
NEWSLETTER

Fall 2023



Nancy Lamb chats with musician Roger Tincknell at the Community Sing on July 21st. Roger entertained the crowd of 50 people who braved the rain and joined in the singing. A highlight was the set accompanied by Nancy and children (and one brave Dad) from the audience playing percussion instruments from around the world. See photo on page 9.

Dates to Remember.....

September 15—Pie Night

September 17—42nd Annual Harvest Fair

October 1—Car Show and Breakfast

October 20—Oktoberfest

October 29—Walk in Central Burying Ground Program

January 30, 2024—Ruth Bader Ginsburg Program

Holliston Historical Society *NEWSLETTER*
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Harvest Fair	Jane Gilfoy and Victoria Shotten
Oktoberfest	Beate Hait

Karla Alfred, who keeps the Historical Society on the so-
cial media platforms, reminds people to follow us on:

www.facebook.com/HollistonHistoricalSociety
www.instagram.com/hollistonhistorical/
www.twitter.com/hollistonhist

President's Message to Members

New Year for the Holliston Historical Society starts in July when new Board members and committee chairs take office. Our summer has been busy with rentals. A community sing with Roger Tincknell in July was a delightful family event.

September 17th is the date of our 42nd Harvest Fair with a rain date of September 24th. Our busy and fun pie making night is Friday, September 15th. All are welcome, experienced or novice. Both events need you. When you see an email request for volunteers, just let us know when you can join us. This is an annual event when we look forward to seeing many of our members.

Sunday, October 1st is the Car Show, postponed from Father's Day due to our rainy summer. An impressive array of cars will be at the Society for viewing. A delicious breakfast of eggs, pancakes and more is served in the barn. Prizes are awarded for "best of" categories. You might see the vehicle on your wish list or revisit your first car. Oktoberfest is on the 20th this year. This very popular evening of German food and lively German music is often sold out. Look for a notice when tickets go on sale.

Committee work continued over the summer. The Program Committee is planning a full year of interesting events. The Garden Committee will hold a Garden Clean-up Day before November. Bring some tools and join us for an hour or more to get the gardens ready for winter. The Collections Committee continues to organize the many items in our collection. Our committees always welcome new members, so please don't hesitate to volunteer. A list of our committees and contacts is available on our website, hollistonhistoricalsociety.org. FYI: you can always contact committee chairs and officers by going to the website and leaving a message. A message left on the Society phone, 508 429-5795, will also be forwarded.

2024 marks the 300th Anniversary of the founding of the Town of

Holliston. Celebrations will take place during the year thanks to the work of the town's 300th Anniversary Committee. The Historical Society will participate and will host a Strawberry Festival in June and an Encampment in the fall.

We look forward to a seeing you at the Holliston Historical Society.

—*Sheila Adams*

UPCOMING EVENTS

42nd Annual Harvest Fair

September 17, 2023 10:00am-4:00pm

The Holliston Historical Society Harvest Fair takes place on September 17, 2023. (Rain date is September 24th) from 10-4. Enjoy perusing the vendors' offerings, the Silent Auction, the Treasure Shop, antiques, crafts, delicious food and refreshments, the Kids Corner, the tractor, games, and of course, the Alpacas. Our homemade Apple Pies and Apple Crisps, always a favorite, are available as well.

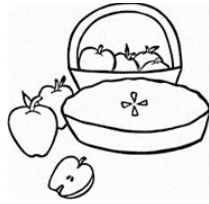
There will be music by Always in Season from 12-3 and the Asa Whiting House will be open from 11:30-2:30.

The Holliston Historical Society is located at 547 Washington Street (Rt. 16), Holliston, MA.

Check us out at www.hollistonhistoricalsociety.org.

Hope to see you there.

—*Pam Kyrka*



Pie Night September 15 from 5 pm

We will be assembling 100 pies for sale at the Fair plus 5 pies to "pay" the musicians of *Always in Season*. Even if you are not a baker we will find you a task that suits your skills. The pies we will create fill the bake table (and hopefully our coffers), so we ask for your help. A pizza party follows the pie making, and it is a fun evening of camaraderie. Friends are welcome!

20th ANNUAL FATHER'S DAY BREAKFAST CRUISE Rain Date—October 1, 2023 8AM to 10 AM

Well folks, it happened again! A rainy early morning on Father's Day meant no official car show, although the couple dozen drivers who showed up hung out and drank coffee and ate pastries provided by Victoria Shotten. So we will be having a Car Show on October 1st!

For the last 20 years, vintage and classic cars have been on display at the Holliston Historical Society grounds. Drivers and the public enjoy a big breakfast in the barn and admire the beauty of these classic cars from years gone by. The grounds open at 8 AM and trophies are awarded at 10 AM. Come hungry! Proceeds help fund the mission and the many programs offered by the volunteers of the Holliston Historical Society.

Please contact paulesaulnier@gmail.com if you have questions.

—Paul Saulnier

Upcoming Events, continued

Please thank the following sponsors for their support of the **Car Show!** The trophies will be presented by: Corcoran & Havlin/Hagerty Insurance, Quality Auto Body, Keystone Automotive, Authentic Auto Body, Hometown Automotive, Lou's Auto Garage, Vintage Motorsports, Rose's Automotive, Medfield on the Charles, BDR Automotive, AH Car Storage, "Jid" Kamitian Family, Kidde-Fenwall Inc., Jack's Automotive, Mark Dellicker Construction, Green Plumbing & Heating, Thomas Chipman Electrical Contractor, W.A. Bernard Inc Fine Homes & Additions, State Representative James Arena-DeRosa, John A. Locke, Esq., Modifiers of Wellesley Car Club, and NALA Equipment.

for their support!

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24th Annual Holliston Historical Society Oktoberfest

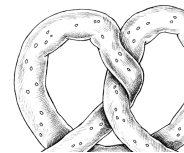
Please join the Oktoberfest fun on Friday, October 20 from 7 pm to 10 pm (doors open at 6:30 pm). The Society's 1815 barn is the perfect venue for this festive occasion.

Back, by popular demand, is the Double Eagle Oktoberfest Band whose oompah music will have people laughing, singing and dancing a polka before the evening is done.

Space is limited—we sold out last year!— so purchase your tickets early to ensure your spot at the table for a delectable German-style meal, beverages and musical entertainment. Tickets are \$30 each and will be available for sale at the Harvest Fair, at select Holliston businesses, and through the Society website.

Questions? Contact Bea Hait at 774-292-9098 or beateh1@aol.com

—Beate Hait



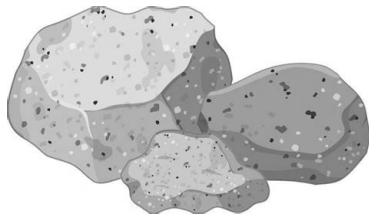
Upcoming Programs

Cemetery walk with Joanne Hulbert October 29, 3:30 PM

In time for Halloween, we will visit the Central Burying Ground next to Town Hall where we will look for ghosts and specters and hear stories about some of the Hollistonians here interred. Fall-themed refreshments will follow the presentation.

Talk on the Braggville Granite Industry Date and Time TBD

Don Bates and a friend are planning a talk about the granite industry in Braggville. The program will include the history of the industry in this area, the families involved, and the unique qualities of the granite. Watch your e-mail for updates ...



**Ruth Bader Ginsburg – “I Dissent”
Program at the Holliston Public Library
Tuesday, January 30, 2024 at 7 pm**

In cooperation with the Friends of the Holliston Public Library, the Historical Society will present Sheryl Faye as Ruth Bader Ginsburg on Tuesday, January 30th at 7 pm. The performance will be at the Holliston Public Library.

From the website SherylFaye.com: Ruth Bader Ginsburg was an American lawyer and jurist who served as an associate justice of the Supreme Court of the United States from 1993 until her death in September 2020. She was the second woman and the first Jewish woman ever appointed to the Court and became the longest serving Jewish Justice.

She championed fairness and equality and objected to different expectations for men and women, prejudice against minority groups in places like hotels and restaurants, and women having fewer job opportunities than men. Ruth served on the national board of the ACLU (American Civil Liberties Union) and launched The Women’s Rights Project, she continued to be a leading voice for gender equality, women’s interests, and civil rights and liberties.

Ruth Bader Ginsburg’s life continues to be one of achievement: as a lawyer, professor of law, a judge, and then a Supreme Court justice, she stands out because she was not afraid to dissent, disapprove, and disagree with conditions of unfairness and inequality. This show is the inspiring story of how she changed her life—and ours.

Ms. Faye is a local woman who works full-time as an actress, a goal she worked hard to achieve. She attended Emerson College in Boston where she received a BFA degree and has worked throughout the US. Currently, Ms. Faye works on films, television, and theater in the Boston and New York areas. If you visit her website, look closely at the publicity pictures; you may recognize some of the backdrops.

—*mec*



Children and a father from the audience were invited up to play percussion along with Roger Tincknell at the Community Sing in July. Nancy Lamb was encouraged to join in too. They sounded great!



Collections Committee

The Collections Committee meets most Monday afternoons. They have been hard at work organizing items and thinking about storage solutions for our collections. They have been creating displays for the public at least quarterly that they place into the case in Town Hall. Look for them when you pay your tax or water bills!

The Committee will also be setting up displays in the Asa Whiting House for the public to tour during the Open House at the Harvest Fair. They would welcome volunteers to be on duty from 11:30 - 2:30 in one and a half hour shifts.

—*Nancy Lamb*

Braggville's Charlotte Bragg, Wellesley College Professor

Charlotte "Lottie" Bragg was born August 17, 1863 in Milford although her 1894 Passport Application lists her birthplace and permanent residence as Braggville. She died August 31, 1957 and was buried in the Bragg Cemetery on Rockland Street in Braggville. What is Braggville? Braggville is the area where Holliston, Medway, and Milford meet and was named for Col. Ariel Bragg. It was aptly named since by the mid 1800's most of the area was owned and inhabited by Col. Ariel Bragg's extended family. Charlotte Bragg was the daughter of Ariel and Sarah Kimball Bragg, Jr. and granddaughter of Col. Ariel Bragg.

The reason for this article: This spring while at the Bragg Cemetery, I met an abutter who mentioned that Lottie Bragg had been a college professor. Given her age, I guessed she must have taught at Wellesley College and did a web search for "Charlotte Bragg Wellesley College Professor". Unfortunately, most of the links were to the Wellesley College Archives and not online. Thanks very much to Elliot Hadwin, Digital Archivist at Wellesley College, and the others there who scanned in the paper files to a Google drive for my access. I received much more information that I can use for this newsletter but saved it for the Holliston Historical Society (HHS) library. Thanks also to HHS member, Betty Febo, a retired Wellesley College research librarian who facilitated this.

Some highlights from the Archives: Miss Bragg attended Holliston schools and was graduated from Holliston High School and Wilbraham Academy. In 1890 she received her B.S. from Massachusetts Institute of Technology! She began her career at Wellesley College as an instructor in chemistry and geology. (My note: Did growing up in Braggville with its several granite quarries spark her interest in geology?) She became an

Associate Professor of Chemistry in 1897 and taught over 1,500 students before retiring after 39 years in 1929. After retiring, she learned Braille and was a volunteer for the Red Cross transcribing books for the blind. Miss Bragg made the news in 1942.

From *The Boston Herald* 9/9/1942:

“An 80 year old Marble-head spinster marched into the Boston office of the War Production Board... She wanted them to take the iron fence surrounding her family cemetery plot and mold it into bullets or shells.”

From her obituary in *The Boston Herald* 9/1/1957:

“A very patriotic American woman will be laid to rest in a family cemetery plot that she made well known back in 1942. She is Prof. Charlotte A. Bragg, 94.”

I made a return trip to the cemetery. Miss Bragg had prevailed with the War Production Board. I could see where the iron fencing had been removed from the short granite posts around her grandfather Col. Bragg’s plot and from her father Arial Bragg, Jr.’s plot where Miss Bragg is also buried.

—*Carol Kosicki*



Charlotte Bragg and an unnamed companion at MIT Alumni Day in 1955

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