



Ellington Historical Society

*P.O. Box 73
Ellington, Conn. 06029*

April 2008 Newsletter

Meeting Notice

The Ellington Historical Society will meet on *Friday, April 25, 2008* at 7:30 p.m. at the Hall Memorial Library at 93 Main Street where we will attend a program presented by the library, "Great Scot! It's Andrew Carnegie!" performed by veteran actor Richard Clarke. Clarke is a graduate of Clark University in English and Theatre and has appeared in many productions at regional theaters, as well as on television shows and on film. Free. All are welcome.



Carnegie rose from humble beginnings to become "The King of Steel and the richest man in the world. He was called the "greediest little devil that ever lived," yet gave away billions of dollars building thousands of libraries. He warred with labor yet passionately advocated world peace and counted Mark Twain, Helen Keller and Booker T. Washington as his friends.

Thank you to Mary Temple and Tina Fiore for baking for our February meeting.

Happy Birthday Windsor

The Town of Windsor is celebrating its 375th birthday and Ellington, as one of the "daughter" towns, is included in the celebration! Lynn Fahy and Nancy Long attended a reception at Loomis Chaffee School on March 6 honoring daughter towns and their historical societies. Ellington Historical Society was presented with a commemorative coin made for the 375th anniversary. Visit the 375th website at: www.windsor375.com for updates and information on the year-long celebration. Of special note is a parade and fireworks scheduled for September 27, 2008. Plans are being made by the town and the historical society for our participation in this event.

News from the President-Tim Fahy

At a recent meeting of the Executive Board, historical society member Ellen Karadimas presented some ideas for fundraising and will be working on raising money for the refurbishment of the Nellie McKnight Museum.

News from the Curator-Nancy Long

The Nellie McKnight Museum will officially open for the season on Thursday, May 15, 2008. As in past seasons, the museum will be open each Thursday from 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. through the month of September.

The museum will be open on Saturday, May 10, 2008 from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. during the Fair on the Green and Flea Market on the museum grounds. Our annual bake sale will be held indoors in the dining room on that day also. We hope members will support us as in the past and bake for the sale. Volunteers to staff the bake sale and museum will be needed for this day. Since our April 25 meeting will be part of a program at Hall Memorial Library, please contact Nancy Long if you would like to volunteer or bake.

Flea Market

Saturday, May 10, 2008 the spring flea market will be held on the museum grounds from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. The spaces for exhibitors are 10' x 10' and available for a donation of \$20.00 from non-members and \$15.00 from members. If you are interested in reserving a space, please contact Tena Lehmann.

News from the Archivist-Lynn Kloter Fahy

Charlotte Lanz has donated some newspaper clippings and photographs, including some of the Hurricane of '38.

I have scanned almost all the photographs that I need for the Arcadia Images of America book, *Crystal Lake: Tolland County*. I will begin the photo layout soon and write the captions. The book remains on schedule for publication in spring 2009.

Research for the book has led to some interesting discoveries. There was a reference in Crystal Lake resident Ella Newell's 1895 diary to her husband Frank cutting alders and taking the logs to Hazard Powder Company in Enfield. I learned that gunpowder is composed of saltpeter, sulphur, and charcoal, and that alder charcoal was preferred.

Ellington Historical Society Program, June 2008

Our annual meeting and potluck will be held on Thursday, June 26th at the Hall Memorial Library. The program will be a presentation of a slide program originally created by Nellie McKnight in the 1970s. Lynn Fahy will show these historical slides of Ellington that Shirley Hayden scanned into digital format. Shirley corrected the color and enhanced the images on the faded and deteriorated slides.