

THE CRIER



OF THE WATERFORD HISTORICAL SOCIETY, INC., BOX 117 WATERFORD, CONNECTICUT 06385
JUNE 2021

Member meetings are now "in person" again! With the easing of COVID-19 restrictions this spring and with many of our members fully vaccinated, member meetings were recently held in person in the Stacy Barn! We hope to hold monthly member meetings during the cold months in different areas of Waterford, such as Cohanzie, Goshen, Jordan, Oswegatchie and Quaker Hill. Our next member meeting will be held in Stacy Barn on Sept. 9, social time at 5:30 p.m., 6 p.m. meeting. You'll receive an email reminder from the Society later this summer.

Remember to renew your Membership for 2021-2022

The Waterford Historical Society, Inc. has enjoyed a 20% increase in membership since June 2020 likely due to increased publicity, as well as the success of our 2020 programs like *ART IN WATERFORD* in August and the November wreath-making workshop, despite the pandemic.

To sustain programming and increase opportunities for greater support, the Society's membership categories have been changed, effective July 1, 2021, when our new membership year begins. You may (1) fill out the 2021 membership form and mail in your check or (2) go to the website Membership page, <https://www.waterfordhistoricalsociety.org/membership-.html> to pay with PayPal or credit card.

New slate of officers. With the new fiscal year comes a new slate of officers elected at our Annual Meeting on June 11, 2021. A vacancy remains for Recording Secretary and we hope a member will offer to serve.

The Society heartily thanks Mary Ann Richard for her several years of service as Assistant Treasurer and then Treasurer. Also we thank Michelle Pedro, a genealogist who served as Vice President for many years and who created the Society's website and Facebook presence. President Kristen Widham presented Mary Ann and Michelle with beautiful blue and white hydrangeas in appreciation of their dedication.

Publicity chair Holly Camerota will become our 1st Vice President. Enthusiastic new member Barbara Claire has taken on the 2nd Vice President seat. Deb Walters will continue being our Corresponding Secretary, but is stepping back from roles as Recording Secretary and Membership Chair and hopes that someone from our growing membership will assume those important roles. So, the officers for 2021-2022 follow:

President - Kristen Widham
1st Vice President, Publicity chair - Holly Camerota
2nd Vice President - Barbara Claire
Treasurer - Jeffrey Shallow
Recording Secretary - vacant
Corresponding Secretary - Deb Walters

Every member is urged to become active on one of our standing committees, which are ByLaws, Education, Membership, Program, Property, and Ways and Means. Committee Chairs need not be officers and chairmanship can change during the fiscal year.



Beebe-Phillips House roof restoration

A powerful March windstorm tore off pieces of the Beebe-Phillips House roof. The Society's grounds supervisor Paul Glover noticed the damage and called a band of volunteers who quickly patched the roof. Insurance and a generous member donation covered most of the costs to restore the roof with cedar shingles. Maintaining its historic structures is a major aim of the Society and donations toward that end are greatly appreciated.

Blacksmith shop forges ahead

Come to *ART IN WATERFORD* on Aug. 14 and 15 (10 a.m. - 4 p.m.) to view many unique hand-forged items for sale, such as bacon flippers, bottle openers, fireplace poker and more, produced by the skilled blacksmiths who come regularly year-round to the Ralph Madara Blacksmith Shop on Saturday mornings. Ask to be on blacksmith Charlie Sedell's email list: sideros@earthlink.net to learn more.

Waterford Seniors Day Parade coincided with our "Second Saturday" on June 12

Jordan Green bustled with families, food trucks and live music before and after the Town-sponsored parade that celebrated Waterford High School 2021 graduates and 10 centenarian citizens. The Society's 1958 International Harvester tractor, restored during the past 2 years into running condition, was a popular attraction. The Society's newly-trained guides provided tours of its historic buildings. Smithy supervisor Charlie Sedell said he had never seen such a crowd observing the operating forge! Special thanks to Waterford's First Selectman Rob Brule who organized a 50/50 "drawing", raising \$140 to benefit the Society.



August 14 & 15: Come to Art In Waterford: *Past+Present+Future 2021*

This year's Past artists featured are renowned Waterford woodcrafters Harold Hayes and Willard Odell Shepard. Hayes, a talented musician and singer who performed widely, is known for his cabinetry and fine furniture making. Shepard as a teenager was inspired by ship models and carvings at the National Maritime Museum in London, which started a life-long passion for sailing ships, naval history, ship modeling and carving. Shepard's works will be on display in the Jordan Park House and Hayes' works will be in the Beebe-Phillips House.

Can you help with *ART IN WATERFORD*?

* Act as "Watching Eyes." Take a two-hour shift either day to watch as visitors enter and exit our historic buildings, to protect the contents and artwork on display. You simply greet people and accept donations. Email waterfordcghistoricalociety@gmail.com to offer help, please. And at the end of your shift, you will be surprised with a lovely "thank you" keepsake!

* Be a sponsor to cover printing costs of the commemorative *ART IN WATERFORD* publication that contains illustrations and biographies of the twelve featured artists: two from the past and ten accepted for the juried contemporary art exhibit. The booklet also will have tidbits of Waterford history and more. For a minimum \$100 donation by July 6, when the booklet goes to the printer, your name can be listed on the sponsorship page. Email waterfordcghistoricalociety@gmail.com

* Buy a painting! Seventeen (17) paintings depicting our shoreline community have been accepted into this juried art exhibit and will be on display in the Stacy Barn. Sixteen (16) of the paintings will be for sale. On August 1, members of the Waterford Historical Society will be sent an email to view a slide show of the paintings for previewing and advance sales. But artwork is best appreciated in person, so please do come see them displayed during the event.

* Enter 1, 2 or 3 "drawings"! For *ART IN WATERFORD*, Pat Kelbaugh donated a painting titled "Sailing" (value: \$500) and Len Swec donated "Sunset Cruise" (value \$1,500). Also a unique hand-forged fireplace poker was created by Lily Glynos, a member and a blacksmith in training at our forge. You can buy tickets for these 3 drawings at the main tent during the event.

* Donate to the Waterford Historical Society, Inc. You can send your checks for any amount to Waterford Historical Society, P.O. Box 117, Waterford, CT 06385-0117. Or you can visit the website and in the left-hand menu the last button says "DONATE" You can enter any amount and pay using PayPal.

We look forward to seeing you at *ART IN WATERFORD* on August 14 & 15 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., as well as at our Second Saturday gatherings on July 11 and September 9 from 10 a.m. until 1 p.m.. Please proudly introduce yourself as a fellow member!

Holly A. Camerota, Editor, Publicity Chair
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