

Quabbin Voices

The Friends of Quabbin Newsletter



Winter 2016
Vol.29 No.4

We must hear and listen to all of Quabbin's many Voices. Voices of the Past, as well as Voices of the Present and of the Future. Voices of the Trees, the Sky, the Rain that falls, and all the Wild Things; Voices of the People who depend on this valuable resource for their daily needs of clean water, and Voices of those who draw upon it for deeper needs of the Soul.

—Les Campbell

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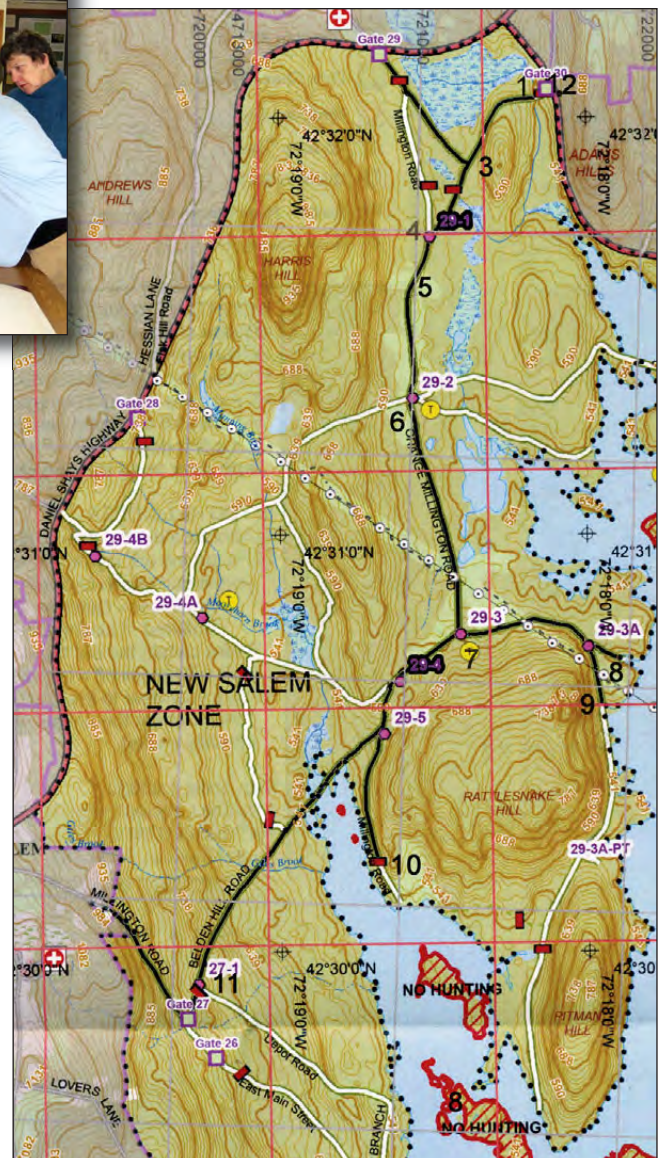
A Tuesday Tea Trek to New Salem: November 15, 2016

by Paul Godfrey

Photography by Paul Godfrey, Alberta Martin, Gene Theroux, and Anne Ely



Map of the Tuesday Tea Trek



It was the best of times; it was the worst of times. No, this isn't the start of Dickens' *A Tale of Two Cities*; it's a description of our day exploring the Gate 29 area as a Tuesday Tea Tour. Usually, we try to conjure up good weather, and we have in the past. But, this time, our conjuring failed, and it was pretty rotten...raw, rainy, dimly overcast...I could go on. We were all quite wet and cold by the end. But that's the worst part, because the rest was delightful.

Our trek started at the Quabbin Visitor Center where we surveyed the property maps that Nancy Huntington had researched, assembled and pretoured for us to use. The maps, combined with pictures of the original house and barn photographs in the DCR files from the 1930s gave us an excellent sense of what we were to see.

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Gene Theroux

President's Message

Winter 2016

The Friends of Quabbin would like to thank Bill Pula, the Regional Director of the Quabbin Section of the Department of Conservation and Recreation, who retired on December 31, 2016 after working twenty-four years at the Quabbin Section. He has been a steward and a good friend of the Friends of Quabbin. I've been privileged to observe Bill's compassion and support for the former residents of the Swift River/Quabbin Valley. Bill has been instrumental in supporting our annual events such as the Tuesday Tea picnic and Holiday Party and special events such as the 2016 Enfield Bicentennial Observance held on August 13, 2016 at Hanks Meadow within the Quabbin Reservation. At one Tuesday Tea picnic, Bill was both crewmember and history/natural history interpreter on a Tuesday Tea boat ride.

I wrote about that 2015 Tuesday Tea boat ride and Bill Pula in the fall 2015 Quabbin Voices newsletter, available on the Friends of Quabbin website. There were a number of things that I learned about Bill Pula that day. On our journey along the reservoir, the boat stopped at the Area One fishing area (Gate 8). Bill spoke of the annual weekend fishing tournament for the Special Olympics and how much fun and how rewarding it was to see the participants having an enjoyable time. No one in our group asked how this event got started, but I learned that it had been almost a twenty year collaboration between the Massachusetts Special Olympics and the staff and rangers of the Department of Conservation and Recreation's Office of Watershed Management. Bill spoke with enthusiasm of this special event and of the great time that these special athletes had fishing during these two days, without taking any credit for the event. He probably would quite humbly say that he only provided the venue. But, if you

compare the dates of Bill's tenure at Quabbin and the start of this Special Olympics event, you might conclude his involvement was much more substantial.

On the 2015 Tuesday Tea boat ride, I took some video of Bill providing explanations and describing in detail of the engineering aspects of Winsor Dam (revolutionary for the time), the two baffle dams, and shaft 12 (where water leaves Quabbin to go to Wachusett Reservoir). My only regret was that I did not take more video of Bill during that Tuesday Tea boat ride in 2015. I've placed a 2½ minute video of Bill Pula explaining the Quabbin Eagle restoration project on the Friends of Quabbin YouTube channel. You can also view this short video by doing a search on either Google or YouTube for "Bill Pula of DCR," or you could find it at the Friends of Quabbin YouTube channel which is linked off the links and resources tab, or by typing in the following web address: <https://youtu.be/HOmSHpQXqaY>.

Bill Pula was born and raised in Lawrence, Massachusetts and makes his home in Pelham, Massachusetts.



Bill Pula and Earl Cooley at Hank's Place Picnic, September 2015

Your Membership

Please look at the upper right-hand corner of the mailing label on your newsletter. If the date there is prior to 2016, this will be your last issue of the newsletter. If you want to renew, you can get a copy of the form on the FOQ website (www.friendsofquabbin.org), pick up a membership form at the Visitor Center or contact Paul Godfrey (various addresses on the back of the newsletter in the Officers and Board of Directors listing).



Interpretive Services Report

Winter 2016

by Clif Read

It was the end of an era in late December when Regional Director William E. Pula officially retired from the position he had occupied for the past 24 years at Quabbin Reservoir. When Bill began his job it was under a different job title (Superintendent) and a different agency (Metropolitan District Commission), but the position was essentially the same throughout his tenure. While a great deal has changed over the past quarter century, changes at Quabbin have been modest and beneficial to clean, safe water and the natural environment since Bill walked in the door in November of 1992. Bill will be missed for his knowledge, his passion for water issues and natural resource management, his humor and his support of the Interpretive Services program and its mission.

Bill was born and raised in Massachusetts, living in the Lawrence area until he headed to the University of Vermont for college. After earning a degree in forestry from UVM, Bill worked in the Peace Corps in the Dominican Republic before returning to this area to pursue a Masters degree in Civil Engineering at UMASS. His first job out of graduate school was with the Los Angeles County Flood Control dealing with water issues in California. The allure of New England was just too great for Bill and his wife Carolyn, so when he was offered a position with the Department of Environmental Quality Engineering (now the Dept. of Environmental Protection) in Springfield overseeing public drinking water supplies for communities in Western Mass., Bill immediately took the job. When the position of Quabbin Superintendent opened up several years later, Bill threw his hat in the ring. His background in natural resources, water quality issues and civil engineering made him the perfect candidate for the position. After several rounds of interviews, Bill was hired as the seventh Superintendent for the Quabbin Section. Incidentally, Bill holds the record for the longest serving Superintendent/Regional Director in Quabbin history.

A resident of Pelham, Bill has been actively involved with town activities and has been a long serving member of the Board of Health. In his spare time Bill loves to fish, spending many long hours on Quabbin or traveling with angling buddies to Long Island Sound, the Merrimack River or any number of other prime fishing locations. We imagine Bill will frequent the Quabbin boat launch areas more often in the upcoming fishing season and will not be a stranger to Quabbin.

In addition to watching his agency morph from the MDC to the Department of Conservation and Recreation, Bill witnessed changes that resulted from the filtration requirements of the Safe Drinking Water Act. The DCR/MA Water Resources

Authority drinking system was successful in its water filtration waiver application, one of a very limited number of large public drinking water systems granted this special status. In order to achieve this, the agency needed to purchase additional watershed lands, implement management plans for access and land use, and conduct management of wildlife populations (specifically gulls and beaver) in proximity to the aqueduct intakes. The events of 9/11 changed Quabbin forever with vehicle restrictions on the Winsor Dam and Goodnough Dike, the closure of the areas around the Winsor Power Station and Shaft 12 and a significantly enhanced security for the reservoir. Eight years later it was the discovery of zebra mussels in a Berkshire lake that led to implementation of the Quabbin Boat Seal program for all private boats on the reservoir. Although he was not here in year #1, Bill has been actively involved since then with the Quabbin Deer Hunt program which has been recognized as a national model for deer herd management. The transition of the Quabbin forest from an ecosystem with minimal tree regeneration to one with a healthy and diverse plant cover has been dramatic over the past 24 years as a result of this program.

So 2017 will certainly see a change at Quabbin. Personally I would like to express my thanks and appreciation to Bill for all that he has done for the Interpretive Services program, the Friends of Quabbin, and most importantly for the former residents who gave up their homes and land so that the reservoir could be built. I wish him the best in his retirement!

The other big item in the news is the continued dry conditions throughout the state. In November Quabbin officially dropped from “Normal Operations” status to “Below Normal” when the capacity dipped below 80%. Although the DCR/MWRA Water System has not been as adversely impacted compared to other regional water supplies, the dramatic drop off in water elevation since last spring’s high mark certainly raises the caution flag. Precipitation levels are running less than 70% of average with no apparent relief in sight. So even with above average rainfall/snowfall in the coming months, it will take a long time to emerge from these drought conditions. The Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs has continued the Drought Warning for the most of the state except the Cape and Islands which are under a less serious Drought Advisory status. So we will continue to keep an eye on the weather and the reservoir levels over the course of the winter.

Speaking of droughts, the Visitor Center Sunday Afternoon Program Series will have a presentation entitled “The Influence of Weather Patterns, Forest Ecosystems and Human Use on Water Supplies by Dr. Paul Barten on Sunday, February 12th at 2 p.m. The presentation will incorporate information and photographs of droughts that have impacted the Quabbin Reservoir over the past 70 years, including the most severe one to hit the region in the mid-1960s and another significant one in the late 1980s. This popular program series begins the season on January 29th with a program entitled “Hot Spot for Cool Creatures” by Massachusetts State Herpetologist Michael Jones. Check out the full schedule of programs on deck for this winter and early spring in the Meeting and Events section of this Newsletter issue.

Tuesday Tea Trek continued...

Packing our gear into the DCR van and Ann Hurlburt's SUV, the eight of us (Ann Hurlburt, Deanna Krusiewicz, Anne Ely, Alberta Martin, Gene Theroux, Julie Bullock, Paul Godfrey and Nancy Huntington) started off for Gate 29 in New Salem to begin our exploration of the northwest corner of Quabbin.

Gate 29 is at the very northern tip of the reservation and the weather, though chilly and gray, was dry. We had hope that it would stay that way. Heading south a short way on the Orange-Millington Road, we took a left turn to the east to see the



The Keystone Bridge

remarkable keystone bridge (Map 1). It is constructed of large fitted stones in a graceful arch over the Middle Branch of the Swift River. While those



Theodore Chandler homestead



stones appear large when looking at the face of the bridge, looking up when under the bridge reveals their truly awesome size. How did people manipulate them into place without modern heavy equipment? And how did they keep them all from falling in until the "keystones" at the top center could be placed to distribute the weight of all the stones properly? And how has it man-

aged to stay together all these years without any cement? Maybe, there are lessons to be learned.

Crossing the bridge and proceeding a short way, we came to Gate 30 and the site of the Theodore Chandler homestead and garage (Map 2).



Terry Bert House

Returning to the Middleton Road, we headed south to visit the site of the Terry Bert house (Map 3). We tried to find some remnant of the place.

Further on, we stopped to see the Davenport House (Map 4). Little is left but we thought the large tree in the foreground might be that tree stump.

It was about now that it started to rain fairly hard. We all stuffed our cameras inside our coats and popped open the umbrellas but there was little escaping the wet.



M.L. Davenport House

A bit further was the house site of Per Apelquist (Map 5). It's striking that such a significant structure has left a barely noticeable and seemingly small foundation.

We continued south on the Middleton Road to the Mary Aldrich house (Map 6). It wasn't much in 1929, but Mary clearly liked plants. She had yucca and hostas around the house. About all that's left now besides the plants are the foundation, an oil drum and some part of a car, perhaps the firewall between the engine compartment and the passenger compartment.





Per Apelquist House



William and Robert Bullard House



Mary Aldrich House and Yucca plants



We came to an intersection where a tavern had been strategically located: Bullard's tavern...and gas station (Map 7). It seemed too early in the day for a stop at a tavern, but we were ready for a dry roof over our heads. Alas, there was none. Notable, though, were the blueberry bushes and

other domestic plants still growing near the foundation. The other picture was probably taken a little to the left of the group of members of our party and between the trees and facing the camera in the new picture.



Also prominent was the dug well, now mostly filled in and growing a tree.

We headed east at the intersection toward the northern end of the west branch of Quabbin. We were going to see the effects of the summer's drought on Quabbin and some impressive rock outcrops (Map 8). The drought's effect was very apparent at this end of the reservoir, but we felt like the drought would soon end, given



Julie and Anne on Quabbin's shoreline

the rain we were getting. It may not be possible to see wet but cold is obvious. We were both by this time, but no one wanted to sit in the car.



Osprey nest



Nancy and Deana have a bite for lunch.

It was back past Bullard's Tavern to the Baines house and south to the Fleck homestead where we stopped for lunch and then we explored the cellar and the well. Unlike other wells, this one



Edge of Rattlesnake Hill

Nearby were the promised rock outcrops and the topic of rattlesnakes arose briefly because this was the east side of Rattlesnake Hill (Map 9).

None were seen. But evidence of another interesting animal was seen. In the high tension tower for the line crossing this end of Quabbin was an Osprey's nest. Its summer occupant was now probably enjoying the balmy south; we were not!



Edward H. and M.W. Baines House



George Sampson House, May 1931

was deep but we didn't see any water. No one thought to drop a pebble and listen, though (Map 10).

We retraced our steps north to the Belden Hill Road and headed west for our last stops just before returning to the Daniel

Shays Highway. First, we passed the George Sampson house site (Map 11). Fortunately, the area is quite a bit neater than before. That is, except for a small cluster of bravely smiling and happy but cold and wet Tuesday Tea Trekkers who had learned a lot more about the Quabbin. Then, we popped out of the Quabbin at Gate 27 into downtown New Salem and on our way back to the Quabbin Administration Building. We were back to the present. Nancy had given us a wonderful tour; the weather not so nice.



L. to R. Gene Theroux, Ann Hurlburt, Julie Bullock, Deanna Krusiewicz, Anne Ely, Nancy Huntington, Alberta Martin, and Paul Godfrey

Pelham Hollow Road: A Turnpike *(see "The Frosts of Pelham Hollow Road" on page 9)*

Pelham Hollow Road was once part of the Sixth Massachusetts Turnpike, chartered in 1799. Wikipedia states that in the late 18th century and early 19th century, turnpikes, as opposed to ordinary roads of the same time, were roads where gates barred travelers from continuing until a payment for use of the road was made. The word "turnpike" itself comes from the fact that these gates, called "pikes," were "turned" once the toll was paid. The privilege of building and operating turnpikes was conferred by the state legislature to "turnpike corporations". Turnpikes were

constructed using private capital, were privately owned, and were operated for revenue from toll collection. The turnpike era in Massachusetts began in 1796, when the first act of incorporation for a turnpike was passed. In all, 118 acts of incorporation were passed (ten of these were in the territory that later became the state of Maine). Typical toll rates were twenty-five cents for every coach with additional charges of four cents for every man and horse. By 1850, most turnpike corporations had either been dissolved or had stopped collecting tolls.



Annual Holiday Party

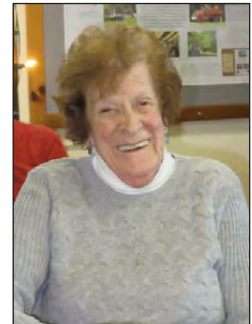


The Annual Holiday Party was held, as usual, in early December. The turnout filled the space available at the Visitor Center, but we all had room to mingle, chat and nosh. The noshing was different this year. In the past, there have been a few snacks, cheese, kiel-basa, crackers and the famous cake. But this year, word went out for people to bring something they made from the new cookbook. What fun that created. Those of you who've looked at the new cookbook know that there are some strange titles and ingredients; and our group, ever up to a challenge, made many of those very things. For example: Slumgullion, Tomato Rougail, Tomato Soup Cake, Old-fashioned Sour Cream Cookies

and somewhat less exotic things like: Apple-Noodle Pudding, Les Campbell's Chicken Thighs, Gingerbread Muffins, Apple Muffins, Macaroni and Cheese with diced onion and Dijon mustard, Baked Beans. You can imagine with those items at the food table, things got quite interesting in the mingling and



chatting, too. Those of us who edited the cookbook felt oddly compelled to try everything with only a mild sense of gluttony. Some folks, though appalled by the names, tried some anyway, and found the taste delightful.



Margaret Carney

After we'd all had a chance to try the food, Gene presented a PowerPoint show of pictures taken at the Enfield Bicentennial event this past summer. Even those who attended probably didn't have a chance to see all the things that our seven roving photographers captured.



Howard Frost, Dorothy Bish, Margaret Carney, & Stanley Boyko

Even though everyone was stuffed with Cookbook food, there was still tradition to uphold. The famous cake was positioned centrally. All gathered around. Our attending original residents of the valley were assembled and handed weapons of cake cutting/destruction. It was a big cake and a daunting task. Interestingly, the ladies showed considerable aptitude for neatly cutting squares for us all to eat. The men.... Well, let's just say they had fun and so did we. We all got some cake—some neatly cut, some not. Despite Gene's threat at the start that no one could leave until all the food was eaten, we had leftovers. There is only one clear remedy—more people must come next year to help out!

The Frosts of Pelham Hollow

By Gene Theroux

I've had an opportunity to learn a lot about Pelham Hollow since meeting Howard H. Frost at the Enfield Bicentennial Observance on August 13, 2016. Howard is a former resident



of the Pelham Hollow section of Pelham. He was a young boy when his parents Alfred H. and Madeline (Wyman) Frost sold their property to the state to become part of the Quabbin watershed.

Since the Enfield Bicentennial Observance, Howard and his daughter Laura Hall have attended each Tuesday Tea and the 2016 Friends of Quabbin Holiday Party. In that brief time, Howard has eagerly shared his photo album, collection of family artifacts, and other information about the life of his ancestors and extended family who once lived in the Swift River/Quabbin Valley. We have scanned many of Howard's photos at the Tuesday Teas and have included some here.

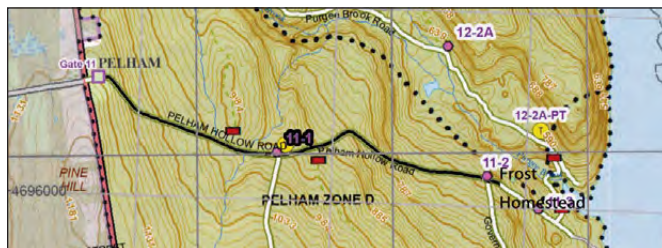
If you look closely at the photo of the Frost family at their former homestead (above), you will notice over Howard's right shoulder a pail and the rope for the well sweep, a counterpoised well lifting device for easing the task of lowering and raising the pail, at the front edge of the porch.



Over the last few months, I visited the site of the former Frost homestead and photographed the remains of the well and the house's cellar hole.

In the state assessors' photo of the Alfred H. Frost home above, you can see the well, pail and part of the well sweep (pole left of chimney) in front of the porch (far left). Inset is the well today, covered with a rock to prevent injuries to explorers who walk upon the site.

To travel to the former homestead of Alfred H. Frost, you would park your vehicle at Gate 11 parking area which is directly across the road from the intersection of Daniel Shays Highway and Amherst Road (Pelham). The kiosk at the Gate 11 trailhead shows a picture of the former Charles F. Frost (brother of Alfred H. Frost) homestead that was located on Pelham Valley Road at the end of Pelham Hollow Road and abutted the reservoir going south. To reach the site of the former Alfred H. Frost homestead, you would follow Pelham Hollow Road east for about one mile and just past the intersection of Governor Woods Road, on the left will be the location of the former Alfred H. Frost homestead.



The Alfred H. Frost property had nine outbuildings on the property including a saw mill behind the house. Brothers Charles F. and Alfred H. Frost once owned a lot of property in Pelham both individually and together, including a parcel across the street from the Alfred H. Frost homestead. Among the collection of



photographs that Howard Frost possesses are numerous images of his father, Alfred, with farm animals such as his horse and a young calf. Also within the collection is a photograph of

young Howard H. Frost feeding one of the sheep.

Howard H. Frost's daughter Laura husband's family was from Enfield and Greenwich. Among the artifacts that Laura shared with us was a letter from her husband's grandmother who wrote a letter that was mailed with Enfield's last mailing to their son Richard Hall.



She closed her letter with the following statement, ***“Mother and daddy want you to always keep these last letters from Greenwich Village and Enfield, as they never can be replaced, and hope someday they will mean a great deal to you.”*** These words from Mr. and Mrs. Hall are clearly words of wisdom, words cherished by his family and now by the Friends. The Friends of Quabbin appreciates Howard H. Frost and his daughter, Laura Hall, sharing these historic family photographs and the letter from Enfield's last mailing.

Meetings & Events

Tuesday Teas

Tuesday Teas Meetings are held on the 1st Tuesday of each month. The next one will be January 2nd. Then they will be on February 7th, March 7th, and April 4th.

Photo Club Meetings

The Quabbin Photo Group (<http://www.quabbinphotogroup.org>) meetings are on the 4th Monday at the Quabbin Visitor Center beginning at 7:30 p.m. Meetings alternate between guest speakers and member's nights where members and guests can bring 10–15 images for sharing, either in digital or 35mm slide format.

January 23—Dale Monette:

February 27—Snow Date for Dale Monette/Members Night

March 27—Members Night. Please bring 10–15 images to share with the club.

April 24—Michael Zide: “Illuminated Ground”, A presentation and talk about giving “voice” and emotional tone to your landscape photography. This is a joint sponsorship with the PVPA (Pioneer Valley Photographic Artists).

The Pioneer Valley Photographic Artists (<http://www.pvphotoartists.org/>) meet on the last Thursday of each month at 7 p.m. at the Visitor Center. The annual meeting is in January. Check their website for more information.

DCR Program

Sunday January 29, 2–3 p.m.

Hotspot for Cool Creatures

The southern CT Valley is the foremost reptile and amphibian biodiversity hotspot in Massachusetts. Join State Herpetologist Michael T. Jones for a presentation on these fascinating creatures.

Sunday, February 12, 2–3 p.m.

The Influence of Weather Patterns, Forest Ecosystems, and Human Use on Water Supplies

Southern New England is typically described as a “well-watered” temperate forest landscape, but prolonged periods of low rainfall and/or mild winters substantially alter the water balance. In extreme cases, such as the 1960s, the effect can persist for years. Please join Dr. Paul Barten, Professor of Forestry and Hydrology at the University of Massachusetts Amherst, to learn more about the vital and dynamic connection between the forest...and the faucet.

Sunday, February 19, 2–3 p.m.

The Construction of the Winsor Dam

Quabbin Reservoir is so noted for its natural beauty and pure water that we often forget that it is a constructed landscape created by the Winsor Dam and Goodnough Dike. Join DCR Interpretive Services staff Maria Beiter-Tucker to learn more about how the dam and the dike were constructed and how they formed the Reservoir.

Sunday, February 26, 2–3 p.m.

2100 Miles in the Quabbin Reservoir

Hiking 2100 miles within “The Quabbin” has rewarded this outdoor enthusiast with exciting wildlife experiences and photo opportunities. Come join us as Jim Morelly (Hiking Camera) shares his passion for nature while wandering the trails and roads of this Accidental Wilderness.

Sunday, March 5, 2–3 p.m.

Visions from the Past

During the construction of the Quabbin Reservoir, photographers were hired by the state to document the destruction of the Swift River Valley and the creation of the reservoir. Join us for an exploration of these rarely seen photographs as we compare the historic images with contemporary views taken from the same spot as the originals over 75 years ago.

Sunday, March 12, 2–3 p.m.

The Lost Apples of the Quabbin Reservoir

The Lost Apples of the Quabbin Project has spent the last year researching and exploring for heritage apples that remain in the Quabbin. We will talk about what we found, our techniques, the apple history of the Quabbin and our next steps in this quest to discover these lost agricultural resources. The Lost Apples of the Quabbin Project team are two apple enthusiasts who don't mind spending hours wandering in the woods looking for apples that never left.

Sunday, March 19, 2–3 p.m.

Continuous Forest Inventory: 50 Years of Monitoring Growth and Change in Quabbin's Forest

Every 10 years since 1960 Quabbin foresters have collected tree measurements from over 360 permanent sample plots located throughout the Quabbin watershed forest. In preparation for the next round of measurements in 2020, data from all previous visits has been newly compiled and scrutinized. Join DCR Natural Resource Analyst Brian Keevan as he presents a view of this forest revealed so far by the results from this ongoing and remarkable program.

Sunday, March 26, 2–3 p.m.

Quabbin Aquatic Life—Drought, Adaptations and Decontamination

2016 was a year of severe drought for much of Massachusetts, including Quabbin Reservoir. Join DCR Aquatic Biologist Paula Packard as she discusses the interesting adaptations many aquatic plants have in response to this situation. She will also discuss how instituting the Quabbin Boat Seal program has prevented the introduction of new aquatic invasive species and protected the watershed and the fisheries of the reservoir.

Sunday, April 2, 2–4 p.m.

Quabbin Time Travel Trip to Prescott

*This presentation will be held at the Belchertown Senior Center following the Friends of Quabbin Annual Meeting
60 State Street, Belchertown*

Take a trip back in time with Jon Melick to visit Prescott, MA. Explore the town as it was before the fate of the Swift River Valley was sealed in 1927. A native of Newton, MA, Mr. Melick is a longtime resident of Boston and has led or helped to lead many historic hikes and bus trips through the Quabbin Reservoir.

Poet's Corner

LET IT RAIN

by Anne Ely

I know the answer, now, to our long drought.
Plan more trips, we need to get out and about.
We'll go prepared with boots, raincoat and cap
'Cause if Nancy H. doesn't cover her map...
It's gonna rain...

Rain is predicted, but it starts out dry.
As we bump along over old roads we spy
The Keystone Bridge built by hand, what a feat.
Although it's still dry and what we see's a treat...
It's gonna rain...

But we take it in stride as on we go
Matching a foundation to an old photo
Finding an angle for a camera snap
As we find the home on the bedraggled map...
It's now raining...

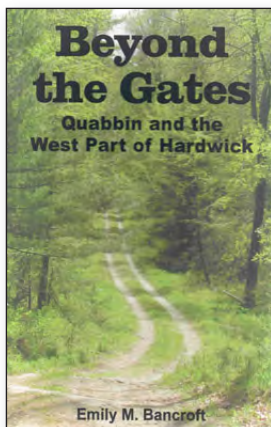
Yes, we're more than a little wet by now,
What's one more stop, soon it'll be time for chow.
We find traces of gardens and a car,
Apple trees, stonewall fences, barns and a jar.
It's still raining

Lunchtime under umbrellas and damp hats,
Then a group picture of some drowned rats.
If we helped the drought by having no sun
On our rainy outing, and still had such fun...
Then let it rain.



Photos by Anne Ely, Alberta Martin and Paul Godfrey

Visitor Center Store



There are two new items at the Visitor Center Store. The first is a book on how the creation of Quabbin Reservoir impacted and still impacts the Town of Hardwick. Hardwick is a small rural town on the eastern edge of the Quabbin Watershed. Much of its original western portion is now part of Quabbin's watershed. This publication of Emily Bancroft of the Hardwick Historical Society, *Beyond the Gates*, chronicles this history from the personal view of one

who only had a passing familiarity with the "neighbor to the west"—Quabbin but was awakened by the 75th

Remembrance Ball of the Friends in 2013 and discovered the more intimate aspects of the combined history and present beauty. The book is a wonderful "read" consisting of short chapters almost like snapshots created in near-poetic prose that leaves one feeling they were there with Emily. Proceeds benefit both the Friends and the Hardwick Historical Society. **\$15.00**

A second new item, also from the Hardwick Historical Society, is a video: *We Once Called This Home*. Similar in presentation to the Friend's audio CD that has been available for quite some time at the Visitor Center (*Here Was Home*), this one uses old photos and oral reminiscences to create a picture of life as it was before, during and after the creation of Quabbin. **\$15.00**



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Call for Member Submissions

This is your newsletter. We invite members to submit stories, articles, or reminiscences about the human or natural history of the Swift River Valley and Quabbin Reservoir.

Please send e-mail to Paul Godfrey at godfrey@tei.umass.edu, or mail items to:
The Friends of Quabbin
485 Ware Road, Belchertown, MA 01007



Quabbin Voices

The views and opinions expressed in this newsletter do not necessarily reflect the views of Friends of Quabbin, Inc.

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