

# ***The Edge of Hawley***

**Volume XXIX, Number 3**  
**Summer 2009**



**1846 Meetinghouse**  
Home of  
***The Sons and Daughters of Hawley***

## Reaching the Editorial Staff

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## SONS AND DAUGHTERS OF HAWLEY

### Calendar of Events

- Beautify Our Town Roads—4/15-30/2009
- Plant Sale, etc.—5/23/09—Stetson's—9am-12noon
- Tag Sale—6/20-21/2009—The Hawley Grove
- Artisans & Garden Tour—7/11/2009—Lunch at Poudriers
- Hawley Day/Annual Meeting—Sunday 8/9/09—Meetinghouse
- Nature Dinner—9/20/09—Stump Sprouts
- No-Bake Bake Sale—9/2009
- S&D Hosts Hampshire County Riding Club—10/4/09
- Pudding Festival—10/31/09—Charlemont Federated Church
- Apple Fest—11/2009—Alice's Parker's home
- Hobby Horse Bazaar—Saturday—12/5/09—Hawlemont School
- Illumination Party—Sunday—12/13/09—Meetinghouse—4-5pm

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

### Correspondence

29 May '09

Hello Lark,

In looking at the recent *Edge*, I see that there is no mention of Tenzin Gyalpo getting High Honors for the 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter at Mohawk (we forgot to check and see if he got Honors in the 1<sup>st</sup> quarter). So this 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter he also got Honors-it means a lot to him and his family (and us!) So perhaps he could be listed next time.

Thanks,

All Best  
Jody Cothey  
Tregellys Farm

2/24/09

I have appreciated receiving the Hawley news for these past years. It has been probably 20 years since I have last been to Hawley. My childhood memories were only happy ones there. My father

Jack Cummings worked as a lumber jack in the 1920's til we moved to Conn. We lived next door to Elvira Scott's home.

I feel you should probably stop sending me the news anymore as I haven't given anything at all-I know it must cost to send it to me.

I am 84 years old, living in senior housing and am unable to help in any way.

You are doing so well in restoring the meeting house and park. I can remember when there was a dance hall next to the inn and Flossie Holden had the candy store and gas pumps in the house next to the church-at least that's what my little girl's memories are-I was 6 years old when we moved-but we all returned yearly to spend time with Aunt Belle, Uncle Rollie and Elvira-only happy memories are with me in my old age.

Thanks again,

Ella Cunnings Stearns

*Editors note: Ella, it is for people like you that we keep writing the Edge. As long as you keep reading it, we'll keep sending it.*

**From the Community Foundation of Western Massachusetts**  
Ms. Stetson,

On behalf of the CF of WM, please accept our thank you for [your organization's] continued support of the Sons and Daughters of Hawley [Endowment] Fund.

Please know that your generosity is very much appreciated and will in many ways change our community for the better.

Jim Rice

TRUSTEE

***Our Thanks for Your Donations to the Edge***

## **Plant Sale**

By Cyndie Stetson

The May 23rd Plant Sale netted the Sons and Daughters \$452.00. We had lots of perennials, annuals, herbs and dig-your-own. Even after the allotted Sale time, people stopped by to purchase plants. Thanks to everyone who worked, brought plants,



bought plants, and contributed wonderful breakfast goodies. We plan to have another sale next year and welcome all kinds of perennials. Please call Cyndie 339-4231 if you would like to get a reminder next year for donating plants.

## **S&D Multi-Town Tag Sale**

By Beth Thwing

It didn't rain! That was the first good news. Next, the sale



grossed over \$4300.00, counting before and after sales, but not including another \$180 in donations for coffee and sweets. Thank you Hawley bakers. (Folks do reward us well for refreshments at

our events.)

This year, an exciting donation of a 1958 Lionel Train added to our Tag Sale learning curve. How to price it? We had not a clue. Lionel dealers and collectors we consulted informed us that 1958 was not a particularly “collectible year.” They seemed to think that \$25-\$50 would be reasonable for the set.—How could this be? At nearly fifty years old, with the cars and tracks still in original boxes and the entire set in pristine condition, this didn't feel right. What to do now?

We did not feel comfortable letting this set go at a bargain basement price. Maybe a tag sale wasn't the proper venue for an item like this that depended on the “right person” walking through the door. Could we find former owners or other nostalgic people on craigslist.com? This was a good decision that yielded a sale at \$200 for the Sons and Daughters.

From here things progressed seamlessly with the help of many volunteers at unpacking, placing and pricing. Other volunteers perform jobs behind the scenes such as placing and removing signs, advertising, researching values, etc. etc. More person-hours than I can count are necessary to pull this event together.

With only one building this year, we had to be smart with our use of space. What a bonus to be able to place furniture and sporting goods in the former, but now gutted kitchen. Finally, all was prepared.

On the days of the sale, I had so much to be grateful for



besides the long line of people and the cars parked everywhere possible:

1. a new roof to keep the building's contents dry.

2. an attractive newly

painted building that welcomes people.

3. two new color-coordinated flower boxes with decorative brackets—each overflowing with brilliant blooms.

4. a sign, hand painted by a local artist, identifying the site: “2006 Hawley Grove.”

5. a freshly mowed lawn and tree damage removed from December's ice storm.

6. an army of Sons and Daughters members willing to do anything to help through all the hours of preparation as well as the days of the sale. My heartfelt thanks.

7. And finally, it didn't rain—nor was it so sunny that folks were elsewhere.

End result?—Two very satisfying days. But, at the sale's end we surveyed the room. Could it truly be \$4300 lighter in than when we began?

With far too much stuff remaining, we planned a second event: A half a day with everything at half price. On July 25<sup>th</sup>, the sun beamed down—the first sunny day in a week. The turnout, light but fairly steady, provided another \$340.00 including donations for snacks and coffee.



--There is still more. At the annual meeting the grove will be open to browsers. Any and all contents are available “for the taking” for a mere donation to the sons and Daughters. Happy shopping!

Then at last, we will re-box the residue for delivery to a local charity that has expressed interest.

Fast forward to next year, the Sons & Daughters will hold an exciting and enjoyable, never-held-before fundraiser. Details will be released at a time closer to date.

Re: the next giant tag sale: Look for it in spring 2011.

## **Hawley 2009 Artisan's and Garden Tour**

By Cyndie Stetson

Thank you, thank you, thank you!!! To everyone who participated in the Sons and Daughters of Hawley Artisan's and Garden Tour that was held on Saturday, July 11, a huge thank you for making it



such a success. We netted \$1611.00 for our building fund. The gardens were beautiful despite our rainy and cool spring/summer start and the other displays were spectacular. Thanks to those who were on the tour, those who made food for the luncheon, those who helped in any way, and those who attended.



Pam Tepedino eyes Purdy's "couples"

Our 2010 tour will be held on Saturday, July 10. We already have several places that have agreed to be on the tour. If you have a garden tucked away in the hills of Hawley, or if any of our members are hidden artists, potters, or craftspersons of any sort,



Alice Parker and friends enjoy the luncheon



Beth

Thwing looks at photos by Georgette Defriesse

we'd love to include you on the tour. We can have you set up at the Grove! Please call Cyndie at 339-4231 or Margaret at 339-4441. One of our new displays

will be old tools that were used in Hawley (and I'm sure many of us have those you would like to share.) These will be set up at the West Hawley Church.

Again, thanks to everyone for everything. It was Great!

## **Hawley Day Talent Show**

By Cyndie Stetson

Don't miss this year's fabulous entertainment at the Hawley Day Talent Show. Many of our Board members, as well as members of the Sons and Daughters of Hawley, have already signed up to show us their talents. Can you sing, dance, play a musical instrument, recite a poem, juggle, do a magic trick or act? Then we need YOU! Please call Cyndie at 339-4231 to get your name and talent on the program.

The Talent Show will begin at 1:30 pm Hawley Day, August 9 in the Meeting House. Cheer your fellow Sons and Daughters on!!! Come join us for a terrific show!

## **The Supper/Nature Program**

By Cyndie Stetson

The Supper/Nature Program will take place on Sunday, September 20 at Stump Sprouts Recreation Center, West Hill Rd., in West Hawley. The program, presented by Hank and Margaret Eggert, is about their adventures in Patagonia which includes parts of Argentina and Chile.

The supper begins at 4:30 pm with a wonderful variety of scrumptious items to please any pallet. Beverage and dessert is included, all for the low price of \$10 per person for food and program. Please call Cyndie at 339-4231 or Margaret 339-4441 to let us know if you will be attending. Lloyd and Sue Crawford need an approximate count for food.

The view alone from Stump Sprouts is worth the suggested donation for this event and the program will be spectacular.

## **Don't Forget the Pudding Contest!!**

By Tinky Weisblat

This year's Pudding Hollow Pudding Contest is scheduled for Saturday, October 31 (we'll get you home in plenty of time for trick or treaters, we promise). We have renamed it the Pudding Festival to reflect its true nature. Those who have attended in past

years know that this is an event that appeals to the general public—not just to people who want to enter the contest.

As always, the Pudding Festival will include pudding entries, a tasty lunch (spearheaded this year by Juanita Clark and Angela Sinistore—thank you!), the sale of Sons & Daughters of Hawley goods, and fabulous entertainment. Last year’s entertainment, “The Pirates of Pudding Hollow,” was a huge success. It



recounted the little known tale of pirates who sailed to Hawley in the late 18th century in search of (what else?) pudding. With this year’s festival slated for Halloween, we’re thinking ghosts may follow!

Here’s what YOU can do to help (you know

you want to):

**1. ENCOURAGE ALL YOUR FRIENDS TO ENTER THE CONTEST, AND THINK ABOUT MAKING UP A PUDDING YOURSELF!** The pudding doesn’t have to be complicated; it just has to be something you love and didn’t find in a cookbook. It may be sweet or savory.

Although I haven’t yet put this information on the pudding contest web page, this year’s contest will not include a semi-final round. Contestants are required only to bring their puddings, recipes, and checks for \$12 made out to the Sons & Daughters of Hawley, to the Charlemont Federated Church by 11 am on the big day. No entries will be eligible without a recipe and a check.

So start concocting a recipe! I am slowly rounding up prizes. Although the economy is preventing several of our past donors

from giving us prizes (and restricting the activities of others), I know that we will still have grand prizes of a Cuisinart Food Processor and a Lamson & Goodnow Knife and Cutting Board. Not bad incentives!

2. **HELP WITH THE LUNCH, THE ENTERTAINMENT, OR THE OVERALL DAY.** We always need cooks, people to set up and clean up, and people to sort prizes. We can also use ideas to make the festival more ... festive. So please call me, Tinky, at 413-339-4747, or e-mail me at [Tinky@merrylion.com](mailto:Tinky@merrylion.com) if you have any ideas or can aid us in any way. Even our volunteers have fun!

3. **BRING YOUR FRIENDS TO THE FESTIVAL.** We love an audience for our parade and entertainment—and we hope the festival will have more sales tables and other activities than ever in this, its final year. The lunch is always a delicious bargain, the company is convivial, and people always love singing “The Hawley Song.”

I wish you joy—and pudding! See you at the Festival, if not before.....

### **Hobby Horse Bazaar**

By Cyndie Stetson

Wow, where is the summer going? It's already time to think about your specialty craft for the Hobby Horse Bazaar that will be held at the Hawlemont Elementary School on Sat. December 5. If you have an item you wish to donate, please call Cyndie at 339-4231. Anything new among our current items will be welcomed.

### **Raffle Items**

By Cyndie Stetson

We have two great raffles this year and the winning names being drawn on December 5<sup>th</sup>. One raffle is a large basket of "Hawley" items/goodies. The contents include a mug, notepaper, a painting print, CD from Alice Parker, cookbook from Tinky Weisblat, Hawley jam, maple syrup from Scott Purinton, certificates for baked goods from Joyce Charland, Leslie Cooper and Lark Thwing, and Much More! The second raffle is for a



beautiful crocheted afghan donated by Joanne Sylvester from Williamstown. Tickets are \$1.00 each or 6 for \$5.00 and will be on sale during Hawley Day, Aug. 9 and other Sons and Daughters events.

## The Hawley Grove

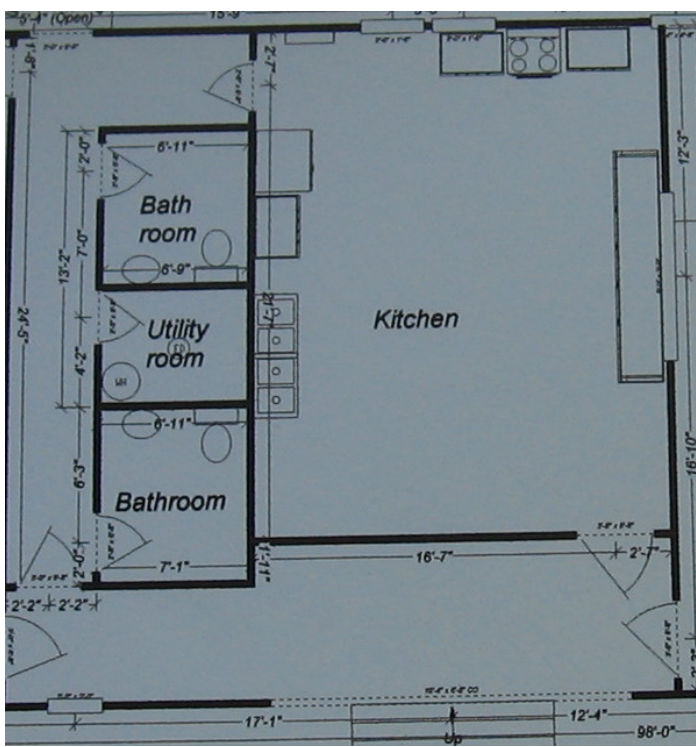


We are in. We have the Certificate of Occupancy; we have a working bathroom; and the tag sale went off without a hitch.

The grounds have been kept beautifully mown, including the entire back field. The December ice storm damage has been cleaned up, for which we are grateful to Bob and Brandon Root and to Rick

Chasse. The grounds and woods around the old dance hall are included in that effort, and the property is a thing of beauty and something to be proud of.

We have a new sign as can be seen in the accompanying photo. We thank artist Trina Sternstein



who did the work, somehow squeezing it in between the rain storms that have hampered us all spring and summer. We also delight in the new flower boxes on either side of the front entrance, courtesy of Lorraine McCarthy. Love that feminine touch!

The S&D board has also voted to proceed with a new kitchen and handicap bathroom modification for the Grove. The old bathrooms will be removed and two new handicap bathrooms and a utility room will be installed outside the west wall (East Hawley Road side) of the existing kitchen. The new kitchen and bathrooms will all be insulated for use in the off seasons for meetings and events. The sink and refrigerator will be on the kitchen's west wall and the gas range will be on the north wall (back field) for outside venting. A propane Monitor heater will be installed on the north wall also, courtesy of Kirby and Charlotte Thwing's estate. The serving area, between the old kitchen and the dining room area, will be constructed so it can be closed off with insulated panels during off-season use.

## **The Meetinghouse**

Things are finally happening at the Meetinghouse again. We have repaired all the broken windows (ten or eleven of them), and we have FINALLY re-installed the memorial to war veterans that was removed at the time the exterior was painted. It is now in front of the building, mounted on posts, courtesy of Bob and Brandon Root and Serra's brother Rick Chasse. The memorial now displays the dignity it deserves.



The board also agreed unanimously at the last meeting to proceed with the installation of a handicap ramp at the back and south side of the Meetinghouse. We will also put in a drive area so people can drive right up to the ramp entrance. After our success at the Grove, we felt this was a very doable task that would not be too expensive and would definitely make the

building more useable by our membership and by guests. Learn more about this at the Annual Meeting.

## **Old Town Common Project**

By Ray Gotta

If you haven't been up East Hawley Road by the Old Town



Common site recently you're missing a significant change to the look of the site. Thanks to the efforts of Wesley Swope and his grandfather Gordon

Griswold, all the trees within 60 feet of the road have been removed on either side of the Hawley Bog entrance path, which starts on town common property. A large banner describing what is going on has been erected. This whole area will be leveled and grassed in. It will be an expansion of the present grassy area which now includes the rock monument dedicated to the first church of Hawley, which was built in the center of the common in 1797 and was dismantled and move out by 1848.

Next, additional trees will be removed on the actual site of the former church/meetinghouse, further in from the grassy area. We will also remove all stumps from the expanded grassy areas. Then, tour trails and selected cellar holes will be cleared.

We need volunteers to assist us in doing this work. If you have equipment and/or time to help, please call Lark Thwing at (413) 339-0124 or Ray Gotta at (413) 339-4035 or (413) 782-7248 anytime for guidance. Any marked trees cut down that are useful







## THE BYGONE YEARS OF HAWLEY

### **Gerald Raymond: Memories of a Pudding Hollow Boyhood**

Talk with Alice Parker, Feb. 25, 2004

Corrected version, 3.12.04

Gerald's memory was stirred by the interview with Clara Rice in the winter Edge of Hawley. Clara was his third-grade teacher (he thinks he had her sister Daisy in grades 1 and 2). Mabel Lamb taught his fourth grade year: she was 'from the city', and visibly disappointed that all the men around were already married. Grace Miller, grades five and six, married his Uncle Harrison Raymond, and lived next to the school where the McMullins now live. And Ruth Hawkes taught his grades seven and eight; she married Norman Hawkes. Gerald graduated from Charlemont High School in 1937. You can figure the dates backwards from there.

His memories of the May Basket celebrations were more detailed than Clara's. The whole month of May was filled with these evening gatherings. It was a job to get the schedule arranged and kept secret from the recipient. One fleet boy would be chosen to deliver the basket to the doorstep, knock, and run while 15 or 20 other people waited in hiding. Then they all ran like crazy, pursued by the whole family of the girl, till all were caught. The immediate reward for a boy capturing a girl was a kiss; if the roles were reversed, the kiss was optional. Then they would all troop back to the house for soft drinks and cookies. The basket would have contained flowers and cookies.

Gerald's cousins Gladys and Freeman Hawkes lived in East Hawley. The footpath over the hill behind the Atkins was about one-half mile, and was frequently traveled. Gerald went to work for his Uncle Leon Hawkes in 1939, who operated a saw mill. They made lumber from blow-downs harvested in the woods in Gill and Bernardston from the 1938 hurricane. This lasted for a full year, while he boarded out. He recalls eating with four other men in a home in Gill which had no room for him to sleep, so he set up a tiny tent in the yard and slept there from May to September.

Another memory of the hurricane was a walk from his home to Charlemont about two days after. This valley suffered from floods of rain rather than wind, and all the bridges on the Chickley River were carried away. He managed to cross the Chickley, and walked up on the hillsides behind the Whites to Tower Road and then to a bridge over the Deerfield. It was a long trip to town! But everyone needed to get to town to shop: what to do for a bridge? Several of his friends decided to take matters into their own hands, and it turned into a neighborhood project. "Arthur Rice donated some big hemlocks, and Francis Sears had the horse power to drag them out of the woods. "My Dad was operating a small power shovel for a Mr. Grey of Ashfield. Dad got permission to use the shovel to move the rocks and gravel for the bridge foundation." By the end of the evening they had started a bridge on Charlie Parker's land right above where Mill Brook meets the Chickley - Charlie's house was on a tiny piece of land just where the sharp curve is on 8A; why it wasn't washed out in the flood remains a mystery. They built a stone pier in the middle of the brook; it took two logs to span the distance. As they were finishing, Roland and Philip Stiles happened by, and told them they had no authorization from the town to build a public bridge. Their response was "It's a private bridge - both ends are on Charlie Parker's land!" About two weeks later, the Stiles's came by again with a different message: they asked if the young men could build them a bridge near where the Town Shed is now. They did.

Gerald asked if I'd heard of 'Kitchen Jigs'. I hadn't, so he explained. Families would gather for an informal evening get-together in different homes in turn. At the Raymond's, the dining table at their home on Middle Road would be moved to the living room, and chairs pushed back to allow room for 2 quadrilles - 8 couples in all. Dad would play the fiddle and Mother the piano while someone did the calling. The neighbors came with their children: tiny ones were put to sleep on the bed, while the others joined in the dancing. The evening ended with cookies and drinks and much laughter. Neighbors included many Sears's (four generations living in the house now called Red Top), Carlos

Atkins (grandfather to the current one), Grandfather Raymond and Aunt Lizzie, and the Rice's.

And this brought to mind a Shivarree Gerald took part in when he was about 17. A group of about 25 young people gathered with pots and pans, a bugle and other noise-makers, to serenade newly-weds David and Lida (Maynard) Rice. They made a huge racket, but the couple would not come out. They came back a week later (it was Fall) with gunny sacks and a ladder; they climbed to the roof and pushed the sacks into the smoking chimney. They came out soon enough then, and a fine party resulted. Other evening entertainments were held on Friday nights at Madge Clark's in Fullerville, which was also a general store and post office. She had a phonograph and a caller, so the young folks congregated there.

I asked about the footpaths through the woods that are now completely gone. Gerald remembered different ways to get to the Pudding Hollow School: the Sears's cut diagonally through the woods, coming out opposite the Cemetery. From Gerald's, the kids walked down to the 'dry bridge' by the Atkins (where the cows could cross under the road. We called it the "Whoop-de-doo" from my father's accelerating over it on our drives to Singing Brook Farm), crossed Mill Brook on stepping stones, and then tiny Ginny Brook, and up the hill behind the Rice's between beautiful stone walls. That brought back the time that he had been given red leather button shoes when he was about eight. He hated them, and walked through the brook till they were thoroughly soaked and couldn't be worn again. He was 'grounded for some time' for that one.

Other kids at the school were the Neary family: Ethel, Tom, Retha, Janet, Kenneth and Doris. The stove at the school had two lids, and the Nearys brought soup in the cold mornings. Ethel had permission to stir the soup, and it filled the school with its enticing scent - but they didn't share it! At one point the school committee declared the stove a hazard, and put up a barrier to prevent accidental burns. Then Ethel had to stand on a chair and reach over the barrier to stir the soup.

The Rice's were across the road from the school, Uncle

Harrison next door, and the Rich's up the hill. Jeanette Loring Rich's father Seth was a professor from down East. In what is now the Cooper's house, lived Bill Cords, a farmer and logger who had a bad reputation for abusing his team of horses. His children were never allowed to participate in the May Basket fun. Seth Loring would chase off his property any boys caught fishing in his ice-pond (though Gerald thinks now that perhaps he too enjoyed that chase.) And at the top of the hill were Harry and Amalee Sears in the farm with a beautiful north view.

And that brought memories of the Goulds who lived up Middle Road in the midst of what is now the State Forest. They were the last attendees at the South Hawley School; when it closed, they came to Pudding Hollow. The children were barefoot and in tattered clothing. When the Salvation Army got shoes for them, the children would wear them away from the house, then hide them in bushes until school was over, when they wore them home again.

Finally, moving out of the Hollow on the north side, he remembers the Boscianos who built the Chickley Alp ski place: he helped work on some of those trails. Then came the Nearys, the Whites and the Charlemont line.

### **A Hawley Myth**

Gerald remembers hearing this story "about once a week" from Grandmother Carrie Atkins (Blanchard) Gould.

One Sunday the whole family planned a trip to Savoy to the Blanchard's for a picnic. Grandfather decided to stay home, as he was not feeling well. He told them not to hurry - -- he'd take the cows in, but not do the milking. At night when they arrived home, the cows weren't in and Grandfather was nowhere to be seen. They searched all night, with no luck. The next day the neighbors joined in - bloodhounds could track him as far as the edge of the pasture, but no farther. A week later, someone consulted a fortune-teller, a gypsy woman living in Savoy. They showed her his bandana, and she said "You want to know where he is? I've got bad news. You won't find him. He was a lot sicker than he told you, and he went up on the mountain, crawled into a cave - a



bobcat's den - and died. You'll only find his remains in the fourth generation."

Well, "the fourth" was Gerald's generation - and nothing could persuade him to go up on that mountain! Carlos shared that aversion to "the haunted hill"- and Grandfather was never found.

### **My Memory Garden**

"I want to plant in my memory garden  
Never a moment of worry or fear.  
Never a hurt or a sob that, choked me,  
Never a loss or a pain or a tear,  
Just happy moments that I can keep always  
Just cheery smiles and sunshiny hours  
So not a weed will come up in my garden,  
Just bright and beautiful memory flowers.

Let me keep blooming there life's lovely  
blessings!  
Hiding each heartache and bitter regret!  
But I am so weak, Dear God of the Garden,  
I need you to help me--to help me forget."

by

Minnie Harris Billings

## COMMUNITY AND TOWN BUSINESS

### **Annual Town Meeting**

On annual town meeting day in May, the override vote to fund the tech schools failed, and because of that, all of the meeting's financial items were passed over. The town also sent Berkshire East's request for a right-of-way back to committee for a further review. They did vote to allow the Rediscovering Hawley's Old town Common Project to proceed on town property.

The Hawlemont merger with Mohawk was also defeated, and the townspeople asked for more time to consider the issue in a less hurried manner.

Now, fast forward to June 30 and the Special Town Meeting to set the budget for the fiscal year beginning July 1. The finance committee had reworked the budget removing all non-essential items and increases and came back to selectmen with a budget that did not require an override vote. It did require taking more money from the Stabilization Fund. On June 30, the budget sailed through town meeting with hardly any discussion of the more than 35 warrant articles. The finance committee did warn the townspeople that we would not be able to take from stabilization again next year, and that if state cuts were to continue, we would have an even bigger hurdle to overcome next budget season.

The Berkshire East easement came up again and the town's committee had reached an agreement with Berkshire East to indemnify the town forever and to pay the town an annual fee of \$500 for the life of the zipline installation no matter who owned it.

The last item on the warrant was a question about whether to discuss the Hawlemont merger again. This was NOT to be another vote. The selectmen had already received a petition signed by 42 people asking that the merger not be brought up for vote again. By the June 30<sup>th</sup> meeting all eight Mohawk town had voted on the issue and six had passed it, Buckland had tabled it and Hawley had defeated it. The townspeople agreed to additional discussion, and it was calmer and less adamant than in May. Julia White, Chairperson of the Hawlemont School Committee spoke fervently about why she and the town of Charlemont had voted 3 to 1 in favor of the merger. Julia had been

totally opposed to the idea in the beginning, but as more time and discussion went on, she became a convert and then an avid supporter of the idea. Hawley and Buckland have 12 months in which to reconsider the merger. After that time, it would have to go back to all towns for a revote. Much will become clearer in the next twelve months. We will keep you informed on this issue.

### **Put Yourself in the Boots of a Corps Member**

By Jackie Lucero, Education and Service Learning Manager,  
SCA Massachusetts Parks AmeriCorps

Imagine it. . . You roll over, slightly tangled in your sleeping bag, and see the condensation thick on the walls of your Mountain Hardwear tent. Is it time to get up already? You glance at your watch, groaning to see that, yes, it's 7 o'clock and time to start the day. You unzip your sleeping bag and search through the bottom of your tent to find your well-worn Carharts and a mildly dirty long-sleeved shirt. Who cares? No one will see the dirt for you're sure that your trusty rain gear will be enveloping it again today. You slide into your mud encrusted hiking boots and cringe because they remain wet from the previous day's work, but you lace them up anyway and stumble into the "kitchen" for breakfast. There you see one of your crewmates already cooking some oatmeal, so you pull up a bench and fish for your bowl. Your body screams out in hunger and you ingest the oatmeal in huge mouthfuls. You pack up your gear—backpack, water bottles, and tools and start to hike. It will be another long hard day on the trail, and you start to question why you're here. Is it for the \$75 a week, the experience to put on your resume, and the scholarship you'll earn to put towards your insurmountable college loans? Maybe.

Nine months ago, you packed up your car and drove to Hawley where you began your service with SCA's Massachusetts Parks AmeriCorps. You'd graduated in the spring and were looking for somewhere to apply your skills when you found the SCA website. After so many years of studying you wanted to do something meaningful, to give back, and through SCA, you found internships

all across the country doing conservation service work, historical interpretation, and much more. In the end, you chose to serve here in western Massachusetts because you wanted to work with kids and teach environmental education in the schools, you wanted to learn the art of trail maintenance, and you wanted to live and work as part of a residential community. You knew you would gain skills and see a new part of the country, but that was merely where the adventure began.

This year has been one of deepening awareness. Before, the natural world looked like a Monet painting, trees blending into the background with other trees, birds with other birds, and bugs as simply a nuisance. But this year, it started to come into focus. Sure, you learned about natural history in elementary, high school and perhaps even college, but it was never in context. It never held purpose to your current life's situation. But this year, you lived the seasons, seeing them change from trilliums through to asters, and feeling them change from black flies to deer flies. This year, you learned that there is an inexhaustible supply of rock in New England and that supply has become both a constant evil and a blessing to your many days on the trail. And this year, you learned the different northeastern tree species, which grew straightest and decomposed slowest, which smelled of wintergreen and which of almond. You may have learned these details to help you build a stronger bridge or rock staircase, but these secret details, these cues from nature, have allowed you passage into their world.

Maybe you'll remember this summer as the one you worked alongside twenty-three unexpected friends. That first day of the program, festerling to yourself, wondering how you could possible survive the next five or ten months with these weirdoes, and then last night laughing together over an unconventional dinner of polenta and rehydrated beans. Somewhere along the way, it stopped mattering where you'd been before and where you'd be after. All that was important was that you were there committed to the projects, to the land and to each other, and that they would forever be there struggling alongside you.



And look at all you've accomplished thus far this season building the bridge over Dunbar Brook, the box steps at Hemlock Gorge, GPSing the rail trail out in Waltham, and clearing ice storm damage from numerous trails across the state. You made these structures, you learned how to wield a chainsaw and swing a Pulaski with ease and confidence. You built them with your own two hands so that others could follow in your footsteps, passing with ease, enjoying their experience and growing just a little closer with the natural world.

Maybe, in fact, you're here for all these reasons. And so you smile. You smile to yourself, to your crewmates ahead of and behind you, and you smile to whom and whatever may be secretly peering at you through the darkened cover of the canopy. You readjust your hard hat and see the thunderclouds pending overhead, pregnant with water. No longer do you guess why you're here, for you know you're here because today, despite the rain, is going to be a good day.

To find out more about the SCA go to [www.theSCA.org](http://www.theSCA.org).

Come celebrate another amazing year of conservation service!  
You are invited to the

12th Annual  
SCA Mass Parks AmeriCorps  
Recognition Ceremony

August 14, 2009  
Kenneth Dubuque Memorial State Forest  
Hawley, Massachusetts

Program begins at 11:00 a.m. and will be followed by lunch

RSVP to Jonah by August 4  
[jkeane@thesca.org](mailto:jkeane@thesca.org) (413) 339-6631

## **DCR'S Heritage Landscape Inventory Program**

Hawley's Historical Commission including Lark Thwing, John Sears and Ray Gotta have recently submitted an application to the Massachusetts Dept. of Conservation and Recreation (DCR) for inclusion of the Town of Hawley in their state-wide program of assisting towns to recognize and inventory their historical resources.

Communities selected to participate in the second round of DCR's Heritage Landscape Inventory program's Connecticut River Valley Reconnaissance Survey will gain valuable tools to help protect the places that contribute to the character of their town. Participation will raise public awareness about landscape preservation; encourage coordination among the municipal government, local groups, regional organizations and state agencies; and provide practical strategies for landscape protection.

By participating in the Heritage Landscape Inventory Program, our community will receive free technical assistance from staff at the DCR, as well as expertise from a team of professional consultants. We will be required to hold a town-wide meeting to establish an inventory of potential heritage landscapes. We and our consultants will visit each potential site and then the consultants will make recommendations to us as to which sites are most suitable for preservation and conservation strategies. Funding for these state-recommended projects will be provided by the DCR, pending funding availability. No monetary match is required on behalf of a town to participate.

Towns selected will be notified in a few days. Orientational meetings will start in September.

The program finishes in November 2010.

**ACADEMIC RECOGNITIONS**  
and Other School News

**Mohawk Trail Regional School Honor Roll**

**High Honors**

**Honors**

**Third Quarter**

**Class 2009**

**Christopher Herringshaw**

**Class of 2010 Ngoc Richardson**

**Hussain Hamden**

**Class of 2012**

**Class of 2013**

**Kayla Clark**

**Tenzin Gyalpo**

**Class of 2014 Alyssa Sinistore**

**Fourth Quarter**

**Class of 2010**

**Class of 2013**

**Class of 2014**

**Franklin County Tech School Honor Roll**

**Trimester 3**

**Class of 2009**

**Class of 2010**

**Class of 2011**

**Class of 2012**

**Samantha Orzechowski**

**MARRIAGES**

**BIRTHS**

A son, Wyatt Sisum, 4/5/09 To Kristie Faufaw and Mike Sisum,  
East Hawley Road, Hawley

*Editor's note-if we missed anyone, please let me know*  
[kthwingjr@gmail.com](mailto:kthwingjr@gmail.com) or 413-339-0124 or mail to  
S&D, PO Box 206, Hawley, MA 01339

## **SUPPORT HAWLEY BUSINESSES**

**Scott Purinton**  
VP/Sales

### **H.G. Wellington & Co. Inc.**

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Please see the web site for more information.

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Large jobs, small jobs—all welcome

**The Merry Lion Press**  
84 Middle Road  
Hawley, MA 01339  
Email: [info@merrylion.com](mailto:info@merrylion.com)  
Web Site: [www.merrylion.com](http://www.merrylion.com)  
Telephone: 413-339-4747

*The Pudding Hollow Cookbook* pays tribute to local foods and cooks. It features folk art by the late Judith Russell, who created Hawley's bicentennial painting. The Merry Lion Press and author Tinky Weisblat also organize Hawley's Annual Pudding Hollow Pudding Contest.

Jody & Ed Cothey  
**Tregellys Fiber Farm**  
15 Dodge Branch Road  
Hawley, MA 01339  
Ph: 413-625-6448  
Email: [tregellys@hotmail.com](mailto:tregellys@hotmail.com)  
Web Site: [www.tregellysfarm.com](http://www.tregellysfarm.com)

Tregellys Fiber Farm: offering fleeces, hand wovens, and Tibetan crafts from Nepal. Tregellys is a great place to see a range of fiber animals in a natural setting.

Raymond S. Poudrier  
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Hawley, MA 01339  
Ph: 413-339-5347  
Web Site: [www.vintagers.org](http://www.vintagers.org)

**Patlin Enterprises**  
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Hawley, MA 01339  
Ph: 800-507-8847  
Email: [info@patlinenterprises.com](mailto:info@patlinenterprises.com)

Darwin Jr. and Juanita Clark  
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**Stump Sprouts**  
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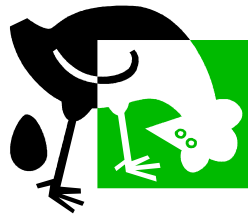


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Vegetables grown from *certified organic* seeds

**You too can be listed here!!!**

The *Edge* now reaches more that 300 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 Alice Parker or Cyndie Stetson for details.

August is the month for renewing sponsorship support. Look for letters from Alice and Cyndie.

*Please support our sponsors in whatever way you can.*

## **S&D WEBSITE**

Check it out to find out the latest on what is going on with the Sons and Daughters. Find the calendar, download the latest *Edge of Hawley* or search for back copies.

Check out the progress on “Discovering Hawley’s Old Town Common”.

See photos from recent events and know how well fundraisers are doing. Be sure to check out the page called Here’s My Story. Tell us YOUR story about Hawley.

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

## OBITUARIES

### **Dr. Marjorie Rekant**

REKANT, Dr. Marjorie, age 61. She passed away at her home in Cambridge on November 11 surrounded by her family and close friends. Diagnosed with a rare cancer of unknown primary origin in April 2006, Dr. Rekant continued to live her life fully and with great passion. Despite rigorous and aggressive treatments, she practiced psychotherapy as she had for the last 35 years, socialized and traveled with family and friends, and participated in community affairs.

Marjorie spent many summers at Singing Brook Farm with her husband, Ron Nelson. Eventually the couple bought a place on Forget Road, where they spent quite a bit of time. Margie especially enjoyed classical music. She and her husband Ron had subscriptions to the BSO and H&H. She was a voracious reader, and avid gardener and dog lover, particularly of the family retriever, Maddie. She will long be remembered as a supportive, devoted, empathic and enthusiastic mother, a loving wife, a cherished friend and a talented and highly esteemed therapist, teacher and colleague.

Marjorie is survived by her husband Ron Nelson, daughters Rachel Nelson and Arielle Nelson, son-in-law David Sechovicz, brother and sister-in-law Dr. Stanley Rekant and Barbara Rekant, many nephews, nieces, cousins and beloved friends.

A funeral for family and friends will be held at Story Chapel, Mt. Auburn Cemetery in Cambridge on Sunday, November 16 at 12 noon. A memorial service for Dr. Rekant will be announced at a future date. In lieu of flowers, the family requests that contributions be made in memory of Dr. Marjorie Rekant to the Mt. Auburn Hospital Oncology Unity, 330 Mt. Auburn St., Cambridge, MA 02138 or to the VNA Hospice Care, in c/o the Development Manager, 100 Sylvan Rd G-500, Woburn, MA 01801

## **Donald Raymond**

DEERFIELD -- Donald W. Raymond, 81, of Hoosac Road, died following a lengthy illness on Sunday, July 26, 2009, at the Buckley HealthCare Center in Greenfield.

He was born in Hawley on Aug. 15, 1927, the son of Hobart and Hope (Gould) Raymond. Donald was a graduate of the former Charlemont High School and also attended Greenfield Community College.

On March 25, 1949, Donald married the former Katherine Lynch.

Survivors, beside his wife of 60 years, include two daughters, Sandra Clark and her husband Mitchell of Deerfield and Karla Clarke of South Deerfield; seven grandchildren, Bethany Pritchard and husband Henry, Matthew Clark and wife Devon, twins Brian and Dan Clark, twins James and Jay Clarke and Kendra Clarke; three great-grandchildren, Gwyneth and Stella Clark and Eddie Pritchard; a sister, Virginia Taylor of Charlemont, and several nieces and nephews.

A twin himself, Donald took great pride in his two sets of twin grandchildren.

Donald's twin sister, Priscilla, predeceased him in childhood, and a brother, Gerald, also predeceased him.

He was a longtime member of the Charlemont Federated Church.

Donald was a Master and Journeyman Electrician with IBEW Local No. 7. He was associated with many projects in Massachusetts, Vermont, New Hampshire and Florida. He served as treasurer of Local No. 7 and was chairman of the Annuity Committee. Prior to retirement, he had received a 50-year diamond pin from the Union for his many years of service. At the time of his retirement in 1989, he was employed by Collins Electric.

His civic involvement included being a member of the Charlemont Ambulance Service, Charlemont Fire Dept., Board of Assessors, director of the Charlemont Civil Defense, Franklin County Sportsmen's Club and the Independent Order of Odd Fellows.

Services will be private with burial taking place in Pudding Hollow Cemetery, Hawley, at the convenience of the family.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be sent in Donald's name to either the Food Bank of Western Mass., P.O. Box 160, Hadley, MA 01038 or The Recorder's Warm the Children, P.O. Box 1367, Greenfield, MA 01302.

Smith-Kelleher Funeral Home of Greenfield is in charge of arrangements.

### **Ellene Scott**

HAWLEY - Ellene (Anderson) Scott, 84, of 79 Plainfield Road, Hawley, died Sunday, July 5, at Baystate Franklin Medical Center in Greenfield.

She was born May 15, 1925, the daughter of Raymond and Marion (Kimball) Anderson. She was a graduate of Becker Junior College in Worcester.

Mrs. Scott was a homemaker.

A long time resident of Hawley, she was a member of the Sons and Daughters of Hawley. She also was a member of the 1st Congregational Church in Ashfield and a member of the American Legion Auxillary, also in Ashfield.

She enjoyed attending and participating in the activities at the Charlemont Senior Center. She also enjoyed gardening.

She was the widow of David Scott.

Survivors include her daughter Sheila Chaffee and husband Ken of Hawley; 2 sons: James B. and Raymond A. Scott both of Hawley; 2 sisters: Lucille Seymour of Uxbridge, Ma, Gail Martin of Weymouth, MA and 2 grandchildren: William T. Scott of Hawley and Jack T. Scott of Whitingham, VT.

A graveside service will be held Thursday, July 9, at 11:00 a.m in Plain Cemetery, Ashfield. There are no calling hours.

In lieu of flowers it is suggested donations be made to the Charlemont Senior Center, 175 Main Street, Charlemont, MA 01339.

Smith-Kelleher Funeral Home in Shelburne Falls is in charge of arrangements.

## **Forrest Werner Gracy**

HAWLEY-Forrest Werner Gracy, long-time resident of West Hawley, died on Wednesday, May 27 in Sunderland. Mr. Gracy was born in Canton, Conn., June 12, 1923, the son of Byron and Ruth (Vining) Gracy. He attended Canton High School and was a World War II veteran, having served for three years as a U.S. Marine in the South Pacific.

He was a great naturalist, gardener and woodsman who loved tending his gardens and forest on the Chickley River in West Hawley, where he lived selfsufficiently for many decades. He loved opera and classical music, was an avid reader and also enjoyed writing. He had been a machinist by trade.

Though they may not have known him by name, many residents of West County recognized Forrest Gracy as the old gentleman who rode his bike along Route 8A and the Mohawk Trail between Charlemont and Greenfield on his trips to fetch supplies and services away from his beloved Chickley River hollow. His family describes him as "a thoughtful, gentle, solitary man who lived respectfully on the land and who was admired and respected by all who had the opportunity to know him."

He was predeceased by his ex-wife, Sarah Jane (Adams) Gracy of Rowe, with whom he maintained a lifelong friendship.

Survivors include his sister, Beatrice Gracy Sabatino of Bridgeport, Conn.; a niece, Elaine Ruth Sabatino of Soquel, Calif., and a stepdaughter, Marianna Erho of Brownington, Vt.

There are no services at this time.

Smith-Kelleher Funeral Home in Shelburne Falls/ Greenfield is assisting with arrangements.

**Betty Karst** of Rapid City, SD, a member of the Sons and Daughters of Hawley, has passed away. Her copies of the *Edge* have been returned marked "Deceased". She was a Longley I am told.



## **LAND TRANSFERS**

Town of Hawley to Berkshire East Ski Resort, LLC, of Charlemont, East Mountain Road, \$500/yr (easement).



**Memorial Stone at Old Town Common**

**Membership Form July 2009-June 2010**  
***Sons & Daughters of Hawley, PO Box 206, Hawley, MA 01339***

**Annual Membership Dues:**

Individual/Event	\$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 total 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	<b>\$35.00</b>
<i>Hawley Bicentennial Cookbook, 1792-1992</i> by The Sons and Daughters of Hawley	<b>\$5.00</b>
<i>Cottage Piety Exemplified</i> , a biography of Martha S. Taylor of Hawley published anonymously by Rev. Rufus Taylor (3 <sup>rd</sup> son)	<b>\$11.00</b>
<b>Home to Hawley Scrapbook</b> ; a collection of works from various sources	<b>\$7.50</b>
<i>Tales of Hawley</i> , by Maida Riggs	<b>\$5.00</b>
<i>The 1989 Guide to Historical Sites in the Hawley State Forest</i> prepared by the Town of Hawley Historical Commission	<b>\$7.50</b>
<i>Pudding Hollow Cookbook</i> by Tinky "Dakota" Weisblat	<b>\$30.00</b>
<i>History of the Town of Hawley</i> by Williams Giles Atkins	<b>\$9.00</b>
<i>Town of Hawley Bicentennial Program Book 1792-1992</i> , a summary of 200 years in Hawley	<b>\$7.00</b>
<i>Rediscovering Hawley's Old Town Common</i> by John Sears	<b>\$5.00</b>

### HISTORICAL MONOGRAPHS by Harrison Parker

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

### USEFUL ITEMS:

4" Meetinghouse Tree Ornament by Marion Ives	@ \$10.00 each	_____pcs	\$_____
Coffee Mug	@ \$ 6.00 each	_____pcs	\$_____
Meetinghouse or Grove T-Shirts	@ \$ 12.00 each	_____pcs	\$_____
Meetinghouse or Grove Tote Bags	@ \$ 6.00 each	_____pcs	\$_____
S&D Event Calendar	\$18.00	Year 2009	\$_____

### HAWLEY FINE NOTEPAPERS:

Meetinghouse	10 @ \$6.50	_____sets	\$_____
Charcoal Kiln	6 @ \$5.00	_____sets	\$_____

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

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

***The Edge of Hawley***  
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