

The Wintonbury Drummer



Newsletter of the Wintonbury Historical Society

Bloomfield, Connecticut

August 2005

Next meeting: September 14, 2005 7:30 p.m.

Location: Marilyn Michaelson Senior Center, Band Room (just beyond our normal meeting site)
330 Park Ave, Bloomfield, CT

Program: Connecticut's Black Governors that served the slave communities
from 1749 to 1856

Speaker: Webster B. Brooks III

President's Message:

As of this date the Town Manager is not comfortable signing the architect's contract.

The Sept 14th meeting, I believe will be interesting. Webster Brooks has served as a board member of the John E. Rogers African American Cultural Center, based in Hartford, Connecticut since 2003. He also serves as a board member of the Descendents of the 29th Connecticut C.V. Infantry; an organization of the descendents of Connecticut's largest Black Civil War unit. Mr. Brooks has served as political commentator and analyst for several radio, newspaper and television outlets and had a prominent part in the recent election.

The Society will hold a Flea Market, tag, bake sale September 24th from 8-3 at the Old Farm School. We are not asking members for items for this event. This will be a sale which will feature books and furniture which will not fit into our collection. This will take place at the Old Farm School, Rain or Shine. Vendors are still sought, and if interested, please call Louise Schmoll. We can use extra hands for the sale—and of course we want your great baked items.

Fannie R. Gabriel, President

This and That

We miss the following members: Amy Hall—Bruce's wife; we also wish a speedy recovery for Jason Bruce's grandson; "Peg" Bierken; Emma Cohen and Virginia Hallisey.

While WHS members were enjoying their pot luck-annual meeting-Our Treasurer and Assistant Treasurer were part of the celebration of Civitan of the Bloomfield Citizen. Recipient was Charlie Dechand; and Mike Swan, as President of Civitan, was the lucky person to make the presentation.

At the June meeting, the program coordinator Bob McComb presented a quiz on Bloomfield History—how well can you do??—if you wish to postcard your answers to P.O. Box 7454, we will advise you of the correct answers.

What Year was the Wintonbury parish formed?
Who was the first minister of the new Society?
What portion of the present town was left out in the town's original formation?

What year was the St. Andrews parish formed?
What was the date for the last time pupils were taught in the Old Farm School-and who was the last teacher?

Who built the tower in northwest Bloomfield that was destroyed by fire in 1936?

What famous politician is credited with the naming of our town Bloomfield?

Name the Bloomfield Yankee Peddler who made his fortune as a manufacturer of tin ware?

Who was the Windsor Yankee who built kilns on Tariffville Road for the manufacture of pitch?

What Bloomfield family manufactured bricks for a full century with a large yard south of Cottage Grove Road? Good Luck

Received a photo, circa the late teens of Park Ave. and Blue Hills Ave.—two Eckert children - East Side Filling Station.

From the Farmers Market Account Book of July 19 names which still have a Bloomfield ring—Barnard, Bercowetz, Newberry, Christensen, Nielsen, O.D. Filley, Humphrey, Blassig, Wade, from 8/14 Foster, Rowley, Brown, Rosenthal, W.B. Willoughby, Miller, Carpenter and Guilmartin

Hope to see you at our 9/14 meeting—also remember the baking for the 9/24 flea market, tag sale of items the Society cannot use in their collection.

Fannie R. Gabriel, President

Our Publications

Wintonbury to Bloomfield (\$16.50), Images: Old Bloomfield (\$20., or to a member \$18.); History of the Bloomfield Catholic Church (\$15); Barnard Genealogy (\$10.); Good Old Days (\$10.); Cook Book (\$7.); Over Tunxis Trails (\$5.); Bicentennial Activities (\$3); Note Paper (8 pk - \$3.); Filley House T shirts (\$12.); Brown Drums and Brown family (\$10.).

To order these items send a check in the above amount plus \$3. for S & H to: Wintonbury Historical Society, P.O. Box 7454, Bloomfield, CT 06002

Updated Bloomfield History Quiz

The next newsletter will feature a quiz on updated Bloomfield History, developed by Charlie Regini

Committee Reports

Acquisition Committee: A formal acquisition policy is being developed. If you would like to help with this committee's work contact the chairman.

Judge Jerry Wagner, Chairman

Education Committee: Those interested in the Old Wintonbury Burying Ground please call.

Libbie Merrow, Chairman

Financial Development Committee: See the Tag/Bake Sale report elsewhere in the newsletter

Carrie Allison and Winnie Granger Co-Chairman

Membership Committee: Welcome to Paul Benney and Mark Rowley

Jean Buscarello, Chairman

Newsletter: The deadlines for the newsletter, are for material to be received by Fannie the weekend before each of the regularly scheduled Board Meetings. For remainder of 2005 the deadlines are:

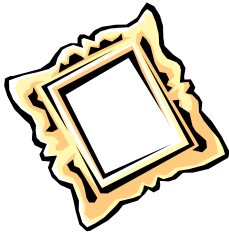
Oct 16th (Bd Meeting Oct 19th)

Fannie Gabriel & Janis Langston

Website Committee: If you are working on a project and would like to share it with the world, or if you would like to expand the material already available on the site, please contact me and we can make the information available as part of the resources of the Society on its website.

Janis Langston, Webmaster

Flea Market/Tag & Bake Sale



September 24th (Rain or Shine) 8 a.m. - 3 p.m.
at the Old Farm School (corner Park & School Streets)



Rent a space to sell your wares - **\$20.00 for a 20' x 20' space.**

Volunteers are needed on Saturday to staff the WHS tables and bake sale area.

Bakers needed to donate “goodies” for Carrie’s Bake Sale table



Classes are in Session at the Old Farm School

Old Farm School has been closed, most of the summer, due to the re-pointing - However, would like to offer a report from Mary Murray, Old Farm School chair, as an example of how the school can be used.

On Saturday May 14th, Bloomfield’s three elementary schools held a Fun and Fitness walk which originated from the Old Farm School. The students filed in to the classroom, took their seats and sat attentively as they learned what it would have been like to attend school in 1796. They were very inquisitive about such important things as the bathroom and recess. Of course the highlight of the school day was ringing the bell. Some students even stated that they wanted to attend school here. We had approximately 100 teachers, parents and students on our opening weekend, what a terrific way to start the season.

Flash, Flash the Old Farm School has reopened

from Mary Murray, Old Farm School Chair — She has just called to report...the pointing has been completed, and the OLD FARM SCHOOL HAS REOPENED FOR THE REMAINDER OF THE SEASON with the exception of the labor day holiday weekend. She will be calling to schedule those who have agreed to help.

Leaving A Legacy

The Wintonbury Historical Society is a charitable and non-profit organization dedicated to the preservation of historical sites of Bloomfield, and the memory of the ones who created them.

The Society is in dire need of funds or gifts in order to continue the restorations, and preservations in progress. We are therefore, soliciting the commitment of citizens who value the history of Bloomfield now and in the years ahead.

Listed are a few ways to leave a legacy:

1. Set aside a gift in your will to the Society
2. Name the Society as beneficiary of an insurance policy.
3. Remember your loved ones with a gift in their honor.
4. Name the Society as a beneficiary of your IRA or 401K.

There are several other means, just talk with your financial advisor.

Financial Development Committee

Calendar of Events

2005

- Sept 14 **WHS Regular Meeting** 7:30 p.m. Marilyn Michaelson Sr. Center
Sept 24 **Flea Market/Tag & Bake Sale** 8:00 am - 3:00 p.m. (Rain or Shine) Old Farm School
Nov 2 **WHS Regular Meeting** 7:30 p.m. Marilyn Michaelson Sr. Center - The Copaco Story
Nov 9 **Mystery in Mythical Wintonbury** 6:30 p.m. Prosser Library

2006

- Feb 1 **WHS Regular Meeting** 7:30 p.m. Marilyn Michaelson Sr. Center
Apr 5 **WHS Regular Meeting** 7:30 p.m. Marilyn Michaelson Sr. Center
Jun 7 **WHS Annual Pot Luck Supper with Business Meeting** 6:00 p.m.
Sept 13 **WHS Regular Meeting** 7:30 p.m. Marilyn Michaelson Sr. Center

Visit the WHS website at: www.bloomfieldcthistory.org

*Submit articles for The Wintonbury Drummer,
the Newsletter of the Wintonbury Historical Society of Bloomfield, to:
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