



## **Princeton Historical Society** eNewsletter

Jan 2020 - Issue 5

### **PHS Annual Meeting 11/16/19:**

- Was held this year at the Princeton Senior Center
- The resignations of two valuable board members were accepted. Brian Foley joined the board this fall and was enthusiastically approved.
- Karen Cruise gave an engaging talk “Interesting Tidbits from Old Town Reports”
- The following slate of officers were elected:
  - **Co-Chairpersons** - Bud Brooks & Rick Bullock;
  - **Treasurer** - Karen Cruise;
  - **Secretary** – Betsy Beth;
  - **Curator** – Nancy Orlando.
  - Visit our website to see the names of all our Board members.

### **Events in Our Pipeline – mark your calendars – see details on our website:**

- 4/19 Historical Talk & Slide Show discussing the roads of Princeton
- 5/31 Glimpses of Princeton’s Past – slide show and historical discussion
- June 2021 “Princeton Auto Museum from 1930 to 1970’s”, a presentation and antique auto show. If you have memorabilia, pictures, or remembrances you’d like to share please contact us.
- “Interesting Tidbits from 1950’s Newsletter” by Tom Smith and Ellsworth Bourque. TBA

### **Refurbished Items:**

- Two W.G. Beaman Paintings – now on display at new Mountainside Market
- Grandfather Clock – now chiming away in our new storage space.

Check out our website sections [“Did You Know”](#) and [“Previous eNewsletters”](#).

## **Over The Last 18 Months:**

- Through the efforts of Robert Mason, we were able to lease two small closets, which are now connected in Post Office Place. In August, we moved all our small artifacts and paintings to this location to provide us easier access to materials we need to put on programs. Over the next year we will be reorganizing this space for ease of use. In his memory, we will name it the Mason Room.
- We continue to de-accession some items that, although old, did not tell a Princeton story or were duplicates. Those items were sold at the Town Wide Yard Sale at Nathaniel Gove's house raising \$300.
- Rick Bullock has been successful in getting various scenes printed and made into posters Train Arriving at the Princeton Depot 1900, & Stage Arriving at Wachusett House pre 1869, which are on display at the Senior Center and Mountain Barn. A new poster will be put on display this spring, let us know where/when you find it.
- As part of the Grade 3 local history chapter, Mary Cadwallader did a talk and presentation on Princeton history.
- Betsy Beth worked with a group of homeschooled children on local history.
- In partnership with the town Library we have cooperated on several program.
  - In October we sponsored a special Saturday workshop offered by the Central Massachusetts Genealogical Society. Their vice president, Susie Haenisch, gave an introduction to genealogical research, which was well attended; she stayed after the presentation to answer individual questions.
  - We continue to help fund the library's Ancestry Program found on all of its public computers.
  - In addition Deb Lugbauer has volunteered to help patrons with their family research, focusing on the first Tuesday evening of each month. Deb is also willing to help over the phone or through e-mail and has proven to be a great resource.
- In August the authors of a book documenting the history and backhoe patents earned by Wain-Roy gave a talk and slide presentation. The original backhoe was on display. We have a copy in the Woodward Room.
- We continue to organize our digital material and scan new items as they arrive.

**Check out our website @ <http://www.princetonmahistory.org>**

## **A Message From Nancy Our Curator:**

With the help of a loyal volunteer, Teri Manseau, we have continued adding items to our database in the PastPerfect software program. We have also added our collection of stereoscope views of Princeton, covering a period from about 1865 to the early 1900's. We have catalogued copies of the Princeton News, from 1952 and 1953.

**Check out our website sections "[Did You Know](#)" and "[Previous newsletter](#)".**

We have gathered copies of the Princeton Prints, from the 1980's, from Clair Degutis and Bud Brooks, but they have yet to be catalogued.

We were given a trove of old town reports and valuations by Marsha and Greg Dowdy.

We were fortunate to receive a donation from a descendant of the Gregory family, which included four chairs, said to be, made by Silas Fay. We have also been given two needlework samplers made in Princeton.



We have a collection of Princeton phone books, with many additions from Larry Greene. Does anyone have one from before 1975? Likewise, we have a collection of Princeton cookbooks, one dating back to 1941.

A project we are getting closer to finishing is the inventorying and tracking the artifacts, which were displaced when the Princeton Center building closed and then moved to a warehouse in Westminster. The smaller objects have now been moved to a space we have rented at Post Office Place, where we have easy access to them, but no room for display.

Lastly, we have recently loaned some of our wonderful artwork to the new Mountainside Market, so that the public can see them. Go and check it out.

Please come and visit us in the Woodward Room in the Library basement.

We appreciate your continued support and interest. Let us know how we are doing.  
[princetonmahistory@gmail.com](mailto:princetonmahistory@gmail.com)

### **Fund Raising and Donations:**

- Draper Hill Artwork of Mt Wachusett
- Hardy/Gregory donated – Silas Fay Chair, video Mary Gregory wedding,
- 19<sup>th</sup> century Sampler from Princeton NJ, donated by Lydia Thompson,
- Two Bag Hall lamps rescued by Pricilla Hart from a dumpster, donated by Annie Cool Hart
- A 3-ring binder of Princeton postcards from Charlie Hamilton family
- Two very generous donations were received:
  - The Renaissance Charitable Trust
  - Two anonymous gifts for conservation & to help cover the cost of moving & storing our museum collection.

**Check out our website sections “[Did You Know](#)” and “[Previous eNewsletter](#)”**

