



THE CRIER

Official Newsletter of the Waterford Historical Society, Inc., Waterford, CT

Mission Statement:

**To Collect, Protect, Preserve and Serve as
Caretakers of our Past, Present and Future**

**Volume 51
Number 1**

Winter 2018



Restoring Historic Chimneys

“Restoring Historic Chimneys” was the title of Charles Jasmine’s program for the Society on February 1, 2018 at the Waterford Public Library. Being the President of Chimney Champs, LLC, Charles (“Chuck”) has years of experience with colonial chimneys, as well as more contemporary ones. He and his associate provided practical tips for chimney care and maintenance, as well as a few colorful stories about fireplaces and chimneys they have treated for safety and efficiency. Chuck noted that a modern chimney requires 1 flue per “appliance” to comply with NFPA codes, but historic chimneys do not have that equation. Inside an historic chimney there are no flue tiles. Sometimes there will be brick wall chambers dividing the flues. In any case, to be able to use your



historic chimney safely to vent your heating system or to enjoy the fire, the chimney will need to be carefully relined. When dealing with an historical chimney, he advised trying to match the types of masonry and bricks that exist. Some old chimneys have a lime-based mortar, essentially a combination of lime and sand. And after 100 or more years, Chuck said, “...the chimney is sitting upon itself with gravity holding it.” It would need a breathable mortar. Inappropriate repairs usually lead to greater problems. The speakers were kind enough to linger to discuss individual home issues with several members of the audience.

Everyone came away with greater knowledge of how to care for historic chimneys!

Waterford Historical Society, Inc.
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Before

Remodeling our Bathrooms



During



The Stacey Barn
plaque inscription:



Waterford Historical Society, Inc.
deeply appreciates generous donations by

F. W. Webb, Inc.

for handicapped-accessible bathroom fixtures

and

Cluff's Carpet One, L.L.C.

for bathroom and hallway flooring

in the Margaret Stacy Barn.

August 2017

After



New Handicapped-Accessible Bathrooms in our Margaret Stacy Barn

by Kristen Widham

It all began as a simple, helpful comment by Kerry Sullivan, Assistant Director of Waterford's Recreation and Parks Department, a little more than one year ago. The Waterford Historical Society had been approached by an organization that wanted to use our Stacy Barn as a staging area for a show. Of course the public would be invited to attend and might need to use the facilities on the lower level. Kerry said, "Are your bathrooms handicapped-accessible?" I replied, "Of course they are...", because the Barn had been constructed with Town approval about 30 years ago. Our buildings are placed on Town property, so of course the Town would have been in compliance with buildings on Town property. End of discussion ... or so I thought. But then, I continued thinking ... Hmmmm... 30 years ago there were different guidelines and regulations. Were our 2 public bathrooms actually handicapped-accessible? The Society's Property Committee --- Paul Grover, Deb Walters and I --- discovered that the entry would be in compliance. No elevations could hinder a wheelchair. But what about the 2 bathrooms themselves.

Enter Jay Miner (Director of Waterford's Buildings and Grounds), who set us straight regarding the individual doorways and types of toilets and height of sinks and lack of grab bars. Jay remembered well the construction of this barn, when his father Morgan Miner, the former Principal of Cohanzie Elementary School, had been the Vice-President of the Society. Now Jay oversees many structures in our Town and knows the regulations well. His insights provided a very valuable springboard into an idea.

Paul, Deb and I looked at each other and decided that Kerry had given us a great insight into the latest project for the Society --- conforming to Town code while upgrading our dingy bathrooms.

Next: enter Jim Henderson, showroom director for F. W. Webb, a terrific Waterford company that specializes in plumbing supplies and materials and offers advice on plumbing projects. Jim visited the site, measured and told us that we would need to do several things. Shortly thereafter we received his proposal for the materials. Where would we come up with the thousands of dollars for the supplies? And who could provide the labor to prepare the space and install the new supplies?



Meanwhile, back at the board meetings, our volunteer members were busily preparing for a major public event of our own --- the Fiftieth "Golden" Anniversary of the Waterford Historical Society to be held on Jordan Green on September 9, 2017. We certainly would need the public use of our two bathrooms on that day.

Over the next weeks we developed a plan, possible only because of the generosity of F. W. Webb, Cluff's Carpet One, the Building and Grounds Department and our members. In collaboration with B&G the lower entry was cleaned, disinfected and painted. F. W. Webb donated all the supplies valued at more than \$5,000 for both bathrooms. B&G installed the sinks, toilets and grab bars. And when it became clear that the old tiles were in poor condition, Cluff's, another outstanding Waterford company, stepped up to the plate. Cluff's donated the materials and installed new floor tiles. When the unveiling occurred at our August board meeting, everyone was happily surprised at the bright, beautiful result of this project. Most importantly anyone visiting Waterford Historical Society's buildings on the Town's Jordan Green and needing handicapped access to a bathroom now can use our facilities in the Barn.

So, everyone, please spread the word. The wonderful buildings on Jordan Green entrusted to the Waterford Historical Society over the past 50 years are now officially available for use by other individuals and organizations at a nominal fee. And both bathrooms in the Margaret Stacy Barn are indeed handicapped-accessible! Look for our plaque of appreciation the next time you go there.

Identifying the Father of Revolutionary War Veteran Nehemiah Daniels of New London, Waterford, Connecticut and Otsego County New York

by Keith Wilson

Nehemiah Daniels was born 18 August 1763 in New London, Connecticut and he died 21 August 1849 in Morris, Otsego County, New York. He was 16 years old when he enlisted from New London in Captain Lee Lea's Company in Colonel Levi Well's Regiment on 1 September 1777. He served in no engagements, but was stationed at Fort Trumbull in New London, employed in building the fort and guarding the City of New London. Nehemiah Daniels was discharged after completing eight months of service; he moved to Butternuts, Otsego County, New York about twenty-three years after the end of the Revolutionary War. Several secondary sources state that he is the son of Nehemiah Daniels and Elizabeth Worthington of Colchester and Hebron, Connecticut; many online family trees show the same information.



There were, however, two men named Nehemiah Daniels living in Connecticut that were candidates to be the father of the above veteran. Nehemiah Daniels of Colchester and Hebron was born circa 1718 and Nehemiah Daniels of New London and Waterford was born circa 1725; they both had sons named Nehemiah who served in the Revolutionary War. In order to identify the correct father of the Revolutionary War veteran of Otsego County, New York, a comprehensive search was made of Revolutionary War service records, pension files, vital records, church records, land records, probate records, obituaries, genealogies and the *Biographical Review*, *Biographical Sketches of the Leading Citizens, Otsego County, New York*. Marilyn Burton,

a New York descendant of Nehemiah, obtained a copy of the Revolutionary War pension file and found that the file also contained service records of a different Nehemiah Daniels that had been included in the file in error. He served in a different regiment and had enlisted from Colchester. The pension file shows that the veteran who moved to Otsego County, New York enlisted from New London and never lived in Colchester. Waterford Historical Society board member Michele Pedro found the 24 August 1803 obituary of Nehemiah Daniels of Waterford, age 79, in the vault of the New London County Historical Society. The Probate file of Nehemiah Daniels of Hebron shows that he died in 1802 and his children were Rhoda, Mehitable, Elizabeth, Sarah, Mary, Ezekiel, Nehemiah and Jonathan (A son named Amasa died in 1786). It was a copy of the *Biographical Review*, *Biographical Sketches of the Leading Citizens, Otsego County, New York* that provided the final proof that Nehemiah Daniels of New London/Waterford, Connecticut was the father of the Otsego County, New York Nehemiah. The biographical sketch of Reverend Alexander E. Daniels stated that his grandfather, Nehemiah Daniels had the following children: Job, Joseph, Jerry (Jedediah), Nehemiah and Grace.

Alexander Daniels was the son of Revolutionary war veteran Nehemiah Daniels of Otsego County, New York and was still living when the biography was compiled. The Revolutionary War pension file of Nehemiah Daniels contains an affidavit from his brother, Joseph Daniels and the pension file of Isaac Sears, husband of their sister, Grace, had an affidavit from Nehemiah Daniels.

Keith Wilson is writing articles on the families of both Nehemiah Daniels. The article on the descendants of Nehemiah Daniels of Colchester and Hebron, Connecticut was published in the Connecticut Society of Genealogists July 2017 issue of the *Connecticut Nutmegger*.

“Researching Waterford

Area

Genealogy”

March 15, 2018

Presented by:

The Waterford

Historical

Society

At

Waterford Public Library

49 Rope Ferry Road

Waterford, CT

5:30 *Light refreshments*

6:00 *Speakers:*

Michele Pedro & Keith Wilson

Resources and tricks to further your research

www.waterfordcthistoricalsociety.org

waterfordcthistoricalsociety@gmail.com

860-389-7529

Public Welcome





A Change in our Genealogy Research policy

Fee Schedule:

Research: \$10 fee for an hour of research of materials in our collections regardless of results found. Fees for postage and photocopies (\$.20 page) may apply.

Photocopies: Requests for photocopies of specific items will be charged at \$.20 per page + postage.

Requests are handled in the order they are received. Typical wait time is 4 to 6 weeks.

Research is *limited* to one hour per request and the \$10 fee is due with initial request.

You can contact us by e-mail, U.S. mail, or telephone. Please include your name, address, and your preferred method of contact, email or phone number, with your query. Please send payment to our snail mail address:

Waterford Historical Society, Inc
P.O. Box 117
Waterford, CT 06385

A few Changes to our Calendar

- | | |
|----------------|--|
| April 21, 2018 | 10:00 AM “Tour of School house & Beebe Philips House”
Open to the public,
Jordan Green |
| May 3, 2018 | 7:00 PM “Waterford’s Forgotten Burial Grounds”
Presented by: Waterford Historic Properties Commission
Waterford Public Library |

Please check our calendar for all of our activities and meetings. All are open to the public unless otherwise stated. Our calendar is in The Crier as well as our “website”.

www.waterfordcthistoricalsociety.org

Volunteers Make The World



Go Round

Forgotten Waterford Burial Sites



Presented by Waterford Historic Properties Commission

Thursday May 3 7:00 pm

Waterford Public Library

Refreshments served by Waterford Historical Society

Community Collaboration

Art Exhibits/Opening

Studio 33 Art & Frame Gallery, 140 Bank Street, New London, CT , 06320
Studio 33 Art & Frame Gallery presents Hauschild 1941-2012: A Retrospective.
Jan. 27, 2018 to Mar. 31, 2018. The lifelong work of New London artist and resident Robert J. Hauschild. Many paintings, never exhibited before, come in and experience the wonderful world of Robert J. Hauschild! 140 Bank Street, New London, CT.
M-F 9:00 to 5:00, Sat. 10:00 to 3:00.



Waterford Public Library
March 10, 10:00 AM
Irish emigration to America: A musical Narration
March 10. 2018 1:00 P M
Search your Irish Roots



March 10, 2018
Lyme Academy Student Exhibit
Saturday 7:00 PM
79 Bank Street
New London, CT

To our New members:

Tali & Linda Maidelis

Kathleen McCarty

Keith E. Wilson

Toni and Dennis Pederson



Elizabeth Montgomery

Raymond (Skip) Peabody

Mariea Spencer



**WATERFORD HISTORICAL SOCIETY, INC.
July 2017 – June 2018 CALENDAR**

November

2	6:00PM	“Build a Flag” National Sojourners	Waterford Public Library
9	5:30PM 6:00PM	Social Time & Presentation Monthly Business Meeting	Community Center #103 Community Center #103
24	9:00AM	Decorating for Winter Holidays	Jordan Green

December

6	4:00-6:00PM 6:00PM	“Caroling and Cookies” Serving Refreshments at Tree-Lighting	Beebe-Philips & Schoolhouse Town Hall
7	5:00PM 6:00PM	“Candlelight Tour of Jordan Green” Holiday Party & Monthly Meeting	Jordan Green Waterford Public Library

January

6	9:00AM	Change to Winter Decorating	Jordan Green
11	5:30PM 6:00PM	Social Time & Sharing Monthly Business Meeting	Community Center #103 Community Center #103

February

1	6:00PM	“Restoring Historic Chimneys” Charles Jasmine, President, Chimney Champs LLC	Waterford Public Library
8	5:30PM 6:00PM	Social Time Monthly Business Meeting	Community Center #103 Community Center #103

March

8	5:30PM 6:00PM	Social Time Monthly Business Meeting	Community Center #103 Community Center #103
15	5:30 PM 6:00PM	Social Time “Discovering Your Waterford Genealogy” Michele Pedro and Keith Wilson	Waterford Public Library Waterford Public Library

<u>April</u>			
5	6:00PM	“Colonial Kitchen Gardening” Thames River Garden Club members	Waterford Public Library
12	5:30PM	Social Time	Jordan Green Schoolhouse
	6:00PM	Monthly Business Meeting	Jordan Green Schoolhouse
21	10:00AM	School House Tour	Jordan Green School
<u>May</u>			
3	7:00PM	Waterford’s Forgotten Burial Grounds Waterford Historic Properties Commission	Waterford Public Library
10	6:00PM	PROGRAM	Waterford Public Library
	7:00PM	Monthly Business Meeting	Waterford Public Library
<u>June</u>			
14	5:00PM	Potluck Supper & Annual Meeting	Jordan Green Barn



We can always use help with different activities, genealogy searches, spring cleaning of buildings

Membership form is attached
If needed
 Membership renewals due
 June 30th.



Waterford Historical Society, Inc.

Membership Form

Please Check One:

- Student \$ 5.00
 Individual \$ 20.00
 Household \$ 30.00
 Lifetime \$200.00



ANNUAL DUES THROUGH YEAR ENDING JUNE 30, 2018 \$ _____

Name(s): _____

Phone: _____

Address: _____

(Street)

(City, State, Zip-code)

Email(s): _____

-----TEAR HERE-----TEAR HERE-----

Please mail your above completed form and check made payable to:

Waterford Historical Society, Inc.

**P.O. Box 117
Waterford, CT 06385-0117**

***Thank you for becoming a member of the
Waterford Historical Society, Inc.!***

As a paid member of the Waterford Historical Society, you will receive email copies of the Society's Newsletter, The Crier, advance notice of Public Events, discounts to Special Events, guided tours of our historical buildings at Historic Jordan Green (with advance appointment and always when open during Public Events), access to genealogic records (upon request) and many other benefits.

Phone us at: 860-389-7529

Visit our Website at: www.waterfordcthistoricalsociety.org

E-Mail us at: waterfordcthistoricalsociety@gmail.com

