



Middleborough Historical Association, Inc. P. O. Box 304, Middleboro, MA 02346  
 middleboroughhistoricalassociation.org  
 Nancy J. Thomas, Editor

## NEWSLETTER DELIVERY PREFERENCE

We really need to know whether each one of our valued members prefers to receive issues of our quarterly newsletter "Mill House Notes" by e-mail or regular mail. We have been sending it by e-mail AND also by regular mail to those that have e-mail. Naturally we would like to keep costs down as much as we can.

Those who have e-mail, but prefer a "hard copy" in their mailbox, must **"OPT-IN"** to continue to receive the newsletter via the US Postal Service. **OPT-IN** by contacting our Membership Secretary Wally Glendye at [middleboroughmuseum@gmail.com](mailto:middleboroughmuseum@gmail.com) and letting him know you wish to continue to receive the newsletter by regular mail to your home address or Post Office box. If you do not **OPT-IN** by **April 20, 2016**, you will receive future issues only by e-mail. Also, **PLEASE** let him know if your e-mail or regular mailing address has changed.

## ENDING THE 2015 SEASON

The 2015 Museum season ended with a busy day on Saturday, October 31, 2015.

First, the Museum was open as usual from 12:00 Noon to 3:00 PM, and then...

As it was the birthday of Lavinia Warren Bump Stratton Magri AKA "Mrs. Tom Thumb," AND the 100th Anniversary of their original dedication by Lavinia herself, on the occasion of her 74th birthday in 1915, Doug Vantran presided at a **Rededication of the plaque and boulder** honoring her Mayflower ancestor Richard Warren who Lavinia traced through her mother, who was a Warren.

Then the focus of activity shifted to Halloween. From 3:30 PM to 4:30 PM, "**Trick or Treat at the Museum**" was held. Association members in costumes were stationed at various exterior doors in the seven museum buildings, offering treats to costumed children of the community ages twelve and under. Everyone enjoyed a piece of Lavinia's birthday cake and punch in the Blacksmith Shop.

**Thank you** to the volunteers for the event: Cheri Reimels and Margaret Washburn as hostesses in the Blacksmith Shop, Judith Donahue as a purple witch in the Whistle House, Kate Lazarovich as a doctor in the Carriage House, Dotty Thayer as a Nascar driver and Jerry Thayer as a one-eyed bandit in Mill House #1, Nancy Thomas as a ghou in the Law Office, Dan Thompson as a doctor, Jane Thompson as a witch in the Peirce Store, Doug Vantran as a Western outlaw at the Sproat Tavern Outhouse and Kay Vantran as a witch in Mill House #2.

Although a small number of "goblins" participated, everyone had fun.

## VOLUNTEER BRUNCH

**Thank you** to all the volunteers who helped at the Museum during its 2015 season. Dan and Jane Thompson graciously entertained Board members and Museum volunteers at their showcase home.

Attending were Gladys Beals, Dick and Mary Cook, Dick Cost, Judith Donahue, Bob and Cheri Reimels, Dotty and Jerry Thayer, Nancy Thomas, Doug and Kay Vantran and Bette Washburn.

## ANNUAL MEETING

On Saturday, November 14, 2015, the Association convened its Annual Meeting at the Robbins Museum located at 17 Jackson Street. The membership meeting began at 6:30 PM with a good crowd of thirty members in attendance. Annual Reports were received and election of officers was held for the coming year.

Following the business meeting, a fascinating program about early Edison Talking Machines entitled "Musical Slideshow Lecture" was presented by Bruce Young of Hanson. He told the story of Edison's foray into the development of the phonograph, beginning with his black wax two-minute cylinders, to celluloid cylinders, to diamond disc flat records. Mr. Young brought and played recordings on four different phonographs, all hand-cranked machines. Two had exterior "horns" and two had interior "horns" because the recordings were made acoustically. Those in attendance heard the Edison recording artists exactly as they sounded on the original recordings and machines.

Kay Vantran headed up the refreshments following the program. During refreshments, President Doug Vantran conducted the drawings

for the "Made in Middleborough" raffle. Winners were:

Purchade Farm - 14 - 18 lb. Farm Fresh Turkey - **Charles Adams**

Sis Denson - watercolor painting - **Carol Lucas**

Dymond Treasures -glass vase/arrangement - **Maryanna Abren**

Ron Mello Studio - hand-turned pottery bowl - **Gwen D.**

Jessa-Loop Designs - handcrafted wooden sign - **Dotty and Jerry Thayer**

Vant Hobbies - seven-foot wooden birdhouse - **Karin Mott**

Ocean Spray Cranberries, Inc. - basket of products - **Margaret Washburn**

Battistini's Bakery - basket of baked goods - **Cody Somma**



## ANNUAL ELECTIONS

As part of the Annual Meeting, elections were held for several positions. The following were elected by unanimous vote:

**Dorothy Thayer - Treasurer - 2015-2016**

**Wally Glendye - Secretary - 2015-2016**

**Kay Vantran - Director - 2015-2017**

**Kate Lazarovich - Director - 2015-2018**

**Cheri Reimels - Director - 2015-2018**

