

Historical Sites & Societies Enewsletter

September 2010

Welcome to the Historical Sites & Societies Enewsletter, compiled on a monthly basis. Please send your information to valerie@tlgv.org by October 15th to be included in the next edition.

Leffingwell House Museum

348 Washington St.

Norwich, CT 06360

Beryl Fishbone, Volunteer Program Manager

berylfishbone@yahoo.com

Nutting Days Remembered

When: Saturday, September 25, 2010, 1-3 p.m.

Where: Museum, regular admission and tours

Friends and Members Picnic

When: Saturday, September 25, 2010, 10 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Where: Museum grounds, donations happily accepted.

Autumn Chores

When: Saturday, October 2, 2010 Noon - 4 p.m.

Where: Museum, regular admission and tours.

Society of the Founders 109th Anniversary

When: Saturday, October 9, 2010 1-2 p.m.

Where: Museum tavern room, regular admission and tours, cake and cider.

Celebrating Urban Birds

When: Saturday, October 9, 2010 Noon - 4 p.m.

Where: Museum, free outside

Fall Festival

When: Saturday, October 16, 2010 Noon - 4 p.m.

Where: Grounds and museum, donation admission, free activities. Hot Cocoa, Scarecrow, Apple & Pumpkin Pie Contests, games, FUN.

Hibernation Begins

When: Saturday, October 23, 2010 Noon - 3 p.m.

Where: Museum, regular admission and tours, help us get the house ready for winter. Dress for the weather and bring work gloves.

The museum closes for the season on October 30th.

Roseland Cottage

556 Route 169

Woodstock, CT 06281

p 860-928-4074



f 860-963-2208

Lisa Centola

Roseland Cottage Site Manager

Civil War Living History Weekend

When: Saturday, September 18, 11:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m., and Sunday, September 19, 11:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

Admission: Free

Roseland Cottage opens its grounds for a Civil War living history weekend. Civilian and military re-enactors create a sense of life during the middle of the 19th century when the country was in the deadly grips of the Civil War. Activities include artillery and engineering demonstrations, military uniform and weaponry displays, and period children's games and activities.

Behind the Scenes at Roseland Cottage

When: Saturday, September 25, 12:00 – 1:30 p.m. and 2:30 – 4:00 p.m.

Admission: : \$6 Historic New England members, \$10 nonmembers

Please note: Registration required

This in-depth tour explores sections of Roseland Cottage that are not typically on view. Visitors have the opportunity to see the house and barn from the attic to the basement. By exploring areas such as the servants' quarters, kitchen, water cisterns, and barn haylofts, visitors learn how this wealthy household functioned.

Power of the Press

When: Wednesday, September 29, 6:30 – 8:30 p.m.

Admission: Free to Historic New England members, \$8 nonmembers

Please note: Registration recommended

The Power of the Press is an on-going lecture series that highlights critical events in American history through the editorials and articles published in *The Independent*, Henry C. Bowen's newspaper. The lecture focuses on the watershed 1860 Presidential election. The presentation begins with a first floor tour of Roseland Cottage. Lecturers then offer visitors an in-depth review of pressing events in 1860, presenting images and excerpts from *The Independent* and other contemporary publications. Light refreshments are served.

Walktober, Speaking from the Grave

When: Sunday, October 11, 1:30 - 2:30 p.m.

Admission: Free

Explore the oldest burying ground in Windham County (c. 1689). Learn about gravestone art and the different carvers in Northeast Connecticut. Interact with costumed interpreters, who will portray people from Woodstock's past and speak about Woodstock's history. Bring a camera and sketchbook.

Annual Fine Arts and Crafts Festival

When: Saturday and Sunday, October 17 and 18, 10:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

Admission: Free to Historic New England members and children under 12, \$5 nonmembers

Please note: Rain or shine

This festival is one of the leading juried fine arts and crafts shows in New England and features 175 artisans and their wares - jewelry, woodworking, pottery, clothing, metalwork, and much more. Enjoy live music, a food court, and first floor tours of Roseland Cottage.

The Bowen's 1887 Christmas Celebration

When: Sunday, December 6, 12:00 – 4:00 p.m.

Admission: Free

This annual Christmas program highlights decorations based upon the Bowens' 1887 written account of their Christmas celebration in New York. Enjoy first floor tours of the house, holiday music, and readings from Dickens's A Christmas Carol. Appointments can also be made for special group tours through January 10, for a fee of \$5 per person.

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**WANTED
BLANKETS**

Thin Washable *Thin* Size Blankets

Blankets, Quilts, Spreads, Throws and Towels of *any size*

ALL DONATIONS MUST BE CLEAN

For distribution to area shelters and animal rescues this winter.

NO DONATION GOES TO WASTE

NOON TO 4 P.M. ALL SATURDAYS IN AUGUST

LEFFINGWELL HOUSE MUSEUM

348 Washington Street

Norwich, CT

Thank you for caring and making a difference !

Don't hesitate to call me at 860.887.9000 with any questions.

It's been a month and we are sorting the blankets and the towels. In a box is a beautiful blue and brown lap robe. You can see the love and care it was made with in each and every stitch. As heating becomes more expensive, more couches, sofas and chairs will have afghans and throws across their backs once more just waiting to keep someone warm and toasty.

The animals this year will be dried and warmed with towels of all sizes and some will have pillows, and some fake fur (in neon orange, lime green and purple and pink) and all will be happy to curl up in blankets for warm winter nights.

The single flannel blankets will wear quickly and well in the Norwich Hospitality shelter. Our hearts were touched this year with this note - - "What a wonderful idea. Hope the blankets help and the towels are for the animals. Also a wonderful thing. Sent with love"

The Leffingwell House Museum and the Society of the Founders of Norwich, CT thank the individuals and organizations that contributed to the 2010 blanket drive and assure all that we will send them on their way to new homes "with love".

Leffingwell House Museum

348 Washington St.

Norwich, CT 06360

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berylfishbone@yahoo.com

The Leffingwell House Museum and the Society of the Founders of Norwich is still searching

and researching for any information on Cato Mead (Meed, Meade) and his family. Cato enlisted at the age of 14 from Norwich into the Revolutionary War Army. He served long, hard and well. He earned every penny of his pension.

Cato was the first black revolutionary war soldier known to be buried west of the Mississippi River.

His grave is honored every year. Norwich should also honor his and the others of Norwich who have fought for our liberty.

Everyone can help us, so the question is will you help us? Give of your time, your wallet and please give freely of your encouragement for this project and others.

Blue Slope Country Museum

138 Blue Hill Rd.

Franklin, CT

860-642-6413

www.blueslope.com

Fall Event 2010

When: Saturday, October 2, 2010 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. & Sunday, October 3, 2010 10 a.m. - 3 p.m.

Adults: \$6.00 Children ages 4-10: \$3.00

Please visit the website www.blueslope.com for more details!

Lebanon Historical Society

Alicia Wayland, Town Historian

860-642-7987

aliciawayland@charter.net

DATE: Saturday, Oct. 2, 2010

EVENT: Revolutionary War Encampment

Hundreds of reenactors will set up a living history encampment on the Lebanon green, junction of Routes 87 & 207, celebrating the 300th birthday of Gov. Jonathan Trumbull. Watch military drills and artillery demonstrations, and visit with soldiers, camp followers, and crafters around their camp fires. Hours are 10 a.m.-7 p.m. with a commemorative postal cancellation from 10 a.m.-2 p.m., Sheldon's Horse presentations, lecture on the wagon drivers to Yorktown at 4 p.m., and candlelight tours at 7 p.m. Admission and parking are free. Food Court open at Fellowship Hall, First Congregational Church. Encampment sponsored by Lebanon Historical Society and Town of Lebanon. For information, contact LHS Museum at museum@historyoflebanon.org or call 860-642-6579.

DATE: Sunday, Oct. 3, 2010

EVENT: Revolutionary War Encampment

Hundreds of reenactors continue the living history encampment on the Lebanon green, junction of Routes 87 & 207, celebrating the 300th birthday of Gov. Jonathan Trumbull. Watch military drills and artillery demonstrations, and visit with soldiers, camp followers, and crafters around their camp fires. Hours are 10 a.m.-2 p.m. with a special visit from a hussar (cavalryman) in

Lauzun's Legion. Admission and parking are free. Food Court open at Fellowship Hall, First Congregational Church. Encampment sponsored by Lebanon Historical Society and Town of Lebanon. For information, contact LHS Museum at museum@historyoflebanon.org or call 860-642-6579.

DATE: Saturday, Oct. 9, 2010

EVENT: Trumbull Cemetery Walk

Two local historians will lead a walk through the Trumbull Cemetery at 11:00 a.m. as part of the celebration of the 300th anniversary of the birthday of Governor Jonathan Trumbull. The Trumbull family tomb, where the famous Revolutionary War governor is buried, will be among the highlights.

David Oat of Preston will focus on the symbolism found on the colonial gravestones and their famous carvers. Alicia Wayland, Lebanon town historian, will tell the stories of some of the people buried beneath the ancient stones, including Trumbull family members.

The Trumbull Cemetery has some of the finest examples of the early stonecarving tradition that is unique to Eastern Connecticut. Obadiah Wheeler of Lebanon was considered the greatest of the rural carvers in the area. There are 82 of his stones in the cemetery, as well as stones by many other fine carvers.

The cemetery is located on Exeter Road (Route 207), about 0.75 mile east of the junction of Routes 87 and 207 in the town center. The walk is sponsored by the Lebanon History Consortium museums. For information, contact the Lebanon Historical Society Museum at museum@historyoflebanon.org or call 860-642-6579.

DATE: Sunday, Oct. 17, 2010

EVENT: Cake Decorating Contest

If you like cake, plan on visiting the Lebanon Historical Society Museum to help choose the winners of a cake decorating contest from 2-4 p.m. Voting by visitors will determine the winners of the contest. Children especially are invited to help make this choice.

The contest is open to any amateur baker who would like to submit a cake for judging. The winning cakes will be determined by the number of ballots placed in a box beside each cake. Cash prizes of \$100, \$50, and \$25 dollars will be awarded to the first, second and third place winners.

The cake should be a small cake, approximately 8" either round or square. It must have a colonial or Revolutionary War theme as its decoration in honor of Governor Jonathan Trumbull's 300th birthday this year. The cake must be edible and the baker must agree to donate the cake for a give-away drawing for visitors.

Visitors who wish to be eligible to receive a cake will write their names on the ballots. Random drawing of ballots at 4 p.m. will determine the winners. Winners must be present to receive a cake.

Cake bakers must pre-register. A registration form is available at www.historyoflebanon.org, the Lebanon Historical Society Museum Web site, or call 860-642-6579. The museum is located at 856 Trumbull Highway (Route 87), Lebanon. Admission is free.

DATE: Sunday, October 24, 2010

EVENT: Massing of the Colors

The 2010 Massing of the Colors, sponsored by Connecticut patriotic and civic organizations, will be held Sunday, Oct. 24, at 3 p.m. in the First Congregational Church of Lebanon. The public is invited to attend. Refreshments will be served.

The colorful flag-presentation ceremony begins with standard bearers from each organization marching down the aisle to the sound of a drum and placing their colors, as the flags are called, in a row across the front of the sanctuary. The traditional patriotic ceremony is a rededication of support for the National Colors and our nation's heritage.

The Thomas Rogers Society, a society of the descendants of Pilgrim John Rogers, is the coordinating society for this year's ceremony. Mary Brown, the society president, said the coordinator gets to select the location for the annual event. She chose Lebanon because it's the hometown of Revolutionary War Governor Jonathan Trumbull, whose 300th birthday is celebrated this year. Trumbull was the only colonial governor to become governor of a state when independence was declared in 1776. "He was a great patriot and his wife, Faith Robinson, is a descendant of Pilgrims John and Priscilla Alden so Lebanon is the most logical site for this year's ceremony."

Mrs. Brown said Alicia Wayland, Lebanon town historian, will give a short talk on Governor Trumbull during the program. Following the program, refreshments will be served in Fellowship Hall. For information, contact Mrs. Brown at 860-774-3458.



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