimulate social interaction and provide a common meeting place for meetings and functions sponsored by the Sons and Daughters of Hawley; to preserve and display mementos and documents of historical value in Hawley; to raise funds in support of the above activities of the society; to acquire, by purchase or lease or rental, not in excess of the amount permitted by law, such real and personal property as the managers of the society by authorize; and to receive and hold in trust or otherwise, funds received by gift or bequest, as set forth in Chapter 180 of the General Laws of Massachusetts, and for any other purpose or purposes as are permitted a corporation organized under said Chapter 180, and not in violation of Section 501(c) 3 of the Internal Revenue Code.*

## Officers and Board of Trustees 2022 - 2025

President	John Sears Pudding Hollow Rd.	Retired historian
1 <sup>st</sup> Vice President	Lark Thwing	Retired executive
2 <sup>nd</sup> Vice President	Elizabeth Sears	Cultural anthropologist
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Recording Secretary	Suzy Groden West Hawley Rd.	Retired educator, translator, editor
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Trustee to 2025	Molly Stejskal	Vice President, CETRA Language Solutions
Trustee to 2025	Beth Thwing	Children's book author
Trustee to 2023	Juanita Clark	Homemaker, volunteer
Trustee to 2023	Grahame Travers	Horticulturist

*Each board member's term ends in the year shown.*

## Table of Contents

The Mission of the Sons and Daughters of Hawley	2
Officers and Board of Trustees 2022-2025	3
Table of Contents	4
Calendar of Events in 2022	5
Events of the Previous Season	6
Events of the Coming Season	12
Community and Town	14
Hawley Creative Arts Spotlight	17
Obituaries	23
Land Transfers	26
Support Hawley Businesses	27
Links to Related Websites	36
Membership Form	37
Shippable Sale Items	38

*The Edge of Hawley* is the quarterly journal of The Sons and Daughters of Hawley, the historical society of Hawley, Massachusetts. It is edited by Suzy Q Groden. Contact her at [info@sonsanddaughtersofhawley.org](mailto:info@sonsanddaughtersofhawley.org) or *The Edge of Hawley*, P.O. Box 206, Hawley, MA 01339.

Editorial Advisory Board: Elizabeth Sears, John Sears, Pamela Shrimpton.

On the cover: "The West Hawley Church," oil on canvas by Jeanette Rich, 1959, from the collection of Clay and Pricilla Rich.

## 2022-2023 Calendar of Events

Event	Date	Location	Time
No-Bake Bake Sale	September-October	Online & mail donating	
Board Meeting	October 20 <sup>th</sup>	Grove	5:00PM
Apple Fest	November 6 <sup>th</sup>	Poudriers' Pond Road	4:00-7:00PM
Illumination Party	December 11 <sup>th</sup>	Meetinghouse	4:00–5:00PM
Board Meeting	3/16/23	TBD	5:00PM
Mud Party	Date TBD	TBD	TBD
Beautify Hawley's Roads	4/1 - 4/30/23	Collect trash from Hawley's roads	
Board Meeting	4/20/23	Grove	5:00PM
Board Meeting	5/18/23	Grove	5:00PM
Board Meeting	6/15/23	Grove	5:00PM
Board Meeting	7/20/23	Grove	5:00PM
Hawley Day	8/13/23	Grove & Meetinghouse	10:00AM-3:00PM

*The Board of The Sons & Daughters of Hawley does not meet from November through February.*

## EVENTS OF THE PREVIOUS SEASON

**Hawley Day.** The Sons and Daughters of Hawley Annual Meeting was held on August 14<sup>th</sup>, 2022, with 52 members present. In a welcome return to the traditional format, we started at 10:00AM with a *koffee klatch*, then gathered in the Meetinghouse at 11:00 for a ceremony to honor those who had passed away this year. This was followed by the formal meeting of the membership and lunch on the lawn in front of the Grove.

Lark Thwing conducted the memorial ceremony, aided by S&DH Vice President Sarah Ohmann, who performed the familiar ritual of moving a carnation for each individual being remembered from one vase to another. Lark concluded the ceremony with an Apache grief blessing.

*May the sun bring you energy every day, bringing light into the darkness of your soul.*

*May the moon softly restore you by light bathing you in the glow of restful sleep and peaceful dreams.*

*May the rain wash away your worries, and cleanse the hurt that sits in your heart.*

*May the breeze blow new strength into your being, and may you believe in the courage of yourself.*

*May you walk gently through the world, keeping your loved ones with you always, knowing that you are never parted in the beating of your heart.*

S&DH President, John Sears called the meeting to order at 11:16 AM, drawing our attention to the remarkable exhibit of Jeanette Rich's beautiful

paintings surrounding us on the walls of the Meetinghouse. He explained how it came about that we were able to mount this stunning show of 31 paintings by the Hawley artist who was the mother of S&DH members, had been a beloved teacher who instilled her students with a love of art, and produced many cherished paintings of the land, people, houses, barns, and interiors of Hawley and its environs for many decades. He thanked those who contributed paintings to the exhibit and those who organized and mounted it, and talked about Jeanette Rich' s life and work, pointing out that, despite her productivity, she never had a gallery show, so that this exhibit was, finally, her show.



After this, the business meeting proceeded. The Treasurer's Report, delivered by Serra Root, and the Secretary's Report, given by Suzy Groden, were accepted, and the proposed slate of officers and trustees for 2022 – 2025 was approved.

The business portion of the Annual Meeting being over, we held the traditional Hawley Day contests. The Sears family, with 16 members present, was the winner of the Most Populous Family award; Pat Spring, 99 years old, was the oldest person present; Zephyr Bhargava-Sears, who is 8, was the youngest; and Ray Harriss, of London, England, had traveled the farthest. All the winners received S&DH mugs filled with freshly picked blueberries.

The meeting concluded with expressions of gratitude to those who had given time, energy, and funds to further the work of the S&DH, after which Alice Parker made her way to the piano and accompanied our singing of "The Hawley Song," her musical tribute to the town.



Most of the assembled membership stayed to talk and enjoy the salads, corn, desserts and drinks provided by the S&DH in front of the Grove. Many took a short walk down to the Fire Station where the Hawley Volunteer Fire Department was holding an open house.

We would like to add a brief editorial observation. Hawley Day, created 121 years ago to welcome back those who had resettled elsewhere, is always a time for happy reunions and cheerful fellowship. But August 14, 2022 was a day filled with an unusual amount of warmth and good feeling – possibly arising from the beautiful artwork that surrounded us -- and it will be remembered as an exceptionally joyous occasion by those who attended.



**Harvest Supper.** On Sunday afternoon, September 11, about 30 members of the Sons and Daughters of Hawley gathered on the patio at Stump Sprouts in West Hawley, marveled at the always breath-taking view, and shared drinks, appetizers, and delight at the return of this autumn ritual of fellowship and grand food.



The menu this year featured entrees, side dishes, and desserts from Hawley sources, including shepherd's pie with [humanely raised] Sidehill veal; zucchini fritters; tofu and peppers; Grahame and Peggy Travers's tomatoes, cucumbers, goat's cheese, and freshly picked, tender corn; kale salad, carrot cake, apple raspberry crisp, and Rainey McCarthy's spectacular almond tea cake. Some attenders ate inside, others had their dinner out on the patio, in taking advantage of the mild, late summer air and light.

After dinner, Joan Deely, the project manager for Land Stewardship, Inc. in Turner's Falls, gave an informative slide presentation about invasive plants and how they can be controlled, focusing on Japanese knotweed, a particularly aggressive and widespread invasive here in Hawley.



## EVENTS OF THE COMING SEASON

**No-Bake Bake Sale.** This year, members of the Sons and Daughters of Hawley will be encouraged to make donations online or by mail from late September through October. These donations will be used to support the society's activities and projects. There is a long-standing tradition for members to accompany their donations with old family recipes or poems (and sometimes with both).

**Apple Fest (November 6, 2022).** This pot luck dinner coincides with the conclusion of Cider Days, our region's celebration of the apple harvest and cider pressings. It takes place at the Poudriers' home on Pond Road in East Hawley, starting at 4:00 PM. They provide the main dish and everyone brings an apple-themed appetizer, side dish, salad, or dessert. The Poudriers have requested that members let them know if they are planning to come and what they are planning to bring. They can be reached at [poudriermel27@yahoo.com](mailto:poudriermel27@yahoo.com) or 413- 339-5347.



**Illumination Party (December 11, 2022).** The last S&DH event of the year is the ceremonial lighting of the central candelabra in the Meetinghouse. We will gather at 4:00 PM, drink hot cider and cocoa, snack on baked goods, and watch as the glass globes are carefully removed, filled with gas, replaced, and lit. Then we will sing some seasonal songs, warmed (a bit) by their golden light.



## COMMUNITY AND TOWN

**Elder Law Presentation by Hussain Hamdan.** On Tuesday, September 6<sup>th</sup>, the Hawley and Charlemont Councils on Aging co-sponsored a “pizza and probate” event at the Charlemont Federated Church. While enjoying pizza donated by Berkshire Pizzeria, some 20 individuals received answers to their questions about elder law and finances from Hawley Selectman and attorney, Hussain Hamdan.



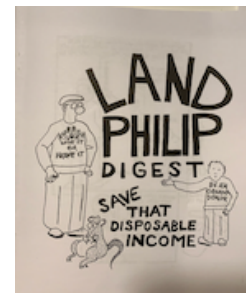
The presentation covered a broad range of issues, including estate planning and the making of wills, probate, life insurance, laws governing the taxation of estates and gifts, Medicare, Medicaid (MassHealth), and the importance of having forms that reflect one’s desires for care and end-of-life treatment filled out and on file.

**Pamela Shampton Returns.** Having served as Hawley's town clerk for 9 years, Pamela Shampton resigned last year, when she and her husband, Craig Shampton, moved to Greenfield. However, as of September 25<sup>th</sup>, she has returned, and will serve as town clerk temporarily, because Liz Billings, who assumed the role last December, announced her resignation to the Select Board on September 13<sup>th</sup>.

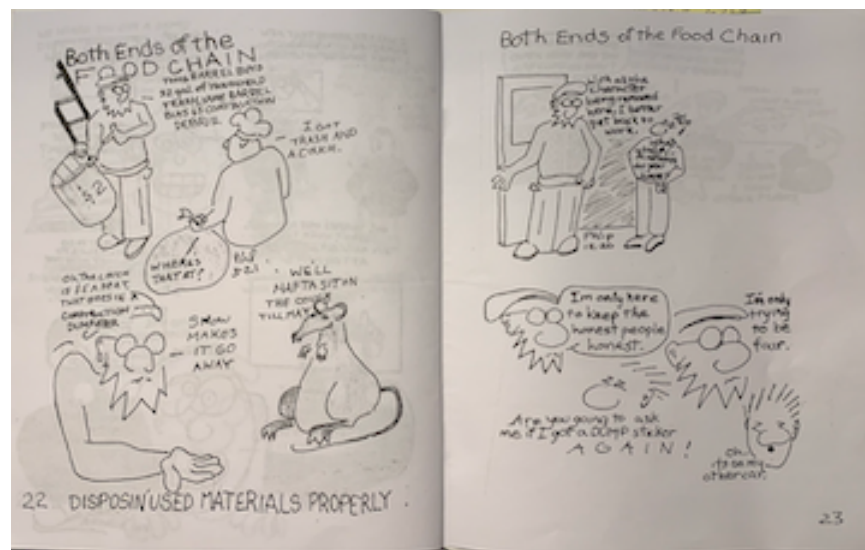


Pamela Shampton's return to the Hawley Town Office ensures that the town has a person with the knowledge and expertise needed to manage the day-to-day responsibilities of this very central position, especially the administration of the general election in November, 2022 and the annual town election in May, 2023. The Selectboard members are hoping that a permanent town clerk can be hired by then.

*Both Ends of the Food Chain* is a booklet of whimsical cartoons by Philip "Land Phil" Nolan, reflecting on the ups and downs of his work as the *maestro* of the Ashfield Transfer Station, where Hawley residents bring their trash and recyclables (and sometimes, as one of his characters muses, come home with more than they brought). In addition to poking gentle fun at himself and his "clients," Phil's cartoons provide the useful



service of reminding us what can and can't be recycled at the Ashfield Transfer Station and how we need to prepare items for recycling. Space constraints make it impossible for us to include the entire 24-page booklet, but here is a sampling of what's in there.



# HAWLEY CREATIVE ARTS SPOTLIGHT

## The Life History of Jeanette Adela Loring Rich

*By her son, Clay Rich*

Jeanette was born on June 14<sup>th</sup>, 1909 in Wilmington, Massachusetts, where her parents, mother Ruth Cole Loring and father Seth A. Loring, had a house in this then small community, some 20 miles north of Boston. Jeanette lived there with her parents for the first 5 years of her life.

It was about this time that the Lorings purchased a then approximately 300-acre property known as Pudding Hollow Farm in Hawley. While still keeping the small residence in Wilmington, the Loring family,



including a new, younger sister, Elizabeth, moved to Hawley to try their hand at dairy farming. It was a very tough change for this young, small family,

coming to live in a very rural and seemingly inhospitable environment. But this was the beginning of Jeanette's life-long attachment to this beautiful area and made her a bona fide "Daughter of Hawley."

Although the property, located at 61 Pudding Hollow Road, had no heat, no electricity (kerosene lamps at the time were the only source for light), no telephone, no indoor plumbing or hot and cold running water, Jeanette always professed a love for this life style and apparently never complained.

Jeanette started her elementary schooling at Pudding Hollow School -- now the Hawley Town Office. She always remembered and talked about walking home with her books daily, by herself, in all kinds of weather. Sometimes, in early summer, it was very hot, but most memorable were the terrible, fierce, blizzard-like snow storms and drifting snows that often crossed her route and plagued her path, particularly as she went by Pudding Hollow Cemetery.

After what proved to be an unsuccessful attempt at farming, with all of its formidable hardships, the Loring family reluctantly moved back to Wilmington, but they kept their beloved Pudding Hollow Farm. Jeanette continued her schooling in Wilmington, eventually graduating with honors from high school.

During her young life Jeanette always demonstrated a very real talent in art and studied this medium at a Boston art school. Later she moved to Maine, where she taught art for several years in local schools in the Lewiston area. All the while, the early experience of living in Hawley always tugged at her heart strings.

And so it was that on Christmas Eve day of 1947, in blizzard conditions, she moved permanently back to Pudding Hollow Farm with her husband Clayburn and their 3 children, to live out the rest of her life in beautiful, rural Hawley. There she taught art in many of the local schools in the hill town area, and she continued to paint still life scenes with oils on canvas until her death on November 26, 2001. She is remembered by family and friends as a very dedicated Hawleyite.



## ***FOUR EGGS, THEN THREE***

*A Hawley garden vignette by Constance Emmett*



Last month I was deadheading a hanging red verbenas, a plant I'd watered daily during the very high heat of this summer in Hawley, when I noticed a beautiful little nest, complete with four speckled eggs, blue and brown. One minute I was looking at four eggs, the next minute the top of one egg cracked and was pushed off, revealing a helpless looking creature—dark head, beak wide open and pointed at me, eyes shut, soundless. For a moment, the tiny chick looked like a drunk wearing a lampshade, swaying.

I left them alone, except to position an umbrella so the hot sun didn't bake them, the mother giving me a quick once-over before fleeing the nest. A song sparrow, she's rarely still, flying back to the hanging basket's chain with her wriggling catch, she stands for

a moment before dropping down into the nest. *Tchep, tchep*, all day long, as she flies back and forth. *Tchep*—that's how the bird book describes the sparrow's call.

A day later I gave into temptation and, peering in, watched the downy chicks' lungs pump, their hearts beat. The sleeping chicks had the nest to themselves; the mother had removed every scrap of speckled eggshell.

The last day I saw the chicks, I wasn't even bothering the nest with my peeking. I was busy elsewhere in the garden, but I was near enough to see one chick, looking exactly like a



brown striped and speckled sparrow, hopping down the green alley between the hanging plant, a large hydrangea, and a bedroom window. The mother's *tcheping* became frantic as I watched a second fledgling stand on the edge of the hanging pot for a moment. "No, don't jump!" A third one watched me from the nest. I never did see a fourth.

The next day, I looked into the pot and found the nest empty. The mother sparrow was still *tcheping*, so perhaps she'd rounded them up in the hydrangea. I removed the umbrella and watered the parched plant with abandon.

Early the next morning, long before twilight, I heard a few weary *tcheps* outside the window, but after that, no sign of the sparrow family.

As the Hawley hills fill with color, I'll take the garden down, including the hanging plant, but I'll save the nest. Near the end of fall, the winter will creep until—surprise! — it seals us inside. Long, long after that, the spring will unwind slowly and eventually, I'll rehang the hanging pot, fill it with a plant, and wait for the sparrows.



## OBITUARIES



**Elvira M. "Vi" (Bellows) Scott, 92,** passed away peacefully in the morning of Saturday, August 20, 2022, at the Buckley Healthcare Center in Greenfield.

She was born in Hawley on May 12, 1930, the daughter of Rollon and Belle (Rood) Bellows, attended the East Hawley School, graduated from Charlemont High School in 1947, and received a B.A. from North Adams State College in 1951.

Vi was a teacher in the Athol school system from 1951 until her retirement in 1985. She married Clark "Jack" Scott on December 27, 1964. Vi and Jack built a home on her family's property and moved back to Hawley in 1987.

Vi was an active member of the Mary Lyon Church in Buckland, a life-long member of the Sons and Daughters of Hawley, and when she lived in Athol, she was a member of the Athol Historical Society. The Mary Lyon Church was filled to capacity on Saturday, August 27<sup>th</sup>, by those attending her memorial service.



**Gertrude (Trudy) Elaine Churchill (née Glasby)**, 80, of Williamstown, MA, passed away on Friday, September 2, 2022, surrounded by her three children: Alissa Churchill of New York, NY, Anne Corbosiero of Simsbury, CT, and Charles Churchill of Williamstown, MA. Trudy was born on March 24, 1942 in Gouverneur, New York as the fourth child of thirteen children of Walter and Almira Glasby. She attended high school in Schenectady, NY and was employed for many years as a waitress, and then as the manager for checking accounts at the former Williamstown Savings Bank. She married John W. Churchill on October 27, 1962. They were married for 56 years, until his passing on December 23, 2018. . In addition to her children, she is survived by a brother: Dwight (Bud) Glasby of Woodbridge, VA; a sister: Kathleen Hall of Warrensburg, NY; two sisters-in-law: Joanne Sylvester and Susan Bernardy, both of Williamstown; two sons-in-law: Thomas Carley and Michael Corbosiero; a daughter-in-law: Tammy Churchill; six grandchildren: Ian and David Carley, Christopher and Allison Corbosiero, and James and Henry Churchill; as well as extended family including many, many nieces, nephews and cousins.

**Shinichi Miyazaki (known as "Miya)** was born in Tokyo, Japan in 1939. In 1984, he moved to Hawley from New York City at the urging of his friend and business associate, Sol Lerner, and for close to 30 years, he was an active and important member of the West Hawley community. In 2016, Miya moved out to Portland, Oregon, to be near his daughter Hibiki, and, sadly, he passed away this summer.

The beauty and excellence of his work in wood was recognized nationally. He received the American Craft Council Award of Excellence in 2002 and one of his chairs was selected for a National Endowment for the Arts/Smithsonian Institution exhibit, and is part of the Smithsonian's permanent collection. His woodwork ranged from graceful pieces of furniture to intriguing collectibles like handbags and wallets.



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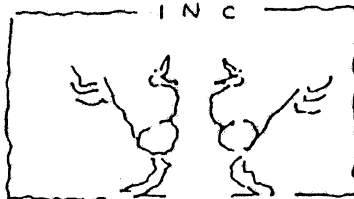
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Hawley's own LaTinke is a food writer, historian, and occasional television star. Her new cookbook, *Love, Laughter, and Rhubarb*, has just been published. Tinky is also the author of *The Pudding Hollow Cookbook* and *Pulling Taffy*.

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### ***The Hawley Grove***

*The Hawley Grove is a low building with a new kitchen, handicapped accessible bathrooms and ramp, and a large 1,000 square foot hall adjacent to the kitchen. Doors lead out the back to a large field. The kitchen is predominantly for refrigerating, warming, and serving pre-prepared foods.*

*It is available to members of the Sons and Daughters of Hawley for social gatherings. To rent this facility, contact Serra Root, Treasurer, at 330 East Hawley Rd, Hawley, MA 01339, call 413-339-5592, or e-mail robertroot@hughes.net. Rates are extremely reasonable.*

You too can be listed here! *The Edge of Hawley* reaches more than 200 readers four times a year with information designed to keep our community informed and close knit. If you would like to help sponsor *The Edge of Hawley* and promote the vitality of private enterprise in our community, contact Pamela Shrimpton at 508-735-5548 or pam@forgehollow.com for details.

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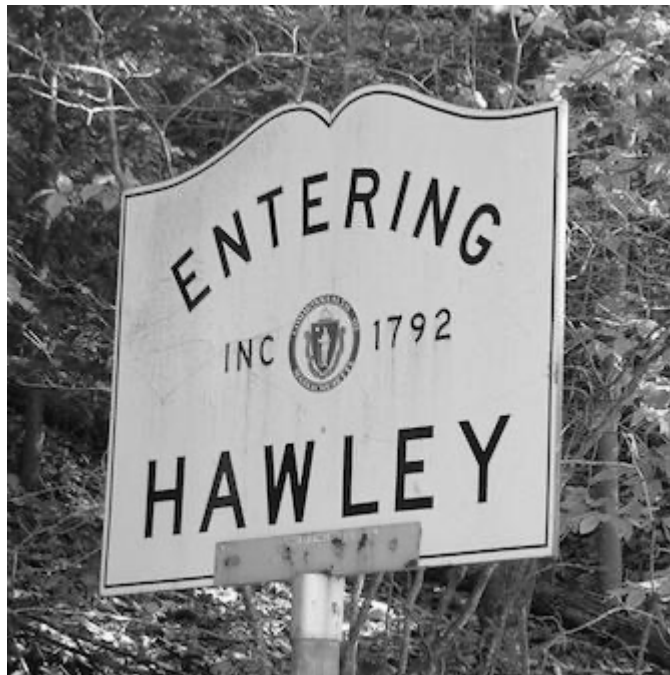
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<https://sonsanddaughtersofhawley.org>

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SONS & DAUGHTERS OF HAWLEY-HOME/ FACEBOOK

TOWN OF HAWLEY WEBSITE  
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## Membership Form 2022

*Sons & Daughters of Hawley, PO Box 206, Hawley, MA 01339*

### Annual membership dues:

Individual	\$10	_____
Family	\$12	_____
Contributing	\$15	_____
Sustaining	\$25	_____
Life Member	\$200	_____

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Enclosed is a check for Sons & Daughters in the amount of: \_\_\_\_\_

# The Sons and Daughters of Hawley

## Shippable Sale Items

### BOOKS

<i>Hawley Massachusetts; The First Fifty Years, 1770-1820</i> by Harrison Parker	\$35.00
<i>Hawley Bicentennial Cookbook, 1792-1992</i> by The Sons and Daughters of Hawley	\$5.00
<i>Cottage Piety Exemplified</i> , a biography of Martha S. Taylor of Hawley published by Rev. Rufus Taylor (3 <sup>rd</sup> son)	\$11.00
Home to Hawley Scrapbook; a collection of works from various sources	\$7.50
<i>Tales of Hawley</i> , by Maida Riggs	\$5.00
<i>The 1989 Guide to Historical Sites in the Hawley State Forest</i> Prepared by the Town of Hawley Historical Commission	\$7.50
<i>Pudding Hollow Cookbook</i> by Tinky "Dakota" Weisblat	\$30.00
<i>History of the Town of Hawley</i> by Williams Giles Atkins	\$9.00
<i>Town of Hawley Bicentennial Program Book 1792-1992</i> A summary of 200 years in Hawley	\$7.00
<i>Rediscovering Hawley's Old Town Common</i> by John Sears	\$5.00
<i>Hawley Story or My Memory Garden</i> , by Minnie Harris Billings	\$5.00

### HISTORICAL MONOGRAPHS by Harrison Parker

Hawley's Loss of Land to Plainfield in 1803	\$4.00
Fullerville	\$4.00
East Hawley and Its Center	\$4.00
The Old Hawley Town Common and Poverty Square	\$3.00

### USEFUL ITEMS:

Coffee Mug	@ \$6.00 each	____ pcs	\$ ____
Meetinghouse, Grove or Old Town Common T-Shirts	@ \$12.00 each	____ pcs	\$ ____
Meetinghouse, Grove Tote or Old Town Common Sling Bags	@ \$6.00 tote @ \$12.00 sling bag	____ pcs	\$ ____

### HAWLEY FINE NOTE PAPERS:

Meetinghouse	10 @ \$6.50	____ sets	\$ ____
Charcoal Kiln	6 @ \$5.00	____ sets	\$ ____

*Please add 10% to the total sale price to cover shipping costs.*

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1846 Meetinghouse

Home of  
The Sons and Daughters of Hawley

Non-profit Org.  
US Postage Paid  
Permit 183  
Greenfield, MA

*The Edge of Hawley*  
P.O.Box 206  
Hawley, MA 01339