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Showing postings 1 - 48 of 48 in the thread: Old Willimantic.

Posting: Old Willimantic Poster: J. Richard (Dick) Phaneuf Date: 17 April 2008 4:37 PM	Posting 1
<p>Someone mentioned "Old Willimantic" in another thread recently so I thought I'd dig through my memories for some real old stuff from the 40's.</p> <p>Anyone remember Mr. Shilberg the Rag Man who'd drive his horse-drawn wagon through our neighborhoods shouting "Rags!" "Rags!"?</p> <p>Does anyone remember in the late 30's going to the Town Hall to pick up free fruit?</p> <p>Does anyone remember the day after the Hurricane of '39 seeing all the trees down on lower main, water squirting out of the manholes and the Shetucket River flooding all the way up to Cardinal Square and Buster's Tavern?</p> <p>Did anyone else set traps along the rivers in Willimantic catching Muskrats and sending the skins to Sear Roebuck for a dollar and a half apiece?</p> <p>How about the brave souls who used to dive off the trestle into the Natchaug River and the old swimming holes by the trestle and the laundry? I don't know how we survived all that joyful spashing in the water full of suds or dye dumped into the river by the laundry!!</p> <p>How about the old National Guard rifle range in the woods between the trestle and the airport?</p> <p>Also. . . How about the Airliner that made a forced landing at our airport with the Movie Star aboard? I think it was Vivian Leigh. I was delivering on my Chronical route on Natchaug when it came roaring by just a few hundred feet above the railroad tracks and the trestle.</p> <p>I could go on and on with wonderful memories of those times. . . but don't ask me what I had for breakfast this morning :-))</p>	
Posting: Re: Old Willimantic Poster: John Boudreau Date: 17 April 2008 5:28 PM	Posting 2
<p>It was Vivien Leigh and Laurence Olivier . I wasn't born yet , however I recall the story . Here it is :</p> <p>http://www.vivienleigh.stopklatka.pl/crash.htm</p>	
Posting: Re: Old Willimantic Poster: Steve Starger Date: 18 April 2008 10:32 AM	Posting 3
<p>Dick,</p> <p>I do remember hearing about that plane mishap with Leigh and Olivier, but I'm younger than you. Some of my boyhood memories, many involving Skip Barrett, from late 40s to mid 50s:</p> <p>fishing at Brown's pond, and in winter, shooting a .22 rifle while holding it just above the ice on the pond, to hear the whine the bullet made. How incredibly stupid! Who knows where the slug ended up. We could have killed someone.</p> <p>Swimming at Gil Flynn's</p> <p>Bike riding all over the known universe in the summer</p> <p>Tramping through the wood behind our house on Ardman Drive, looking for ancient artifacts (the woods I think are mostly gone behind development at ECSC).</p> <p>Delivering the Courant through my neighborhood and up and down High Street in 1954, the year of Hurricane Carol.</p> <p>Watching Carol's winds life our doghouse straight up in the air and tumble it into the woods.</p> <p>BB gun fights at our house on Mansfield Avenue (another really stupid stunt)</p> <p>Tossing 2 x 8 wood planks into the churn of a waterfall on the Willimantic River and watching the water toss them around.</p> <p>Walking the train trestle</p>	

Playing pinball at Mike's and Callahan's

I could go on but you get the idea.

Posting: Re: Old Willimantic Posting 4
 Poster: J. Richard (Dick) Phaneuf
 Date: 18 April 2008 11:29 AM

All good memories guys. I was born in 1934 and moved from Hanover (my birthplace) to Baltic as a little tyke and my family ended up on the second floor in that two story, brick house on the corner of South and Bain streets in about 1936 or so. My uncle, Homer Beauregard lived next door and a lady called Mrs. Angel lived in a cottage across the street on Bain. I remember that she was always nice to me.

My first memories which probably occurred during those first two years of my life were "Dashboards!" Yep. . . Dashboards. Cars back then were starting to have pretty chrome decorated dashboards and since I was probably sitting in my Mothers lap in the front passenger seat, that's all I could see from my vantage point. It's amazing to be able to remember that far back.

Posting: Re: Old Willimantic Posting 5
 Poster: Ada Kerachsky Albright
 Date: 18 April 2008 2:37 PM

OK, here are some very early memories of Wtc in the 1940's: the Candy Kitchen, as a toddler climbing on the cannon in front of the VFW on Church St., buying a poppyseed roll for 2 cents at Beauchamps Bakery (on Church St.), standing in front of Woolworth's, heart pounding while watching a parade go up Main St., Mr. Tamborello sweeping Main St., WWII veterans without legs (when will we ever learn, when will we ever learn?), getting a quarter to go with my friend Veronica to the matinee (Roy Rogers, Hopalong Cassidy, Three Stooges, lots of cartoons) at the Strand (on Broad St., around the corner from my grandmother's store), watching/hearing the train go by my grandmother's store, building vibrating. Later: getting permission notes from my mother to leave the Natchaug school yard at lunchtime to get a small grinder at Joe's Grinder Shop across Jackson St. (I can almost smell it now!)

Posting: Re: Old Willimantic Posting 6
 Poster: John Boudreau
 Date: 18 April 2008 8:37 PM

A Cessna's lonely drone on an eternal , sunny , summer afternoon in old New England ...

Posting: Re: Old Willimantic Posting 7
 Poster: John Boudreau
 Date: 18 April 2008 8:51 PM

Getting my 3 three year old stuck between two posts of our front porch at 195-197 Jackson Street ...At 4 jumping off the top of a bunk bed after my cousin Jackie Collins promised she'd catch me ...She didn't ...and I broke my collar bone ...There was a man who used to come around once a year with a pony and kids could have their picture taken sitting on it ...My Mom still has the pics ...The kindhearted man who nicknamed me " Buster " , and used to give me a rootbeer barrel candy if I was sitting out on the steps on 195-197 when he was walking home from work ...We didn't get our own car until around 1965 ...so when I was 6-7 (1959) it was a big thrill going along with friends of the family (Norman Lizée and Arnold Adams) who delivered the Chronicle out in the country like Mansfield , Ashford and Willington ...Catching my first fish (a sucker) in the river out in back of my Grandparents' home on Riverview Road ...I felt bad for the fish and couldn't take it off the hook ...My father was very disappointed as it was " unmanly " I guess ...He never took me fishing again

Posting: Re: Old Willimantic Posting 8
 Poster: J. Richard (Dick) Phaneuf
 Date: 18 April 2008 9:14 PM

I guess I was a real "Manly" kid since I'd be up at first light, deliver about 50 Courants around Sodom and then drag home four or five stiff and dead, smelly muskrats, hanging them in our basement to skin when I got home from school. That was bad and upset my mom but when I'd throw the carcasses in the garbage can, she'd really go "High Order!"

Posting: Re: Old Willimantic Posting 9
 Poster: J. Richard (Dick) Phaneuf
 Date: 18 April 2008 9:17 PM

I remember that guy with the pony too but with five kids in the family, my parents never could afford it. My hard-earned quarters weren't spent on such trivia. I'd spend them on bullets for my .22 rifle or something equally "Manly!"

Posting: Re: Old Willimantic Posting 10
 Poster: J. Richard (Dick) Phaneuf
 Date: 18 April 2008 9:18 PM

I remember that guy with the pony too but with five kids in the family, my parents never could afford it. My hard-earned quarters weren't spent on such trivia. I'd spend them on bullets for my .22 rifle or something equally "Manly!"

Posting: Re: Old Willimantic Posting 11
 Poster: EVELYN Chalifoux
 Date: 18 April 2008 10:56 PM

Dick

When we lived on the corner of South and Bain St. Mrs. Angel had a parrot and it could always say Jeannette's name but could not say mine. The woman and her son who lived next door to Mrs. Angel was Mrs. Snow. I remember in the winter time they use to close off part of South St. so we could go sliding. We moved on Brook St. in Nov. of 1937 Bob was only a few months old. Uncle Omer had a whole row of chicken coops in his backyard and Jeannette and I use to play in there. I have a picture of Jean Foy and all the kids from South St. Pat Riel was standing in back of Jeannette. I was the only kid with the darkest hair and with a mad look. It was Jean's birthday,

Posting: Re: Old Willimantic
 Poster: John Tormey
 Date: 19 April 2008 1:29 PM

Posting 12

Ada: You mentioned "the cannon." Yeah. It sat on that little patch of grass between Chapell's Grocery Store and the Church Street Package Store. I believe it now sits up on West Main Street, painted a boring olive drab instead of remaining authentic worn silver. I wrote this following item for my sister Carol back in '83.

"THE CANNON"

The cannon in an empty lot
 Circa '42.

A piece of past I quite forgot.
 I swung on it with you.

At night the bums would bottles break
 And toss them on the ground;
 And when we curled around the barrel
 We tried not to fall down.

The cannon, if it had been fired,
 Had ta'en a deadly toll
 Of workers at the Willimantic
 Lumber and Coal.

Sing Boom Boom Boom-a-lay!
 Sing Boom-Boom! Boom-Boom!
 Sing Boom Boom Boom-a-lay!
 Oh, sing a sad Boom Boom!

Sing rusted relics raised from yore.
 Wipe wetness from your eye.
 The cannon, it ain't there no more
 and neither am I.

jt

Posting: Re: Old Willimantic
 Poster: John Tormey
 Date: 20 April 2008 10:15 AM

Posting 13

Ada: (Circa Late Forties) You mention Mr. Tamborello sweeping Main Street. Never knew his last name. We called him "John." As I remember, he had a big moustache and wheeled around a small trash can containing a shovel that stood straight up. Probably a throw-back to the old horse and buggy days in Willi. His steel bristled push broom was always active.

When he came down Church Street and reached the Package Store at the corner of Valley, my Uncle Jack would go outside and speak with him in Sicilian. Inside the store, my Aunt Rose would sing to us a once-popular tune:

"Eh, where do you work-a, John?"

"For the Erie Lackawan."

"Eh, whadda you do-a, John?"

"I poosh -- I poosh -- I poosh."

"Eh, whadda you poosh-a, John?"

"I poosh-a da mop and da broom."

"Eh, why do you poosh-a, John?"

"To pay for my food and room."

jt

Posting: Re: Old Willimantic
 Poster: J. Richard (Dick) Phaneuf
 Date: 20 April 2008 2:36 PM

Posting 14

Great old song, John. There used to be many versions of that same tune but I can't remember them anymore.

There were still a few horse and buggies around when I was a real little kid and many horse-drawn work wagons. I particularly remember on our drives to Baltic through Bolton Knotch seeing work crews out on the ice of Carlson's Pond cutting big squares of ice out of the frozen lake. They'd load them aboard horse-drawn sleighs and drag them to shore heading for the various icehouses in the

area.

Man. . . is that a long time ago!!

Posting: Re: Old Willimantic
Poster: John Tormey
Date: 20 April 2008 8:11 PM

Posting 15

Yeah, Dick, a long time ago.

I remember many times being driven back to Conantville by way of Jackson Street, going down past Park Spring, and onto the Conantville Road. This was before the days of Poland Spring and other water cooler services. What the Willimantic offices did was send a truck loaded with humongous empty water cooler bottles to Park Spring. The truck usually had three old (?) guys in the front seat and the truck would never go faster than 10 miles an hour. Clinkety clink clank. Nice job if you could get it. They'd fill all those bottles at the spring and hoist 'em back onto the truck. Very slowly. A quieter time. The return trip was even slower.

One day I followed them on my bike back to City Hall just for the experience. Etched in my brain. Does the water still flow at Park Spring? Is it still drinkable?

jt

Posting: Re: Old Willimantic
Poster: W Walker
Date: 21 April 2008 4:00 AM

Posting 16

I get my water at Park Spring all the time...except when they close it for cleaning every three months...makes the best ice cubes too!!

Posting: Re: Old Willimantic
Poster: Fred Masterton
Date: 21 April 2008 6:44 AM

Posting 17

Assuming the cannon you were talking about is the one that currently sits outside the VFW Hall on Main St (next to Friendly's), it is actually a German 104mm gun from World War 1. My brother and I used to play on it when we were kids during our many visits to Friendly's. I always assumed it was American, but it was apparently captured or surrendered after WW1 and brought back to Willi.

Posting: Re: Old Willimantic
Poster: Ada Kerachsky Albright
Date: 21 April 2008 11:12 AM

Posting 18

John,

I love your poem. Thanks.

Re Mr. Tamborello: I did not know his first name. His granddaughter Joanna had transferred from St. Joseph's to Natchaug and became a good friend of mine. Her family moved to North Hollywood, CA in fourth grade. That is the reason I remember his name. Your description is apt. I don't remember him from Church St., but from seeing him on Main St., sweeping in front of Woolworth's and Grants. Possibly because Wtc was very much a working class community and many were from the immigrant generation, but I appreciate that we respected hard-working people regardless of their jobs. That is a value I am proud to have learned and does not seem so widespread these days.

Posting: Re: Old Willimantic
Poster: John Tormey
Date: 21 April 2008 1:18 PM

Posting 19

W. Walker: Thanks for the update on Park Spring.

Fred: That's the one. Finally I learn the truth about the cannon. Thanks.

Ada: Right. Being the product of the Irish and Sicilian immigrants, I felt very much at home in Willi, especially at St. Joseph's School. When things got tough in town, folks took any job that was available. What you didn't want was to hear people whisper as you passed "He's 'collecting.'"

jt

Posting: Re: Old Willimantic
Poster: Steve Starger
Date: 21 April 2008 3:36 PM

Posting 20

Park Spring was a welcome, refreshing stop in the summer when we rode our bikes all over creation. Years later, it became a sobering up spot as well. Let's leave it at that.

Posting: Re: Old Willimantic
Poster: John Tormey
Date: 21 April 2008 5:44 PM

Posting 21

Steve: Great lovers' lane as well. For Mansfield guys it was the place to head. (bad choice of words) Anyway, being right over the Mansfield line into Willi, Tim Quinn, our constable, had no jurisdiction and couldn't come knocking on your windows when you were mid-conversation.

jt

Posting: Re: Old Willimantic Posting 22
 Poster: Steve Starger
 Date: 22 April 2008 10:07 AM

John,

Hmmm, never did that at Park Spring, but Hosmer Mountain was another legendary parking spot, especially after dances and proms (not that I did a lot of that in HS, but there were a couple of memorable moments up there).

Posting: Re: Old Willimantic Posting 23
 Poster: Ada Kerachsky Albright
 Date: 23 April 2008 10:35 AM

I remember going with my aunt on occasion to get water from Park Spring. My mother was born in a house not far from the spring.

Posting: Re: Old Willimantic Posting 24
 Poster: Dick Donovan
 Date: 24 April 2008 8:41 AM

Seems like Park Springs has been there for ever. I remember my father going there with 1 gal. jugs to fill up. This goes back to mid 40's. Anyone know the origin of the spring? When was the stone structure built that provides everyone access to clean fresh water?

Posting: Re: Old Willimantic Posting 25
 Poster: John Tormey
 Date: 24 April 2008 12:58 AM

Dick: I don't have any answers for those questions, but I just remembered a Park Spring tidbit. Back in the Late Forties or so they used to have Fishing Derbies at that small circular pond in the middle. They'd stock it with some brookies and allow the little kids to take a crack at 'em. Thing was they didn't catch many of them. We'd go in a couple months later and bag some beauties.
 jt

Posting: Re: Old Willimantic Posting 26
 Poster: Dick Donovan
 Date: 24 April 2008 1:27 PM

jt: do you remember swimming at Gile Flynn's behind Butler's Dairy . There was a small beach and each summer the city/lifeguards would grease up a watermelon and set it out in the river. I think they had teams and see who could get the watermelon back to the beach. The Slavaka(sp) brothers use to do some of the lifeguarding. There was a small pier off the embankment with a diving board. One the Slavaka boys would do a huge spring and do a head first cannonball that would spray way up in the air.

Posting: Re: Old Willimantic Posting 27
 Poster: John Tormey
 Date: 24 April 2008 6:35 PM

Dick: In Conantville we had our own concrete-squared pool courtesy of the Max Pollack Thread Mill (pre-Shaboo), but we did ride our bikes the short distance down to Butlers Dairy and Gil Flynn's now and then. I remember the greased watermelon thing. I never competed but I used to laugh like crazy.

My brother, Charlie, used to do spectacuar dives off that old diving board at the time. What we didn't know then is that a lot of the dyes and poisons from Max Pollack's used to leach into the Natchaug River right above Gil Flynn's. Most of the leach fields are covered over now by the parking lot at the mall. The brook now runs through a large pipe there.
 jt

Posting: Re: Old Willimantic Posting 28
 Poster: J. Richard (Dick) Phaneuf
 Date: 26 April 2008 9:58 PM

Dick, John,

I was talking to my sister Evelyn the other and we both remember that, before the little stone building was built at Park Springs, there was a much smaller thing made of rocks in its place. She said that she remembered when the city built the existing building but I don't think she knows the exact year.

I remember that little concrete pool in Conantville. I hung around with Bruce and David Lyon who lived at the corner of Brook and Chapman streets and I seem to remember them telling me that they knew or were related to the folks who lived in the house with the pool.

I used to fish that little creek on the Conantville road and pulled a lot of nice little native brookies out of there over the years. I also caught a few racoons along that creek when I was trapping.

God!! I wonder how many miles we put on our bikes back in those days??????

Posting: Re: Old Willimantic Posting 29
 Poster: Dick Donovan
 Date: 29 April 2008 8:33 AM

Stopped for gas this am at \$3.46/gallon and got a cup of coffee and a cinnamon/apple filled doughnut. One doughnut was 79

cents!!! Enuf is enuf!

Posting: Re: Old Willimantic Posting 30
 Poster: Ada Kerachsky Albright
 Date: 29 April 2008 10:30 AM

This morning on my drive in to work, I passed a Mobil station that was getting 3.849/gal for gas (regular, self-service). Others are not much less. I keep a log for my car. Last Saturday I paid .20/gal more than two weeks earlier.

Posting: Re: Old Willimantic Posting 31
 Poster: John Tormey
 Date: 29 April 2008 1:37 PM

Anybody remember the "gas-pricing wars" of '53-'54? I believe Harry's Gas on West Main won it at the low of 19 cents a gallon.
 jt

Posting: Re: Old Willimantic Posting 32
 Poster: Dick Donovan
 Date: 29 April 2008 2:34 PM

When I started driving around 55-56 gas was about 18-19 cents a gallon. In or around 1974-75 there was a gas shortage and you could only buy a certain amount at one time. I think purchase were limited to \$5 per filling. Why is it at this age I remember a lot of useless info and forget who the Red Sox beat the other day.

Posting: Re: Old Willimantic Posting 33
 Poster: Ada Kerachsky Albright
 Date: 29 April 2008 3:23 PM

Maybe because the Red Sox haven't beaten anyone in the past few days.

Posting: Re: Old Willimantic Posting 34
 Poster: John Boudreau
 Date: 29 April 2008 7:14 PM

Dick ,

It could be worse . Here in Japan we are paying over \$ 6 a gallon , and our European friends are even worse off . I think a gallon in tne UK is \$ 8 . 3/4 of the price tax !

Posting: Re: Old Willimantic Posting 35
 Poster: Dick Donovan
 Date: 30 April 2008 8:58 AM

JB--you are right. Europe and other have always paid more for gas and they laugh, rightly so, for our griping. A year ago it cost me \$100 for taxi from Heathrow to mid-town London. I understand taxi from Kenndy to mid town Manhattan is not cheap either!!

Posting: Re: Old Willimantic Posting 36
 Poster: John Tormey
 Date: 30 April 2008 12:40 AM

Dick: Unless the flat rate from JFK airport to Manhattan has gone up in the past year, it is 35 dollars for any Manhattan destination. The call-in limo services charge 35 plus tolls for the same deal.

John: Do any Japanese citizens own American cars? If so, which is the most popular?

Posting: Re: Old Willimantic Posting 37
 Poster: Dick Donovan
 Date: 30 April 2008 1:38 PM

JT big part of cost in London and Europe is the weak dollar. What use to be 4 marks to the dollar is almost 4 dollars to the mark in Germany. Same in UK When we lived in Germany mid-60s the exchange rate was 3.9 marks to the dollar. Gas was expensive but we got gas ration coupons from the Consulate. Esso was equivalent to about \$1 US /liter but with coupons we paid about 25 cents per liter. Not sure my math is right but it was a good deal for us.

Posting: Re: Old Willimantic Posting 38
 Poster: John Boudreau
 Date: 1 May 2008 12:12 AM

John T ,

US-made autos in Japan are relatively rare birds . I believe yearly sales comprise less than 1% of total auto sales in Japan . I think the Jeep Cherokee and Ford Mustang are the most popular models .

Posting: Re: Old Willimantic Posting 39
 Poster: Dick Donovan

Date: 1 May 2008 11:06 AM

In following this thread on cars, how about the days when cars did not have seat belts. We drove around with family and friends not even thinking about the possibilities of being injured. Anyone remember when cars started having seat belt but using them was optional.

Posting: Re: Old Willimantic Posting 40
 Poster: John Tormey
 Date: 1 May 2008 12:46 AM

Thanks, John.

Dick, good question on the seat belts. Probably started when cars began to be made out of plastic instead of steel and when the excellent highways made high speeds very doable.

Posting: Re: Old Willimantic Posting 41
 Poster: Ada Kerachsky Albright
 Date: 1 May 2008 4:16 PM

Our 1963 Pontiac Tempest had seat belts. Wearing them was not mandatory in general. However, as a military spouse driving on and off a closed post, the MP's checked to be sure you had your seat belt buckled. At that time not all cars had seat belts and civilian police did not seem to check.

Posting: Re: Old Willimantic Posting 42
 Poster: Steve Starger
 Date: 1 May 2008 4:57 PM

When I got my license, in 1957, gas was about 21 cents a gallon. "Give me a dollar's worth" pretty much took care of a driver's needs for a week or so. A pack of cigarettes in my father's store ran about the same. Newspapers were a nickel during the week, 25 cents for Sunday, beers at the Italian Garden (don't ask) were 10 cents. I don't want to sound like an old fart, but there it is. And yes, we are still paying a lot less for gas than for Europe's imperial gallon. As Kurt Vonnegut observed, "And so it goes." Speaking of old cars, I had a '57 Chevy Bel Air -- cream and turquoise -- for a short time when I was in high school. That was probably one of the few times I felt really cool in those four years. I was happy to see the '57 Chevy clubs in the L.A. area out on Sundays when I lived there. The cars were cherry, with original engines and parts. No salt on the roads to eat them away.

Posting: Re: Old Willimantic Posting 43
 Poster: John Boudreau
 Date: 1 May 2008 6:56 PM

I suspect that seat belts were optional until they became standard in the early '60s. I think it was Ford who started the big " safety " thing and began offering seat belts and padded dashboards as options .

Steve ...When I was 16 (1968) I wanted a 1957 Chevy in the worst way ! I thought they were the coolest . Never did get one . In 1969 I ended up buying a Ford Falcon window van (I put a mattress in the back and curtains in the windows - he !) from a fellow band member . What a clunker that was . Kept it 6 months and finally , after saving enough dough from part-time jobs , bought a used 1967 Camaro in 1970 . The abuse that car took . Couldn't kill it if you wanted to . I think gas was around 29 cents a gallon .

Posting: Re: Old Willimantic Posting 44
 Poster: John Boudreau
 Date: 1 May 2008 6:57 PM

BTW - it was an SS-350 Camaro : maroon !

Posting: Re: Old Willimantic Posting 45
 Poster: W Walker
 Date: 2 May 2008 4:55 AM

Hey guys, I'm not quite the vintage as y'all but in 1971 (when I was 16) gas was 28 cents a gallon for my first car (rusty '62 Karmann Ghia with a whopping 60,000 miles on it - that was an old car back back then...nowadays a car is just getting broken in at 60K) and cigarettes were easily bought down the street (from a vending machine - all us kids went there) for less than 50 cents.

Posting: Re: Old Willimantic Posting 46
 Poster: Steve Starger
 Date: 2 May 2008 10:19 AM

John: Cool! My first car was a '49 (also maroon) Pontiac fastback with mud flaps that had silver rockets on them. My father bought it for \$25 and it lasted about a month. The gears ground through every gear, but it was fun while it lasted. My next heap was a '46 Pontiac (lots of old Pontiacs around Willi back then) sedan that I destroyed by not putting oil in it. I threw a rod coming down Spring Hill one night. Sounded like a bomb going off. What, you need to add oil????

Posting: Re: Old Willimantic Posting 47
 Poster: John Boudreau
 Date: 2 May 2008 7:20 PM

WW ,

In the early 60's my Dad used to send me over to Charlie's Grinder Shop for butts . I think a pack was around 25 cents . By the time I was 11 or so , my friends and I decided we wanted to find out what the thrill with smoking was , so we'd say the cigs were for our Dads and then we would head on down to a secret place down by the railroad tracks that ran parallel to Jackson and puff our heads off . Overdid it one day , I guess . Got home and my mother immediately smelled the smoke on my clothes . Could BS my way out of it . She promptly rang up my friends' mothers and we were all grounded for a week . She also gave me a good whack on the backside !!

Posting: Re: Old Willimantic
Poster: John Boudreau
Date: 2 May 2008 7:21 PM

Posting 48

Oops - COULDN'T BS my way out .