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# N Holliston Historical Society NEWSLETTER

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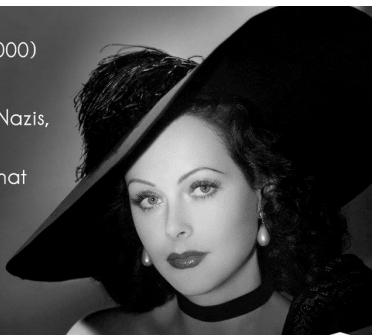
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**Winter 2017-18**

**Hedy Lamarr** (1914-2000)

*Inventor and actress*

To get secret messages past the Nazis, Hedy Lamarr co-invented a frequency-hopping technique that helped pave the way for today's wireless technologies. For years, her achievement was overshadowed by her other career, as a Hollywood star.



In March, in celebration of Women's History Month, performer Judith Kalaora will portray actress and inventor, Hedy Lamarr. See page 5 for details. Image from [oldtimeradiodownloads.com](http://oldtimeradiodownloads.com)

## **Dates to Remember.....**

**January 18—The Coconut Grove Fire book program at Holliston Library (p. 3)**

**January 21—World War Women program with Judith Kalaora at Ashland Historical Society (p. 3)**

**January 27—Member Pot Luck Dinner (p. 4)**

**February 11—"Finding Your Family" Genealogy program with Joanne Hulbert (p. 4)**

**March 18—Hedy Lamarr Program with performer Judith Kalaora (p. 5)**

**April 29—Holliston's 8-Arch Bridge Program (p. 6)**

**April 30-May 4—18th Century Days**

**May 20—Annual Meeting for all members**

**June 17—16th Annual Car Show and Breakfast (p. 8)**

**September 23—Annual Harvest Fair (p. 11)**

**Officers**

President	Paul Saulnier
Immediate Past President	Judy Grosjean
External Vice President	Beate Hait
Internal Vice President	Frank Melle, Acting
Secretary	Mary Curran
Treasurer	Don Bates

**Directors-at-Large**

Sheila Adams, Nancy Lamb,  
Patricia Pereira, Carol Kosicki

**Permanent/Standing Committee Chairs**

Finance	Frank Melle
Nominations	Judy Grosjean
Education & Programs	Joanne Hulbert
Collections	Nancy Lamb & Carol Kosicki
Property Management	Paul Saulnier
Library & Archives	Joanne Hulbert
Membership	Sheila Adams
Publicity and Publications	Patricia Pereira

**Endowment Fund Chairman**

Arlene Abbott

**Web Services Chairman**

Karen Fung, Acting

**Annual Committee Chairs**

Decorations	Joanna Hilliard
18th Century Days	Terri Chamberlain & Judy Grosjean
Car Show	Paul Saulnier



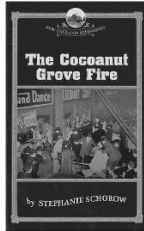
**The Cocoanut  
Grove Fire**

**at Holliston Library**

with Stephanie Schorow

**Thurs, Jan 18 at 7 pm**

The tragic story of the 1942 Boston Fire



Books available to borrow or  
for sale at the program

Free and open to all

Sponsored by the Friends

On Sunday January 21 at 2:00 p.m., the Ashland Historical Society (2 Myrtle Street, Ashland) will host actress Judith Kalaora for her program *World War Women: The Unsung Heroines of WWII*. From her website, <http://www.judithkalaora.com>: “*World War Women* is a suspenseful reliving of the terrors and triumphs of some of our greatest heroines.”

Ms. Kalaora will be performing a program on Tinseltown Inventor—Hedy Lamarr at the Holliston Historical Society in March. See the description of that program on page 5.

## Upcoming Programs

### **Winter Potluck for Members and Guests**

January 27, 2018 at 5:30 p.m.

We are holding our January Pot Luck Dinner on our snow date of January 27th. Social Hour with appetizers and drinks will begin at 5:30 PM and dinner at 6:30. We are asking people to make either an appetizer, a main dish, a side dish or dessert. Wine, beer, coffee, tea and various soft drinks will be provided. This year we would like this to be a Get-to-Know-Your Historical Society Evening. A brief outline of our future plans and priorities will be presented. Come enjoy good food and good company and bring your ideas for the Historical Society. Please contact either Sheila Adams at adamssjt1@verizon.net, or by phone at 508 429-4876, or Mary Curran at mecksf@gmail.com for more information and to let us know what you would like to bring. Please RSVP by January 24th. This event is open to all members and their guests. Hope to see you there.



### **“Finding Your Family”**

**A genealogy program with Joanne Hulbert**

**Sunday, February 11 at 2:30 p.m.**

(Snow date February 18)

Have you wondered about your ancestry? Genealogy has seen a significant upsurge in popularity over the past few years, and the internet has made the task much easier. But the challenge of starting your pathway back through the generations can seem like a daunting task. Join us for starting your personal trip back to the past as we help those who need advice

how to get started on this challenging yet very entertaining activity. If you already have your generations mapped out, please attend to give others a helping hand or to tell us about how you started. Your tips and hints will help others. We will present the Holliston Historical Society's resources for local research, as well as the free and not-so-free resources now available on the internet.

There is no charge for this program.



**Tinseltown Inventor**  
**The Most Beautiful Woman in the World**  
**Hedy Lamarr**  
**Sunday, March 18 at 2:30 p.m.**

In celebration of Women's History Month we are bringing back actress and historical interpreter, Judith Kalaora, as Hedy Lamarr. This program is suitable for ages 13 and up.

“Upon hearing the name Hedy Lamarr, whom do you see? A smoldering, bejeweled temptress perched on velour cushions in the 1949 classic *Samson and Delilah*? Or a demure and professionally-clad inventor embarking on scientific ideas that were generations ahead of her time? Hedy Lamarr was not only a great starlet in Hollywood's Golden Age, she was also devoted to helping the Allies beat the Nazi forces in World War II. Whether selling war bonds for \$50,000 a kiss or inventing a secret communication system with the help of American composer George Antheil, she knows she's more

## Upcoming Programs, continued

than just a glamorous girl! Join actress and historical interpreter, Judith Kalaora as she introduces you to a woman clouded in a fantasy world that only Tinseltown could create. Watch as this young Austrian refugee transforms to become The Most Beautiful Woman in the World, all the while inventing technology that would become the forerunner to GPS, WIFI, and all wireless telecommunications using Spread Spectrum Technology.”

—From Ms. Kalaora’s website (<http://www.judithkalaora.com>)

There is no charge for this performance. Refreshments will be served after the show.



### **“Holliston’s Famous 8-Arch Bridge: A History of the Railroad and the Rail Trail”**

with

Robert Weidknecht, Mary Greendale, and Joanne Hulbert  
**Sunday, April 29 at 2:30 p.m at Holliston Public Library**  
**Co-sponsored with the Library**

About 170 years ago, a railroad was constructed from Framingham, through Holliston, to Milford. Evidence of that railroad is still with us today and forms a new, vital, and important addition to Holliston’s recreational assets. The Rail Trail also reveals a stunning walk into the past. Join us for a spe-

cial program at the Holliston Public Library to hear about the history of Holliston's railroad and how we now enjoy the legacy left behind by the workers, planners, and maintenance crews that kept it in great shape for us to enjoy today. Joanne Hulbert, Mary Greendale, and Robert Weidknecht will join forces to tell us much we may not have known about one of Holliston's greatest assets. April is a great time to talk about the Rail Trail, as we can then, totally inspired, set out on a walk with greater knowledge and appreciation for Holliston's greatest place for a walk, hike, bike ride, or stroll. There is no charge for this program.



1847 was the year that the Irish immigrants finished building this landmark and trains could bring supplies to the local factories. The bridge was adjacent to the Darling Woolen Mill, shown here. The mill was on Woodland Street, next to the dam. The photo here is taken from the other direction, i.e., the backside today. —*Mary Greendale, from Holliston Reporter article, October 2015*

## UPCOMING EVENTS



A view of the Car Show in 2017

### **Father's Day Car Show** **Sunday, June 17 from 8 a.m. to 10 a.m.**

This Father's Day will be our 16<sup>th</sup> Annual Breakfast Cruise and Car Show. Every year the grounds are filled with more than 100 cars of every make and era driven by enthusiasts who want to show off their prized ride and enjoy a full breakfast in the Barn prepared by society members and served at yesterday's prices. The cars begin arriving around 7:30 a.m. and breakfast is available from 8:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m. Trophies are awarded by our generous sponsors at 10:00. This is the area's shortest (and cheapest) car show, designed to let fathers go for a ride and still have the day to spend with family. Don't have a car to bring? Spectators are welcome to come and enjoy the event and the breakfast in the barn as well. Admission to the car show is free for exhibitors and spectators alike!

—Paul Saulnier



## Membership News

Membership renewal letters as well as letters to our life members were mailed out in December. We have received a great response so far. Thank you to all who have returned their forms and dues or donations! We appreciate your support.

While we would love to see you at programs and events or even on a committee, we understand that some of you cannot participate in that way at this time. Just having you as a member is wonderful, though. Your dues support the operations of the Society and having more members can help us attract grants and keep down costs on mailings. You may return the paper form that was sent to you or use the paperless system on our website. After filling out your membership form and submitting it, simply pay your dues using PayPal and you are all set for another year of membership in your historical society!

On May 20 we will hold our annual meeting. This is an opportunity to socialize with other members and to hear reports from board and committee members about what is going on at the Holliston Historical Society. Watch the mail for your invitation!

### Have an idea for a fundraiser?

Two of our popular fundraisers—the February Train Show and A Taste of Holliston in April—have run their course, leaving at least one opening for a late winter/early spring fundraiser to take their place. If you have an idea for a fun event, please let us know.

## Volunteer Opportunities

Even if you do not come to the potluck dinner in January, you have opportunities to shape the Historical Society—on the outside and the inside. You may have noticed that the big maple trees near the street had to be removed this year. Now we need to make a decision whether to plant new trees or put something else in their place. Also, the gardens are covered in a blanket of snow, but planning for the spring will take place soon. All are welcome on the **Garden Planning Committee**. Contact Sheila Adams at adamssjt1@verizon.net or by phone at 508-429-4876 to be notified of meeting dates.

At the urging of Dan Mades several years ago, the board undertook a budget planning process to better track our income sources and expenses. The **Finance Committee** was renewed and is now under the direction of Frank Melle. A Capital Improvement Plan was put in place and the property has seen many improvements in the past three years as a result. Planning is now underway to prioritize future projects. The finance committee generally meets the first Wednesday each month.

Work will begin soon on a climate-controlled basement storage room for part of our collection. The **Collections Committee** would love to have help sorting and cataloguing items.

The next project we have planned is to refurbish the house kitchen. We are looking for a few people to be on a **kitchen committee** to decide on how best to accomplish that goal.

As always, **HHS board meetings** are open to all members. We generally meet on the second Monday each month. If you would like further information about any of the above, please contact Mary Curran at mecksf@gmail.com or 508-429-5929 and I will put you in contact with the right person if I cannot help you myself.

—*mec*

## Help Wanted for Harvest Fair Planning

While many committee chairperson positions are filled, there is a need for two more:

**Vendor Coordinator** (manage communications with vendors; solicit new vendors; coordinate vendor layout (there is a master plan); check in vendors the day of the fair) This function could be shared among several people. *An “organizer of the data” is on hand. We especially need someone who enjoys going to craft fairs and mentioning our fair (with application info at the ready) to those crafters who would be a good addition to our fair.*

**Silent Auction Coordinator** (prepare list of potential donors, coordinate who will make the contact, prepare presentation and setup the day of the fair, send acknowledgments to donors) *Various current committee members participate in the solicitation of donations. We need an overall silent auction coordinator for this important part of the fair.*

The Harvest Fair will be on September 23, 2018 (rain date Sept. 30).

If this sounds like something you might like to become involved in but would like more information before making a commitment, please contact Bea Hait at [beateh1@aol.com](mailto:beateh1@aol.com) or 508-429-3564. If you’ve already decided, “I can help with this!” I’d love to hear from you.

—Beate Hait

**Holliston Historical Society  
547 Washington Street  
Holliston, Massachusetts 01746-1818**

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