



# GATHERINGS FROM THE GREEN

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[www.hamptonhistoricalsociety.org](http://www.hamptonhistoricalsociety.org)

## August 30th - 13th Annual Pig Roast!

On Saturday, August 30, from noon until 2:30pm, the Historical Society will hold their 13th Annual Pig Roast. Please join us for the silent auction, live musical entertainment, activities for kids, as well as the very popular 50/50 raffle. This is our single largest fundraiser, which provides the majority of income to operate the Tuck Museum and to conduct school and community programs throughout the year, so its success is vital to our financial stability.

The pork is cooked overnight on site by our experienced crew. We will miss Cliff Pratt, the major driving force behind these Pig Roasts, who passed away in March. We will also miss another volunteer, Karen Weinhold, who is recovering from an injury. Many of the same generous volunteers come each year to serve the variety of salads donated by local restaurants. The menu includes our popular homemade baked beans, applesauce, beverages, and a wide range of dessert selections.

Tickets are \$20 for adults. Students (for those ages 9-16) are \$10. Children 8 years old and under are free when accompanied by an adult ticket holder. Purchase of ten tickets reserves you a table. Tickets may be purchased from Trustees, at Marelli's Market, Hampton Parks and Recreation office, Provident Bank, the Tuck Museum, Lally's Lighthouse Market, and on our [website](#). Once again, we are pleased that the Provident Bank is our prime sponsor.

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## Reliving History At High Street Cemetery

There are many ways to walk down memory lane - with family, friends, or while chatting with newcomers to Hampton. Strolling through the shaded local cemeteries offers a unique way to discover lost centuries, sparking comments about descendants of the founding families or perhaps of those we knew. In this way we also pay tribute to those we remember, recalling lives that sadly may be memorialized only by

these few carvings in stone.



HHS Volunteers have been indexing High Street Cemetery, since first copying the old index cards in 2009, in an effort to complete the inventory of burial sites. Others have done the same inventory of readable headstones in Ring Swamp and Pine Grove, two of the more accessible graveyards. As we check each stone for accuracy, I sometimes share that person's story, expanding on the notations found of birth, death, or perhaps "dedicated father" or "loving mother." We always comment on the large number of young children that some families lost or of the difficult time period during which they lived.

Among those we've discovered are renowned artist Charles Henry Turner; Neil R. Underwood, the WWII Air Force pilot whose plane was shot down in 1944 and after whom the Hampton Beach bridge is named; the lawyer and respected politician Uri Lamprey, who died in 1881; the blacksmiths, entrepreneurs, fishermen, and so many women who wove the rich fabric of our community.

Wouldn't it be nice if more people could tell us at the Historical Society what brief caption would best memorialize their loved ones, whose lives may otherwise be someday forgotten! Please do this so we may update our database of cemetery records with those personal notes.

We recently came upon four darkened stones on Road One of High Street Cemetery. After peeling off some of the lichen that had burrowed itself into the dates, I read aloud the inscriptions. It was then I realized these were not just Leavitts, these were THE Leavitts, people whose unique histories I have been pursuing for years -- Moses Leavitt and his wife Sarah Towle, next to son Jonathan Leavitt and his wife Ruth Nudd.

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"Timely discovery," I said happily to Kathy McLaughlin who assists me in this endeavor for the Historical Society. "These are THE millers!" I said, before explaining these were the three people, two men and one very special woman, who were each millers of "The Old Gristmill," known as the Leavitt Gristmill during their lifetimes.

The lives of these Leavitts are integral to the story behind the preservation efforts of the Deacon Tuck Gristmill "complex." All the millers, Tucks and Leavitts, were related. The property of the Gristmill Complex on High Street includes the area of Mill Pond, and is at the center of the ongoing debate about how best to preserve Hampton's iconic properties.

As we continue to learn more about all these families and their unique roles in building this community, we may discover a thread that unites us all – that those who came before us, whether bakers or craftsmen, jurors or the juried, all of our ancestors played an important role in our present ability to enjoy the riches they left behind.

I want to thank those who donate to and volunteer at the Historical Society for all their help in the many projects we pursue, including documenting and teaching history to the schoolchildren. And to those who recently joined us July 14th at the public hearing at the Board of Selectmen's room regarding preservation of Mill Pond and the Dam, I send special thanks for the community spirit shown and recognition that it takes all of us to protect and preserve what we hold dear.

Candice Stellmach

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### Executive Director's Report

There is never a "down" time at the museum – as much as I think that it would be nice to happen. Yesterday (7/19) we had a fire suppression engineer measuring the building, roof repairs were being conducted, the schoolhouse was being cleaned, we had three groups of visitors and a researcher, plus four volunteers on duty; and that is with some of the "regulars" on vacation. By 4pm I was ready for some peace and quiet!

On July 15, Candy Stellmach and I went to the Amesbury office of the Provident Bank for the "Our Community, Your E-vote" award ceremony program. There were 39 organizations chosen throughout the area - from an organization that works with brain injury clients, a boat builder, those involved in the arts, and those helping and counseling the homeless. Chatting

with those in attendance, I was awestruck at how much good is done in our communities that we don't hear about on a daily basis. We were honored to have been selected to participate.

Recently, Bill Keating and I did an oral history with Priscilla (Pat) Hoyt Triggs Weeks Thoen. The first summer I volunteered at the museum back in 1988, Pat was one of my partners. I thought I knew her until I sat down with her and a list of questions. She has contributed so much to our organization with her work in the schoolhouse, her living history presentations with Harold Fernald, and other projects with the museum, I quickly found out how much I did not know!

A **massive** research project was done by Candy Stellmach, Tocky Bailobrezski, and Rich Hureau. They photographed and indexed Hampton Town Records Books Vols. 1-7 which covers the years 1638-1869. The database is now available on-line. It can be accessed on our website in the "Genealogy and Records" section. This information ties into other projects that they are doing, locating owners of property in the early land divisions and identifying place names of areas in town.

And all is happening during summer vacation!

Betty Moore

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### Marelli's Market Exhibit

Marelli's Market is celebrating its 100th year in Hampton, N.H. Still owned and run by the sons and grandchildren of Italian immigrants Luigi & Celestina Marelli, the store is an iconic reminder of the past. With its creaky floors and old tin ceiling, the store has a charm, featuring old pictures and memorabilia. Candy, fresh roasted nuts, and basic essentials stock the shelves in its 100th year.



Karen Raynes, Cheryl Lassiter, and Ann Carnaby, with the guidance of Tuck Museum Director Betty Moore, set up an exhibit at the museum to honor the family and the business. Celestina's beautiful wedding day dress, donated to the museum by Marcia Hannon-Buber, granddaughter of Celestina & Luigi, steals the show with its vibrant color and delicate lace. Pictures of the family and store throughout the years are displayed along with other period costumes.

Recently Marelli's Market was honored with a visit from US Senator Jeanne Shaheen, presenting the Marellis with a Congressional Record Statement to honor their 100 years in Hampton. Also within the past year State Senator Nancy Stiles presented the store with a Proclamation from the N.H. Senate. At the same time a Proclamation was presented by the Selectmen of the town of Hampton.

The Marelli family held a picnic in early July at Luigi Marelli Square to celebrate the 100th anniversary. Friends from the community joined fifty Marellis who attended from all over the country. It was a perfect summer day with good food, music and sharing. After the picnic Betty Moore opened the museum to those who wished to view the Marelli exhibit.

The Marelli's Market 100th Anniversary exhibit will be on display throughout 2014.

Listen online to an audio visit to the store by NHPR's Michael Samuels on March 20th 2014:

<http://nhpr.org/post/candy-cashews-continuity-100-years-marellis>

### **1964 Riots at Hampton Beach – Where Were You?**

We are looking for some scofflaws (just kidding) from 1964 who may have taken part in the riots at Hampton Beach. WMUR's Adam Sexton will be at the Tuck Museum at 10am on August 4 to get background information for a WMUR program on the riots. He would be interesting in interviewing anyone who was there at the time. Call Betty Moore for more details 926-2543.

### **Annual Meeting**

**The Annual Meeting of the Hampton Historical Society will take place on Sunday, Oct. 19, 2014 at 2pm in the Tuck Museum.**

The program topic is "Collection Backstories from our Volunteers." Selecting a favorite object from the collection, each volunteer will talk about its history, importance, or connection to Hampton's history (called "provenance" in museum terms).

Click [here](#) to buy your Pig Roast tickets on-line via PayPal

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**Hampton Historical Society**  
**PO Box 1601**  
**Hampton, NH 03843-1601**  
**603-929-0781**  
**Pig Roast Order Form**  
August 30, 2014

I would like to order tickets for the Hampton Historical Society Pig Roast  
\_\_\_\_\_ Adult tickets at \$20 each \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ Advance Sale Member tickets at \$18 each \_\_\_\_\_  
(must be ordered by August 11)  
\_\_\_\_\_ Student tickets (ages 9-16) at \$10 each \_\_\_\_\_  
Children 8 and under free when accompanied by an adult ticket holder  
**Total** \_\_\_\_\_

**Checks made out to Hampton Historical Society**  
**Mailing address P.O. Box 1601 Hampton, NH 03843-1601**

**Ticket options (select one):**

\_\_\_\_\_ Mail tickets directly to:  
Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_

**or**

\_\_\_\_\_ Hold my tickets at the serving line. But notify me for confirmation  
Phone# or email address: \_\_\_\_\_

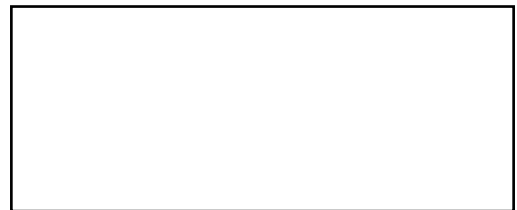
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**GATHERINGS FROM THE GREEN**  
HAMPTON HISTORICAL SOCIETY  
P.O. BOX 1601  
HAMPTON, NH 03843-1601

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Address Service Requested

Non-Profit Organization  
U.S. POSTAGE PAID  
Hampton, NH  
Permit No. 17



### UPCOMING EVENTS

- **August 30** – 13th annual Pig Roast – noon -2:30PM
- **September 7** – Program -“Rally 'Round the Flag: American Civil War Through Folk Music”; 2PM Leavitt Barn; sponsored by the NH Humanities Council
- **September 14** – Walking Tour –“Harvest Ramble and Repast” – starting at Leavitt Barn; 1PM; \$10; RSVP appreciated
- **October 11** – Tavern Tour Victorian Style; \$15; information coming soon!
- **October 19** – HHS Annual Meeting “Collection Backstories from our Volunteers”; 2PM Tuck Museum
- **November 2** – Program; Pontine Theater “Pretty Halcyon Days: On the Beach with Ogden Nash.” Special program celebrating the Humanities Council 40th Anniversary; 2 PM; Masonic Lodge
- **November 11** – History Book Club led by Barbara Tosiano; sign up requested by October 15; 7PM at the Tuck Museum
- **December 7** – Bi-Annual Holiday Open House; 2PM; Tuck Museum

### BUSINESS MEMBERSHIP

We thank the following business members for their support of the society:

234 Lafayette Road Realty LLC  
Art Experience  
Bluejay Motel  
Eccentric Hair  
The Galley Hatch Restaurant  
Hampton Police Association, Inc  
Kingfish Trolley Lines, LLC  
Lamie's Inn & The Old Salt Restaurant  
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NextEra - Seabrook Station  
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Preston Real Estate  
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Seacoast Florist, Inc  
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Windjammer By the Sea