

Quabbin Voices

The Friends of Quabbin Newsletter



Spring 2017
Vol.30 No.1

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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Notable Quabbin Photographer, Anne Ely, Has Exhibit of Photography and Poetry

by Ann Hurlburt and Alberta Martin



Photo: Dennis Lee

Regular readers of the *Voices* are familiar with the photography and poetry of Anne Ely, member of the Friends, regular Tuesday Tea participant and camera-carrier on the yearly Tuesday Tea jaunts through the hidden parts of the Quabbin. She's also a regular contributor of beautiful nature photographs to the *Daily Hampshire Gazette* and is a member of the Robert Floyd Gallery. Those of us who attend Tuesday Teas often get a sneak preview of coming attractions in the *Gazette*.

On Tuesday, February 8, 2017 at the Northampton Senior Center on Conz St. in Northampton the reception of Anne Ely's photography exhibit (Feb. 1–28) was held. There was also a reception in an adjoining room to celebrate her exhibition appropriately titled "Nature is the Spice of Life."

continued on page 6

Oriental Poppy

*It brings beauty to any garden bed,
This oriental poppy of flaming red.
Breeze-ruffled edges putting on a show
Like a dancer's skirts as she weaves to and fro.*



Slaty Skimmer

*He has a long blue body, his head is black.
As I approach he darts away, but he'll be back.
He zooms out over the pond and hovers there
Low over the water, then high up in the air.
A minute later he's back at the pond's edge;
Back to his former perch on the tall, grassy sedge.
Another dragonfly aims for the same stem.
It looks like that's a popular spot, a real gem.
So he's off again, darting here and away.
Sitting here in the sun, I could watch them all day.*



President's Message

Spring 2017

Our Boys Arriving in France Centennial

Gene Theroux

This summer (June 25th) will mark the centennial anniversary of the first group of "Doughboys" arriving in France as part of the American Expeditionary Force, "A.E.F." Doughboy was an informal term for a member of the United States Army or Marine Corps, especially used to refer to members of the A.E.F. The Selective Service Act of 1917 authorized the federal government to raise a national army for the American entry into World War I through a compulsory enlistment of people.

There were 105 volunteers and draftees from the former towns of the Swift River Valley who were inducted into the armed forces. Their calling was to serve their country and to go "Over There" in an effort to end all wars. Each town had an Honor Roll that identified the men and women who had served in the Great War and those who made the ultimate sacrifice. Three of the towns Honor Rolls are on the grounds of the Swift River Valley Historical Society in New Salem. The fourth Honor Roll, the Dana Memorial, is behind the Civil War Soldier in Quabbin Park Cemetery. Of the numbers on the Honor Rolls, there were 51 from Enfield, 30 from Dana, 11 from Greenwich and 13 from Prescott. These numbers do not include those who moved from the Valley before being inducted into the military such as Jesse Ely formerly of Smiths Village who moved to Pelham and Francis Charles Parker who grew up on Hill Street in Enfield and had moved to Springfield. There were 10 who gave their lives that Democracy might live. Four of the ten were killed in action during the war and of the remaining six, most died from influenza at Camp Devens. The A.E.F. sustained about 320,000 casualties: 53,402 battle deaths, 63,114 non-combat deaths and 204,000 wounded.

Camp Devens was a cantonment camp of the Seventy-sixth Division (Division of the North East) which was built in less than ten weeks near Ayer, Massachusetts. The troops at Camp Devens were from Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont, Massachusetts, Rhode Island, and Connecticut. Fifty thousand troops encamped at Camp Devens, preparing to go to France. In September 1918, Camp Devens was struck by the Influenza or Spanish Flu pandemic. In response, Camp Devens increased the number of doctors from 25 to over 250; they worked 16 hours a day trying to combat the flu scourge. There were an average of 100 deaths per day. The

flu was more deadly than the World War unfolding alongside it, wiping out America's young and healthy. By the time our troops had carried it across the pond, it had taken out an estimated 50 million people worldwide. The following men from the former towns died from Influenza during the war: George W. Ryan (Dana), William N. Hewitt (Enfield), Stephen H. Walker (Greenwich), John M. Currier (Prescott), Harold W. Peirce (Prescott) and Willis F. Shaw (Prescott).

There were four Doughboys from the former Swift River Valley killed in action during the war. Frederick Conrad



Fred Conrad Lincoln

Lincoln of Prescott, Private First Class, U.S. Army, Battery D, 304th Field Artillery Regiment, 77th Division was killed on September 10, 1918 in Vauxcerc, France and interred at the Oise-Aisne American Cemetery in Fere-en-Tardenois, France. John E. Hunter Jr. of Dana, Private, U.S. Army, Company C, 326th Infantry, 82nd Division was killed in action on October 14, 1918. His remains were returned to the United States and he is interred at Highland Cemetery, Athol, MA. Arthur L. Plant of Enfield, Private, U.S. Army, 301st Engineer Regiment, 76th Division was killed in action at the Battle of Saint-Mihiel on September 15, 1918 and is interned at the Saint-Mihiel American Cemetery in Thiaucourt, France. Joseph N. Plant is listed on the Enfield Honor Roll as died in the war, but no information was found on him in my searches.

Lincoln of Prescott, Private First Class, U.S. Army, Battery D, 304th Field Artillery Regiment, 77th Division was killed on September 10, 1918 in Vauxcerc, France and interred at the Oise-Aisne American Cemetery in Fere-en-Tardenois, France. John E. Hunter Jr. of Dana, Private, U.S. Army,



John E. Hunter, Jr.

Of the 105 names on the Honor Roll plaque on the Administration Building at Quabbin Park Cemetery, there is one woman listed. Hattie Belle Doane of Dana, who had served in the Great War. Hattie, who had attended the Technical High School Nursing Program in Springfield and graduated from the Holyoke Hospital School of Nursing, served in France with the Red Cross. After the war, she worked as a supervisor in several Massachusetts, New Jersey, and New York hospitals before moving to California in 1925 where she was supervisor in the Pasadena Dispensary. When Hattie went to Pasadena, (continued next page)

she took along her niece, Deanna Hamilton, the daughter of Mary Doane and Clifton Hamilton. Deanna H. Hamilton, now Deanna Krusiewicz, was the last child born in the former town of Dana. She is a regular attendee of Tuesday Teas.

Bob Clark, a former President of the Friends of Quabbin, wrote in his President’s Message in the July 2000 *Quabbin Voices*, “Let’s not forget! I propose that we publish the names of those who served from Enfield, Prescott, Greenwich and Dana, the wars they served in, and any information that will help make them part of those once real communities.” The list of names from the Honor Rolls from the former towns were published in the July 2000 *Quabbin Voices*. In addition, images of the Honor Rolls were also published on page 4. The July 2000 *Quabbin Voices* newsletter can be viewed at: http://friendsofquabbin.org/voices_vol15_num3.pdf.



Hattie Belle Doane

The Quabbin Park Cemetery Administration Building has a plaque with the names on town honor rolls. An asterisk to the left of an individual’s name indicates: died in the war. Just as Bob Clark wrote in his President’s Message in July 2000, I echo his words, “Let’s not forget!”

This year’s Memorial Day Services at Quabbin Park Cemetery will be held on Sunday, May 28th. At 10 a.m refreshments will be served. The parade will begin at 11:00 a.m. and there will be a ceremony immediately after the parade. Later in the day, at 2 p.m., at the Quabbin Visitor Center, Nancy Huntington will provide an interpretive program highlighting some of the Swift River Valley veterans from the early Colonial wars through the Korean War. It was during the Korean War that the phrase “all gave some; some gave all” originated. It is widely attributed to Korean War veteran and Purple Heart recipient William Osterkamp.

I encourage you to attend this years’ Memorial Day Services at Quabbin Park Cemetery and to attend the Veterans Program at the Quabbin Visitor Center. On this centennial anniversary of the first Doughboys arriving in France in WWI, let us keep the memory of those 105 residents on the Honor Rolls from the former towns. Let’s not forget that “all gave some; some gave all.”

Sources

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Left: This plaque is mounted on the Quabbin Park Cemetery Administration Building. It is the center piece above the refreshment table during the Quabbin Park Memorial Day Services.

We cannot separate the volunteers from those who were draftees who served in WW I. There was a draft in the Civil War and it was a bit different the draft for WW I.

The biggest difference between the draft established by the Selective Service Act of 1917 and the Civil War draft was that a substitute could no longer be hired to fight in a man’s place.

In the Civil War, men who did not desire to fight could hire a substitute. However, because it was expensive to hire someone, only very affluent people could afford to do so. This resulted in a disproportionately low number of wealthy men fighting in the war.

A Brief History of the DCR/MWRA Water System

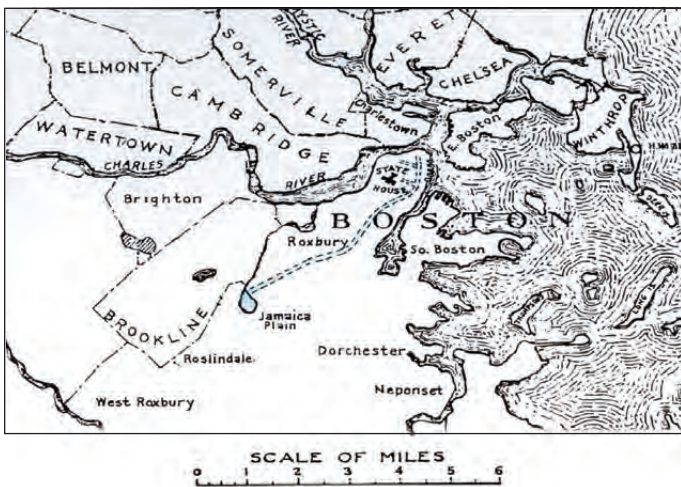
by Maria Beiter-Tucker

1600s–1700s Boston’s Early Water Supply

Boston was settled in 1630 and its first water supply was a spring near the common. Most earlier settlers relied on water from cisterns and underground wells, but the quality was poor and the supply inadequate. As Boston became more populated, lack of water became a greater problem, especially for fire control.

1796 The Aqueduct Corporation—Jamaica Pond

The first attempt to provide a more organized water supply system came in 1796. The Aqueduct Corporation began delivering water from Jamaica Pond through wooden pipes. When a fire broke out, volunteer firefighters bored holes into the wooden mains and tapped them. After the fire, they plugged the holes and marked the spot for future fires.



An early map showing the route of the aqueduct from Jamaica Pond



A wooden aqueduct with a fireplug from Boston’s early water system

1846 Lake Cochituate and the Metropolitan System

By 1825 the population of Boston had grown to 50,000 people and had suffered a devastating fire. Aside from low-water pressure, contaminated water was also a concern. Boston needed a reliable supply of water for drinking water and to fight fires. After decades of debate, the state legislature voted to build a

publicly owned aqueduct system as well as to buy property from the Aqueduct Corporation and other private water corporations. Long Pond in Natick was recommended as a spot for a reservoir and a 14.62 mile aqueduct was built to supply 16 million gallons a day. Renamed Lake Cochituate, the reservoir was in use until 1946. In 1951, it was removed from the active water system and is now managed as a state park.



View of the celebration on Boston Common, October 25, 1848. The first water from Lake Cochituate flowed into the Frog Pond at a dedication ceremony which drew 100,000 people.



View of Lake Cochituate c. 1900

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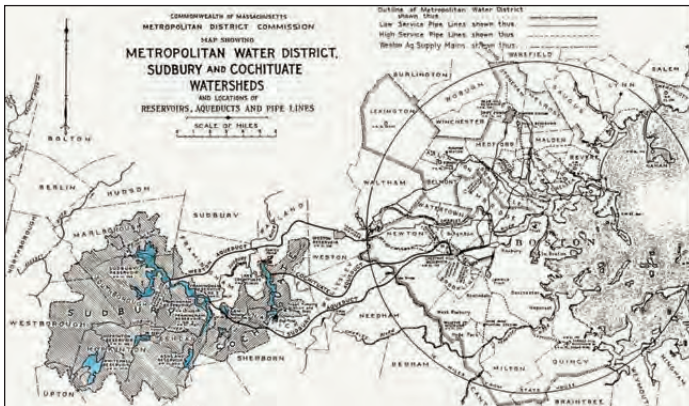
1870 Expanding the Water Supply

By 1868 Boston’s population had reached 225,000. This dramatic growth in population along with the introduction of indoor plumbing put further strains on Boston’s water supply. In 1870, the Mystic Lakes system in Winchester, Medford, and Arlington, originally developed by Charlestown, was added to the Boston system when Charlestown was annexed. This lake system had a yield of 30 million gallons a day. In 1910, the Mystic Lakes were removed from the water system due to pollution and became a recreation area.

1878 Sudbury Reservoirs

In 1878 construction began on a system along the Sudbury River to supplement the Lake Cochituate system in Natick.

These new reservoirs were Sudbury, Whitehall, Hopkinton, Ashland, Stearns, Brackett, and Foss. They collectively added 10 billion gallons to the water supply.



Historic map of the Metropolitan Water District



Gatehouse at Foss Reservoir (Framingham Reservoir No. 3)

In 1947 the Whitehall, Hopkinton, and Ashland Reservoirs became part of the state park system (currently managed by DCR), and in 1976 the entire Sudbury System was officially reclassified as an emergency water supply. Today the DCR Office of Watershed Protection manages 4,943 acres of land in the Sudbury Reservoir watershed system. However, only the Sudbury Reservoir and Foss (Framingham Reservoir No. 3) are classified as a reserve drinking water supply.

1897 Wachusett Reservoir

As metropolitan Boston's population continue to grow, plans were made to expand the water supply by investigating many of the watersheds in the central part of Massachusetts. In 1897, work began to impound the Nashua River above the town of Clinton. Six and a half square miles were cleared and flooded in the towns of Boylston, West Boylston, Clinton and Sterling. In 1905 the reservoir was completed and it was first filled to capacity in May 1908. Built to service the 29 municipalities within the 10 mile radius of the State House, the Wachusett Reservoir added 64 billion gallons of water to the water supply. Water from the Wachusett Aqueduct could be released into the reservoirs of the Sudbury River system for transport to Boston via the Sudbury Aqueduct or the Weston Aqueduct. At the time, the Wachusett Reservoir was the largest public water supply reservoir in the world.



The Clinton Dam was completed in 1905

1927 Ware River Watershed

Often overlooked, the Ware River watershed is an important piece of the drinking water supply for Greater Boston and the Chicopee Valley. Developed in conjunction with the Swift River Valley, approximately 23,000 acres of land were taken by the state to protect the Ware River watershed area. West Rutland village, Coldbrook Springs in Oakham and White Valley in Barre were cleared of all farms, factories and homes, along with Rutland State Prison. In all, 350 people lost their homes and businesses to the project in the Ware River watershed.

1927-1939 Quabbin Reservoir

After the completion of the Wachusett Reservoir in 1908 failed to meet the region's long term water needs, officials set their eyes upon the Swift River valley. Due to the geography of the valley with its low hills and broad lowlands, as well as the high quality of the water, this area had been considered since 1895 as an excellent spot to build a reservoir. By impounding the Swift River and Beaver Brook where they exited the valley, a huge source of fresh water could be created. In 1927, after years of discussion, the legislature passed the Swift River Act, appropriating money to build a reservoir in the valley. The



A portion of the Swift River Valley showing Enfield prior to construction



Swift River Valley before construction



Quabbin Valley before and after, Les Campbell montage

project was completed in 1939 and the reservoir was full by 1946, adding 412 billion gallons to the water supply. Almost 2,700 residents lost their homes, farms and businesses.



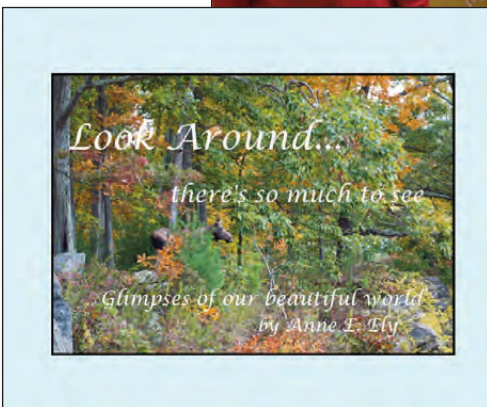
Swift River Valley after clearing

1950 Chicopee Valley Aqueduct

In 1947 work was begun on the Chicopee Valley Aqueduct (CVA) and completed three years later. Today, Chicopee, Wilbraham and South Hadley Fire District #1 are serviced by this aqueduct. Water from the CVA is treated at the Quabbin Water Treatment Plant in Ware. From there water travels to the Nash Hill storage tank in Ludlow and then to the service communities.

Anne Ely continued...

It was an opportunity to see her art as it should be shown, large and in full color, not as a black and white, low resolution print-



ing in the *Voices*. But as beautiful as her work is, that night was truly dreadful. The very icy and rainy night

made for slippery driving and walking so our little group was quite careful in approaching the building. Once safely inside, we found a long hallway with the entire wall lined with expertly framed and hung photos by Anne. Anne displayed about 20 of her photographs, all of which were accompanied by her

descriptive poetry. Each poem accented and elaborated the image it accompanied. They were a light touch, whimsical and appreciative of the opportunity given to capture the image.

Some were panoramic shots of fog shrouded mountains or low light accented geographic features. There was a photo of a mature buck with velvet covered antlers and a bobcat crossing an ice covered waterway. It appears that birds might be Anne's specialty as there several including a matched pair of ducks. Anne also included several flowers and my favorite, a perfectly posed dragonfly.

There was also a greeting table with reception book to be signed by visitors and her business cards. Also there was Anne's newly published hard cover book containing 100 outdoor photographs. Titled **Look Around...There's So Much to See**, the book displays some stunning photography, much of it taken within the Quabbin Reservoir boundaries. There are brief captions with each photo so the reader knows a bit about each image. The book is published "on-demand" so it is not in the bookstores or Amazon. It is at: <http://www.blurb.com/books/7408450-look-around>.

In a meeting room opposite her photos there was reception with light refreshments. Guests gathered to meet and compliment Anne on her impressive collection. She credits her ability to locate so many normally difficult to locate and photograph animals and scenery shots involving changing light patterns to "an awful lot of patience."

Quabbin—A Precious Gift

Poem and Photographs by Anne Ely



A quiet peace settles over me as I sit here. Filtering down through the tall pines, the early morning sun warms the air as a light spring breeze gently sways the branches, sending shadows gliding slowly back and forth over the ground. I breathe in the earthy scent of the sun-warmed ground and spy green shoots of new spring growth that are beginning to push their way up through last fall's carpet



of leaves. Deer will soon be busy browsing on these tasty morsels after their sparse fare of winter.

When I first sat, it was as if I was completely alone in a vast world of silence, but the longer I stay, the more I'm aware of sounds of life all around me. A tap, tap, tapping sound coming from a nearby dead tree brings into view a downy woodpecker hunting for a breakfast of grubs.



Turning my head at a nearby rustle, I catch a fleeting glance of a chipmunk scurrying from through the leaves and zipping down a hole among the tree roots.

Looking out over the expanse of water before me I watch a feeding loon bobbing along then suddenly disappearing in a dive. I hold my breath searching for where it will reappear and wondering how it can stay underwater so long.

I rise to leave and a blue jay calls out its alarm. I search the sky for an eagle, none today, but maybe next time. I will return again and again to this wonderful place; so peaceful, yet so full of life. Thank you, my friends. You who gave up everything have given us so much.





Interpretive Services Report

Spring 2017

by Clif Read

The drought conditions that have gripped the state for the past year have eased a little this winter with the two large snow storms in early February, followed by winter storm Stella in mid-March, however water supply managers are keeping a close eye on reservoir levels as the calendar flips over to spring. After declaring initial Drought Advisories for the Connecticut River Valley and Southeast Regions and Drought Watches for the Central and Northeast Regions of the state early last summer, the Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs followed up with increased drought status levels for the entire state. While the Central, Northeast and Southeast Regions were elevated to Warning Status, one notch below the highest Emergency status, the CT. River and Cape and Islands were increased to Watch status, the next level down in severity. Even the Western Region which had received greater rainfall than the rest of the state was classified in an Advisory category, indicating water level concerns. As water levels continued to drop and rainfall was meager at best throughout the fall, the entire state was classified in the Warning level with the exception of the Cape and Islands which had benefitted from elevated rainfall from hurricanes further out to sea. Finally the situation began to reverse itself in February as the long awaited snows finally arrived and as the snowpack depths increased, the Drought Status levels were eased for the entire state. While the situation is not as serious as it was late fall, the state could easily be pushed back into a more severe situation if precipitation levels do not return to normal/above normal in the coming months.

Because Quabbin Reservoir is such a large body of water it takes a long time to drain it down to worrisome levels, but consequently it also takes a long period of time to replenish supplies and fill it back up once it is low. While many other reservoirs in the state were significantly below normal for the past year, Quabbin was able to weather (so to speak) the drought due to its massive volume and also the reduced demand over the past 25 years. It was not until mid-December that the reservoir finally dropped below its Normal Operation Range. While the downward trajectory of the reservoir bottomed out in mid January the recovery has been very slow, even with all the snow melt from the February storms. Since groundwater levels were drawn down so low as a result of the drought, a greater percentage of melting snow was absorbed into the ground rather than running off or recharging tributaries. Winter storm Stella provided a nice little shot of precipitation in the middle of the month, but the reservoir and the rest of the state needs sustained rainfall levels through the summer to prevent a return to warnings and watches.



1989 Gate 11 looking north

Looking back over data for the past couple of years, reminds us of the winter of 2014/15 that was so cold and snowy. The weather pattern that winter dumped snow at historic levels, particularly in the eastern part of the state. That was a distant memory last winter as we entered a much drier, warmer weather pattern last year that saw precipitation levels below the historical average in 21 out of the past 26 months. During that time the amount of precipitation was only 78% of the 70 year average, (78" versus the normal 100"), which put the watershed and reservoir in a continued water deficit. When compared to other times of drought, this number is significant, but not record breaking. The last time the reservoir was this low was in 2002; then the reservoir dropped to the same level as this year's elevation of 11.5' below capacity (79.1% full).

Going back to 1989, the drought and resulting water levels were even more dramatic with the elevation falling 18.5' below capacity (67% full). This was of particular concern because at that time the reservoir and precipitation patterns were eerily similar to the first couple of years of the drought in the mid-1960s when the reservoir eventually fell to its lowest level since filling to capacity. On March 5, 1967, Quabbin reached the lowest point of that drought, down 34.3' below capacity (45% full). The combination of low precipitation levels, extreme summer heat and high consumption levels in the middle of that decade steadily dropped Quabbin's level to unprecedented levels, exposing vast areas of the reservoir floor and leading people to wonder if the reservoir would ever fill to capacity again. Although it took until 1976 for the reservoir and the region to fully recover from the drought, Quabbin did fill to capacity once again.

One reason why the drought of 2016/2017 did not impact Quabbin water levels more dramatically is the fact that the overall consumption by the user communities, now numbering 51, is significantly lower than usage figures from the 1960s and 1980s. The average consumption for the system in 1980 was approximately 325 million gallons a day compared to current figures of just over 200 million gallons a day. Although the precipitation figures may have been similar during these three droughts, the fact that people were using less water

meant that less was leaving the reservoir. That is good news for the long term sustainability of the water supply. The other good news is that the reservoir is doing exactly what it is supposed to do—storing water during times of excess rainfall/snowfall, and providing a continued supply during the dry times even though the levels may be drawn down. Quabbin is large enough to absorb those deficit months and should be able to operate effectively for the foreseeable future with its existing water sources.

Ironically, the Sunday Afternoon Program Series presentation on “The Influence of Weather Patterns, Forest Ecosystems, and Human Use on Water Supplies” by Dr. Paul Barten, Professor of Forestry and Hydrology at the UMASS Amherst that was

scheduled for February 12th had to be cancelled due to the snow storm that day. While we are unable to reschedule this presentation this spring due to scheduling conflicts, we hope to be able to offer it next fall at some point.

The other programs in the Sunday Series this winter have been excellent, well attended and of great interest. Thanks to all those who have helped make these programs so successful. Coming up is a “first ever,” joint DCR presentation- Friends of Quabbin Annual Meeting with the ever popular Jon Melick presenting his Time Travel Trip to Prescott on April 2nd, 3–4 p.m. (see Meeting and Events). The Friends Annual Meeting starts at 1 p.m. for the business meeting and a 2–3 p.m. social hour for members and presentation attendees.



1966 Gate 11 looking north



2016 Gate 28



Retirement of Bill Pula

Bill Pula retired as superintendent/Regional Director for the Metropolitan District Commission/Department of Conservation and Recreation overseeing operations at the Quabbin/Ware River Section after 24 years. He was uniquely qualified for the position with degrees in Forestry/Natural Resources Management and Civil Engineering and professional experience in flood control and public drinking water oversight and certification. He also brought a passion for the outdoors to the position, especially fishing. Bill, while in the same position, experienced two job titles, two Directors (his bosses), two agency names, 11 agency Commissioners, 10 Secretaries of (Energy and) Environmental Affairs, and six Governors; that's resilience! He has also been a strong advocate for the activities of the Friends, as examples conducting informative boat tours during the summer picnics and making the resources of DCR available for the recent Enfield Bicentennial Celebration.

The Friends awarded Bill with a life membership in the organization and will be awarding him a special recognition at the next possible opportunity.

Meetings & Events

Annual Memorial Day Commemoration Services

Sunday, May 28
10 a.m. to 12 p.m.
Quabbin Park Cemetery

Refreshments will be served for the first hour at the Quabbin Park Cemetery Building, then the March Step-off commences at 11 a.m., followed by Services at the Town Monuments. The event is co-sponsored by the Friends of Quabbin, the Belchertown Veterans Council and the Department of Conservation and Recreation, and features the Belchertown Community Band. At 2 p.m., Nancy Huntington, DCR, will provide an interpretive program highlighting some of the Swift River Valley veterans from the early colonial wars through the Korean War.

Tuesday Teas

Tuesday Tea meetings are held on the 1st Tuesday of each month. The next one will be April 4th. Then they will be on May 2nd, June 6th and July 4th.

Photo Club Meetings

The **Quabbin Photo Group** (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.

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).

May 22 – Members Night

June 26 – Joseph Platz will present a program on photographic composition.

The **Pioneer Valley Photographic Artists** (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, April 2, 3–4 p.m.

Quabbin Time Travel Trip to Prescott

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. **This program will be presented at the Belchertown Senior Center (60 State St. Belchertown) after the Friends of Quabbin Annual Meeting.**

Swift River Valley Historical Society

MUSEUM OPEN

Sunday and Wednesday afternoons from 1–4 p.m. from June 11 to September 24. Admission is free. Donations gladly accepted!

June 25 – Birds of Prey with Tom Ricardi. Time TBA

July 9 – Then & Now (mid 30s to 80 years later) with Dale Monette at 4 p.m.

July 15 – Old Home Day, New Salem Common

July 16 – Dana Reunion, Dana Common. Gates open at 10 a.m.

July 22 – Dana Vespers at Prescott Church at 2 p.m. Cake and lemonade will be served after the concert to commemorate Mrs. Clary's 179th birthday. Mrs. Clary lived in the Whitaker-Clary house until she was 98 years old (1814-1912).

BUS TRIPS

Sunday, June 25 – NEW SALEM/DANA with walk to Greenwich Village/Baffle Dams. Meet at SRVHS in time for 11:00 a.m. departure. Cost \$30. per reservation.

Sunday, October 1 – PRESCOTT/ENFIELD. Meet at SRVHS in time for 11:00 a.m. departure. Cost \$30. per reservation.

Bus trips run rain or shine and you are invited to bring a lunch. Please be prepared for ticks and bugs. The trips last approximately 5 hours.

Reservations are on a first-come first-served basis with payment. Reservations may be made by mail to PO Box 22, New Salem, MA 01355; by email to dotfryesrvhs@gmail.com or by leaving a message at telephone number 978-544-6882.

SPRING HIKES

Sunday, April 23, Gate 30 Orange/Millington Road

Meet at Gate 30.

Sunday, May 7, Gate 43. Explore parts of Hardwick and south west Dana area. Meet at Gate 43.

Friends of Quabbin Annual Meeting

Sunday, April 2, 2017
Belchertown Senior Center

(From center of Belchertown south on Rte 202,
0.8 miles on right, next to police station)

Time: 12:00 to 4:00 p.m.

Business Meeting at 1–2 p.m.; Social time: 2–3 p.m.;

Program: Quabbin Time Travel Trip to Prescott
with Jon Melick at 3–4 p.m.

Visitor Center Store

Credit Cards are no longer accepted at the Visitor Center. Visitors interested in purchasing something at the Visitor Center will find one option missing. For two years, we tried an experiment of allowing use of a credit card for payment. It was a gamble. Would sales be sufficient to justify the fees the seller must bear for allowing payment with a credit card?

In the case of the Visitor Center, the answer was a resounding NO! In fact, in some months we subsidized purchases and lost money because the fees were largely a fixed amount and sales were too low. And in most months, fees seriously eroded the funds we need to operate most of the other parts of the Friends. We cut our losses in February. From now on it will be cash or check only. We're sorry for any inconvenience this may create.

Free Books on the Quabbin

For the past two years, Friends of Quabbin has promoted its book donation program to libraries and schools. A number of libraries and schools have availed themselves of this wonderful opportunity. Our goal is simple: encourage others, particularly younger generations, to learn more about the history and environment of the Quabbin. If you have a school or library that would benefit from this program, please tell them of this opportunity and give them these application guidelines.

Book Donation Policy—Application

Conditions for Application

1. Must have some connection to Quabbin—historically or environmentally.
2. Must be a non-profit or public entity. If they do not have such a formal status, they must provide evidence that no individual will have monetary gain (example, re-selling the books).
3. Must have as a written or implied goal the increased knowledge and understanding of some aspect of Quabbin.
4. Group or organization must be resident in Massachusetts.

Minimum and Maximum Amounts per Year

Minimum: \$50
 Maximum: \$100
 Total to be up to \$500/year in year one and evaluated by the Board thereafter.

Books may be selected by visiting the Friends of Quabbin Web Site (www.friendsofquabbin.org) or requesting a book listing from Paul Godfrey (godfrey@tei.umass.edu). We suggest that books requested be listed in priority and number needed. The Friends will provide as many on the list as possible for the required amount. Note: the book price used will be the cost to the Friends and not the retail cost, i.e. approximately 60% of retail.

Submission

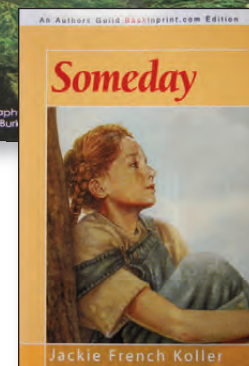
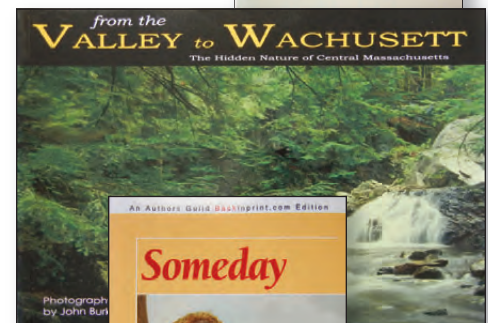
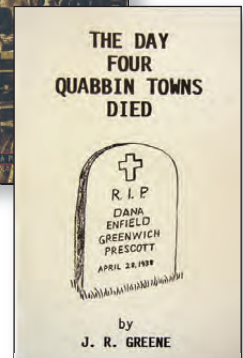
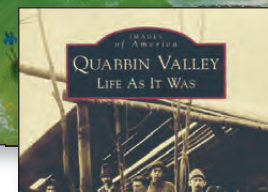
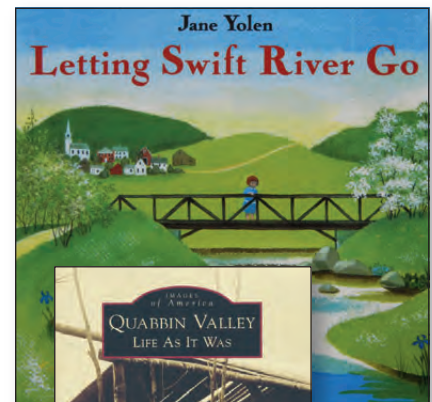
Proposals of no more than 5 double-spaced pages including intended users and use, location of use, duration of use (one time, every year, occasionally, continually, etc.) and books and amount requested. Send to Paul Godfrey, Friends of Quabbin Treasurer, 47 Harkness Road, Pelham, MA 01002 or, preferably, by email: godfrey@tei.umass.edu

Selection of Proposals to Support

The Coordinating Committee will select those proposals to support. The Board may request information at any time. The program will be reported on at the annual meeting.

Reporting Requirements

Require all successful recipients to briefly describe the use of the funds and their intended benefit in terms applicable to FOQ goals. Provide examples of that benefit.



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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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