



NORTH SMITHFIELD HERITAGE ASSOCIATION MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

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NORTH SMITHFIELD'S "COAT OF ARMS"

Chapter 2, Article I, Sec. 2-4 of the North Smithfield Code of Ordinances governs the "Coat of arms of the town," and states:

In heraldic terms, the coat of arms of the town shall read: "North Smithfield. Vert a chevron between three smith's hammers argent, on a chief azure an estoile of the second."



What does this mean? Essentially, it is a fancy (and partly French) way of saying that the loose garment worn over the arm of a knight (the coat of arms) for the town is to include a "vert a chevron"—a saw's tooth arching from the middle of the left side to the middle of the right (that is, the crooked line in the middle); three argent (silver) blacksmith hammers—symbolizing the three villages of Greenville, Georgiaville, and Esmond of Smithfield, of which North Smithfield was once part; and on the top part, which is azure (blue), there is an estoile—a star.

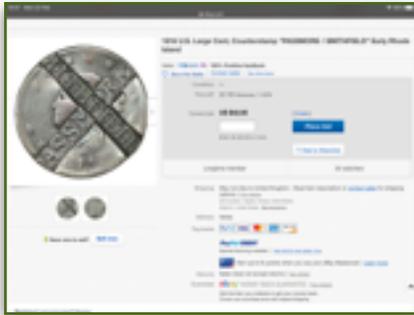
Help Promote Local History

Please share this newsletter with family and friends! If you have questions or want to learn more, please contact us at nsha@nsheritageassn.com or call 401-447-6394. You can also help by liking and sharing our website and Facebook page! They contain a wealth of information about our local history, our organization and its many ongoing historic preservation activities. See page 17 for details.

Visit us on Facebook for updates throughout the month.



MAY SPOTLIGHT: THE BID FOR THE PASSMORE COIN



A former town resident who currently lives in London, Leon Nawrocki, recently alerted NSHA to the pending sale of an unusual 19th Century counter-struck coin for sale on eBay, with the posting pictured to the left here. The 1816 Large Cent coin was counter-stamped “PASSMORE” and “SMITHFIELD” at right angles. This prompted us to do some research. From *The History of North Smithfield*, published in 1878, we found the following:

“The Branch. Otis Bartlett commenced the business of scythe-making about the year 1800, at a place about a mile above Slatersville, but operated this factory but a short time, when he removed his works to this place. Elisha Bartlett’s three sons, Otis, George, and Oliver made scythes at this place for many years, and afterwards admitted their brother-in-law, Colonel Comstock Passmore, as a partner. He bought out his partners, one by one, and in 1820, he owned the establishment. He continued business until his death, in 1825. This energetic businessman died at the age of 44 years, greatly lamented by a large circle of friends; and the business community of the town suffered a great loss by his death. The same company had a cotton factory, which they built in 1805, and spun cotton in connection with the scythe-works. After the Colonel's death, his son, George B. Passmore, ran the scythe-works and factory together a few years, when he leased the scythe-works to Otis Bartlett for a term of years. After the expiration of said lease, he again assumed the management, and continued business until disaster overtook him. Daniels & Arnold purchased the privilege, and ran for three years, when Mr. Daniels bought Mr. Arnold's interest and conducted the business for three or four years, when he sold to Darling & Mansfield, who ran a few years on woolen goods. For several years, the mill had varying fortunes, sometimes running on cotton and then on woolen goods. About 1858, the present owners, the Blackstone Woolen Company, purchased the privilege, and have manufactured shoddy-goods. This company leased the old scythe-works for several years, but they were finally abandoned.”

Colonel Comstock Passmore (1781-1825) served in the Rhode Island Militia. Perhaps the 1816 coin was counter-struck in 1825 to commemorate his passing. He is buried in the Union Cemetery, his stone pictured to the right. Understanding the history of the coin instilled a desire to purchase it for the NSHA archives. Once we made an offer, a bidding war began! We opted out at \$265, and the coin sold for over \$300. It would have been an interesting piece at \$42 but soon it became an extravagant curiosity!





THE NORTH SMITHFIELD MUSIC DEPARTMENT

“Memories of past years”

by Michael J. Boday

Movement Five — “The First Years”

My musical career in North Smithfield revolved primarily around the instrumental program, and only touched upon the vocal program. Consequently, my articles will continue to focus on the development of the band curriculum, initially with the Junior/Senior High, and then during the latter part of my career, with the elementary program.

In a previous article—“Movement Three” in the March 2021 *NSHA Newsletter*—I mentioned the beginning of a distinguish line of McDonald’s All-American Band members that began with Robert Sorel (1971). In 1975, Elaine George (pictured here to the right) became the second band member to be recognized with this honor. Elaine was a trombonist whose father, Prudente George, was the school maintenance supervisor. According to Prudente, after graduation Elaine became the first female member of a Navy Band that was stationed in California. Next, in 1982 Frances Mencucci, another of our fine trombonists, was selected for the band. Short in stature, Fran ranked among the best musicians to graduate from our program. Fran also went into teaching music, then taught elementary school.



In 1984, Paula Roy, an outstanding trumpet player, joined this renowned group. Paula went on to major in Music, but later changed her vocation. She is pictured here with Miss America Vanessa Williams in 1984. In 1988, Eunice Chen, a flutist, was selected for the McDonald’s All-American Band. Eunice, besides being a talented musician, was also a fine athlete and a gifted student. She, according to Alfred Lague, could read any piece of music at sight. And, he added, if a fly landed on her music sheet, Eunice could then trace the fly’s path as if it were a series of notes on a piece of manuscript paper.

Besides the five students who were accepted into the McDonald’s All-American Band, North Smithfield had hundreds of musicians who qualified in other honor groups. The list would extend for pages.

Thank you, Mr. Boday! Stay tuned next month for Movement 6...



NORTH SMITHFIELD MUSICIAN PROFILE:

Ron Lamoureux



I grew up on Saint Paul Street in North Smithfield when Kennedy's Lunch sat astride the fire station whose siren reminded us kids to get back home at 7:30 each night. My father, Lionel A Lamoureux Sr., was employed at the General Motors assembly plant in Framingham, MA and my mother, L. Denise (Laflamme) Lamoureux, worked third shift at the Tupperware plant that is now the High Rocks Condominium complex. I'm not certain when she ever slept because during the day she kept law and order over my siblings Suzanne, Annette, Lionel Jr., Michael, Normand, Robert, and Diane, as well as myself and a host of neighborhood kids who all referred to her as "Ma Lamoureux."

I was born in 1970, the year that Robert Gordon Orr, Phil Esposito, and the "Big, Bad" Bruins won their first Stanley Cup of the decade. Their continued success (another cup in '72 and three more finals within the decade) fueled a craze for the game and it seemed like every kid in town was either holding a hockey stick or figure skating. I happily joined in at the age of four and continued throughout my school years and well into my adult life. As kids we rode our bikes, built forts in the woods, and played all-night monopoly games. But for me - hockey was king.

A few years later I discovered another passion that shaped my life forever. It started one day when my elementary class sat in the cafeteria at the Dr. Harry L. Halliwell Elementary School. We were there to hear the high school jazz band play. The whole group was very impressive but I was really blown away when a trumpet player (Tom Jaloway, I believe) wailed out a solo. The NS Music Department had already established a reputation of excellence and for me and the majority of my friends, joining the band was a foregone conclusion. That trumpet solo, however, helped me decide the instrument I absolutely needed to play.

Seventh and eighth grade brought me to North Smithfield Jr./Sr. High School with Mr. Boday once again. It was so rewarding to play as a group on a daily basis with loads of talented kids and I remember being somewhat amazed at how quickly we were all developing. The literature was fun and we did tons together—concerts, trips to perform at the Warwick Mall, Band Festival, Solo & Ensemble Festival, and many of us made it into the All-State ensembles. The Lamoureux brood was large, supportive, and very fun, but I also fell in love with this new circle that I'd found.

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Ron Lamoureux *continued from page 4*

Budget issues limited the number of available spots for fifth grade band and I was crushed to learn that my trumpet days would have to wait until the following year. When grade six finally came around, Mr. Michael Boday was my instructor. Honesty prevents me from claiming to have been a model student and I do have some recollection of mom on our rotary phone promising that I would do better (perhaps something to do with pranks and behavior, or lack thereof). I'm forever thankful to Mr. Boday for his talent and innovation as a teacher, his superlative patience, and the decades that he shared with our town helping to shape a truly unique legacy.

A major step in my musical development started in the spring before leaving elementary school. My parents agreed to send me to lessons with Mr. Joe Jalowy (father of the afore-mentioned Tom). I worked hard because Mr. Jalowy could make a lesson quite uncomfortable if you showed up unprepared. With his guidance I had some major breakthroughs with my playing and he helped me enjoy the instrument more than ever before. In decent weather I'd play outside on the deck of our house and when the wind just was right I could hear Mike Swanton practicing in his garage down the street. (Mike was a few years ahead of me and was a McDonald's All-American trumpet player in his senior year - one of many from NS.)

With the retirement of Mr. Alfred Lague, legendary teacher and the major architect of the high school music program, Mr. Dennis St. Germain took the helm. Our musical family was afforded amazing experiences and opportunities with his group. We were well represented annually at the RIMEA All-State Music Festival and looked forward to playing each year at RIMEA's Band Festival. We put together ad-hoc ensembles to present both the sublime and the ridiculous in the school talent shows and enjoyed unforgettable trips to Disney and to Washington, D.C. The highlight of my high school experience was being awarded the John Philip Sousa Award at the old El Toro Lounge in the Village Haven. My friends and I still talk about the multitude of amazing and inspiring teachers we had in our final years at NSJSHS.



Following high school, I enrolled at Rhode Island College, playing in the Wind Ensemble for Dr. Francis M. Marciniak and in the Orchestra under the baton of Dr. Edward Markward. My trumpet teacher was Mr. John Pellegrino, a kind, professional, and incomparably supportive man. I earned a Bachelor's degree in Music Education from the college and after working as a substitute teacher for some time found a music position in the Providence Public Schools.

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Ron Lamoureux *continued from page 5*

Daily rounds brought me to several schools throughout the city and I met hundreds of students in a short time. With limited flexibility in some building schedules I was able to start beginning instrumental lessons and create choruses. Those experiences in the state's capital helped solidify a tenet that I have based my entire career on - that it is critical to bring music education to ALL students.

While teaching in Providence was very enjoyable I couldn't resist when the opportunity presented itself to become the Director of Music in Johnston and I began in the fall of 1996. At first, my time was split between ensembles at the middle and high schools. The high school had a chorus of just seven students and a band of twenty-three. I'm extremely proud of the program's



growth since then. We now have three full-time music teachers at the high school alone and have pathway opportunities for students (concentrations) in Music Education or Performance and in Music Technology. We also offer nearly twenty different electives including Piano, Guitar, Drumming, World Music, American Popular Music, Music Theory, and our performance ensembles of Band and Chorus. In 2006 I earned a Master's Degree in Music Education from Central Connecticut State University with a concentration in conducting.



I currently live in North Smithfield with my fiancée, Lisa Alves, who is the Woonsocket High School Choral Director. I had lived briefly in Woonsocket and Providence but made sure to return to town to ensure my four children would experience the North Smithfield schools. It was indescribably special to watch Madeline, Brian, Sarah, and Jeffrey perform in the music program that I so loved and to earn their

diplomas at the high school. I'm extremely thankful for the support of my family and the countless positive experiences that the North Smithfield Music Department provided. I learned to enjoy music early from the efforts of Mrs. Mary Marks and Mr. Joseph Trepanier and I can't possibly express enough gratitude to Mr. Boday for all his guidance and commitment as well as to Mr. St. Germain who helped me understand the subtle differences between confidence and leadership. May the legacy long continue.

Thank you so much to Ron Lamoureux for sharing this beautifully written story about your life and time in the North Smithfield Schools Music Department!



Upcoming Events

Be sure to like our Facebook page to receive updates about upcoming events

Thursday, May 27, 2021 ~ 12:15 p.m.
Providence Public Library Lunch
with the Author: *Paul Caranci*
Zoom Video Conference

<https://www.provlib.org/programs-exhibitions/>

~
Sunday, May 30, 2021 ~ 11 a.m.
Memorial Day Celebration
Hotchkiss Cemetery

~
Friday, June 4, 2021 ~ 6-8 p.m.
Sat., June 5, 2021 ~ 10 a.m.-4 p.m.
NSHA Open House
Memorial Town Building
Heritage Hall
(indoor; state COVID rules apply)

~
Tuesday, June 8, 2021 ~ 6:30 p.m.
NSHA Board Meeting
Zoom Video Conference
~ open to all members ~
Email nsha@nsheritageassn.org

~
Saturday, June 12, 2021 ~ 9 a.m.
North Smithfield Heritage Hike
Woonsocket Hill Road
Meet at NS Middle School Parking Lot



UPCOMING!

Veterans Memorial Museum Woonsocket, RI Special Tour for NSHA Members



The Veterans Memorial Museum in Woonsocket is a must-see. Full of rare military artifacts as well as numerous items on loan from local veterans, the museum has been mission to honor veterans and preserve history since 2015. Stay tuned for news about a a special tour for NSHA members, coming soon!

Memorial Day Event

The General Zenas Bliss Camp #12 of the RI Sons of Veterans of the Civil War (SUVCW) will host a Memorial Day ceremony at 11 a.m. at Hotchkiss Cemetery on Smithfield Road, adjacent to the Union Cemetery; the public is invited. The ceremony will include rendering of military honors with a rifle salute and the playing of Taps. The SUVCW is recognized as the legal successor to the Grand Army of the Republic, which began Memorial Day in 1868 to honor Civil War dead. Since then, the holiday has expanded to honor the dead who fought in all wars. The RI SUVCW promotes the proper observance of Memorial Day and the preservation of Civil War Memorials and burials.



NSHA Historic Tours



Crookfall Brook Tour a Success! We conducted a tour of Crookfall Brook on Saturday, May 8th. The tour began at Woonsocket Reservoir #1 on Manville Road, which includes the abandoned historic pump house. The group followed Crookfall Brook upstream to Reservoir #2, where they stopped to inspect the dam and ruins of the 19th Century Wilkinson Factory. The tour continued upstream to Spring Brook, where the group viewed another dam before returning to their starting point. See our Facebook page for more photos of this amazing tour!



Our next History Tour, of Woonsocket Hill Road, will take place at 9 a.m. on Saturday, June 12. We plan to hike to the Fire Tower and visit other nearby historic places. The hike up the hill is strenuous and not for small children. Meet at the NS Middle School parking lot on Providence Pike.

JOIN US!

Open House June 4 & 5

You are cordially invited to visit two of our recently renovated historic buildings on Friday, June 4 from 6 to 8 p.m. & Saturday, June 5 from 10 a.m. to 4p.m. Volunteers will provide guided tours of both buildings as well as offer merchandise for sale, including our new puzzles featuring photographs from town. NSHA asks for your feedback on potential uses for the second floor of the Memorial Town Building. State COVID rules apply.

~Memorial Town Building~

1 Main Street



~Heritage Hall~

101 Greene Street



Save the Date: North Smithfield Days!

The town's *North Smithfield Days* July 7-10, 2021 are on! The committee led by John Beauregard and April Lombardi plans a Movie Night at Pacheco Park; Dinner Under the Stars at a local farm; and fireworks, food trucks, and an In-progress screening of SLATERSVILLE at the high school.



Arbor Day 2021 Celebration

April 30, 2021 - Heritage Hall

The NSHA and the North Smithfield Conservation Commission co-sponsored a tree planting ceremony behind the Heritage Hall on Greene Street on Friday night, April 30, 2021. The tree commemorates Arbor Day 2021 and the town's 150th Anniversary. The Rhode Island Tree Council donated the 14-foot pin oak tree that will provide a magnificent presence in the back corner of our lot. Steve Berenback, Secretary of the North Smithfield Conservation Commission, gave the featured remarks that included a recitation of Joyce Kilmer's 1913 poem, *Trees*:

*I think that I shall never see
A poem lovely as a tree.*

*A tree whose hungry mouth is prest
Against the earth's sweet flowing breast;*

*A tree that looks at God all day,
And lifts her leafy arms to pray;*

*A tree that may in Summer wear
A nest of robins in her hair;*

*Upon whose bosom snow has lain;
Who intimately lives with rain.*

*Poems are made by fools like me,
But only God can make a tree.*



NSHA President Rich Keene (pictured here) gave credit to Michael Boday and Irene Nebiker for creating the inspiration for the ceremony. Mr. Boday, a retired North Smithfield music teacher and regular *Newsletter* contributor, related his past experience planting trees with his students in front of Halliwell School for three years in a row. Irene Nebiker related the fact that Joseph Mowry, a previous owner of her historic John Malavery House, planted three hickory trees in his front yard—one for each of his sons—in 1876 to commemorate our nation's centennial year. Each attendee placed one shovel of dirt around the tree's root ball to conclude the ceremony.



HISTORIC CEMETERY OF THE MONTH:

New NS06: Unknown Cemetery Near Mount Pleasant Road

We thank Kristen, a nearby property owner, for recently bringing this previously unrecorded cemetery to our attention. It sits high on an esker (a ridge of gravel or other sediment deposited from retreating glacier or ice sheet) between Eaton Street and Julie Street and contains about ten burials with fieldstone markers in an unenclosed lot. One of stones is inscribed with “PJSC 1851.” Initial research indicates this stone may belong to Silas Jonathan Comstock, who lived nearby and died in 1851.



North Smithfield Historic Cemeteries Update

- The NSHA recently partnered with the Beacon Hill Chapter of the RI Daughters of the Revolution (Lincoln, RI) to locate all veteran burials in N. Smithfield historic cemeteries and ensure they are flagged for Memorial Day. Nineteen of the sixty-five historic cemeteries in N. Smithfield contain known veteran graves.



- Kim Alves, Ray Pendergast, The Hartley Family, and the Beauchemin Family have adopted three cemeteries on Providence Pike near North Smithfield Elementary School: NS26 The Jashub Wing,; NS40 The Blackmar Cemetery; and NS25 Smith- Harris Cemetery. They recently cleaned NS26 and NS40, which now look amazing. Thank you for your terrific work!

- Two large trees recently fell in the NS55 Dennis Ballou (or “Tifft-Ballou”) Lot, crushing several gravestones (picture to the right). We thank Carmine Iacuone and his crew at Holliston Sand & Gravel for clearing the trees from the cemetery. We hope that soon our gravestone repair volunteers can repair the stones.



- On May 8, 2021, NSHA Cemetery Volunteers helped to clean the oldest cemetery in the area with burials dating back to 1720, the Society of Friends (Quaker) Cemetery on Smithfield Road across from Union Cemetery. The project was organized by Providence County Commissioner Christine MacWilliams to support State Historic Cemetery clean-up.

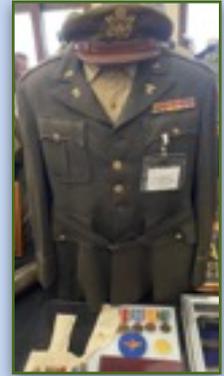
- Spring cleanup continues at Hotchkiss Cemetery on Smithfield Road as we ready the grounds for the May 30 Memorial Day ceremony. Email us if you want to help restore dignity to other local abandoned cemeteries at nsha@nsheritageassn.com.



Remembering Dr. Paul F. Joyce

This month, as we plan to watch the North Smithfield High School Class of 2021 graduate, NSHA remembers and honors Paul F. Joyce, who in 1965 was selected to help plan and organize what would the next year become the town's first high school.

Born in Woonsocket on August 20, 1922, Dr. Joyce was the son of Alice (Joyce) Roberts. He earned his B.A. in English from Providence College, Master's Degree in Education from Boston University, Certificate of Advanced Graduate Specialty from University of Connecticut, and Doctorate in Education from Nova Southeastern in Fort Lauderdale. He married Ann E. (O'Gara) Joyce and served in the Army for 38 months as a fighter pilot in WWII, including in Europe, the Rhineland Campaign, and later in the Pacific Theater of Operations. He was a retired Captain in the Army Reserves. His uniform (pictured to the right), photos, and various artifacts are on display at the Woonsocket Veterans Museum in Woonsocket.



Dr. Joyce's career in education spanned 33 years, including as a teacher, principal, and superintendent of schools in two states. Before helping establish the high school, he had been principal of both Kendall Dean and Halliwell Memorial Middle School. Dr. Joyce eventually went on to become the superintendent of the town's schools, one of only two, it is said, who are known to have risen through the ranks from teacher to superintendent. Also, as a well-known musician and trombonist who had performed with various local and New England orchestras during the "Big Band Era" and later played with the Harwich Town Band and the Moonlighters, Dr. Joyce is credited with insisting on a first-rate music program at the high school—a program that we know from Mr. Boday's contributions to the *Newsletter* went on to thrive.

Dr. Joyce also became the town's first president of Little League Baseball, and in the 1950s organized the school system's first intramural and extramural sports programs. Upon his retirement in 1983, the school committee named and dedicated the North Smithfield High School fields as the "Dr. Paul F. Joyce Athletic Fields." Dr. Joyce died in 2015 at the age of 92, survived by his two children and three grandchildren.

On June 11, 2021, the high school's 54th graduating class will walk through those fields dedicated to Dr. Joyce and into the Veterans Memorial Stadium honoring his fellow veterans. Thank you for your legacy and commitment to our town, Dr. Joyce.



From the NSHA Arts & Culture Committee: ARTIST MARIE (BLONDIAU) ST. JAMES



This landscape painting hangs in the Memorial Town Building. This month, let's learn more about the artist, Marie (Blondiau) Robertshaw West St. James.

Marie Blondiau was born in Alberta, Canada in 1917. She graduated from Woonsocket High School in 1934 and married Gilbert Robertshaw. They lived in Slatersville and raised a family of two boys and a girl. Gilbert died in 1962 and Marie later married Fred West, who was a teacher and later principal of Kendall Dean, Bushee and Halliwell Schools. She and Fred lived on West Acres, originally the Caleb Aldrich House (1730), which was demolished to build the storage facility on Eddie Dowling Highway—at the junction of Route 146 and Route 146A, which is still called West Acres Exchange. The house was formally declared eligible for listing on the National Registry of Historic Places.



Marie, an artist, was a member of the North Smithfield School Committee for several years, and she was well known about town for her sociability and hospitality. After Fred died, she married Emile Juan St. James, who was born in Puerto Rico and was a classmate of Henry Kissinger at George Washington High School in New York City. In the military, serving in a bombing raid over Berlin, St. James's plane was shot down and he crash landed in Lodz in Russian-occupied Poland. He was reported missing in action, and it took months for the crew to make their way home; Juan earned the Air Medal for bravery. The couple lived in town until Marie's death in 2004. Emile lived until just shy of his 94th birthday. Marie is buried in the Union Cemetery in town.

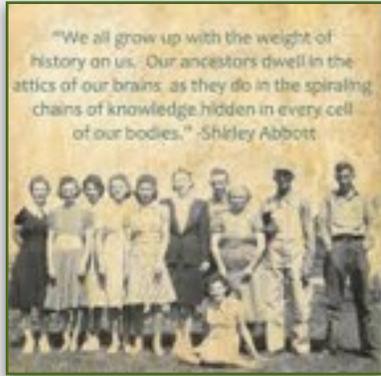


Historic Residence Tax Credit Ordinance Update

We sincerely thank members of our General Assembly delegation for introducing bills that amended Rhode Island General Laws that allows the North Smithfield Historic District to administer the North Smithfield Historic Residential Building Tax Credit Program. Representative Brian Newberry and Senator Melissa Murray introduced bills that ultimately went on to pass both chambers of the General Assembly. On April 23, 2021, the bills became law without the Governor's signature. Soon, NSHA will ask the Town Council to amend our town ordinance to reflect the changes made to the enabling law. Then the North Smithfield Historic District and Tax Assessor can establish procedures for the program.



Genealogical Research



One of our newest members, Lynne Pelletier, has offered to help conduct research on family trees. If interested, please email to coordinate an appointment with Lynne—nsha@nsheritageassn.

SLATERSVILLE Documentary Connects with NS Middle School



Thank you to Breaking Branches Pictures (Christian de Rezendes) for connecting with

Valerie Carnevale, History teacher at North Smithfield Middle School. Ms. Carnevale plans to show a segment of the in-progress documentary, *The Catholics Are Coming*, to her 8th grade class.

It thrills us here at NSHA that students are learning about our local history in the classroom and that Ms. Carnevale is using an amazing local resource to facilitate the lesson!

North Smithfield 150th Anniversary Updates

As reported in last month's *Newsletter*, the town's celebration of its 150th birthday on March 24, 2021, was a huge success. The following are some updates on the continuing celebrations of this momentous occasion:

- The NSHA Board of Directors approved Jody Lamoureux's design for a 150th commemorative ornament. The gorgeous ornaments will be available in July during the North Smithfield Days celebration.
- Jacob St. Jean, son of School Superintendent Michael St. Jean, was awarded a college internship to edit *A History of North Smithfield 1971–2021*. We need help from the community to document histories of town departments, labor groups, civic groups, town officials, housing, and significant activities and events. Please contact nsha@nsheritageassn.org if you can help provide source material such as newspaper articles, photographs and/or personal notes.
- The Brothers of the Brush will soon be holding its first meeting. The group pledges not to shave for the entire year of 2021 (trims are ok). Fun and frivolity is mandatory. Contact nsha@nsheritageassn.com if you'd like to join the fun.



New! NSHA Charter Members Plaque

In celebration of NSHA's 50th year of incorporation in 2020, we honored our founding charter members with this plaque, which will hang in the hall of the Memorial Town Building. Thank you to all who came together to make this happen.





NSHA Properties Update

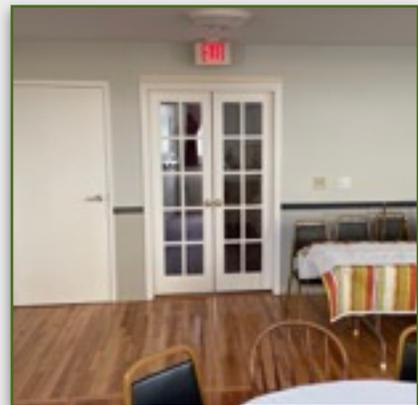
Forestdale School (190 School Street)



Dione Electric installed underground electrical service to the building and upgraded the electrical panel to 200 amps. This will give us the amperage required for a sewerage grinder pump, should the town council approve tying the building into the sewer system. Meanwhile, we are still waiting for APG to build two replacement doors and restore three windows. Once complete, the painters can prepare the siding and trim and then paint it. See photo here for current progress, and stay tuned!

Heritage Hall (101 Greene Street)

It appears we can start renting the halls when the Governor lifts restrictions at the end of the month. Meanwhile, Director of Maintenance Charlie Dubois and his team of trusty volunteers repainted the ceiling, walls and floor in the Lower Hall and installed used French Doors in the Upper Hall (pictured here). Martha Shean made and installed new curtains. The building looks spectacular, and we are looking forward to showing it off at our Open House on June 4 & 5!



Memorial Town Building (1 Main Street)

Renovation of the first floor of the Memorial Town Building is almost complete. In the next few weeks, volunteers will install new carpet in the Meeting Room and the Business Office. We are looking forward also to showing off the magnificent renovations at our Open House on June 4 & 5!



NSHA Membership Renewal

As of March 1, 2021, NSHA was 216 members strong! Annual membership dues allow us to conduct our significant preservation activities. Please continue to help preserve our local history by remembering to pay your annual dues, which renew in April and are \$20 per member for the year. As always, seniors over 85 and students are FREE! If you paid dues after October 1, your dues carry over until April 2022. Pay online via PayPal, give cash, or make a check payable to “NSHA” with “Dues” on the memo line—mail to NS Heritage Assn, P.O. Box 413, Slatersville, RI 02896. We will also pick up payments locally. Contact nsha@nsheritageassn.com.

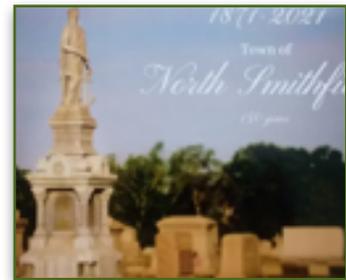
Welcome to Our New Members! NSHA welcomes new members Jeff and Lynne Pelletier, Pauline Desjarlais, Dorothy Dowling, Alice Homer, Leo Lamoureux and Lionel Lamoureux! New members are always welcome—simply email new member name, email address, home address, and phone number to nsha@nsheritageassn.com. See above for initial \$20 annual dues payment options!

Challenge to current members! We ask current members to recruit one new member this year—a year in which we are going to be enjoying more in-person events and celebrating our town’s 150th anniversary!



NSHA Newsletter News

- Did you know that in March the *NSHA Newsletter* celebrated its first birthday? To see all of our past issues, full of interesting stories about the work of NSHA and our town and its history and people, visit our website, nsheritageassn.org.
- We are so thankful for those who have submitted wonderful stories to the *Newsletter*, and we welcome new submissions anytime, so send them along!
- Please share this newsletter with family and friends! To join our mailing list, call 401-447-6394 or email nsha@nsheritageassn.com.



Several of our commemorative 2021 Calendars are available for \$15 at the Forestdale School (by appointment, nsha@nsheritageassn.com or 401-447-6394). We will deliver locally for free or mail one out of state for an extra \$5.



NSHA SWAG!

•This month, we are so happy to introduce our amazing quality Shutterfly puzzles that feature images from three town farms and 19th Century Main Street Slaterville. They are available in four different sizes and cost \$20 each. They will make perfect gifts for those loved ones who have a special place in their hearts for our wonderful town! We thank Lucien Benoit for this idea and thank Kim Leahy (and family) for making this exciting project happen!



•Our gift shop at the Forestdale School offers calendars, ornaments, maps, books, and other items that reflect our local history. Watch for reopening in June, as soon as windows and doors have been reinstalled! To make an appointment to see merchandise in the meantime, call Louise at 401-769-8177.

•Visit our online shop on our website www.nsheritageassn.org. Pay by cash, check, or PayPal. Make checks payable to “NSHA.” Orders ship immediately upon payment. The shipping fee for a single item is \$5; adjusted rate for multiple or large items. Free local delivery—email nsha@nsheritageassn.com.

•Limited items are also available at the wonderful Budding Violet gift shop at the Red White & Brew Coffeehouse on Great Road.



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