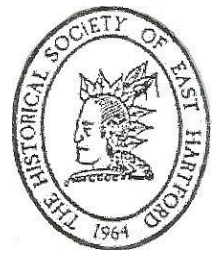


Historical Society of East Hartford

Newsletter, January 2021



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Friends and members of the Historical Society of East Hartford:

Please accept my best wishes for a prosperous and happy 2021. The current pandemic requires that we be cautious and be safe to stay healthy. To keep the situation under control, please follow the guidelines from CDC, the Connecticut State Health Department, our Governor, and local officials.

Now, on to other concerns;

Please make sure that your annual dues for 2020-2021 are paid. For information contact Judy Hillman, Membership Chair, 860-528-0716. Yearly dues can be found printed at the end of this newsletter.

We need volunteers to help us to do an audit of our financial status going back two years. Please contact me if you are interested and available.

I would like to start discussing the proposals for the Hockanum School. I am attaching a plan that I sent to the Mayor last year. Your input would be appreciated...additions, comments, observations, suggestion are welcome. If you would like to serve on this Hockanum School Committee, please let me know; input and participation from members is vital in order to move forward. We could have a meeting at the Brewer House implementing social distancing, masks, etc.

Please feel free to offer any suggestions for events, lectures, tours, etc. that the HSEH can consider and undertake this year 2021. Of course, the pandemic will determine when these activities can take place.

Again, please stay well and be safe. Best wishes for 2021.

Steven Strange, President, HSEH
farfagliabutterfly@yahoo.com, 860-528-4989

Plan for Recognition and Plan for Hockanum School

- Obtain most recent evaluation of the structural integrity of the building from the Town structural engineer
- Based on this report, determine what needs to be done to bring building up to code and handicapped accessibility, and who can be contracted for said restoration. Volunteer craftsman from the community?
- Approximate costs for these renovations and code upgrades
- Determine public usage for this building
- Obtain historical information and photographs of interior and exterior of the building
- Submit application and supportive materials to the State for designation as a state historic structure
- Work with Town grant writer to determine how grant monies can be obtained to begin upgrades and renovations
- Create a plan to inform community of this endeavor, and ask for donations for a fund to restore this building
- Other suggestions, idea, recommendation, and strategies from the Hockanum Restoration Committee

The order of the above can be modified for clarity and effectiveness.

Committee members: Please write down your comments, suggestions, concerns, ideas, etc., and when we meet, we can brain storm. A strategy and solid plan need to be solidified be it is presented to the mayor. Please advise. Thanks.

Steven Strange, President, HSEH
farfagliabutterfly@yahoo.com, 860-528-4989

THE HSEH MUSEUM BUILDINGS AT MARTIN PARK



The Goodwin Schoolhouse, ca 1823, at the entrance to Martin Park, East Hartford.

I want to give you an update on the planned repairs needed for the Goodwin Schoolhouse and the Huguenot House. In December, a letter of inquiry was submitted to the Preservation Connecticut 1772 Foundation for a Maintenance and Repair Grant on the schoolhouse. I should receive the full application to complete later this month. Paul O’Sullivan, the Grants Manager of the Town, has been in touch with the State Historic Preservation Office to apply for a conditions assessment on the Huguenot House exterior.

Craig Johnson, Vice-President, HSEH

PROGRAMS AT THE EAST HARTFORD PUBLIC LIBRARY

As the Program Chair of the Historical Society, it has been very frustrating and disappointing to not be able to schedule programs at the Library for our membership. Due to the coronavirus and East Hartford having an infection rate in the top ten municipalities in Connecticut, there will not be any programs until Spring at the earliest. We can only hope and pray that the vaccination roll out continues at a speedy pace and that perhaps, we might be able to resume our programs at our May regular meeting which would be scheduled for May 19, 2021. Stay safe everyone.

Craig Johnson, Vice-President HSEH

➡ **The January program of the HSEH is cancelled due to pandemic**

➡ **Due to technical difficulties the Society email address hseh@hseh.org is temporarily unavailable. Please use webmaster@hseh.org and place ehhs on the subject line.**

Historical Society of East Hartford

Mail: PO Box 380166, E Hartford, CT, 06138-0166

Phone: 860-528-0716

Email: webmaster@hseh.org

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

Membership: 860-528-0716, Sept 1-Aug 31
indiv \$20, 1 address \$25, student \$10,
patron \$50, lifetime \$250

Deadline Mar Newsletter – Feb 28 2021

JANUARY PROGRAM

CANCELLED

***Due to federal, state and local
health concerns caused by the
continuing coronavirus
pandemic***