

# The Cheshire Historical Society

Volume 24, No. 3

July 2001

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## CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR NEW BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President	Edwin Kania
Vice President/Membership Chair	Clayton Crabtree
Recording Secretary	Doris Black
Treasurer	Connie Field
Corresponding Secretary	Linda Libengood
Sunday Open House	Lois Jean Meek
Publicity	Karen Gravino
School Program	Elizabeth Giardino
Curator	Edgar Johnson
Curator	Warren VanAlmkerk

### Directors

To serve from 2001-2004

Armand Brodeur  
Ron Gagliardi  
Ann Massimino

Previously elected to serve from 2000-2003

Mary Ellen Kania  
Linda Libengood  
Scott Libengood

Previously elected to serve from 1999-2002

Stephanie Casner  
Lois VanAlmkerk  
Pat Vita (elected to fulfill Clayton Crabtree's term)

### PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

This year the Cheshire Historical Society is celebrating its 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary, and I'm happy to say it is in sound condition. We are 130 members strong and paying our bills on time. Regretfully, our Hitchcock-Phillips house has languished awaiting a fresh coat of paint, but the town's Public Works people have assured me painting will begin soon.

We plan to make a concerted effort to increase our membership this year so we can better serve our town. I'd like to encourage all our members to participate more in the Society's activities. The Hitchcock-Phillips House is open every Sunday, September through May, from 2:00 to 4:00 p.m. A series of talks on various topics are presented on the 4<sup>th</sup> Monday of the month in September, October, November and March at 7:30 p.m. On the 4<sup>th</sup> Monday in April, our Annual Meeting and election of officers begins with a potluck supper at 6:30 p.m.

Please join us as often as possible.

Ed Kania  
President

**Did you know?** Our new president was the mayor of Cheshire when the Cheshire Historical Society renovated and moved into the Hitchcock-Phillips house after it was acquired by the town in 1972.

## **CHESHIRE DAY AT THE MATTATUCK MUSEAM**

In conjunction with IMAGES OF CONTENTMENT, JOHN FREDERICK KENSETT and the CONNECTICUT SHORE, an exhibit of paintings from September 15-November 16, 2001.

We are delighted to announce there will be a Cheshire Day at the Mattatuck Museum on Sunday, October 21, 2001, from 1-3 p.m. This will be an exciting event with 15-minute presentations by two of our own members, Dottie Drufva and Ron Gagliardi. They will tell us what Cheshire was

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like during Kensett's life there and touch on his family's role in the community. Expect to see people in period costumes (if you have one, let us know).

The Performing & Fine Arts Committee of Cheshire will provide a variety of activities for young people. We hope the Cheshire Jr. Women's Club and Cheshire Newcomer's Club will collaborate with us in making this a very special event. Watch for information from the Mattatuck Museum on the many events planned.

## **BITS AND PIECES**

Please don't forget us when you are cleaning your cupboards, attic or garage. The "Boutique in the Shed" is looking for saleable items. They don't have to be antique or collectible, but they must be saleable. Your help is needed as we're running out of merchandise. Call Pat Vita at 272-3963 with questions.

## **CALENDAR OF EVENTS (Through November 2001)**

<b>July 28</b>	<b>Antique &amp; Collectibles Sales, Boutique Sales, 9-3 p.m.</b>
<b>August 25</b>	<b>Antique &amp; Collectibles Sales, Boutique Sales, 9-3 p.m.</b>
<b>September 9, 16, 23, 30</b>	<b>House open from 2-4 p.m.</b>
<b>September 16</b>	<b>Board Meeting 1:30 p.m.</b>
<b>September 24</b>	<b>Membership Meeting, 7:30 p.m. Program on the History of the Carousel</b>
<b>September 29</b>	<b>Antique &amp; Collectibles Sales, Boutique Sales, 9-3 p.m.</b>

October 7, 14, 21, 28	House open from 2-4 p.m.
October 14	Board Meeting, 1:30 p.m. (Note date change)
October 21	Cheshire Day at Mattatuck Museum in Waterbury, 1-3 p.m.
October 22	Membership Meeting, 7:30 p.m. Program on Glass
October 27	Antique & Collectibles Sales, Boutique Sales, 9-3 p.m. (weather permitting)
November 18	Board Meeting, 1:30 p.m.
November 26	Membership Meeting, 7:30 p.m.

**DID YOU MISS THIS?**

Thank you to Eric Anderson for his presentation, the Ives-Anderson Home—A Startling Metamorphosis Once Forgotten. Eric talked and provided handouts on his project (the family homestead) at our annual meeting and potluck supper. There was a wealth of information and fine food.

**BALANCE SHEET AT MARCH 31, 2001**

**ASSETS**

Checking, First Union National Bank	\$ 4,301.07
<b>Certificates on Deposit</b>	
#1 First Union Bank Due 8/28/02, interest 6.75%	60,000.00
#2 First Union Bank Due 8/15/02, interest 6.77%	5,000.00
#3 First Union Bank Due 3/3/03, interest 4.97%	5,000.00
<b>Savings Accounts</b>	
First Union National Bank	6,630.51
Webster Bank	<u>1,069.54</u>
<b>Total Assets</b>	<b>\$82,001.12</b>

39.00  
2.10  
248  
3,150  
@ 19 = 77

**LIABILITIES**

-0-

**TOTAL NET WORTH**

**\$82,001.12**

65,000.00  
2,500.00  
21,000.00  
120,135.00  
+ 32 = 405

**Savings Accounts**  
 First Union National Bank  
 Webster Bank

6,630.51  
1,069.54

3,150  
 @ 19 = 77

**Total Assets**

\$82,001.12

**LIABILITIES**

-0-

05,000 @ 2.5%

**TOTAL NET WORTH**

\$82,001.12

51,025  
 12,013.5  
 + 32 = 1100

3,160

2003 31600

**INCOME STATEMENT AT MARCH 31, 2001**

**INCOME**

Dues	\$ 2,310.00
Donations	135.00
Interest Income	4,526.96
Sales/Books and Publications	1,011.85
Miscellaneous Income	300.00
Antique Shows, Monthly	1,155.00
Boutique in the Shed Sales	<u>649.50</u>
 Total Income	 10,088.31

**EXPENSES**

ADA Alarm System	\$ 393.70
Advertising and Publicity	218.47
Cartridge, Copy Machine	130.37
Dues, Corporation Filing Fee	105.00
Dues Envelopes	78.75
Electric	476.82
Gas	568.38
Insurance	559.00
Maintenance	67.95
Oil	4,546.27
Other	209.68
Printing, Durand Family Books	150.00
Sewer Use Charge	215.00
Stamps and Newsletters	391.91
Telephone	296.33
Water	<u>190.57</u>
 Total Expenses	 \$8,598.20

**NET INCOME FOR PERIOD**

**\$1,490.11**

**“SHARE THE WEALTH” by Ron Gagliardi**

I believe the raison d'être for any historical society is to preserve, protect and promote the history of its town, city or group. If you analyze the mission statement of the Cheshire Historical Society, you'll probably agree that's our purpose. With that in mind, I would like to report on what may become a new initiative for the Society.

The wall around St. Peter's cemetery is crumbling from the inside out. Our Society, through its Executive Board, was asked to contribute money to assist the church's efforts. The repairs are expected to cost many thousands of dollars.

I made a motion, seconded and passed, to establish a committee to explore the granting of funds for projects which meet the criteria our mission statement sets forth. Our coffers contain over \$80,000. Why not utilize some of it to accomplish our goals? The committee consists of Ann Massimino, Clayton Crabtree and me. We will meet soon to consider if the Society would like to offer grants, to whom, how often, for what purposes, in what amounts, and from which sources. I maintain we should offer grants annually to Cheshire Historical Society member, Cheshire residents, students, teachers, and organizations which plan to preserve, protect and promote Cheshire history. I feel the grants should be awarded in increments of \$100 up to \$500 and should be taken from half of the interest which has accrued to the \$80,000 "endowment" in a given year. For example, if our savings earn \$1,000 for 2001, the Grants Committee could award up to \$2,000 to projects which are deemed worthy.

Please contact me or any member of the committee or the Executive Board with comments or suggestions. I expect the matter will be voted on by the Board and the membership in September.

**THIRD GRADE TOURS AT THE HISTORICAL SOCIETY HOUSE**

Thank you to our guides for assisting with the 3<sup>rd</sup> graders' visits:

Doris Black  
 Fran Bontatibus  
 Stephanie Casner  
 Rosemary Cole  
 Vivian Kacey

Betty Martha  
 Ann Massimino  
 Gerry Mitlenher  
 Lois Jean Meek  
 Marcia Robbie

Thank you also to Edgar Johnson, our faithful "opener and closer" and to Pat Vita who subbed for Elizabeth several times this spring.

Most of all, we thank Elizabeth Giordino. Without her, there would be no program. Now, imagine this—325 students visited us along with 15 teachers and 38 other adults! This is a program we can all be proud to sponsor.

**Cheshire Historical Society**  
 P. O. Box 281  
 Cheshire CT 06410

