

The Edge of Hawley

Volume XXXII, Number 1
WINTER 2012



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—3/11/12—Alice Parker's--4:30-6:30 pm
- Beautify Our Town Roads—4/15-30/2011
- Gala Fund Raiser Auction—4/22/12—Federated Church—3-5 pm
- Shape Note Sing—6/22/12—Meetinghouse--TBD
- Artisans & Garden Tour—7/21/12—Lunch at Poudrier's
- Hawley Day/Annual Meeting—Sunday 8/12/12—Meetinghouse
- Nature Dinner—Sept ?—Stump Sprouts—4:30-8 pm
- No-Bake Bake Sale—9/2012
- S&D Hosts Hampshire County Riding Club—Sunday—TBD
- Apple Fest—11/11/12—Thwing's--4-7 pm
- Hobby Horse Bazaar—Saturday—12/1/12—Hawlemont School
- Illumination Party—Sunday—12/16/12—Meetinghouse—4-5pm.

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

President's Message

Ray Gotta

January is just over, and we haven't seen any serious winter weather yet, at least in the lower Pioneer Valley. Its fine with me, but the skiers, snowshoers and snowmobilers are certainly not happy. So let's look forward to the spring and our 2012 Calendar of Events.

Traditionally we start with our Mud Party which reminds us that between winter and spring we usually have "Mud". This year's event will be at Alice Parker's house at 96 Middle Rd on March 11th (see separate article).

Although we are not having our "traditional" tag sale this year, we need and will have other fundraising events for our Meetinghouse and Grove building projects. Our first fundraiser will be April 22nd at the Federated Church in Charlemont. It will be an

auction with art from local and regional artists. There will also be other art work, items and services donated by local residents. This gala event is very important as our Meetinghouse projects are beginning to materialize. (See separate Gala Event article for more detail.)

Grant funding for our Meeting House projects is under way. We received a \$6,000 grant from The Community Foundation of Western Mass, to be used toward the handicap ramp that will enter from the rear of the Meetinghouse. We are still working with the USDA Community Building Program for additional funding, which would include steeple repairs, renovations inside, and additional railings for the front entrance stairs.

In May, (no date set yet,) we will have a different approach to our usual tag sale. Our current plans are to have a “table tag sale,” where we will sell table space to anyone wishing to participate. Crafters or people wishing to sell goods can buy one or more tables to show their wares. Food and drinks will be available. More on that in the next “Edge” issue.

We have many events planned this year that appeal to a variety of interests. Check out our “Calendar of Events” so you can plan accordingly.

Correspondence

October 6, 2011

Enclosed please find a check from Amy Loungeway for the “No Bake Bake Sale”

She has enjoyed her times at Hawley but is now moving to California. She wanted to make this final donation to show how much her times there have meant to her.

Sincerely,

Ann Fix (daughter)

I enjoy the S&D of Hawley and may the No Bake Bake Sale be a great success;

Good luck in all of your endeavors.

Marion H. Leonard

Hawley is my favorite work of art. There is something inherently noble being a son or daughter of Hawley, something even Irene could not wash away. My spirit is rooted in Hawley, her energy runs through my veins; it is the language of my soul. The rhythm of my daily life is generated from Hawley's landscape: the beauty and proximity of its skies; the personality of its roads; the pureness of its air; the voices of its precious cemeteries: all tied into its centerpiece the proud and steadfast church

There appears to be nothing new in Hawley. It sits in stillness atop a mountain which is nothing short of overwhelming.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year,
Ed Aubrey

“Here We Come A Caroling”

It was the week before Christmas on a dark evening. I was working inside when I became aware of whispering and giggling outside my window. Before I could get to see, voices rose in a familiar

Christmas Carol -- and lo! at my door stood four Christmas angels: Cyndie, Joyce, Lisa and Pam. Of course I invited them in, and they regaled me with several more carols before departing again on their cheerful mission. Oh -- they brought a plate of delicious cookies, too. I told them please to put me at the end of their list next year, and I would have a Boar's Head and Hot Wassail for them! It was an O Hawley Night!

Love,
Alice

Editors notes:

Dick and Teresa DesMarais were the winners of the No Bake Bake Sale Door Prize—a booklet titled *Hawley Story or My Memory Garden* by Millie Harris Billings

Hobby Horse Bazaar was a very big success this year thanks in part to many new items for sale and beautiful weather. We raised \$773, more than twice the \$367 we raised in 2010. Beaucoup thanks to all who contributed, helped, or bought. See Hawlemont's Thank You note following.

Hawlemont Regional School

*Twas several months before the Holidays, and all through
Hawlemont School*

*Not a pencil was writing, nor students on stools
Our school was barren of students there
As Tropical Storm Irene dumped rain to spare.*

*The children were nestled all at Buckland Shelburne Elementary
Who had opened their doors to us quite happily
To give us a Home while ours was repaired
The children were warm and no longer scared*

*When what on December 3rd to my wondrous eyes did appear?
But Thirty-six vendors full of Holiday cheer!
The crafters came from near and from far
for the shopper's delight at our Hobby Horse bazaar.*

*Their crafts were made with much thought and great care
and infused the hallways with feelings beyond compare
The Holiday spirit was warm and alive
The buzz in the air like bees in a hive.*

*The children's voices in the gym raised in song,
filled the shoppers hearts with joy so strong
that they shopped and visited all through the day
and at the end it was heard, they would say;*

*"What a wonderful fair", "So full of Joy!"
shining in every face,
both girl and boy.*

*Now THANK YOU, THANK YOU,
IT'S BEEN A BALL!
for what you have done
truly benefits ALL!*

*Ann Hallenbeck
PTO Secretary*

Mohawk Students Sift Soil for Clues to the Past

Adapted from: *The Recorder* 10/21/11, by Diane Bronccachio,
Recorder Staff

HAWLEY -- The grounds of Hawley's long-gone Sanford Tavern
rang with voices Thursday morning as a dozen Mohawk Trail

Regional High School students carefully dug into plotted squares of soil. On the surface, only piles of mossy stones were left within the tavern's footprint, which had stood from 1798 until the 1840s. But just a few inches below the surface, broken pieces of pottery, bits of charcoal and clay pipe stems were emerging from the carefully sifted soil.

This was the first day of excavations for students in Darren Elwell's archaeology class, and the group hopes the bits and pieces emerging from the ground will fill in the gaps of what is known about the tavern.

"We just found a sweet little piece (of pottery) that was green and blue and had a flower," Mohawk student Will Booth told project director John Sears. Booth and fellow student Evan Bruffee, working at excavation site No. 5, seemed to be hitting the jackpot. Their trowels unearthed bits of clay pots, old brick and painted glazed bits of old dishes. They even found what appeared to be an oyster shell.

"They hit pay dirt," said Sears. Sears is the project director, a Hawley historian and a member of the Sons & Daughters of Hawley, the group that secured a grant for the student archaeology project. He said the bricks they found were probably once part of the tavern's chimney.

Down at excavation site No. 3, Victoria Farnham, Paige Slauenwhite and Alex Harrington were sifting soil samples and mapping out the layers of sediment with the help of a soil color guide called the Munsell Soil Color Chart.

"We know each layer (of soil) would have been laid down at a different time," said Sears. "We're trying to always find the context of the artifact."

Sears said the color of the soil changes as one digs deeper, so the students were recording what artifacts were found in which layer of soil. "We found a lot of glass," Farnham said. They also found broken bits of ceramic dishes known as "Pearlware," with a

decoration on one side. The student teams put their artifacts into plastic baggies, labeled with information about where they were found.



Mohawk students Gracie Kinsey and Laura Spencer find a piece of lead-glazed redware at Old Hawley Common dig site in Hawley on Thursday. Recorder/Paul Franz

Hawley tavern dig yields 'pay dirt'

Although Hawley is one of the few "dry towns" in the state, Hawley once had three taverns in town. The owner of one, William Sanford, purchased land just to the north of what was then the "new town common," and had an innkeeper's license to sell liquor starting in 1800. The late town historian Harrison Parker wrote in his Hawley history book that Sanford probably finished building the tavern in 1810, when his tavern was valued at \$800, according to town records. "It was then the second-most-valuable building in the town of Hawley," Parker wrote.

Sears has said the town went dry in 1831 — the same year that Sanford died. According to Parker's "Hawley Massachusetts: The First 50 Years, 1770-1820," Sanford's children inherited the tavern but failed to keep it going.

"When William Stanford died in 1831, they did an inventory of his possessions, which gave us a clue of the kinds of things he owned," said Sears. "There was a store attached to the inn, and there were 10 rooms in it.

Robert Paynter of the University of Massachusetts, a well-known historical archaeologist, is the principal investigator of the site. On Thursday, archaeologist and Boston University graduate student Alex Keim was working with the Mohawk students and helping them with the procedures.



Recorder/Paul Franz

Mohawk students Evan Bruffee and Will Booth sift through dirt at Old Hawley Common dig site in Hawley on Thursday.

■ Dig: Reading, digging, writing

"When you have documentary records and you can do archeology, you can get a real full picture of what their lives were like," said Keim. "We're trying to get a real, broad picture. You can understand not only the time in which they lived, but the world in which they lived."

Darren Elwell said a second Mohawk class is to spend this morning working at the site, then the 24 students in his two classes will spend some of their 90-minute classes conducting archaeological research through mid-November.

To get ready for the project, the students spent the past 1 1/2 months learning about excavation basics, visiting the site and reading Sears' "Rediscovering Hawley's Old Town Common," a history of the area.

"We will be taking our findings, writing a report and making a presentation in December," said Elwell.

The Sons & Daughters of Hawley recently were awarded a "Leadership in History" award from the American Association for State and Local History for creation of Hawley's Old Town Common, which was completed in 2010. The Sons & Daughters received a MassHumanities grant to work with Mohawk students on the archaeological dig, which may yield more information about the tavern's history.

Hawley Artifacts Presented in Charlemont

Adapted from: *Shelburne Falls and West County Independent*, Jan 27, 2012, By Cameron Graves

CHARLEMONT--Sixty-five interested community members gathered on Wednesday, Jan. 18 at the Charlemont Federated Church to learn about the artifacts found at the Sanford Tavern site of Hawley's Old Town Common.

The artifacts were uncovered by members of Mohawk Trail Regional School's first archeology class, taught by Darren Elwell, during a three-day, eight-hour excavation in the fall. The presentation began with addresses by Elwell, Sons and Daughters of Hawley project manager Dr. John Sears and Alexander Keim, an archeology graduate student from Boston who served as project director.

"The Sanford Tavern stood at the town common around 1798 to the 1840s," said Sears. "The town common was the center of the town's economic, social, religious and civic life and the tavern was a main part of that. It was more than a place to drink and socialize. It had a store built onto it where goods and supplies were bought, like molasses and pitchforks. Although not an inn, it also had accommodations for up to nine guests, about how many people that came by stagecoach, including the driver."



Photo by Cameron Graves

During the Jan. 18 excavation presentation at the Charlemont Federated Church, Mohawk Trail Regional School seniors Eleanor Williams of Shelburne and Kelsey Rode of Heath and freshmen Victoria Farnham and Alexandra Harrington, both of Greenfield, display a table of 30 artifacts cataloged during their Hawley dig.

Sears said that Sons & Daughters group received a first MassHumanities grant in 2008 that provided \$1,500 to research the history of the Old Town Common. A second \$10,000 grant, along with a grant from the Highland Communities Initiative, allowed them to create it as a historic site, including making signs with

descriptions and line drawings of what the buildings may have looked like, considering the style of buildings at that time from similar town commons. This was needed because almost no photographs or engravings existed to depict how the buildings truly looked, and documentation about the buildings was scarce. During the summer of 2010, the trail linking Old Town Common building sites was officially opened and Sears and the Sons & Daughters approached Mohawk Principal Lynn Dole with the idea of school students excavating at the site.

The Sons & Daughters had already found Keim, and Dole remembered that Elwell, Mohawk's videography teacher, had said a year earlier that he would like to have an archeology class. The class began in September. Keim applied for the excavation permit from the state and designed the research plan, and everything else fell into place.

A third MassHumanities grant for \$5,000, awarded a year ago made the excavation possible, and the presentation was part of the grant stipulation.

Digging

Sears explained that the excavation was to further explain why the Old Town Common disappeared — specifically if the buildings had burned or been disassembled or abandoned. Keim remarked that the site and artifacts were very well preserved and the foundations not vandalized.

"We dug at six shovel test pits and as you dig down, the more layers of dirt you go through and the older things are that you find," Keim said. "We found a lot of construction material on the top layer, such as handmade nails, window glass and mortar, and we also found a lot of ceramics like redware and pearlware. Below that, we found tea-type serving materials and burned wood from warming the building, but later in the 19th century they would have used coal. What we found dates between 1795 and 1830, since none of the plates found can be dated after 1830."

The dig, which went down about six levels of dirt per pit, found evidence of food, beverages and tobacco, but no alcohol, wine bottles or any liquor containers. Sears suspected that the Temperance Movement of the time was the cause, when townsfolk swore to abstain from alcohol as part of their initiation into the local church. Sears added that neither the Sanford Tavern nor another tavern in the Old Town Common had renewed their liquor licenses in 1831 and the financial blow to the businesses bankrupted them. However, there may still be rum or other spirits buried in Sanford Tavern's cellar hole, which Keim said was too wet after the Oct. 29 snowstorm to investigate on the crew's third day of excavation. Sears said that grant money remains to continue excavating. Along with the cellar hole, Keim would like to find out why the tavern had two stone foundations instead of one and to discover what two projecting additions along the sides of the tavern were used for, estimating they could relate to the tavern's use after the Temperance Movement.

Ground rules

Elwell highlighted the course. Rules were enforced, such as not pocketing artifacts and not hurrying during the "methodic, systematic approach to recovering objects from the ground." The hands-on experience was supplemented with studies of famous archeological sites from Pompei to the Titanic.

"I know of less than a handful of high schools that offer students a full archeology course with an actual excavation, instead of anthropology," said Elwell. "I hope the students here can look back and be proud of this rare experience."

Of 24 archeology class students, 14 attended Wednesday's reception, offering their now expert knowledge, answering questions and showing their discoveries. At one table about 30 clear plastic bags containing artifacts were on display, each bag cataloged by the shovel test pit it was recovered from, the number of dirt layers removed to recover it and the initials of each student that recovered it.

A video of the students conducting the dig was to have been shown during the presentation, but it was not played due to technical difficulties. It is now scheduled to be shown at the Mohawk parents' open house on Wednesday, Feb. 8. There are some copies of a booklet issued by the Sons & Daughters available from them.

"I want to thank everyone for the opportunity to work there," said Keim. "Given the conditions, the students did not have much time, so they all jumped right in and were all respectful. The excavation is really important because most people are remembered by the things they left behind, not with a mention in a history book."

"I think it is a great example of how the school and local communities can collaborate for the benefit of everyone," said Dole. "It provides our students with a hands-on experience in archeology that very few high school students have the chance to study."

Gala Auction Fundraiser

The auction is scheduled for April 22nd at the Federated Church on Route 2 in Charlemont, from 3 to 5 pm.

This will be our first significant fund raiser this year for the benefit of our "Meetinghouse" projects. It will make this building available for public use including town meetings when appropriate. The related projects include a separate handicap entrance coming from the rear through an added vestibule entrance, the refurbishing of interior walls and ceiling, the repair of the steeple with new shingling, and adding railings to the front entrance stairs. These are very aggressive projects but are very well worth the effort. Grant funding has been applied for with one award to date, while we await other responses.

The event will feature art work donated by Western Massachusetts artists who have been recently publically recognized as leading artists in their medium. Two of them have just finished their own private showing at the Museum of Fine Arts in Springfield or are there on this date. In addition, they will have on display other

examples of their art work. The artist's names and their website addresses are:

Christina Mastrangelo: www.christinamastrangelo.com

Nicholas McNally: www.nicholasmcnally.com

Sandy Denis: www.shelburneartscoop.com (check under "Meet Our Artist")

Additional works of art will be donated by local residents for the benefit of the SDH projects. Other items expected to be auctioned will be a vacation to an exotic location, a gourmet dinner at one of our local celebrity's home, and who knows what else can be conjured up.

Keep this date open. It will be fun.

Our Annual Mud Party

If you haven't been to one of our "Mud Parties" yet, this is the year you should go. This year it will be on March 11th from 4:30 pm to 6:30 pm at Alice Parker's home, 96 Middle Rd., Hawley.

In March, in between winter and spring, driveways, some roads and nearly everything else seems to get muddy. This event gives us an opportunity to say "Goodbye" to winter and "Hello" to spring and leave the Mud behind. Come join us for good company and good food and drink. Some drinks: sodas, wine and juice will be served, but you may bring your own drinks, if you have a preference.

As usual it will be a "Pot Luck" dinner. So, think up what you would like to bring and call or email Alice at 413-339-8508 or AliceP16@aol.com and let her know. A baked ham will be the main entre. Almost anything goes but the word "Mud" may conjure up something with chocolate in it. Maybe not in a bean casserole, but perhaps in an exciting dessert. There is no cost to come, just bring some "Pot Luck".

BYGONE YEARS OF HAWLEY

Hawley As A Vacation Area (an Editorial)

Adapted from: *Holyoke Transcript-Telegram*, Dec 9, 1957

Two items in the news the past week are based on the town of Hawley, a hilltop town in Franklin County with which Holyoke has had more than ordinarily friendly relations for the past half century or more. One told of the royal gift made by Mrs. Stanley C. Cox to the Holyoke Boys Club of the famous old Hawley Inn and adjoining land property for use as a summer outing place for Boy's Club members. The old inn was for many years in the first two decades of the present century a favorite vacation summer spot for Holyokers. It was one of the many properties taken over by the late J.R. Smith when he was Holyoke's Number One market-man and after his death became the property of the late Dr. Cox, one of the figures developed in Holyoke in our time.

Later in the week came the announcement that Hawley had been selected by the State Department of Natural Resources for the development in that town and over the county line into Hampshire County of a 1000 acre winter and recreation area, for which the beginning was made by the purchase of 286 acres of the 1000 acres planned for the venture.

The engineer in charge of the program stated that skiing, tobogganing, and skating in the winter months are contemplated and inasmuch as Hawley has about six months of snow cover, there would seem to be great possibilities in that line. He suggests that bridal paths for summer use are among the possibilities. And that suggests that doctors are pretty well agreed that horse-back riding is a too long neglected prescription for people bothered by such things as late middle age and "nerves" in a grand variety of forms. It might be suggested that the best way to learn how to ride a horse is to get about it early in life.

It is quite possible that teen age children of the present day may be arriving at middle age just in time to take advantage of the development of the Hawley idea to its large potential. Meanwhile let us appreciate the fact that we have a state department of natural resources that is making hay steadily.

New Camp Site For Boys' Club

Adapted from: Holyoke Transcript-Telegram, Dec., 3, 1957



HOLYOKE BOYS' CLUB NEW CAMPING SITE—This 25-room former inn located in Hawley will be presented the Holyoke Boys' Club for use as a summer camping site by Mrs. 'Almira L. Cox, in memory of her husband, Dr. Stanley C. Cox. The building is situated on six acres of land. The extension at the left will be used, beginning this summer, as a combination work-shop-handicraft area by members of the local club.

A 25-room former inn located on six acres of land in Hawley, a gift to the Holyoke Boys' Club for use as a summer camping site by Mrs. Almira L. Cox of this city in memory of her husband, Dr. Stanley C. Cox, will be formally accepted at the club's annual dinner meeting, to be held tonight at 6:30 p. m. at the Yankee Pedlar Inn.

The local club will also be given the right to use Cox's Pond, a dammed up stream located adjacent to the former inn, currently being used during summer months as a swimming area by Hawley residents.

The building, which has an extension, will be used by the Boys' Club for resident camping beginning this summer. It is expected that about 15 boys will occupy the site for a two-week period this summer, after which the number of boys per period will gradually increase.

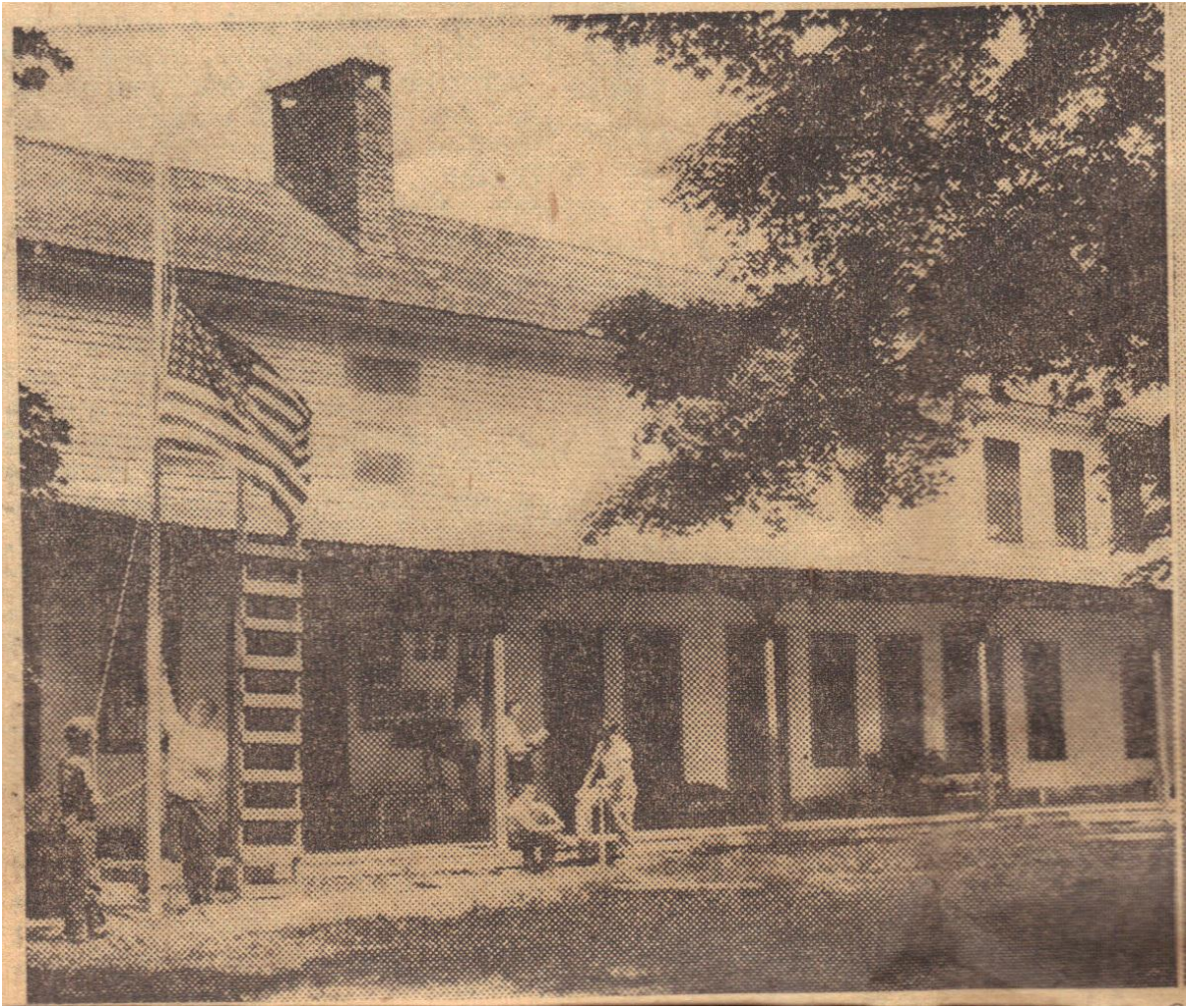
Present plans call for the conversion of the extension into a craft area, according to Nicholas Cosmos, club director. A letter accepting the 25-room building, including deed, and the use of the swimming area, has been sent Mrs. Cox by the local club, who will present her with a letter of appreciation at the dinner meeting Tuesday night.

Atty. Clarke S. Lyon of this city is handling the transfer of property.

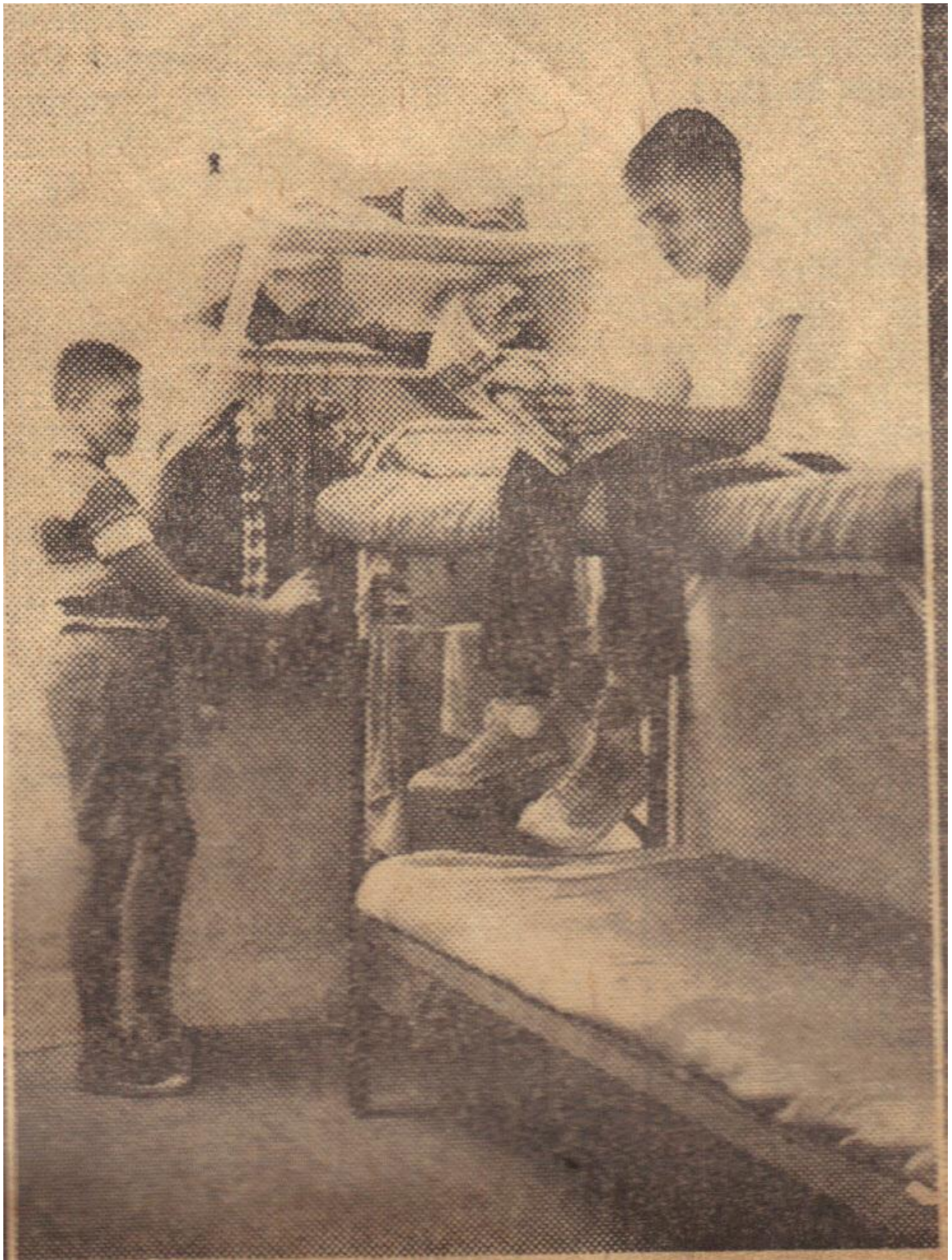
Life is Pleasant at Holyoke Boys Club Camp at Hawley

Adapted from: *The Springfield Union*, August 8, 1958

One week remains in the summer camping program of the Holyoke Boys Club at Hawley. The camp, located on a spacious farm, was donated by Mrs. Almira Cox less than a year ago. Since then a new plumbing system and electrical wiring have been installed. Facilities now are adequate for 25 campers in each session, and plans are underway to expand.



This is the main home, in front of which, is the new flagpole the campers erected.



A typical sleeping unit is pictured next where Russell Sully and Clestine Rimbold prepare for an afternoon rest in the double deck sleeping outfit.



Mrs. Mary Cosmos, Robert Rooney, camp director, and Mrs. Eileen Cosmos discuss plans for proposed improvements. Behind them is one of two barns which will be used eventually for indoor activities.



Leonard Gagnon, Louis King, Michael Harnois and Donald Dion combine their efforts in rearranging furniture in the large living room.

COMMUNITY AND TOWN BUSINESS

None to report

BIRTHS

MILLER — In Baystate Franklin Medical Center, Nov. 26, 2011, a son, Jacob Ryan, 8 pounds, to Samantha Miller and David Schofield of Greenfield; grandson of Marshall and Sally Miller of Greenfield, and Mike and Tammy Schofield of Hawley; great-grandson of Clara Boyd of Greenfield.

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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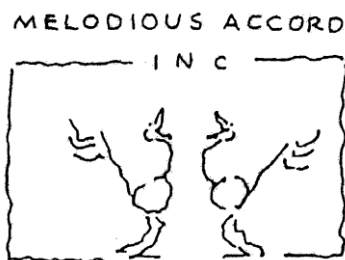
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Also visit our web site for books by Alice Parker
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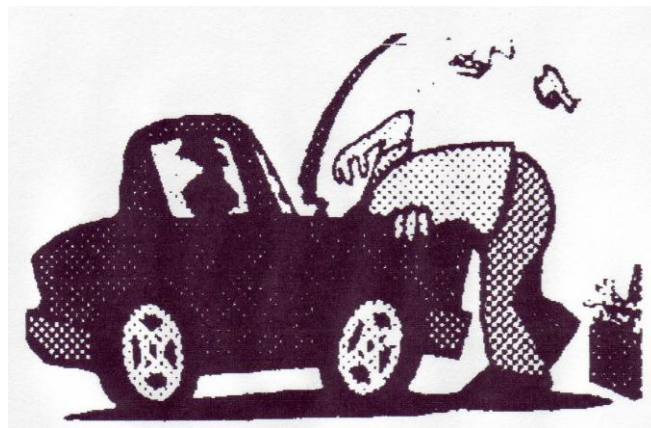
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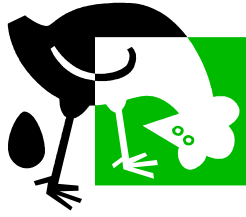
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The *Edge* now reaches more that 205 readers, four times a year, with information designed to keep our community informed and close knit. If you would like to help sponsor *The Edge of Hawley* and promote the vitality of private enterprise in our community, contact Lark Thwing (413-339-0124) or Lisa Turner (413-339-4319) for details.

Please support our sponsors in whatever way you can.

S&D Website

[http://sites.google.com/site/
sonsdaughtersofhawley/Home](http://sites.google.com/site/sonsdaughtersofhawley/Home)

Check out the updated pages relating to the Old Town Common and news about the upcoming Gala Auction Fundraiser

OBITUARIES

Robert L. Stone

HAWLEY - Robert E. Stone, 77, of 339 West Hawley Rd., died Aug. 30 in Hawley.

He was born in Pittsfield, Sept. 29, 1933, the son of Alford and Ernestine (Urban) Stone.

He attended school in Colrain.

He enlisted in the U.S. Navy in 1951 and served as a baker's assistant aboard the USS Waller DDE466 during the Korean War. After his honorable discharge in 1955 he went to work for Ware Fuel in Shelburne Falls.

He married Marianne (Miller) Martel on May 30, 1959. They resided in Shattuckville for a number of years before moving to West Hawley where they opened a small antique shop and convenience store. She predeceased him on March 12, 1992.

Survivors include two sisters Marion McCloud of Charlemont, Jean Coutu of Griswoldville; a half-sister Ida Mae Kilhart (Kenneth) of Orange; a stepson Robert Matel of California; two step-granddaughters Michelle and Clarissa Martel; a stepgrandson Brian; several nieces and nephews and his very dear friend, Barbara Doty of West Springfield.

He was predeceased by his brother Alfred Stone; sisters Dora Mae Stone and Irene Miner and stepson David Martel.

A graveside service with military honors will be held Friday, Sept. 30 at 1 p.m. at West Hawley Cemetery.

There are no calling hours.

It is suggested donations be made to Hospice of Franklin County, 329 Conway St., Greenfield MA 01301.

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

James R. Brant Jr.

HAWLEY - James R. Brant Jr., 74, died at home on Thursday (1-5-12) after a period of failing health.

Born on October 23, 1937 in Hammond, Indiana, he was the son of James R. and Lorna (Brown) Brant. His family moved to this area when he was a child.

James was a construction laborer, under Laborers International Union of North America #596 and worked in construction all his life. He enjoyed politics, the Patriots and time with his family.

Survivors include a son James R. Annear and his wife Janet of Millers Falls, three daughters: Carole L. Musante of Colrain, Kim Brant and her partner John Scott of Hawley and Bobbi Jo Hampton and her husband Jeffrey of Greenfield; seven grandchildren: Nicolas Bernard, Emma and Molly Musante, Mandie Ryan and her husband Sean, Ally Hampton and Chris Smith and Stephanie Scott; and a great-grandson, Bentley James Ryan. He also leaves his brother William Brant of Florida; five sisters: Frances Sessions of Greenfield, Marlith Macintosh of Texas, Donna Shippee of Shelburne, Lorna Szafran and June Pease, both of Greenfield, and many nieces and nephews. He was predeceased by a sister, Jacqueline Anderson.

Services for James will be on Saturday (1-14-12) at 11 a.m. at Walker Funeral Home, 14 High Street, Greenfield, with Pastor Robert Szafran officiating. Burial will follow in Arms Cemetery in Shelburne. There will be a time of visitation prior to the service, beginning at 10 a.m.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to Hospice of Franklin County, 329 Conway Street, Suite 2, Greenfield, MA 01301.

Donald A. Rice

CHARLEMONT — Donald A. Rice, 74, of North St., died Wednesday, December 7, 2011 at home.

Don was born in Montague on June 27, 1937 the son of Aubrey and Amelia (Leja) Rice

He was employed by the former Yankee Atomic Power Plant in Rowe for over 30 years, retiring in 1992. He was with the company from construction in the very beginning, to the decommissioning. Don held many positions over the years at the plant including, Assistant Vice-President of Operations, he was responsible for the Emergency Preparation Program, the On-site Environmental monitoring, the Asbestos Control program, the Meteorological monitoring, the Non-nuclear Hazardous Waste program, the Underground Storage Tank monitoring, and a member of the Emergency Response Team. He was involved in all aspects of the safety of the entire facility. He also co-authored an exposure manual concentrating on environmental effects.

In addition to his career, Don enjoyed golfing and working with his front-end loader, bought in 1990.

Survivors include two sons, Craig Rice, of Charlemont, Bradley Rice, of Rowe, a daughter, Cindy Rice, of Westmore, VT, a sister, Suzanne Willard, of Charlemont, four grandchildren, Zachary Kinsman, Steven Rice, Brittany Rice, Jakob Rice, and two great grandsons, Michael and Kayden Rice.

A graveside service will take place Saturday at 1:00 pm at Puddin Hollow Cemetery in Hawley.

There are no calling hours.

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

Jan Weisblat

HAWLEY - Janice Hallett Weisblat, 93, of Hawley and Alexandria, Va., died at her home in Hawley on Sunday, Dec. 11, 2011.

Jan Hallett was born in 1918 in Brooklyn, N.Y., the child of Erwin Bruce Hallett and Clara Engel Hallett. Her family moved to New Jersey when she was very small. She spent most of her life dividing her time between New Jersey and New England, with forays overseas.

She graduated from Mount Holyoke College in 1939 with a major in French and studied education at the Bank Street School. She later received a master's degree in French from Seton Hall University. She taught elementary school, secondary school, and even college over the years. She loved teaching, learning, and young people.

After saying yes to numerous proposals but never accepting a ring from any of the young men involved, Jan Hallett took a ring from Abe Weisblat, whom she met while both were teaching at Stevens Hoboken Academy in Hoboken, N.J. The bride was Christian and the bridegroom Jewish so their parents had asked them to be engaged for at least a year to get married in order to be sure that the "mixed" marriage would take. It took and lasted until Abe Weisblat's death in 1998.

Over the course of their marriage, the pair lived in India, the Philippines and Great Britain, as well as the United States. Jan Weisblat had special love for India and France. She wrote a book of poems called "My India" and was frequently taken for French by native speakers of that language.

In 1958, her family first visited Singing Brook Farm in Hawley. The Weisblats spent every summer at the Farm from then on, eventually building a year-round house in Hawley. Abe Weisblat called it "Ashram West." His wife called it home.

She loved history and old things. In the 1970s, she and her friend, Claire Roth, started an antique shop in Charlemont, the Charlemont House Gallery. When her partner had to retire, Weisblat moved the shop to Shelburne Falls and christened it the Merry Lion in honor of her alma mater's founder, Mary Lyon.

She ran her store with the help of the late folk artist, Judith Russell, who often painted the view of the Bridge of Flowers out the shop window. The Merry Lion specialized in Staffordshire plates, pressed glass and whimsy. Its proprietress retired in 2001 to enjoy being a grandmother (at last!) at the age of 80.

An avid amateur thespian, she loved to recite poetry, particularly nonsense verse like "The Owl and the Pussycat" and "The Pobble Who Has No Toes." She was a loyal friend and wife, a demanding but loving mother, and a generous no-fuss hostess. Decades after her graduation from Mount Holyoke a professor was asked whether he recalled Janice HaUett. "Short and full of Me!" he responded, providing her epitaph.

She is survived by her two siblings, Bruce Hallett of Manchester Center, Vt., and Lura Hallett Smith of Southbury, Conn. She also left a son, David Weisblat of Alexandria, Va., along with his wife Leigh and their son Michael; a daughter, Tinky Weisblat, of Hawley, and numerous nieces and nephews. A brief memorial service will be held at the Charlemont Federated Church on Saturday, Jan. 7, at 1 p.m. A larger celebration is being planned for the spring.

Smith-Kelleher Funeral Home, Shelburne Falls, assisted with arrangements.

LAND TRANSFERS

Margaret Truehart Estate, Lisa Sansouci of Southampton, Kim Sansouci of Springfield, Josh Truehart of New Milford, CT, Tony Truehart of Biddeford, ME, and Rochelle Truehart of Knoxville, TX, to Leroy L. Truehart, 104 East Hawley Road, \$1

Singing Brook Farm Trust, Ellen Parker Cosby, Mary Stuart Parker Cosby and Alice Parker Pyle, trustees, to Duncan W. Gillan and Ruth S. Gillan of Brookline, 81 Middle Road, \$160,000

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
<i>Hawley Story or My Memory Garden</i> , by Minnie Harris Billings	\$5.00

HISTORICAL MONOGRAPHS by Harrison Parker

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

USEFUL ITEMS:

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

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

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