



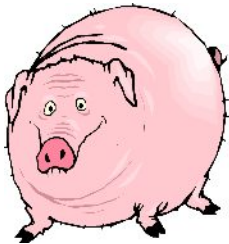
GATHERINGS FROM THE GREEN

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www.hamptonhistoricalsociety.org

September 5 - 14th Annual Pig Roast!



The Hampton Historical Society is hosting its 14th annual Southern Style Pig Roast on Saturday, September 5th at the Hampton Historical Society grounds on Park Ave. The hours of the event are noon to 2:30p.m. Besides the delicious pork and homemade fixings donated from local restaurateurs, guests of the event will enjoy visits to the historical buildings on the grounds, live entertainment, a silent auction, and a 50/50 raffle.

This is the major fundraiser for the Society and we want to thank our major sponsor, the Provident Bank, for their continued support each year. This year the tickets for the event are \$20 for adults and \$10 for children 8 and under. Tickets are sold in advance and can be purchased from a Society member, the Hampton Rec. Department, Marelli's Market or at the Historical Society.

Don't miss out on this event! It's a great time of year to be outdoors with friends and family and it's a delicious way to help a wonderful organization.

President's Report

Digital and Educational Resources - Quakers in Early Hampton

Those who had crossed the Atlantic for the preservation of their religious rights held promise of a good government here in "Massachusetts." However, the Quakers in the mid 1600s were believed to have held subversive principles and practices which threatened this majority. Imprisonment and return to England awaited the Quakers, as did book burnings and public torture. These "haereticks" included the name of William Marston, Senior who was fined for keeping Quaker books.

However, you will discover in Hampton's Town Records that "The Friends' Quarterly Meeting" eventually became an accepted part of society in this area, supported by prominent names: Chase, Green, Stanyan, and Dow. In a town meeting on February 19th, 1710/1711, 12 acres were voted to be set aside for the Quakers' new parish.

I encourage anyone researching history, especially educators, to check out the early Town Records, indexed and photographed, which are provided online by HHS at: www.hamptonhistoricalsociety.org/town-records/index.htm.

Candy Stellmach

90th Birthday Party Has Something For Everyone

You won't run out of fun things to do at the 90th birthday celebration for the Tuck Museum and HHS. The party, which is free, takes place **Saturday, July 18, from 1-5 p.m., on the Museum grounds.**

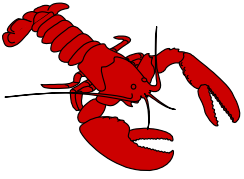


Many of the activities and events provide glimpses into times gone by, all the while making learning about Hampton's past enjoyable. Here's some of what awaits you:

- The Vikings will be back! This living history demonstration shows the exciting life of the Viking explorers, complete with period clothing, equipment and weapons, including the basics of sword and shield combat.
- Music telling the story of Goody Cole, who was accused of witchcraft.
- Children's crafts and face-painting
- Visits with local history authors and artists.
- Duck decoy carving demonstrations.
- A yearbook exhibit in the schoolhouse, along with a talk about school in the 1920s and games for kids to play.
- Showings of local history films about salt marsh farming, and clamming and lobstering.
- Hamburgers, hot dogs and homemade baked beans (for sale), and birthday cake from Experience Hampton! You might also like to stop by the Congregational Church, which is hosting a lobster bake (see page 2).

So mark your calendar! Saturday, July 18, 1-5 p.m., Tuck Museum – Birthday Bash!

Lobsta' Dinner for a Great Cause



Well known for their great community dinners, the Congregational Church is putting on a lobster bake fundraiser Saturday, July 18 starting at 5PM. The proceeds from this event will be given in memory of Cliff Pratt to the town clock fund of which Cliff was the organizer and chairman (he was also our pig roast chef for twelve years).

Lobster, clam chowder, corn and homemade desserts – all for a good cause and only \$20 per ticket. There will only be 200 tickets sold so get your tickets early! They are now available at the Tuck Museum and through the Congregational Church.

Hampton Beach Historical Interpretive Display

The next time you are at the main beach check out the historical interpretive displays along the boardwalk. The story of Hampton Beach is told through five themes that trace the history of Hampton Beach from first settlers to modern times. Start at the Marine Memorial and take a walk through time and learn about Hampton Beach's natural, cultural and developmental history. Under the guidance of Ben Wilson, Division of Parks and Recreation, UNH student Grace Lyons worked with people from Tuck Museum, State of NH, and Lane Memorial Library in the development of the displays.

The Hampton Beach Public Interpretive Display project was a required mitigation measure for adverse effects identified due to the Hampton Beach State Park Redevelopment Project. More can be found online at <http://www.nhstateparks.org/hampton-beach-history/>

Mission

The mission of the Hampton Historical Society is to increase public knowledge and understanding of the history and cultural heritage of the town of Hampton, New Hampshire, from its earliest inhabitants to the present generation. We will communicate that history through an active museum, educational programs, and a resource library.

List of donors since April newsletter

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Directors Report

Today, June 23, our special 2015 exhibit was installed. It celebrates NINETY years of our organizational history. Researched and created by **Cheryl Lassiter**, it is full of information that covers the Society, town, and in some cases ties into national events. Visitors will meet Mr. Ira Jones, the founder, as they enter the building, and decade by decade learn about the Society and our beginnings as a memorial park. What a story!

A new town-wide exhibit has been set in place during the month of June called "History Bits," thanks to the hard work of **Kathy McLaughlin**. Snippets about local history, from shipwrecks to witches to tavern keepers, are some of the themes. Artist **Norma Torti** created a painting to go with the witch "Bits" called "Wielding Hysteria" which is on display at our new Collection and Research Center (CRC). A map with locations and topics can be found on our web site. Viewers can even post a selfie on our Facebook page when they tour the town.

It is hard for me to believe that we started the move to the new collection center only three months ago. The CRC is still receiving items and thus



Tim from Infinite Imaging, Ira Jones, and Cheryl Lassiter

taking a burden off our limited space on Park Avenue, and the outdoor building sign has been ordered.



Norma Torti and friend

The two storerooms emptied at the museum were turned into volunteer office space and the former manuscript room into a storage area. In the front office a new ceiling was installed, a fireplace surround removed, the room painted, and the floor refinished. Having the computer, printer, and associated items moved out of the research library has made that space much more streamlined and quieter. Thanks for getting the new offices ready goes to **Dann Shaw, Jason & Ben Moore, and Ken Lobdell**.

A full report on our spring HHS membership drive will be in the November newsletter, but chair, **Linda Metcalf** reports that to date we have 76 new members, with more memberships coming in every week. Invite your friends and neighbors to join!

Planning is still ongoing for our 90th Birthday bash on July 18th. There will be a vintage baseball clinic for kids, crafts, games, artists, authors, demonstrations, Vikings, Goody Cole and, of course, birthday cake - what an afternoon it will be! The day ends with a lobster dinner fundraiser for the town clock at the Congregational Church. This would be the perfect event to come and see all the wonderful things that are going on here at 40 Park Ave!

Betty Moore, Director

Marsh Walk with Ellen Goethel



A special HHS 90th event has been planned with marine biologist Ellen Goethel. She is leading a marsh walk on **Saturday, August 22, at 9:30a.m.** We will be meeting at the Tuck Museum and discussing salt marsh farming before carpooling to the walk site.

Ellen will talk about the history and ecology of the area. We will end up back at the museum where she will show some of the critters and creatures that live in the marsh or start their lives there. The last walk we did was in 2005 and it was a sell-out crowd. Ellen runs "Explore the Ocean World Oceanarium and Touch Tank" at 367 Ocean Blvd, July through Labor Day, and during the school year conducts educational programs all over New England.

This is not to be missed! The walk is **\$10 adults/ \$5 children. Reservations are a must!** Call 926-2543 to save your spot.

Creating Hampton History Bits

Hampton History Bits is a collection of pieces of Hampton's past, which are on exhibit around town. Artifacts together with brief text tell tiny tales to entertain and enlighten – and perhaps rekindle memories.

The inspiration for Hampton History Bits is the book, *A History of New York in 101 Objects*, by Sam Roberts. It is a quirky and whimsical book that many times left me surprised by what I had just learned. I hope Hampton History Bits will similarly surprise, as well as create smiles and inspire visits to all display locations.

A map for Hampton History Bits is at:
www.hamptonhistoricalsociety.org/hbits

As a volunteer for the Hampton Historical Society, which is celebrating its 90th Anniversary this year, my initial idea was for a book of Hampton's history in 90 objects. But this undertaking proved too ambitious to accomplish in a year's time. The idea evolved into an exhibit that, while still ambitious, seemed more achievable.



History Bits display at Town Hall

And so I began. I started reading Hampton's history. When something caught my attention I wrote about it, hoping that others would also enjoy the story.

Betty Moore, Director of the Tuck Museum, and Candy Stellmach, President of the Hampton Historical Society, advocates of community involvement and education, were strong supporters.

Betty named the exhibit and selected the artifacts on display. Candy willingly took on the arduous task of proofreading. And the exhibit would not have come to fruition without the dedication of Rich Hureau, who did the layout and made changes ad infinitum. Rich also is the maker of the Hampton History Bits map for traveling back in time in Hampton.

Have fun on your journey along the path of Hampton history, and show us where you've been. Email selfies to selfie.hhs@gmail.com and we'll share them on Facebook!

Kathy McLaughlin



History Bits display at Lane Library



Storefront History Bits display at Marelli's

SHIPWRECKS, RIOTS AND RUMRUNNERS

One of the most fascinating subjects in New England history is the large number of ships which have been wrecked or stranded on our shores. Our New England coastline has been scattered with shipwrecks since the arrival of the first European visitors. Edward Rowe Snow said that he had "listed or charted in a general fashion the remains of about 1700 of these disasters."

Our short eighteen-mile New Hampshire coastline has had probably more than its share of shipwrecks. The most famous wreck in Hampton history was the Rivermouth, lost in 1657 with eight people, shortly after leaving Hampton Harbor. Poor old Eunice "Goody" Cole, our infamous Hampton witch, was blamed for that one. This disaster was made famous by John Greenleaf Whittier's poem, *The Wreck of Rivermouth*.

Whenever possible, folks on shore tried their best to save the sailors, the cargo, and maybe the vessel. But it wasn't until the late 1800s that a life-saving station was built in Hampton, on North Beach. More life-saving stations were created up and down our coast, including Plum Island and New Castle. Peter Randall's *Hampton – A Century Town and Beach 1898 – 1998*, describes in detail how the life-saving stations came about and how they worked. By the 1940s the federal government had decided that our life-saving stations weren't needed any more. The station was finally shut down in the 1960s.

The sight of any ship in grave danger would have caused the locals to sound the alarm immediately. But not all impending disasters were regarded the same. Up until the Revolution, the King of England claimed an exclusive right to every white pine tree in New Hampshire. The tallest, and straightest, were to go to the Royal Navy, to be used as masts. The selected trees were identified by a "broad arrow," and no man might cut them down, even on his own land, under heavy penalty. The cut mast trees were delivered to Portsmouth, and then shipped off to England. At the same time, economic restrictions, some of them severe, were placed on the Colonists. American industry was discouraged, if not outlawed, by the British Government. Trade between the colonies and other countries was very restricted, and colonists were forced to buy goods brought to our shores, by the mast ships. It is no wonder that the "mast ship" became a hated object.

In November, 1764, one such ship, the St. George, was wrecked on Hampton Beach. She was a mast ship with a valuable cargo, sailing up the New England coast toward Portsmouth. As reported in the NH Gazette, "she had goods on board of about ten thousand pounds sterling belonging to sundry merchants" in Portsmouth. Word of the shipwreck spread fast, and a large number of people came to the beach. Some folks helped themselves to some of the goods found strewn upon the beach. "Keepers" were appointed by the authorities. These appointed guardians of the shipwreck were Colonel Christopher Toppan and Colonel (later General)

Jonathan Moulton. Many looked with envy upon Colonels Toppan and Moulton, claiming that they had no more right than others to carry off the goods, and they were probably enriching themselves.

Warrants were issued to apprehend the guilty parties. But those arrested were soon set free by an angry mob. Royal Governor Benning Wentworth's long-winded proclamation, was quoted in its entirety in Dow's *History of Hampton*. It includes, in part, "warrants were issued to apprehend the ill-disposed persons having purloined the sundry goods," but while in custody of the apprehending officer, "the prisoners were, by a number of evil-minded persons in a violent, riotous and tumultuous manner, and being disguised, did assault the officer and beat, wound and evilly entered and did release the said prisoners and let them go at large whereby they made their escape....and since that day, a great number of the inhabitants of Hampton have, in a riotous, roisterous and tumultuous manner assembled, and being armed with clubs and staves, have menaced and threatened the officer and bid defiance to all lawful authority." In 1963 two cannons and other items from the St. George were found by divers and brought up. It's probably just a coincidence that exactly two hundred years later in 1964 we saw our worst riots at Hampton Beach.

Not all stories of shipwrecks involve tragedy, heroism, or clashes with authority. On a night in late December, 1929, my grandfather, Roscoe Palmer, received a telephone call from his friend Hampton Police Officer Marvin Young. Officer Young called to tell him that cases of whiskey had washed ashore in Rye. The federal authorities were there to recover them, and Marvin was assigned to block off any traffic on the coast route to Rye from Hampton. So if Roscoe, and a few others, wanted to get any of it, they had better hurry, and Marvin would let them through.

Newspapers were reporting that "coastguardsmen" had found up to three hundred twenty cases, much of it in twelve feet of water. The cargo was found in nearly the same place where one hundred thirty nine cases had been "seized" on July 9th. The whiskey was brought under armed guard to the Custom House in Portsmouth. The newspapers reported that up to seven hundred cases of liquor had been thrown overboard when the ship carrying them was in danger of striking rocks in the shallow waters of Rye Beach. But that's not what my grandfather told me. They were thrown overboard because the feds were close on the tail of the rumrunners. He showed me a bottle which he had kept all these years. He wasn't much of a drinker, so it was kept as a novelty. I think the label was a "Kennedy's."

My late step-father Abby Young, son of Marvin Young and a long-time director of the Hampton Historical Society, corroborated this story. We have no idea where the bottle of whiskey is now.

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Hampton Historical Society
PO Box 1601
Hampton, NH 03843-1601
603-929-0781
Pig Roast Order Form
September 5, 2015

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 8)
_____ 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: _____

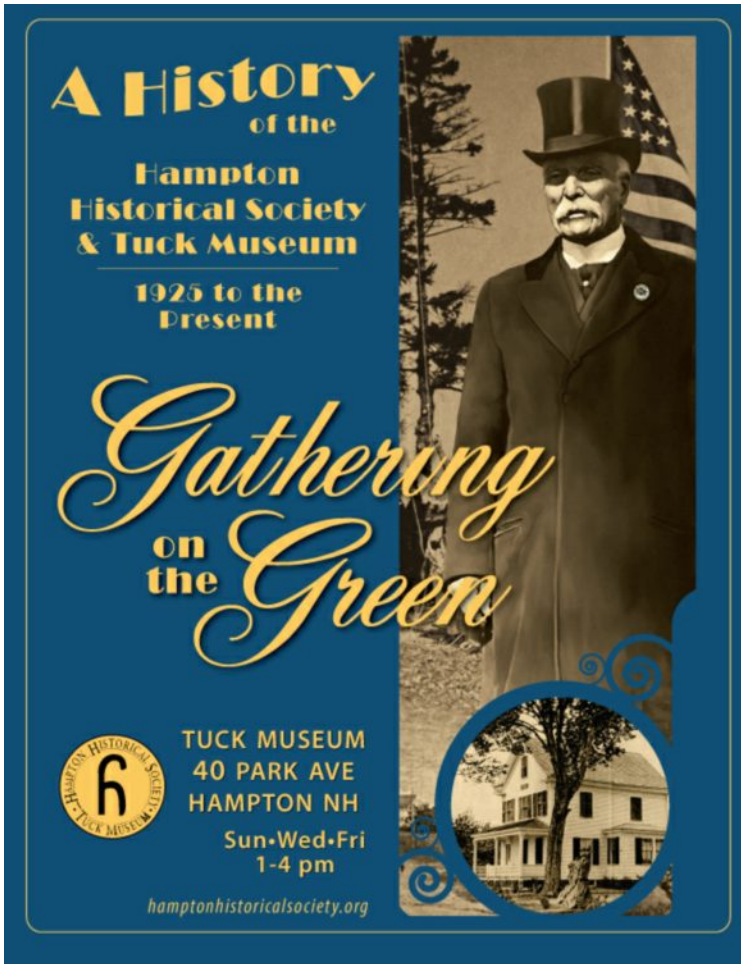
Calendar of Events

Business Members

- Saturday July 18, 1-5p.m. **The Tuck Museum Turns 90!** Party on the museum grounds
- Saturday August 22, 9:30a.m. **Salt Marsh Nature Walk** with Marine Biologist Ellen Goethel; \$10 adults \$5 students; reservations required - 926-2543. Meet at Tuck Museum.
- Saturday September 5, 12-2:30p.m. **14th Annual Pig Roast** \$20 adults \$10 Students
- Sunday September 13, 2p.m. **Harvest Repast** at the Tuck Museum Herb Garden \$10 reservations requested
- Saturday October 3, 1-5p.m. **Old Hampton Tavernwalk**, downtown Hampton locations. Costumed history presenters, themed food and drinks, games. \$15 - 21 and over.
- ~~Saturday~~ Sunday October 18, 2p.m. **Annual Meeting** featuring "Favorites from the Collection" Tuck Museum
- Sunday November 1, 2p.m. **Grand Opening! HHS Collections and Research Center**, 387 Lafayette Road, Hampton. Free.
- Sunday November 15, 2p.m. **Our National Thanksgiving** program, Sarah Josepha Hale. NH Humanities Council. Masonic Lodge, 77 Tide Mill Road, Hampton. Free
- Saturday December 5, 1p.m. **Hampton Christmas Parade** Come see our parade float!

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

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New Exhibit Opening in July

Move over Bob Wallace, there's another nonagenarian in town. This year the Hampton Historical Society turns 90 years old, and to observe the milestone we are opening an exciting new exhibit, *Gathering on the Green: A History of the Hampton Historical Society and Tuck Museum from 1925 to the Present*.

The multi-room, decade-by-decade exhibit, featuring rarely-seen photos and objects from the archives, tells the story of the Society, from its founding in 1925 to the present, with highlights of town, beach, and national events. Learn how a society of inspired volunteers evolved from "one man with an idea," through early struggles and triumphs, later successes and failures, to a well-run, financially sound organization ready for the challenges of the 21st century.

History Bits at the Grist Mill

