

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, Mar. 24, 2015
at 7:30 pm

Meeting Location

First Church Congregational
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

"An Important Recent Archaeological Discovery in South Glastonbury"

Presenter

Prof. Brian Jones
(Connecticut State Archaeologist)

Recent construction work in South Glastonbury inadvertently uncovered evidence of an ancient Native American site. The Office of State Archaeology, with the support of volunteers, excavated the site and documented a number of cooking artifacts and the portion of what might be a house floor. Associated artifacts suggest that Native Americans used the site about 4,000 years ago. Dr. Brian Jones will discuss the finds and compare them to sites of similar age across the state. Together, these sites help to build a picture of the day-to-day life of Native Americans in our region a thousand years before the invention of pottery and three thousand years before people began to farm maize, beans and squash.

Professor Brian Jones became Connecticut's official State Archaeologist this past July. Since 1992, Professor Jones has worked as an archaeologist for AHS/PAST Inc., the Mashantucket Pequot Museum and Research Center, and Archaeological Services at UMass Amherst. He received his Ph.D. in Anthropology from UConn in 1998. Dr. Jones has a broad background in

New England archaeology that spans the Paleoindian period through the industrial era. His special fields of interest include the peopling of the New World, lithic analysis and geoarchaeology. He lives here in Glastonbury with his wife and two high school-aged children.



**Hartford Foundation
for Public Giving Grant**

The Historical Society of Glastonbury is pleased to announce that it has received the grant funds (\$13,795) from the *Natale and Norma Sestero Fund at the Hartford Foundation for Public Giving* to upgrade the lighting at the Museum on the Green and Welles-Chapman Tavern with energy-efficient lighting. This is a huge help, which will not only improve our exhibit presentations and working spaces, but also decrease our carbon footprint and consistently save the Society money, which can be used for our Education programs and Preservation projects.

Joe Greene and Jim Bennett met with Ron Gallati of *Lighting Affiliates* (lighting supplier) and a representative of the General Contractor, *Lantern Energy* who will be doing the installation of the new lighting. *Eversource* (formally CL&P) has approved the project and the rebates.

The next step is to meet with the electrician from *Lantern Energy* who will be reviewing the project, acquiring a permit from the Town, and working out the installation schedule with HSG.



3rd Annual Tag Sale

HSG proudly presents its third annual Tag Sale - a THREE-day event Friday, Saturday and Sunday

October 2nd, 3rd and 4th 8am – 2pm.

Where: Welles-Shipman-Ward House (WSW), 972 Main Street, (Route 17) South Glastonbury.

Parking: Is available on site, with overflow parking at St. Augustine’s Church, at 55 Hopewell Road. A well-maintained short path from the parking area leads to the WSW. For more information, contact the Historical Society at 860-633-6890 or HSGlastonbury@sbcglobal.net, or check out our website: www.hsgct.org

The tag sale is rain or shine, admission is free, except there is a \$10 Early Bird fee for those who want a jump on the event 7am – 8am Friday.

Since the Antique Show is no longer a fundraiser for the HSG, the Tag Sale’s success is crucial to the financial health of the Society. It was very successful the first two years, hopes are that it will only become more so going forward.

HSG is looking for items, which are of the tag sale nature, but also higher-end items similar to those donated to the Antique Show and consigned to the Auction in the past. Once this winter’s snow is gone and we have access to our barns, HSG would be delighted to receive your donations or come pick them up. If you can hold off on your donations until we get closer to the

event that would be good since we are limited in space and the barns where we store the items are still snowed in.

The Event will be split into two areas. The largest section will be traditional tag sale items, which will be primarily found in the Tobacco Shed and under the tents.

The other section will be in the lower level of the Eastbury Barn and the Red Barn. This will consist of higher end items, larger items and items on consignment.

Consignment requirements are as follows:

1. Each person will state the price he/she wants to sell his/her item (s) for. It will be labeled as such.
2. Each person will state the lowest price he/she is willing to let it go for. This allows the sellers to have a bargaining parameter to work with.
3. The item must have a value of at least \$100, determined by the seller and HSG's Executive Director.
4. The consignor gets 70% of the sale price. The other assuming it sells, 30% goes to HSG as a donation.
5. If the item doesn't sell, the consignor can take it back or donate the item to HSG.

The Tag Sale allows HSG members, and non-members, to clean out their homes and simultaneously give back to the community by donating unwanted items. In turn it allows for the consumer to reuse, recycle, and "be green" and sustainable while decorating and furnishing their home, finding a unique present for a friend, coworker, or family member.

All funding from this event will go towards HSG's educational programs and preservation projects.

Volunteers are needed for several activities: Pricing, Setup/Staging, Sellers, Cashiers, Takedown

For more information please contact

Jim Bennett, (860-633-6890) or

Email: hsglastonbury@sbcglobal.net



Dinner Lecture Series

Once again the Society is pleased to announce our annual Dinner Lecture Series.

June 7, 2015 - Dinner Lecture will be at 202 Ferry Lane, known as the Goodrich-Kellam House, c. 1760, the last house before reaching the Glastonbury-Rocky Hill Ferry. Once owned by Oliver Ellsworth, who was Chief Justice of the Supreme Court under George Washington, the home is currently owned by Courtney & Jeff McDonald who have lovingly restored and maintained it.

September 13, 2015 - Dinner Lecture will be at the Bates Tavern, 58 High Street, owned by James & Sue Vasellina. The house was built c.1741 by David Hollister, who used the southeast parlor as a public taproom. The Bates family acquired the house and ran it as a tavern from 1828-1905. The house is an excellent example of an 18th century Connecticut center chimney colonial. For the past several years, the Vasellinas have been restoring this beautiful historic home in the center of historic South Glastonbury.

Invitations will be mailed in April, with reservations going on sale after the mailing. The price per reservation is \$60. No paper tickets will be issued.

After receiving the invitation you can either mail your reservation requests to the Society or purchase them at the Museum on the Green. Reservations are sold on a first come first serve basis. There is always an active waiting list with many on the list getting reservations in the long-run.



Walk-Dinner Tour Hopewell Mills Area

Monday, May 4 at 6pm Brian Chiffer will lead a walk and discuss the area surrounding the former **Hopewell/Glazier/Slocum Mills site**, which is Glastonbury's newest park area. Following the walk the group will gather for pizza at **Olympic Pizza** in South Glastonbury where Brian will continue the discussion with projected photos of the area the way it used to look. **Parking** is at the Mill site on Matson Hills Rd. just past the Grange Pool going East.

Reservations are required:

Call the Museum at 860-633-6890 or

Email: HSGlastonbury@sbcglobal.net

The talk and dinner & slide show is \$20, Walk alone \$10.



Membership (New Member)

Samantha Lombardo

Business Members

Anderson-Meyer Insurance Co.

(Supporting)

2225 Main St., Glast.

860-659-3721

Hale Law Firm

(Supporting)

41-B New London Tpke. Glast.

attyhale@sbcglobal.net

www.attyhale.com

Fred Henrikson CPA, PC

(Supporting)

1731 Main St., Glast.

659-2961

Lighting Affiliates Ltd.
(Sustaining)
1208 Cromwell Ave.
Rocky Hill

Plan B Burger Bar Glastonbury
(Sustaining)
Eric Town Square
120 Hebron Avenue, #6
860-430-9737
www.planbburger.com

Quality Name Plate
(Sustaining)
22 Fisher Hill Rd.
East Glastonbury

Margaret Wilcox & Associates of William Raveis Residential Realtor
(Sustaining)
Margaret.Wilcox@raveis.com

Business Memberships

"Here ye, here ye! Calling all businesses"

Do you own a business or have a close friend or family member who does? If so, please consider joining the Historical Society of Glastonbury as a business sponsor (or help spread the word to your family and friends).

Our members and business sponsors are the life blood of our organization. Through the generous support of our membership and business members, we have achieved an impressive track record of success over the past 77 years.

As a business owner, sponsoring our organization is one of the most effective steps you can take to support the promotion and preservation of Glastonbury's unique historic heritage. Being a sponsor provides your organization with exceptional opportunities to be recognized in and around Glastonbury for your support and contributions.

Business sponsorship benefits include holding an event of your choice at one of our properties, event sponsorship, a business spotlight article in our newsletter, website and newsletter recognition and much more. Additional information can be found by visiting **www.hsgct.org**. Please call or email today to find out how your business can be a part of this great organization: 860-633-6890 or hsghastonbury@sbcglobal.net



**Education - Curatorial
(Lin Scarduzio)**

Supper at the Welles Tavern

On Saturday, March 28 from 6:00-8:00p.m., Joseph Welles will once again open his taproom. The year will be 1796, and a period supper will be served with a glass of sparkling cydur. (You may bring a stronger libation, if you prefer.) There will be several people traveling through Glastenbury that evening who will stop by the Welles Hotel for the night. This is your invitation to join us, but please make your reservations early, or there will be no room for you. The cost is \$35.

Docent Training

Is there anyone who is not currently a docent at Welles-Shipman-Ward who wants to be? Does anyone else wish to have a docent training session for Welles-Shipman-Ward this spring? Is it better for you to have it on a weekday or a weekend? I'm working on the manual to clean up some of the things I've found. If you want a new manual but no training, you'll be able to pick one up at the Museum. Please give Lin a call at the Museum on the Green (860-633-6890) and let her know if you are interested.

There will be a session in the fall for school tours once packets have been received from the Board of Education and we know if there will be any changes.

Help Wanted

Wanted - a detail-oriented person to accession new gifts coming into our collections. This is a chance to touch some of the fascinating things that are gifted to HSG. This job entails measuring, writing a clear description of the objects, and photographing them for the database. Occasionally, there is an opportunity to do a little research to learn more about something that we have received. Call Lin at the Museum on the Green, 860-633-6890.

Wanted – someone to share the duties of Sunday openings at the Museum on the Green. The Museum is open from 1:00-4:00 the Third Sunday of each month except September when we are all at WSW for Farm Festival. This is an opportunity for those who cannot come during the week to enjoy our collections or do a little research. It's a pleasant, sometimes quiet way to spend a Sunday afternoon. Through the winter when the weather is inclement and there is a parking ban in effect, we do not open, so you will not need to come. Call Lin at the Museum on the Green,
860-633-6890.

Wanted – someone to take photographs of events at Welles-Shipman-Ward. We do about 10 events at the property beginning in March and running through October. To attract people to us, we like to put photos on our Facebook page. We have been so busy at these events that docents have not been able to take photos for our publicity files. The Historical Society owns a very simple-to-use digital camera that our photographer could use. The photographer need not stay for the entire three hours of the event, but should be there long enough to get photos of each of the docents in all of the stations, preferably interacting with the guests. Call Lin at the Museum on the Green,
860-633-6890.

Last Year's Gifts

The Historical Society of Glastonbury has been fortunate to receive many gifts this year, as we have in years past. Donating an object to HSG is a way, not only of preserving it, but of sharing it with many other people. When we receive something, we consider it in light of displays already on view, and displays that are currently in the planning stage. This past year, gifts included:

- Large cardboard cylinder of Williams Shaving Powder for Barbers, Charles R. Snyder
- Oil on wood painting of Cotton Hollow by Mary Swift, Edward C. Swift
- Portable fire extinguisher, Stephen Robinson
- Fireman and baseball uniforms of Edward A. (Shrive) Siwy, Jerilyn Siwy Fortier
- Ice axe with wooden handle, Jerilyn Siwy Fortier
- Photograph of Fire Chief Edward Siwy, Warren Bantle, and Mario Accornero, Jerilyn Siwy Fortier
- Fireman's uniform of Alden Tyrol, Chris Siwy
- Drawings of Anthony Hale House, Richard L. Hughes III
- Two-piece drop front secretary of Gideon Hale, other items belonging to Hale-Gorton family, Nancy Gorton Ross
- Tryon Farm t-shirt, Joyce Erlandson
- Two ledgers of Captain James McClean, David Norige
- J.B. Williams Brilliantine and shaving soap containers, Louise Williams Stafford
- Items from the Horton Family Homestead, Howard Horton Jr.
- Photo of Williams Brothers Silver Plating Factory, Michael Napoletano
- Framed reproduction painting of Maruffi Family Store, Gloria Emerick
- Wood and metal candle holder, Anita Hockstein
- Woman's clothing c. 1890, Greg and Tammy Cooke
- Two sundried bricks made from clay of Red Hill, Howard Horton Jr.
- Bronze medal of the Daughters of Union Veterans' office, photo of Buckingham School, Karl Sartoris
- Thermometer advertising various town businesses, Gloria Emerick
- Assistant Fire Chief's badge, tie bar with red enamel fire engine, Nancy & Bob Dickau
- Book by Wm. S. Pummer, D.D.
- Connecticut Courant 11/3/ 1808 framed, reproduction of Courant 10/29/1764, Paul M. Marks
- Arbor Acres presentation plaque,
David Hutchinson
- WWI Bayonet, scabbard, and belt, Karl Sartoris
- Surface plate for rolling cigars, cutter for tobacco plug
- Two bottles of hydration fluid made by Oohrah Hydration Co. of Glastonbury, Susan G. Motycka
- Framed V-mail with photo of soldiers in Berlin, Gail A. Hinterkeuser



Wedding at the Museum on the Green

There was a small wedding at the Museum on the Green Sat., Feb. 21. A young local couple rented out the space for two hours. The Museum was beautifully decorated and the wedding was a great success. The happy newlyweds hope to have a larger event this spring/summer and are considering the Welles-

Shipman-Ward house for that.

If you, a friend or business are looking to hold an event at a very special location, please consider the Welles-Shipman-Ward house or the Museum on the Green!

Welles Chapman Tavern

The seven-year-old *Buderus* furnace at the WCT stopped working during this bitter cold weather. It was first patched so it would keep tenants warm, but a new heat exchanger needed to be ordered. This is the second time the heat exchanger has failed in the last three years. Because of the repairs, the heating lines had to be recharged with glycol so they wouldn't freeze, and an ignition switch failed during the repairs so it had to be replaced. The total cost of the repairs was \$1,494.

The problem with the furnace is that either the furnace itself or the heat exchanger are lemons, the furnace doesn't like the anti-freeze being used, the switch was defective, or something else that hasn't been diagnosed. Paul from Glastonbury Mechanical who installed the furnace and has been fixing it says that when he went to the local distributor he noticed a pallet full of the same defective part in their storage area.

The new furnace is a high-efficiency furnace. The idea was that it would save HSG money in fuel consumption, which it does, and lower HSG's carbon imprint, which it does. But because of all the repairs, it hasn't saved us any money when all the factors are considered. We need to decide whether to replace the furnace or just hope it won't proactively fail again.



Welles-Chapman Tavern has a new tenant *"The Sow's Ear"* (New, Antique, Repurposed)

HSG has a new tenant at the Welles-Chapman Tavern (WCT), *The Sow's Ear*. This unique shop will be occupying the lower floor where the *Second Chance Shop* was at 2400 Main Street. The space has been completely done over, and looks fantastic!

***The Sow's Ear* will be open starting March 21st. Hours will be Monday and Thursday-Saturday 10-6 and Sunday 12-5. Find them on Facebook and Instagram for updates and previews.**

"You can't make a silk purse out of a sow's ear," an expression that possibly dates back to the mid-1500's, means being unable to turn something ugly or inferior into something attractive or of value. Well, Monica McCafferty and Sarah Lavalette absolutely disagree! ***The Sow's Ear***, a home decorative, giftware, and accessory retail shop is due to open this month and Monica and Sarah are thrilled to be sharing their "sow's ears".

"I remember growing up and hearing my Irish immigrant grandmother always using a quote and

it has stuck with me as I've developed a huge passion for repurposing mundane items into things of beauty and appeal," says Monica. Monica, whose experience includes commercial interior design, remembers her first "sow's ear" endeavor when she repurposed botanical prints from an old calendar into framed artwork for high school graduation gifts. Several years later, the idea of having a business with the moniker struck her while browsing a flea market in San Francisco she frequented. "I was always pointing out beat up, obscure items and would say 'well if we did this or that to this piece, it would be great!'" Needing a paying job at that time, then becoming a stay at home mom, the idea got put on the back burner for almost 20 years! After moving to Glastonbury 12 years ago, Monica and Sarah met, and the two have become dear friends and flea market junkies who never miss an opportunity to uncover a hidden treasure.

Sarah, a pediatric oncology nurse at Connecticut Children's Medical Center, has amazing vision when it comes to repurposing. She has an incredible ability to take the simplest item, add a few creative details, and totally transform it into something unique and beautiful. Her attention to detail adds to the overall appeal of every piece she works on. "I have been fortunate to have a job which I love for almost 30 years and while I'm not quite ready to give up the kids and people I work with at CCMC, I am finding this new endeavor with Monica very exciting. It is allowing me to do something I have always loved, which is to hunt for treasures which may have been cast aside and put my touch on them. There is beauty in everyone and everything around us...sometimes it just loses its way."

Monica and Sarah have recently partnered to open *The Sow's Ear*, which offers a collection of new, antique, and repurposed items. In addition to offering repurposed items, they will also feature mid to high-end antiques, trendy accessories and jewelry, unique gifts, and newly constructed pieces made from reclaimed materials. They hope to resonate with a wide group of consumers. The Sow's Ear will offer the trendy shopper hip bags, scarves, and jewelry. Other pieces will appeal to the couple who may be looking for a dining room set with industrial flare, or the shopper who may be looking for a special, one-of-a-kind wedding gift. They believe their aesthetic will attract a wide variety of Glastonbury residents and hope to draw customers from other towns as well.

Looking down the road, Monica and Sarah's vision is to use the business as a way to give back to those whose lives don't hold a lot of beauty for one reason or another.

They plan to be very involved in the Glastonbury community and are excited about all the great new businesses popping up in town. They are thrilled to be located in an area that is not only growing, but also has reputable established businesses. "We are not in competition with anyone. We want everyone to be successful!"

"Beauty is around us everywhere and sometimes it just needs a little coaxing to reach its full potential. We joyfully present to you new, antique and repurposed items to make your life more beautiful! You CAN make a silk purse out of a sow's ear and we can't wait to share ours with you!" – Monica & Sarah

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

Historical Society of Glastonbury Current Calendar 2015

March 8

MAPLE SUGAR MADNESS!!
HAS BEEN CANCELLED

March 24

Membership Meeting:
Location: First Church Congregational
Time: 7:30 pm
Program: *Current Archaeological Finds in Glastonbury*
Speaker: Brian Jones (New CT State Archaeologist)

March 28

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. \$35

April 14

Kids’ in Jerusha’s Kitchen
Location: Welles-Shipman-Ward House, 972 Main St. S. Glast.
Time: 10 am – 1 pm
Program: Hearth Cooking Class for Kids 8-12
Reservations required. \$15

April 19

Textile Arts Day
Location: Welles-Shipman-Ward House, 972 Main St. S. Glast.
Time: 1 – 4 pm
Program: Spinning, weaving, quilting, and more!
Reservations required. \$5

May 4

Walking Tour of Hopewell Mills Park & Surrounding Area:
Location: Hopewell, Glazier, Slocum Mill Park, on Matson Hill
Time: 6 PM
Program: Walking Tour of mill site and related area
Leader: Brian Chiffer
Admission: w/dinner & slide show \$20, \$10 walk only