



Ellington Historical Society

P.O. Box 73

Ellington, Conn. 06029

October 2016 Newsletter



The Ellington Historical Society will meet on **Thursday, October 27, 2016 at 7:00 p.m.** at the Hall Memorial Library at 93 Main Street. After a brief business meeting, Jenny Steadman of the Connecticut Historical Society will present a program on “Witches in Connecticut.”

The trials and executions of witches in Connecticut predated the more famous Salem witch panic by over 40 years. Hear the stories of some of the women and men accused, tried, and executed as witches and learn how Connecticut successfully controlled the spread of witch accusations long before Salem erupted in panic and violence.

The program is free, and the public is invited. New members are always welcome. Refreshments after the program will be provided by bakers Shirley Hayden, Connie Nichols, and Maureen O’Neil.

News from the Curator-Nancy Long



The Nellie McKnight Museum will be open for *Winterfest* on Saturday, December 3, from 2:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m. A sign-up sheet for volunteers to serve as docents will be passed around at our meeting this month.

From Nellie's Recipe Box

Nellie McKnight was famous for her candied orange peel and made many batches during the holiday season to give as gifts, or to bring to a holiday gathering. The following recipe was found in her recipe box typed on a slip of paper from a program for the church.

Editor's Note: There are easier recipes for candied peel on the Internet!

Candied Peel



Grate yellow rind from outside of peel. Remove pulp, cut peel into strips, cover with cold water and boil, adding 1 level teaspoon of (baking)soda and ½ teaspoon of salt. Boil quite a while, drain and return to stove with fresh hot water. Boil 5 minutes and drain. Return to boiling fresh hot water for a third time. Cook until tender. Drain thoroughly and press out water with a cloth a few pieces at a time. Make a thick syrup: 1 cup sugar, ½ cup water to a cup of peel. Set peel in syrup 15-20 minutes. Remove from syrup a strip at a time. Roll in granulated sugar and place on waxed paper to dry.

News from the President-Tim Fahy

Best wishes to member Mildred Dimock, who celebrated her 102nd birthday in September. Mildred resides at Vernon Manor.

C & R Contractors completed installing a much-needed new roof on the museum on October 6th. We're glad that it wasn't tested by Hurricane Matthew and that we escaped the devastation that it caused in the southeastern U.S.



News from the Archivist-Lynn Fahy

One of the members who renewed his membership in September is 98-year-old Henry Hayden, who is member Shirley Hayden's cousin. Henry lived in Ellington from 1924-1926 and has very clear memories of his time here. He gave me permission to share them:

My first-grade teacher was Mrs. Horace McKnight, who also had grades 2, 3, and 4 in one room at the Center School. She was a marvelous teacher who led her pupils in an inspiring way.

I remember the names of a few who sat in that room with me: Wesley Barnett, Homer Metcalf, my cousin Ralph Hayden, Bunny Young, Carl Pease, and a girl, Rosie Schanal.

We lived in a house owned by Claude Pease; we attended the Ellington Congregational Church, pastored by Dr. Nichols.

I had 2 uncles and aunts in Ellington: Harry & Anna Hayden, Don & Mildred Hayden, and one single aunt, Agnes Kibbe.

When I entered 4th grade, we had moved to Rockville in 1927. All my memories of Ellington are pleasant ones.

Henry later became a Congregational minister and started a career as an artist after retirement. He now lives in a retirement community in Claremont, CA, where he has a studio.



“Church—Green River VT” Watercolor by Henry H. Hayden

Upcoming meetings

Thursday, January 26, 2017, 7:00 p.m. at Hall Memorial Library



Mariann Millard will present “Hail to The Chief: The Inauguration of a President,” about Presidential inaugurations past and present and how we have the traditions and requirements that color our inaugurations today.

Thursday, February 23, 2017, 7:00 p.m. at Hall Memorial Library



Ed Parry, master gunsmith, will present a program about making reproduction guns and how he came to own a gun made for a McKinstry from Ellington. Mr. Parry is a Revolutionary War re-enactor with Ye Olde Lebanon Towne Militia.

Thursday, April 27, 2017, 7:00 p.m. at Hall Memorial Library
Program TBA

Thursday, June 22, 2017 6:30 p.m. at the Hall Memorial Library
Potluck supper (Members Only)