



THE HOURGLASS

WILLINGTON TOWN HISTORICAL SOCIETY NEWSLETTER

WILLINGTON

Vols. IV

Willington, Connecticut - June, 1977

No. 5

MEETING PLANNED THURSDAY, JUNE 23rd MEMORIES OF TOWN'S CELEBRATION TAKE ON HISTORIC INTEREST

The final meeting of the Society for this year will be Thursday evening, June 23rd at 7:30 PM at the Town Hall. We will have a short business meeting to deal with matters like the selection of a nominating committee to get a slate together for the offices of President and Treasurer.

Voting will take place at our annual meeting in September. We also need to decide on a meeting night which suits most of us--and what types of programs we would like to see in the next year. To that end we need a program chairman and lots of willing volunteers to help.

For this June meeting we will be providing our own program. We are asking anyone with photographs, slides, movies, or anecdotes of the 250th celebration to bring them to the meeting to share with others. We will have

a slide projector--bring your own movie projector. We're inviting the Fire Departments and anybody else who would like to share immediate memories of the celebration to come. Bring all your neighbors! Perhaps they will decide to join the Society.

This past year has been an extremely busy time for the Society from the Bicentennial in 1976 through publication of Isabel Weigold's Chronology to the 250th anniversary celebration of the town. Let's keep it up for next year.

SPEAKING OF MEMORIES

The Newsletter Committee invites and encourages readers and their friends to submit stories about Willington's past for publication. If you have memories to share but don't want to write an article yourself, then a phone call to 429-9804 will bring an eager ghost writer to your door.

The scene was created from an old photograph, loaned by Mrs. Doris McSee, which was taken sometime between 1911 and 1924. It shows South Willington from the Tolland side of the Willimantic River with a covered bridge in the foreground and the Hall Memorial Church and other buildings in the background.

ANTIQUES EXHIBIT

The antiques exhibit sponsored by the Historical Society on Saturday, May 28th was an outstanding event with over 30 people exhibiting their treasured pieces, collections and memorabilia. The all-purpose room at Center School was divided into four rooms with furnishings typical of those rooms in the 19th century. Hostesses were dressed in the costume of the day; pinetree shillings were baked in the oven and served to visitors; homemade bread was sliced and served with homemade preserves; and period music was played to complete the mood of the century.

Phone calls have been received from many who missed the exhibit saying they hope we will do it again because they had heard so much about it.

Thank you letters have gone out to all who participated in the event in any way, and I would like to again publicly thank everyone for making our contribution to the 250th anniversary celebration a successful event. The old adage, "Many hands make light work," is appropos--it couldn't have been possible without everyone pulling together.

Isabel Weigold
Coordinator

BLACKSMITHERY

Further enhancing the 19th century atmosphere, the blacksmith's craft was demonstrated by Bruce Weigold during the 250th anniversary celebration. He set up a portable forge on the grounds of Center School and demonstrated the process of creating door-knockers, bracelets, axe heads, candlesticks and other objects, drawing a number of interested onlookers.

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION
Willington Historical Society 1977-1978

Schedule of Dues: Individual membership: \$2.50
Student membership: \$1.00

Type of membership desired: _____

Name(s): _____

Mailing address: _____

Make checks payable to the Willington Historical Society and send to Mrs. Frances Daley, Glass Factory School Rd., RFD #1, W. Willington, Connecticut

Amount enclosed: \$ _____