



THE LANDMARK

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Affiliate Associations

Preservation Society of Pawtucket ♦ Great Road Historical District

Historian Joe Puleo Goes Back to the 1st Automobile in the Blackstone Valley on Sunday, January 27, 2013 at 2:00 P.M. in the North Gate Toll House Upstairs Hall

By *Francine Jackson*

The automobile is now an integral part of our lives, but when did this relationship really come to light? Join Historian Joe Puleo as we go back in time to the first cars in the Blackstone Valley, and relive the first ten years of major automotive living.

Previously, Mr. Puleo came to North Gate with stories of the Rhode Island Militia. A prolific writer, he has penned many articles on the Militia, and has also written a book entitled **Getting Home Alive. . . Stories of Car Collecting Before It Got Civilized**, an introduction to early automobile collecting and the pitfalls involved in acquiring

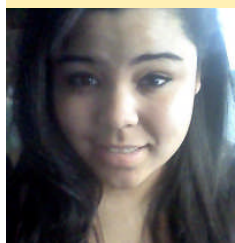
and fixing up some of the older models. He will have copies available for purchase, with part of the proceeds to go to the Historical Society.

Also, do you have pictures and stories of your first car, or with your parents or grandparents riding in their early autos? Bring them, both the pictures and the family members, with you, and share in the memories of driving in the Valley. It is hoped this program can become one of audience participation, with many of you recapturing your early driving experiences. Come join the fun of early motoring in the Blackstone Valley!

In case of bad weather listen to radio & TV for cancellation information.



Kyley Gregory BVHS Student Volunteer



During the fall semester BVHS was lucky to have a volunteer from Lincoln High School who was taking the Civic Responsibility course in which students are required to complete a community service project component. Kyley Gregory, a junior at the high school, asked if she could do her service project hours at BVHS. She gave 15 hours of her time starting at the end of September and ending the first week in December.

Kyley worked with Pat Armitage organizing and taking an inventory of the kitchen – all the cupboards, drawers, counter spaces and closet. This was a very big job and one that has been on the “to do list” for awhile. She also helped out during the Great Road open house event in September; preparing the downstairs hall for the after concert collation in October; and at Jim Clarke’s talk on Civil War Monuments in November. And after attending the workshop on how to deal with newspaper and magazine artifacts, she helped out at the “clipping bee”, where articles relating to BVHS, the Blackstone Valley and any of the six town that are along the Blackstone River were cut out and sorted appropriately.

Kyley did a great job and was very helpful to BVHS. She will put together the information about her experiences from the journal that she had to keep and, along with some pictures of the buildings and their interiors, will give a presentation to her class in January, 2013.

By Pat Armitage

SAVE THE DATE

Sun. Feb. 17 ~ 2 pm Downstairs
Robert Grandchamp talk
Rhode Island and the Civil War

Sun. Mar. 3 ~ 2 pm Upstairs
Scott Malloy talk
Trollies

Coming in April
Dan Bethel talk and display
Saylesville Ephemera

BVHS Executive Board

President: **Jason Dionne**

401-862-4202

Email: jjhdio70@gmail.com

Vice President: **John Houghton**
Secretary: **Francine Jackson**
Treasurer: **Lori Melucci**

Members - at - Large

Gail Harris, Glenn Laxton, Bob Ferri
Past President: **Pat Armitage**

All Programs & Events take place at North Gate Toll House
1873 Old Louisquissette Pike (Rte 246) Lincoln RI

You don't have to be a quilter to join the BVHS Clipping Bee

Have you ever held a newspaper from 1924? How about taken a pair of scissors to its delicately yellowed edges carving out historical articles to be archived? This is exactly what the members of the BVHS did at the first ever clipping bee held at the Buckley Building at the North Gate Toll House on December third. Members gathered together to sift through a treasure trove of accumulated newspapers to begin categorizing these valuable pieces of history. Clipped papers were piled into boxes labeled Lincoln, Pawtucket, Woonsocket, Central Falls, Cumberland and North Smithfield. Within two hours each box was overflowing with articles about historical buildings, famous people, the government, community happenings, and geographical events.

While turning the pages and searching for pertinent historical information in newspapers collected and stored for preservation purposes, it became evident that history was alive and well in this former Lime Rock fire station.



Rachel Guadagni

“Should we keep this article?”

“What do you think about this article?”

It was a wonderful time for sharing stories found and brought to light after years of storage in cardboard boxes. It was a, “Look what I found”, kind of night.

Many laughs were shared over photos reflecting childhood memories and the way “things used to be”. Even an advertisement for Arnold’s Lonsdale Bakery was found amongst the clutter of clippings. The bakery started in Cumberland, then moved to Chapel Street in Lincoln, then was dismantled and refurbished on the the BVHS property. It made for a wondrous night of stories and learning.

Buildings have been restored, torn down, and faces change, and people move on. But the stories stay the same for that moment in time. Capturing that moment and experiencing its magic with members who may even remember it firsthand makes for a memorable evening indeed.

Together we can all keep history alive!

By Laurie Taylor



From the top left:
 Kyley Gregory
 Pat Armitage
 Gail Harris
 Francine Jackson
 Rachel Guadagni

LOOK WHAT'S HAPPENING AT YOUR BVHS



Clipping Bee

We are getting together at North Gate on the second Monday evening of the month to organize BVHS archival materials. Would like to know more about this event or would even like to participate in grouping the articles into more specific categories and experience history in your own hands? Here's the schedule and contact information.



Connections

BVHS receives many inquiries about genealogy, family histories, how to contact others. The Society can act as a facilitator to connect you with others. You will be able to utilize our blog and links to further your research

Watch for the unveiling of our new



The Society has many and varied artifacts, from Arnold's Lonsdale Bakery utensils to letters, diaries, newspaper articles and pictures that document the history of the Blackstone Valley. We think you will enjoy seeing and reading about some of our treasures. And, we might even test your knowledge of the Blackstone Valley.

Meeting Time: 6:30 pm

Monday, February 11
 Monday, March 11
 Monday, April 8
 Monday, May 13

Call us and to let us know you are

Jason Dionne 401-862-4202
 Sue Nicewan- 401-729-0818
 Pat Armitage 401-378-0324



You can now reach
 Blackstone Valley
 Historical Society
 on Facebook