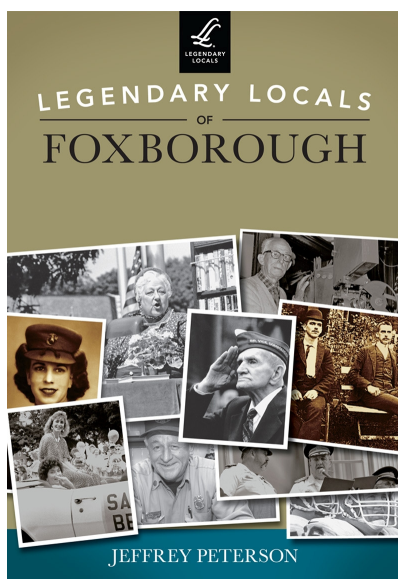


# THE FOXBOROUGH HISTORICAL SOCIETY

OCTOBER 2015      47th Year Issue #2

The story of a community is best told through  
the stories of its people.



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The Foxborough Historical Society at its October meeting welcomes veteran newspaperman **Jeffrey Peterson**, currently publisher of the Foxboro Reporter and the Sun Chronicle (Attleboro).

Relying heavily on newspaper files and Foxborough Historical Commission archives, Peterson introduces readers not only to the movers and shakers who made headlines over the past two centuries but also to scores of common people with decidedly uncommon stories: **E.P. Carpenter**, 19th-century industrialist and visionary; **E.H.** and **B.B. Bristol**, brothers whose Foxboro Company ushered in decades of unprecedented prosperity.

Peterson's book includes outsized personalities like **Betty Friedmann**, **Al Truax**, and **Herb Seltsam**; lanky **Gene Conley**, Boston Red Sox pitcher and Boston Celtics center; **Alex** and **Sonja Spier**, who fled postwar Europe to establish a local real estate empire; beloved Deerfield Academy headmaster **Frank Boyden**.

Also, renowned educators **John Ahern, Mabelle Burrill, and Steve Massey.** Images and biographical text on these and other remarkable residents provide a delightful retrospective documenting the rich and spirited community of Foxborough over the years.

Jeffrey Peterson, longtime editor of the Foxboro Reporter, is now publisher of both the weekly Reporter and the daily Sun Chronicle in Attleboro. A lifelong Foxborough resident, Peterson is pleased to offer this photographic history of his hometown.

[submitted by Patrick Lyons, Program Chairman]

**The meeting will be October 27 at 7:30 pm at the Boyden Library, first floor meeting room. Use the Baker Street entrance.**

We were saddened to learn that **Ted Inman** and former member **Evelyn Wright** passed away. We extend our condolences to the families.

Welcome to the following new members: **Peg Weisker and Raymond Lyons**  
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### **It is still Time to Renew Your Membership**

**You received your first notice to renew in last month's newsletter. This is your second notice. To renew, use form that was included last month and mail it in or bring it to the next meeting on Tuesday, October 27. Membership is from September 1st to August 31<sup>st</sup> of each year. Family = \$10.00 Individual = \$8.00**

Memorial Hall is open every Wednesday evening, 7 p.m. to 9 p.m.  
and on the second Saturday of each month from 9 a.m. to noon.

### **50 YEARS AGO IN FOXBOROUGH**

[extracted from Foxboro Reporter newspapers at Memorial Hall]

October 1965

- . Stoughton football game ruffles school officials.
- . Foxborough has a population of 12,223 according to the state census.
- . The unpaid, the unsung: The easiest thing to do is to criticize officials. But often, the hardest thing to do is to find people to replace them.
- . Vandals smash windows, thieves enter school and lake camps, wave of auto thefts. A newcomer to Foxborough remarked that he was amazed at the amount of vandalism that goes on here.
- . Enrollment in the new medicare program indicates that a majority of those on social security are choosing to participate.
- . Sewerage system only in center says engineers.
- . Aqua cabin built in Foxborough is being tested on ocean floor in Boston Harbor.
- . Foxborough now experiencing a second residential building boom.

Check our new websites: [www.facebook.com/foxborohistory](http://www.facebook.com/foxborohistory) and  
[www.twitter.com/foxborohistory](http://www.twitter.com/foxborohistory)

### Other Meetings of Interest

- Oct.14 - 6 pm - Seekonk Library – “Teddy Roosevelt”  
Oct.15 - 7 pm - Old Colony Historical Society – “The World of Department Stores”  
Oct.15 - 6:45 pm - Attleboro Historic Preservation Soc – Immanuel Lutheran Ch – 647 N. Main St.  
Oct.15 - 6:30 pm - Richards Memorial Library – “Lizzie Borden” – by Chris Daley - reservations required  
Oct.17 - Old Colony Historical Liberty and Union events [www.libertyandunion.org](http://www.libertyandunion.org)  
Oct.18 - 2 pm - Blackstone Valley Historical Society – “Aboard the Fabre Line to Providence”  
Oct. 19, 7:30 p.m. N. Attleboro Historical Society in the schoolhouse. *Foxboro’s Straw Hat Industry*. Known in the nineteenth century as the Straw Hat Capital of the World, Foxboro was home to numerous companies that produced the popular Victorian-era headwear. Jack Authelet, of the Foxboro Historical Society, will tell us of this special time and place. Please bring your Foxboro straw hat if you have one.  
Oct. 20 -7 pm – Norton Historical Society – in the schoolhouse – Dave Downs – The Influence Marketing has on Our Stuff.  
Oct.21 - 7 pm - Richards Memorial Library – Dr. Gary Hylander – “Jefferson & Jackson” - reservations required  
Oct. 26 - 7 pm - East Providence Historical Society, Tockwotton Theater – “Shipwrecks of the Upper Bay”  
Oct. 27 - 7:30 pm - Foxboro Historical at Boyden Library – “Legendary Locals of Foxboro”  
Oct. 28 - 7 pm - Richards Memorial Library – Dr. Gary Hylander – “Jefferson & Jackson” - reservations required  
Oct. 28 - 7 pm - Johnston Historical Society – “History of Glocester, RI”  
Oct. 29 - 6:30 pm. “Lost Boston” by Anthony Sammarco, Norton Library  
Nov. 1 - 1 - 4 pm - Wrentham Museum open house and historic exhibits at the old library  
Nov. 4 - 7 pm - Richards Memorial Library – Dr. Gary Hylander – “Jefferson & Jackson” - reservations required  
Nov. 5 - 7 pm - Boyden Library, Foxboro – “Mass Murder: Mass. Infamous murderers”  
Nov. 12 - 6 pm - Seekonk Library – “Meet Julia Child”  
Nov. 24 - 7:30 pm - Foxboro Historical Society at Boyden Library – “A Historical Look at Clutter”  
The Norton Institute for Continuing Education (NICE) has been offering short courses (six sessions) and free lectures in this area for over 20 years. Current programs include: Amendments to the U.S. Constitution with Professor Gary Hylander; Weimar Germany with Daniel Leclerc; Archaeology of the American Southwest with Professor Alex Trayford; Russian Music with Professor Ann Sears; and Animal Behavior with Professor Kathy Morgan. Courses are given at Wheaton College and other meeting places in the area, including Mansfield. All NICE events are held during daytime hours. For full information, call 781-784-8548 or see NICE’s website: <http://www.nicecourse.org/currentprograms.html>

### Foxborough Historical Society Officers & Board Members 2014 - 2015

President: Joan Stafford 543-6292 Vice President: Raymond Toomey 543-4388  
Clerk: Ann Childs 543-2245 Treasurer: Mary Anne Baker 543-8945  
Board Members: Past President Charles Clifford, Ralph Guimond  
Margaret Boldrighini, Janet Haynes, Lauren Bitar  
Program: Patrick Lyons 543-3728 Membership: Emelie Bonin 543-6160  
Newsletter: Paul Godin 543-7945 Social Media: Lauren Bitar 847-1857

Our next meeting will be on Tuesday, **November 24, 2015**