

Northborough Historical Society

- **Our monthly programs** feature a wide variety of excellent speakers on topics of historical interest to our town and community. These events are free and open to the public and take place at 7:30 p.m. one Friday each month, September through June.
- **Our archive** is home to an impressive collection of primary source material concerning the history of the people, the land, and the structures of Northborough. Ellen Racine, our curator, can be reached at Info@NorthboroughHistoricalSociety.org. For historical research, contact Bob Ellis at Historian@NorthboroughHistoricalSociety.org.
- **Our museum** houses a variety of displays of historical artifacts and treasures of Northborough and is open to the public from 2-4 p.m. Sundays in May, June, September, and October, and by special arrangement.
- **Our building**, located at 52 Main Street, is a former Baptist Church and houses a fully-restored 1874 pipe organ.
- **Membership** in the Society is open to all, and yearly dues help to defray the cost of our offerings. Annual memberships are \$20; Senior Citizen memberships are \$15. Families can join for \$45, and Lifetime Memberships are \$250 per person. Students who attend our programs may earn free memberships. Additional donations are also accepted. Members enjoy our monthly newsletter; a membership pin; inclusion in members-only events; a 10% discount on merchandise at our museum shop; and knowing that they are supporting the preservation of Northborough History for the next 100 years. Jenifer Kahn Bakkala, our Membership Secretary, can be reached at : MembershipSecretary@NorthboroughHistoricalSociety.org.



Welcome! to the Northborough Historical Society

*For more than 100 years,
we have been dedicated
to the study and preservation
of the history of our town of
Northborough, Massachusetts.*

**P.O. Box 661, 52 Main Street,
Northborough, Massachusetts 01532**

www.NorthboroughHistoricalSociety.org



NORTHBOROUGH HISTORICAL SOCIETY

2015-16 Membership/Renewal Form

Name(s): _____ New Member(s) Renewal

Address: _____

E-mail: _____ Phone: _____

(E-mail is the most efficient way for us to contact you.)

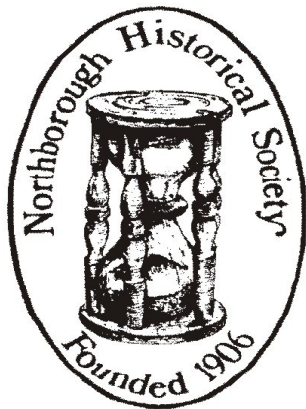
I am interested
in volunteer
opportunities.

Annual Dues: Single—\$20 Student/Senior—\$15 Family—\$45* Lifetime—\$250 per person

An Additional Donation is enclosed. \$ _____

Thank you! The Northborough Historical Society is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization -- donations to which are tax deductible to the fullest extent allowed by law.

** Family memberships are offered to one or two adults and their children under the age of 18.*




To become a member of the Northborough Historical Society, please complete the back of this form and send it to:

Northborough Historical Society
Membership Secretary
P.O. Box 661
Northborough, MA 01532

or, hand it to any Society director.

*For more information,
 e-mail the Membership Secretary at::*

MembershipSecretary@NorthboroughHistoricalSociety.org

 **FREE** memberships are available to **Students in Grades K-12** who attend one of our programs in 2015-16. Students who attend three programs will earn a membership for the 2016-17 season.

December 4, 2015 “**Pearl Harbor**” by Gary Hylander. Seventy-four years ago, December 7, 1941, FDR declared the attack on Pearl Harbor as a ‘A Date Which Will Live in Infamy’. In his dramatic presentation, Professor Gary Hylander recounts the facts of this historic event.

January 22, 2016 “**Algonquin Regional High School Presentation**” by ARHS students. In this two-part program, students studying US history under Stephen Godbout will do a presentation on a research project with resources from the NHS museum. The evening will also include a performance by the ARHS Chorus under the direction of Katherine Waters.

February 26, 2016 “**Who is Buried In Northborough’s Brigham Street Old Burial Ground?**” by Beth Finch McCarthy. The colonial-era Old Burial Ground on Brigham Street in Northborough was established to accommodate the burials of the town’s first families. Through genealogical research, Beth Finch McCarthy has identified many of the individuals buried there. Highlights of the program will look at early colonial life in Northborough to include some good gossip about the early families.

March 18, 2016 “**History of Northborough Fire Department**” by Paul Desautels. Joining the Northborough Fire Department in 1965, Paul will share his first-hand knowledge of the Department, including how it grew as Northborough grew, and major fires that happened in town over the years. Most recently, Paul has been instrumental in having an historic fire “engine” returned to town.

April 22, 2016 “**The Lost Art of Etiquette**” by Megan MacNeil. With quotes from the Phillips Family (Phillips House is one of the Historic New England’s properties) Megan MacNeil, Registrar of Historic New England Association, will use journals, diaries and letters to discuss dining room and parlor etiquette, letter writing, how to pay a visit, calling cards and other behavior expected of the different members of the family and household staff. This lecture covers the period of time from 1880s to 1940s.

May 20, 2016 “**Living in Northborough**” as recorded in the Northborough Historical Society Archives and remembered by several members of the Northborough Historical Society Members. After a pot luck supper, listen to highlights of

Northborough’s past. Anyone with special memories of Northborough, come prepared to share a story or two.

September 23, 2016 “**John and Abigail Adams: An American Couple**” by Gary Hylander. During their courtship and marriage, John Adams and Abigail Smith Adams exchanged more than 1,100 letters, many filled with intellectual discussions on government and politics considered an invaluable account of

the Revolutionary War. Abigail, a fierce advocate of rights for women and African-Americans, was an important partner throughout John’s political career. Gary Hylander presents an animated lecture that brings this historic couple to life.

October 28, 2016 “**History of Route 20**” by Bryan Farr. Stretching from Kenmore Square in Boston to Newport, Oregon at 3,365.3 miles in length, Route 20 is the longest highway in the United States. Northborough’s Main Street is a minuscule segment of this historic road. Bryan Farr, founder of The Historic Route 20 Association, will lecture on the historical and cultural significance of the highway and will highlight landmarks and less-remembered points of interest in Northborough and neighboring communities.

December 2, 2016 “**A Portrait of the Victorian Age: Letters of the Holbrook Family of Northborough**” by Beth Finch McCarthy. Town figure, Levi Holbrook (m. Eliza Grout), was a very interesting character. Beth Finch McCarthy has obtained a small collection of family letters which colorfully illustrate the life and times of Victorian Northborough. Themes include rail travel in New England, private school culture, Victorian medicines, slavery, boarding in family homes, local commerce, infidelity, and the intricacies of being an independent-minded woman in a male-dominated society. This program promises to be a veritable soap opera.

Programs take place
Fridays at 7:30 p.m.
 at the Historical Society
52 Main St., Northborough
 and are free

The **September and May**
 programs are preceded by a
potluck supper at 6:30 p.m.,
 which is open to all.

Northborough’s 250th Anniversary Events

- Photo Contest** — 2015 to October 2016
- Hunt for History** — May 2016
- Fashion Show: Our Founding Fashions** — May 2016
- Cemetery Tour** — September 2016
- Harvest Supper** — October 2016