

Historical Society of East Hartford

Newsletter, November 2018



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

At first glance you might think the November title on this newsletter is a misprint. Indeed we are still in October and young visitors have yet to arrive at your door expecting Halloween candy. At the September annual dinner, we brought up the scheduling problem that our next meeting happened to fall on Thanksgiving eve. In past years when this happened we moved the date to an earlier Wednesday in November. This time most attendees wanted it on the last Wednesday of October, so we will be at the East Hartford Public Library on October 24th. We have a good program starting at 6:30 pm that will take place prior to our regular business meeting.

The Huguenot House roof replacement project will move forward with the over \$15,000 we have raised through grants and donations. Steven Bielitz of the Glastonbury Restoration Co as the contractor says his crew can complete the project this month. But the price of cedar roof shingles has further increased to double of what the cost would have been if we had the funds to do this job last year. To wait for Canadian imported roof shingles to ever come down in price is not feasible. The single most important consideration is through the roofing contractor, there is a generous benefactor from Greenwich, Connecticut who has promised to donate around \$6,000 of cedar shingles to the Historical Society. The net project cost of over \$18,000 will still exceed what we have budgeted for. We value opinions from our membership so please attend the October 24th business meeting to express any concerns.

The tour bus visits mentioned in the September newsletter have been canceled due to low sign-up so there will be nothing but new roof construction at the Huguenot House during October. We want to thank those who renewed their Historical Society membership in the September 1, 2018 – August 31, 2019 year and for those who have not, we need your support more than ever.

Craig Johnson



OCT 20 REDEDICATION OF E HARTFORD'S DOUGHBOY¹

The re-dedication of the restored World War I Dough boy "Ready" will take place on October 20, 2018 at 1:30 P.M. in front of Raymond Library in East Hartford. The program will consist of the following: raising of the 48 star flag, the reciting of the original 1892 Pledge of Allegiance, a brief summary of the history of "Ready", remarks by the East Hartford VFW Post 2083, an invocation, reading of the poem "in Flanders Fields", reading of the WWI East Hartford soldiers who died during the war, laying of a memorial wreath, playing of Taps, and closing remarks by VFW Post 2083. All are welcome to participate and see the recently restored WWI Memorial "Ready". "Ready" is now ready to face the next 100 years.

Steve Strange

SEE NEXT PAGE FOR OCT 24 ('NOV') HSEH PROGRAM

¹ Doughboy image is from <https://sirisi-artinventories.si.edu/ipac20/ipac.jsp?&profile=ariall&source=~!siartinventories&uri=full=3100001~!311779~!0#focus>

Mark The Date . October 24th At 6:30 PM ...

at the East Hartford Public Library, 840 Main Street in East Hartford, CT.

When the Historical Society of East Hartford Presents

***THEY CALLED HER* RECKLESS**



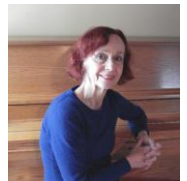
A TRUE STORY OF WAR, and ONE EXTRAORDINARY HORSE

When the U.S. Marine Fifth Regiment's Recoilless Rifle Platoon acquired a small Korean pony to haul ammunition up the steep hills to the front lines, they got a real-life warhorse, the courageous and indomitable Reckless, who stood with her buddies for two years during the Korean War, saving lives, raising spirits, and winning the love and respect of all who knew her. She came on base in October, 1952, disrupting a softball game hence she was named "reckless". Companion of the Marines as Private

First Class she became an integral member of the platoon, even being awarded two Purple Hearts for wounds she sustained.

Join us on Wednesday, to hear this story as told by Janet Barrett, author of the first full biography of this amazing warhorse.

From the moment she heard about Reckless, Janet Barrett knew she would put this story in print to share with others...Her experiences as a horsewoman gave her a particular appreciation of the tight bond that developed between Reckless and her fellow Marines. Barrett has loved and been fascinated by horses all her life, and for 25 years almost obsessively rode, owned, and cared for them. For a time, her company, Horses For Courses, booked horses for print and TV ads.



Join us to listen and share the memories of more than 60 Marines who knew her in Korea and thereafter, "They Called Her Reckless" tells of an incredible human-horse connection, and the power it unleashed.

***Copies of the book, signed by the author, will be for sale at this event.
Perhaps a nice Christmas present idea.***

***Veterans and their families are invited
to join us at 6pm for coffee and snacks.***