

# *The Edge of Hawley*

Volume XXXI, Number 2  
SPRING 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

SPRING is here! It's the time of the year when you put into action all the plans you've been thinking about during the winter. Now you can walk in your yard after dark, without two feet of snow, and see the stars and the beauty of the clear night sky in Hawley. Sorry for those who don't have that opportunity.

Spring means activity. We have many events coming in the next several months. Our 4<sup>th</sup> Annual Tag Sale scheduled for June 18-19<sup>th</sup> should be bigger than ever. See the following separate article. This will be coupled with our annual Plant Sale, all at the Grove.

The Artisan and Garden Tour slated for July 9<sup>th</sup> will have a different look this year. In addition to the outstanding floral gardens and local artists' exhibits, we will add an "energy garden", possibly

a couple historic sites and a “petting zoo”. Each adds a new dimension to the event. See separate article for more details.

And finally, we continue to work on fund-raising events and grant assistance for Meetinghouse improvements and repairs. See separate article.

## **Correspondence**

2/21/11

Dear Mr. Thwing,

Enclosed is a copy of “Remembrances of Hawley” written by our father Ralph W. Churchill in response to a letter from Don Stewart. The letter requested he write something for the “Hawley Scrapbook”. He was very disappointed when his remembrances did not appear in the scrapbook.

The committee did not use everything sent to them, but it never notified those whose remembrances would not be included.

Our dad died on September 25, 1994 and I just came across his remembrances and thought it was something you could use in the *Edge*.

Ralph was a native of Charlemont and was born on May 10, 1908.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Susan H. Bernardy

John Churchill

Joanne Sylvester

*Editor's note:*

*Don Stewart's letter and Ralph Churchill's remembrances are in the Bygone Years of Hawley section of the **Edge***

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

**New Members**

## Who Are You?

I have been the editor of the *Edge of Hawley* since about 2000. In about 2009 I took over the mailing of the *Edge* from Serra Root. In all that time, I have become very familiar with the names and addresses of the sons and daughters of Hawley, but haven't a clue who you are and what your connection is to Hawley. Some of you have names that I recognize as old Hawley names (Gould, Sears, Holden) and some of you are just a blank to me and probably to most of your fellow sons and daughters of Hawley.

In the last issue, I was searching for new material for the *Edge* and decided to use the piece about the Coxes coming to Hawley. I had a lot of feedback from people about that story. I am not a historian like Harrison was and do not go searching out the stories of Hawley, but I am really excited when I find new stories and connections to people and places. I decided that in this issue of the *Edge*, I would ask all of you, members of The Sons and Daughters of Hawley, to write or better yet, email me your stories. Who are you now? What is your connection to Hawley? Have you ever been to Hawley? Why are you a member, and what do you get out of your membership? Brevity is not a desirable trait in this case. Tell me a story, please.

Shortly after deciding to do this, I got a letter in the mail from Susan Bernardy about her dad's remembrances. It is printed in this *Edge*. It is a great story and of equal importance, I now know that Susan Bernardy, John Churchill and Joanne Sylvester are brother and sisters and that they have a camp near the intersection of East Hawley Road and Forget Road. I met John at the OTC last year and I know of Joanne because she donates the most wonderful quilts to the Sons and Daughters for sales and raffles.

I am not very good with names and faces so I don't think I have ever met Susan. My apologies if I have.

So here is the deal. I will continue to put out the *Edge* if you will provide me with stories and other material I can use. After ten

years, my well of material is running dry. It is harder to fill the Edge and still have it be a worthy newsletter.

### **Mud Party “Pot Luck”**

Those of us who attended our Mud Party on March 20<sup>th</sup>, at Ray and Melanie Poudrier’s home, enjoyed a fine event with lot’s of food, drink and friendship. Ray & Melanie do a great job providing a warm and friendly atmosphere at their home. About thirty (30) people including a few children attended. The largest number ever.

It’s a pot luck event and the variety of foods is always amazing, the flavors delightful and the ambiance inviting. The Sons and Daughters will repeat this event next year on a similar date. Be on the lookout for it in the Edge’s listing of Calendar of Events. See you there.

### **Giant Multi-Town Tag Sale News**

It’s Here!

It’s Finally Here!

-----Starting May 2-----

Bring your STUFF to the Grove for the next GIANT Multi-Town Tag Sale. Please call Beth at 339-0124, so I can be there to unlock and accept your goodies.

Everything **MUST** be reasonably clean and in good working order. As a reminder, please—no clothing, computer components or printers, or large appliances.

The **Usual** and the **Unusual** are welcome: Dishes and glass wear. Sporting goods and toys. Linens and office supplies. Pictures and furniture. Lawnmowers and sleds, Jewelry and purses. Tools and

baby equipment. Use your imagination. The possibilities are limitless.

Clean out the closets. Sort through the cellar. Empty the attic! This year's tag sale purpose centers on the Meetinghouse steeple's repair.

Thanks so much in advance. I'll see you at the Grove in May!

Multi-Town Tag Sale date: June 18 and 19 Time: 9AM to 3 PM

See you there too!

Beth

### **Meetinghouse Ramp and Steeple Repair**

We are pursuing grants and fundraising efforts to help fund these two projects, that combined will cost about \$30-35,000 if we contract them out. If we can get volunteers to help with the work, we can greatly reduce those estimated costs. If you would like to volunteer, please call Ray Gotta, or Lark Thwing.

### **Meetinghouse Funding**

Ray Gotta

Funding efforts and ideas for improving and repairing the Meetinghouse (E. Hawley's old church) are underway.

There are many grant opportunities available for historic projects whether or not they are building or community-related projects. We are working with the Community Foundation of Western Massachusetts, and a few others.

The most interesting is the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) under their Community Facilities division. It helps small communities that do not have the funding for historic facilities that benefit the entire community. We are working to become certified as an eligible organization. Then we can apply for a grant or a grant/loan award. We will keep everyone updated.



One important fund-raising event is scheduled for Oct. 9, 2011 at the Meetinghouse. It's a "Shape Note" concert, sing along under the direction of Alice Parker. It will be followed by an excellent dinner at the Grove. Look up "Shape Notes" on the Web. More details on that in the August issue of the Edge.

### **Mohawk Kids Dig History Lesson**

Hawley history feeds into archeology project

Adapted from *The Recorder*, April 12, 2011, by Diane Broncaccio, Recorder Staff

Hawley is one of the few "dry towns" in Massachusetts, where no one is allowed to sell alcohol. But that wasn't always the case: In the early 1800s, the town had a thriving tavern on what was once regarded as the Town Common, but which is now also known as the site of the Hawley Bogs and a historic site with self-guided walking trails

The Sons & Daughters of Hawley recently received a \$5,000 Collaborative Education Project grant to engage students from the Mohawk Trail Regional High School in an archeological study of the old Sanford Tavern and its history.

Mohawk teacher Darren Elwell will offer an elective course next fall that will introduce high school students to archeological methods.

John Sears, a Hawley historian and the project director, will visit the classroom with Alex Keim, a graduate archeology student at Boston University. Sears and Keim will provide background on the history of Hawley's Old Town Common and 19th-century taverns. They will also discuss Keim's plan for the excavation.

During a field trip to Historic Deerfield, students will examine artifacts from the Barnard Tavern there. Then the students will spend eight weeks at the Sanford Tavern site, conducting an archeological excavation under Keim's supervision. They will look for answers to the questions they asked in the classroom about the

tavern's history.

According to Harrison Parker's 1992 "Hawley, Massachusetts: The First Fifty Years," William Sanford and his brother first came to Hawley in 1798 and purchased a plot of land on what was then the north side of the new Town Common. According to Parker, town records showed that William Sanford acquired an innkeeper's license to sell liquor both wholesale and retail from Hampshire County from 1800 to 1811. After that date, when Franklin County was split off from Hampshire and became a separate entity, he got the license from Franklin County. He had bought out his brother's share of the property in 1805.

By looking at Sanford's rising property values, the late Harrison Parker estimated that Sanford finished building the tavern in 1810, when his tavern was valued as worth \$800.

"... it was then the second most valuable building in the town of Hawley," said Parker. Louise Hale Johnson had this to say about William Sanford in her 1953 book, "History of Hawley." The following are the recollections of Pindar F. Cooley, who described Sanford Tavern as: "a large, pretentious building of two stories."

"In fact, William Sanford was at one time looked upon as the 'millionaire' of Hawley," Cooley said.

According to Sears, Hawley had three taverns within its borders in the early 1820s, but the Temperance Movement took a big bite out of the liquor business.

"The town went dry in 1831, because of a religious revival in town," said Sears. Church-goers took vows of abstinence, and, apparently as a result, neither the Sandford nor the Longley taverns took out liquor permits in 1831.

That was also the year that Sanford died. Because he left no will, all his possessions were recorded in the probate office. Sears said he's obtained a list of the items belonging to Sanford from Franklin County records.

Sanford's children took over the tavern, but failed to keep it going. According to Parker, Sanford's son lost the property in a

lawsuit in 1843. By the 1850s, says Sears, the property wasn't even on the town's tax records.

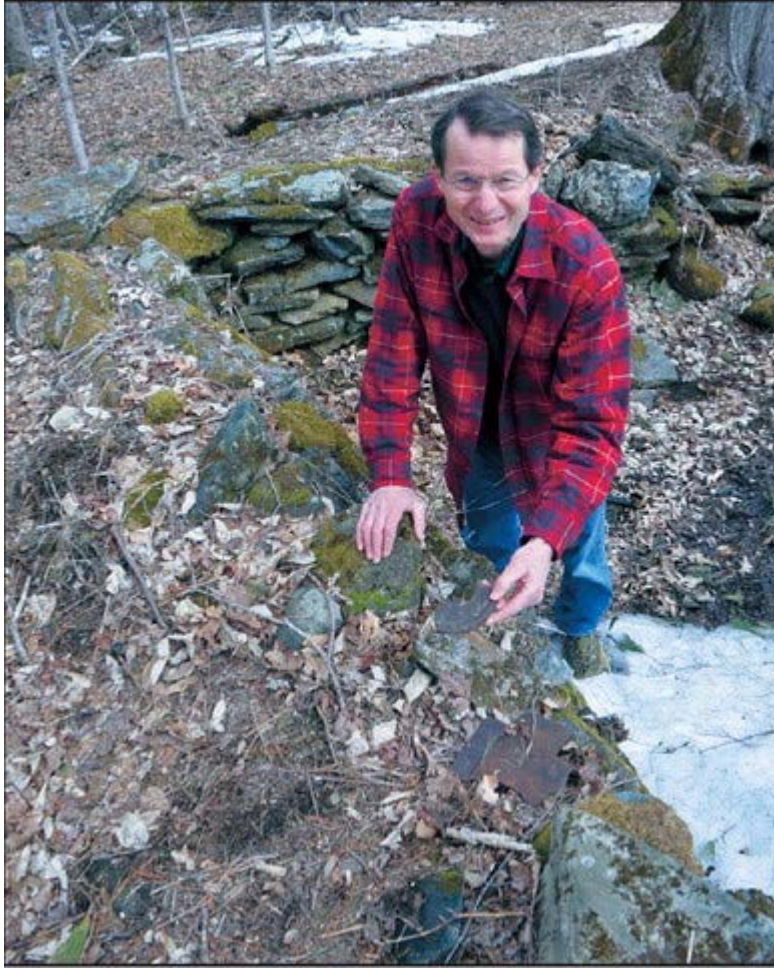
"This is such a wonderful learning opportunity for our students," says Mohawk Principal Lynn Dole. She said she and Vice Principal Joey Kotright-Clark have been meeting recently with school students, parents and community members to learn more about what people want to see in the schools.

"One desire, expressed repeatedly, has been to provide students with more hands-on learning opportunities by building connections with the local community," said Dole. "The Sanford Tavern project is an exciting example of collaboration between community and school."

Sears said the archeological dig will build upon the creation of the Old Town Common historic site that the Sons & Daughters of Hawley began last year.

"We hope the project will not only involve students in a hands-on investigation of the history of the Sanford Tavern ... but also provide insights into life at the tavern and yield a collection of artifacts documenting its history."

The Sons & Daughters of Hawley completed the construction of Hawley's Old Town Common historic site last August. It is located on East Hawley Road next to the Hawley Bog and consists of a kiosk and nine interpretive signs telling the story of the settlement and later abandonment of what was once Hawley's village center.



**John Sears with some metal bits found in the foundation of the Sanford Tavern in the Hawley Bogs.  
Recorder/Peter McDonald**

Students will give a presentation of their findings sometime next fall, at the Federated Church in Charlemont, Sears said.

Mass Humanities, the state affiliate of the National Endowment for the Humanities, gave the grant for the project.

### **The Hawley Grove**

The Hawley Grove renovation creeps forward as a slow but steady pace. We now have the space heater and the gas range with hood



nstalled and the counter between the kitchen and dining hall area will be in place by the middle of May. Beth is now busy setting up the building for the tag sale.

The other good news is that the plaques commemorating the donors to the Grove Renovation are now up. Check them out later on in this *Edge*.

### **The 2011 Artisan's and Garden Tour.**

The 2011 tour will be held on Saturday, July 9 from 10 am to 4 pm. As always, we will showcase some new gardens and some old favorites. Additional “gardens” with intriguing surprises will be on display. There will also be new artisans on the tour.

The famous Hawley luncheon will be held at the Grove building in East Hawley. Everyone will see the wonderful progress that our fundraisers (such as this tour), have made possible. Now we can use the Grove for occasions like this.

A suggested donation of \$10 for the tour and \$12 for the luncheon, which includes entree, beverage and dessert. You may obtain the tour ticket/brochure and the lunch ticket from Cyndie at 339-4231 or Margaret at 339-4441, beginning June 1.

This will be an unusual tour as we highlight some hidden gardens and artists in our little town of Hawley. The luncheon will allow us to showcase our renovated Hawley Grove building. Don't miss this Sons and Daughters of Hawley social event of the year.

## **Nature Dinner**

Ray Gotta

Our annual Nature Dinner is planned for September 18<sup>th</sup> at the Stump Sprouts Resort in W. Hawley. This year our presenter will be Georgette deFriesse.

Georgette is a casual photographer who enjoys being outdoors and documenting what she sees. She carries a Nikon digital SLR camera almost everywhere she goes, and primarily uses an 18-200mm zoom lens. She takes most of the pictures while walking her dogs or during her lunch breaks at work. Her photographs have been on display as part of our Artisan Tour.

She will be presenting a slide show of her photos. From hawks in flight to rocks at rest, she captures the beauty in the natural world. In this presentation, she'll weave the images together with music.

Georgette welcomes interruptions during the slide show for comments or questions.

If you have pictures of your own that you would like to share, please bring them! Her hope is that her photos will inspire others to explore the natural world through photography.

Please see the next issue of the Edge (August) for information on how to make reservation.

Have you got a *Hawley Bicentennial Cookbook, 1792-1992* by The Sons and Daughters of Hawley?

If not, now is the time to get your very own copy. I found an unopened case of about 60 cookbooks in the corner of my parents', Kirby and Charlotte Thwing's, old house-trailer.

We now have an ample supply.

See the order form at the end of this *Edge* to order your very own copy.

## BYGONE YEARS OF HAWLEY

### A Request for Stories

Don Stewart  
Box 256  
Shelburne Falls, MA 01370  
6/06/92

Ralph Churchill  
1096 Hoosac Road  
Williamstown, MA

Dear Mr. Churchill,

During this Hawley Bicentennial year, writers Richard Matthews, Barbara Weisblat and myself are preparing a collection of Hawley stories, histories and recollections. The compilation will be printed as "The Hawley Scrapbook", available in late summer.

One of my assignments has been to gather comments about the community of Hawley from former residents as well as people who spend their summers in the town. Your name has been randomly chosen, along with 40 others from the town assessor's list. We would enjoy receiving your reply to the brief enclosed questionnaire. In the interests of economy and efficiency I've also enclosed a self-addressed, self-stamped envelope.

Please return the questionnaire to me at your earliest possible convenience.

Best Regards,

*Don Stewart*



## **Ralph W. Churchill - Remembrances of Hawley**

The first of my going to Hawley was to my Aunt Florence and Uncle Herbert Holden's. Aunt Florence was my mother's older sister; they were both natives of Charlemont. My Aunt Florence lived in the house next to the East Hawley church.

My Aunt & Uncle had the East Hawley Post Office and a little store for people who lived in the neighborhood. The Stage went from Plainfield to Charlemont every day. When I was a little boy my mother would send me up on the stage and I would stay a few days with Aunt Florence and Uncle Herb. They never had any children so I got plenty of attention. They sold penny candy in the store and everyday Aunt Florence would give me some. Aunt Florence was secretary of the Sons and Daughters of Hawley for quite a few years. Uncle Herbert's sister, Carrie Holden (Mrs. Charles Hawkes) was secretary before her.

When I was about ten years old I helped Uncle Herbert cut hay down on the place near the pond that his father owned. When I went back home he gave me a silver dollar for helping him. That was the first money I ever earned.

When I was about twelve years old I would get up about 6 AM and go with Bob Henderson who drove one of Chet Willey's trucks up to West Hawley to pick up milk. Some of the farmers I remember were Fred Stiles, George Sears, Arthur Maynard, Roy Hunt, Fred Raymond, Melvin White, Bert White and Ernest Sears. Each farmer had his own cans with their names on them. These were taken to Shelburne Falls to H. P. Hood & Sons and weighed. The cans were washed and sterilized for the next day.

When I was older I started to work in the W. N. Potter Grain Store in Charlemont before school, after school and all day Saturday. I got to know nearly everyone in Hawley as they traded with the closest place they could for grain for their animals. Later the grain store got a truck and delivered one day to West Hawley and another to East Hawley and Plainfield.

During High School there were a lot of students that came from Hawley. Philip and Roland Stiles first drove a horse back and forth each day. Later they got a pick up truck to use. Some students boarded with people in Charlemont. I remember Annie (Sears) Stiles boarded with my Uncle Merritt and Aunt Helen (Wells) Churchill.

During High School days they would not let us play baseball on Sunday in Charlemont so we would go up to Hawley and play in a field across from Hobert Raymond's. Charlemont would play the Hawley Sportsmen's Club team. We had a lot of fun and good times. Some of the players that I remember on the Hawley team were, Clarence (Oppie) Sears, Hobert Raymond, Oscar Sprague, Russell Stafford, Fred Gould, some Atkins boys and others. We used to get Fred Raymond to umpire.

In 1932 I married Ivis O. Parker who was in the same High School class as myself, Annie (Sears) Stiles, Clara Rice and Roland Stiles. In all there were six boys and six girls in the Class of 1926. Ivis' parents were both natives of Hawley--charter members of the Sons and Daughters of Hawley—Herbert Parker and Alta Gould. Herbert Parker was the son of James Monroe and Orilla (Ingram) Parker—they owned a lot of land near Poverty Square area and Parker Hill. Alta Gould was the daughter of Lemuel and Ellen (Lilly) Gould who lived down in upper Bozrah.

Ivis' father Herbert went to Florence to work on the Trolley line. In 1900 to 1910 he bought some land near Poverty Square and built a small camp where they would come for vacations. In 1920 Mrs. Parker gave her brother, Albert Gould, a lot 200 X 100 feet on which he built a larger camp. The land and smaller camp was left to Ivis and me when her folks died. We built a porch addition to the small camp some time in the late 1940's. Around 1970 we purchased the larger camp and land from Albert's son Elliott Gould. Our children Joanne Sylvester, John Churchill and Susan Bernardy and their families like to go up there for picnics and gatherings.

In the days before there were many trucks, there were many portable saw mills operating in Hawley. The logging was all done with horses. My father Charles Churchill was a logger and he cut off quite a few lots in Hawley.

He cut a lot of logs on the mountain west of Hal White's. He hired Roy Duffy's team and he and Dad drew the logs one winter down to the la(?)e. He then hired Walter Stone's steam mill to come and saw the lumber and it was stacked to dry. There was some hard wood and some soft wood. Then it was shipped by railroad from Charlemont to where-ever it could be sold.

In the 1920's my father bought the Elbert Stafford place. It had a lot of spruce lumber. He had a portable mill near the big rock and cut off one side hill and stacked the lumber to dry. The mill was then moved over the hill to near the cemetery on the road to Moody Spring.

The next year the lumber was driven by horses to Charlemont and loaded in freight cars and shipped to North Adams. The S. B. Dibble Lumber Company then made packing boxes with which to ship the finished cloth away from the many print works factories in North Adams.

There were lots of fine teams of horses in Hawley at that time drawing lumber. To name a few—Ray Clark, Bert Gould, Roy Duffy, Philip James and many others.

In Fullerville there was a store run by Mr. & Mrs. E. A. Tilton. They also sold grain which he bought from Potter Grain in Charlemont, wholesale. There was also a Post Office and a blacksmith shop there.

I would like to see Hawley remain rural. Individual houses should be built so that we can have a larger tax base but no large housing development. The State Forest takes up quite a lot of land area. I think they should at least pay the town 1/2 of what the taxes are on forest land.

I have rambled on and could add more. You can cut down on this any way you want.

Ralph W. Churchill  
1096 North Hoosac Road  
Williamstown, MA  
01267 413-458-8467



**Hawley is my North Star.** The Forest Spirit of its Hills guides me through my personal life's journey

My ancestors tilled its farmlands, studied in its one room schoolhouses, built and inhabited some of its homes and shacks. My dad spent a good part of his boyhood at my great grandmother's home, where for a time, raised nine children. The yields of Hawley farmlands were sold in pushcarts in the flats of Holyoke.

One day, late on, my dad made my mom an offer. "I would love to go back home to Hawley" he said. Jack Dostie had offered my dad a piece of land at the start of Grout Road. "It is either the land" he said to my mom "or a washer and dryer."

The call of Hawley was too powerful to refuse.

"Mount LoRay" was born.

Their remaining days were filled with lots of wood-stove burnings, card playing, hikes in the woods, mom's gardens, laughter, magic, and my father's music.

They rest in peace now, around the corner from where they lived and I know a part of their new journey s to watch over and protect the sons and daughters now living there.

In the spirit of their memory and from the warmth and love of my heart I wish you all the best holidays ever.

I remain with pride and gratitude,

Ed Aubrey

A son of Hawley



There are two plaques-  
one for Specific Gifts and  
one for General Gifts



## COMMUNITY AND TOWN BUSINESS

### **Berkshire East Wind Turbine Stands at the Ready**

Adapted from: *Gazettenet.com*, 12/10/10, By Diane Broncaccio

CHARLEMONT - Jon Schaefer, assistant general manager of the Berkshire East Ski Resort, drove to the ridge where the resort's newly erected 900 kilowatt-per hour wind turbine is housed,



climbed to the top of the 191-foot tower, and looked out at the valley below for his very first time.



"The view was awesome," said Schaefer, who waited for foggy weather to lift before getting his first glimpse, on Monday. "It was the culmination," he said, of three years of planning for the turbine, which will produce all the resort's electricity needs - and put more carbon-free energy into the utility grid besides.

Before climbing to the top, Schaefer donned a helmet and strapped

himself into a harness, equipped with a safety device. The device would automatically lock if the wearer fell. He then climbed the 190-foot metal ladder, that ascended straight up into the nacelle. This round capsule-like structure at the top, protects the gear-box, motor and generator which are housed inside it.

The three segments of the tower itself each have a metal floor with a slot for the ladder.

For now, the turbine isn't moving, because the internal wiring is yet to be installed. This allowed Schaefer to climb out of the nacelle, as

though through the hatch of a submarine, and look at his surroundings.

"I stood on top of it," said Schaefer. The view "was like being in the Rocky Mountains. This is the first time I've ever felt that way in Massachusetts."

The smoky-gray metal and fiberglass Powerwind turbine cost around \$3 million, but it's expected to pay for itself within eight to 10 years, based on current utility rates. If electricity costs rise, the payback period could be even shorter.

This week, electricians will complete the interior wiring. After that, testing will begin.

The Schaefers believe the wind turbine will be tied to the utility grid on Dec. 28 and begin generating electricity for the ski resort by January.

Pieces of the turbine began arriving a month ago, according to Roy Schaefer, owner and general manager of the resort. "But the last part to arrive was the base," he said, "so we couldn't do anything."

When the final pieces arrived, workmen assembled the structure within three days, from Nov. 20 to Nov. 22. According to Roy Schaefer, it took 17 truckloads of parts for the crane that lifted the turbine structure. The finished 6-ton crane was 254 feet high.



After the workmen blasted the rocky ledge in preparation for the tower, they poured the concrete base. The Schaefer family says workers used 500 cubic yards of concrete to create a base that is roughly 13-feet deep, with a 40-foot square surface.

"The part you don't see is buried in the ground," Jon Schaefer said. "It's all rock. It's sort of a rock bathtub."

With its turbine blades completely vertical, the wind turbine stands at about 277 feet. It's located about a mile from



Berkshire East's headquarters, with the closest ski trail about 200 yards away.

The 90-foot-long fiberglass turbine blades are hand-shaped to resemble the fins or tail of a giant fish. Jon Schaefer said when the

blades were delivered, he could touch them with one finger and the blade would bend.

Earlier this week, the blades weren't turning. This allowed for the electrical work in the nacelle to be completed. When the turbine is up and running, the blades will automatically swivel and "articulate" to catch the best wind - much like a sail on a boat.

"Each blade pitches to adjust to the speed of the wind," says Schaefer. "When the wind is too strong, the blades will pitch away from the wind," he said.

When it's running, the turbine will power six ski lifts and about 34 snow-guns, as well as night lighting for the resort's 200 acres of ski trails.

According to Jon Schaefer, the 1.8 million kilowatts of carbon-free, green energy that the turbine produces, is the environmental equivalent of planting 85,000 trees a year, or of having cars drive about 2.5 million fewer miles next year.

"It's the equivalent of not burning 93,000 gallons of heating oil," he added.

### **The Wind Turbine Is Up and Turning! (1/13/2011)**

Some statistics from <http://www.berkshireeast.com/turbine.html>

Thanks for everybody who made this possible. There was a lot of work involved and Berkshire East is sending a big thanks to the town of Charlemont, Greenfield Savings Bank, Sustainable Energy Development, Powerwind, the construction crews from a lot of great companies and the people within Berkshire East who kept this thing on track.

Berkshire East's still-to-be-named 900kWh wind turbine produces 100% of the Berkshire East's annual electrical need. This makes Berkshire East the first ski area in the nation to produce 100% of its electricity from an onsite, renewable source.

- The turbine will generate approximately 2.2 million kWh of electricity each year.
- The wind turbine is 277 feet tall.
- Each blade is 91 feet long. There are three of them.
- The center of the hub, is about 195 feet in the air.
- The blades spin at 27 rpm, at maximum.
- The installed turbine price was approximately \$3 million.

Berkshire East received a renewable energy grant from the Massachusetts Clean Energy Center for \$440,000. The first part of the grant was a \$70,000 research grant that proved the viability of the turbine. The second part paid for a portion of the installation. Berkshire East was also supported by a Federal Treasury grant that helped offset a significant portion of the costs.

- Payback for this project will take 7-10 years.
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- Powerwind is one of the best manufactured turbines on the market.
- We spent nearly 3 years researching this project, spent 7 months in permitting and considered many different options.
- The nacelle houses the generator and has a window out the top for looking around.
- The hub and three blades went up together in one piece.

- This machine is located nearly 3500 feet from the nearest house.

## ACADEMIC RECOGNITIONS AND OTHER SCHOOL NEWS

### Mohawk Trail Regional School Honor Roll

High Honors                      Honors

#### Second Quarter

Class of 2011

Class of 2012

Kayla Clark

Class of 2013

Alyssa Sinistore

Class of 2014    Melissa Clark

Class of 2015    Miranda Clark    Noah Blakeslee

Jake Orzechowski

Isaac Sisum

Matthew Walsh

Class of 2016

### BIRTHS

**NORCROSS** — In Baystate Franklin Medical Center, Feb. 1, a son, Jesse Bennett, 6 pounds, 13 ounces, to Wendy (McLatchy) and David Norcross of Florida, Mass.; grandson of Lesley and Paul McLatchy Jr. of Rowe, Rita and the Rev. Paul Norcross of Hawley and Paul McLatchy of Woburn; great-grandson of Marian Norcross of Hawley and Veikko Liuska of Chester, Vt.

**INMAN** — In Baystate Franklin Medical Center, March 17, a daughter, Emmalee Grace, 9 pounds, 9 ounces, to Amanda (Clark) and Luke Inman of Heath; granddaughter of Timothy and Robyn Clark of Hawley, Kathryn Inman of Heath and Clifton Inman of West Halifax, Vt; great-granddaughter of Jim and Flora Rice and Dorothy Clark, all of Hawley, Johs and Martha Clausen of Conway and Lucy Inman of Holyoke.

**THOMPSON** — In Baystate Franklin Medical Center, March 22, a daughter, Olivia Joan, 8 pounds, 5 ounces, to Samantha (Clark) and Matthew Thompson of Buckland; granddaughter of Nathan and Cindy Clark of Heath and David and Barbara Thompson of Ashfield; great-granddaughter of William Clark of Heath, Sally and Kenny Henkler of Whitingham, Vt., Joan Lanoue of Ashfield and William Thompson of Greenfield; great-great-granddaughter of Dot Clark of Hawley.

*Editor's note-if we missed anyone, please let me know.*  
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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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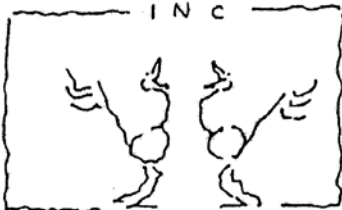
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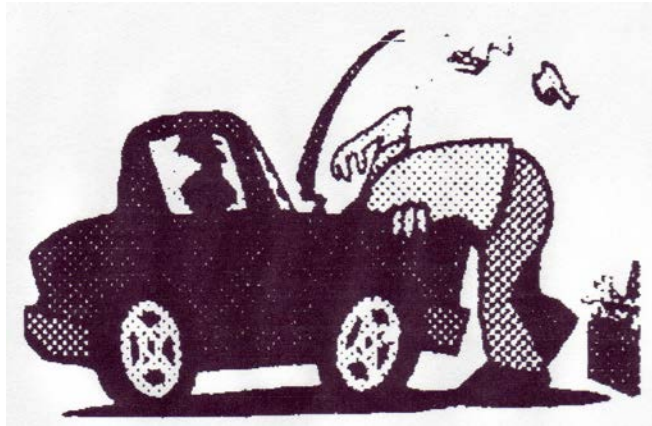
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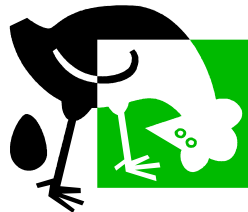


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## **You too can be listed here!!!**

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

### **Maida Riggs**

AMHERST - Maida Leonard Riggs died on Sunday, Feb. 27 at the Center for Extended Care in Amherst, at the age of 95.

Born in Grafton on May 16, 1915, she received degrees from Massachusetts State College in Amherst, the University of California in Berkeley and the University of Utah. Maida Riggs taught physical education in her professional career, with a specialty in training teachers of young children. Her home base was at her alma mater, the renamed University of Massachusetts. She also taught at Sweet Briar College in Virginia, Bouve in Boston and Chelsea College of Physical Education in England.

During World War II, she served as a Red Cross worker, landing at Utah Beach the day after General Patton landed. Active as a Youth Hostel leader after the war, she traveled widely, both as a teacher and in retirement.

To this full life, add gardening, photography and writing. Her Red Cross experience was published under the title of "Dancing in Paratrooper Boots." Her book on child development was named "Jump to Joy: Helping Children Grow Through Active Play". She also transcribed letters from her pioneer grandmother, Ann Clark Longley: "A Small Bit of Bread and Butter: Letters from the Dakota Territory, 1832-1869".

Maida Riggs served on the committee that planned Applewood Retirement Community in Amherst, and she played an important role there after she moved in, in 2002.

She was predeceased by her sister, Doris Riggs Buck. She leaves a sister, Amy Riggs Loungeway of Lee; a brother, Alfred Riggs of Riverside, Calif., and eight nieces and nephews. Her nephew

Leonard Buck, of Hadley, has been a most loyal supporter during her retirement years.

Plans for memorials have not as yet been made. Gifts in her memory may be sent to the University of Massachusetts, Amherst (Memorial Hall, 134 Hicks Way).

### **Stefan G. Racz**

Stefan George Racz, 60, Chairman of the Buckland Select Board and 37-year resident of Buckland, MA, died unexpectedly on Friday, February 25, 2011. He leaves his beloved wife of 40 years, Roxana, his daughter, Rebecca Racz and her partner, Kenny Butler, also of Buckland.

Stefan was born in Windischeschenbach, W. Germany, on August 22, 1950 to the late Eduard and Akulina Racz. His father, a WW2 veteran and native of Budapest, Hungary, and his mother, a displaced person from Morozowa, Latvia, settled briefly in Germany after the war. In 1956, Stefan emigrated to the U.S. with his parents and older brother. They settled on Ethel Avery's farm in Charlemont, which they eventually purchased. Stefan attended Charlemont schools before graduating with the first senior class of Mohawk Trail Regional High School in 1968. He excelled in athletics, particularly basketball, and continued to follow school sports enthusiastically throughout his life. As a teenager, he worked a variety of jobs from picking blueberries for Jack Cable in Heath, to running ski lifts at Thunder Mountain. He most fondly recalled working at Goddard's Car Museum and the Red Rose Restaurant, then owned by Larry Burrington whom he adored and considered family.

In 1969, Stefan entered the US Air Force where he trained as a medic. In 1970, he married the former Roxana Kendrick of Shelburne, MA, who was both a relative of his U.S. sponsors and a high school classmate. She joined him in Lubbock, TX, where he was stationed at Reese AFB. From 1970 to 1973, he worked in the

Physiological Training Unit and assisted in pilot training. Upon his honorable discharge in 1973, Stefan and his wife returned to the area, settling in what would be their lifelong home in Buckland. In 1974, he and Roxana welcomed their only daughter, Rebecca.

Stefan began working at Yankee Rowe Nuclear Power Plant in 1973, and remained in the nuclear power industry for his entire career, working in various locations throughout New England until finally returning to Rowe, where he was instrumental in the successful decommissioning of Yankee Rowe. At the time of his retirement in 2005, he had held many positions in training, Instrumentation and Control, Quality Assurance, and auditing. He was respected for his dedication to safe and responsible practices within the industry, and for honest discourse on the issue, even among anti-nuclear activists. He had planned to return to the industry as a consultant in 2011.

In 2003, Stefan was elected to his first term on the Buckland Select Board. At the time of his death he was serving his third term. Once retired, he devoted himself to town business, and was rarely seen without his appointment book and some town business in hand. He visited the Buckland Town Hall and area businesses almost daily, and even took it upon himself to plant the flower boxes in front of the offices. He was a board member or volunteer of several organizations throughout the years, including Memorial Hall Association, Franklin Regional Council of Governments, TRIAD, Shelburne Senior Center and Shelburne Falls Information Center among others. He loved to be involved in the community and did everything from helping prepare meals at the Senior Center to handing out water at the Bridge of Flowers road race. He was also a very involved member of the First Congregational Church of Buckland.

In both 2006 and 2010, he ran as an Independent Candidate for the office of State Representative, 2nd Berkshire District. While both campaigns were ultimately unsuccessful, he impressed many with

his clean, respectful campaigns, free of political party influence and hallmarked by integrity and unwavering focus on issues that put the needs of his constituents first. After the 2010 election he shifted his focus to developing a network for local businesses and had hoped to serve as a conduit for the community for communicating the specific needs of the district to the State House.

Stefan was an avid outdoorsman who knew every back road and natural landmark in the area. He enjoyed deer hunting, fishing and spotting and identifying all types of wildlife, trees and wildflowers and took great joy in sharing his discoveries with his daughter, especially, including rescued animals that became her pets. He enjoyed cycling, walking and cross-country skiing with his wife. He was a talented gardener who grew--and shared with others--an impressively large array of vegetables, berries and flowers. He planted several hundred Christmas trees in recent years, and proudly cut the first one for his mother-in-law's home this past Christmas. Responsible agricultural land use and open space preservation were very important to him. He loved to read, particularly U.S. and world history, and followed a wide variety of sports teams. He was a huge fan of Williams College ice hockey, attending every home game he could. He loved to attend local agricultural fairs and festivals with his wife and daughter and frequently treated his wife and mother-in-law to all sorts of shows and concerts. He appreciated and was a great supporter of the Arts and was very proud of his wife's talent for watercolor painting. While his daughter was in school he was a constant presence in the Mohawk Music Department, regularly chaperoning music trips. He never missed a single one of her musical performances, even while she attended college in NY. He was considered a "second father" to many of his daughter's high school and college classmates.

Stefan was incredibly generous and thoughtful and gave in any way he could, from taking his mother-in-law shopping, to bringing flowers to a friend who needed cheering. He was well-known



around town and loved to visit with the girls at Baker's Pharmacy and anyone he ran into at the coffee shop or information center, locals and tourists alike. He was known for his open-mindedness, his easy laughter, his quirky sense of humor, his on-the-money weather predictions and for having the answer to any question. He was affectionately referred to by friends and family as "The Mayor of Buckland".

In addition to his wife and daughter, he leaves a brother, Edward Racz, Jr. (Bethlehem, PA), a nephew, Michael Racz and his wife, Sarah (Seattle, WA) and a niece, Zara Racz (Watertown, MA). He also leaves his loving Aunt Vasilissa and three cousins, Kristiina, Leila and Solmaza in Estonia and Russia. He never had the chance to meet them in person as they were reunited through the Red Cross in 2006, but it was one of his greatest joys in life to learn about and exchange letters with this part of his family, whose whereabouts had been unknown since WW2.

A traditional service will be held Saturday, March 5 at 2:00 pm at the First Congregational Church of Buckland (Mary Lyon). A celebration of Stefan's life will be held the weekend of April 30/May 1, exact date and location TBD. The family welcomes public attendance at either service.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the First Congregational Church of Buckland, Upper Street, Buckland, MA 01338, Shelburne, Senior Center, 7 Main St., Shelburne Falls, MA 01370 and Bridge of Flowers, P.O. Box 335, Ellie Baker, Treas., Shelburne Falls, MA 01370

Smith-Kelleher Funeral Home is assisting with the arrangements.

### **Albert L. Gould**

Albert L. Gould, 80, of Tea Street, Charlemont, died Monday, March 7, at Baystate Franklin Medical Center in Greenfield.

He was born in Buckland, June 13, 1930, the son of Gardner L. and Ratherine (Wilder) Gould.

Gould was a 1949 graduate of Arms Academy in Shelburne Falls.

Prior to retirement in 1996 he was employed by the Town of Charlemont Highway Department for 32 years. Before becoming employed by the highway department he owned and operated his own dairy farm in Charlemont. He sold his herd in 1965. Other employment included the Meyer Farm in Buckland where he worked for 10 years.

After retirement the rest of his years were spent enjoying driving his tractor and working his farm. He also enjoyed watching horse and oxen pulls.

His wife the former Dorothy Mae Turner died June 12, 1995.

Survivors include 4 sons Dennis A. and wife Judith of Ashfield, Robert L. of Hadley, Richard L. and partner Cheryl Reynolds and her son Brandon of Hawley; Michael A. of Hookset, NH; 2 daughters Jodie A. Gould of Charlemont, Loretta J. Easton and husband Gary of The Villages, FL; grandchildren Philip Gould, Heather Palmer, Nathan Powell, Robert Gould Jr., Sean Gould, Renee Keenan, Christopher Wesolowski, Tracie Gould, Jacob and Jeremy Gendreau; greatgrandchildren Felicia, Haley, Justin and Jacob Gould, Taylor and Brooke Gould, Gabril, David and Ashlynn Gendreau; 3 sisters Kathleen M. Billiel of Buckland, Barbara J. Gould of Buckland, Jane G. Tanner of Greenfield and several nieces and nephews. He was predeceased by his sister Marie A. Gould.

A graveside service at Center Cemetery in Buckland will be held at a later date to be announced.

It is suggested donations be made to the Charlemont Ambulance Service, Main Street, Charlemont, MA 01339.

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

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## 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>

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Meetinghouse, Grove Tote or Old Town Common Sling Bags	@ \$ 6.00 tote/\$12.00 sling bag each	_____ pcs	\$ _____
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