



WHO WE ARE

Board of Directors

Al Gorman
President

Ken Minkema
Vice-president

Barbara Hogan
Recording Secretary

Joe Pepe
Treasurer

Sam Becker
Asst. Treasurer

Ken Minkema
Historian

Committee Chairs

Louise Brundage

Lois Casey

John Carolla

Bill Doheny

Betsy Gorman

Stella Johnson

Joe Pepe

Virginia Zukunft

The above list does not do justice to the Board members who wear more than one hat serving on many committees, making our Society an active and responsible community organization. Help us, help Hamden.

THE HAMDEN HISTORICAL SOCIETY NEWSLETTER AUTUMN EDITION 2009

Dear Members:

Our Society Remembered This Summer the Hamden Historical Society was gifted a bequest from the estate of Patricia Jane Waite in the amount of \$55,746.

Although not a Society member, Ms Waite had a great interest in Hamden history; she was aware of the Society's active mission to record, to preserve, and to publicize our local heritage. As well, other local non-profit organizations benefited from her generosity.

The Board of Directors voted to invest most of the gift (\$50,000) in Certificates of Deposit laddered over the next three years. The remaining amount will be used on various projects and improvements to the Jonathan Dickerman House and property.

Projects discussed include an upgrade to our Dickerman House security system by adding motion/heat detectors to the existing system inside the house; also, we plan to replace a number of exterior clapboards and fascia boards which will preserve the house's integrity. Next Spring, we intend to solve the water drainage problem around the Cider Barn basement. This will make it watertight, so we can proceed with plans to complete the bathroom, service area, and install appropriate lighting, thus creating a useable space. In addition, we can continue our commitment of support to the Hamden History Library by establishing an acquisition fund.

For the Board members, this will be an ongoing topic of discussion to balance what we need in terms of preservation and improvements with saving for the future. The gift will not be spent on operating expenses, e.g. water, electricity, insurance, nor will the bequest replace the need to apply for grants, accept donations, conduct fundraisers, or eliminate membership dues. The gift will be the Society's emergency/contingency fund. It will be an account that will help the Society continue its mission, ensure its future, and preserve its treasures. Be thankful for Patricia Jane Waite.

Martha Becker Remembered The Society would like to acknowledge the great number of donations made to it in remembrance of Martha Becker.

A Gift from Kay Hill and Mitch Morse The Society received a c1900 photo of the Lorenzo Peck House on Todd Street with the head of the "Sleeping Giant" shown before the mining operation started in 1912. The photo will be displayed in the Lockkeeper's House Museum.

Congratulations to Ken Minkema In May, the Hamden Legislative Council acted positively on Mayor Henrici's appointment of Professor Minkema as Hamden's Municipal Historian.

Ken is the Executive Director of the Jonathan Edwards Center at Yale, editor of the Works of Jonathan Edwards, Asst. Adj. Professor in the Yale Divinity School, Faculty Fellow at Jonathan Edwards College, and a host of other daily commitments, as well as a family. Besides being the Society's Vice-President, he serves as chair of the Hamden Historic Properties Commission. His Hamden residence is the c1808 Amasa Bradley House on Whitney Avenue, which is near the Jepp Brook archaeological site that is listed, through his efforts, on the Ct. State Register of Historic Places. Ken is a regular contributor to the Society's Newsletter and co-authored our *Images* publication; you can find him at the Hamden Middle School on Earth Day hosting the Society's informational table and also see him helping in the kitchen at the Antique Show.

Our Society is fortunate to have such a dedicated and active member with outstanding academic credentials and a keen interest in Hamden's history, who now officially serves Hamden as its Historian.

Summer Docents To our volunteer docents who open the J.D. House for public viewing, we offer our appreciation. Our Dickerman House museum, garden, and barn are an asset for public education. With your help, we increase interest in local history and enhance the Society's presence in our community.

THANK YOU! Ginny Zukunft, Mary Embler, Joe Pepe, Fran Griffen, Craig Reynolds, Don Werner, John and Marlene Carolla, Stella Johnson, Nancy Faughnan, Al and Betsy Gorman, Charles Kortsep, Lorraine Velardi, Barbara Hogan, Connie Whalen, Joyce Gilbert, and Ken Minkema.

AND a big debt of gratitude to Lois Casey and Nancy Faughnan, who lead our school group tours. Over 190 Hamden children were exposed to the Dickerman House along with twelve teachers and twenty parents.

On the Move The design plans have been completed; the construction bids have been published. The contracts have been awarded. The Rectory School Barn is on the move. Having sat on cribbing since May, 2001, at Meadowbrook, it is being placed on a new foundation. With adapted reuse, this historic structure will have a new life serving Hamden and will continue reminding us of our past.

Mark Your Calendar for the 48th annual **Giant Valley Antiques Show. November 14th and 15th** Please volunteer for the kitchen, booth sitting, baking, or donating. Contact us at 203-288-0017

The Old Man of “Appledore”...Revisited

In the Spring 2009 Newsletter, we reprinted an article written some years ago by our past president, Brian Poirier. It was done to reacquaint our members with William Linton, a remarkable man, artist, painter, engraver, and English social reformer who lived in Hamden from 1870-1897.

Pictured below is “Appledore” so named for the orchard nearby. It is located at 1804 State Street and was built in 1785 by Jared Atwater. In the late 1800’s, ownership passed to the Mather family and the house was rented to Linton for the remaining seventeen years of his life. The house is listed on the National Register of Historic Places (photo by Leland Robinson)



Wm. Linton is buried in the State Street Cemetery which was a burial ground created c1799 that served Catholic and Protestants.



48TH ANNUAL GIANT VALLEY ANTIQUES SHOW

November 14th and 15th, 2009

Saturday 10 A.M. to 5 P.M.

Sunday 11 A.M. to 4 P.M.



MILLER LIBRARY - CULTURAL CENTER

2901 Dixwell Avenue Hamden, CT

Admission \$5.00 Admission with this card \$4.50

One Free Appraisal with Price of Admission Sunday 12-3 P.M.

Directions:

From I-91 North or South, take Exit 10 to end (Rte. 40/Mount Carmel Connector). At traffic light take a left onto Whitney Avenue and go six traffic lights. At the sixth light (Dixwell Avenue) take a right. The Miller Library-Cultural Center is a short distance on the left.

From Route 15 North take Exit 61 and from Route 15 South take Exit 62. Turn right onto Whitney Avenue and at the second traffic light (Dixwell Avenue) take a left. The Miller Library-Cultural Center is a short distance on the left.

A BENEFIT FOR THE HAMDEN HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Sponsored by the Giant Valley Association of Antiques Dealers • www.GVAAD.org

The Antique Show is the Society's major fundraiser. Gate proceeds and kitchen sales go directly to support our Society. Bring this card for a reduced admission. Please plan to attend. Bring a friend. Stop by and enjoy lunch. Support the Society.

NEWSLETTER

THE HAMDEN HISTORICAL SOCIETY

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