



## *Ellington Historical Society*

*P.O. Box 73*

*Ellington, Conn. 06029*

### **January 2008 Newsletter**

#### **January Meeting Notice**

The Ellington Historical Society will meet on Thursday, January 24, 2008 at 7:30 p.m. at the Hall Memorial Library at 93 Main Street. The business meeting will be followed by a program on the history of iron and iron manufacturing by Jim Klopfer. The public is invited and new members are welcome to join. Refreshments will follow the program.

Thank you to Connie Nichols and Pat Clapp for the refreshments for our October meeting. The bakers for our January meeting are Doris Johnson and Ellen Karadimas.

#### **News from the President Tim Fahy**

Winter is here and the Museum is closed until May. We closed just in time, as our oil was about gone. At current prices, it would cost \$ 935 to fill our tank. Heat doesn't last long in a house that has no insulation, but we hope that insulating the steam pipes in the basement next year will help.

We as a society owe a tremendous debt of gratitude to our Curator, Nancy Long. Because she is such a good project manager, the holiday open house went very smoothly. Not only does she organize everything, she does the scheduling, publicity, shopping, cleaning, decorating, baking, demonstrations, setup, clean-up, and even finds time to make all the school house ornaments that we sell. Thank you Nancy, well done.

#### **Holiday Open House**

The holiday open house was held on Friday evening, November 30 from 6:00-9:00 p.m. and Saturday, December 1 from 11:00 a.m.-7:00 p.m. for the town wide Winterfest celebration. Friday evening Robert Aborn demonstrated broom-making, David Lehmann caned a chair and Karen Hayes demonstrated weaving on Nellie's loom. On Saturday, Dave returned to work on his chair and Karen continued weaving dish towels upstairs. Nancy Long demonstrated spinning in the kitchen. Rosemary Toth, a musician from Tolland, entertained both days playing the guitar and singing carols.

The museum had a steady stream of visitors both days with the largest crowd coming during the Winterfest hours. A brutally cold day with strong winds on Saturday kept the Winterfest crowd down but those that visited the museum had a good chance to look at the exhibits and chat with the volunteers.

#### **News from the Curator, Nancy Long**

We appreciate the help of our volunteers who cleaned, decorated and staffed the museum. Thank you to Dorothy Manner for decorating the Christmas tree, the red and gold ornaments were pretty in the front parlor. Thank you to Mildred Dimock for her many phone calls to enlist our bakers. We served cookies in several locations in the museum and, for the first time, offered one pound plates of cookies for sale. This proved to be a nice addition to our fundraising and will be something we do again next year. Thank you to

our bakers for their work, the variety and quality of the cookies were wonderful! Our table of books and ornaments was moved to the dining room where we had better lighting and more room to display our wares. This was a nice change of venue and will be added to the list for next year as well.

Volunteers: Dave Lehmann, Karen Hayes, Debby Wallace, Evelyn & Rudy Luginbuhl, Lennie & Don Ellis, Connie Nichols, Dot Manner, Nancy Lemek, Mildred Dimock, Mary Temple, Tina Fiore, Gerry Gillung, Darlene & Ron Hull, Lynn & Tim Fahy, Nancy & Jim Long.

Decorators: Tena Lehmann, Dot Manner, Gerry Gillung, Ellen Karadimas, Tim Fahy, Nancy Long.

As always, special thanks to Tim and Lynn Fahy for their tireless efforts for the society and museum.

### **News from the Treasurer, Mary Temple**

I would like to thank all the members who helped make the wreath sale a success. A special thank you to Lennie and Don Ellis for picking up the wreaths for us. The following people were instrumental in decorating the wreaths: Tina Fiore, Tena Lehmann, Lennie Ellis and Tim Fahy for running back and forth to the shed for us. A special thank you to Doris Johnson who helped make some of the red velvet bows. Once again we had a successful sale and it could not have happened without our many members who purchased a wreath. A thank you to all of you.

A special reminder to members who have not yet paid their dues. Please send your dues payment to: Ellington Historical Society, P.O. Box 73, Ellington, CT 06029. Make checks payable to the society. Individual \$10.00 -- Family \$20.00 -- Senior Individual \$8.00 (Over 62) -- Senior Family \$15.00 (Over 62) - Patron \$25.00 -- Business \$50.00. Thank you.

### **News from the Archivist-Lynn Kloter Fahy**

*Biographical Sketches of Ellington Families* by Darius Crane, originally published by the Star Printing Co. in 1889, was re-printed by the Higginson Book Co. at the request of the Ellington Historical Society. It is now available on the Higginson web site at <http://www.higginsonbooks.com> The book number is CT1372, and the price is \$9.95 for the paperback and \$21.95 for the hardcover. You may also contact the publisher at Higginson Book Company, 148 Washington Street, Salem, MA 01970, Phone: 978-745-7170.

The proposal for a pictorial history of Crystal Lake in Arcadia Publishing's *Images of America* series is at the publisher now. We should know soon if the proposal is accepted, and what the scheduled publication date will be. I am still looking for photos of the Crystal Lake Ballroom and Crystal Lake schools up to around 1960. If anyone has any, please contact me. I will arrange to scan your photos and return them to you.

Shirley Hayden has taken on another project for us. She is scanning slides from Nellie McKnight's collection, which will preserve them and make it possible for us to present a digital slide show. The slides were made in the 1970s and many of the images have faded and deteriorated. Shirley will try to correct and enhance the images, many of which are photos of Ellington's historic houses.

### **Ellington Historical Society Programs, Spring 2008**

Thursday, February 28<sup>th</sup> —Angie DeLuca will speak on 19<sup>th</sup> century painters. **Friday**, April 18<sup>th</sup> —Andrew Carnegie. Thursday, June 26<sup>th</sup> -- Annual meeting and potluck. Check our website at <http://www.ellingtonhistsoc.org/> and future newsletters for details.



Broomsquire Robert Aborn demonstrating broom-making at the Holiday Open House