

The Edge of Hawley

Volume XXXIX, Number 1
WINTER 2019



1846 Meetinghouse

Home of
The Sons and Daughters of Hawley

The Sons and Daughters of Hawley Officers and Board of Trustees 2019 - 2021

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Beth Thwing, Hawley, 2019	Children's Author

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

The Edge of Hawley is edited by Suzy Groden (suzyqgroden@gmail.com) or *The Edge of Hawley*, P.O. Box 206, Hawley, MA 01339). Editorial Advisory Board: Alice Parker, John Sears, Pamela Shrimpton.

THE EDGE OF HAWLEY
Volume XXXIX Number 1, Winter, 2019

Table of Contents

Officers and Board of Trustees 2019-2021	2
Table of Contents	3
Calendar of Events	4
Pool and Gate Shadows (Photo)	5
Events of the Past Season	6
Upcoming Events	9
Community and Town Business	17
Bygone Years of Hawley	21
Walk through the Woods (Photo)	22
How We Came to Hawley	23
Births, Marriages, and Obituaries	26
In the Doane Cemetery (Photo)	28
Land Transfers	29
Support Hawley Businesses	30
Links to Related Sites	37
Membership Form	38
Sale Items	39

Sons and Daughters of Hawley

2019 Calendar of Events

Mark your calendars now so you don't miss these events.

Event	Date	Location	Time
Mud Party	3/17/19	Shrimptons 12 Forge Hill Road	4 - 8 pm
Board Meeting	3/21/19	Location TBD	5 pm
Beautify Hawley's Roads	4/1 - 4/30/19	Pick up trash on Hawley roads	
Board Meeting	4/18/19	Location TBD	5 pm
Board Meeting	5/16/19	Grove	5 pm
Musical Gathering	June date TBD	Meetinghouse or Grove	TBD
Tag Sale	6/15-16/19	Grove	9am - 3pm
Board Meeting	6/20/19	Grove	5 pm
Board Meeting	7/18/19	Grove	5 pm
Hawley Day	8/11/19	Meetinghouse & Grove	10am - 3 pm
Harvest Dinner	September date TBD	Stump Sprouts	TBD
No-Bake Bake Sale	September 2019	Online donating	
Board Meeting	9/19/19	Grove	5 pm
Pudding Contest	10/6/19	Meetinghouse & Grove	11am - 2pm
Apple Fest	November 2019	Poudriers Pond Road	4 - 7pm
Illumination Party	12/8/19	Meetinghouse	4 - 5pm

The Board of the Sons & Daughters of Hawley does not meet in November, December, January, or February.



Pool Gate Shadows

I like the contrast between the gate's hard lines, the soft contours of the wind-blown snow, and the shadows. Rich Cook

Editor's note: In response to suggestions from readers, we have started to introduce a few new features in The Edge of Hawley. In our Autumn, 2018 issue we had the first of an occasional series entitled "My Favorite Place in Hawley." This issue introduces two new features – one celebrates the beauty of Hawley in photographs, drawings, and paintings, the other has Hawley residents telling "How We Came to Hawley." Readers are warmly encouraged to contribute to future issues of The Edge of Hawley with art work, photographs, a description of a favorite spot in the town, or the story of how and when they came to live here (which for many, of course, is the story of growing up here).

Events of the Past Season

Apple Fest



The 2018 Apple Fest was held again at the home of Ray and Melanie Poudrier on Sunday, November 4.

As it has in the past, it coincided neatly with the Franklin County Cider Days, a nationally advertised annual two-day event, which featured Pete Mitchell's Headwater Cider on Forget Road as one of about twenty different cider-producing locations.

And, as always, the food that was contributed to the Poudrier gathering was most delicious and featured a number of apple items such as applesauce, apple cakes, and a Bavarian apple torte with almonds. With all the starters, entrées, and desserts, we shared close to twenty different dishes, some traditional New England fare, like the apple cakes, squash, baked beans, and scalloped potatoes, and more exotic specialties like Indian potato cakes and cardamom-scented root vegetable stew.

Almost thirty people from East and West Hawley were in attendance, including a number of first timers. Many thanks for the help of the clean-up

crew, Suzy Groden and Connie Emmett.

Conversation topics ranged from the completion of the last culvert on Middle Road to a discussion of one of the strangest summers any of us could recall, in which it was either too hot or too wet to enjoy much of the outdoors, and many items in our gardens rotted due to the excessive moisture.

On the other hand, the benefit of this peculiar weather seems to be that everyone's well is full to overflowing (though it also means that no one is anxious to see what the spring thaw will do to the streams). Everyone is hoping for a more normal Hawley summer and fall next year.



Illumination Party



As we do every year at sundown on the 2nd Sunday of December, the Sons and Daughters of Hawley held an "Illumination Party" at the Meetinghouse. The oil lamps in the big central chandelier

were lit by Serra Root with a helping hand from Will Cosby, candles (battery-operated and light-sensitive) were set in the Meetinghouse windows, and celebrants sang carols and shared hot cider, cocoa, cookies, and several other sweet treats.



Photo by Rich Cook

Upcoming Events

The calendar on page 4 provides additional details about the following events.

Mud Party: Craig and Pamela Shrimpton will again host the traditional March gathering when Hawleyites celebrate the end of winter and the first signs of spring, and enjoy a potluck feast of mouth-watering appetizers, entrées, and desserts.



Beautify Our Roads: The melting of the snow in early spring unfortunately reveals how many cans, plastic bags, and bits of paper have collected along the sides of the town's roads during the long winter.



Thus, we dedicate the month of April to picking up as much of this trash as possible. If you are out for a walk on a day in April, take a tote bag along and gather up whatever detritus you encounter. It always makes a great contribution to the beauty of our town.

Hawley Day: This important annual meeting of the Sons and Daughters of Hawley provides an opportunity for people who have all sorts of connections to the town – present and past – to come together and conduct the official business of the society. It always takes place on the second Sunday of August, starts at 10:00 A.M. with coffee, pastries, and conversation, includes a formal meeting of the society from 11:00 A.M. to 12:30 P.M., and concludes with lunch out on the lawn in front of the Grove (weather permitting). We hope to see you all there to enjoy being together with friends, family, and neighbors, live music, and a chance to share food, memories, and laughs.



Harvest Dinner: This is another of the Sons and Daughters' yearly traditions, and one to which members look forward eagerly. It takes place in September at Stump Sprouts, and features a remarkable meal composed of entirely locally grown food, prepared expertly by Suzanne and Lloyd Crawford.



No-Bake Bake Sale: Throughout the month of September, members of the Sons and Daughters of Hawley will be encouraged to make donations to support the activities of the society.

To get us in the mood and inspire an urge to give, we offer a pair of excellent (and dueling) odes to the No-Bake Bake Sale by some illustrious Hawleyites.

(1)

Ode to the Sons and Daughters of Hawley
No-Bake Bake Sale

*By Mary Stuart Parker Cosby and Ellen Parker Cosby
October 2016*

My kitchen is neat
I'm saving my feet
Here's for the brownies
I won't have to eat.

The work that you do
Attended by many or few
Reminds us each year
Of our history true.

So let's all raise a cheer
For a cause we hold dear
Hawley's No-Bake Bake Sale
Successful this year!

(2)

A Non-Poem Poem for the No-Bake Bake Sale

By Alice Parker, Spring, 2018

Bake a batch of cookies
Whip a bowl of cream
Stack a cake with layers –
 Then you need a nap.
Save yourself the trouble,
Save the cleaning up,
Make your life real easy:
 Join the NO-BAKE club!
 Sing for NO-BAKE Hawley!
 Join the NO-BAKE club!
 Send your CONTRIBUTION!
 Be a NO-BAKE bub!
 Help the hills of Hawley!
 Give a gift today!
 Let the Sons and Daughters
 Praise your name always!

And here is a recipe for the No-Bake Bake Sale, from
Jody Stewart of Tregelly's Farm ...

Pimento Cheese (1/2 recipe)

4 oz. each of sharp yellow and white cheddar, grated
½ of a 2-oz. jar of pimentos, chopped
1 Tbsp of the pimento juice
2 dashes of Lea & Perrins Worcester sauce
3 Tbsps margarine
Salt and pepper to taste

In addition, there will be two events that don't happen every year ...

THE RETURN OF THE PUDDING CONTEST!

Our once-every-five-years food-oriented fundraiser will take place again in 2019! On Sunday, October 6th, the Pudding Hollow Pudding Festival will return to the Hawley Meeting House and Grove. This gala day will include a pudding contest (with fabulous prizes), a festive lunch, and homespun Hawley entertainment. Puddings will arrive at 11:00 AM, and the day will proceed from there, ending around 2. We are trying to line up enough funding so that every penny donated on the big day will go to the Meetinghouse Restoration Fund. Attendance at the festival is free, but we will ask for donations for the delicious homemade lunch, as well as a \$20 entry fee for the pudding contest. Of course, any other donations will be gratefully received. Fun, food, and a worthy cause: who could ask for anything more? We'll provide more details within the next few months. For the moment, please go ahead and test pudding recipes (winter is an ideal time of year for such food preparation!).

and ...

COME ONE, COME ALL! TO THE NEXT ...

(trumpets and drum roll please) ...

SONS & DAUGHTERS GIANT TAG SALE!

June 15 and 16, 2019 (Fathers Day Weekend)

Beth Thwing is doing it again!! And she says ...

 **HERE IT COMES!** 

NOW IS THE TIME TO START SAVING YOUR STUFF!

Think about what's been gathering dust in some remote corner. What's been hiding in a carton in the attic, cellar, or barn? When was the last time you used it? Do you *really* need it? Has enough time passed to release you from its emotional hold on you? (I get it. I've been there too.)

WHAT MIGHT YOU DONATE?

An amazing array of "stuff," well beyond what I can list. Dishes, glassware, towels, sheets, framed pictures, mirrors, games, toys, sporting goods, exercise equipment, all manner of small (working) appliances, office supplies (sorry, *not* computer stuff), holiday supplies, knickknacks, rugs, blankets, bedspreads, books, gadgets, and SO MUCH MORE.

This June's Tag Sale is your ticket to freedom! Feel the joy / release / relief when you give away the things you no longer need or want that have been encroaching on your personal space. Thank you, in advance, for your sleuthing skills.

The Grove doors will be open for your gifts on May 1st (or before, by appointment).

It takes six weeks to organize and tag all that arrives, so the earlier you can get your donations to the Grove, the easier *my* job becomes. (Thanks!)

A few more notes about this tag sale:

“Gently used” is the byword for donated goods. Items need to be in working order. No one wants something that’s broken.

“Reasonably clean” helps a lot, too. If people don’t want to touch something, they won’t buy it. See your items through the eyes of a tag sale customer. How do they look?

Items NOT TO DONATE for this event:

- Old computer components (no one wants them and they’re difficult to dispose of).
- Encyclopedias (all information – cutting edge and historical – is available online these days).
- Clothing (the Salvation Army does a marvelous job with that).
- Large appliances (like kitchen ranges, washing machines, etc.).
- Cars (WFCR and other non-profits deal with these better than I can).
- Anything that would be a problem to dispose of if it doesn't sell at the tag sale.

QUESTIONS? Please call Beth at 413-339-0124.

Woo Hoo! I can hardly wait to begin the work!

And thanks for being the GREAT folks you are.

Community and Town Business

Sidehill Farm (An Update)

A year ago, we published a portrait of Sidehill Farm, the exciting enterprise that Amy Klippenstein and Paul Lacinski brought to Hawley in 2012. In that article we recounted the now familiar story of how the couple started growing vegetables in Ashfield, acquired a few cows to give them milk for the yogurt they liked to eat, decided to take up organic dairy farming, expanded their herd of handsome Normande and Jersey cows (adding other livestock as well), eventually bought the farm at the top of East Hawley where the Donovan family had grown potatoes, and developed a very successful business producing the delicious organic yogurt and sour cream that is sold in grocery stores throughout the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.



Although the farm has changed in character and size, Amy, Paul, and the people who work with them have remained committed to their original goals of providing healthy, affordable, high quality food products, while caring humanely and thoughtfully for the animals and lands that support them.

The news *this* winter is that they have decided to keep the yogurt business here in Hawley, while selling the farm, along with a contract for the milk. As they explain in a post on their website (www.sidehillfarm.net) there are two reasons that this seems the right thing to do at this time.



The first is that it has become an increasing challenge for them to manage two very demanding pursuits – organic dairy farming and organic dairy food production – and maintain the exceptionally high standards in both that are essential to them. They have come to realize that they can't

meet the round-the-clock, day-in-day-out requirements of dairy farming while keeping the regular hours, production schedules, and delivery deadlines of the yogurt business. Sidehill now has the federal certification that allows them to sell their organic yogurt and sour cream in other states, and they have reached the point where they feel it makes sense for them to focus on that side of things.

The second reason is that the world of dairy farming is in trouble right now and selling the farm is

a way they can help. It has become almost impossible for someone who wants to do conventional dairy farming – milking cows and selling the milk for enough money to support a farm and family – to survive. Paul and Amy propose to sell their farm to people who want to run it according to the same core principles that have guided Sidehill's treatment of the land and cows. They will partner with them, and buy the milk to make their yogurt at a price that will allow the farm to thrive.

Thus, although they feel some sadness about giving up one part of their dream, they see this new plan as having potential as an exciting adventure. They expect their cows to continue to live their pleasant cow lives, the land on the Forget Road farm to continue to improve in fertility, the farmers to make a decent living doing what they love, and Sidehill organic dairy products to become available to lucky consumers across New England.



The Rhubarb Matinee



When: Saturday, May 25, from 1 to 4 P.M.

Where: 84 Middle Road in Hawley
(otherwise known as "Hawleywood")

Tinky Weisblat will be hosting her second annual tribute to Hawley's most prolific spring vegetable. She tells us that there will be no set program: just talking and nibbling with friends and neighbors. You are encouraged to bring a favorite rhubarb dish, recipe, or anecdote, though if you choose not to bring anything, you are very welcome to just come, relax, and taste other people's treats. Red attire is encouraged but not required.

For further information, call 413-339-4747 or email hawleyrhubarb@earthlink.net.

Bygone Years of Hawley

The First Pudding Contest

Not much is known about the original pudding contest (the inspiration for our current one), but what we do know comes from historian Louise Hale Johnson. On page 3 of her *History of the Town of Hawley* (1953), she tells the following story.

In the primitive days, probably before 1780, Mrs. Baker, wife of Timothy Baker, was matched against another woman, to see which would make the largest hasty pudding. Mrs. Baker made hers in a five-pail kettle, and came out triumphantly the “pudding head” of Hawley. That circumstance gave the title “Pudding Hollow” to that neighborhood, embracing school district No. 1, lying in the north part of town.

“Pudding head” Abigail Kibbe Baker and her husband Timothy moved to Hawley in 1772 from nearby Sunderland when she was 22 and he 24. The contest took place sometime between their arrival and 1780. Today, Hawleyites would love to know who the other contestant was, or Mrs. Baker’s winning recipe. We do know that a five-pail kettle would hold *a lot* of pudding.



By Tinky Weisblat



A Walk through the Woods at Sunset

Stop. Listen. Nothing except the wind blowing through the trees.

Rich Cook

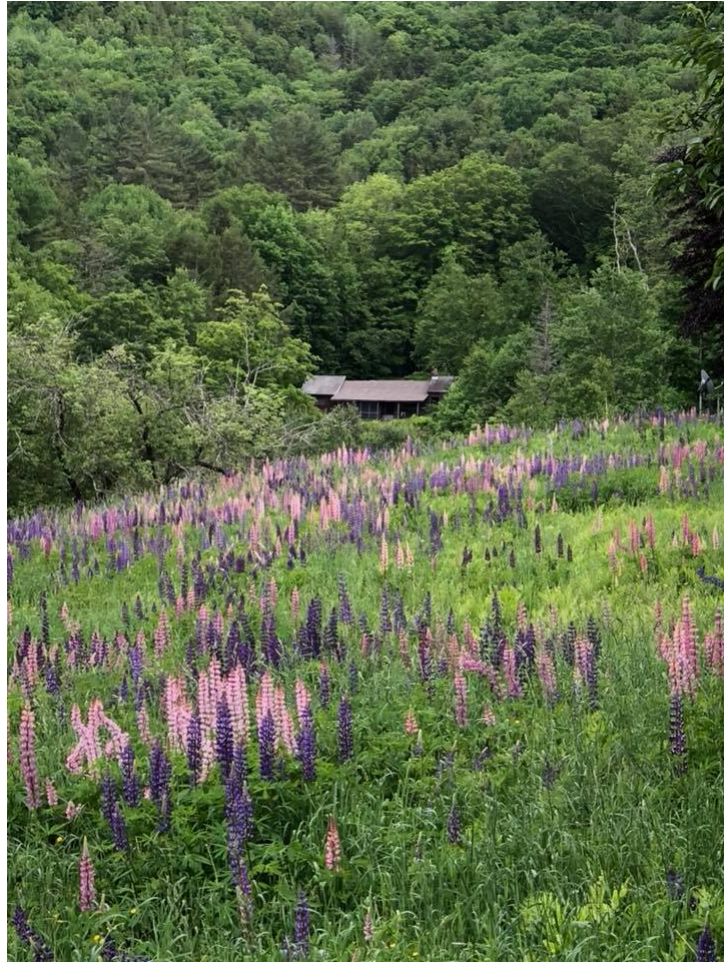
How We Came To Hawley

by Leslie Cooper

Paul and I first came to Hawley in July of 1976. We were about to move from New York City to Dallas, Texas, and were looking for one last brief moment of cool air amid green hills. We had no idea where to look, but our eldest daughter came to our rescue. She was in nursery school at that time, and her teacher, Mary Newmann, knew someone named Harrison Parker (she and her husband, who worked with the Ford Foundation, had met him in Indonesia).

Harrison had introduced the Newmanns to the wonders of Singing Brook Farm in Hawley, and she told us about those wonders: the tennis court, the ice-cold swimming hole, the trails through the hills, the cottages to rent, and lots of space for children to run freely. It sounded perfect, though she thought that there would probably not be any vacancies, as the same families returned year after year, if not generation after generation.

We were not discouraged, however, and did not give up. We decided to call Mary Parker, Harrison's sister. She said "Yes, we have one cottage left." We said we'd take it, sight unseen. That was our initiation to Hawley.



We did go off to Dallas that August, but in 1977, '78, '79, and '80 we were able to return for a month at Singing Brook Farm. After the first three summers, we made the decision to try to find a house of our own in Hawley and started to search for one.

Finding the perfect spot turned out to be easy. On the way to a picnic on Forge Hill Road, our friend Florette Zuelke showed us a cape on top of a hill with a spectacular view of pastures and mountains. Paul and I knew immediately this was the home we dreamed of and we bid on the property. In 1981 we took possession of our home on Howes Road and

have never once looked back. We often say how lucky we were to have found this peaceful spot in rural Western Massachusetts.



Births

Jackson Hayes Niepp on January 4, 2019 to Holly Beatrice Niepp and Christopher Brandon Goodhind, 20 Forget Road.

Marriages

Ryan Michale Crochetiere and Karen Lynn Hoffman, on February 16, 2019, in Hawley.

Obituaries

Elinore Vivian Aubrey LaFleur



Elinore Vivian Aubrey LaFleur, whose parents, Raymond and Loretta Aubrey, are buried in the Doane Cemetery, and whose sister, Dr. Suzanne Aubrey, lives on Grout Road, passed away at the age of 74, on October 9 2018.

Elinore LeFleur was honored by her family and friends as a devoted parent and grandparent who treasured her family and was so concerned about the welfare of others that she donated her body to science. She died peacefully, at the Boston Medical Center, in the arms of her sisters and granddaughters. Her family loved her deeply and will miss her dearly.

We would also like to recognize the loss of another member of the Aubrey family, Richard Aubrey, of North Miami, Florida, who passed away on January 17, 2016.

Esther Pratt



Esther Emily (Brassor) Pratt (94), of West Hawley Road in Charlemont, passed away, peacefully and surrounded by her family, at Buckley Health Care Center in Greenfield early Monday morning, January 14, 2019. One of the 15 children of Frank Joseph Brassor and Nellie (Bassett) Brassor, Esther was born in Guilford, Vermont on April 24, 1924 and spent her early life in Northfield, Massachusetts. She married Gordon M. Pratt in 1944 and between then and 1956, when they purchased their home in Charlemont, they lived in Turners Falls, Zoar, and Monroe Bridge. Esther worked in the gift shop and kitchen at Mohawk Park Restaurant, at the Plantation House in Charlemont, and as a machine operator at Kendall Mills in Colrain.

Esther is survived by her daughter Gloria Decker and her husband Douglas, of Hawley, by another daughter, Nancy Taylor and her husband, Steven, of Ashfield, by her son, Bruce Pratt and his wife, Kimberly, of Athol, by her sister Marion Raymond, of Fort Kent, Maine, by 19 grandchildren (including Bernie Barnhart and his wife Gina, of Hawley), 2 sisters-in-law, several nieces and nephews, and many great-grandchildren and great-great-grandchildren.

A celebration of Esther's life was held on Saturday, January 26, 2019 at the Federated Church in Charlemont.



In the Doane Cemetery
Remembered. Rich Cook

Land Transfers

Michael J. Churchill, Rachel L. Churchill, MTGLQ Investors LP by Attorney and Selene Finance LP, Attorney to MTGLQ Investors LP. 26 East Road, Hawley, Massachusetts. \$24,000.



Editor's note: If we accidentally missed any birth, marriage, passing, or transfer of property in Hawley, please let us know so that we can publish a notice in our next issue.

*suzyggroden@gmail.com or mail to
S&D of H, PO Box 206, Hawley, MA 01339*

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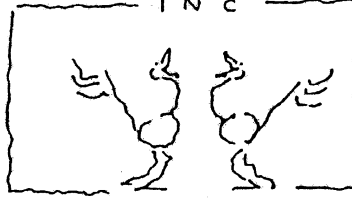


Hawley's own LaTinqe is a food writer, historian, and occasional television star. Her new cookbook, *Love, Laughter, and Rhubarb*, has just been published. Tinky is also the author of *The Pudding Hollow Cookbook* and *Pulling Taffy*.

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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 1000 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, or call 413-339-5592, or e-mail robertroot@hughes.net. Rates are extremely reasonable.

You too can be listed here!!! *The Edge of Hawley* now reaches more than 216 readers, multiple 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 S&D secretary, Pamela Shrimpton (413-339-4091), for details.

Please support our sponsors in whatever way you can.

Links to Other Websites

SONS AND DAUGHTERS WEBSITE

<http://sites.google.com/site/sonsdaughtersofhawley/Home>

The Sons and Daughters of Hawley is also on Facebook

TOWN OF HAWLEY WEBSITE

www.townofhawley.com

MOHAWK & HAWLEMONT SCHOOLS WEBSITE

www.mohawkschools.org/



Membership Form June 2018-June 2019

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

Annual membership dues:

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

Honorary free membership is provided for all persons over the age of 70 years who are related to Hawley by ancestry, birth, marriage, or residence.

I am in this category: _____

Life or Honorary Members

We would appreciate your additional contributions: _____

The Edge of Hawley would appreciate your direct support. _____

Gifts of Membership

Consider a gift membership for a family member. _____

Name _____

Address _____

City, State _____

Memorial or Contributor's Plaque

Honor your family: ____ plaques @ \$55 each _____

On pew ____ in vestibule ____

Inscription: 29 characters/line, 2 lines only

Building Fund Donation

I wish to support the restoration of the Meetinghouse. _____

I wish to support the renovation of the Hawley Grove. _____

I wish to support the building fund in general. _____

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

Enclosed is a check for Sons & Daughters in the total amount of: _____

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