

The Wintonbury Drummer



Newsletter of the Wintonbury Historical Society

Bloomfield, Connecticut

August 2008

Next meeting: September 10, 2008 7:30 p.m.

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

Speaker: Bloomfield resident DeEarlon, author of *Heaven's Wave*

Program: to talk about the Mayan prophecy of 2012 - the next *DeVinci Code*

President's Message:

Trust all have been keeping an eye on construction at Park and School Streets-where our new office and education center is really making great progress. Part of the business meeting, will be given over to some of the details needed, when we occupy the structure. It has been a busy time, with committees looking into the acquisitions of the Society; fund raising for the future, our annual tag/bake/flea market in the late Spring; House tour in June of '09; and proposed sale of bricks.

Our September speaker will be a bit different from our usual fare. The Author's publisher wishes the name of DeEarlon to be used for the speaker who has been interviewed on a syndicated radio program from Phoenix; has been on BBC, and will be at the Big E for three days. A member of the Connecticut Authors and Publishers Association DeEarlon will be an exciting speaker.

Of historical note is the celebration of the 375th Anniversary of Windsor, as a daughter historical society, we were presented with a very interesting book: *Greenfield to Bloomfield*—and it has been added to our collection-for use in future searches. It notes the names of 27 men of Messenger Farm (Greenfield), who petitioned the General assembly for “winter privileges”—Thomas Rowel, Robert Walley, Robert Barrett, Isaac, David and Jonathan Brown, Peter Peletiah and Daniel Mills, John Loomis, Solomon Clark, Zebulon, Alexander, Joseph and Anthony Hoskins, Isaac Skinner, Enoch Drake, Jr., David Buttolph, Abel Gillett, John Hubbard, Moses Caldwell, David Grant, Nathan Cook, John Soper, Isaac, Daniel and John Eggleston.



Fannie R Gabriel, President

This and That

Angela Hauptman, chair of the Old Farm School, reported, that the Connecticut Historic Open House on June 8th had more visitors than last year.

We continue to get requests for the bicycle tour—some as far away as California—and recently someone, in asking for the tour, also wanted to know if we rented bicycles.

We were sorry to read of Terry Halls passing, recently. Her husband Sanford, developed the first major fund raising committee which led to the original Filley Feasibility Study. Pat Walker is recuperating well. We wish a fast recovery—Hillie Kania : We all wish Donna Nielsen the best. We wish Jeanne Hunciker well in her upcoming operation.

Did you catch the May 30th issue of the Bloomfield Journal, wherein the Chamber of Commerce recognized the Bloomfield Volunteer Ambulance-Board Members Joan Politis and Robert Whalen part of this volunteer corps. From the Guilford, Maine Historical Society—in the Bangor Daily News, members became so upset with a decision, that there was chair tossing and hair pulling.

The Bloomfield Journal, after two articles, one week apart, could be called Riley Journal... First we salute the Riley Lumber Company for its 75 years in business in Bloomfield, then the next week Michael Riley, with his cows grazing on his Prospect Street yard. Cow Hill was the name given to Prospect Street—for Hubbard's Farm.

The Hartford Preservation Alliance has sent us, an item for our archives, re Gillette House, written by Tom Condon, of the Hartford Courant-4/5/88—President then, Jeanne Hunciker, hoped that the house could be saved. Like so many older structures, they stand in need of being saved...

With all the publicity about the former Masonic Temple being torn down—it is amazing the numbers of residents who are afraid that something of value will be destroyed. This officer has made a call to see if the bricks, in front of the structure can be salvaged for use in our new facility.

Re the Cemetery Meeting, noted in the calendar—member Bruce Bidwell, sent a real gem—program of the dedication program October 18, 1925—and newspaper clippings. This will be great to use at the time of the November 5th Meeting—A Grave Situation.

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: Kurt and Patricia Robair

Jean Buscarello, Chairman

National Register Committee: No report

Newsletter: The deadlines for the newsletter, are for material to be received by Fannie. For 2008 the last deadline is: **Oct 22.**

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 me and we can make the information available as part of the resources of the Society on its website.

Janis Langston, Webmaster

The Building Committee is working hard directing



the progress of the new Education Center. Stop by the construction site or go to the website to see the photos of the new building. The roof has been shingled, windows and door are going on and work on the interior progresses. Soon the installation of book shelves and display cabinets will take place and the Society's historic materials will move in.

Jack Kelly, Chairman

DeEarlon

 author of **HEAVEN'S WAVE** a mind-wrenching novel

based on the Mayan doomsday prophecy of 2012 will speak at the **September 10th Meeting.**

Predicted by visionaries from the Mayans to the Bible Code to the I Ching, the prophecy of the end of the world as we know it, in 2012, is capturing attention and imagination around the globe as the date looms darkly ahead. In his epic novel, DeEarlon presents a mind-wrenching story that spans 1,000 years, from the Mayanans themselves to a French priest with a deadly secret, to a team of modern scientists trying to stop the unstoppable.



DeEarlon a true "Renaissance man," has spent much of his life in serious academic studies of theology, political science and history, particularly that of the Mayans. He spent over 30 years in banking. Now retired and an emerging novelist, DeEarlon's studies continue today, finding expression in this groundbreaking book.

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.).

Two Gallon Tour

A 1979 brochure read... "At this time of year when mother nature paints her foliage with harvest colors, many people think about touring northern New England to see spectacular foliage. The Bloomfield Community Awareness Task Force and the Wintonbury Historical Society have joined forces to offer you and your family a visually exciting bus or driving tour that combines mother nature's colorful foliage with a touch of history. And, It's just a couple of gallons from your driveway..."

The Historical Society is making this historical tour available again for your use as a self-guided tour of town. The brochure & map may be ordered for \$7.00 plus S & H from the address below.

To order any of 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

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

- Sep 10 **WHS Regular Meeting** 7:30 pm - DEEARLON, author of Heaven's Wave,
Sept 18 **WHS Cemetery Preservation Committee Meeting**
Sept 27 **Windsor's 375th Anniversary Parade**
Oct 18 **Noah Webster House Anniversary - WHS will have a table with gift items for sale**
Oct 23 **Prosser Library 7:00 pm - Fred Hesketh "Tobacco Fields in Bloomfield"**
Nov 5 **WHS Regular Meeting** 7:30 pm - **A Grave Situation**

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**

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:
Editor: Fannie Gabriel, President, 400 Seabury Drive, #5158, Bloomfield, CT 06002.
Layout Editor: Janis Langston, 166 Duncaster Rd, Bloomfield, CT 06002*

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