

Swift River Valley Historical Society
40 Elm Street, New Salem MA 01355

*Keeping alive the stories of the villages and four
"lost towns" of the Quabbin*

2026 SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

Museum open Wednesdays and Sundays
1:00 – 4:00 P.M.

June 17th through September 16th

Admission to the museum is free.

***SRVHS depends on donations to sustain their
mission of preserving the history of the taking of
the Swift River Valley***

APRIL

Sunday, April 26th **SPRING HIKE to WEBSTER ROAD**. Meet at Hanks picnic area in Quabbin Park. Hike Departs at 11:00 a.m.

MAY

Sunday, May 17th **HIKE EAST STREET through ENFIELD & GREENWICH**. Gate 49. Meet at the East entrance to Quabbin Park (opposite Quabbin Park Cemetery) for carpool to the gate (limited parking available at the gate). Hike departs at 11:00 a.m.

Sunday, May 24th **MEMORIAL DAY**

COMMEMORATION at Quabbin Park Cemetery. Refreshments at 10:00 a.m. Parade and services at 11:00 a.m.

JUNE

Wednesday, June 17th **MUSEUM OPENING DAY**

Sunday, June 28th at 1:00 p.m. **FIRING UP 225 CANDLES**. Join photographer Peter Peirce for a slideshow marking the 225th anniversary of Dana, Massachusetts. Dana didn't vanish, we have photographs of homes, families, cars, churches, and town buildings. We have names passed down, stories passed down, maps of where things used to be, and a museum of artifacts we can see and

touch. We know people whose families were "from there." In proper fashion, a birthday cake will be served in honor of Dana's 225th year.

Free admission

JULY

Sunday, July 12th **WOMEN of '76** presented by Rita Parisi, Actress-Playwright-Touring Theatre Artist, and Founder of Waterfall Productions at 1:30 PM, in honor of the 250th anniversary of our country. A powerful solo theatrical performance that brings to life the remarkable women of the American Revolution. Free admission

Sunday, July 19th **DANA REUNION** – Dana Common . Gate 40 opens at 10:30 a.m. Event concludes at 3:00 p.m. The Dana Reunion Association sponsors this event. More information is available at danareunion1938@gmail.com

Sunday, July 26th **DANA VESPERS** will be held in the Prescott Church on the grounds of SRVHS at 2:00 p.m. Cake and lemonade served after the concert in honor of Mrs. Clary's 188th birthday. Free admission

AUGUST

Sunday, August 9th **QUABBIN QUILTS of OLD**. Our complete collection of Valley Quilts will be on display in the sanctuary of the Prescott Church from 1-4 pm. Quilts are artifacts of women's history with love sewn in every stitch. Whether created as a wedding gift, to celebrate the birth of a child, bid farewell to a cherished community member, or raise money for a worthy cause, every quilt tells a story. Free admission

Sunday, August 16th **QUABBIN QUILTS of OLD** continues from 1-4 pm.

Sunday, August 23rd Dennis Picard returns with **"DRAGOON, MUSKETEER, PRISONER: The HESSIANS of the REVOLUTIONARY WAR in WESTERN MASSACHUSETTS"** in the Prescott

Church at 1:00 p.m. Even though there were no battles during the American Revolution in Western Massachusetts, there were, in fact, Hessians here. Hear how these men got to our area, why they were here, who they really were, and in the end, why some remained in our region. Free admission

Sunday August 30th **VIRTUAL HIKE of the ROAD TO DANA COMMON** with Maria Beiter-Tucker of DCR in the Prescott Church at 1:00 p.m. Along the old road to Dana Common are foundations, fields, walls, and trees that tell the story of the towns now long gone. Take a virtual hike as we talk about the remnants of Valley towns and about the landscape of the reservoir today. Free admission

SEPTEMBER

Saturday, September 12th visit SRVHS's booth at **NEW SALEM OLD HOME DAY** from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. on the Common in New Salem Center.

Sunday, September 13th at 1:00 p.m. **BIRDS OF PREY** with Naturalist, Tom Ricardi brings you up close and personal with live raptors such as eagles, falcons, owls, kestrels, and hawks. On the grounds of SRVHS, rain or shine. Free admission. Bring chairs or blankets for outside seating.

Wednesday, Sept. 16th **MUSEUM CLOSING DATE**

SPECIAL EVENT

Sunday, September 20th **NORTH QUABBIN HISTORY TOUR.** SRVHS will have an Open House from 11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Stop by and spend some time learning how the residents of the Lost Valley lived and what they gave up to create the great Quabbin Reservoir. SRVHS participation hosted by the Map Club. Refreshments. Free admission

Saturday, September 26th **ANNUAL FRIENDS MEETING** will be held in the Prescott Church on the grounds of SRVHS at 2:00 p.m. All Friends of the Museum and interested persons are invited to attend.

Sunday, September 27th **FALL HIKE to the PLANE CRASH SITE in DANA via COMEE & DANA-GREENWICH ROADS.** Gate 43 with drive and park at fishing area 3 (Hardwick). Hike departs at 11:00 a.m.

SPECIAL EVENT

Sunday, October 11th SRVHS is participating in **QUABBIN DAYS** from 1-4 pm. Free admission. Events taking place throughout the region can be found at www.QuabbinDays.org

OCTOBER

Sunday, October 18th **HIKE to UNDERHILL ROAD and MILL SITE in PRESCOTT.** Meet at New Salem Common with caravan/carpool to Gate 21. Hike departs at 11:00 a.m. All hikers must enter and leave together due to DCR restrictions. **This hike is limited to 25 participants. Pre-registration is required—please sign up by emailing dotfryesrvhs@gmail.com or calling 978-544-6882. **NOTE: Members of the Friends of Swift River Museum will have a two-week priority registration period from the date the calendar is distributed. After that time, registration will open to the public.**

GENERAL INFORMATION for HIKES: Light scattered showers do not cancel, steady rain does. Bring a lunch (optional) and prepare for insects/ticks. Follow all DCR rules. Dogs not allowed. All hikes meet for 11:00 a.m. departure. Hike lengths and times vary, due to either weather, "cellar hole poking," conversations, and terrain difficulty. The general window for most hikes is 4-6 hours. Donations to SRVHS for these hikes would be greatly appreciated.

ANY NECESSARY CHANGES, CANCELLATIONS OR POSTPONEMENTS IN SCHEDULING WILL BE POSTED ON OUR FACEBOOK PAGE.

Swift River Valley Historical Society
P.O. Box 22, New Salem, MA 01355 978-544-6882
swiftrivermuseum@gmail.com
<https://swiftrivermuseum.org/>
<https://www.facebook.com/swiftrivermuseum/>