



Ellington Historical Society

P.O. Box 73

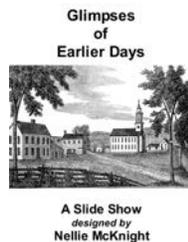
Ellington, Conn. 06029

June 2008 Newsletter

June Meeting Notice

The Ellington Historical Society will hold its annual meeting and potluck supper on Thursday, June 26, 2008 at 6:30 p.m. in the upstairs meeting room at Hall Memorial Library at 93 Main Street. Those with last names beginning with A-M are asked to bring a salad. Those with last names beginning with N-Z are asked to bring a main dish. Hot and cold beverages will be provided. Our traditional strawberry shortcake will be served for dessert.

Following the supper, we will hold our annual meeting during which we will elect officers for 2008-2009. A slate of officers will be presented and nominations can also be made from the floor.



A slide show designed by Nellie McKnight in 1970s will be shown after the election. A PowerPoint presentation was prepared by Lynn Kloter Fahy using Nellie's slides and notes. Thanks to Shirley Hayden for converting the slides to digital format and to Jim Long for his technical assistance.

News from the President, Tim Fahy

Renovations of the historic Pinney House have been put on hold after a meeting of the Ellington Board of Selectmen on May 19th. The town received a \$500,000 grant from the Small Town Economic Assistance Program for the restoration of the house. Estimates to restore the house exceeds this amount. The town now has until August 25 to decide how to proceed, after the owner of the property from which the town leases the property, Deer Valley LCC, agreed to the extension.

Nellie McKnight Museum open for the season

The Nellie McKnight Museum is open for the season on Thursdays from 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. through the month of September. Stop in and visit.

May 10 Event

Our event on May 10 which included a bake sale and flea market went off successfully in spite of threats of bad weather. We sold out all of the flea market sites and sold out all of the baked goods too. We had a modest crowd come through the first floor of the museum but the main focus for our visitors was the bake sale. We wish to thank all of our members who baked for the sale-we couldn't hold this event without your support!

Thank you to our bake sale volunteers: Connie Nichols, Pat Clapp, Helen Dahl, Ann Berak, Wendy Peterson, Mary Temple and Nancy Lemek.

Thank you to our museum volunteers: Mildred Dimock, Nancy Long, Lynn Fahy, Tim Fahy and Lennie and Don Ellis.

Special thanks to Mildred Dimock for calling all of our bakers and to Tena and Dave Lehmann for publicizing the flea market, handling the applications and setting up the field for the event. Dave has also completed caning another chair for the museum and we extend a thank you for his skill and patience in restoring these chairs.

The event would not have happened without the efforts of Nancy Long, who coordinated everything. She made dozens of calls, cleaned the building, got the gardens in shape, purchased the supplies and took care of things no one else even thought of. Thank you, Nancy.

Local Historians Meeting

On Thursday, May 9, Nancy Long and Tim Fahy attended a meeting with local historians at the Somers Historical Society. This group of historians meets twice a year to discuss common concerns and efforts in promoting local history. The meetings move to a different historical society each time so we all benefit from seeing each other's displays and locations.

School Tours

Nancy Long and Tim Fahy visited Windermere School on Wednesday, May 28, Center School on Friday, May 30, and Crystal Lake School on Wednesday, June 4. A selection of museum items such as ice tongs, candle molds, popcorn popper, bed warmer, etc. are brought to the schools and a narrative of each item is given. We have found this format encourages the children to focus on a particular item and how it was used in a lifetime very different from today.

Fund-raising

Ellen Karadimas has sent out letters to local contractors asking if they would be willing to donate items or labor for the upkeep of the Nellie McKnight Museum. Dave Taylor from Preferred Painting Services has completed repairing and painting the walls and trim in the upstairs back hallway of the museum. He and his staff also repaired loose wallpaper throughout the museum. We greatly appreciate his generosity in donating both time and materials for these projects.

John Luginbuhl of Nutmeg Stair & Cabinet is going to stabilize the stair railing, and add shelves to two upstairs closets.

Garden Tour

The Ellington Women's Club will be holding a garden tour on Saturday June 21 from 10:00-4:00. The museum herb garden, maintained by EWC, is featured on the tour as well as the perennial gardens at the museum. Tickets are \$10 in advance and \$15 the day of the event and are available at Hall Memorial Library, Ellington Agway and the Ellington branch of Rockville Bank.