



Ellington Historical Society

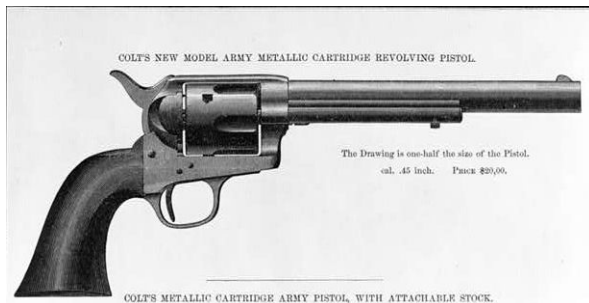
P.O. Box 73

Ellington, Conn. 06029

September 2010 Newsletter

September Meeting Notice

The Ellington Historical Society will meet on Thursday, September 23, 2010 at 7:00 *p.m.* in the upstairs meeting room at Hall Memorial Library at 93 Main Street. The program *Connecticut Invents!* will be presented by the Museum of Connecticut History. It celebrates the numerous inventors and inventions that have come from our state over the past 200 years. Come hear about the many famous and not so famous Connecticut inventions, including the Colt revolver, the toothpaste tube, Frisbee, tape measure, Wiffle Ball, can opener, submarine and many more. The public is invited and new members are welcome to join. A brief meeting and refreshments will follow the program. 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.



Colt revolver, side view. From Library of Congress Washington, D.C.

News from the Curator-Nancy Long

We are proud to report the museum had a busy summer season. Guests visited Nellie's home each week and we often had multiple tours going at the same time! Especially gratifying were visits from some of the third grade students we saw at their respective schools. It was fun for the students to see the items we brought for discussion and rediscover their use. Some of the students brought younger siblings so we had better be on our toes since these kids have had a preview of the program!

It is hard to explain the increased number of museum visitors but our best guess is increased publicity: the museum sign in front of the building with our open hours and an almost weekly notice in the "Timeout" section of the Journal Inquirer. We are grateful for the public interest and hope we can keep our winning streak going.

One of the summer visitors to the museum was Darrow, who tried his hand at making cider with the cider press. He had a great time and has a new appreciation for the "olden days." Thanks to his grandmother, Shirley Hayden, for bringing him, and to Tim Fahy and Nancy Long for being Darrow's tour guides.



News from the Archivist-Lynn Kloter Fahy



On June 24th, we had a special visitor to the Nellie McKnight Museum. Left to right: Rudy Luginbuhl, Charlotte Lanz Luginbuhl Limberger, and Ed Luginbuhl stand behind their former teacher, Beatrice Buell, in the dining room. Buell, now of Brooklyn, CT, boarded with the McKnight family in 1936 when she taught six grades in the one-room District #1 Cogswell School on West Road. The building later became the Valley Fish Market and is now Agway Too. After the visit to her former lodgings, Buell and her students attended the annual meeting and potluck dinner of the historical society at the Hall Memorial Library.

Ellington, Chronicles of Change, the 1987 book by Dorothy Cohen, is going to be reprinted, and should be available in time for holiday giving. The book was copyrighted by the Town of Ellington, and First Selectman Maurice Blanchette has given permission for the reprint. Mrs. Cohen was named to the Ellington Wall of Honor in 2008. In addition to this 276-page town history, she was 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." A large framed copy of the map hangs in the Hall Memorial Library. Sue Phillips has offered to make the books available for sale at the library. Details about the book will be in the October newsletter.

Treasures of Connecticut Libraries is a joint project of the Connecticut State Library and the Library Connection consortium. It is a collection of items that has been digitized and made available online for searching. Some of the items in the collection come from the Hall Memorial Library and from the historical society. Go to <http://cslib.cdmhost.com/ctlibs/home.php> and choose Ellington from the drop-down list of cities and towns to see the photos and documents.

News from the President-Tim Fahy

2010-2011 EHS Officers--At our annual meeting and potluck supper on June 24th at the Hall Memorial Library, members accepted the slate of officers as presented: President, Tim Fahy; Vice-President, Denise Archibald; Treasurer, Mary Temple; Recording Secretary, Santina Fiore. The Executive Board includes current officers as well as members Dave Lehmann, Jim Stoughton, Karyn Kloter, Curator Nancy Long, and Archivist Lynn Kloter Fahy.

Ellington Wall of Honor – The Board of Selectmen has selected Edna Tuttle Edwards as this year's appointee to the Wall of Honor. Mrs. Edward served as Town Clerk, Assistant Town Clerk, and Town Treasurer. She was also a member of the Ellington Congregational Church, the Ellington Grange, and the Order of the Eastern Star. A ceremony was held in Arbor Park on Saturday, September 11th.

Shirley Hayden's Ellington Cemeteries Project

We now have many photos from cemeteries in Ellington up on our website. For Crystal Lake, McKinstry, and Charter cemeteries, we include pictures of every legible stone at the time the cemeteries were photographed (2009). The pictures of Charter Cemetery are particularly important because Charter is on private property and not easily accessible. The pictures were matched with the records from the Hale Collection, the results of a 1930s project intended to transcribe all Connecticut cemetery stones (not all cemeteries were done, however). In some cases, comparing to the old record made it possible to decipher inscriptions that are now difficult to read. Our website also includes pictures from Crystal Lake Cemetery in Stafford since many Ellington residents were buried there.

Parts of Ellington Center Cemetery were also photographed in 2009 or earlier and those pictures are posted on our web site, too. Shirley Hayden is now working on completing our records for this, the largest town cemetery. The first step was to digitize the 71 page Hale Collection for the cemetery. The Hale Collection lists stones in the order they were recorded as the recorders worked their way through the cemetery. Now that they are digitized, they have also been sorted in alphabetical order to make searching records easier. Meanwhile, Hayden is continuing to photograph all the stones in the cemetery and to match them with the Hale Collection records. This is a very large project which will likely take at least a year. We have received several queries from the public about the cemeteries and so far have been able to assist in each case. Thank you to Jim Long for adding all these cemetery records to our website.

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

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.