



Ellington Historical Society

P.O. Box 73

Ellington, Conn. 06029

June 2012 Newsletter

June Meeting Notice

The Ellington Historical Society will hold its annual meeting and potluck supper for members on Thursday, June 28, 2012 at 6:30 p.m. in the upstairs meeting room at Hall Memorial Library, 93 Main Street. Those with last names beginning with A-J are asked to bring a salad. Those with last names beginning with K-Z are asked to bring a main dish. 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 2012/2013. A slate of officers will be presented and nominations can also be made from the floor.

News from the Curator-Nancy Long

Flea Market/Bake Sale



We could not have asked for better weather for our flea market and bake sale on Saturday, May 19. It was a busy day in the center of town with a book sale at Hall Memorial Library, an indoor tag sale next door at the Congregational Church, the Farmer's Market at Arbor Park, and the 50th anniversary of the Ellington Volunteer Ambulance Corps. Both of our events were well attended and deemed a success. Thank you to all who baked for the sale as well as our volunteers who worked the bake sale: Connie Nichols, Pat Szemplinski, Pat Clapp, Mary Temple, Tina Fiore, Lennie Ellis and Hilary Brady.

Many visitors toured the museum, with the weaving demonstration and opportunity to try weaving a popular stop on the second floor. Several visitors had not been in the museum since the bathroom and Nellie's bedroom were added to the tour. Thank you to our museum volunteers: David Danforth, Don Ellis, Tim and Lynn Fahy and Jim and Nancy Long. Dave Lehmann and Tim Fahy set up the flea market field and checked in vendors on Saturday morning. Thank you to all who helped make this event a success.

Ron and Judy Stomberg became new members of the historical society at the event.

School Tours

As of this writing, school tours are scheduled for Monday, June 4 at Center School, Wednesday, June 6 at Crystal Lake School and Friday, June 8 at Windermere School. Items from the museum collection are brought for discussion with the children emphasizing how different our lives would be if we lived a hundred years ago or even fifty years ago. A rug beater, washboard, iron, foot warmer and bottle capper are among the items shown to the classes. This year we will focus on the 200th anniversary of our museum building and will bring framed pictures of the house and how it has changed over the years to show to the children. The students are invited to visit the museum this summer while on summer vacation. Tim Fahy and Nancy Long will be doing the school presentations.

Interior Work at the Museum

Cleaning and painting two closets has begun this museum season. The pantry closet in the kitchen has been painted and will be used as a display area for tin ware and china with the doors open for viewing. The big hallway closet on the second floor yielded many surprises when it was emptied by Mary Temple and Nancy Long. Dresses, quilts, tuxedos and Nellie's graduation cap and gown from Mt. Holyoke College were among the items packed away and in surprisingly good condition. The wallpaper in the closet will be removed, the closet painted and a shelf and clothes rod installed to make this area usable for storage and viewing.

Herb Garden

The herb garden on the museum grounds has been planted and mulched. Thank you to the Tussie Mussies from the Ellington Women's Club for their efforts getting the garden ready and maintaining it through the summer season

News from the President-Tim Fahy

Historical society member and archaeologist Mandy Ranslow will oversee an archaeological dig at the Nellie McKnight Museum on July 14th, rain or shine. We are encouraging kids 10-16 to

sign up. Donations are \$15, or \$10 for members. We hope to have enough participation to have 2 two-hour sessions, 10:00-12:00 and 1:00-3:00. Observers are welcome. Visit our website for more information. www.ellingtonhistsoc.org Call Tim Fahy to sign up.

The Ellington Farmer's Market theme on Saturday, June 30th will be "Farming Through the Years" and will feature the Ellington Historical Society. We will have antique farming equipment on display at the market at Arbor Park from 9:00-12:00. Visit www.ellingtonfarmersmarket.com for more information.

VISIT THE NELLIE McKNIGHT MUSEUM ON THURSDAYS FROM 1:00 TO 4:00.

News from the Archivist- Lynn Kloter Fahy

Do you wish you could get to the Museum more often to look at our wonderful collections? Now you can search and view the collections online. We have used the cataloging program PastPerfect-Online to build a fully searchable website. It is still a work in progress, but we currently have cataloged about 500 items and have 250 images online. Many thanks to Jim Long, who has been photographing the objects in the collection. I have linked the images to the catalog records that I created by matching the accession numbers previously assigned during a museum inventory in the 1990s. Go to www.ellingtonhistsoc.org and click on "Search Our Collections"

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Object Record

[Print](#)



Egg dish

Catalog Number	1982.001.0264
Object Name	Dish, Egg
Description	Ceramic egg dish. Small, yellow with blue and white stripes.
Collection	Nellie McKnight Collection
Accession number	1982.001
Old ID number	82-264
Material	Ceramic
Image	Egg dish

Upcoming Meetings

Thursday, Sept. 27, 7:00 p.m. at the Hall Memorial Library--Ruth Shapleigh Brown, Founder and Executive Director of the Connecticut Gravestone Network and a member of the Connecticut State Library staff, will present a thought provoking discussion filled with surprising tales and mysteries about the three earliest burying grounds of Hartford. Shapleigh Brown's illustrated talk will explain the beginnings of these three historic cemeteries, mentioning some important local colonial residents and stone-carvers. www.ctgravestones.com