

THE CRIER



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

Winter 2023

Waterford Historical Society awarded two much-needed grants

Some present and former board members formed a great team that has spent considerable time and energy exploring grant opportunities and writing grant applications. We've had some exciting successes from the fruits of their labors, and more efforts are underway. Grant funds are a huge help to the Society, a not-for-profit organization, to care for its historic buildings so we can welcome visitors to them.



A \$5,600 CT Cultural Fund Operating Support Grant from CT Humanities will allow us to offer programs this year on Jordan Green and in our historic buildings without charging admission. This fund aims to assist organizations as they recover from the pandemic and maintain and grow their ability to serve their community and the

public. Totaling more than \$8.5 million, these grants are part of a two-year, \$30.7 million investment in arts, humanities, and cultural nonprofits by the Connecticut General Assembly and approved by Gov. Ned Lamont. The grant is provided by CT Humanities with funding from the state Department of Economic and Community Development and the Connecticut Office of the Arts.

A \$650 Collections Assessment grant award will provide a half-day site visit from a museum curator or archivist to examine our collections on exhibit or in storage, review policies and procedures related to collection care and management, and provide a written report. Since the Society was founded in 1967, donations have been accepted but not always properly cataloged or assessed. The program is managed by Conservation ConneCTion and supported through a partnership grant of the Connecticut Heritage Foundation at the Connecticut State Library and CT Humanities (CTH), with funding provided by the Connecticut State Department of Economic and Community Development.

Waterford Historical Society establishes endowment fund

Recently we initiated a Waterford Historical Society endowment fund through the Community Foundation of Eastern Connecticut. Donations to this fund will eventually enable our Society to meet its considerable annual expenses for liability and property insurance, utilities and security systems. Donations may be made through the Society's website or by sending a check to P.O. Box 117, Waterford, CT 06385. Thank you!



Lightning protection restoration on Beebe-Phillips House

Waterford resident Jim Barnard of Northeast Lightning Protection LLC in Bloomfield, one of two Connecticut experts in the field of lightning protection installations, offered his time and expertise at no charge and installed an authentic, historically correct lightning rod system on Beebe-Phillips House on Nov. 28. As a thank you, we gave Jim a membership to the Waterford Historical Society. See a slide show of the project on the website.

Membership Meetings at Waterford Public Library

Our winter and early spring monthly meetings are being held at the Waterford Public Library downstairs in its comfortable, warm and well-lighted meeting rooms. The central location, with its ease of access and lots of well-lighted parking during the darker months of the year, makes it easy for members old and new to attend these meetings. A big plus: one can always pick up a good book while there! Why not take advantage of this great setting, grab a good read, and come downstairs to join us? We'd love to have you and your ideas. Meetings usually start at 5:30 and end by 7 p.m. (Hint: Have an early dinner at 4:30 p.m. or opt for continental dining at 7:30 p.m.!)

February 16 - 5:30 p.m.

March 2 - 5 p.m. before the Book Talk at 6:30 p.m.

April 13 - 5:30 p.m.

May 11 - 5:30 p.m.

Programs for Spring 2023

March 22, 6:30 p.m. - Book Talk: "Waterford Little League - the Early Years" with Don Richmond, at the Waterford Public Library.

May 1-4 - The 3rd and 5th grade students of Waterford will experience field trips to Jordan Green to learn more about the history of Waterford, their hometown.

May 13, 1 p.m. - "Freedom First Wildlife Rehab: "Owls Among Us" in Stacy Barn.

Memorial Day Weekend, May 26, 27, 28, 29, from 12 - 5 p.m.

ART IN WATERFORD: Past+Present+Future 2023 at the Eugene O'Neill Memorial Theater Center
Marionettes and puppets created by two well-known Waterford artists from years past, Margo and Rufus Rose, will be featured in the White House. Artists of the present will be in the Rufus and Margo Rose Theater Barn for the fifth annual juried exhibit for contemporary artists. Also exhibited in the Rose Barn will be the artists of the future: secondary school students from Waterford Public Schools, The Williams School and Saint Bernard School. See the "Call for Artists" for the juried show, an entry form and prospectus.

Second Saturdays this summer and fall - We're developing exciting new programs for the Society's Second Saturdays: June 10, July 8, August 12 and September 9, once again collaborating with the troupe of living historians, the Dirty Blue Shirts. They have some wonderful ideas to bring history to life on Jordan Green and in the Beebe-Phillips House, Jordan Schoolhouse, Stacy Barn/Miner Education Center and Madara Blacksmith Shop. Look for all Society events on the Calendar of Events page of the website.

"Help Wanted" - With so many good things going on in the Waterford Historical Society, we could sure use more people power! Heads and hands are needed to help support programs and staff events. Even a couple of hours of your time can make a huge difference – and we think you'll enjoy working with our enthusiastic and friendly group. Drop by a members meeting or email waterfordcshistoricalociety@gmail.com and let us know you'd like to help and we'll find something for you to do that suits your time and talents!

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