

The Edge of Hawley

Volume XXXI, Number 1
WINTER 2011



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

- Mud Party—3/20/11—4:30-6:30 pm
- Beautify Our Town Roads—4/15-30/2011
- Plant Sale, etc.—6/18-19/11—Hawley Grove—9am-3pm
- Tag Sale—Saturday and Sunday 6/18-19/2011—Grove 9-3pm
- Artisans & Garden Tour—7/9/11—Lunch at Hawley Grove
- Hawley Day/Annual Meeting—Sunday 8/14/11—Meetinghouse
- Nature Dinner—9/18/11?—Stump Sprouts—4:30-8 pm
- No-Bake Bake Sale—9/2011
- S&D Hosts Hampshire County Riding Club—Sunday—9/25/11
- Pudding Festival—Unknown
- Apple Fest—TBA
- Hobby Horse Bazaar—Saturday—12/3/11—Hawlemont School
- Illumination Party—Sunday—12/11/11—Meetinghouse—4-5pm.

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

President's Message

Doesn't this winter seem longer than usual? It seems that we already have received more winter weather than we normally get. But, fear not, SPRING is right around the corner. With that comes our annual upbeat schedule of events starting with our Mud Party in March. Then our Hawley Road Cleanup in April. See our schedule of events listed within.

See the following article on the Mud Party and mark your calendars. It's always a lot of fun and gets us thinking about the end of winter.

The April Road Cleanup asks each of us to make an effort to pickup road trash from over a long winter as you drive through town. No particular time period, but as soon as the snow has melted. Try taking a walk in your neighborhood with a trash bag in hand and a pair of gloves. Let's show our neighboring towns people how clean Hawley can be.

Other particular articles include reports on our proposed handicap ramp, and steeple repairs at the Meeting House. Also, see our proposal of an archeology dig with the Mohawk Trail Regional High School.

Don't forget about two major events; our Giant Multi-Town Tag Sale in June and our ever popular Artisans and Garden Tour in July.

See you at the Mud Party.

Correspondence

Nov 7, 2010

Dear Everyone- here is a (semi) Hawley-Home inspired piece-tho mostly "fiction".

I know you have called for odds and ends for the *Edge* so-
I sent this along in case it suits you.

Cheers,
Jody Cothey

THE FAMILY FARM

There's goats in the kitchen
Sheep on the stairs
Six llamas in the attic
And fifteen mares
A goose is sending e-mail
While the heifer takes a bath
Chicks are in the airing cupboard
Curled against the drafts
The farmer's pumping diesel
He's pacing out the field
The fences need some tightening
And cattle, a fresh round bale
So many mouths
And not enough rain
So many mouths
And not enough hours
There's cobwebs in the rafters
And day by longer day

The grass conies green
The grass goes dry
Hogs snorfle in the thicket
While the farmer's paying bills
His wife rings the dinner bell
And they all gather round
With what they have to share
The mares cross their hooves
In silent prayer
The accounts keep bleeding
From black to red
So the family eats its fill
To every last shred
The goats wash up
The sheep nudge in the chairs
Little lambs beg midnight millk
And llamas sigh
A lullaby
Till all are off to bed
And waiting waiting
With its big wide mouth
Is the next and the next
And the next sunrise

And a recipe from Jody

“Oat Crunch”

(I used to make this for a café in St Ives, Cornwall where I had a baking job)

¾ C. butter (or margarine)

¾ C. white sugar (can be half brown)

1 C oats

½ C flour

1 tsp baking powder

pinch of salt (1/4 tsp)

½ tsp almond extract

It will be sticky-pat down on baking sheet

375° for 15 minutes

Let cool, but before completely cool, cut into squares.

11-10-2010

Dear Committee,

Thanks for your diligence and enterprise. Many of us are depending on you.

Kathryn Flagg

From Joanne Sylvester

Williams Inn Banana Bread

½ c shortening	1 c sugar
3 eggs	3 ripe bananas
2 c flour	1 tsp salt
1 tsp baking soda	3 tbsp water
1 tsp vanilla	½ c nuts (if desired)

Cream shortening and sugar

Add eggs and bananas

Sift together dry ingredients

Stir into banana mixture

Add water and vanilla

Bake 1 hour at 350° F in large loaf pan or 45 minutes in two smaller pans.

Used at the Williams Inn in the 1950s.

Our Thanks for Your Donations to the Edge

New Members

Maria L. Carr, 1 Hill Road RFD, Interlaken, MA 01266

Maria notes that her mother Mabel Emma (Fuller) Kickery passed away on June 6, 2009. She was descended from the Fuller's of West Hawley.

Mud Party, “Pot Luck”

By Ray Gotta

This year’s Mud Party will be March 20th, 4:30pm to 6:30pm. at Ray and Melanie Poudrier’s at 29 Pond Rd. Hawley.

The “Mud” refers to the condition of our walkways and driveways this time of the year. Having a “Party” is for looking forward to the end of the “Mud”, and the prospects of Hawley’s great spring season.

The “Pot Luck”, as we know, refers to what food item you bring to the party. Anything from salads and casseroles to deserts. Maybe a chocolate “mud” desert would be appropriate. Call Melanie at 413-339-5347 or email her at poudriermel27@yahoo.com to see what food item is needed and what you would like to bring. Some drinks will be provided, but you may bring your own if you have a preference. The cost is the food you will bring.

Come early and expect good food, good company and good cheer. A Sons & Daughters Trustees’ meeting will be held no later than 7 pm.

See you there.

Notice to Snowshoers and Cross Country Skiers

By Ray Gotta

Those of you who like to get out in the winter for exercise and fun may not know where there is a great and now-convenient place to snow shoe and cross country ski. At the site of Hawley Old Town Common historical exhibit site on E. Hawley Rd is a great place to start. The entrance/parking area at the site is being plowed by the town for winter use.

From this location, the trail goes into the State Forest with all its old road trails and paths for extended walking and skiing fun. This will also give you a chance to follow the historic tour trail of Hawley Old Town Common provided by the Sons & Daughters during the past 2 years.

The site is located across from the intersection of E. Hawley Rd. and Forget. Rd. We can thank the town and the Department of Streets and Engineering for providing this opportunity. It may not get plowed immediately following a snow storm as other town road responsibilities take priority, but it will get done.

If you do not get a chance this winter to visit, please come during the spring, summer or fall.

Meetinghouse Ramp, Newest Proposal

The S&D have received a grant from Highland Community Initiative for \$1000 to do the design work on the proposed ramp for the meetinghouse (see last issue of the *Edge* for a description of the project). This is a starting place since the steeple takes first priority with our own finances. Once the design is complete and we are able to do a cost evaluation of the project, we will apply for grants to get the project done using much of our own volunteer labor and materials.

The importance of this project was reinforced in November when the building inspector came to do his annual inspection and asked how we were coming on the new ramp. We are, and have always been, in violation of the building code, since we do not have a second entry/exit. This new ramp and point of entry/exit will make the building suitable for public use.

Repair to Steeple of Meetinghouse

The board has pretty much ruled out the possibility of cladding the steeple in aluminum. Assuming the board votes to proceed with siding the steeple in cedar shakes, this would mean wrapping the steeple in an ice-and-water material, then applying a material called “cedar breather” and finally putting on the cedar shakes. The cedar-breather-material allows the air to get behind the shakes so moisture cannot build up--very important for long life. The board wants the steeple painted or stained white which means each shake will need to be stained on the cut edges before it is nailed to the steeple. We will weave the shakes at the corners rather than add corner boards. We need volunteers who are willing to pre-stain the shakes before installation and to do the nailing of the shakes from a

bucket lift we will rent. The project will take the better part of a month depending on how many volunteers are available.

With volunteers, the project will cost about \$6000: \$2500 in material and another \$3500 for the rental of a lift. If we hire carpenters to do the work, the cost will rise to about \$15,000. We will attempt to get a matching grant to do this. We will have to pay half the total cost, either in dollars or with in-kind labor.

Lark Thwing and Mike Sisum are the project managers for this project. Ray Gotta and John Sears will be the people seeking a grant for both this project and for the meetinghouse ramp. They have an excellent track record at getting grants for S&D activities.

Please contact Lark Thwing (339-0124 or kthwingjr@gmail.com) if you are willing to be a volunteer. Please indicate if you are comfortable working from a bucket lift.

Old Town Common Has a New Project

John Sears and Ray Gotta have been working very hard on a new project at the Old Town Common. We are partnering with Mohawk Trail Regional High School on an archeology course to be offered to seniors, which will include a dig at the Sanford Tavern site. John has found Alex Keim, an Archeology graduate student at Boston University, who has done a similar program with high school students at a Milton, MA site, and he will oversee the actual dig. Darren Elwell, a teacher at Mohawk, who is a graduate of Bates College with major in anthropology, will teach the course. Robert Paynter, Professor of Archeology at UMASS will serve as an advisor and resource person for the project.

Lynn Dole, principal at Mohawk, is very enthusiastic about the project and has lent much support to the efforts.

John is working with Pleun Bouricius of MassHumanities to complete a grant application for this project. Mohawk plans to offer the course in the fall, whether or not we get the grant that would fund the dig at Sanford Tavern and pay stipends to the other providers.

The course will run one semester and will be offered annually so that the dig can proceed over time. Students will be taught the principles of archeology, how to determine what they are looking

for in the dig, the methodology of digging, collecting, identifying and documenting artifacts. If funded, students will be in the field one day a week for about 10-12 weeks. They will do public presentations about their work and write articles for the *Edge*, other local newspapers and the school and S&D websites. A video will be made for promotional and educational purposes.

We are very excited about this project, will be making our grant application on February first and should know if we have been awarded the grant by April. Watch of further updates as this project develops.

S&D Endowment Fund Needs You

Our endowment fund is growing slowly but surely towards our original goal of \$20,000. We now have about \$13,000 and have instructed the Community Foundation of Western Massachusetts, the manager of the endowment fund, to reinvest the annual returns until further notice. The fund is designed to last in perpetuity with returns of about 4-4.5% annually, which insures its continuation and growth.

The endowment fund was established to insure the availability of money in the future for maintaining our two buildings. The fund assures the buildings will not be a financial burden on the organization as the years unfold.

When you are thinking about where you want to make your charitable donations, think about the S&D Endowment Fund. When you are doing your estate planning, if you are fortunate enough to be able to do estate planning, think about including the S&D Endowment Fund in your bequests. Contributing to the Endowment Fund is a way to support our organization that you have supported annually during your lifetime. Now you can continue that support after you are gone.

Contact Serra Root, our treasurer, at 413-339-5592 or at serraroot@hughes.net for more information about how you can contribute today, or how to include the Endowment Fund in your will.

Thank you on behalf of the Sons and Daughters of Hawley.

The 2011 Artisan's and Garden Tour.

The tour will be on Saturday, July 9 (rain or shine) from 10 am until 4 pm. Because the Grove building in East Hawley has been improved and updated, the Sons and Daughters will serve the tour's luncheon at that site. Also, if there is a rain shower or two, we'll be able to feed everyone inside. We pretty much have the program set for the day, however, if anyone has a specialty art or a garden they wish to show off, please call Cyndie at 339-4231, so she can add you to the repertoire. We would love to have a few more people or places to visit.

Because of the requests of several people, the display of quilts will be back at the Meetinghouse. We have new ones to add as well. If you have a quilt or quilted wall hanging the Sons and Daughters would love to show it on that date. Please contact Cyndie.

The tour has become one of Hawley's special social events of the year. So, don't miss it. The suggested cost for the tour is \$10 and suggested cost for the luncheon is \$12. We haven't changed our prices in years! So come and enjoy our beautiful gardens and landscapes, and marvel at the art that we have here hidden in the Hills of Hawley.

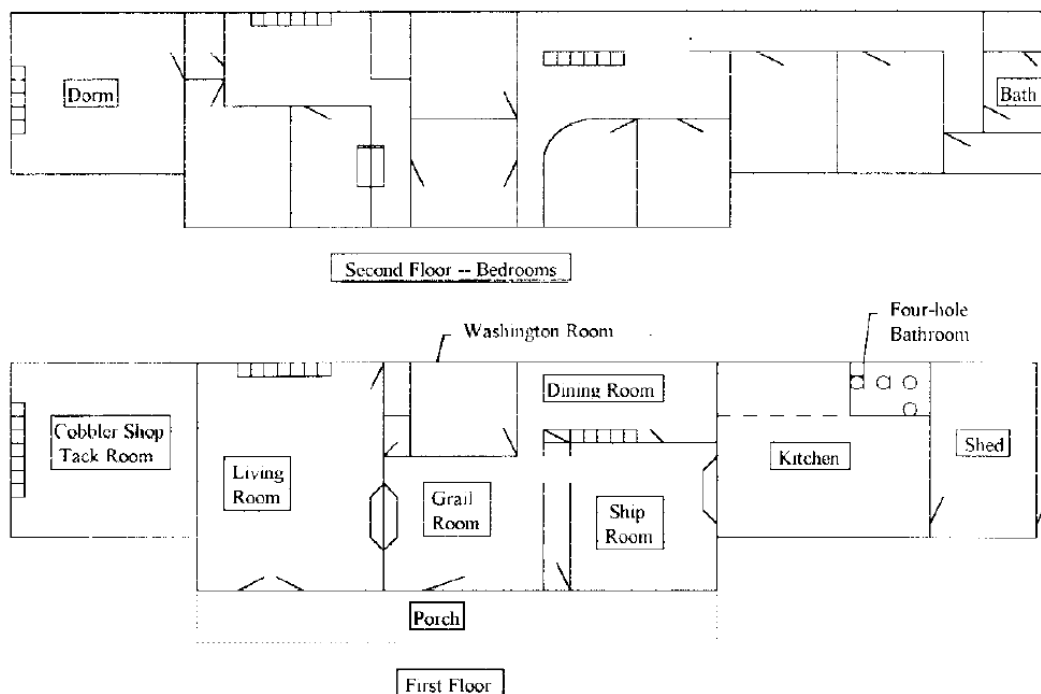
BYGONE YEARS OF HAWLEY

The Coxes Come to Hawley

The following is a story about the arrival of the Cox family in Hawley and the evolution of succeeding generations. It was written by Meggin Thwing, in about 1998, at the suggestion of her father, Lark Thwing, as something to do one summer. It decidedly favors the Thwing side of the story. It has been adapted for the Edge.

THE TAVERN

In 1924, my great-grandfather, Stanley C. Cox, bought a tavern in the center of Hawley. It was located approximately where the Boys Club dining room is now, but was two stories high. It was originally on a stagecoach route from Boston to Albany, but by the time he made the purchase that was no more, and he bought it for



his family to use. He and my great-grandmother, Almira L. Cox, were actually out scouting areas for a youth camp when they came upon the tavern and its grounds, but Great-grandmother gave him a nudge and suggested that rather than a camp, this site would be perfect for their own children. And so it was.

Near the road, about 100 feet to the right of the tavern was an old carriage house. It contained carriages that could be played in but which were no longer used by the late 1940s and early 50s. Across

the street from the tavern was an old two-story barn. It had a hayloft, and cow stalls toward the back, as well as a one-story chicken house off the back. It, like the carriage house, was suitable for play (climbing into the hayloft and out a window onto the roof of the chicken house, for example), but was no longer used as a working barn. Whether it ever was during Great-grandparents's time, Lark doesn't know.

Great-grandfather bought the tavern as a place to come away to from Holyoke, a place where his children (Phoebe, Stanley, Charlotte, Almira and Gardner) could work and learn, and where selected guests could come as company. They would come for dinner and an afternoon, overnight, or even for several days at a time as a sort of retreat. He would invite certain of his patients to come up, and his children would serve them and provide entertainment. Several of the children played musical instruments (e.g. cello, violin, drums, flute, and trumpet), and it may have been at this time that Mrs. Plushbottom and Madame Van Asterbilt (later resurrected to entertain the next generation) first came to life. Most of the memories that generation had of Hawley came from when they were kids and are related to the tavern as opposed to the farm. The farm was bought later and not much used until later still. For many years after Great-grandfather bought the tavern, the family used it strictly for themselves and their invited guests. It was not until some time later (prior to Charlotte's college years) that the family decided to actually go into business and open it as a genuine tavern. Before doing so, they did a lot of remodeling and converting to make it fit for that purpose. The period in which they ran the tavern as a tavern only lasted a very few years.

It was during this time at the tavern that Kirby Thwing and Charlotte met. During his college years he worked summers at the Parkers' Singing Brook farm as a counselor for the Parker children and came over to the tavern to see Charlotte. He started coming to Hawley in 1936 and met Charlotte in 1937. They married in August of 1941. Kirby left for World War II in January of 1943, and returned in December of 1945. During the time that he was away, Charlotte lived at home in Holyoke with her family.

Hank Szewczynski first came to Hawley with the Coxes. He also was from Holyoke and was already seeing Almira when they brought him to Hawley with them. Apparently Great-grandfather was not fond of driving, so Hank would act as chauffeur.

Great-grandfather Stanley died in 1942, passing the tavern and other land on to his wife. At this point, Gardner, the youngest, was in college, Charlotte, Stanley, and Almira were married, and Phoebe was studying at McGill University in Canada. For awhile there was little interest in the tavern. Sometime after the war years, the barn was burned down (not by the family) around Halloween time.

Gardner and Helen married in June of 1946, and that summer all of Great-grandfather's children and their spouses lived in the tavern. This may be what Lark remembers from early childhood when his family lived there for a short time. The floorboards in the farmhouse had rotted so Kirby and helpers bought wood from the Parkers' (he was very impressed at the price of tongue and groove flooring) and fixed the floor that summer so he and Charlotte could move into the farmhouse with Bill and Lark.

In 1958, Great-grandmother sold the tavern to the Holyoke Boys' Club on a Quit Claim Deed for an amount specified only as less than \$100. According to rumor, it was probably only \$1. This deed included a covenant that stipulated that the land (about three acres) was to be used by the Boys' Club specifically as part of their program for young people and never for a commercial purpose. This provision was to last until 21 years after the death of the longest living of Great-grandmother's children. There was also a provision stating that the majority of the living children could waive that condition to allow the Boys' Club to do as they pleased with the land. Contrary to later popular belief among many members of the family, the land was sold, not leased, and there was no provision to bring it back into the family unless the family chose to buy it back (something that was looked into but not decided on).

THE WOODLOT

The woodlot, seventy plus acres on the corner of Plainfield Road and South Road, was purchased along with the tavern, though the properties were not connected geographically. It was not harvested until the next generation, when Great-grandfather's

children became the owners and caretakers of the land. Why the land was bought and for what purpose remain as questions.

Lark recalls picking blueberries in the blueberry patch, part of the woodlot, when his generation were children in the early 1950s, but as they grew older, they lost interest in it and began to forget how to get there. Now it is overgrown with trees, and all that remains to suggest former days of blueberrying are the skeletons of a few bushes. The state eventually claimed that land as its own, though maps say otherwise. That disagreement is still unsettled, although the family is planning to contest the state's right to those acres.

When Great-grandmother died, Phoebe became the executor for the woodlot.

In 1983 the decision was made to place the woodlot land under Chapter 61. This means an annual savings of 95% on taxes. It requires the making of 10-year plans for the management of the forest, but there is no penalty for not completing the plan. Taxes are higher when timber is harvested (a stumpage tax must be paid to the town), but nothing compared to what would have to be paid if the land were not under Chapter 61. Also, if land is removed from this program, back taxes must be paid on it with hefty interest. There is a plan to harvest wood from the woodlot this year, which should bring in a fair amount of money for the trust (which will have to be spent on the trust in order to avoid paying capital gains taxes on it).

GENE'S PLACE

Gene's Place (now JC's Auto) was a plot of land of only about 10 acres, which backed up to the woodlot but which was not purchased with the woodlot. Gene was a handyman/carpenter sort of person who helped Great-grandfather out in Hawley. He would open the tavern up for the family when they were coming up, do necessary work, remodeling, etc. Apparently he had been pushed off his own land, so Great-grandfather bought the piece of property backing up to the woodlot (sometime after he had gotten the tavern and the woodlot) so Gene would have a place to live. There was a house and barn on the property. After Gene died during the war, the place was rented out to a series of other tenants, and eventually had to be taken down (during the sixties), as it became a sort of trysting

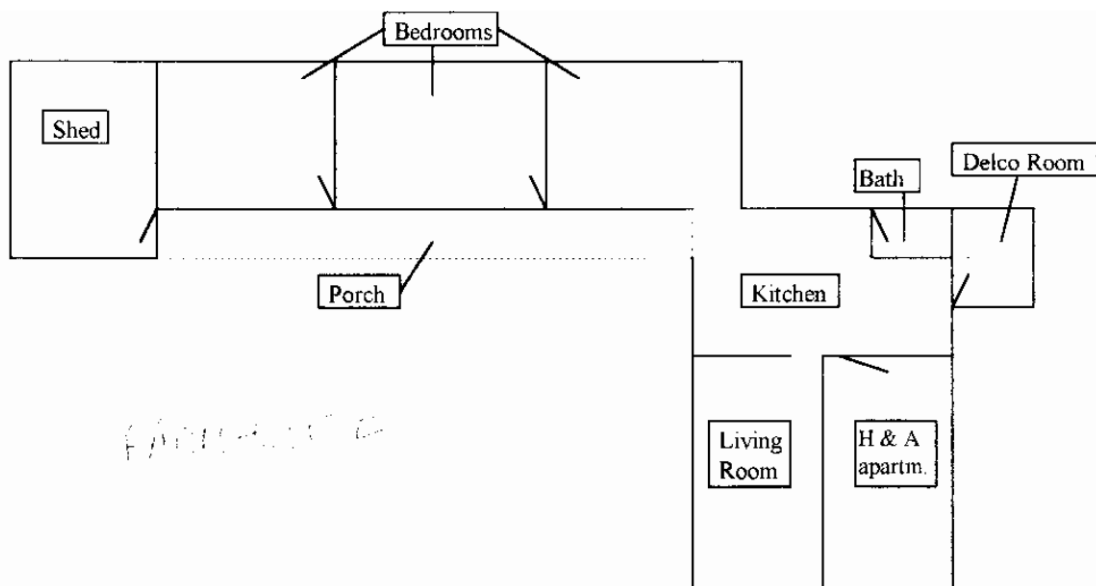
spot for couples. After it was taken down, Gary Cox, Gardner's son built on the same land in 1975, to the left of where original building was. When Gary moved in 1985 and sold his house and the land it stood on in 1986, that land passed out of the Trust (see Trust section below), much to the displeasure of the rest of the family.

THE FARM

Great-grandfather Cox purchased the farm at a later date than he did the tavern, and it is not entirely clear why he did purchase it, as the family generally did not use it until after his death. Charlotte believed that it was bought for the pond, so her brothers and sisters would have somewhere to go swimming. The farm constituted approximately 75 acres, covering the land from the pond all the way up to where the Poudriers' driveway is now, from there straight across down to the Buckland Road, and up the Buckland Road again to where the pond is, forming a rough triangle. For many years the family mainly used the tavern, and Great-grandfather had a series of people in to work the farm for him.

The farmhouse and an attached shed were located on the land between where Greg's (Gardner's son) and the Szewczynski's houses are now. Across the street on the upper end there, was a two story barn, and a little farther up from that, about two feet from the side of the road, was a little red shed. The barn was torn down and then burned in place before 1962, probably sometime during the fifties.

There were trees lining Pond Road, which was then a dirt road, the level of which was slightly lower than that of the fields on either



side. Unlike today, the usable edge of the fields was a good forty feet from the road. On either side of the road was a bit of a ditch, then a dense wooded area, and then finally the fields.

The farmhouse itself was a large building shaped like an L with the corner cut out. Facing it from the road, the long part was parallel to the road with the corner on the right. The shorter part came towards the road, perpendicular to it. At the far left end, about where Greg's driveway is now, there was a shed attached to the house where any farming or other equipment was kept. This led up to a covered porch which ran along the whole front of the long part of the L. When this reached the corner, there was a small entry which led into a large kitchen. In this kitchen was an enormous table, which could seat up to about 22, as well as all kinds of ovens and other kitchen appliances, all of which were apparently used. Straight through the kitchen was the delco room. (A delco room was where people made electricity to run their home after the age of kerosene lamps, but before telephone poles and high tension wires. It was named after a machine called a "delco" which was a sort of generator that they ran in order to make the electricity, which was stored in glass batteries lining the walls of the room. Once the batteries were filled up, they could live off that power until it ran down and they had to make some more.) By the time Lark was a child, it would no longer have been used, but he remembered the glass batteries lining the walls from floor to ceiling. Turning right from the kitchen, on the other hand, led into the rest of the short part of the L. It was divided lengthwise, the half facing down the road a living room and the half facing up the road an apartment for Hank and Almira. The long part of the L could be gotten into from a door from the kitchen (although the corner of the L was cut out, the two parts did overlap slightly). There were bedrooms there, and one could only get to the farther ones by walking through the first ones. Above that, there was a type of loft under the roof which the younger generation later built into a dormitory that slept six kids.

Today, behind Greg's house, there is a little white building almost buried in the woods. That used to stand where Greg's house is today, and was called "the cabin." It was originally a chicken

coop. Gardner and Helen lived there during the summers when they came up to Hawley, but it was really too small, so in 1960, it was moved and a new one was built for \$13,000. They moved the "cabin" by putting it on log rollers after the ground had frozen and rolling it.

Although the family did not much use the farm before the 1940s, Great-grandfather occasionally sent his patients there for a retreat--even more out of the way than the tavern. In particular, he did this for patients who had trouble with alcoholism. It took them away from their normal lives and routines (as well as stores) to get them off the bottle.

After Stanley (the son) and Nancy got married, they lived in the farmhouse and raised chickens for a couple years, around 1939-40. They hated it and didn't want to be doing it, but they had to: when they were married they had no jobs and no plans. J. R. Smith (a family friend from Holyoke) was living there with them.

Kirby and Charlotte moved to the farmhouse in the fall of 1946 after the kitchen floor was repaired. They lived there for two years. Bill and Lark were there with them, and Lisa was born there in February of 1947. It was during this time at the farmhouse that Lark invented his invisible friend Honka, because there was no one else around to play with. He also recalls this as the period when he sucked his thumb a lot, but assured those who criticized this that he was just "scratching his teeth." He and his family moved to South Deerfield in the summer of 1948 because Charlotte found the farm too lonely when Kirby was away at work, but they continued going back to the farm to spend summers. From there, they moved to Greenfield in May of 1949, where they lived until the summer of 1951, when they moved to the family home in Holyoke to live with Great-grandmother.

Before Great-grandmother died, she turned over the farmhouse and the land it stood on (a couple acres) to the three girls, Phoebe, Charlotte, and Almira. Gardner received the rest of the farm, since he was the only one who showed the potential to be able to afford it with his medical practice.

In the mid-to-late 1950s, most of Great-grandfather's children and their families began spending summers in Hawley, something

they did into the early 1960s, when most of their kids had gone off to college or the armed forces. Most of their childhood memories of Hawley, unlike those of their parents, focused around the farm, not the tavern. Lark refers to memories of sliding off the roof of the farmhouse into deep snows, of brook walking and swimming, of building rafts and diving boards for the pond (which back then was much deeper than it is now, with far less mud), of climbing trees with his cousin Jan, and of picking rocks out of the fields so they could be farmed.

The Poudriers were also living in Hawley at this time, up on Forget Road, and although there were a lot of them, Lark's generation mostly knew the five youngest, and played and partied with them. It was during this time in Hawley that Fay (Szewczynski) and Roger (Poudrier) met--though social contact for the Cox, Thwing, and Szewczynski kids was not by any means limited to the Poudriers. If there were other kids in Hawley, they found them. The cottages that the Parkers rented out on their farm were usually a good source of company, like the Leitner sisters, Betsy and Ina, whom Bill and Lark dated.

Around 1963 Hank and Almira decided to move to Hawley on a permanent basis and built the house that Lark and Beth Thwing live in today. By 1964 the farmhouse had been condemned, though it was still taxed. The chimney had shifted, and there was evidence that there had been a chimney fire. In 1965 Hank pulled it down. Even today in 2011, the outlines of the old farmhouse foundation are visible in the lawn when the weather gets dry and the grass is not lush enough to disguise it.

Without the farmhouse to house the Thwing family during the summers, it became necessary to find something else. Lark and Beth, who had been dating for a year or two at this point, did Consumer Reports research and shopped for the trailer in 1965 or '66. It was delivered to a site across from the pond. It cost about \$5000. This became Kirby and Charlotte's home in Hawley.

The last summer before Lark graduated from UMASS, he and Jan lived in the trailer and Bobby Poudrier lived up at his parents' place. All three were taking classes at UMASS that summer so they commuted to school together. Also during that summer they

contributed to the raising of the barn which is across from the pond also. Lark doesn't recall how much they did, but he knows they dug the postholes, because he has vivid memories of lowering Jan into them by his ankles to finish digging once they got beyond what they could reach with the shovel.

In 1969 the little red shed, mentioned earlier, was moved from its position by the road to the woods on the far side of the field. It was moved the same way the original "cabin" was, on log rollers. Unfortunately, it was not discovered until after it had been moved that it was not square, so although Greg and Kirby had taken careful measurements of the lengths of the walls and set up pilings for it, drawing formulas in the dirt to make sure it came out right, it did not sit squarely on those pilings.

When Greg finished college in the mid-seventies he moved up to Hawley and lived there, working the farm and doing some writing. His mother Helen moved up to join him there in the early eighties. In 1983 an addition was made to the front and side of the house. They both lived there until she died and Greg inherited the house, where he continued to live. He and Susan married in 1996 and still live there with son Ben.

In 1978 Kirby Sr. retired, and he and Charlotte moved into an addition they had built onto Gary's house (was Gene's Place). They later moved to the trailer. However, they found that the space was cramped, especially for the entertaining that Charlotte loved to do, so the sun room was added. However, even with that additional space, things were still cramped and Charlotte's worsening vision made for frustrating frequency of bumping into things. Also, with a wood-burning stove in a place as small as the trailer, some family members were afraid of the fire hazard. These frustrations lead to the forging of plans to build the current house with the help and donated talent of various family members. It was completed in about 1985. The new house afforded lots of space for entertaining and for all the things Charlotte and Kirby had collected over the years, as well as room for all the grandchildren to stay there at the same time, something impossible in previous years.

In 1998, the fourth generation, the oldest of whom were in their late teens and early twenties and the youngest of whom were in

elementary school, had also known a great deal of their childhood in Hawley on the farm. Only for them it was not the farm, it was where the grandparents lived, and the homes remembered were those that are there now. Their parents wanted very much to expose these kids to Hawley and have it become as special to the kids as it had been to the parents.

It worked, and a generation which lives scattered throughout the northeast makes what almost seems a pilgrimage at least once and often twice a year to Hawley. The purpose is to be with each other and the rest of the family in the place that forged those bonds so strongly in younger years.

Those kids, now adults, have memories of going to Hawley, playing with their cousins, and being spoiled by aunts and uncles and grandparents that go back as long as they can remember. Jenny and Tara Thwing and Dina Szewczynski often gazed in awe upon Charlotte's collection of dolls, and then set themselves to the task of dressing, styling and playing with their own. Other times it was cookie baking or a trip into Shelburne Falls for a walk across the Bridge of Flowers and a treat of rock candy. Meg Thwing sometimes joined in those activities, but more often she could be found with one or both of the Mikes (Thwing or Szewczynski) and maybe Theodore Thwing, brook-walking and exploring, paddling a rubber raft around the pond and out behind it, collecting newts, salamanders, frogs, toads and if they were lucky, even garter snakes. Elaborate habitats then had to be constructed in kiddie pools, disused trash cans, plastic pans and basins. The other girls joined these adventures sometimes, especially for swimming or dam building in the brook. As years passed these activities were slowly passed up in favor of walks around the square, star gazing in the fields, games of rummy and hearts, video production, and movies. In wintertime, activities were a bit more limited, but endurance of the cold was increased by snowsuits and mittens. The necessity to be doing something switched its focus to snow forts in the banks by the road or out on the ice of the pond, ice skating, cross-country skiing in the fields, snowball fights, downhill skiing at Berkshire East, and card games, hot chocolate and videos inside when fingers and toes began to ache.

Over the years many nights were spent in the room in the basement of Charlotte and Kirby's new house, where there were two sets of bunkbeds for the four older cousins and a mat on the floor for Theodore. The quarters were close, but since during the day hardly any time was spent there, the only real down side was the mess created by bags and clothing for five people for a week, and mix-ups as to what was whose and where it was. However, any inconvenience that caused was far outweighed by all the cousinly bonding that went on down there after the lights went out. Conversations often lasted well into the wee hours of the morning, far enough away from grownup ears to neither bother nor be overheard by them. Theodore, significantly younger than the rest, generally dropped off to sleep first, followed some time later by Tara, eventually Jen, and finally Mike and Meg. Discussions ranged from love lives to politics to philosophy and everything in between. For people who only saw each other once or twice a year, these kids were (and are) extraordinarily good friends.

As Charlotte and Kirby got older and more easily tired out, it was decided that maybe having all the grandkids in residence all of the time was not such a good idea, so Keans of Forget Road were prevailed upon to lend their house when they were not using it. The 2:00 am conversation location thus changed from the bunkbeds room in the basement to the living room floor of the Keans' house. The kids resented the relocation at first, feeling that they were being kicked out and left out of what would be going on, but they soon adjusted, and in reality, the change turned out to be a blessing. It was a lot more comfortable than the basement a tent in the backyard. There was more space for everyone all the way around, and as the kids only spent from about 11 pm to 11 am at the Keans', they didn't miss out on the time down at Charlotte and Kirby's for meals, videos, games of Hearts, and lots of conversation. Everyone still had their chance for at least one heart-to-heart talk with Grandma, an important part of any visit up to Hawley. Michael Thwing put it well one time, saying that she loves to talk, but that she is also always interested in your life. You find yourself telling her your most personal stuff without even realizing it because it doesn't feel like a big admission. It's weird, but it's nice.

Now that generation is getting older, some nearly out of college, others in grad school and still others married, some with children. But, they still keep in touch, and they still make sure to make at least a little time for Hawley and cousins. Boyfriends and girlfriends invited to Hawley evolved to spouses and significant others--all indoctrinated into the Thwing/Szewczynski clan.

They have heard the story of the Cinderella video (with Mike starring as Cinderella, Meg as Prince Charming, and Theodore as the Fairy Godbrother) and the wedding spoofs done for Charlotte and Kirby's 50th and Mandy (Fay and Roger Poudrier's younger daughter) and Pete's shower. They've heard about snow forts and New Year's bonfires on the pond, sliding off the roof of the trailer into the snow, and trips over to Berkshire East to go skiing. If they didn't know how to play Hearts, they learn quickly. If they were lucky, they get to help cut and stack wood. If they'd never been so far out in the country, they saw stars at night like they'd never seen before. Cookies soon become as integral a part of their lives in Hawley as they did for the rest of us. And none left without getting hugged by Grandma and invited back.

Now, for most, it's husbands and wives coming up instead of boyfriends and girlfriends. When they become parents, they will surely continue to make time for Hawley and for each other, and will want to share with their children that which forged such strong bonds among themselves.

THE TRUST

When Great-grandmother Cox died, she passed the land in Hawley to her five children, Phoebe, Charlotte, Stanley, Almira, and Gardner. In the 1970s, these five children, now adults with grown children of their own, decided that they needed to figure out a way to pass this land on to the next generation without splitting up the property or having to sell any of it in order to meet tax requirements. When the next generation was consulted, the consensus was that they wanted the land to stay in the family, to be managed in such a way as to benefit the family, and to be able to meet its own costs. The resulting decision was to form the Taverntop Family Trust. It was created to manage the woodlot to benefit the family (both

practically and in terms of taxes) and to allow orderly transfer of ownership without requiring the transfer or sale of the land. Land cannot easily be divided evenly; trust shares can.

The original trustees were Great-grandmother's five children. When Phoebe died and her brother Stanley resigned his interest in the trust, they were replaced by Hank Szewczynski and Kirby Thwing, Sr. In 1989 Kirby Thwing, Jr., Jan Szewczynski, and Gregory Cox were appointed as Associate Trustees. Although it is easy to add to the number of *official* trustees, to decrease that number should someone die or resign is legally complicated and would require going to court. The Associate Trustees positions actively involve the next generation down. These three are officially part of the trust but do not vote. Other members of the family who are not *officially* part of the trust are also encouraged to attend meetings and make ideas and/or questions known. In recent years the youngest generation's participation has also been stressed and encouraged, as the trust will one day be passed down to them.

COMMUNITY AND TOWN BUSINESS

The three-town landfill closed more than 10 year ago. It was the landfill for Charlemont, Heath and Hawley. Since then there has been a complaint of a contaminated well on the property of the McCleod's in Charlement, downstream from the landfill.

The selectboards of the three towns tested well pits all around the landfill and found no contamination, but with DEP insistence, set up monitoring and remediation efforts on the McLeod well.

After ten years and many large bills for remediation, the three towns decided that it was more prudent to buy the property, than to face continued monitoring expensed and the very real threat of a lawsuit. In December and January, the three towns held town meetings to vote on whether to authorize their selectmen to enter into a purchase agreement for the property. Each town voted to agree and to purchase the property.

Each town agreed to pay one third of the total cost which for Hawley amounts to \$140,000. Hawley voted to use \$40,000 from free cash and to borrow the remaining \$100,000 over about 5 years. It voted a debt exclusion override for this purpose. The grader loan will be paid off this year and the town garage loan will be paid off next year freeing up those funds to be used to pay off the new \$100,000 loan.

Academic Recognitions and Other School News

Mohawk Trail Regional School Honor Roll

High Honors Honors

Second Quarter

Class of 2010

Class of 2012

Class of 2013

Unknown

Class of 2014

Class of 2015

Class of 2016

BIRTHS

COLE

Cooley Dickinson Hospital, Northampton, Sept. 17, a son, Brody Michael, 7 pounds, 12 ounces, to Rebecca (Jefferson) and Michael Cole of Greenfield; grandson of Jan and Tim Jefferson of Shelburne Falls and Chris and Scott Cole of Attleboro; great-grandson of Shirley Jefferson of Shelburne Falls, William Cole of Hawley and Daisy Moore of Attleboro.

PURINGTON - In Baystate Franklin Medical Center, Jan. 18, a son, Wade Mason, 7 pounds, 6 ounces, to Tanya Patenaude and Mark Purington of Whitingham, Vt.; grandson of Vichy Griswold of Shelburne and Bob and Joyce Purington and Mark and Heidi Patenaude, all of Colrain; great-grandson of Lyle and Arlene Patenaude of Shelburne, Herbert and Barbra Purington of Colrain and Gordon and Jan Griswold of Hawley.

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

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The Pudding Hollow Cookbook pays tribute to local foods and cooks. It features folk art by the late Judith Russell. The Merry Lion Press and author Tinky Weisblat organize Hawley's Annual Pudding Festival. Take out a free email subscription to Tinky's blog, *In Our Grandmothers' Kitchens*.

<http://www.ourgrandmotherskitchens.com>.

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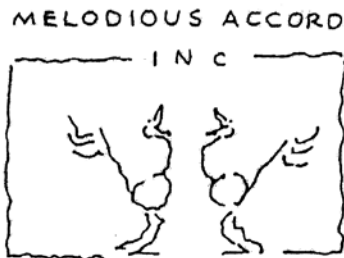
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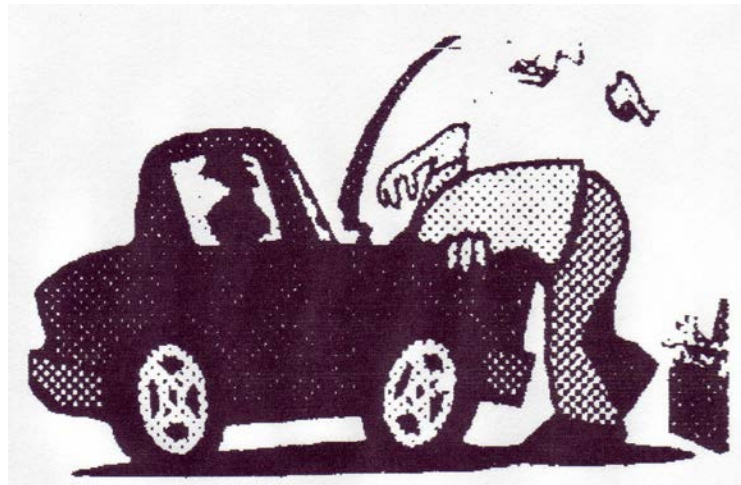
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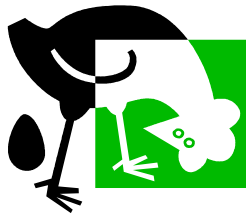


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You too can be listed here!!!

The *Edge* now reaches more that 205 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 Lark Thwing (413-339-0124) or Lisa Turner (413-339-4319) for details.

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S&D WEBSITE

**[http://sites.google.com/site/
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Check out the updated pages relating to the Old Town Common and the various tours you can take of it online. See info about this spring's Multi-town Tag Sale.

OBITUARIES

Jennifer Holmes

Jennifer Charlotte Stelck Holmes was born April 27th, 1952, and died Monday, November 8th, 2010. She is survived by a brother, Craig, a sister, Melinda, two daughters, Juniper and Lily, and her three beloved dogs, Dusty, Peter and Sugar. Jennifer was born in Los Angeles, CA. She also lived in Oregon, Massachusetts, Arizona, and Mexico. Jennifer always had a smile on her face and a love for all living creatures. Jennifer spent much of her life rescuing animals, advocating for the rights of people with disabilities, protecting the earth, enjoying live music, laughing, and always loving and supporting her children. While living in Mexico, Jennifer became very involved with the San Felipe Animal Rescue. Her goal was to educate everyone to spay and neuter their pets, always adopt, and let people know that ALL dogs need help regardless of borders or breeds. She leaves this earth with many friends, relatives, and animals that have been forever touched by her presence and will never forget her beautiful soul and her playful, caring spirit.

In lieu of flowers and other thoughtfulness, please consider donations to San Felipe Animal Rescue. Jennifer's daughters will be taking over her mission to find the last 5 dogs loving homes before the rescue closes. Please make checks payable to Juniper or Lily Holmes, 135 N, Kelly Lane, Maricopa, AZ. 85139.

Love and Peace



Jennifer lived in Gary Cox's home until it burned down. She then moved to Plainfield and then to Mexico. JC's Auto is now on the property.

LAND TRANSFERS

Hawley

Susan L. Deraway to Wayne R. Clark and Robin C. Clark of Heath, 198 West Hawley Road, \$127,500.

Gary Clark of Heath to Brenda Lee Caswell of Spofford, NH, Laura Clark of Freeport, Fla., Patricia Ann Morrison of Pietown, NM, and Sandra Lynn Dupuis, 24 East Hawley Road, \$12,400.

Brenda Lee Caswell of Spofford, N.H., Wendy Laura Clark of Freeport, Fla., Patricia Ann Morrison of Pietown, N. Mex., and Sandra Lynn Dupuis to John W. Richardson of Shelburne, 24 East Hawley Road, \$1.

John W. Richardson to Sandra Lynn Dupuis, Brenda Lee Caswell, Patricia Ann Morrison and Wendy Laura Clark, 24 East Hawley Road, \$1.

Robert L. Cass and Rosanna T. Seymour to Rosanna T. Seymour, 2 Savoy Road, \$1.

Alice Parker Pyle to David S. Pyle of North Reading and Elizabeth T. Pyle of Amherst, 96 Middle Road, \$1.

Beth says,

**“Start planning for this year’s Multi-town
Tag Sale which will be
June 18 and 19, 2011
from 9 am to 3 pm.”**

**“Save the dates and
SAVE YOUR STUFF”**

Please: No clothes.

Donate them to the Salvation Army

No large appliances, or computer stuff

Everything must be “clean” and in “working order”

She will accept goods starting May 1, 2011

**Call Beth at 339-0124 to schedule
deliveries to the Grove**

Membership Form July 2010-June 2011
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	\$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 anonymously 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
<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

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:

4" Meetinghouse Tree Ornament by Marion Ives	@ \$10.00 each	_____ pcs	\$ _____
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 each	_____ pcs	\$ _____
S&D Event Calendar	\$18.00	Year 2011	\$ _____

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

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