

News and Notes from

The Historical Society of Glastonbury

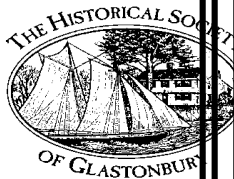
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"Knowing our past, guides our future"

Historical Society of Glastonbury Membership Meeting

Tuesday, Jan. 22, 2013 at 7:30 pm

**Meeting Location
First Church Congregational
1
2183 Main Street**

Parking is in the rear of the Church. Come in the bottom rear door or the side door facing the driveway

**Program
From Hula Hoops to High Fashion:
G. Fox in the 1950's**

Presenter

**Elizabeth Abbe
Director of Public Outreach
Connecticut Historical Society**



In the 1950s, just about every major city had a landmark department store. In Connecticut, it was G. Fox & Co. in Hartford! This presentation will bring you back in time to Fox's heyday, as we go from floor to floor and recall departments ranging

from accessories on the "street" floor, to designer dresses on 6, and ending at Toyland on 11. You'll also learn about Beatrice Fox Auerbach, the remarkable woman who made every visit to Fox's so enjoyable and set the standard for customer service. We promise to stir pleasant memories of date nut bread in the Connecticut Room, back to school shopping, and the wonderful Christmas season at G. Fox & Co.!



Tobacco Shed-Education Center-Museum

After 3 years of planning, fundraising and construction the c. 1870 Oak Street Tobacco Shed is completed to serve as a new Museum and Education Center at the Welles Shipman Ward House. The grant closeout information has

been filed with the State Historic Restoration Fund, awaiting payout. The Hartford Foundation for Public Giving is last money in and is waiting for the State to fulfill their grant obligation before they pay out. HSG would like to thank all those who made donations, loans, performed in-kind work and much more. The Society will be thanking you all in a more formal way when the Shed is dedicated. During 2013 HSG's Curatorial Department will be planning for the implementation and development of displays and activities for the Shed with help from Education, Facilities and Glastonbury's Social Studies Curriculum Department.



Farm Festival

The Farm Festival, which was canceled for

2012 because of the ongoing construction of the Shed, will be returning in September 2013. A day has not been chosen yet. This year it will be more than just a celebration of Glastonbury's history and agriculture, but also a celebration and dedication of the newly reconstructed Tobacco Shed. Anyone wanting to volunteer please call Jim at the Museum 860-633-6890.



Memoriam

In the past year the Society and the Town of Glastonbury have lost treasured members of our community. We will miss their enumerable contributions to the Society, the Town and our Nation. People like these have made Glastonbury a place we are all proud to call home. God bless them all.

**Edward
Allison
Barbara
Barnes
Betty Billings
George
Gaudreau**

**Calvin
Hollister
Carolyn
Langdon
David
MacClain
Marilyn
McNab
Diane Mann
Carl Schutz
Robert Todd**

**Donations
were made in
2012 to the
Society in
memory of the
following**

**Betty Billings
Howard &
Carolyn
Langdon**



**Donations
throughout
2012**

**\$5000 +
David & Susan
Motycka**

\$2000 +

Jim, Dana, Sidney
Bennett
Joe & Jean
Greene

**\$1000 +
Mary Ellen
Linderman**

**\$500 +
Anne Stilson
Alvord
Brian & Dale
Chiffer
Russell & Mary
Collins
Henry & Janet
von Wodtke**

**\$300 +
James & Diane
Mann
Frank Clark**

**\$200 +
Laura Colby
Pete Cowles
Crawford
Westbrook**

**\$100 +
Doris Armstead
Melissa Arnold
\$100 +
Charles Deane
Friends of the
State
Archaeologist
Lawrence &
Beverly Fleming
Janet Goodhue
Norman &
Marilyn Gordon
John & Donna
Kidwell
Richard Mason
Martha Morgan
Anne O'Connor**

**\$80 +
Bertha Nollman**

Ivar Stauers

**\$50 +
Christopher
Hubbard
Richard & Susan
Inman
Bill & Nancy
McGaw
Jack & Betsy
Raycroft
Karl & Carolyn
Sartoris**

**\$35 +
Georjess Burrow
Sabrina Marler**

**25 +
Daughters of
American
Revolution
Gloria Emerick
Ray & Mimi
Davis
Harold & Cynthia
Griesing
Ellen Pratt
Gilbert Wolf**

**\$20 +
Theresa Melzen
Edward & Marion
Richardson
Stanley
Wlodarczyk**



**Exchange
Club of
Glastonbury**

HSG thanks The
Exchange Club of
Glastonbury for

their generous donation of \$1,000 towards the purchase of the Ralph Emerson Wagons:

1. U.S. Mail Wagon (Glastonbury)
2. Skelton Buggy (One man racing vehicle, Glastonbury)
3. Piano Box Buggy (Sears & Roebuck, Glastonbury)
4. Two Wheel Cart
5. Buggy Whip

The total cost was \$4,000 with funds coming from:
\$1,000 Exchange Club of Glastonbury
\$1,000 Joe & Jean Green
\$1,000 Jim & Dana Bennett
\$1,000 Historical Society Funds_

2012 Donation Totals

Total Year-End:
8,860
Total Shed:
6,740

Exchange Club Grant: 1,000

Total for 2012:

\$16,600

This does not include donation values of items for the Antique Auction, Antique Show and objects donated to the Museum



Membership

New Life Members
Molly Smith

In 2012
We welcomed the following

Joe & June Blacksten
James Carroll & Kathleen Collins
Henry Deming Ward Edgerton
Neil & Judy Fresk
Lawrence Hall
Linda Harrington
In 2012

We welcomed the following

Thomas Hashem
Paul & Amy Hopkins
Taffy Hyyppa
Steven Kokinis & Robert Hadstate
Joan Lamontagne
Janice Lindsay
David Loda
Ann & Phil Lohr
Michael & Doris Marinaro
Gerald Nestevik
Lynn Pelletier
Sandi Philbrook
Kathleen & Jonathan Plucker
Potter Appraisal Co.
Stephen Robinson
Family Julie Schnatz
Rybeck
George & Marion Sanford
John Simonich
Gay Smith
Molly Smith
Trish Stull
Lincoln & Julie Thompson
Helen Vincent

Irene Visintainer
Emily Weil
Marilyn Weil
Kathleen Bristol Wick
Tom & Pat Yandow
Linda Yorton

Business Members

Quality Name Plate
(Sustaining)
22 Fisher Hill Rd.

Margaret Wilcox-Realtor Coldwell Banker Residential Brokerage
(Sustaining)
Margaret.Wilcox@cbmoves.com

The Eyeglass Place
(Supporting)
33 Welles St. (Fox Run Mall)



Education

(Lin Scarduzio)

O&O House Clock Update

On Wednesday, October 10, Joe Sullivan, Bryan Noga, and I took the clock to the shop of Donald G. Bruno in Torrington, Mr. Bruno is a clockmaker who specializes in wooden works clocks. He says he has worked on over 5,000 of them.

Mr. Bruno works in the cellar of his home, which smells faintly of linseed oil and turpentine. His shop is crowded. There are clock cases, clock works, and working clocks all about the basement room, intermingled with his hobby; collecting 1950 metal toy cars. The wooden works clocks tick away with a rather more mellow sound than a brass

works clock. Occasionally, the ticking is punctuated by the chiming of one of the old clocks.

We have left our clock in good hands. It will return home in about 4-6 months.

Help Wanted

Would you like to do some volunteer work for your historical society? Something with low-impact that will fit into a busy schedule? How about volunteering to open the Museum on the Green for a Sunday afternoon? The Museum is open one Sunday a month from 1:00-4:00p.m. That's only 3 hours. It's a pleasant place to be. You might get to meet some of your neighbors. You might learn a lot about your town's history. You might have a chance to read that book you've been meaning to read or help one

of the kids with their homework. You don't need to know a lot of information; there's a Docent Manual in the Library that should answer most of your questions. Think about it. There are more than 400 families who belong to the Historical Society. If everyone did one Sunday, your turn won't come around again for a couple of years.

Do you like photography? The Curatorial Department has an opportunity for you. There are many very lovely 19th century women's dresses and a few other garments that need to be photographed for our data base. Our two delightful high school volunteers have graduated and gone on to college and left a space for us to fill. This would require dressing a

mannequin, photographing each garment, sometimes 2-3 photos per garment, then re-folding it into its storage box. The girls found it helpful to work as a team, so if you have a friend you'd like to work with, that's just fine. Jane Pinto and I will show you how to handle the garments. You can use our camera. You can do it anytime the Museum on the Green is open.

Welles Shipman Ward

On Sunday, October 21, we had Dinner in Jerusha's Kitchen. This is one of our favorite events and it seems to have a growing following. We filled the class this year. (We only take 10 so we don't get into each other's way.) The menu was pounded cheese and crackers, roast

beef with horseradish cream sauce, potatoes roasted under meat, Swiss chard, potato bread, and apple pie. The weather was pleasantly warm and the kitchen was hot so we took tables from the Red Barn and set them on the lawn with reproduction colonial style tableware. This year, we added a course of soup and enjoyed Gourd Soup in new colonial style redware bowls eaten with horn spoons. I think I can say no one left hungry. The class didn't even mind doing the dishes in pans in front of the fire, just like Jerusha would have done. I did notice, however, that everyone got a turn to wash, rinse, and dry.

On Sunday, November 18, "Thanksgiving is Here!" was held in the House. We opened the door at

1:00 and at least 10 people came right in. Judy Richey and Tom Scarduzio were kept busy all afternoon giving tours and answering questions in the House. Mary Ellen Linderman had no time to read her book in the White Barn. Larry Fleming was busy in the Eastbury Barn. Linda Loyd of the Glastonbury Garden Club was in the Kitchen Garden. She said she hadn't asked anyone to help her because in the past, one person has been able to attend to all the visitors.

There were so many visitors; we really should have had a couple more docents. I was in the kitchen with a cooking demonstration. I could not leave to phone someone to come and help because the room was full of people asking questions.

There was Marlborough Pudding to taste, I was making a chicken pie which baked in the bake kettle, and we experimented with the salsify that had grown in my home kitchen garden, making vegetable oysters.

Sometime before 3:00, Sue and Joe Sullivan arrived. Sue came into the House and lent a hand. I didn't see Joe until after 4:00 when we closed. He had gone directly to the Eastbury Barn and was lending busy Larry a hand. A little after 3:00, Sue and Dave Motycka arrived and were immediately pressed into service, Sue in the House and Dave in the Barn.

The Thanksgiving event normally brings a dozen or so visitors. Because of Aileen's article in the Courant, an article in *Seasons*

magazine, and a spot on Scot Haney's *Better Connecticut* afternoon show, we had an amazing turnout.

School Tours

Between October 15 and November 29, every 5th grade student of Glastonbury Public Schools toured the Welles Shipman Ward House. The tour, created by Glastonbury's 5th grade teachers with some help on the history from us, was designed about 3 years ago and is part of the History curriculum. There are 7 stations for the tour, requiring a total of 9 docents for each tour. There are 26 5th grade classes who come 2 at a time, making a total of 13 tours.

It is an intense period for our docents. However, the reward is great. After the tour, the students are required to

write thank you letters to the Historical Society, telling why they liked the tour, what they learned and what some of their favorite objects were. The range of maturity in the letters is great, as is the range of interest. Favorite objects range from the corn sheller in the barn to the loom in the weaving room. The kids enjoy making rope, lifting sacks of "grain" with pulleys, nipping sugar, grinding pepper, and trying on reproduction colonial clothing. They bemoan the fact that there were so many chores for kids to do, that girls had to empty chamber pots and boys had to shovel the "gross poop" from behind the cow and horse. They wince that "it's pretty much all chores from the time you learn to walk".

They say it's their favorite field trip, they hope they can come back to the Welles Shipman Ward House again.

What makes the tours possible is our docents. Our amazing docents. Some do it the first time because they have grandchildren in the 5th grade, then stay on. One is a mother whose child was in 5th grade last year who stayed on. Some are retired teachers who feel it's a nice way to keep in touch with an enjoyable career. One took the cooking class at his wife's insistence, and then signed on to be a barn docent. His wife was already a docent. Some just like to do it.

To each of you who shows up and goes through your station 7 times in 3 hours, you who will do it "tomorrow"

because the scheduled docent had a family emergency, who step up to learn a new station because another docent is needed there, who deck yourself in colonial garb, who wear a colonial style knit cap even though it makes you look like Elmer Fudd, I thank you. You make it possible.

Here is a sample of the letters received from 5th Grade Students after their tour of the Welles Shipman Ward property:

Dear WSW volunteers,
Thank you for taking the time out of your day to teach us so much. Before I went I did not know a lot but now I think I know everything.....
Thank You,
Katelyn

Dear Tour Guides,
Thank you for your cooperation and patience with us during our tour of the Welles Shipman Ward

House. I really enjoyed the hands on activities like the sugar pincher and the pepper beater you held in the kitchen. Thank you also for your enthusiastic personalities compared to regular kind of historical informational teller.....
Your Learner,
Natalie

Dear Volunteers,
Thank you for giving us a tour of the Welles Shipman Ward House. It was a ton of fun. It was cool learning that a girl using a weaving machine would walk 20 miles in one spot. Thank you for giving us a mini rope to show us what it was like.....
Sincerely, Ryan

Dear Docents,
I loved the tour of the Welles Shipman Ward house in the colonial times. Thank you so much for making the facts more fun than just giving us lectures. For example, we got to do hands on work in the

kitchen with the ingredients.....

I loved the pullies showing how they made lifting weights faster....

I think it is pretty harsh making your child start doing chores for a living at the age of 3 or 4. I started around 8.....

Sincerely Dan

Dear WSW volunteers,
I have told many of my friends and family about this wonderful place and how they should visit it. I think when they leave they will have learned so much about colonial times, like I did!
From Amelia DiPiazza



Holiday Reception

This year's reception Sun. Dec. 2 was held at the Welles Shipman Ward House. New Members were welcomed a half

hour prior to the event. The House was decorated for the season, a video showing Society activities was developed by Aileen Charland and shown in the new Shed. There was a delightful assortment of treats and beverages enjoyed along with good conversation. Volunteers Jane Fox, Trish Manfredi, Judy Haprer, Gil Tyler, Dana & Sidney Bennett, Mary Ellen Linderman, Lin & Tom Scarduzio, Gil & Ginny Tyler, Sue Sullivan, Sue Motycka, Brian Chiffer and Jean Greene. It was a wonderful party. We hope to see you all next year.



Facilities (Joe Greene)

Reid Smith has joined our committee and looks forward to working on our projects.

Since the last meeting the

committee has accomplished the following tasks:

Tobacco Shed Project:

1. The Oak Street Tobacco Shed project is complete except for tweaking the security system and adjustment of one door.
2. The Town Engineering Department and Fire Department inspected the Shed site and issued a Certificate of Occupancy.
3. The State inspected the site and approved it for collection of grant funds from its Historic Restoration Fund.
4. Installation of the landscaping is not part of the State requirements and will be completed in the spring with the help of Glastonbury Partners in Planting.
5. Unneeded and unused materials

stored in the Red Barn were moved into the Shed construction dumpster.

6. Excess lumber from the shed construction was moved into the shed for interim safe keeping.
7. Construction of storage cabinets in the shed was discussed and it was felt that it may be better to construct them in the Eastbury Barn lower level. Construction will start in the spring when the area to place them is confirmed. We will also construct a defining wall for the tobacco display area and a cabinet around the electrical panel.

Welles Shipman Ward House:

1. The blower in the house furnace malfunctioned. Checking it out, cleaning

wiring and contacts got it operating properly.
2. Installation of weatherproofing is being investigated for the side door of the house and the Tobacco Shed.

Welles Chapman Tavern:

1. The Town fixed the railing going to the Thrift Shop on the lower level.
2. A leak developed in the furnace of the Welles Chapman Tavern causing water to soak the carpet in the back room of the Thrift Shop. Following investigation it was determined that it had to be corrected by a plumber. He was contacted and determined that a new gasket is required which he has on order. We are operating with a bucket under the leak to keep it under control.

3. The Thrift Shop and the Chamber of Commerce have signed a new 2 year lease.

Committee

Members:

R. Bowden, J. Dugan, J. Greene, H. Hunt, R. Inman, A. Jankot, P. Manfredi, R. Mason, J. Milich, D. Motycka, K. Sartoris, R. Smith



Welles Shipman Ward 2013 Schedule of Events

The House will be open Tuesdays 1-4 PM, June 13 – August 28

Sunday, March 10, 1:00-4:00p.m. Maple Sugar Madness

See how maple syrup is made from the sap of the maples on our homelot. Sample last year's stock.

Rain date: Sunday, March 17
Admission: \$3.00, Members Free

Saturday, March 23, 6:00-8:00p.m. Supper at the Welles Tavern

'Tis the year 1792. Step into Joseph Welles' taproom as a resident of Glastenbury. See who else visits tonight and hear what tales they may share. Partake of our victuals from 18th century "receipts". Reservations required. \$30

Sunday, April 14, 1:00 – 4:00p.m. Handcraft Day

Our colonial ancestors made it by hand. Watch spinning, weaving, quilting, and more. Have your silhouette cut. Take part in workshops to learn new skills. Admission: \$3.00 Members Free (Workshops require additional fee)

Tuesday, April 16,

10:00a.m. – 1:00p.m. Kids in Jerusha's Kitchen

Hearth cooking class for kids 8 to 12, who prepare and enjoy a simple meal together. Reservations required. \$15.00

Sunday, May 19, 1:00 – 4:00p.m. Planning the Kitchen Garden

It's time to plant the vegetables that will nourish the family through the coming year, and the herbs that will season their food and heal them. Glastonbury Garden Club will be on hand to discuss our Colonial Revival Herb Garden. Admission: \$3.00 Members Free

Friday, July 26, 10a.m. – 3p.m. Archaeology Day

Dig with Dr. Nick Bellantoni & the Friends of the Office of the State Archaeologist. Ages 12 and up. Reservations

required.
Students \$10.00,
others \$15.00

Thursday,
August 15,
1:00 –
3:00p.m.

Colonial
Games Day
Colonial kids didn't have X-box or Wii. What did they play? Come and try their games! Ages 6-11. Reservations required. \$5.00

Sunday,
October 20,
11:00a.m. –
4:00p.m.

Dinner in
Jerusha's
Kitchen
Help prepare dinner from 18th century "receipts", then enjoy it with Glastenbury cyder and new friends. Reservations required. \$50.00

Sunday,
November 17,
1:00 –
4:00p.m.

Thanksgiving
is Here!
The harvest is in, the house has been made ready. Admission: \$3.00
Members Free

Martin Luther King Celebration

Civil Rights Leader, Diane Nash, to speak FREE at the 12th Annual Glastonbury MLK Celebration, Monday, January 21, 2013, 7pm at Smith Middle School, 216 Addison Road, Glastonbury, CT.

Noted for her leadership in the nonviolent movement to desegregate Nashville through the lunch-counter sit-ins, the Freedom Rides that desegregated interstate travel, and the Selma right-to-vote movement that influenced passage of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, Diane Nash, then a Fisk University student, continues her longstanding commitment to civil rights and social justice through nonviolent strategies.

Glastonbury Martin Luther King Community Initiative proudly

welcomes Ms. Nash as she addresses the topic: **"The Nonviolent Movement of the 1960's Holds Lessons for Today"** at its 12th Annual Martin Luther King Celebration. Ms. Nash's speech will be followed by a Q & A period. Introducing Ms. Nash will be I. Charles Matthews, ex Deputy Mayor of Hartford. The GHS Madrigal singers will sing with Windsor High School's Gospel Choir. Cake will be served at the reception immediately following. This event is free and open to the public thanks to generous support from First Niagara Bank, The George H.C. Ensworth Foundation, Town of Glastonbury, and numerous local organizations, businesses, faith communities and individuals.

Friends of the State Archaeologist

"Death Comes to the King: A Classic Maya Tomb at El Diablo, Guatemala"

When: January 26, 2013; 1:00 PM (business), 2:00 PM (talk by Dr. Houston)

Where: Smith Middle School, 216 Addison Road, Glastonbury, CT

What: Dr. Stephen Houston, Prof. of Social Sciences at Brown University will present the talk:

In 2010 a rich and enigmatic tomb was discovered at the Classic Maya city of El Zotz, Guatemala. Found on a hill high above El Zotz in a place called El Diablo or "The Devil", the tomb lay within a building covered with solar and celestial imagery. This talk reports on the meaning of this tomb and its sculpted building. To a striking extent, both burial and structure reveal new evidence about

local dynasties at
the time of origin.
More than a tomb,
the Diablo find
shows how royal
families took hold
of a landscape
some 1600 years
ago.

Admission:

\$10.00; Students
with ID: \$5.00;
FOSA, CSMNH,
ASC members,
Glastonbury
students and
faculty: Free

Historical Society of Glastonbury
P.O. Box 46
Glastonbury, CT 06033

Historical Society of Glastonbury Current Calendar 2012

Jan. 22

Membership Meeting:

Location: First Church Congregational

Time: 7:30 PM

Program: From Hula Hoops to High Fashion:
G. Fox in the 1950's

Speaker: Elizabeth Abbe

March 10

MAPLE SUGAR MADNESS!!

Location: Welles Shipman Ward House, 972 Main St., S. Glast.

Time: 1:00 – 4:00 PM

Program: See how maple syrup is made. Sample last year's stock.

Rain date: Sunday, March 17

Admission: \$3.00, Members Free

March 23

SUPPER AT THE WELLES TAVERN

Location: Welles Shipman Ward House, 972 Main St. S. Glast.

Time: 6 – 8 PM

Program: 'Tis the year 1792. The stage coach is quite late. Share our victuals from 18th century "receipts" while we wait for its arrival.

Reservations required. \$30.00

March 26

Membership Meeting:

Location: First Church Congregational

Time: 7:30 PM

Program: To be announced

Speaker: To be announced