



Ellington Historical Society

P.O. Box 73

Ellington, Conn. 06029

June 2013 Newsletter

June Meeting Notice

The Ellington Historical Society will hold its annual meeting and potluck supper for members on Thursday, June 27, 2013 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 main dish. Those with last names beginning with K-Z are asked to bring a salad *or* side 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 2013/2014. A slate of officers will be presented and nominations can also be made from the floor.

We thought it would be fun to see old yardsticks, hangers, etc. with advertising on them on display at the potluck. Please bring whatever you have at home that is gathering dust. Clare and Don Landmann left this wonderful vintage yardstick in their house when Tim and Lynn Fahy bought it in 1998. Anyone remember Hahn Furniture?



News from the Curator-Nancy Long

Museum Open for the Season

The Nellie McKnight Museum is open for the season on Thursdays from 1:00 to 4:00 through the end of September. Tina Fiore has joined our museum regulars Lynn Fahy, Tim Fahy and Nancy Long to staff the museum for these hours. Tina and Nancy are assisting Lynn in the work of updating and digitizing the museum collection. Jim Long will continue taking pictures of the collection, which will then be available to the public online.

Flea Market/Bake Sale

Sunny skies and mild temperatures were a welcome start to our flea market and bake sale on Saturday, May 18. The visiting public was kept busy with our flea market and the indoor tag sale at the Congregational Church. We had an excellent response to our ads for flea market participants this year. Our bake sale was well attended, and thanks to the efforts of Celine Richardson, the flea market participants and guests were treated to an “on field” offering of baked goods. Thank you to all who baked for the sale as well as our volunteers who worked the bake sale: Pat Szemplinski, Pat Clapp, Connie Nichols, Bev Nichols, Mary Temple, Tina Fiore, Celine Richardson and Ann Berak.

The museum first floor was open and guests who asked about a second floor tour were invited to come back on Saturday, June 8 as we celebrate the state Open Museum Day. Thank you to our museum volunteers: Dave Danforth, Tim and Lynn Fahy 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 to make this event a success.



School Tours

Tim Fahy and Nancy Long completed the first school tour of the season May 22 at Windermere School. The students were very attentive to our display of vintage items from the Nellie McKnight Museum. We routinely invite students to visit the museum, and some have made that visit already! The remaining tours are scheduled for June 7 at Crystal Lake School and June 10 at Center School.

Herb Garden--The herb garden on the museum grounds has been readied for the growing season. Thank you to the Tussie Mussies from the Ellington Women’s Club for their efforts in maintaining the garden through the summer.

News from the President-Tim Fahy



Open House and Archaeological Dig

June 8th is Connecticut Open House Day, an annual event coordinated by the Connecticut Office of Tourism. The Nellie McKnight Museum will be open from 10-4. Also featured will be an archaeological dig, which will be overseen by historical society member and archaeologist Mandy Ranslow. A dig last July on museum grounds was very successful. Eight young people aged 7-16 will dig alongside volunteer archaeologists from FOSA, Friends of the Office of the State Archaeologist, who will give instructions on how to dig and what to look for. Artifacts uncovered will be on display.

Farmers Market

The Ellington Farmers Market theme on Saturday, June 29th will be “Farming Through the Years” and will feature a selection of items from the kitchen of the Nellie McKnight Museum. They are representative of what would have been in a farmer’s wife’s kitchen. We will be at the market at Arbor Park from 9:00-12:00. Visit www.ellingtonfarmersmarket.com for more information.

News from the Archivist- Lynn Kloter Fahy

Online catalog

PastPerfect Museum Software hosts our data and Web sized images on their Web servers for a modest annual fee so that we don’t need to maintain our own servers. PastPerfect-Online is a fully searchable website. We currently have about 668 catalog records and 490 images online, thanks to Jim Long, who has been photographing the objects in the collection.

PastPerfect is now going to submit our site to the search engines Google and Bing for indexing at no charge to us. This will make our catalog discoverable on the Internet. The initial indexing will take 4-8 weeks. Go to www.ellingtonhistsoc.org and click on “Search Our Collections.”

Upcoming Meetings

Thursday, Sept. 26, 2013 7:00 p.m. at the Hall Memorial Library. Tom Craughwell, author of *Stealing Lincoln’s Body*

Thursday, Oct. 24, 2013 7:00 p.m. at the Hall Memorial Library. T. Garth Connelly, author of several books on PT boats will be the speaker.