

EASTON HISTORICAL SOCIETY

# TRAIN TRACKS



## An Exciting Fall

Hard to believe fall is here already! Those beautiful shade trees that kept us cool all summer will soon be the cause of considerable labor!

The Society recently participated in the 75th anniversary celebration of Frothingham Park! On Saturday, September 10th, a re-enactment of the original dedication was held. The day turned out to be beautiful, and a fine crowd turned out to take part in the many activities. Your Society was offered an opportunity to set up a display. We brought some pictures of the original dedication ceremony, and photos from past field days held at the park. The pictures that created the most excitement, however, were the ones that were taken of the many teams who played on the hallowed fields of Frothingham. The Huskies, Oliver Ames football and baseball teams and cheerleaders photos brought back many memories of Easton's rich sports heritage, and of the people who played such a significant role in the parks history. Many thanks to Buddy Wooster for including us in on the celebration of a great institution!

This fall, you can see us at the NRT Harvest Fair at Sheep Pasture, on October 2nd. We will be selling our glass ornaments and will have a display of items from Easton's historical past. As always, we will be open both days of the Lions Club annual Holiday Festival held on the first weekend in December. Be sure to come by and visit! We have plenty of gift ideas for the holidays, as well as an opportunity to purchase tickets for a very special raffle. Details will be found inside this newsletter.

Have a great autumn!

The Easton Historical Society is pleased to recognize the 75th anniversary of Frothingham Park! The late Mrs. Louis Frothingham (formerly Mary S. Ames) gave the park to the town as a memorial to her husband, a well known politician who enjoyed athletics. Frothingham Park is a fine example of the legacy of the Ames family in Easton. Congratulations!

### CALENDAR

*Saturday, October 1st, Bottle Drive at the Station, 9 A.M. to 1 P.M.*

*Sunday, October 2nd, visit us at the NRT Harvest Fair at Sheep Pasture, Route 138, North Easton*

*Sunday, October 9th, Open House at the Station, 1-5 P.M. Raffle tickets available!*

*Sunday, November 13th, Open House at the Station, 1-5 P.M. Raffle tickets available!*

*Saturday, December 3rd and Sunday, December 4th, Easton Lions Club annual Holiday Festival. Station open on Dec.3rd from 10 A.M. to 5 P.M. and Dec. 4th from Noon to 5 P.M. Raffle tickets available!*

*Sunday, December 11th, Open House at the Station, 1-5 P.M. Raffle winner to be drawn today!*

*Easton Historical Society Newsletter is published quarterly by the Easton Historical Society.*

*Officers:*

*President, Editor—Frank T. Meninno*

*1st Vice President—Ken Michel*

*2nd Vice President, Curator—Paul Berry*

*Treasurer—Patricia Baker*

*Recording Secretary—Hazel Varella*

*Corresponding Secretary—Curtis Chase*

*Director—Dot Berry*

*Director—Ed Hands*

*Director—Deborah MacPhee*

## The Station Master

President Frank T. Meninno

Greetings fellow history lovers! I hope your summer was a time of refreshing and relaxation.

First of all, I apologize for the lateness of the newsletter. My computer finally gave up, and I have not replaced it (I am still out of work). However, Easton Baptist Church has graciously allowed me to use their computer, which has the same program I use to create these newsletters. Thank you!

The heating system work has been completed. A new burner, tank, circulators and other items were installed, and the building has been rezoned into a more efficient system. We expect to see better performance from the new system,

increased dependability, and better fuel economy. The cost of the system was just shy of \$15,000. Financing was offered to us by the Bank of Easton, which has given us a zero percent interest loan. The Bank also absorbed the closing costs, so we didn't have to pay any out of pocket expenses up front. I am very grateful to them for their help in getting this project completed before another winter sets in!

In another place in this newsletter, you will notice a few special opportunities to help to reduce this debt. We have received a wonderful gift from Mr. and Mrs. Edwin C. White, an 1895 map of North Easton that is beautifully framed. The

directors and I feel that a raffle will be the best way to allow members, and then the public, to have an opportunity to own a great piece of history. All proceeds will go towards paying off the loan for the heating system. I also urge you to take advantage of the pre-order form for this year's glass ornament, the third in the series of Richardson buildings in Easton. Ornaments are still available from 2003 and 2004, so if you haven't yet begun your collection, it's not too late to start!

Finally, I hope you will stop by and visit us this fall at our open houses and at the NRT Fair. See you around!

## The Curator's Corner

Curator Paul Berry

The summer was pretty busy at the Station. The heating system installation went well, and some old equipment left over from previous work was also removed. More work will need to be done to really get the basement usable for storage. The floor will need sealing and cementing, and the first floor will need to have supports installed. Eventually, we hope to install a climate controlled vault for storing more sensitive items in our collections.

One thing that we are looking for is yearbooks. They are a great source of information, and we have used them to identify people in other photographs we have (sports teams photos for example), and to provide information to other people about family and friends that are in these books. If you have a copy of any Easton or Oliver Ames yearbook you are willing to spare, please consider allowing us to add it to our collection. Yearbooks from Stonehill College, other area colleges and private schools that contain information on Easton residents and students would also be appreciated, and a helpful addition to our archives.

Finally, several volunteer opportunities exist. Please contact us at 508-238-7774 if you can give us some time and talent! We always have cleaning to do, and programs you can help with. This is your Society, and we would like to give you the chance to become involved.

## Wanted: Bottles and Cans!

The Easton Historical Society will hold their fall bottle and can drive on Saturday, October 1st, from 9 A.M. to 1 P.M. at the Station on Mechanic Street, North Easton. Please bring your washed, returnable bottles and cans to the Station that morning, or call to arrange for pickup of larger quantities. Ken Martin will once again be running this important fundraiser for us, and will be ably assisted by Ed Hands. All proceeds will go towards the cost of heating the Station. Your past generosity has been sincerely appreciated, and we hope you will continue to support us! Ken can be reached at 508-238-2185, or you may call the Station at 508-238-7774.

Thank you!

## AN EXCEPTIONAL OPPORTUNITY!

*The Easton Historical Society is pleased to announce a very special fundraiser! Mr. and Mrs. Edwin C. White, long time members and friends of the Society, have generously donated an original 1895 map of the village of North Easton! This map is in beautiful condition, and has been professionally framed by the J. Inman Gallery. The framed and matted map measures approximately 39" wide by 29" high. The mat is neutral in color, and the frame is made of a walnut colored wood with an exquisite rope detail around the inside edge. The map itself was part of the 1895 Bristol County Atlas. Among the features included on this rare map are the locations and shapes of houses and outbuildings, the lot owners names, street names and colored areas depicting ponds, school houses and cemeteries. Perhaps your own house is included on this map! On the back of the map is the original list of some of the merchants in the village. Since this map was produced for county and state records, a limited amount were printed. These maps, when one might be found, retail for between \$75—\$100 depending on condition. The framing and matting on this particular map greatly adds to its value. This map would make a handsome addition to anyone's home or a great gift! The map will be displayed at each open house. The Society deeply appreciates the generosity of the White's for this gift, and extends our sincere thanks to them.*

*The Directors feel that the fairest way to offer this map to everyone would be to hold a raffle. We have set a limit of 300 tickets, priced at \$20 each. Members may have the first opportunity to order raffle tickets by returning the form below. Beginning with the October 9th open house, tickets will be offered to the public. The winner will be drawn at 4 P.M. on December 11th during our open house at the Station. We only ask that the item be picked up in person, and that you provide proper identification. Good luck!*

## 1895 Map Raffle

Please use this form to order your raffle tickets. Tickets will be sold on a first come, first served basis. When tickets are sold out, your funds will be returned. Make your check payable to Easton Historical Society, and mail it to: Easton Historical Society, P.O. Box 3, North Easton, MA 02356. Your tickets will be mailed to you. Thank you!

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City / Town \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

Number of Tickets \_\_\_\_ X \$20 Each = Total \$ \_\_\_\_\_

## 2005 Glass Ornaments

The 2005 Mary Bodio designed glass ornaments will be here soon! This year will be the third in the series of Richardson buildings in Easton, and will feature Mary's depiction of the Gate Lodge on Elm Street, North Easton. The Gate Lodge was designed by Richardson as the entrance to the Langwater estate, and included an apartment and storage rooms. Many thanks to Mary Bodio for allowing us to use her original artwork, and for her continued support of the Society!

Please use this form to pre-order your ornaments. Ornaments are \$10 each, or a set of 4 for \$36. They should be ready for pickup at the Station during the Holiday Festival December 3rd and 4th, and Mary Bodio will be on hand that weekend to sign your ornaments. The date and time of her visit will be announced in the next newsletter, and in the local papers.

### Ornament Order Form

Please use this form to order your 2005 ornaments. Make checks payable to Easton Historical Society, and send it to: Mrs. Hazel Varella, 121 Center Street, North Easton, MA 02356. The Society thanks you and appreciates your continued support!

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
City / Town \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_ Phone (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

Number of single ornaments \_\_\_\_\_ X \$10 each \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
Sets of four ornaments \_\_\_\_\_ X \$36 per set \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
Total Cost \$ \_\_\_\_\_

EASTON HISTORICAL SOCIETY



Old Colony Railroad Station

P.O. Box 3, 80 Mechanic Street  
North Easton MA 02356

[Ehsociety@arczip.com](mailto:Ehsociety@arczip.com)

NON-PROFIT ORG.  
U. S. POSTAGE  
PAID  
NO. EASTON, MA