



Ellington Historical Society

P.O. Box 73

Ellington, Conn. 06029

February 2010 Newsletter



Vernon-Rockville Railroad Station

February Meeting Notice

The Ellington Historical Society will meet on Thursday, February 25, 2010 at 7:00 p.m. at the Hall Memorial Library at 93 Main Street. After a business meeting, Don Sierakowski, a former Rockville resident and graduate of Ellington High School, will present a program on Vernon railroads. Enjoy an evening of looking back at the development of the railroads that served Vernon, Rockville, and Ellington; from the Hartford, Providence, and Fishkill railroad of the mid-19th century to the New Haven Railroad of the 20th century. Sierakowski will show photographs of vintage equipment and tracks, many of which remained until the early 1970s and were converted to hiking and biking trails. The audience is encouraged to bring old photographs of Vernon and Ellington to share and to participate in the discussion.

The public is invited and new members are welcome to join. Refreshments will follow the program. The bakers for our February meeting are Doris Johnson, Pat Szemplinski and Pat Clapp.

News from the Curator

If you haven't seen our exhibit about Daniel Halladay and the Halladay windmill in the Hall Memorial Library, be sure to stop by. The Halladay Standard windmill, the first commercially successful windmill in North America, was invented and patented in 1854 in Ellington by Daniel Halladay. Our windmill replica, donated last year by Ed Ricard, pictures of Halladay, his patents, advertisements for windmills, and related documents will remain at the library until the spring.



Nancy Long and the Halladay exhibit at the January meeting

News from the President

The society's first History Day was held on Saturday, January 30th at the Hall Memorial Library. Information about old houses in Ellington, which was compiled by Mildred Dimock, Debby Wallace, and Shirley Hayden was available for viewing and photocopying. They were present to help researchers, as were Nancy and Jim Long and Tim and Lynn Fahy. Seventeen people attended the three-hour event.



Mildred Dimock and Debby Wallace talk to Annie Gentile of the Reminder on History Day

<http://www.ellingtonhistsoc.org/>