

Historical Society of East Hartford

Newsletter, September 2017



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

I hope that all Historical Society members enjoyed the beautiful summer weather. There was more rain than usual but that ended the severe draught. At the same time, it made the need for a new roof at the Huguenot House all the more important. Rain seeped into the attic where the roof was not patched and we tried our best to catch and empty the water from plastic tubs. The good news is we are now in the process of submitting a grant application to the SBM Charitable Foundation. If successful, we will then apply for a grant with the Connecticut Trust for Historic Preservation. This will require a matching amount paid by the Historical Society, if approved.

On the Connecticut Trails day weekend in June, the educational walk we sponsored met with good reviews, however because of the threat of rain, it was not very well attended. Saturday, June 10th where we once again participated in Connecticut Open House Day, this event was successful in attendance and in donations received. We appreciate all of the help from the East Hartford Garden Club who donated proceeds from plant sales and from generous donations from some Historical Society members. Our museum buildings at Martin Park were open for eight consecutive Sunday afternoons during July and August, however, we did not have that many visitors looking for free guided tours.

To help out with fundraising for the roof replacement, we've also reserved several groups and tour bus visits in September and October. We must have help from Historical Society volunteers to make this successful. Although some of these dates and times are subject to change, please note on your calendars as follows: Sunday, September 17th from 10:30 to 12:30pm; Monday, October 9th from 1:00 to 3:00pm; Thursday, October 19th from 1:15 to 3:15pm; and Sunday, October 22nd from 10:00 to 12:00pm. We are also having a fundraising event on September 28th at Hartford Fine Art & Framing, 80 Pitkin Street in East Hartford between 6 and 8pm. This will be a photography and memorabilia exhibition called "Greater Hartford and the Great War: World War I" A flyer for this event is enclosed in the newsletter.

The September 20, 2017 Historical Society annual dinner meeting will again be held in the First Congregational Church, 837 Main Street at Church Corners. Another fabulous buffet style dinner catered by Matt Becker of Becker's Catering awaits those who attend. The full menu appears in the newsletter. Following our annual dinner, there will be a short business meeting that includes the election of officers for the upcoming year and then we will have our September program.

A renewal notice for Historical Society membership in the September 1, 2017 – August 31, 2018 year and a required reservation form for the annual dinner is included in the newsletter. You can save yourself a "forever" stamp and return both payment forms back in one envelope. For anyone wanting to attend the program without having dinner, there is no cost. Free parking is available in the back of the Church. I hope to see you all on Wednesday, September 20th.

Craig Johnson, President



Becker's Catering

HSEH Annual Dinner Meeting

September 20th 2017

First Congregational Church East Hartford

White and Dark Meat Roasted Turkey

Baked Ham

Roasted Baby New Potatoes

Glazed Carrots

**New England Apple Sausage Cranberry
Stuffing**

Tossed Salad with Italian Vinaigrette

Rolls with Butter

Bottled Water, Tea, Coffee

Pumpkin Pie with Fresh Whipped Cream

ANNUAL DINNER

The **September 20, 2017** Historical Society Annual Dinner and Program is being held at the First Congregational Church, 837 Main Street in East Hartford.

The popular “all you can eat” buffet style dinner, the same as last year, will be catered again by Matt Becker of Becker’s Catering. The menu is on the left. Confirmation and payment for the dinner must be received by Friday, **September 15, 2017** using the required reservation form enclosed in this newsletter. The cost will be \$20, the same for both members and guests of members. Doors to the lower level of the church will open at 6:00 p.m. and dinner will start promptly at 6:30 p.m. Anyone who would like to attend only the program, can arrive after 7:30 p.m. There is plenty of free parking available behind the church. Call Craig Johnson at 860-568-2884 for more information or if you have any questions.

Craig Johnson, President

“THE SINKING OF THE RMS LUSITANIA” ANNUAL DINNER PROGRAM

Jason Scappaticci will be our guest speaker for the Historical Society’s Annual Membership Dinner. Jason will join us for the traditional Turkey and Ham supper at the First Congregational Church on the evening of Thursday, September 20, 2017 to share another documentary/program with us.

Mr. Scappaticci will be remembered from his lecture last year about the 1964-1965 New York World’s Fair. Jason is currently the Director of Transitional Programs at MCC and he serves on the Manchester Board of Education. We welcome him back for another informative evening.

His PowerPoint Presentation this month will center upon a World War I event: “The Sinking of the RMS Lusitania”. This British-made cruise ship of the Cunard Line was torpedoed by a German U-Boat off the coast of Ireland on May 7, 1915 - more than 100 years ago. This incident outraged the American public. 128 United States citizens, including men, women and children who were sailing from New York City to England, lost their lives. This action on the part of the



Imperial German Navy hastened President Woodrow Wilson's decision to enter the conflict, known afterward as, "The Great War".

Bette Daraskevich, Vice-President, Program

SEPTEMBER 20, 2017 ANNUAL DINNER & PROGRAM

Reservation Must Be Received by September 15, 2017.

Tickets are \$20.00

NAME: _____ \$ _____

NAME: _____ \$ _____

TOTAL:
\$ _____

Make a check for the dinner reservation out to: **The Historical Society of East Hartford, Inc.**
Mail check to: **Historical Society of East Hartford, Inc., Po Box 380166, East Hartford, CT, 06138-0166**

MEMBERSHIP DUES: SEPTEMBER 1, 2017 – AUGUST 31, 2018

Memberships for the coming year are due now and can be paid by mailing them to the HSEH with this form or by paying them at the Annual Dinner.

Once again it is time to renew our memberships. The Historical Society depends on your membership to keep doing our community projects, sharing our rich history, and keeping our historical buildings open. If it's easier, mail this renewal in with your confirmation for the annual dinner. See you there.

NAME: _____ PHONE: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY, STATE, ZIP _____

EMAIL _____ EMAIL NEWSLETTER? Y ___ N ___

AMOUNT ENCLOSED: \$ _____ \$15.00 / Individual, \$20.00 / One address,
\$10.00 / Student, \$50.00 / Patron
\$250.00 / Lifetime

Make a check for membership out to: **The Historical Society of East Hartford, Inc. (HSEH)**
Mail check to: **Historical Society of East Hartford, Inc., Po Box 380166, East Hartford, CT, 06138-0166**

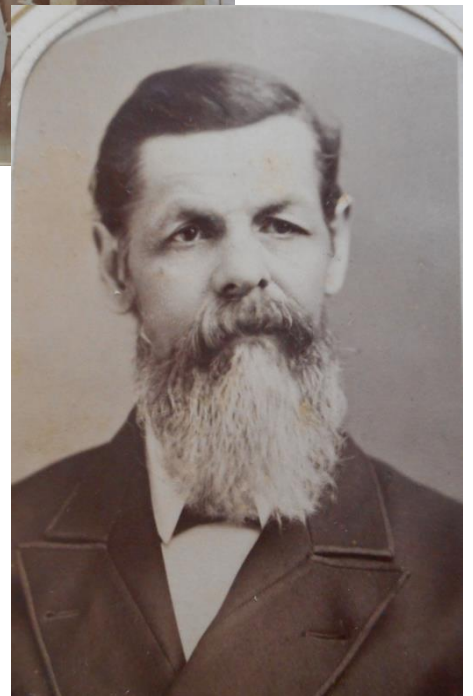
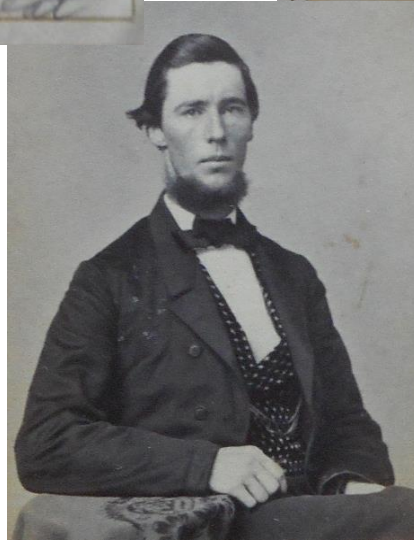
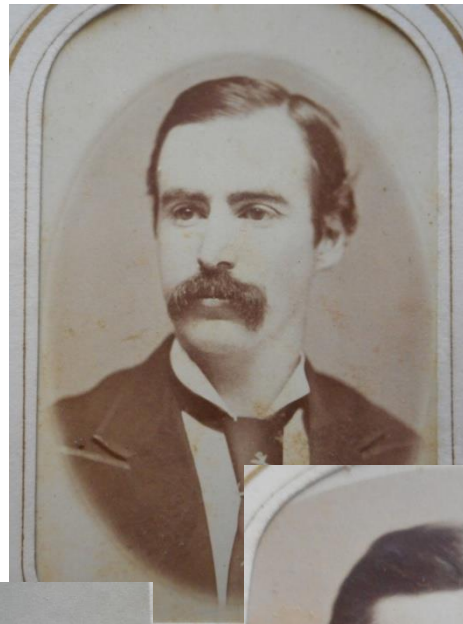
AN UPDATE FROM THE HSEH COLLECTIONS COMMITTEE

A group of us have been working an average of 20-30- hours a week since winter to bring the collection up to date by working on the inventory, identification and organizing all our collection. The rooms in the Brewer House have been cleaned up and pieces rearranged so that they are now organized in like groupings. We still have a long way to go but we are making progress!

As the computer inventory grows, so does our knowledge of East Hartford's history. From dishes and dolls, post cards, photos, letters, deeds boxes and books, along with quilts and lovely old clothes, we have found many treasures.

Finding old photos with the actual names written on the backs is a rare find. Unfortunately, most of the oldest of our photo collection remains unnamed. Below are a few examples of some old 19th century photos in our collection. If anyone is familiar with the families of Brewer, Hills, Treat or Goodwin, just to name a few, by all means please consider visiting with us and taking a look.

The photos below are all in one small album and unnamed except Louise Treat; a few others that are named but not shown here are Elizabeth P. Affleck Hardin, Arthur Holland and Ida Hills Sloan.





Hartford Fine Art & Framing

Presents

“Greater Hartford and the Great War: World War I”

A commemorative, educational and entertaining
photography and memorabilia exhibition

Our hometown heroes and heroines served and sacrificed here and abroad while their families, neighbors and supporting businesses contributed greatly on the home front. Their selfless dedication and devotion to our country is chronicled in over 50 moving black and white images.

East Hartford native and local historian Thomas P. Hogan shares his remarkable depth of knowledge, intensive research and personal insights which bring to life the stories and compelling documents about which few are familiar.

Even life-long residents will experience some “aha” moments, so check out the extensive collection of named service men and women. You may discover a long lost relative!

Please join us in celebration of this vintage display at
a fund raising event to benefit

The Historical Society of East Hartford, Inc.

(free admission with donations greatly appreciated)

On Thursday, September 28th 2017

Between 6PM-8 PM

80 Pitkin Street, East Hartford, CT 06108

Exhibition runs from September 21st through November 4th, 2017

NOMINATING COMMITTEE

The Historical Society of East Hartford Nominating Committee proposes the following slate of Officers and Directors for its 2017 – 2018 Executive Board:

President: Craig Johnson
Vice President: Bette Daraskevich
Recording/Corresponding Secretary: Eileen Driscoll
Treasurer: Joyce Yoo

Directors:

4 Year: Ruth Shapleigh-Brown
3 Year: Dan Russell
2 Year: To Be Determined
1 Year: Betty Russell

Elections will be held at the Annual Meeting on September 20th. According to Robert's Rules of Order, nominations from the floor will be accepted. We are extremely grateful to Ruthie who has agreed to serve another 4-year term as a Director. For now, the second year Director slot is vacant but we hope to have a nomination in place by the Meeting.

The chairpersons of our standing committees are unchanged. These are as follows:

Programs Committee Chair: Bette Daraskevich
Committee for Recording and Organization of Collections: Jeff Cummings
Nominations Committee Chair: Betty Russell
Membership Chair: Judith Hillmann
Publicity Chair (Newsletter & Website): Betty Knose
Hospitality Chair: Mary Johnson

We wish again to thank all of the slate for their continued loyalty in serving the Historical Society.

Historical Society of East Hartford

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Phone: 860-528-0716

Email: hseh@hseh.org, webmaster@hseh.org

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

Membership: 860-290-1869, hseh@hseh.org
indiv \$15, 1 address \$20, student \$10,
patron \$50, lifetime \$250

Deadline Nov Newsletter – Oct 27, 2017

Clip art: <http://imageenvision.com/all-graphics/rms-lusitania>



Sept Dinner/Program

Date: Wed, Sept 20, 2017

Doors Open: 6:00pm

Dinner: 6:30pm

Meal: Becker's Catering

Program: "The Sinking of the RMS Lusitania"

Where: 1st Cong Church,

Address: 837 Main St

Fee: Dinner & Program \$20

Fee: Program only, 7:30pm, no fee

Info: Craig, 860-568-2884