

The Wintonbury Drummer



Newsletter of the Wintonbury Historical Society

Bloomfield, Connecticut

January 2010

Next meeting: February 24, 2010 7:00 p.m.

Location: Prosser Public Library, One Tunxis Ave., Bloomfield, CT

Program: Agriculture in Bloomfield
Joint Program with Prosser Library.

Presenter: Fred Hesketh, Town Historian

President's Message:

The Society is again pleased to hold a joint meeting at Prosser Library—since Library Footnotes goes to every Bloomfield resident, this publicity about the 24th meeting, is the best publicity we can get. Please register, in case of inclement weather, and program has to be cancelled, ONLY those who have registered will be notified.



PROGRAM WILL BE HELD FEBRUARY 25th IF IT IS CANCELLED ON THE 24th.

As we move into our 61st year as a Society, please save SUNDAY APRIL 18th for DEDICATION of your Office/Library...2:00p.m.-4:30 p.m.

Elsewhere you will find an opportunity to volunteer, by calling me (frg)—for not only the dedication, but tag sale, appraisal day and auction.

The intervening period since November has seen much activity with sorting—thus another spot to volunteer—Mondays 1:30-4:00 p.m. The gems that surface tell us that we have a wealth of information to offer.

Fannie R Gabriel, President

This and That

The Society receives many notices of events from other historical societies, these are displayed in our WHS Library—in the summer in the Old Farm School—please look and see if any appeal to you.

We are in need of a vacuum cleaner for use in the Library and Old Farm School- if you have one to donate (and not in use) please call Angela Hauptman (860)243-5933 or Mary Murray (860) 978-6571. We can see you receive a tax exempt card. We also have a fax machine and printer-still usable-let us know if Desired (\$25.00)

Society wishes to send belated sympathy to the family of Edith Rosen. Sorry to learn that Joan Politis has been under the weather; and that Bob McComb is recovering from broken arm-received Christmas Day.

The Society is a member of the Connecticut League of H.S.-please take advantage of their programs.—as is the case with the Connecticut H.S.—

May we offer congratulations to member Marilyn Johnston upon the publication of her poems Weight of an Angel—Antrim House in Simsbury is in a position to secure copies for you.

Kudos to the Bloomfield Adult Education Program, for again featuring the Old Farm School on their flyer cover.

WISH LIST of Equipment for the Education Center

Donations wanted

We are in need of a vacuum cleaner for use in the Library and Old Farm School- if you have one to donate please call Angela Hauptman (860)243-5933 or Mary Murray (860) 978-6571.

Items for Sale

Also have a Fax Machine and Printer, in good working order \$25.00

Please call 242-1016

Committee Reports

Membership Committee:

New Members: none

Jean Buscarello, Chairman

Newsletter: The deadlines for the newsletter, are for articles to be received by Fannie. For 2010, the deadlines are: Mar 21, May 16, Aug 22 & Oct 17.

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 Winnie Granger, Ralph Schmoll or me and we can make the information available as part of the resources of the Society on its website.

Janis Langston, Webmaster

Volunteers Wanted for Upcoming Events

Office / Library Dedication

April 18, 2010 2:00 – 4:30 p.m.

Sorting at the Office / Library

Mondays 1:30 – 4:00 p.m.

Appraisal Day July 2010

Benefit Auction October 2010

Please see Fannie at the February 24th meeting to sign up or call 860-242-1016

Our Publications

Wintonbury to Bloomfield (\$16.50), Images: Old Bloomfield (\$20., or to a member \$18.); History of the Bloomfield Catholic Church (\$15); **NEW** Bloomfield & the Civil War (\$12); **NEW** Not Lost ... Gone Before: A History of Latimer Hill Cemetery (CD); 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.).

February 24th Program
Agriculture in Bloomfield
Prosser Library Community Room
Meeting at 7:00 p.m. and Program at 7:30 p.m.

Bloomfield currently is home to a number of significant non-agricultural businesses. For the first 200 years of Bloomfield's existence as Wintonbury Parish (before 1835), and then as a municipality, most town land was devoted to agricultural pursuits. Local Historian and Vice President of the Wintonbury Historical Society, Fred Hesketh will present tales relating to those who toiled on Bloomfield farms in those days and their place in both the town and the state.

Please reserve your seat by calling the Prosser Library, 243-9721.



New Publications

Bloomfield and the Civil War by Fred Hesketh

The union army needed troops to fight the Civil War. There was no draft at the time, so the military relied on volunteers to fill its ranks. A call went out to all the towns in New England to support the war by encouraging men to enlist. Bloomfield Connecticut responded by offering a cash incentive bounty to its residents who enlisted. The bounty proved to be a strong incentive—perhaps too strong in some cases.

Many Bloomfield citizens fought in the Civil War. Some were wounded. Some died in battle. Some died of disease or other non-combat causes. Some were captured. Some deserted.

The Wintonbury Historical Society has documented the story of the impact of the war on Bloomfield and the men from Bloomfield who fought in the Civil War, as well as those men who fought and claimed to live in Bloomfield—but didn't.

Bloomfield and the Civil War, \$12.00: available at Society Events or by mail \$2.50 shipping and handling.

Not Lost...Gone Before: A History of Latimer Hill Cemetery by Lucy Woodford Wirsul



An introduction to the history of Latimer Hill Cemetery and the people laid to rest there. Includes photographs of the cemetery and all the monuments & gravestones. Appendices include listings by name and by lot number, location maps for each lot and a copy of the transcription of the 1934 Hale Headstone listing for this cemetery.

Available by Special Order: Comb bound (B&W) \$35.00 or on CD (Color) \$15.00

(A portion of the proceeds is donated to the Latimer Hill Cemetery Association for upkeep & restoration of LHC)

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

2010

Feb 3	WHS Regular Meeting Canceled (see joint meeting below)
Feb 24	Joint Meeting with Prosser Library - Fred Hesketh "Agriculture in Bloomfield"
Apr 7	WHS Regular Meeting - Speaker Carol Laun, Executive Dir. Salmon Brook Historical Society NOTE: Meeting at 7:00 p.m.
Apr 18	Grand Opening Celebration for the Education Center, 2:00 - 4:30 p.m.
Apr 24	Tag/Bake Sale Old Farm School grounds, 8:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. (rain date TBD)
TBD	Spring Clean-up Day at Old Wintonbury Cemetery
Jun 2	WHS Annual Meeting with election of Officers
Sept 8	WHS Regular Meeting
Nov 4	WHS Regular Meeting

Visit the expanded 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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