PRESIDENT’S MESSAGE

With such a beautiful summer season as the one we are having, I trust all members are truly enjoying it. But now the summer is near its end. This will be my last article as President of the Historical Society as September also ends my two-year term. It has been both an honor and a privilege to serve as President these past two years. We were very much saddened by the loss of Carl Edwin Carlson who for many years served the Historical Society as its former Treasurer. Both Ed and his wife Marie had many years of dedicated service to our Society. We offer our heartfelt condolences to Marie and her family. We are also deeply saddened on the recent loss of Roy Spiller, our current Treasurer for the last three years. To Roy’s wife Peg and to all of the Spiller family, we offer our heartfelt condolences.

On Connecticut Trails day weekend, the educational walk we sponsored in the Burnside section of town met with good reviews from those who attended. At the Huguenot House, our busiest opening for tours was on Saturday, June 14th where we once again participated in Connecticut Open House Day. The museum buildings were open for seven Sunday afternoons during July and August this season. However, visitors asking for tours were very few. Paranormal investigations are still ongoing and for the first time, we are hosting two paranormal programs with the aid of skilled investigators who will train interested persons on communication with spirits. We’ve also reserved several tour bus groups for visits in October. We could use some help from volunteers.

At the last regular meeting in May, we voted on the need to procure a replacement cellar hatchway door at the Huguenot House. This was not only needed for security reasons but to prevent rainwater from pooling on the basement floor. At the Society’s August Board meeting, we voted unanimously to accept the bid for a new heavy-duty steel hatchway door. Board member Ruth Shapleigh-Brown helped out with the selection of contractors during the bid process. The expense was the largest obstacle to overcome but sometimes really good things happen. We were notified by the East Hartford Rotary Club that this organization has agreed to fund the total cost of the cellar hatchway door replacement. Thank you again East Hartford Rotary Club!

A renewal notice for Historical Society membership in the September 1, 2014 – August 31, 2015 year and a required reservation form for the annual dinner is included in the newsletter. You can save yourself a 49 cents stamp and return both payment forms back in one envelope. For anyone wanting to attend the program without having dinner, there is no cost. Free parking is available in the back of the Church. I hope to see you all on Wednesday, September 17th.

Craig Johnson

MUSICIAN TOM CALLINAN TO PERFORM AT ANNUAL DINNER

Tom Callinan will be our after-dinner entertainment for the Annual Dinner. Tom last played for us in 2010 and returns to perform a medley of war songs covering the Civil and 1812 Wars. Tom Callinan is a charismatic performer, whose musical ability and inventive compositions have fashioned his recognition as a celebrated Connecticut troubadour. He is more than a multi-faceted performing artist. He holds a B.S. in Secondary Education (English Major/Music Concentration) from Central Connecticut State University, and an M.A.L.S. (Music Concentration) from Wesleyan University. In 1977, after five years of successful teaching in a
Connecticut junior high school, Callinan launched a full-time career in the creative and performing arts. Annually he presents several hundred performances for tens of thousands of people, spanning the ages from nursery schools through nursing homes. Since 1973, he has performed with the popular folk band, “The Morgans”, representing them as business manager since 1977.

In 1991, he was designated Connecticut's first "Official State Troubadour" through legislation by The General Assembly. In 1995 Tom was designated a Master Teaching Artist by the Connecticut Commission on the Arts. In 1999, he was selected to represent Connecticut at The John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts' Millennium Stage State Days Series in Washington D.C.

Bette Daraskevich

ANNUAL DINNER

The September 17, 2014 Historical Society annual dinner meeting will again be held in the First Congregational Church, 837 Main Street at Church Corners. Another tasty, delicious buffet style dinner catered by Matt Becker of Becker's Catering awaits those who attend. The full menu appears in this newsletter. Following our annual dinner, there will be a short business meeting for the election of officers. Payment for the annual dinner must be received by Monday, September 15 using the required reservation form enclosed in the newsletter. The cost of the “all you can eat” buffet dinner is $20 per person, which is the same as last year. Historical Society members are encouraged to bring guests and the doors to the lower level of the Church will open at 6:00 p.m. Dinner starts promptly at 6:30. Please call Craig Johnson at 860-568-2884 for more information or if you have questions.

Craig Johnson

SEPTEMBER 17, 2014 ANNUAL DINNER/PROGRAM

Reservation Must be Received by Sept, 15, 2014.

Tickets are $20.00

NAME: ___________________________________ $ __________

NAME: ___________________________________ $ __________

TOTAL: $ __________

Make a check for the dinner reservation out to: The Historical Society of East Hartford, Inc.
Mail check to: Historical Society of East Hartford, Inc., Po Box 380166, East Hartford, CT, 06138-0166
NOMINATING COMMITTEE
Historical Society of East Hartford Executive Board 2014 – 2015

The Nominating Committee proposes the following slate of officers:

President: Bette Daraskevich
Vice President: Craig Johnson
Recording/Corresponding Secretary: Eileen Driscoll
Treasurer: tba
Historian/Antiquarian: Jeff Cummings
Director:
4 year: tba
3 year: Ruth Shapleigh-Brown
2 year: Dan Russell
1 year: Judy Hillman

We thank all of the slate for their past services and their continued willingness to serve the Society.
Thanks particularly to Roy Spiller for his heroic handling of the treasurer’s duties despite his illness. You are in our thoughts and prayers, Roy.

Elections will be held at the Annual Meeting on September 17th. According to Robert’s Rules of Order, nominations from the floor will be accepted.
Nominating Committee: Eileen Driscoll, Judy Hillman, Rosemary Moynihan, Joyce Yoo, Betty Russell (chair)

MEMBERSHIP

Our annual meeting is coming up soon and that means it is time to renew your membership for another year. You can mail it in, and we hope you will do so when you make a reservation for the dinner on September 17th. We will have membership cards available that evening for those who want one. It can help all of us to remember if we have paid or not. See you then.

Fern Strong, 860-528-0716

MEMBERSHIP FORM

“Please support the Historical Society of East Hartford by renewing your membership. We need your help to maintain the Huguenot House, School House and Blacksmith Shop, to provide programs to our members and the public, to support our newsletter, and to continue the good work we do to preserve East Hartford history.”

Fern Strong, 860-528-0716

MEMBERSHIP DUES, SEPT 1, 2014 – AUG 31, 2015

NAME: __________________________________ PHONE: __________________________

ADDRESS: __________________________________ CITY, STATE, ZIP: __________

EMAIL: __________________________________ EMAIL NEWSLETTER? Y____ N____

AMOUNT ENCLOSED: $_______________ $15.00 / Individual, $20.00/All at one address,
$10.00 / Student, $50.00/Patron

Make a check for membership out to: The Historical Society of East Hartford, Inc.
Mail check to: Historical Society of East Hartford, Inc., Po Box 380166, East Hartford, CT, 06138-0166
Check out the activities of our neighboring historical society in Manchester, http://www.manchesterhistory.org/MHS3_Events.html: Genealogy Group, fancy tea, walk.

Sue Barlow
Oct 5, 1863  Charleston Harbor: Confed torpedo boat, *David*, steam driven, cigar shaped, low in water, rams torpedo into armored USS *New Ironsides*; explosion damages *Ironsides*; nearly destroys fleeing *David*

Oct 6, 1863  In US draft no provision for conscientious objectors; some like VT Quaker Cyrus Pringle receive harsh treatment: sergnts tie him on wet ground; he weeps over loss of liberty of conscience

Oct 8-10, 1863  TN: Western visit by Pres Davis cannot dispel growing antipathy of Confed generals to Gen Bragg; Longstreet tells War Dept; Bragg will be ineffective; NB Forrest seeks, gets command free of Bragg

Oct 12, 1863  In the North Gettysburg, Vicksburg wins help pro-Union candidates win state elections; black valor lessens aversion to emancipation; in the South losses send negotiation prone legislators to Richmond

Oct 13, 1863  Charleston Harbor: For the 2nd time (1st on Aug 29, '63) the Confed submarine *H L Hunley* sinks; in the practice dive 8 die including its inventor *H L Hunley*

Oct 17, 1863  Indianapolis: US Sec'try of War Stanton meets Grant, gives him command of Depts of the OH (Burnside), the TN (Sherman), the Cumberland (Grant replaces Rosecrans with Thomas)

Oct 17, 1863  Indianapolis: Grant orders Thomas to hold Chattanooga at all costs; starts 6 day trip to Chattanooga; Thomas replies they will hold the city until they starve

Oct 24, 1863  Chattanooga, TN: Grant inspects area, orders route to Bridgeport, AL opened for a “cracker line”, a supply line, for starving troops, animals; starts planning to break the Confed siege

Oct 27-Nov 7, 1863  Chicago, IL: 2 weeks Sanitary Commission Fair, northwest states’ fair will raise funds to help sick, wounded military; offers entertainments, food, sales, auctions, etc; 5,000 a day pay 75¢/ticket

Oct 27-Nov 7, 1863  Chicago, IL: Lincoln offers original draft of final Emancipation Proclamation to fair, sells for $3000, given to refuge for traveling soldiers, lost in 1871 Chicago fire; refuge becomes vets’ home

Nov 2, 1863  DC: Lincoln is requested to give a “few appropriate remarks” at dedication of new Gettysburg National Cemetery; time is short but he accepts

Nov 4, 1863  Chattanooga: Confed Pres Davis suggests Gen Bragg send Longstreet, 15,000 men to retake railroad hub at Knoxville to link with VA; effort fails; removal of men weakens Confed siege of Chattanooga

Nov 5, 1863  NY City: “Great Russian Ball” honors Russian diplomats, men from Russian ships recently arrived in NY (Russian ships also in San Fran); US Russia friendly for 10 years; ships stay through April '64

Nov 6, 1863  LA: Lieut Alstyne writes in his diary: the scarred backs, necks, legs, etc of freed, beaten slaves having physicals for 90th US Colored Inf; “beat all the anti-slavery sermons ever yet preached”

Nov 18, 1863  Gettysburg, PA: Pres Lincoln arrives; stays at David Wills house (Wills, lawyer and force behind cemetery and dedication); finishes the few comments he will make the next day

Nov 19, 1863  Gettysburg, PA: Edward Everett, dedication’s main speaker, talks for perhaps 2 hours; tells of battle; Lincoln’s secretary John Hay writes he spoke “as he always does, perfectly”

Nov 19, 1863  Gettysburg, PA: Lincoln takes 2 minutes to salute the 1,000's who have died, calls upon those present to resolve that this “government of the people, by …, for… shall not perish from the earth”

Nov 23, 1863  Chattanooga, TN: US Grant starts operations to break the siege, drives Confed from their forward position at Orchard Knob, east of city at Missionary Ridge; will set up headquarters here

Nov 24, 1863  Chattanooga, TN: in am Gen Hooker’s forces assault Lookout Mtn southwest of city; fight in fog is heard, not seen; by night Union holds Mtn; named the “battle above the clouds”

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1 The NY Times, The Opinion Pages, Opinonator, Disunion: The Civil War


The Civil War Chart, Contributing Writers Martha Graham, George Skoch; Consultant William C. Davis, Publications International Limited, Lincolnwood, IL., 60646.


2 The Library of Congress Illustrated Timeline of the Civil War, Wagner, Margaret E., Little and Brown & Co., NY, NY; 2011, pg 159

Nov 25, 1863 Chattanooga, TN: Thomas’ men (scorned after Chickamauga retreat) drive Confeds from base of Missionary Ridge then, going beyond orders, from the ridge; Confeds flee; siege is ended.

Nov 23-25, 1863 Chattanooga: Union Gen US Grant with 56,000 soldiers has defeated Gen Bragg with 44,000 troops, ended the siege; casualties: 5600 Union, 6800 Confed; way into GA now open to federals.

Nov 26, 1863 North: Church bells ring wildly to celebrate Chattanooga victory on this 1st national Thanksgiving; 2 weeks after Chickamauga Lincoln proclaimed this day to offer thanks for harvests, pray for peace. After Confederacy: the mood after this defeat is one of gloom, calamity and ruin.

Nov 27, 1863 Columbus, OH: Confed Cavalryman Gen Morgan escapes from Union prison; will return south.

Nov 30, 1863 Richmond, VA: After Chattanooga Gen Bragg submits resignations to Pres Davis; he notes officers’ hostilities to him; Davis finally accepts, but whom will he find to replace Bragg & fix morale?


Dec 8, 1863 DC: Lincoln issues Proclamation of Amnesty & Reconstruction: offers amnesty to most Confeds who take oath of allegiance to US & its laws & gives moderate way for states to rejoin Union.

Dec 8, 1863 DC: Lincoln writes Gen Grant, gives him, his men profound thanks for what they have done.

Dec 9, 1863 Richmond, VA: Gen Lee is called to Richmond; does not want but fears he may be offered Bragg’s old command; after discussions it is decided he will remain with his ANV.

Dec 16, 1863 DC: Mary Lincoln’s visiting sister Emilie, wife of Confed Gen Helm killed at Chickamauga, will not sign loyalty oath, sparks hostility by emitting Confed sympathy at small dinner; will leave next day.

Dec 16, 1863 Confed Pres Davis appoints Gen Joe Johnston to command the Army of TN in place of Bragg, popular choice with Lee and Sec’ty of War Seddon; but Davis does not quite trust Johnston.

Dec 26, 1863 Philadelphia, PA: Free Military School for Applicants for Command of Colored Troops opens; only whites may apply at this time; stringent requirements make officers among best prepared in US.

Dec 27, 1863 In sadness Confed Gen Lee writes his wife of their beloved daughter-in-law Charlotte’s death, anguish her death will cause her husband Gen Rooney Lee.

Dec 27, 1863 Northern GA: US Gen Beatty ponders skull of dead soldier found on field: 3 months ago he had life, his family hoped he was safe & may still; how can we think of salaries & what papers say of us?

Dec 28, 1863 Richmond, VA: Confed Congress abolishes hiring substitutes for military service; there are manpower shortages; legislators look for more ways to to fill the ranks.

Jan 2, 1864 Confed Gen Joe Johnston suggests using blacks as army support.

Jan 2, 1864 Confed Gen Patrick Cleburne, admired as “Stonewall of the West”, wants to free and recruit slaves; politicians, military leaders bitterly debate idea, reject it; Cleburne is no longer promoted.

Jan 4, 1864 GA: Gov Brown warned of impending riots if planters hoarding corn to get greater fees from coming Yankees do not open their cribs quickly to the hungry.

Jan 5, 1864 New Orleans, LA: about 1,000 black citizens sign petition to Lincoln and US Congress for right to vote (about 27 of these fought under A Jackson in 1815); 2 signers will carry petition to DC.

Jan 7, 1864 Mexico: French fight to replace Mexican Pres Juarez with emperor Maximilian; French support Confedcy, Pres Davis names Wm Preston Confed envoy to Mexico; Union opposes French action.

Jan 9-12, 1864 Sgt Wm Walker, 21st US Colored Inf, incited mutiny, refused duties because of pay discrimination toward blacks, court-martialed, executed before Lincoln can review case.

Jan 16, 1864 DC: abolitionist-orator Anna E Dickinson speak in the House; Lincoln’s present; she criticizes Lincoln’s moderate policies but still supports him; she is cheered; critics: she usurps male role.

Feb 2, 1864 Confed forces capture 53 NC men, once Confed soldiers, now Federal soldiers; North considers them soldiers, prisoners of war; South considers them deserters and will court-martial them.

Feb 3, 1864 Vicksburg: US Gen Sherman starts for Meridian, MS 150 mi east; will destroy railroad junction, trains, buildings, warehouses to remove support for guerillas in his rear before Atlanta Campaign.

Feb 3, 1864 Confed Pres Davis requests another suspension of habeas corpus to suppress disloyalty and to enforce the draft.

4 http://ncpedia.org/substitutes-civil-war. Interesting writeup on Confederate conscription and draft laws.

Feb 10, 1864  DC: arsonist sets fire to presidential stable near White house; president restrained from entering fire to save horses; 6 die including his son Willie’s pony (Willie died 2 years earlier); Lincoln heartbroken
Feb 15, 1864  In secret session Confed Congress allocates $5 million for Canadian based sabotage actions against North; T. Hines, former cavalryman, sent to Canada to carry out activities
Feb 17, 1864  Confed Congress reluctantly agrees to suspend habeas corpus (see Feb 3), widen draft to ages 17-50; some in GA argue so strongly against this draft a backlash creates support for the war
Feb 17, 1864  Charleston Harbor: Confed submarine Hanley rams spar torpedo into sloop-of-war USS Housatonic; sinks it; 1st submarine to sink enemy vessel; Hanley sinks on return losing all 8 crew; raised Aug 2000
Feb 22, 1864  Kansas senator Pomeroy sends Pomeroy Circular to 100 Republicans in support of Treasury Sec’y Chase for president in 1864; backlash from Lincoln’s supporters ends Chase’s quest for the office
Feb 24, 1864  DC: in response to petitions from Quakers & pacifist churches US Congress allows exemptions from military service for conscientious objectors; were perhaps 1200 – 1500 on both sides
Feb 27, 1864  Andersonville, GA: 1st Union prisoners of war arrive at Camp Sumter (later “Andersonville”); one calls it “a dismal hole”; has no shelter, becomes disease filled; will hold 3 times limit of 10,000
Feb 28, 1864  VA: Union Gen Kilpatrick, Col Dahlgren lead 4,000 cavalry to Richmond to free prisoners; papers on slain Dahlgren have plans to burn Richmond, kill Davis & cabinet; Southerners furious
Mar 2, 1864  DC: Major Gen Grant promoted to Lieut Gen; Congress revived rank with Grant in mind; only Gen Washington before him held the rank except for Gen Winfield Scott who held it temporarily in 1855
Mar 6, 1864  22 of 53 NC men captured serving in US army (see Feb 2) were publicly hanged by Confed authorities in Kinston, NC; met death fearlessly, loyal to old flag; moved watchers to tears
Mar 8, 1864  CT: 29th CT Vol Infantry (colored) mustered into US service; 1st from CT; served in SC, VA: Cos C, G first infantry to reach Richmond, Apr 3, 1865; after war in TX; discharged Nov 24, Hartford
Mar 10, 1864  DC: Lincoln signs executive order placing Lieut Gen Grant in command of all armies of the US
Mar 10, 1864  DC: Confed Gen Jeb Stuart’s honorary aide Antonia Ford (see Mar 13. ’63) marries Joseph Willard; he was officer who escorted her to prison in DC; resigned from Union army to marry her
Mar 11, 1864  DC: Congress passes Ambulance Corps Act: all armies will use improved battlefield care system created by AOP medical director Dr Letterman; South has no such comprehensive care
Mar 12, 1864  DC: NO petition (Jan 5) requesting right for free born LA black men to vote given to Lincoln with new request to extend suffrage to all, born slave or free; Lincoln suggests similar for LA constitution
Mar 12, 1864  Red River Campaign: US army/navy start attempt to control east TX as buffer against Mexico / France, growing industry in Shreveport, LA area and surrounding rich cotton land in TX, LA, AR

GEORGE GOODWIN, QUARTERMASTER OF THE 29TH CVI (COLORED)
Notes from his granddaughter Mary Goodwin

Mary Goodwin (Dec 25, 1916 – July 2, 2008) never knew her grandfather, George Goodwin. He died before she was born. Her father did live in George’s house and she grew up in that house. She was an original member of the Historical Society and of Friends of Center Cemetery. She wrote this item on her grandfather for the May 2003 Historical Society newsletter.

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6 The Library of Congress Illustrated Timeline of the Civil War, Wagner, Margaret E., Little and Brown & Co., NY, NY; 2011, Pg 169
7 The 29th CVI, primarily Ct men, was mustered in March 1864, discharged Nov 1865 in Hartford. It saw action in Va. at Petersburg, Richmond, etc. C and G companies were the first federal infantry to reach Richmond on its fall, April 1865. 29th E Htfd men were Quartermaster Geo. H. Goodwin and Pvs. Wm J Lewis, Jacob C Brown, Titus Miller, Geo. Francis, Charles Spruce, Geo. Freeman, and possibly David Stewart (29th CVI &/or 31st CVI). Records of Service of Ct Men in the Army and Navy…,1889, Press of Case, Lockwood & Brainard Co., Htfd, Ct ; E Htfd, Its History and Traditions, Joseph O. Goodwin, facsimile of 1879 ed, published 1975 by the Raymond Library Co.
“My grandfather, George H. Goodwin (left), served twice in the Civil War (two long generations ago). He was born in East Hartford in 1826 and died in East Hartford in 1893.

“He served in the 25th regiment until 1863, having been injured in the foot. In the same year he was commissioned first lieutenant and quartermaster of the 29th regiment (photo right). His knee was fractured by the kick of a horse in 1865, and he was mustered out of service after a long hospitalization, barely escaping amputation. He was permanently lame and used to credit Dr. Melancthon Storrs of Hartford with setting the knee at an angle so he could walk more easily.

“He built the Carpenter Gothic house at 763 Burnside Ave. (left), which is now on the campus of Goodwin College. Before the war he was in the family paper business in Burnside and after the war in the home office of the Travelers Insurance Co. He farmed quite extensively in Burnside, and we have his “Journal of Gardening etc.” from 1852 to 1879.

“Only a few of his war letters survive, written from the Chesapeake Hospital (right) in 1865. He, however, saved letters written to him from the home front.”

Mary Goodwin

Photo Credits:

Photo of George Goodwin copied from Commemorative Biographical Record of Hartford County, Connecticut published by J.H. Beers & Co. of Chicago in 1901, insert between pages 792, 793.

Civil War camp is a stereopticon picture from Mary Goodwin of a camp of the 29th CVI Regiment somewhere in the south.

George Goodwin House on Burnside, Wm Knose