



Calendar Of Events

All programs are open to the public

Sunday, April 27

2pm

May Day Tea

Back by popular demand...
a ladies tea for kids
and their adults.

Enjoy tea, treats and craft
a May Day basket.

For girls ages 7 and above.

Must be accompanied
by an adult.

\$6 materials fee
per basket for everyone.
Pre-registration required
Space is limited.

Sunday, May 4

4pm

**Lebanon Historical Society
ANNUAL MEETING**

4pm Business meeting
followed by a program
on the Brimfield Flea Market
by author Robert Wyss.
Refreshments

Sunday, June 8

12pm to 4pm

**"Revolutionary Tastings"
around the Lebanon Green**

Self guided walk around the
Lebanon Green where you may
sample Revolutionary War
period food at some of
the historic sites

*This is a CT Trails Day Event
sponsored by the
Lebanon History Consortium*

More Events on Pages 4 & 5

Calling All Members

to the

48th Annual Meeting of the Lebanon Historical Society

on

Sunday, May 4, 2014

from 4:00pm to 6:00pm

The annual business meeting begins at 4:00pm.

Agenda will include:

President's, Treasurer's and Museum Director's reports,
election of Board members,
approval of a change to the bylaws
and a chance to ask questions.

The meeting will be followed by a presentation on the
Brimfield Flea Market by UCONN
journalism professor, Robert Wyss,
author of, *Brimfield Rush, the Thrill of
Collecting and the Hunt for the Big Score.*

Members are invited to stay after the program
and enjoy
refreshments
and conversation.



**The mission of the
Lebanon Historical
Society**

*To encourage a sense
of community, the
Lebanon Historical
Society connects
residents and visitors
with the people, places,
objects and stories
of the Town's past.*

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Museum Director

Donna Baron

From the President

Glenn Pianka

This ladies and gentlemen is a truly historic moment.....I am lost for words. In reviewing the various committee reports, the Director's Report, and the general content of this newsletter it is quite clear to me that we have been extremely successful in recruiting and maintaining a corps of qualified and dedicated individuals who continue to contribute to our mission in ways that we could only imagine not so long ago.

When we embraced the concept of strategic planning some years ago, I must say, that I was skeptical. I have always been a goal and task oriented individual and oftentimes felt that planning, especially long term planning, took up too much time that could be used to simply "get the job done". Our planning has proven to be quite fruitful. With that thought in my mind, I have recently brought some long term concerns to the Board of Trustees, and as usual, we have come to consensus on how to address those concerns---the essence of TEAM !!

It's Spring....the buds are budding, robins have overtaken my lawn, the peep frogs are deafening, and a renewed spirit is at our threshold. OK TEAM---let's play a few more innings----without too many overtimes !!!

I sincerely thank all of you for being part of the Lebanon Historical Society team.

Lebanon Celebrates
Connecticut Open House Day on Sat., June 14
with
Second Saturday
Free Family Fun
From 10am to 3pm
Held on the museum grounds

Ride in a Model T
Make friends with some animals
Experience the art of: blacksmithing, decorative painting, broom making, wood carving, toy soldier making, spinning, pottery
Work a corn grinder
Enjoy waffles over a fire
Take a picture and Make a memory

If you are interested in volunteering for this great event please call
860-642-6579



Director's Message

Donna Baron

Working at the Lebanon Historical Society is such fun for anyone who is curious about how people lived in the past. Sometimes being a historian feels like having permission to politely investigate historical neighbors and then gossip about them.

Recently, as I thought ahead to our anticipated exhibit about education in Lebanon, I looked again at the three samplers in the collection. Each names both the girl who worked the stitchery and her teacher. The oldest was made by Sophia Lathrop "in Miss Fanna Hinckley's school Lebanon Oct. 18th, 1797." With a teacher, a school, a student and a sampler there are many clues to explore.

Thanks to the many years of diligent work by our wonderful volunteer genealogist Lindy Brunkhorst-Olewine, I quickly began to assemble a fascinating story. Fanna (or Fanny) was the daughter of Charles and Elizabeth [Throop] Hinckley who were members of the Goshen Congregational Church. Fanna was their fourth child, baptized July 12, 1772. When Fanna was nine, her father, a merchant, died. Charles Hinckley HAD been rather well-to-do. In his will, he addressed the disposition of two slaves, a horse and chaise, a hundred pounds sterling and land in Lebanon, New Hampshire and New York. Sadly, the probate court declared the estate insolvent due to claims against the business partnership Hinckley and West.

Now the real investigating begins as I ask Lindy to help determine exactly where in Goshen the family lived and I try to track down Hinckley and West. I wonder and will try to learn where Fanna learned needlework, why she was still unmarried and teaching at age twenty-five and whether she is the Fanna Hinckley whom records suggest married an Azel or Aziel Fitch in 1802. We will try to trace her mother Elizabeth through her second marriage to Captain Elihu Thomas.

When we are done, we will have learned a bit more about Goshen, Lebanon and the families who lived here after the American Revolution. Does this kind of research and storytelling intrigue you? Do you have skills and experience doing this work or would you like to learn how? Either way, please get in touch with the Museum. We have many such projects inspired by objects or documents in the collections and would very much appreciate your help.



Thank you Kathy Shultz, on right and the FFA kids for another successful program!



Participants at the Eggs and Chicks Program on March 22

WELCOME
TO OUR NEWEST MEMBERS

~ Family~
**Paul & Sandra Spedaliere
& Family
of Lebanon**

~ Individual~
**Joanne Buto
of Annadale, VA**

History Trivia Answer:

The inscription on the gravestone of Nathan Tisdale as recorded by Ashabel Woodward before 1858.

*"Reader, as thou passest,
drop a tear to the memory
of the once eminent
Academic Instructor,
Nathan Tisdale a lover of
Science. He marked the
road to useful knowledge.
A friend to his country, he
inspired the flame of
patriotism, having devoted
his whole life from the
18th year of his age to the
duties of his profession,
which he followed with
distinguished usefulness to
Society, he died Jan'y 5th
1787, in the 56 year
of his age."*

Contact Us:

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Lebanon, CT 06249

860-642-6579

museum@
historyoflebanon.org
www.
historyoflebanon.org

Museum Hours:

Wed. thru Sat.
12pm to 4pm

**Library & Research
Center** by appointment.

Calendar Of Events

All programs are open to the public

Saturday, June 14

10am - 3pm

Second Saturday

This is a fun, free family event.

Ride in an antique car around the Lebanon Green.

Watch demonstrations by craftsmen of all types. There will be alpacas, pigeons and lambs - oh, my! Bring a wooden item from home and have it branded "Lebanon."

Hot dogs and hamburgers and drinks will be sold.



Saturday, June 21

1pm to 3pm

Dutch Oven Cookery

An adventure for children with their families!

Learn about traditional Dutch oven or bake kettle cookery from laying the fire to eating the goodies.

Hands-on activities will include assembling a fire pit, preparing food and tasting what has been cooked. Scout troops & 4-H groups are welcome to attend.

Advance Reservation Required. Fee: \$2 per child.

Held on the grounds of the Historical Society



Sunday, June 29

2pm

The Search for Ezra Chamberlin & the Confederate Submarine H. L. Huntley

State Archaeologist Dr. Nick Bellantoni presents the fascinating story of the archaeological investigation of the first submarine to sink an enemy ship in combat and the story of the Connecticut soldier who was on board... or was he?

See page 5 for more events

William Noyes and Lebanon's War Effort

By Rick Kane

William Noyes adjusted his life to include contributing to the Union cause almost as soon as President

Lincoln called up troops to suppress the secessionist

rebellion on April 15, 1861.

His diary entry for April 23, 1861, notes that he and his wife delivered apples to market in Norwich. That afternoon he helped make coats for the volunteers enlisting in the army.

The next day, he went back to Norwich and saw Captain Henry Peale of Company B, 2nd Connecticut Volunteer Infantry depart for Washington.

Meanwhile, during the same two days, we learn Mrs. Woodworth, Mrs. Pettis and Mrs. Ross were back in Lebanon working on clothes for the volunteers which he delivered to Norwich on the 25th of April 1861. In September, he and many others helped pack boxes of bed clothes to send to the soldiers in the army. March 3, 1862, he went to Norwich with oats to deliver to A.W. Prentice. "C. L. Pitcher went with me and enlisted in the 1st Regiment Co. Artillery - I introduced him to his Excellency Gov. W. A. Buckingham!"

On August 18-19, 1862, Noyes noted that he "went to see the 18th Regiment return home and train at Camp Aiken." William A. Aiken, for whom the camp was named, was the son-in-law of Governor Buckingham and the Quartermaster General of Connecticut with the rank of Brigadier General.

In September, Noyes and others went to the meetinghouse to "Scrape lint" - this "lint" was used for packing wounds and

An excerpt from the records of "Civil War people of Lebanon" compiled by Mrs. Lindy J. Brunkhorst Olewine with additional research by Suzanne Swartz (available at the Lebanon Historical Society Museum) notes:

Charles Lyman Pitcher was born on September 26, 1839 in New York. He lived in Lebanon for most of his life, and joined Rifle Company D, 3rd Connecticut Volunteers on May 11, 1861, and was honorably discharged that August. Later he joined Artillery Company D, 1st Connecticut Volunteers on March 5, 1862. After the war he married Augusta C. Holbrook on May 18, 1871. Pitcher died on July 14, 1928, at age 88. He is buried in New South Cemetery.

was in great demand at field hospitals. This was a regular activity throughout the war years for the Lebanon residents. Noyes made special trips into Norwich just to bring the goods produced by the Lebanon residents, such as clothes, lint, preserves and jellies, to the "Soldiers Aid Society." These goods were boxed up with all the other contributions from around the area and sent to the troops. Adams Express Company, a 19th-century "Federal Express," was used to deliver the goods to the volunteers. (Adams Express exists to this day but in a very different form; now it is a financial services company).

In his diary, Noyes noted the return of Lebanon's soldiers who died while serving.

"Feb. 28, 1863, Wm A. Mason's body arrived today." William Mason was

Continued on page 5

William Noyes

Continued from page 4

William Huntington's tent mate and is buried in Center Cemetery.

"June 5, 1863, attended Lt. Frederick Schalk funeral today." Lt. Schalk, who died in a hospital in Fredericksburg from wounds received in Spotsylvania, is buried in Liberty Hill Cemetery.

On May 28, 1864, he went with L. E. Metcalf to "R.R. Crossing to retrieve the remains of Lt. Geo. Metcalf of the 1st Conn Cavalry killed near Fort Darling La." and attended the funeral and interment. George Metcalf is buried in the Center Cemetery.

On another trip into Norwich on July 16, 1863, he observed the drafting of conscripts for military service from New London, Lebanon and Franklin.

Several times Noyes noted that speakers came to Lebanon to share their views on the War and the state of the country. These lecturers included: John Wait of Norwich, Mr. Manning of Lowell, Massachusetts, and Col. Nickels of the 14th regiment of the Connecticut

Volunteer Infantry. Noyes attended meetings of the Union League in Norwich as well as the anti-war Copperhead meetings in Lebanon in 1864, prior to the election for President. He heard both sides of the political debates and was pleased with the re-election of President Abraham Lincoln.

I hope this gives a glimpse into the life and times of the Civil War years here in Lebanon and how the citizens were living their normal everyday lives but at the same time were politically aware and, more importantly, active in the War effort. Lebanon certainly contributed its fair share of young men but also its fair share to aid, equip, feed and support the troops.

William Noyes died on September 20, 1874 leaving his wife Amy, son Frank and daughter Harriet. Amy passed away on January 9, 1902. Both are buried in Yantic Cemetery in Norwich in the family plot with William's father and mother.

A Thing or Two About Lint

In many accounts of women's contributions to the Civil War, there are often references to lint or scraping lint and the amount of lint that was sent to hospitals by the Ladies' Aid Societies or other relief organizations. Lint was commonly used to dress soldiers wounds and was always needed. Lint was made by cutting a small square of new linen or cotton fabric and securing it to a board or some hard surface. The fabric was then scraped with the blade of a knife to produce the soft cotton-ball-like substance. It was a tedious process but one that both women and children were willing to undertake.

Martha Kendall demonstrates how to scrape lint.
Inset photo shows the lint that was produced.

Lebanon

Calendar of Events

Saturday, July 19
5pm to 8pm
An Evening at the Museum

Wine and beer tastings,
silent auction and
a light supper
held under the stars.
\$35 per person
\$60 a couple
By invitation only.

If you have not received your invitation by July 1st please let us know or if you are a non-member and would like to attend please call 860-642-6579

Saturday,
September 27
9am -3pm
48th Outdoor
Annual Antiques Show

held on the Lebanon Green
Adults \$5
Free Parking
Refreshments available for purchase all day.

For information
on our programs,
call 860-642-6579
or visit our website at
www.historyoflebanon.org



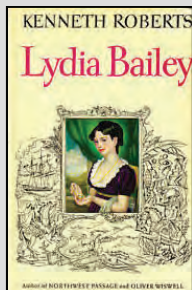
A Good Read

By Elizabeth Forrest

Lydia Bailey

By Kenneth Roberts

"I'm not over-enthusiastic about books that teach or preach, but I may as well admit in the beginning that my primary reason for writing this book was to teach as many as possible of those who come after me how much hell and ruin are inevitably brought on innocent people and innocent countries by men who make a virtue of consistency."



Thus starts this fascinating book that includes politics, history, travel, cultures, love, ethics and humor.

From Maine, to Boston, to Washington, D.C., and then on to Haiti, and France, and finally Tripoli this book, *Lydia Bailey*, covers a lot of geography. The book was written by Kenneth

Roberts, known for his historical accuracy, in 1947 and it was one of the 10 best books of that year. Albion Hamlin is the hero and Lydia Bailey is the heroine. The story begins in Portland, Maine in 1800 during the time of John Adams' presidency. The Alien and Sedition Law, (think our present day

Continue on page 7 Sidebar

Annual Committee Reports

Buildings and Grounds Committee: Jim Mello, Chair This year the key words for the Building and Grounds could be "damage control." We have reacted to the many challenges of the weather and the elements that have impacted our buildings. All of the moisture related damage to the windows has been addressed, damage from the "micro burst" in late summer that caused shingles to come off the storage collection building and the cupola have been replaced, the water damage caused by frozen pipes in the ceiling of the power room and floor tiles in the kitchen is still being monitored (Thank goodness for insurance...) A motion detector light has been installed near the door by the patio and in the near future work will begin on the painting of the main building of the Historical Society along with an upgrade to the patio lighting system.

Many "Thanks" to the volunteers who helped make the "seasonal movement" of the patio tables and chairs and erection of the tents for the "An Evening at the Museum" a possibility and last but not least to Howard Wayland who answers all those calls from the security people at all hours of the night when the alarm detector "alerts."

Collections Committee: Dan Moore, Chair The past year has been exciting and a real education for the Collections Committee. Apart from the maintenance of the "town's attic," we have been working with the ad hoc interpretation committee for the Pastor's Library. Based on the fairly detailed records of the building's contents, the Committee is seeking a writing table and other objects to flesh out the exhibit. By studying the inventories of what was actually used in the building, we are challenged to focus on what was really there. This process will help us as a Committee and a Society to better present Lebanon's rich heritage to the public.

Community Events Committee: Keith LaPorte, Chair Community and events go hand in hand. The Historical Society in grasping its mission statement embraces the activities that unite Lebanon in a communality. The gripping of goals accomplished past, leads us to the present, and points us to the future. As we wave help to the fresh ideas that greet us, an extended firm handshake of thanks and good to see you will bring us to the always unfolding next chapter. Tallyho!

Exhibition Committee: Marianne Freschlin, Chair The Historical Society's newest exhibit, "Always a Pleasure to Hear from Home" opened on September thirteenth 2013 and has received enthusiastic reviews. It will remain open to the public until September of 2015. The multipurpose room has showcased a variety of collections over the past year including memorabilia from Lebanon's First Baptist Church. Currently on display in this common area are the Beaumont and Sweet collections of medical equipment, photographs of historic homes within the Lebanon community, as well as Toby Jugs and plush animals from Mr. Hugh Trumbull Adams's private collection.

Finance Committee: Connie Berglund, Chair The Finance Committee is charged with the oversight and management of all aspects of the Society's finances. Its membership includes a chair person who is a member of the Board of Trustees, additional Board members and/or representatives from the Society's financial partners. The Treasurer serves as an ex-officio committee member. Preparing and approving the annual operating budget for presentation to the Board for final approval is a major yearly activity. The committee also reviews the monthly income and expenditures prior to Board meetings, reporting as needed. Reviews of investment objectives, endowment requests and status, property and liability coverage, as well as long range financial planning and projects are discussed within the committee and presented to the Board from time to time.

Annual Committee Reports

Historic Buildings Committee: Rick Kane, Chair The Buckingham Pastoral Library, having been relocated and restored in late summer and Fall of 2012, experienced many visitors during the 2013-14 year. It was a terrific evening the night of the Christmas Tree Lighting in December and approximately 50-75 visitors viewed the Library following the Tree lighting. The Historical Society is focused on recreating the interior as it was in the early 1900s in the upcoming months.

Dr. Beaumont House has been 'prepped' for its second relocation to the newly acquired property adjacent to the Lebanon Historical Society Museum. The "House by the Side of the Road" once the residence and office of Dr. Charles "Bonesetter" Sweet was razed in the fall and the land area prepared to become the new and final resting place of the Dr. Beaumont House. More updates to follow in future editions of "Provisions"!!!

Membership and Development Committee: Mary Lou Beckwith, Chair

As Membership and Development Chair, I wish to thank our 200+ members, near and far, for their continued support in helping the Lebanon Historical Society "...connect residents and visitors with the people, places, objects and stories of the Town's past." We certainly cannot do that, without YOU! We thank you for your continued memberships and renewals and especially thank one and all for the generous donations to our "Annual Appeal Campaign."

With the very efficient staff (thanks, Donna, Gracie & Alicia), the Membership Committee, charged with overseeing membership renewals, soliciting new members and recommending membership categories/dues/donations, has been reviewing and revising LHS mailings, with plans in the works for future updates.

Our Committee encourages any and all to spread the word about the Lebanon Historical Society, and if you know of anyone who might like to "...collect, preserve and teach about our wonderful community called Lebanon," please encourage them to join and support the ongoing hard work to preserve Lebanon's history.

Personnel Committee: Linda Heatherly, Chair The Personnel Committee addressed museum education when the part-time Education Coordinator resigned in October. We have recruited members for this ad-hoc committee that will work closely with staff in coordinating school group field trips in the spring and fall. In addition, this committee is seeking volunteers from the community and membership to help with these school groups.

Nominating Committee: Al Vertefeuille, Chair This year we had two vacancies to fill on the Board with the resignations of Kirsten Westbrook, Chair of the Historic Buildings Committee and Betty Forrest, Chair of the Personnel Committee. The Board elected to move Rick Kane from Trustee-at-Large to Chair Historic Buildings, and Linda Heatherly from Trustee-at-Large to Chair the Personnel Committee. The at-large vacancies created by this move were filled by the Board with Ed Tollmann and Art Wallace.

We continue to look for people interested in serving as volunteers at the museum and who, as vacancies arise, would be interested in serving as Trustees of the Lebanon Historical Society. Board members are limited to three consecutive two-year terms (bylaws requirement) so there are Board vacancies to be filled each year. It has been a pleasure working with this Board and an outstanding support staff. Having served my three consecutive two-year terms, I will be leaving the Board after the annual meeting.

Committee Reports continue on page 8

Continued from page 6 Sidebar

Patriot Act), and the French Spoliation Claims start this adventure.

The story moves on to Haiti and Bonaparte's attempted takeover and it ultimately ends in Tripoli, Africa. We meet some interesting historical characters that are brought to life, some of whom you will like and others, not so much.

Lydia Bailey includes lots of adventure, rich descriptions, strong characters, and tons of intrigue. That period of our history is resurrected and infused with life as seen through the eyes of one man. The thrust of the book is how a career politician "acted like a clown and had a nasty impact on events." One must wonder if there is much change on the political scene today.

This book is a worthwhile read as it not only brings to life historical events in our nation's infancy, but it raises ethical questions and the meaning of integrity both in individuals and countries.

(Although the Jonathon Trumbull Library does not own this or any of Kenneth Roberts' books, they can be obtained through interlibrary loan.)



Courtesy of the Connecticut
Historical Society

G. Fox & Co.'s Date Nut Bread Recipe

Ingredients

1 cup dates, pitted and
chopped in 1/4-inch pieces
1 cup sugar
1 cup boiling water
1/2 cup shortening
2 eggs, well beaten
2 cups flour
1 1/2 teaspoons baking
soda
1/2 teaspoon salt
1 cup walnuts, coarsely
chopped
1 teaspoon vanilla

Directions

Grease a 9-inch by
5-inch pan.
Preheat oven to 325° F.
Place dates and sugar in
a large mixing bowl.
In a saucepan, combine
the water and shortening
and simmer until
shortening is melted.
Pour over dates and
sugar, stirring until sugar
is dissolved. Cool slightly.
Stir to mix ingredients
with a wooden spoon, not
an electric mixer.
Add eggs, beating well.
Combine dry ingredients.
Stir into date mixture until
well blended. Batter may
be slightly lumpy.
Add walnuts and vanilla.
Turn batter into greased
loaf pan and bake one
hour until center of loaf
springs back when
touched.
Cool thoroughly before
removing from pan.

Annual Committee Reports

Publications Committee: Jacy Worth, Chair The Publications Committee meets monthly to plan the content and layout for our newsletter *Provisions*, circulated quarterly. Our goal is to provide our readers with interesting and informative articles on Lebanon's Revolutionary War history as well as subjects relating to more current local history. We collaborate with our Director and staff as well as the Board of Trustees to keep you abreast of activities and exhibits at the museum. The committee always welcomes suggestions for future articles from our readers. We are also on the lookout for those interested in writing as well. In order to defer the cost of the newsletter, we offer sponsorships. This past year, with the help of sponsors, we've continued to add some color to the pages of *Provisions*. Our newsletter is available to members interested in receiving it via email. The Society's web site displays past issues as well. The committee also works with the museum staff in assessing literature for sale in our gift shop. I am indebted to and sincerely thank my dedicated and talented committee members: Alicia Wayland, Betty Forrest, Donna Baron, Grace Sayles and Alicia Lamb. We truly appreciate those who have submitted ideas and research for articles we have published. We are very proud of our newsletter and hope that you continue to enjoy reading *Provisions*.

Programs Committee: Suzanne Yeo, Chair The Programs Committee is proud to have provided a wide variety of interesting and entertaining events over the past year. In September, we celebrated the opening of the museum's new exhibit, "Always a Pleasure to Hear from Home," Lebanon and the Civil War with a reception and concert performed by the talented Tom Callinan. The holiday season was ushered in with a spray making workshop, a presentation of the History of Christmas in New England and our annual Open House on the evening of the Tree Lighting. In the following months, we enjoyed learning about Notable and Notorious Connecticut natives, the history of G. Fox & Co. and a program on Connecticut Prints and Photographs from the Civil War. We have had several children's programs including making Victorian Valentines and the FFA co-sponsored program about Eggs and Chickens. We are looking forward to our May Day tea where we will make woven baskets. It has been a busy and successful year for this committee. Many thanks for my very dedicated and hardworking committee members.



Remembering G. FOX & CO.

from the collections of Connecticut Historical Society
museum & library

On Sunday, March 9, Elizabeth Abbe from the Connecticut Historical Society provided a delightful presentation, "From Hula Hoops to High Fashion," G. Fox in the 1950s. Elizabeth Abbe's power point presentation took the audience on a floor by floor tour of the store, as she shared many interesting and amusing anecdotes about the store and the items that were popular during the 50s. Ms Abbe also gave entertaining insight into the amazing life of Beatrice Fox Auerbach who personally made every shopping experience a joy and promoted the motto "the customer was always right."

An enthusiastic audience of 60 people eagerly shared their shopping experiences. The crowd was dotted with Fox's former employees as well as two women who had modeled for the store including our own Ellen Lathrop!



Elizabeth Abbe

“Views of the Past, 1889” – “home of Charles W. and Alice [Wood] Martin”

**Research by Lebanon Historical Society
volunteer genealogist**

Lindy J. Brunkhorst Olewine

This home is located on 894 Beaumont Highway. It was formerly known as the Martin Farm and more recently as the Stone House Farm.

In this 1889 photograph, members of the Martin family posed outside their one and a half story granite

-block house. Information recorded by the photographer and presented by the Connecticut State Library does not, however, seem to be accurate.

Charles W. Martin (died 1923) was born August 22, 1850 or 52, the son of William Champlin and Mary Martin.

On October 19, 1898, at age 45 he married Alice P.

Wood (1862-1917) of

Willimantic.

The 1900 Lebanon return for the

Federal census lists

Charles W. Martin

(age 47) married

for one year with

no children. His occupation is listed as

“sportsman.” He is the head of a

household and lives in a rented house.

According to the 1880 Federal census,

Charles W. Martin, who then listed his

occupation as “hunter,” lived with his

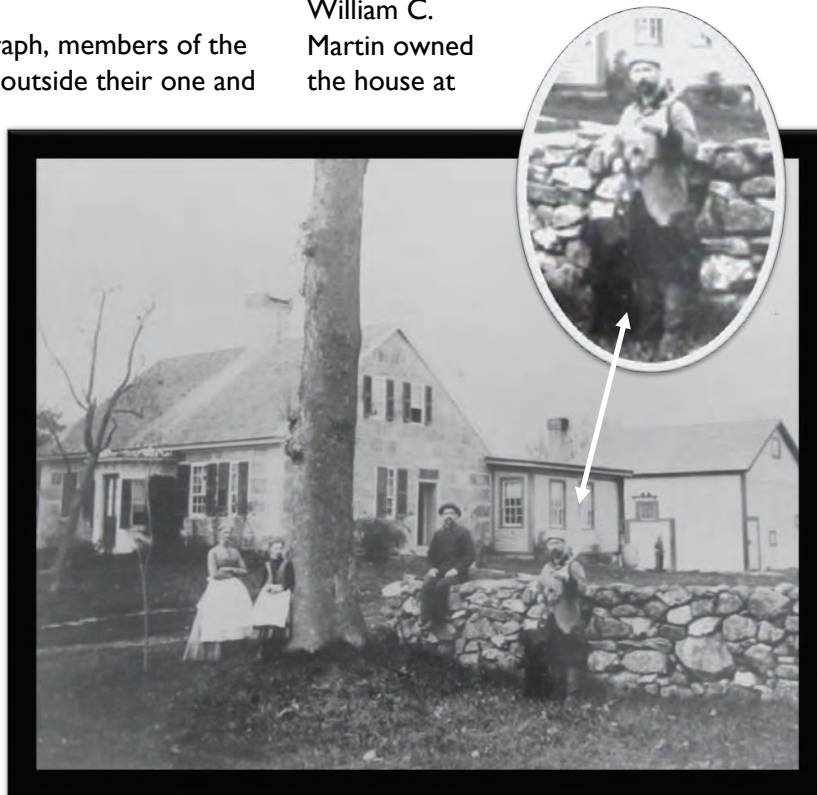
widowed mother, Mary [Champlin] Martin

(1819-1897) and his brothers Anderson O.

Martin (1850-1924) and Ernest L. Martin

(1860-1936). His father, William Champlin

Martin (born 1820) had died in 1870 leaving the “residue of my real and personal” estate to his widow and appointing his brother John M. Martin (1807-1889) of New York as executor. William C. Martin owned the house at



The 1889 photograph may show Charles W. Martin. The man at the right leaning on the stone wall is carrying a rifle and perhaps other hunting or trapping gear. Clearly neither woman can be Alice [Wood] Martin since she did not marry into the family until nine years later. Perhaps the older woman is the widow Mary [Champlin] Martin. The two other men may well be two of Charles’ brothers, but the younger woman is not identified as there were no sisters in the family.

Photograph courtesy of the Connecticut State Library Archives

894 Beaumont Highway as early as 1852 when he mortgaged it to his brother John. John M. Martin, to whom William had sold his house and some of his land in 1869, died in 1889. In 1891, John’s widow Henrietta Martin obtained clear title to the land and house. A New York attorney, John Martin, owned the Lebanon property but never lived there. In a codicil to her

Continued on page 11

Expand your knowledge of Lebanon’s history by adding some of these books to your own library.

- *History of Windham County, v.1,* by Ellen Larned, reprint
- *Dr. William Beaumont,* by Keith R. Widder
- *Lebanon, Three Centuries in a Connecticut Hilltop Town,* by George Milne
- *Lebanon, Images of America Series,* Arcadia Publishing, by Alicia Wayland, Ed Tollmann & Claire Krause
- *Hussars in Lebanon!,* by Robert A. Selig
- *En Avant with our French Allies,* by Robert A. Selig et al
- *Around the Lebanon Green,* by Alicia Wayland, Photographs by Grant Huntington
- *Lebanon Recalled,* by John Sutherland
- *Connecticut Signer: William Williams,* by Bruce P. Stark

These books and more are available in our gift shop.

Stop in or call for prices.

In conversation with our members...

we always learn something new

In a conversation with Historical Society member, Charles Gilman, we learned that he enjoyed the winter 2014 edition of our newsletter with the article about Camp Mooween. He noted, however, that we had misidentified him in two photographs. So we'd like to set the record straight.



Camper Charles Gilman at Camp Mooween in 1932.
LHS Collection



The correct identification on this photo is L to R: Campers, Neil Grundman, Charles Gilman, Keynote speaker, Lt. Governor Jodi Rell, Deputy Commissioner David K. Leff and First Selectman Joyce Okonuk.
LHS Collection

Blasting Boulders

By Helen Bender

Our farm had a number of large boulders and partially covered rocks in the small fields which were all surrounded by stone wall fences, made from stones that had been picked off the fields. Since it was very inconvenient to plant and harvest around these boulders, my father decided to blast them out with dynamite. Today, one must have permits and a license to do this. I do not know how he knew how to do this, but apparently he had a lot of patience. First holes had to be drilled in the rocks at various points. This was done with a large drill held by one hand and pounded with a heavy hammer with the other hand. Or maybe one person (my brother) held the drill and kept rotating it as another person hit it with a hammer. Some of the rocks were harder than others but either way it took a long time to make a hole, at least six inches or more deep. Depending on the size of the boulder, more than one hole had to be made.

The dynamite was packed into the holes, then a cap was inserted. The cap was attached to long wires which reached far enough away to avoid the blasted rocks. These wires were then attached to a detonator and a car battery. The boulders were covered with brush, burlap bags, etc. to hinder the spread of the blasted rocks and chips. When everyone was in a protected area, the plunger of the detonator was pushed down and the charge sent down the wires to the cap in the dynamite - BOOM - rocks were flying all over. This all had to be cleaned up but at least the rocks were smaller and moveable and much more land was tillable.

All this was being done before there were tractors here. Horses were used to move smaller boulders and tree stumps. Later when tractors became available, the stonewall fences which outlined all the small fields, were buried making much larger fields and more convenient to till.



Planting corn on the Laibrandt Farm c.1939
Courtesy of Helen Bender

A little more about the Moffit House

After reading about the Moffitt House in the last edition of *Provisions*, Helen Bender shared a 1998 letter she received from Jesse Laurence Moffitt. This 101 year-old Moffitt grandson, was responding to Mrs. Bender's article about Redeemer Evangelical Lutheran Church published in "Country Magazine."

"My grandfather, Jesse Moffitt, then of Providence, bought the farm on the west side off Village Hill Road in 1860. His son Edward, my father, was then nine years old. My father and mother brought up their six children there; all of whom attended the one room schoolhouse [which later became the Lutheran Church]...The location of the farm was about a half-mile north of the intersection of the road to Willimantic...My father sold the farm in 1916 and moved to Hartford. My last visit was in the 1930's or 1940's. At that time the owner was Mrs. Dianne Barrin [Baran]...Your story of the church was very interesting and inspiring, especially your father's [Gottlieb Laibrant] contribution. In my day, we went to the Liberty Hill Church" *Thank you Helen!*



1889 Photo of the E. L. Moffitt home located at 265 Village Hill Road
Connecticut State Library Collection

“Views of the Past, 1889” – “home of Charles W. and Alice [Wood] Martin”

Continued from page 9

will dated 1895, “in accordance with the wish of my said husband,” Henrietta left the farm to Ernest L Martin. “in hope that he will provide a home for his mother.”

Ernest L. Martin lived on the farm from at least 1889 despite several transfers of title within the family. In 1926, he finally sold the land “with a dwelling house and ell, two barns, corn house, two sheds, wood house, workshop, hog pen, wood shed and hen house” to Edward A. Hoxie. In 1945, Mr. Hoxie sold the “Martin Property” to Arthur Lipman of Putnam who sold it to Samuel Lipman a

month later. Arthur Lyon and the late Nancy Lyon acquired the farm in 1959. The 1889 photograph may show Charles W. Martin. The man at the right leaning on the stone wall is carrying a rifle and perhaps other hunting or trapping gear. Clearly neither woman can be Alice [Wood] Martin since she did not marry into the family until nine years later. Perhaps the older woman is the widow Mary [Champlin] Martin. The two other men may well be two of Charles’ brothers, but the younger woman is not identified as there were no sisters in the family.

Thank you Elizabeth Peay!

Lyman High School student Elizabeth Peay has had a very rewarding school year. Combining her love of volleyball, her interest in history, and her civic-mindedness she completed a very successful Senior Project, with an impressive presentation on “The Importance of History Education” and a generous donation to the Lebanon Historical Society.

Elizabeth, daughter of Jim and Denise Peay, and a member of Lyman’s volleyball team, began her Senior Project in September, with her creation and organization of “Pass for the Past,” a local volleyball tournament, with proceeds benefiting our local organization.

To complete her project (which she passed with flying colors), Elizabeth was required to give a presentation, and did so very capably, to teachers, coaches, students and invited guests. In her presentation, she stressed the importance of many topics, including, the diversity of food, cultures and histories and engaged her audience by asking their opinions and ideas about them. She noted the importance of learning from history’s “mistakes of the past” and her concerns about the decreasing amount of history included in various school curriculums. Her topic was bolstered in her video



Left Mary Lou Beckwith receives a donation for the Lebanon Historical Society from Elizabeth Peay's fundraiser

presentation, with quotes from many, including Winston Churchill, Oscar Wilde, George Orwell, Henry Ford, Sigmund Freud, and others. Noted quotes were presented and discussed, including, “History is the window to the past” and Steve Jobs’ own, “You cannot understand what is happening today without understanding what came before.” Audience members enjoyed conversation and refreshments, following Elizabeth’s benevolence in her presentation of a check for \$400.00 to the Lebanon Historical Society, thus completing her outstanding accomplishments, on and off the court during her senior year!

Thank you and congratulations on all your accomplishments and good luck in the future!

Exhibit News

Current Exhibits Include:

"Always a Pleasure to Hear from Home"
Lebanon and the Civil War

"Doctor Beaumont"

"Views of the Past"

"Toby Jugs"

"Postcards from Lebanon"

"Turning the Soil: The Land and People of Lebanon"

"Explore Revolutionary Lebanon"

Our hands-on history room for kids of all ages



Our genealogy and research library is open if you have Lebanon ancestors you would like to research. Non-members are charged \$5 a day. Members are free.

While it's best to make an appointment, we are open from 12pm to 4pm Wednesday though Saturday.



History Trivia Question: Whose gravestone in the Trumbull Cemetery begins with " Reader, as thou passest, drop a tear to the memory of the once eminent Academic Instructor,..." ?

Save the Date!

Please mark your calendar
Saturday, July 19, 2014
5pm for our gala event...

An Evening
At the *Museum*

By Invitation only.
Look for your invitation in June



May Day Tea on Sunday, April 27 at 2pm

Back by popular demand and in celebration of May Day we are hosting a tea for young ladies and their adults.

We'll have pots of tea, treats and lots of fun crafting a beautiful May Day basket.

**For girls 7 & above and must be accompanied by an adult
A \$6 materials fee per basket for everyone.**

Advanced registration is required by April 24. - Space is limited