

THE CRIER

Official Newsletter of the Waterford Historical Society, Inc., Waterford, CT Mission Statement:

Volume 51 Number 2 To Collect, Protect, Preserve and Serve as Caretakers of our Past, Present and Future Summer/ 2018 Fall



Researching Waterford Area Genealogy

Michele Pedro and Keith Wilson shared many of the research tricks and resources that they have learned over the years. Both have been doing genealogy in this area and many other areas for years.

Our histories are all connected through family, events, or our country's history, this helps us understand the importance of our efforts to preserve these items. Keith compiled a very detailed and educational PowerPoint presentation. We hope that it helps other people break through some of their brick walls that always seem to appear in this type of research.

Michele spoke of these brick walls and why some of them can occur. Knowing when the state you are researching started keeping records, when a town became a town, what was it's parent town and if there was a event that may have destroyed records.

Some of the resources discussed were: Probate records, wills, obituaries, family Bibles, church records, cemetery stones or records, military records, diaries and census reports.

Historical Societies play a big part in preserving records, artifacts and fragments of family histories, as well as local history. Genealogy helps us get closer to the history and walk in our ancestors shoes for a while. I hope everyone that came enjoyed the presentation.

Waterford Historical Society, Inc. P.O. Box 117 Waterford, CT 06385 Email: waterfordcthistoricalsociety@gmail.com Website: www.waterfordcthistoricalsociety.org Phone: 860-389-7529

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Waterford's Forgotten Burial Sites

The Waterford Historic Properties Commission presented a very insightful PowerPoint on many of the Burial sites in Waterford. The Waterford Historical Society helped with the snacks provided. Eileen Olynciw who also belongs to the Waterford Historical Society presented. Some of these cemeteries have caretakers and some don't. There were multiple known cemeteries that could no longer be found, or had been taken over by the elements. Eileen Olynciw, Vivian Brooks and Debra Walters have gone in search of these cemeteries. They were successful in finding and identifying some of them. John O'Neil the chairperson also spoke of the Waterford Historical Properties Commissions goals.

Patrick Crotty and Bob Nye have cleaned and helped restore some of our old cemeteries. At this time they are waiting for permission to re-erect some of the stones they dug up and cleaned. Bob Nye was involved in obtaining a grant to remove large trees from the Wheeler Cemetery.

The Town of Waterford has assisted in some of the cleaning and taking brush away. Some of our cemeteries have Associations that care for them. There are also cemeteries that are located on private property which thankfully some of the owners still care for them.

This country has had many of its Historical cemeteries destroyed by progress, vandalism, or just plain neglect. The State of Connecticut has taken action by putting Statues in place to protect them. CT Statue 19a-315a is meant to protect the stones and actual sites. CT Statue 19a-308 allows towns to maintain abandon cemeteries. General CT Statue Chapter 506 sec 27-123 helps preserve the graves of soldier and sailors.

Unfortunately, these Statues are not always followed in many towns. Many of the people in these cemeteries are founding families, and they also fought to form this country, as well as to protect the rights that others before them fought for. The people in these cemeteries deserve respect and dignity in their finial resting place. They are our history.

Waterford, has been fortunate that even in 1931 Margaret Stacey, of Waterford Historical Society had already started making people aware of this problem by writing about it. If we don't continue to protect and preserve these cemeteries they will disappear, as will our history. It is all of our responsibility to protect these cemeteries and their history.



Reminder of Changes 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:

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Go Round

Community Collaboration

Waterford Land Trust Annual Meeting Monday October 22, 2018 6:00PM The Waterford Land Trust, Inc will hold its Annual meeting in our Stacy Barn on the evening of October 22nd. Our historical society is pleased to offer area organizations the use of our buildings, especially Stacy Barn, where two handicapped accessible bathrooms are located. Contact on of our officers for details.

Email: waterfordcthistoricalsociety@gmail.com Phone: 860-389-7529







<u>Waterford Historical Society, Inc.</u> <u>2018-19 Calendar</u> <u>PROGRAMS</u>

| | Genealogy Workshop (collaborating with the town library) | | | |
|---------------------|---|--|--|--|
| Details forthcoming | Waterford | | | |
| | Experts will help you look into your genealogy. | | | |
| November 15 | "Mark Twain's Maid" (collaborating with the town library) | | | |
| 6:00PM | Waterford Public Library | | | |
| | Actress Virginal Wolf will present her one-woman show. | | | |
| December 11 | | | | |
| 4:00-6:00PM | "Caroling and Cookies" in our historical buildings on Jordan Green | | | |
| 6:00PM | "Tree Lighting" at Town Hall | | | |
| January | to be announced | | | |
| February | to be announced | | | |
| March | to be announced | | | |
| April 27 | "Art in Waterford": exhibit open to the public and featuring motifs and scenes of Waterford | | | |
| 9:00AM-3:00PM | Historical buildings on Jordan Green | | | |
| May 9 | Annual Meeting and Pot Luck Supper | | | |
| 5:00PM | Stacy Barn | | | |
| June 8 | Waterford's History (Connecticut "Open House Day") | | | |
| Details Forthcoming | Jordan Green | | | |

BOARD MEETINGS

{5:30PM Social Time precedes each 6:00PM Board Meeting}

| August 9 | Stacy Barn |
|--------------|----------------------------|
| September 13 | Stacy Barn |
| October 11 | Community Center |
| November 8 | Community Center |
| January 10 | Community Center |
| February 7 | Community Center |
| March 14 | Community Center |
| April 11 | Community Center |
| May 9 | Stacy Barn: Annual Meeting |
| June 13 | Stacy Barn |



Waterford Historical Society, Inc.

Membership Form

Please Check One:

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

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to:

| Name(s): | | | | | |
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| Phone: | | | | | |
| Address: | (Street) | | | | |
| | (City, State, | Zip-code) | | | |
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| D-HI | STORIC | Please mail yo | ur above completed fo | rm and check mac | le payable |
| Sel 25 3 | OFF & | | Waterford Historic | al Society, Inc. | |

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

Thank you for becoming a member of the <u>Waterford Historical Society, Inc.</u>!

As a paid member of the Waterford Historical Society, you will receive email copies of the Society's Newsletter, <u>The Crier</u>, 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