

The Wintonbury Drummer



Newsletter of the Wintonbury Historical Society

Bloomfield, Connecticut

October 2008

Next meeting: November 5, 2008 7:30 p.m.

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

Program: A Grave Situation: The Old Wintonbury Cemetery

Speakers: Bruce Bidwell, Sol Cushman, Fred Hesketh, Pat Robair and Ty Tryon

President's Message:

Hurray, the 20 x 40 post and beam structure Office/Library has been completed. At a recent Board meeting Diana Barnard and Spencer Shaw gave an presentation on how best to set-up thr space. Also will have expertise of member Jeanna Perreault on setting up the library books. At a regular meeting we will be asking for



volunteers to assist in many jobs. I do not have to relate stories about how much material is stored in various locations. Dedication for this new structure will take place in late spring 2009, giving us a chance to really get things in grand order.



We are asking the membership to provide a name for the new office/library. George Merrow has agreed to prepare a memory box. He will welcome your suggestions/ideas.

I believe you will find the November program very interesting (more info elsewhere in the newsletter); you know what a great job Libbie Merrow can do.

Fannie R Gabriel, President

This and That

We were saddened to learn of William Politis' passing, as a partner in the Bloomfield Garage, he was a long time Bloomfield fixture.

Since everyone receives the Bloomfield Journal, I trust all had a chance to read the interesting review of our September meeting, speaker on the Mayan myths, re DeEarlon's book Heaven's Wave. To have a Mayan in the audience, added excitement to the presentation.

With the Society moving into a very different mode, financing of the office/library, we will be pursuing grants and as you recall, every issue of the Wintonbury Drummer has an item re "Leaving a Legacy."

Also, if you have a computer, hope you are keeping up with the additions to the website.



Committee Reports

Acquisition Committee:

Judge Jerry Wagner, Chairman

Education Committee: No report

Financial Development Committee: Plans are under way for several fundraising projects, including a House & Garden Tour and engraved bricks for a patio at the new Education Center.

Winnie Granger, Chairman

Membership Committee:

New Members: None

Jean Buscarello, Chairman

Newsletter: The deadlines for the newsletter, are for material to be received by Fannie. For 2009, the deadlines are: Feb 21, Mar 18, May 20, Aug 19 and Oct 21.

Fannie Gabriel & Janis Langston

Website Committee: The website has received a new look and new material is being added. 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.

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

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.).

November Meeting Program A Grave Situation: Old Wintonbury Cemetery

will showcase our Old Wintonbury Cemetery. It will feature a variety of speakers Each is allotted five minutes, so this will never be boring!

- ◆ **Fred Hesketh** will share his research on the founding and history of our cemetery and the others in town.
- ◆ **Bruce Bidwell** will talk about the fence and gates donated by his family.
- ◆ **Sol Cushman** will explain how and why he has been cataloging the graves.
- ◆ **Ty Tryon** will tell how and why we can help, "hands-on", care for the stones
- ◆ **Pat Robair** will tell you how we can, together, preserve this centerpiece of our town's history.

We hope this will leave you wanting to learn more and perhaps pitch in yourself!

Libbie

Friends of the Old Wintonbury Cemetery



A dedicated group of volunteers came together at the Old Wintonbury Cemetery on Sunday, October 26, 2008 for Cemetery Clean-up Day.

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

2008

Nov 5 WHS Regular Meeting 7:30 pm - A Grave Situation: the Old Wintonbury Cemetery

2009

Feb 4 WHS Regular Meeting moved to coincide with Prosser Library Meeting

Feb 19 Prosser Library Meeting - Fred Hesketh "100th Anniversary of the Trolley in Bloomfield"

Apr 1 WHS Regular Meeting

Apr TBD Grand Opening Celebration for the Education Center

Apr TBD Tag/Bake Sale

Jun 3 WHS Annual Meeting with election of Officers

Sept 9 WHS Regular Meeting

Nov 4 WHS Regular Meeting

Visit the redesigned 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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