

# The Wintonbury Drummer



## *Newsletter of the Wintonbury Historical Society*

*Bloomfield, Connecticut*

*March 2005*

**Next meeting:** April 6, 2005 7:30 p.m.

**Location:** Marilyn Michaelson Senior Center, 330 Park Ave., Bloomfield, CT

**Program:** Julia (Newberry) Filley, 1808 - 1881: her Life & Times

**Speaker:** Sharon Steinberg,

a Filley family researcher, who has just finished transcribing 27 years of Julia Filley's diaries in preparation for a thesis/book on one of Bloomfield's most illustrious women, will present a talk accompanied by slides of Julia's life - her family, clothing, children, houses, and activities. From the "Country to the City," Julia's life spanned the years 1808-1881, following the movement from Bloomfield to Hartford and from an agricultural world to a commercial one. You will get an opportunity, to view one of her silk dresses and her wedding dress.

### *President's Message:*

With snow still on the ground - and more in the forecast-I was thrilled to know that the Bloomfield Leisure Department really is optimistic. Notices have already gone out for the May 30th Memorial Day Parade. Thank you Emily for giving us an opportunity to look forwarded to warmer weather.

Once in a while damaged newsletters are returned by the Post office - having been mutilated in their machines. If you do not receive a newsletter - please let me know.

The April meeting will provide an update on the search for an architect for the Filley House rehabilitation project. Presented by Search Chairman, Joe Caldeira. Committee: George Merrow, Charles Regini and Sharon Steinberg.. In another part of the newsletter you will find details on the April meeting—see you there.

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

## This and That

We were sorry to read of the passing of long time member Gertrude Christensen and to hear that Martin Bush has experienced a stay in Hartford hospital...we wish him well. Some of Eileen's gems that she had been holding for the Society, have been given to Libbey - clothes and genealogical items. Also enclosed were a few copies of note paper depicting cemetery stone of Jerijah (1792) great, great grandson of Thomas Barber, early settler of Windsor. Shades of Steve Petyke's talk in February Does anyone have a slide projector which they would be willing to loan to the Society, when there is a need???????

2/10 issue of the Courant Re the Underground Railroad had a picture of the Gillette House before it was moved to another site on Cigna's property. Our thanks to Mayor Sid, for the two postcards he presented to us at the February meeting. Bloomfield Center School-postmarked 1918; and Bloomfield Methodist Church, Parsonage, and insert of Rev. Knott. Thanks for your continuing to remember us, on your travels around the area.

The Society has been presented with a toy piano, from the home of Miss Shaw, who used to live on Bloomfield Avenue.

Recent note of a Seminar being conducted in Wethersfield under the auspices of the Connecticut League of Historical Societies, noted that our grant writer chairman, Marianne Curling will be part of a panel giving methods of preserving photos.

Our Society has joined other groups in providing for another flag to grace the center of Town.

Can anyone help - Do you have knowledge of Frances McGurk Preston - taught at Southwest District School at one time.

We are trying to get a list of those who lived in the Filley House, when owned by the La Salette Brothers - please let us know.

Fannie R. Gabriel, President

## Genealogy Info Request

### Orson Wells (or Wills)

**d:** 1863, age 61, buried Mountain View Cemetery

**m:** Melissa Humphrey 1822, dau. of Lot & Chloe (Moses) Humphrey

**Children:** Esther b abt 1823/24, Victor b 18 Nov 1824, Marilla (Amarilla), Lucy (Lucy Ann) b. abt 1825, Seth, Fanny b. 1836.

Do you have information on this person???? If you do, please contact Fannie.

## 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 if interested.

Libbie Merrow, Chairman

**Financial Development Committee:** Plans are under way for the Annual Tag Sale, April 30th, at the Old Farm School.

Carrie Allison and Winnie Granger Co-Chairman

**Membership Committee:**

*Welcome new members!*

Richard & Constance Filley of Westfield Mass.

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 2005 the deadlines are:

**May 15th** (Bd Meeting May 18th)

**Aug 28th** (Bd Meeting Aug 31st)

**Oct 16th** (Bd Meeting Oct 19th)

Fannie Gabriel & Janis Langston

**Website Committee:** Because of the website WHS continues to receive research requests with regard to historical places and people of Bloomfield. WHS has also received donations of historical items pertinent to Bloomfield because the donor found us via the website.

So, 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

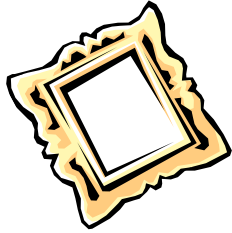
April 30th (Rain Date May 1st) 8 a.m. - 3 p.m.  
at the Old Farm School (corner Park & School Streets)



## Preview for WHS Members & Friends

Friday, April 29th 3 - 6 p.m.

“Come and get some gems you can’t live without”



This popular event allows members, and friends to donate their “treasures (?)” and receive a tax credit or rent a space to sell your wares yourself - **\$20.00 for a 20' x 20' space.**

Items being donated may be brought to the Old Farm School on  
Sunday, April 24th 2-4 p.m.  
Wednesday, April 27th 2-4 p.m.



**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**

## 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

Wintonbury Historical Society  
P.O. Box 7454  
Bloomfield, CT 06002

## Calendar of Events 2005

- Apr 6**      **WHS Regular Meeting** 7:30 p.m. Marilyn Michaelson Sr. Center - Filley Diaries - Sharon Steinberg
- Apr 29**      **Flea market/Tag Sale Preview** for members and friends (3-6 pm)
- Apr 30**      **Flea market/Tag & Bake Sale** (rain date May 1st) 8 am - 3 pm
- May 12-14**      **Prosser Library - Book Sale**
- May 30**      **Memorial Day Parade** (call Fannie if interested in participating)
- Jun 1**      **WHS Annual Pot Luck Supper with Business Meeting** 6:00 p.m.  
- Don Gorham of the Yankee Flyer
- Sept 14**      **WHS Regular Meeting** 7:30 p.m. Marilyn Michaelson Sr. Center
- Nov 2**      **WHS Regular Meeting** 7:30 p.m. Marilyn Michaelson Sr. Center

Visit the WHS website at: [www.bloomfieldcthistory.org](http://www.bloomfieldcthistory.org)

*Submit articles for The Wintonbury Drummer,  
the Newsletter of the Wintonbury Historical Society of Bloomfield, to:  
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Layout Editor: Janis Langston, 166 Duncaster Rd, Bloomfield, CT 06002*