



## HISTORICAL SOCIETY NEWSLETTER ≈ WILLINGTON

June 2015

Volume XLIII No. 2



### Tavern Work Day July 18<sup>th</sup>

Consider joining the work day effort at the Glazier Tavern on Saturday, July 18, 2015 starting at 9:30 AM to Noon.

The focus of our effort will be cleaning and reorganizing the garage area to make room for a donated one horse sleigh and reducing the clutter that was moved from the basement.

It would be really helpful if you have a pickup truck to help with a trip or two to the transfer station.

We might suggest starting the day off with a hearty breakfast at the Willington Senior Center that morning. Breakfast will be served from 8:30-10:30 and is \$5.00 for all U-can-eat.

Hope to see you at breakfast and later at the work day.

**The Willington Historical Society  
Presents:  
DANIEL GLAZIER TAVERN  
OPEN HOUSE.**

**Saturday, September 12th, 2015  
10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.**

**1 Common Road**

Adjacent to the Willington Town Green and the Flea Market

**FREE AND OPEN TO THE PUBLIC**

**From: The President's Desk**

*By Bob Shabot*



## TRASH OR TREASURE

It has been said that “one man’s trash is another man’s treasure”.

There is some truth to that, but only if you get to see the trash. The point is that the Willington Historical Society has been collecting historic treasures, with a Willington connection, since 1968. Today we continue to be interested in adding items to our historical archives and we need your help. On occasion Society members find wonderful items for our collections at the transfer station. If you or your family determine that some older items are no longer useful to you and you’re considering them trash and headed to the transfer station, consider contacting the Historical Society. We’re interested in a wide range of items including photographs, odd items that you have no idea what they were used for, kitchen items, farm items, business records and items, correspondence and diaries, wooden chairs with or without seats, to name a few things. Really, anything that speaks to Willington’s past.

Please help keep Willington’s past out of the trash.

Contact the Willington Historical Society with an email ([wilmingtonhistoricalsociety@gmail.com](mailto:wilmingtonhistoricalsociety@gmail.com)) or a phone call, Bob Shabot at 860-834-0966 or Joe Froehlich at 860-684-6607.

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### GIFTS RECEIVED FOR OUR COLLECTION

The Historical Society is grateful for numerous gifts that members of our wider community have generously donated for the collection. These include:

A printed bulletin from the Federated Church service from Mother’s day, May 11, 1958. This includes names of new members and children baptized on that day. Given by Linda Lazaroff of Tunbridge, VT, cousin of one of those children.

A large binder chock full of advertisements, letterhead stationery, and other memorabilia from Willington businesses, as well as school programs dating from the 1930’s and 1940’s. Given by Jamie Furness of Stafford Springs, CT.

A postmarked First Day Cover celebrating 20 years of air mail, with a depiction of the Hall Mill and the postmaster’s signature. Given by Betty Robertson.

Finally, the Society has recently added \$3000.00 to our Museum Fund, courtesy of the Estate of Mr. Edward Williams, former owner of the Glazier Tavern, who honored our own Bob Shabot with this generous gift. The Museum Fund is used for the primary purpose of restoring and renovating the Glazier Tavern.

### APPEAL FOR MEMBERS AND DONORS

It is never too late to become a new member or renew your membership in the Historical Society. Dues help pay for the cost of this newsletter, program presentations, acquisitions of historic significance as well as some of the operating expenses for the Tavern. We hope all our friends and neighbors will join us to help support our mission of promoting, preserving and celebrating the history of the Town of Willington.

Our fiscal year ends on Sept. 30, 2015. PLEASE NOTE: if your address label has the numerals “9/2015” you are PAID UP through September. Any additional payment will be considered a direct donation to our Museum Fund.

AND, we do need more than just members’ dues. Monetary donations are a necessary part of our existence, especially as we continue to renovate and re-purpose the Glazier Tavern for programs, displays, office and research space.

The Willington Historical Society is a 501(c)3 organization, and all donations are tax deductible to the full extent of the law. Donations may be made in the form of checks, or by credit card through our website, [www.wilmingtonhistoricalsocietyvt.org](http://www.wilmingtonhistoricalsocietyvt.org). Just click on “Donations” which will display a “Donate” button. If you have any questions, you may email us at [wilmingtonhistoricalsociety@gmail.com](mailto:wilmingtonhistoricalsociety@gmail.com), or call Susan Schur, Treasurer, 860-429-2148. A membership/donation form is included in this newsletter.

#### A SPECIAL THANK YOU!

We would like to acknowledge those who have contributed generously since our January newsletter:

Sydney and Mary Goodrich  
Thomas and Eileen Smith

Brian and Laurie Semprebbon (all of Willington)

Brooke Harlowe from Lock Haven, PA  
and Lori B. Smith from Springfield, VA.

**Your Support is Greatly Appreciated!!!!**

## POP QUIZ – What does “VCI” stand for ?

If you guessed “Vibrant Communities Initiative” you would be correct!

And what does that have to do with you and us, and with the **past, present** and **future** of Willington?

**Presently**, the Town of Willington has hired Nelson Edwards Company Architects of Branford to undertake a planning study of the South Willington Village area. The **past** history of this area indicates the existence of a dynamic community centered around the Gardiner Hall, Jr. Mill that included housing, gardens, a school, a church, a store, a post office, etc. Through thoughtful discussion and planning, the **future** of South Willington could again become a vibrant, welcoming place.

Keys to revitalizing this area (and doing so will enhance our entire town), may include, but not be limited to: applying for a listing on the National Historic Register which allows eligibility for State and Federal tax credits for redevelopment; proposals for Zoning changes to allow for future development in keeping with the unique historic nature of the village; identifying economic opportunities that would draw both residents and visitors to the area; recommendations for safer traffic control and walkways.

**The possibilities are great for what this area could become. What would your vision include - event space? community park and gardens? a coffee house? hiking trails?**

The study team welcomes your thoughts and encourages anyone with comments, ideas or concerns to contact them via **Sara Nelson** at Nelson Edwards Company Architects (phone number 203-481-6611). We are pleased to mention that Sara Nelson was our consultant for the assessment of the Daniel Glazier Tavern that led to the restabilization of that building.

There is also a local advisory committee that includes Historical Society President Bob Shabot, and Selectman Christina Mailhos, chaired by Dick Symonds, author of the book *Lost Mill Sites of Willington*. **They also would welcome your thoughts and suggestions.**

## *Willington Historical Society*

### 2014-2015 Membership Application

**Annual membership from October 1, 2014 until September 30, 2015**

STUDENT	\$10	
INDIVIDUAL	\$20	
FAMILY	\$30	
CORPORATE	\$50	
LIFE (Individual or Family)	\$250	
DONATION (tax deductible)		
TOTAL		

NAME(S) : \_\_\_\_\_

STREET: \_\_\_\_\_

CITY/STATE/ZIP : \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE : \_\_\_\_\_

EMAIL : \_\_\_\_\_

MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO THE WILLINGTON HISTORICAL SOCIETY

(OCCASIONALLY, WE MAY SEND INFORMATION AND ANNOUNCEMENTS PERTAINING TO PROGRAMS AND EVENTS OF THE HISTORICAL SOCIETY– WE WILL NOT SHARE YOUR ADDRESS WITH OTHER ORGANIZATIONS OR INDIVIDUALS.)

DO YOU WISH TO RECEIVE OUR NEWSLETTER BY EMAIL IN LIEU OF PAPER COPY? YES \_\_\_\_\_ NO \_\_\_\_\_  
(Advantages = color photos, one of the first to receive it and saves postage and copy costs!)

**Mail to: Betty Robertson, Membership Chair, Willington Historical Society**

**P.O. Box 214, Willington, CT 06279**

## WHS Contact Information

**President: Bob Shabot - [we3inct@sbcglobal.net](mailto:we3inct@sbcglobal.net)**  
**Vice President: Paul Weigold - [pweigold52@yahoo.com](mailto:pweigold52@yahoo.com)**  
**Treasurer: Sue Schur - [sue.b.schur@snet.net](mailto:sue.b.schur@snet.net)**  
**Secretary: Catherine Lynch—[catherin.lynch@charter.net](mailto:catherin.lynch@charter.net)**

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### Committee Chairs:

**Acquisitions: Lisa Ferriere**  
**Membership: Betty Robertson**  
**Program: Joe Froehlich**  
**Publicity: This could be you!**  
**Ways & Means: This could be you!**  
**Website manager: Marion Dooling**  
**Town Historian: Joe Froehlich -[Willingtonhistorian@charter.net](mailto:Willingtonhistorian@charter.net)**

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**Email: [willingtonhistoricalsociety@gmail.com](mailto:willingtonhistoricalsociety@gmail.com)**  
**Website: [www.willingtonhistoricalsocietyct.org](http://www.willingtonhistoricalsocietyct.org)**  
**LIKE US on FACEBOOK**

**Willington Historical Society**  
**P.O. 214**  
**Willington, CT 06279**