



Ellington Historical Society

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

September 2008 Newsletter

Meeting Notice

The Ellington Historical Society will meet on Thursday, September 25 at 7:30 p.m. at the Hall Memorial Library at 93 Main Street. A program about the plight of the American Chestnut tree will be presented by Mike McGee of Tolland. Mr. McGee is vice president of the Connecticut chapter of the American Chestnut Foundation. He will describe his research and efforts to have a blight-resistant American chestnut tree. Free. All are welcome.

Refreshments will be provided by Nancy Long and Tim Fahy. A sign-up sheet for doing refreshments this year will be circulated at the meeting.

2008-2009 EHS Officers

At our annual meeting and potluck supper on June 26th at the Hall Memorial Library, the following officers were re-elected: President, Tim Fahy; Vice-President, Denise Archibald; Treasurer, Mary Temple; Recording Secretary, Santina Fiore; Corresponding Secretary, Tena Lehmann. Karyn Kloter agreed to serve as member at large and replaces Mildred Dimock who has served for three years. Thank you Mildred for your help on the board. The Executive Board includes current officers as well as members Dave Lehmann, Jim Stoughton, Don Ellis, Curator Nancy Long, and Archivist Lynn Kloter Fahy.

Happy Birthday Windsor

Preparations are being made for our float in the Windsor Parade to be held on Saturday, September 27. The use of a truck and trailer are being donated by Peter Pagani of Pagani Construction. The float will feature Mildred Dimock portraying Nellie McKnight reading to the children of Bruce and Karyn Kloter. We will have a windmill representing Daniel Halladay and his invention. Rob Wallace, Alex Cardoni, Dennis Carroll, Basil Stone and several members of the 1976 Train Band will be playing marching tunes. Decorations will include town flags, corn stalks, mums, pumpkins, apples and hay bales. The parade begins at noon on that day and we hope you can join us in celebrating Windsor's birthday.

News from the President-Tim Fahy

Update on fund raising campaign and donations

In June Ellen Karadimas, Restoration Chairman, sent out letters to local businesses and members asking for help with improvements to the Nellie McKnight Museum. We are very grateful for the following donations and appreciate the time and effort given to the museum:

Preferred Painting Services: Re-pasted loose wallpaper; prepped, repaired, painted upstairs back hallway walls and trim.

Greg Lanz Plumbing: Replaced and relocated pipe for outside faucet at back of museum.

Herman Dahl: Donated steam valve fittings for radiators in museum.

Update on fund raising campaign and donations continued:

Ameritas Life Insurance Group (Paul Policella): Donated postage for mailing 250 letters and membership forms.

Jim McKnight: Donated money for "Nellie's Facelift"

Nutmeg Cabinets: Put a brace on stair banister; put shelves in two upstairs closets.

We would like to extend a special thank you to Ellen Karadimas for her work on this project. It took many hours to compile the list of local businesses, compose letters, make copies, do mailings and press releases. Thank you Ellen!

Wall of Honor

Dorothy Cohen is this year's appointee for the Wall of Honor. The ceremony was held on Saturday, September 6, 2008. Michael Stupinski, First Selectman, read a proclamation and the Fire Department Honor Guard was in attendance. Jim Stoughton read a passage from *Ulysses*.

Many thanks to Jim Stoughton, who, on behalf of the society, completed and submitted an application to the Wall of Honor to the Board of Selectmen, nominating Dorothy Block Cohen, former town historian and author of the 1987 book: *Ellington: Chronicles of Change*. She was also the creator, along with Al Schindler, of the "Proprietor's map of a portion of the town of Windsor, Connecticut, lying east of the "Great River" and within the present bounds of Ellington, Connecticut as the land was originally laid out during the period 1728-1752." Mrs. Cohen passed away in 2005.

Gravestone on Pinney Street

We are grateful to Michael Halloran for trimming and weeding the gravesite of Samuel Field Knight on Pinney Street. Mr. Halloran lives across the street from the gravestone and has generously taken on this task for us.

Gordon Dimock

Our society lost a long time member this summer. Gordon Dimock passed away on July 28, 2008. A book has been donated in his name to Hall Memorial Library. We extend our sympathy to Gordon's wife Mildred and his family.

News from the Curator-Nancy Long

Museum attendance this season

Our museum has seen an increase in attendance this summer perhaps due to gas prices and people staying closer to home. Several students from the third grades have come to visit with their parents. The kids were delighted to recognize the objects we brought to their schools and found it interesting to see where the items came from in Nellie's house.

Tree and clean-up

The other half of the maple tree at the rear of the museum property fell in July. Luckily it did not hit the shed or anyone on its path to the ground! We extend a special thank you to Tim Fahy for his numerous trips to the brush dump and efforts over a two week period to clean up the debris. Thank you also to Don Ellis and Bruce Kloter for their help with chain saws and heavy equipment to do the final clean-up. Several larger pieces of the tree were given to the Congregational Church for seats in their labyrinth.

News from the Archivist-Lynn Kloter Fahy

Tim and Lynn Fahy attended an event at the Windsor Town Hall on September 4th to celebrate the founding of Windsor. Ellington is one of the twenty daughter towns that were originally part of Windsor. The event was called “Windsor 375, Families Through the Pages,” and featured a historic document exhibition. The Windsor Town Clerk is responsible for land records dating from 1640 and Vital Statistics from 1639 to the current day, as well as various other town records such as Grand lists, Tax lists, Patriots list, Animal Markings, and Ordinances etc. This exhibition will remain on display at Town Hall until September 26, Monday- Friday 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM. Free..

Images of America: Ellington, originally published in 2005 by Arcadia Publishing was out of stock. The publisher was taking backorders to see if the demand would support a reprint. The good news is that there is still a demand for the book and it has gone to reprint and should be back in stock soon at \$19.99.

Lynn has sent six images to Arcadia Publishing Co. as possible cover images for the new *Images of America: Crystal Lake, Tolland County* pictorial history, which will be published in spring 2009. We should know in a couple of weeks which image was chosen. Arcadia Publishing announced an upgrade recently. The new book will be printed in an improved format. It will be printed on heavier stock paper, so it will be 20% thicker and 15% heavier, with greater photo reproduction and with cover design changes. The price will be \$21.99.

Membership

It’s that time again! Membership dues are “due” in September and we have enclosed a form to fill out and include with your dues payment.

Ellington Historical Society Membership Dues

Class of Membership	_____	Individual \$10.00
	_____	Senior Individual \$8.00 (Over 62)
	_____	Family \$20.00
	_____	Senior Family \$15.00 (Over 62)
(Check one)	_____	Patron \$25.00
	_____	Business \$50.00

Name _____
Mailing Address _____

Telephone Number _____
*E-mail address _____

Make check payable to: Ellington Historical Society

Mail this form and payment to: Ellington Historical Society
P.O. Box 73
Ellington, CT 06029

* If you would like to receive your EHS newsletter by e-mail as a Microsoft Word file instead of “snail mail,” please include your e-mail address.