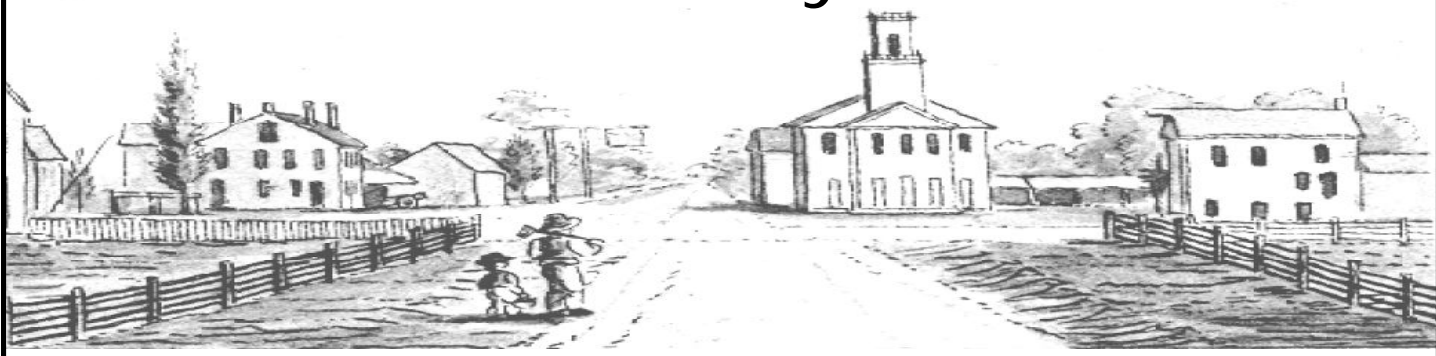


The Wintonbury Drummer



Newsletter of the Wintonbury Historical Society

Bloomfield, Connecticut

January 2004

Next meeting: February 4, 2004 7:30 p.m.

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

Program: Sharing Cultural Legacy through Oral Tradition of Storytelling

Speaker: Spenser Shaw, retired Professor of Information Dept, U. of Washington

President's Message

December 2003 has been a very active month for WHS towards closure on the DECD grant-all positive. With an assist of our Assistant Treasurer, Mike Swan, the Town Manager received documentation on all WHS and Filley financial action, since 1993. Town Attorney has been provided with all documents needed; and it appears this office has been in touch with the Attorney General's Office, the last step in final approval.

Mike Swan, Charlie Dechand, Virginia Hallisey and myself met recently with an accountant pursuant to securing a needed audit, as requested by DECD.

Sharon Steinberg and Judge Jerry Wagner deserve our thanks for the fine displays in the Prosser Library.

Our February 4th program, with story teller Spenser Shaw, should be fascinating. It may be of interest that his brothers were Dawson, a long time art instructor in the Bloomfield school system; as well as John, who was a long time school administrator. Spenser, is a retired professor in the School of Information Department of the U. of Washington.

The Society has been blessed with two rather hefty bequests: \$21,000 from Doris Jordan; and \$10,000 from Marie Hoffman.

Fannie R. Gabriel, President

Dollars for History

The Dollars for History Financial Campaign is still in progress. Ask your friends and neighbors to support the Filley House (our new home) rehabilitation project with a \$5 or \$10 tax deductible contribution. We encourage Society members to obtain Canisters from Fannie Gabriel (860-242-1016) or Virginia Hallisey (860-243-1065). Canisters will also be available at the meeting on February 4th.

This and That

We are sorry to learn of the passing of long time members Suzanne Andresen, Mildred Bercowetz, Mary Edward, Walter Nordstrom, Martha Mann, Katherine McLane and Charles Walker

The Society has made two presentations to Bloomfield Service Clubs, and have received from Civitan a check in the amount of \$200.00 for a recent presentation made by your President and Winnie Granger-who showed the potential use of the Filley House. Previously a check in the amount of \$50.00 had been presented to the Society, also for the Filley Fund. Our sincere thanks.

Make sure to stop by the Southwest District School, when it opens in the spring, to see the work that has been accomplished by Dr. William Jones's and his group of volunteers. Most recently he and Charlie Regini have been working on installing a ceiling in the main school room to complete the transformation of the interior.

Wintonbury Tracers is going along - about 12 members are involved, and are having a great time sharing their genealogical information and expertise.

This also causes me to again thank Janis for her fantastic web site for us - we are getting many requests for research assistance - not to mention the fact that many of our publications were sold during the holiday season, because she had placed them all on the web site.

Fannie R. Gabriel, President

Properties Open for Viewing

Old Farm School

1-4:00 p.m.Sundays May 16 through October 10th

Southwest District School

11 a.m. - noon first Saturday of each month May through October

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 Lucy (860-242-1624) if interested.

Lucy Wirsul & Libby Merrow, Co-Chairman

Membership Committee:

Welcome new members!

Robert Smith, Jr, Hartford

Geoffrey and Jean Crofts, Bloomfield

Phyllis Nussbaum, Bloomfield

Suzanne Bidwell, Bloomfield

James and Ann Hayward, Jr., Houston, Texas

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 the remainder of 2004 the deadlines are:

Mar 21st (Bd Meeting Mar 24th)

May 16th (Bd Meeting May 19th)

Aug 22nd (Bd Meeting Aug 25th)

Oct 17th (Bd Meeting Oct 20th)

Fannie Gabriel & Janis Langston

Website Committee: There is lots of space available to expand the website content, so please submit information. 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 Sale

May 1 (Rain Date May 2) 9 a.m. - 3 p.m.
Old Farm School

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

WHS House Tour

May 16, 2004 11 a.m. - 4 p.m.

To benefit the Filley House Rehabilitation Project

Houses on the Tour:

Mr. and Mrs. Edgar Dreyer, 108 Tunxis Avenue

Robert and Jenny Cook, 87 Duncaster Road

Joel and Diane Scott, 300 Simsbury Road

A recent issue of Hartford Magazine featured the home on 300 Simsbury Road (the former Long Estate),
and mentioned its being on this May Tour - would you believe that I (frg) have received 4 calls for tickets already.

More information in the next newsletter

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

2004 Calendar of Events

- Feb 4** **WHS Regular Meeting** 7:30 p.m. Marilyn Michaelson Sr. Center
- Apr 7** **WHS Regular Meeting** 7:30 p.m. Marilyn Michaelson Sr. Center
- May 1** **Flea Market/Tag Sale** 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at Old Farm School (Rain date: May 2nd)
- May 1** **Southwest District School** opens for the seson 1st Sat of each month through October 3rd
- May 16** **Old Farm School** opens for the season Sundays 1-4 p.m. through October 14th
- May 16** **WHS House Tour** (see article in this newsletter for more information)
- Jun 2** **WHS Annual Meeting** 6:00 p.m.
- Sept 8** **WHS Regular Meeting** 7:30 p.m. Marilyn Michaelson Sr. Center
- Oct 2** **Drum Festival**
- Nov 3** **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:
Editor: Fannie Gabriel, President, 400 Seabury Drive, #5158, Bloomfield, CT 06002.
Layout Artist: Janis Langston, 166 Duncaster Rd, Bloomfield, CT 06002*