



The Chronicle Quarterly

Weston Historical Society

Summer 1996

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THE NORFIELD GRANGE

HAPPY 100 YEARS OLD!

The Norfield Grange turned 100 years old on January 6 of this year. The history of the Grange organization goes back to Civil War times. It is the only farm fraternity in the world and its idea was conceived during the period of reconstruction after the Civil War. Mr. Oliver Kelley was sent by the U.S. Department of Agriculture on a trip through the South to study agricultural needs and conditions. Being a Mason, and finding many open doors because of this, he formed the idea of a nationwide fraternity of farmers to work out the enormous problems facing rural people after the depletion of resources and manpower for both North and South after the War.

This organization proved to be a gift from heaven for many rural families. It alleviated their isolation as in those days farmers were alone with poor roads, no rural mail delivery, no cars, phones, or electricity. Even in Weston 70 years ago, many of the main roads were impassable for cars in the Spring.

Grange units gradually spread through most of the country and Norfield received its charter in 1896. The first meeting was held on a bitter, bitter cold January 6th. At first the members met upstairs in one of the Jarvis School buildings, but that burned down in July, 1906. The Grange was then allowed to add to the small Town Hall that stood behind Norfield Church, but that building also burned in August of 1951. Emmanuel Church offered a meeting place until the Grange had a house of their own.



Ladies of the "Degree Team" who travelled to other Granges when there was to be an introduction of new members. These women represented Norfield Grange, circa 1930. Back Row, L-R: Janet Guidera, Olive Waterbury, Elizabeth James, Alice Bennett, Florence Phelps, Clara Coley, Virginia Ranholm, Lillian Holzhausen. Front Row, L-R: Evelyn Fancher, Doris Quist, Gertrude Quist, Dot O'Brien, Rose Bucker, Harriet Schine.

One of the Grange members, Sister Caroline Newmann, gave the Grange a one acre lot she owned on Steep-hill, but it was decided it was too difficult to get to in the Winter. She bought back her lot for \$1,000 and the Grange then paid \$2,000 for an acre on Goodhill Rd. (near Rt. 57). Frank O'Dwyer (a local architect) drew up beautiful plans for a new Grange Hall but they were too expensive for the Grange members. George and John Guidera suggested a cement block Hall which was economical, but not the style that most members wanted.

In July, 1956, Ted Coley found an advertisement in the Norwalk Hour

offering three old barns for the taking. Mr. Coley accepted the offer and signed a contract bond, and insurance certificate to complete the job. He offered the largest of the three barns to the Grange. The committee, headed by John Bross, gave the okay to Mr. Coley. Everyone possible helped with the removal operation. John Bross numbered all the beams so that they could be put back quickly, Fred Hanford drew up the plans for the new hall and was boss carpenter of the job from start to finish, Tom and Olive Phillips did all the electrical work, Stanton Fancher, Ray Fitch, Harold Keene and his son Charles worked at getting it up. Tom Studwell

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THE NORFIELD GRANGE

continued from page 1

worked hard on the interior of the building and still does. Many of the members, friends and neighbors helped with the barn raising, and as Mr. Coley said, the women worked hard as well cooking and feeding the men to keep up their energy.



Geese at last year's Grange Fair. Farm animals, exhibits and demonstrations are popular attractions every September at the Fair, as well as Weston-created arts, crafts and delicacies - reminding us of our long agricultural roots. The companion photo illustrates **A Vintage Weston Grange Fair Poster** displayed in the Barn Museum of the Historical Society.

To raise money for the new Hall, the members held dances, gave plays, held food sales and card parties. They dug a well and secured an 8 burner stove and a double steel sink. By November the roof was on the hall and 155 folding chairs were purchased from the Easton Bd. of Education. Brother James DeMario took a mortgage so that the hall could be finished. In 1975 the loan was paid off and the mortgage burned.

"The National Grange organization has its headquarters in Washington, D.C. It supports a lobby in Congress to push legislation favorable to its farmer members and the public welfare. The National Grange was instrumental in getting rural free delivery and parcel post service, regulation of public utilities and freight rates, land grant colleges, experiment stations, pure food and drug laws, State Police and fire protection, and farm research, to mention a few. The Norfield Grange in particular started the Visiting Nurse service, sponsored the Cub Scouts,

contributed to the gift of a rocking bed for the treatment of polio, cleaned up the Coley Cemetery, erected a bronze plaque on Norfield Green with the names of those who gave their lives in World War II. The Grange also contributes regularly to the Newington Home for Crippled Children and to other charitable causes." (Quoted from a history of the Grange written by Ruth Lockwood in 1950.)

The Grange is a family organization, non-political and non-sectarian. Anyone 14 or older may



apply. Meetings are held twice a month with a business meeting followed by a program that hopes to bring something of interest to everyone. These programs might include singing, skits, games, readings, or a talk by a member, or invited guest. According to the history of the Grange written in the 1950's, the men had a contest to see who could bake the best pizza pie. Some other programs given over the years included Mrs. Fred Bennett reading "Managing a Husband," readings on modern inventions, the washing machine and running water by Mrs. Corsa, the telephone by Mrs. Brock, and the sewing machine by Florence Banks. One evening the entertainment was selections on the gramophone. There was surely a lively evening when the discussion was "Which is the bigger nuisance, a woman working outdoors, or a man in the house?" The membership also enjoys picnics and suppers amongst themselves and other local Granges. Dances are held from time to time and an occasional pie

eating contest.

Educational programs are also given at the meetings and have included such topics as "The Dairy Situation in New England," "Our Busy Bees," "Garden of Happiness," and a "Summer Salad." The Grange holds local and regional contests in sewing, quilting, needlework, canning, baking, arts and crafts and the growing of flowers, fruits and vegetables. The Norfield Grange holds its fair each fall, featuring the making of fresh cider, live farm animals, games for children and displays of blue ribbons won by individuals participating in the above mentioned categories.

Monies raised over the years have gone to the betterment of our community as well as improving the Grange. One year the Grange bought a new broom for 27 cents, and had a 10 cent grab bag at Christmas. In March of 1913 there was a bill for 25 dozen biscuits at nine cents a dozen and 48 pounds of ham for 20 cents a pound. In that same year \$5 was given to the Norfield Improvement Association for improvements to the Town Hall.

Despite the lack of farming in this area, the Norfield Grange is still one of the strongest granges in the area thanks to its members and their strong commitment to each other and the community. We wish we had the room to share all the many memories of the last 100 years, but we do wish you a very Happy Birthday and wishes for 100 more. 1950.

(The Chronicle would like to thank Ruth Lockwood, Ted Coley, Ethel and Fred Hanford, and Peg and Charlie McCullough for all their help writing this article.)



The Chronicle Quarterly

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NEW LOOK FOR THE COLEY HOUSE

The inside of the Coley House has a new look these days thanks to the efforts of our trustee Pat McLaughlin and her committee. Pat moved to Weston 13 years ago from the Chicago area and found that setting up her new home here in Weston to be one of "life's biggest adventures." She loved decorating, and at the suggestion of a friend, enrolled at Fairfield University to take design courses. Pat and a friend formed a small decorating company and were involved in model homes in Danbury. After Pat received her Certificate in Interior Design, she and her partner went their separate ways, each continuing to work in the interior design field.

Pat was asked to join the Weston Historical Board so that she could use her talents and expertise to enhance the interior of the Coley House, an 1840's Federal style home. Pat, with the help of Millie Best, picked through the furniture in the attic and chose appropriate pieces. Because so many things have been donated through the years, the interior has an eclectic look which is both warm and charming.

Kiwanis kindly moved the furniture from the attic and placed it at Pat's direction. The front parlor (known as the Budd Parlor) now has a Lincoln rocker and new needlepoint rug, as well as matching chairs and sofa. The back parlor (recently dedicated as the Scott Hill Parlor, has a more feminine look with needlepoint chairs and a "fainting couch." Pat also has included a

small round table and four lovely walnut chairs, the seats of which have been recovered. A sisal rug has been installed after the floors were cleaned and polished.

Pat has taken bits and pieces to unify the look in a colorful way, using the golds, blacks and rose colors from the furniture in her fabrics. The window treatments tie the look together and many, many donated accessories of books, china, porcelain and glass have been used to accessorize. We are still in need of lamps to brighten our rooms at night.



The newly decorated Budd Parlor

The committee helping Pat included Millie Best and Linda Martin who have assisted Pat to date and name many of the donated pieces. Clean-up of the furniture was done by Shirley Stanton, Helene Weatherill, Linda Martin and Karin Giannitti. Painting was courtesy of Eileen Buckley and Helene

Weatherill, and Bob Jirucha kindly fixed the marble tables in the front parlor. Deanna Mossa made and hung our new draperies.

The look is charming and inviting, and we hope that everyone will be able to come by and see it at the Open House on June 30th, 2-5. It has turned our house into a home and our thanks to all who have helped make the wonderful changes.



Members of the clean-up and decorating crew, L-R: Helen Weatherill, Karin Giannitti, Pat McLaughlin, Sandy O'Brien, Bob Jirucha, Deanna Mossa and Shirley Stanton. Missing from the picture is Eileen Buckley.



The following article, written by Mrs. Jeanne Howes of Weston, appeared in *The Weston Forum* December, 1987. Part II will be featured in this issue of the *Chronicle* with Part III in the next issue. Part I appeared in the Winter 1996 issue.

A SPECIAL CORNER OF WESTON

By Jeanne C. Howes

(PART TWO)

The Swedish immigrants who settled in the northwest corner Weston were not only hard-working, but also deeply religious people. Keeping the faith brought from their homeland, they met in each other's homes to read the Bible on Sundays. Together in 1899 they built the Swedish Covenant Church on the Weston-Redding line, and Pastor Anders Nordlund, an early pastor who arrived in 1889, served the little congregation until 1942. This attractive building at the head of Covenant Lane was sold 10 years ago and is now the home of a private family. The parsonage built on Maple Street still serves to house the present minister, Rev. Gordon Miller, whose flock now worships in Wilton.

For many years services were conducted in the Swedish language. Retired Town Clerk Gertrude Walker, then Gertrude Quist, remembers her confirmation lessons were all in that language. It was a strict and sober Bible religion, but also a place of neighborly exchanges in choir groups, Ladies Aid and even lawn parties on Midsummer's Day.

Another Swedish custom was revived when Pastor William Holmberg was in charge -- the celebration of St. Lucia Day in early December. One year pretty blonde Shirley Pearson wore the crown of candles in her hair as she and her attendants carried in trays of fresh baked buns with their wonderful aroma to serve the congregation. The late Elisabeth Borgeson of Maple Street would bake these special buns spiced with cardamom and sprinkled with pearl sugar for the St. Lucy Festival held annually at the Wilton church.



Young girl portraying Lucia at the celebration of Lucia Day in early December.



Old School - Georgetown circa 1910. Situated on top of hill at the corner of Rte. 107 and Rte. 7. The school is no longer there and much of the hill was blasted for the Walbaum's Shopping Center.

JULOTTA (SWEDISH CHRISTMAS)

Highlight of the church year was the Christmas celebration called Julotta. Days in advance, housewives bustled about ordering and preparing the lutefish and other Christmas specialties. On Christmas Eve families gathered for the "white meal" consisting of lutefish, potatoes, lumpa, and a rice pudding flavored with almond or cinnamon.

The children heard marvelous tales from the grandparents about the "Tompta," trolls similar to our Christmas elves who make the toys, and the Julbocken, a goat, not a reindeer, who delivered the gifts.

After the presents, usually home-knit scarves, mittens, sweaters or socks, a simple toy and an orange, the children were tucked into bed. Everyone had to get up real early for the 6 A.M. service.

Cozy in their new winter clothes, family joined with family walking up the snow-covered road to the church. Helen Rosendahl (former Town Clerk) remembers the excitement as a child coming out into that cold crisp air while the stars still glittered in the dark sky. For Louise Jacobson there was a sense of wonder, for they seemed to her like the shepherds of old walking under the stars towards the Christmas miracle.

The Samuelsons of Meadowbrook Lane remember the small boxes of candy with a string handle they received when leaving the church. Later, at home, there were baskets heaped with "Aunty buns" baked by their Aunt Hulda, and hot coffee on the stove for visitors. Also the Samuelson boys remembered to hang a sheaf of wheat outside for the birds.

SCHOOL DAYS

Until the Hurlbutt elementary school was completed in 1932, most of Weston school children attended one room schoolhouses. But as early as 1916, children living in the Georgetown section of Weston were privileged to attend one of the most modern grade schools of the period.

The Gilbert and Bennett School, built through the generosity of the factory owners, was a model school for the community. It contained eight separate classrooms, an auditorium, kitchen, and cafeteria, a principal's office and rooms equipped for manual training and domestic science. Built on one level for safety reasons, each room had its own exit door. There were neat inside bathrooms and a spacious playground.

As the children came from three different towns, administration posed a problem until the General Assembly in 1919 created School District 10 to embrace parts o

eston, Wilton and Redding.

Miss Ina E. Driscoll came as its acting principal in 1926 and remained for years. Enrollment ran about 250 pupils. Several Weston residents today fondly remember their schooldays and the kindness of Miss Driscoll whose caring influence extended into their very homes.

One longstanding school custom required that each girl in the graduating class sign and sew her graduation dress. This white dress would later be worn at confirmation time. Another tradition was the annual Swedish smorgasbord of home-cooked foods, a fund-raising affair to provide special treats for the school, such as a motion picture camera to record school programs and activities.

Because of the nearby railroad station, most of Weston's "G&B" graduates went on to further education at Norwalk High School, or to trade and technical courses in Danbury.

The low building with its Spanish tile roof and pretty playground was sold about eight years ago and continues today as the Landmark Academy, a private school.

Not until 1934 were all the children of Weston's Georgetown corner assimilated to Weston's own school. But a trust fund established in 1906 by Edwin Gilbert, son of a mill founder, has now been reactivated to benefit children who reside in the former school District 10. Six Weston students who received scholarship funds in 1988 were Christopher Andersson, Nicholas Bodor, Catherine Huegi, Susan Johnson, Stephen Lindlof, and Beth Witthorn. C. Bertil Sandahl of Maple Street is one of three trustees of the Edwin Gilbert School Trust fund.

A FACTORY WEB

The Gilbert and Bennett factory gave more than wire, it wove together the disparate corners of different towns into its own private domain. As already mentioned, it provided school and a train depot for its workers' families. But, that was not all. The wire mill was the prime influence in securing a first class post office and a fire department to service the area. Also, in the 1920's, the company extended loans to employees -- up to 90% of building costs -- for building their own homes.

These benevolent provisions served to bond this part of Weston into the Georgetown circle more securely than to the rest of Weston.

Although the work was difficult, poorly, meagerly paid, and sometimes danger-

ous, the Scandinavian newcomers were satisfied to stay. For the work was close by; it was steady; and offered the good company of fellow workers speaking a familiar language.

Charles Samuelson walked three miles back and forth carrying his lunch pail to work a 10 hour day, six days a week for 10 cents and 15 cents an hour. He continued working at the factory for 50 years. In the early 1900's these working conditions and rates were typical of all factory employment.

When the young fellows were drafted for service in 1917, young women and boys as young as 12 were encouraged to join the work force. A special weaving room was set up for the women. Esther Wahlquist started to work there at the age of 14 and continued at G & B for 55 years.

When the Roosevelt administration set minimum standards in 1933, the factory was obliged to raise the rates with beginners starting at 40 cents an hour, and Saturdays were half-days. Charles Samuelson continued there for 50 years, and other Weston folk, Rudy Jacobson, Gus Forsberg, and Nils Hansen among others also continuing through all their working lives.

OTHER ATTRACTIONS

Some of their children and grandchildren followed their fathers' work pattern, but others, after trying a turn at the looms during a summer vacation, decided to try something else. They went on to trade schools and became electricians, plumbers, carpenters and automobile mechanics.

Arvid Johnson went to Storrs to



The A&P Store that was situated near the stone Methodist Church on Rte. 107 in Georgetown, in 1927. L-R: F. Ragnar Bergflors and Gustaf R. Hohnson, Mgr.

learn farm management. Harry Samuelson got a cart and ox team and found work plowing. William Samuelson went to tonsorial school in New York and set up a local barber shop charging 25 cents a haircut. Walfred Carlson became a clerk, then manager, of the early boutique-sized A&P.

Connery Brothers General Store, established before the turn of the century on the very spot where the Old Red Shop once stood, remained a focal point for many decades. This building until recently housed the Shaker Real Estate office.

At Connery's you could buy groceries and household goods, furniture, clothing, lumber and coal. Many staples were displayed and sold from barrels. James Connery always employed at least one Swedish-speaking clerk. Some older people here still remember when a clerk made the rounds of our neighborhood taking market orders in the morning which would be delivered by horse and cart in the afternoon.

Social life in the early days centered on Miller's Hall where dances were held and the first silent movies were shown while a young Mary Fox played appropriate themes on the piano.

Although the factory's attraction grew weaker, a growing variety of stores, banks, gas stations, liquor stores, restaurants and offices just over our town line has kept an economic hold on this corner for many years.



Gilbert & Bennett Wire Mill about 1900



(The following is a reprint of an article from the Westport "Town Crier" Sunday, May 10, 1964. The two paintings in the photograph now hang in the Town Hall Meeting Room.)

PLATT PORTRAITS INTRODUCED HERE FOR COMMITTEE

David Platt and Elizabeth Hanford Platt are two new and venerable members of the Weston Historical Society. Their portraits were introduced last week to members of the committee for research and collection of artifacts by chairman, Mm. Leighton W. C. Dye.

Present at the introduction were Mrs. William Lutz, Mrs. Daniel Forbes, Mrs. Willis Banks, Curator Arthur James Hoe, Mrs. Rowland Wilson, Mm. Robert Stein and Mrs. Edward W. Russell.

Although the Platts lived for a long time in Weston, it was many years ago. It is the 1835 portraits of Elizabeth at age 26 and David at age 33 which have come into the possession of the society through the generosity of W.F. Osborn of Westport whose grandmother was Mary Elizabeth Platt, granddaughter of Elizabeth and David.

The Platts lived at the corner of Norfield Road and Newtown Turnpike and Mr. Platt operated a mill and foundry. His axe patents were sold to the Bradleys

and the second grade tools from the Bradley factory bore his name. Other family members, Justus and Jeremiah Platt, were early deacons of Norfield Church.

Two Land Grant Deeds were also presented to the Historical Society by Mr. Osborn. One dated 1769 reads: "William Osborn to his son, Isaac, 10th year of the reign of King George Third, while another dated 1770 reads: "Hezekia Bulkley to Isaac Osborn, 11th year of the reign of King George Third."

The ancestors of the donor, Frank Osborn, owned a large section of land in the northwest corner of Weston which was once called Osborn Town. In 1837 the Osborn Town District was dropped and the property is now in the Georgetown part of Weston.

Osborn's grandfather was born on the Osborn farm, and his father inherited the property. His father operated a grocery store in Westport and farmed in Weston for a number of years. Jeremiah, Gregory, and William Osborn were Selectmen of the Town several times during the period from 1800 to 1912, and Jeremiah was Town Treasurer from 1808 to 1810 and again from 1812 to 1815.

According to Edwin J. Phelps, chairman of the Weston Historical Society, the portraits and Land Grant Deeds will be on display at the May 18 meeting in the Norfield Parish Hall. It is hoped that people will continue to turn over valuable material of this type to the Society for its permanent collection.

David Platt (right portrait) and Elizabeth Hanford Platt (left portrait) were introduced on May 18, 1964, at an exhibit of the Weston Historical Society.

From left to right were members of the Committee for Research and Collection of Artifacts: Mrs. Leighton W. C. Dye, chairman, Arthur James Hoe, and curator, Mrs. Willis Banks.



(Photo is copied from a 1964 issue of THE TOWN CRIER newspaper.)

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

The Chronicle Quarterly
9 Christopher Hill
Weston, Ct. 06883

Letter to the Editor:

I have been in Florida for the last 3 1/2 months and have just found the Quarterly for Winter 1996 (Vol. 15, #1). I enjoyed it very much, as I enjoy all of them. I have a few additions-a letter to the editor.

When I moved here in 1948, Mrs Hill (born Morehouse) was living in the Ebenezer Morehouse home. She was stone deaf and never had any modern conveniences in the house-no running water, no electricity, no phone & no central heating. The water came from a hand well on the back porch and the hear and cooking from a big wood burning stove in the kitchen. As a boy, Ernie Albin used to come here with his father from Norwalk to cut and lay in wood supplies for Mrs Hill. Mrs Morehouse, Mrs Minerva Heady's mother, used to spend a lot of her time with her sister in law, Mrs Hill. Minerva's father used to drive his team of horses and wagon down the pike every now & then in the 1950's. Minerva kept the team back in the pastures for many years after her father died. They used to tell me that Ebenezer went off to the California gold rush and the house was built with California gold. There are some old letters from the mining camps that he wrote. They are packed away and not available at present.

On page #4 it states that Gilbert and Bennett ceased operations in 1989. Not true. They just closed the old out dated factory. The G. & B. main office is still right there in Georgetown. They have five manufacturing facilities: Toccoa, Georgia, Blue Island, Illinois, Dunbar, West Virginia, Carney, Michigan, and Scotland Neck, North Carolina. Over the years they have been the first to produce many items using wire, an example: the big heavy blasting mats. Another member of this Gilbert family was the Alfred Gilbert of the Gilbert Toy Factory in New Haven that made Erector Set and Toy Trains 75 and more years ago. In the early years of the 20th Century The A. C. Gilbert Company was the largest manufacturer of educational play- things in the world. The company carried on into the 1950's, unfortunately Alfred Carlton Gilbert, Jr. died when still a fairly young man. In 1908 Alfred Senior held the world's Pole Vaulting Record and won 1st place for the U.S.A. in the London Olympic Games in 1908.

Very truly yours,
Jim Hoe

WHS HISTORY

by Herb Day & Lou Bregy

Almost every town with a colorful history like Weston has a historical society. But it was not until 1961 (almost 175 years after Weston was incorporated) that a group of interested townspeople thought seriously about starting a society. Several residents had met informally over the previous six years and discussed it. Some historic items had been collected and were stored in residents' homes for safe keeping. To this end, they held an open meeting on January 13, 1962, in the Weston Library to hear about the possibility of organizing a Weston Historical Society. Mrs. Hamilton Basso was the chairman for the open meeting. The impetus to call the meeting was the offer by Mr. and Mrs. Lloyd Scribner to the town of the old post office, which was on property owned by them at the corner of Newtown Turnpike and Georgetown Road.

The Certificate of Incorporation was issued on June 7, 1962, and the charter was issued by the State of Connecticut on June 22, 1962. The first organizational meeting of the new Society was held on August 6, 1962, with Mr. Ed Phelps as chairman and Mrs. Suzanne Green as Secretary. The Society attempted to have the old post office moved to a location next to the old onion barn so they could use both as a museum and meeting location. Because of cost restraints, the post office was not moved even though the town offered to lease the onion barn and about 3/4 of an acre to the Society for ten years at a cost of \$1.00 per year.

About the time this conflict was going on, Mr. and Mrs. James Coley offered their barn on Weston Road to the Society to use as a museum. Jim Coley had stopped farming several years earlier and the barn was not being used. The Society accepted the use of the barn on April 4, 1966, and the other plans for the old post office and the onion barn were abandoned. Several changes were made to the interior of the barn to accommodate its use as a museum to display exhibits of Weston's agricultural and

manufacturing past.

Mr. and Mrs. Coley had agreed between themselves to give the barn, farm house and the immediate acreage to the Society in their will. To this end, they offered this property to the Society and their offer was accepted by the Society on April 27, 1978. Jim Coley had passed on and Mrs. Cleora Coley was given the right to live in the house with her son Jimmy until she passed on. She died on February 21, 1983, and with Jimmy cared for, the Society took possession of the house and all the other buildings on the 3.7 acres.

Two years later, after conflicts with town boards, neighbors, and a developer were resolved, the Society was granted permission to operate as a museum under a pre-existing ruling.

A carefully nursed 1968 endowment from the Forrest estate funded the necessary changes required by the town and continues to help maintain the seven buildings on the property.

To commemorate the 1976 bicentennial, the Society published the first edition of "WESTON: The Forging of a Connecticut Town." The letters of the second Norfield minister's family and Scott Hill's oral histories of many old residents were two of the most valuable resources.

The old Post Office was not forgotten. The Scribners gave it to the town again, and it was moved a few hundred feet to the north, where it was put on a new foundation and re-sided. It is maintained as a museum by the Society and opened on announced times and for school tours.

Recently, a shed was constructed to house the old cider press from Bert Merwins mill and toy factory at Aspetuck Corners. Some wooden

toys were assembled from parts given to the Society by a descendant of Bert Merwin.

The Weston Historical Society continues to fulfill its purpose, which was spelled out at its organization: 'The Weston Historical Society is to be a non-profit, tax free organization devoted to the furthering of interest in the history of Weston and to the collection and preservation of those relics and mementos of Weston's history as may survive.'



Did you see us in the Memorial Day Parade? At the reins is Nancy Dillon driving her horse, Fozzie. In the front left seat is Ethel Keene, chaplain and past Master of the Norfield Grange. In the jump seat, holding on for dear life, is Danielle Marafiotte. The carriage is an authentic Lady's Wicker Pheaton, circa 1890, belonging to the Historical Society

Photo-Tad Dillon



HERB DAY VOLUNTEER SPIRIT AWARD WINNER

Each year the Voluntary Action Center of Mid-Fairfield seeks out volunteers in local communities who have made an extraordinary contribution to their organizations. This year, the Weston Historical Society Board of Trustees nominated Herb Day for this special award. As most of us know, Herb has been a trustee and President of the WHS for years and has been in the forefront of

making the Society a visible and educational resource for the community. Herb was the writer and editor of the Chronicle for 12 years. He has built and put together displays of 19th century farm implements for the Barn Museum. He has been the curator of many exhibits, designed and helped build our Cider Shed, catalogued photographs and documents on Weston's history, as well as lending a hand with our annual "Christmas At the Coley House" and helping with our summer Seniors' Picnic as chief cook. Our congratulations again go out to Herb for this award and our undying thanks for all that he has done and continues to do.

The Chronicle Quarterly

9 Christopher Hill

Weston, CT 06883

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THE BULLETIN BOARD

VOLUNTEER GROUP NEEDED!

Would you like to:

- Prepare food
- Help Keep the Coley House tidy
- Be a host or hostess
- Man booths or games
- Decorate for events
- Help catalog and store relics and documents
- Type or write or phone calls
- Fix up
- Anything that will bring us closer together and make the Society a greater success.

We are now consolidating a list of volunteers. If you want to remain an active volunteer, or become active, please call or write Roger Core, Weston Historical Society, PO Box 1092, Weston, CT 06883. Phone 226-1804. Tell us what you would enjoy doing. We promise we will use you!

WESTON HISTORICAL SOCIETY Annual Seniors' Picnic

Desserts & Bar-B-Q

**Wednesday, July 10th
Noon - 2 PM**

Coley House
104 Weston Road

*Join us
Rain or Shine*

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HONORING
NEW MEMBERS & OLD
Sunday, June 30, 2-5 PM
See Our Newly Decorated Parlors***

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