



Newsletter

Vol. 19, No. 2 February 2022

Our unique history and blend of people defines the foundation of our town.

Crossway Tower 130 High Street

P. O. Box 170 Lee, MA 01238

Website: LeeHistoricSociety.Homestead.com

Contact us: Lee.Historical@hotmail.com

The next meeting of the Society will be February 10, 2022, at 6:30 via Zoom.

Contact GaryWAllen@earthlink.net if you plan to attend.

Happy February



4th Wear Red



12th Lincoln



18st Wine (21st Pres)



22st Washington

SOCIETY ACTIVITIES:

The Veterans Project

We continue to make progress with the project, although a little slower while we recover from the holidays. Visit our website <https://leeveterans.homesteadcloud.com/> to see what we have.

We are gathering information, but are learning that key pieces of data are missing. If you could supply them, particularly date-of-birth, that would help the project. If you are interested in participating, please contact one of the team to volunteer (Bill, Phil, Mal, Karen, Gary, Mary, Peg – we welcome more team members). (e-mail me and I'll put you in touch with one of them.)



This "American Shingle" style house was built in 1907.

The architect was a brother-in-law, Charles May of NY.

Can you identify it from this detail view ?

Where is this house and what else is interesting about it's history?

(There are 6 pages to this Newsletter. The full story is on the last page)

AN ARTICLE:

Betty Dennis was Lee's Head Librarian from 1942 to 1987. Here is one of her local history articles.
From the August 5, 1975 *Penny Saver*

It was during perilous times that our forefathers settled in our town. Isaac Davis came over from Tyringham as a young man to become one, - if not the one - of our first settlers in 1760. From then until 1783 when Peace was declared in England, they were in constant war, the second French war having been carried on from 1754-1763. Our Cape Cod settlers had played a large part in the Revolutionary War, and those early settlers from Connecticut had fought in the French and Indian War, so Lee was organized by stalwart men.

One of the first to preach in Lee, Judge Bacon of Stockbridge, who having come from Boston so thoroughly disliked the British that he roamed the area on the lookout for Redcoats.

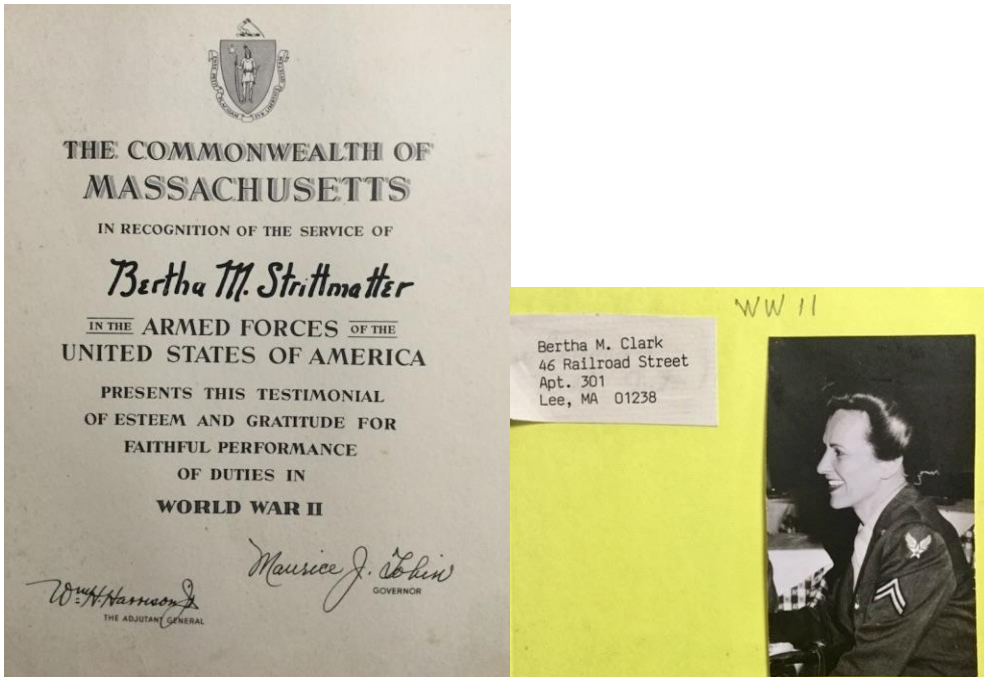
With this kind of training our forefathers were not men to shrink from serving their country. One of the first acts of Lee was to vote 7 men to serve in Washington's Army and in the subsequent meetings during the war, Lee was willing to shoulder her share. The Battle of Lexington, fought on April 19, 1775, took place two years before our incorporation.

By 1780 when money was voted for soldiers, Lee intended to have 9 men in the Continental Army, which would be one quarter of our men. Here in a new little town of not more than thirty five families, all poor, sending probably one of our able bodied men to war, taxing themselves heavily to support the men's families and supplying the beef to the army, we did our share.

One story tells about Jesse Bradley only fourteen years old, at the time, enlisted and was at the battle of Fort Stanwix. At the conclusion of the defeat an Indian chased Jesse who ran for several miles. Eventually he turned around and shot at the Red Man, who no longer followed him. Poor Jesse spent the rest of his life with his conscience tormenting him for fear he had killed the Indian.

Here's a veteran's item sent in by Mary Philpott:

“ I did not find this person (2 items) on the list of Vets by either name, probably married and maiden. This is from a scrapbook she kept. I may have additional lists, but I won't have time to check each person. Who should I send any lists to? “



Send them to me and I'll get them to the team working on our veterans. We will need more information – dates of service, birth, death, where she served. (Gary)

AN(other) Q & A of a different sort:

David Cohen has been in contact. He has asked if someone in the Society has information. He can be reached by email decohen2@outlook.com, or by cell phone 201-417-2461.

He is working on a book on the history of Goose Pond. The items below are topics he is researching and he would appreciate any help the members of the Society can provide.

- There was an old 1800's cabin on Upper Goose Pond (which later became the Mohhekenuck Club) which was originally the Griffin homestead. Also, the original dam on Goose Pond was created for the Griffin Sawmill in early 1800's. Are both the homestead and the sawmill referring to the same Griffin?

- Is there more information about the Griffin family presence around Goose Pond in 1800's ?
- Does anyone at the Lee Historical Society, knows of any family/descendents of the Griffins either/both at the Upper Goose cabin or the sawmill?
- Are there photographs of the Hooker Moore boat livery on Goose Pond ?
- Is there information on Quaker "Friend" William Chanter (owned Chanter farm) ?
- RW Smith wrote Three Thumbnails and there are some wonderful figures in that book. The Printer is listed in the book (Studley Press) but not the publisher. Studley is unable to grant permission since they are not the publisher. Does anyone else in the Society have any information on descendants/family of RW Smith who could be contacted for permission to re-publish?

FROM THE EDITOR:

We encourage members to submit articles, ideas for topics to be discussed, or questions. We will fit them in as we are able. Letters to the editor are also welcome - leehistnewsletter@gmail.com

The exhibits we placed in the library are available. If you go to CTSBTV.org and select Channel 1301, you can search the schedule for "Lee Earns a Living", which is a recording of Phil Smith and the library exhibit. It is also on YouTube and you can search for it there.

CTSB and Phil Smith have just started work on a recording of a second exhibit, "Rock Stars and Paper Tigers". Check on our web site for information on the completed show.

WHAT'S IN YOUR ATTIC??

Also, we ask people to think of the Lee Historical Society while cleaning out and downsizing. We are looking for old pictures, postcards and any items related to the history of Lee. We will add them to our collection, where they can be shared with people in the future who wonder was it was like in the old days. Consider: in 25 years, your car will be "antique".

Please remember, if you don't want to donate any items, you can let us scan or copy them or maybe borrow them for a display. Please share!

THESE BUSINESSES SUPPORT US.....PLEASE SUPPORT THEM

Bartini Roofing Company
290 Pleasant Street
Lee, MA 01238
413-243-0570

M. J. Kelly, Inc.
3 Main Street
Lee, MA 01238
413-243-0204

Fraser's Service & Sales
139 West Park Street
Lee, MA 01238
413-243-0326

Locker Room Sports Pub
232 Main Street
Lee, MA 01238
413-243-2662

Frank Consolati Ins. Agency
71 Main Street
Lee, MA 01238
413-243-0105

Dresser Hull Company
60 Railroad Street
Lee, MA 01238
413-243-1400

Robert M. Kelly, Paperhanging
65 South Prospect Street
Lee, MA 01238
413-243-3489

Henry Holt Art
P. O. Box 699
Lee, MA 01238
413-243-9918

Lee Bank
75 Park Street
Lee, MA 01238
413-243-0117

Hunter & Graziano P.C.
10 Park Place
Lee, MA 01238
413-243-0789

Henry's Electric
252 Main Street
Lee, MA 01238
413-243-0690

Lee Hardware Store
221 Main Street
Lee, MA 01238
413-243-0786

Wilcox Plumbing & Heating
P. O. Box 561
Lee, MA 01238
413-243-2494

NBT Bank of Lee
76 Park Street
Lee, MA 01238
413-243-1800

RW's Incorporated
35 Run Way
Lee, MA 01238
413-243-0946

Paperdilly, Inc
74 Main Street
Lee, MA 01238
413-243-1928

A. F. Viale Ins. Agency
75 Main Street
Lee, MA 01238
413-243-0347

Cottage Care Inc.
230 Stockbridge Road
Lee, MA 01238
413-243-4257

Ta-Ga-Soke Campgrounds
7820 Higginsville Road
Blossvale, NY 13028
1-800-831-1744

Eagle Mill Redevelopment
50 West Center Street
Lee, MA 01238
413-425-4850

Greylock Credit Union
47 Main Street
Lee, MA 01238
413-243-2121

Ford's Auto Service
1075 Fairview Street
Lee, MA 01238
413-243-1107

Hunter & Graziano & Distantis, PC
10 Park Place
Lee, MA 01238
413-243-0789

Mike's Professional Barber Shop
93 Main Street
Lee, MA 01238
413-394-5829

Michael/Shawn Considine, Attys. At Law
42 Main Street
Lee, MA 01238
413-243-4900

"Yesterday is history, tomorrow is a mystery, today is God's gift, that is why we call it the present."

EVERYTHING YOU WANTED TO KNOW

(a new sort of Q & A ANSWER)

(Yes, we did make you “walk thru the gift shop” before you could leave.)



The information below is taken from Lee Historical Commission records.

This is the “H. Arthur Clark House” at 10 Park Place. It has a foundation of Lee marble and the open terrace along the front has a brick floor.

H.A. Clark was a founder of Clark Aiken, Co., which manufactured paper cutting machinery and shells and airplane parts during the war.



WE LOVE LOCAL HISTORY

HOW ABOUT BECOMING A MEMBER OF THE LEE HISTORICAL SOCIETY OR GIVING A GIFT MEMBERSHIP TO A FRIEND OR RELATIVE AND HELP SUPPORT OUR SOCIETY?

**Individual - \$10.00 Family - \$25.00 Business - \$35.00
Supporting Membership -\$50.00 or more Sponsor Membership - \$100.00 or more**

Name: _____

Mail to:

Address: _____

**Lee Historical Society
P. O. Box 170
Lee, MA 01238**

City/Town: _____ **State:** _____ **Zip:** _____

Telephone: _____ **Email:** _____

NEW _____

RENEWAL _____