

July 2024

Plainfield Historical Society's Annual Letter

What a flurry of activity we have had in the past several months. The annual Memorial Day Luncheon was held at the Town Hall and thanks to our 25 pie makers and generous bidders for the pies, a significant amount was raised for the Historical Society, our major fund raising event of the year. Another fund raiser was a tour of Ute Stebich's art collection in her home, followed by an elegant luncheon prepared by Lori Austin and helpers. The fund raising events were followed, July 13, by a **FUN** event, the 1st Rowdy Dog Show at the town park adjacent to the Safety Complex. It was in honor of Rowdy, Dr. Hudson's dog who lived at the Shaw Hudson House. We were delighted to welcome a representative from Bright Spot with a therapy dog. The representative explained that the purpose of their mission was to bring comfort to those who need it most. All dogs present voted the event a "barking" success.

On **Saturday, Aug. 3 from 10-4 PM** you can enjoy visiting six historic hilltown homes as part of the Hilltown History Trail: Buckland Historical Society Museum, Shelburne Historic Society Museum, Shaw Hudson House, Kingman Tavern Cummington, Wilder Homestead Buckland, Ashfield Historical Society Museum. (Google Hilltown History Trail/Western MA) for more information.

Mark your calendars for the Plainfield Historical Society's Annual Meeting, **Tuesday, Aug. 6, 2024**, 7:00 PM at the meeting room at the Shaw Hudson House. Christian Drake, a park interpreter for the MA Dept. of Conservation and Recreation, will discuss how the mills and tannery of Hallockville affected the economy, and the effect the tannery fire had on Plainfield & Hawley. Hallockville takes its name from Leavitt Hallock, son of Plainfield's famous minister Moses Hallock. On the following **Saturday, August 10** at Hallockville Pond from 1:00-2:00 PM Christian will lead a walk and talk to the mill sites. This promises to be a not to be missed adventure.

Check out the Plainfield Historical Society website ***plainfieldmahistory.org***. The website includes many links "to the history of the people, places, and events that have made Plainfield the quintessential New England town and the center of many of American's key historical events."

Your support and membership in the Plainfield Historical Society are very much appreciated. Please consider a contribution in one of the following categories: Individual \$20; Family \$50; Friend \$100; Patron \$200; Benefactor \$500, Donation checks should be made out to Plainfield Historical Society and mailed to 525 West Main St., Plainfield MA 01070. Thank you in advance for your consideration. We look forward to seeing you at the annual meeting Aug. 6 or on the Hilltown History Trail, Aug. 3.

Sincerely,

Judith Bryan Williams
President Plainfield Historical Society