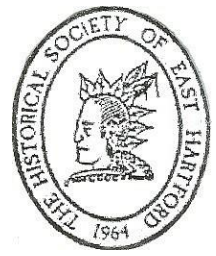


Historical Society of East Hartford

Newsletter, November 2016



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

An important election occurs on November 8th so I urge all members to get out and vote not only for their candidates of choice but to also vote on the important referendum questions. This November's newsletter brings you my first message as incoming President of your Historical Society. This will be my third time as President, having served as Society President in 2008 & 2009 and again in 2012 & 2013. I wish to thank the Society nominating committee for placing their trust in me as Historical Society President again for 2016. The Society is also grateful to Dan Russell who agreed to a new 4-year term as a Director of the Board. For all of the members who attended the September annual dinner meeting at the First Congregational Church, another fantastic buffet meal was provided by Becker's Catering. Our guest speakers included three members of Ye Olde Lebanon Towne Militia. Besides attending in colonial costume, the Militia also brought a display of interesting items used in their re-enactments.

During the month October, we participated in two paid events that raised some much needed revenue for the Historical Society. On October 20th we entertained a bus load of tourists from Ontario, Canada by giving them a guided tour of our three museum buildings at Martin Park. After leaving the Huguenot House, the group was then hosted by members of Friends of Center Cemetery for a grave yard walking tour. The second fundraising event was held at Veterans Memorial Clubhouse on October 27th and featured world traveler and author Chris Kullstroem who gave an interesting presentation on Monster Cultures celebrated in some countries. The Historical Society fundraising event was also co-sponsored by the Connecticut Gravestone Network.

The revenue raised from these events will not be enough for us to start roof repairs at the Huguenot House but it's a start. We are actively pursuing two possible grants to fund the cost of repairs. The first would be from the SBM Charitable Foundation that supports qualified non-profit organizations located East of the River in the three northern most counties. The maximum grant is limited to \$5,000 but no matching grant amount payable by us is required. I have also been in touch with the Connecticut Trust for Historic Preservation. Under the 1772 Foundation Connecticut Matching Grants in Historic Preservation, a maintenance and repair grant of up to \$15,000 could be made available. However, this would require a one for one match, which would be difficult for any amount for over \$5,000. Although a new roof is preferred, a partial roof replacement depending on what the Society can afford is another option. However, roof work could not be started before the spring of 2017 and we may need partial reinforcement of the old roof now to get us through the winter season or risk inside water damage.

Since the September Newsletter was mailed, antiquarian-historian Jeff Cummings decided to submit his resignation in this role and we thank him for his many years of service cataloging our collections. The position for now will remain open until a replacement can be determined. Jeff continues to be a valued member of the Historical Society.

Craig Johnson, President

PROGRAM TO FEATURE WALTER SCADDEN, "MURDER IN MANCHESTER"

Our November 16 program will include a PowerPoint presentation of "Murder in Manchester", a local history book written by Mr. Walter Scadden. Mr. Scadden has a diverse background and interest in stonecutting,

metalworking and blacksmithing as well as being a published author. He also has a strong interest in Maritime and tall ship ironwork, working on many sea-going projects. He was the primary blacksmith on the re-creation of the schooner, the Amistad, at Mystic Seaport.

Walt's book centers around the tale of a hijacking at the Cheney Mills, where a band of New Jersey hoodlums were attempting to steal a shipment of exotic silk from loaded rail cars. The date was January 29, 1919. The victim: one William Madden, a security supervisor for the Cheney Mills, a former police captain, star athlete, and war veteran. He was killed in a hail of bullets – an unprecedented happening in the Town of Manchester.



Mr Scadden at Mystic Seaport

Join us on Wednesday, November 16th at 7:00 pm in Room 1, downstairs at the Raymond Library on Main Street. The program will follow a short business meeting. Guests are welcome and refreshments will be served.

Bette Daraskevich, Vice President/Program

CHRIS KULLSTROEM SPOKE ON THE WORLD'S DEMONS AND DEVILS AT THE HUGUENOT HOUSE FUNDRAISER

The celebration of monsters in other cultures was the theme for an event that was held on Thursday Oct. 27th at the Veteran's Memorial Clubhouse, in concert with Connecticut Gravestone Network and The Historical Society of East Hartford.



Chris Kullstroem speaking at the Raymond Library Oct 27 on demons and shadowy beings from around the world. Photo by CGN member Joe Gruneske.

not the best traveling for those living further away. However we had a wonderful atmosphere complete with decorations, refreshments and items donated for sale from a team of helpers whose support has initiated new enthusiasm to go forward with new ideas and opportunities for the upcoming new year.

Thank You All and do have a wonderful Holiday Season.

The idea was to combine an opportunity for CGN member and author Chris Kullstroem, (who was visiting in Connecticut) to help to raise some funds for the new roof that is needed on the Huguenot House. Chris spent the year of 2015 touring in Europe, Asia and Mexico to see firsthand how demons, devils and unusual beings emerge from the shadows to tell their stories and how they impact the peoples of other countries. I never realized before this program just how many likenesses there were between the holidays of Halloween and Christmas.

Chris's presentation was enjoyed by a gathering of about 25 members and friends. Not the fund raiser goals that I had hoped for but then again as life would have it, that badly needed rain (and snow) came on that same evening which made for a spookier setting but

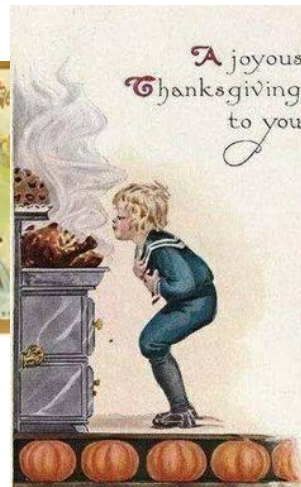
Ruthie Brown



***“HAPPY THANKSGIVING”
THANKSGIVING POSTCARDS CIRCA 1916***



***“The First Thanksgiving at Plymouth”
By Jennie A. Brownscombe (1858-1936)
Printed 1914***



“HAPPY THANKSGIVING” (CONT) THANKSGIVING POSTCARDS CIRCA 1916

A google search for “Free Thanksgiving Postcards 1916” yielded 2 sites with seemingly endless postcards: *Images for free thanksgiving postcards 1916* and *More images for free thanksgiving postcards 1916*. The postcards above have been taken from these sites. The urls for individual postcards can become quite lengthy and because of space limitations are not listed here. If interested contact eknose@aol.com for a list of these images’ urls.

RECENT DONATIONS MADE TO THE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

We are grateful to two former residents of East Hartford who contacted us about picture scenes of our town from years past. These gentlemen wanted to find a home for these items. Mr. Clarence Cannon of Walnut Street in East Hartford who is in the process of moving out-of-state for his retirement, gave us a large sized 40 by 60 inch picture poster of Burnside Avenue facing west toward Main Street that was taken about 1940. A reduced size picture of the scene is included with this article (right).



The other picture is a framed aerial photograph taken of the Forbes Street and Silver Lane intersection from the early 1930s when there were very few houses and no strip malls or stores. This photo was donated by Mr. Pedro Rivera who grew up in East Hartford and the donation was found in the attic of his mother’s house on Forbes Street. We appreciate the thoughtfulness of these gentlemen in making these donations to the Historical Society and dropping them off to us.

Craig Johnson, President

Historical Society of East Hartford

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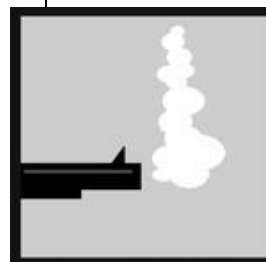
Web site: <http://www.hseh.org>

Membership: 860-568-7261

indiv \$15, 1 address \$20, student \$10,
patron \$50

Deadline Jan Newsletter – Dec 31, 2016

Clip art: <http://www.clipartlogo.com/free/smoking-gun.html>



shutterstock · 114403441

Nov Program

Date: Wed, Nov 16, 2016

Time: 7:00pm

Program: Manchester Murder

Speaker: Walter Scadden

Where: Raymond Library Rm 1

Fee: No cost

Info: 860-568-2884