



**Canton Historical Museum**

11 Front Street  
Collinsville, CT 06019

# NEWS BRIEF

Spring 2017 Edition

860-693-2793  
<http://CantonMuseum.org>  
[Information@CantonMuseum.org](mailto:Information@CantonMuseum.org)

## The Canton Historical Museum presents

### Why They Came

A series of talks on the immigrants that came to our area and why they came.  
Each Thursday will be a different ethnic background:



**March 16th - Polish Immigration with Andre Blaszczynski of the Polish American Foundation**



**March 23rd - Swedish Immigration with To Be Announced from the Vasa Order of America.**



**March 30th - Irish Immigration with Neil Hogan of the Connecticut Irish American Historical Society**



**April 6th - Finnish Immigration with Sepp Markkanen from the Collinsville Congregational Church**



**April 13th - German Immigration with Dr. Renate Ludanyi of Western Connecticut State University**



**April 20th - French Canadian Immigration with Danny Boucher of Jam Français**

**Admission per Talk:**

**\$5 non-members, \$4 members, \$1 students,  
\$10 Max for Families**

**All talks will be at the  
Canton Library/Community Center, 40 Dyer Avenue, lower level 6:30pm  
to 7:30pm**

**Registration is not necessary, but is appreciated.**

**Call the museum at 860-693-2793 and leave your name,  
telephone number, number attending, and which talk(s) you  
would like to attend**

**Or e-mail us at [Register@CantonMuseum.org](mailto:Register@CantonMuseum.org)**

## Memorial Donations

We thank everyone who made Memorial Donations to the museum in the names of Roy Olson, Reverend Dr. Evans Sealand, Attorney Mark Lowell, and Cheryl Scott. Our collective hearts and sympathies go out to their families. Our friends will be missed.

*“To live in the hearts we leave behind is not to die”*

*Thomas Campbell - Physicist and Author*



## 2016—2017 Museum Building Updates

The Canton Historical Museum is being updated. Check it out!

### Completed Projects in 2016:

- ◆ 28 security cameras were installed throughout the building.

### 2017 Projects in the works:

- ◆ New sink and toilet in the Ladies Room as well as painting.
- ◆ Replacement of 7 windows under the front porch.
- ◆ Painting of inside and outside benches and railings.
- ◆ Updating and replacement of emergency lights.
- ◆ Changing out interior lamps to LEDs. This could offer a rebate from Eversource for fixtures.



These projects are paid for through the Canton Historical Museum Building Fund, which raises money through events like The Gallery of Trees and Oktober Fest. We would like to thank everyone who participates in our Fund Raising Events.

## Canton Museum Bulletin Board

- ◆ Did you forget to renew your membership this year? It is not too late. Visit our website at <http://CantonMuseum.org> to print out a membership form, or to use PayPal to renew your membership.
- ◆ Do you have something to offer the Canton Historical Society? We are always looking for volunteers; whether it is to become a guide or greeter, to work on special projects, or for research projects.
- ◆ Do you have old pictures of people from Canton (identified only), pictures of Canton buildings or houses from a past era, or interesting Canton memorabilia? The museum would like to hear from you. We may want to add digital copies of them to our library collection.

## Wish List

The Canton Historical Society is looking for new or gently used donations of the following items.:

- ★ Paper Shredder
- ★ New or newer ink jet color printer with cartridges
- ★ New or gently used Digital Projector
- ★ New telephone

## E-mail Updating

Do we have your e-mail address? Have you changed e-mail addresses and forgotten to let us know? The Canton Historical Museum is going digital. We are trying to send more things via e-mail to our patrons. This will be more efficient, will allow us to get information to our patrons faster, and will be more economic for the museum. If we do not have your most recent e-mail, or do not have your e-mail address at all, please e-mail us at [Information@CantonMuseum.org](mailto:Information@CantonMuseum.org) and place in the subject line "Add My Email". Let us know who you are by placing your Name and Address in the e-mail. Rest assured, we do not share our patron's e-mail addresses with anyone.

Do not be concerned if you do not have an e-mail address. You will still receive our Newsletters via regular mail.



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### The History Corner

#### The Valley House

The Valley House Hotel was built by the Collins Company in 1867 to accommodate visiting tradesmen and out-of-town customers. This four-story brownstone and brick hotel was located on Main Street. The building has a large Italianate wooden canopy overhanging the entrance and a Mansard roof. By 1898, this hotel could accommodate 25 people and charged adults \$8 to \$12 per week. In 1903, various shops occupied the ground floor with the hotel office and dining room on the second floor. Today this building, with 17 units, is 'Valley House Condominiums'.



The Valley House Hotel circa early  
1900s