

EAST GRANBY HISTORICAL SOCIETY MARCH 2020 NEWSLETTER

MARCH PROGRAM CANCELLED---the speaker had to cancel for health reasons. We hope to reschedule his presentation on the Farmington canal for next year.

UPCOMING PROGRAM: Taking place in the Viets Tavern---Sunday, May 17, 1:45pm meeting followed by “The First American Cookbook”, presented by noted culinary historians Keith Stavely & Kathleen Fitzgerald

This one hour illustrated presentation will describe how Amelia Simmons’ *American Cookery* book, published in Hartford in 1796, contributed to efforts to define the character of the newly independent United States, in which Connecticut played a prominent part. Amelia Simmons described herself as an orphan, which raises intriguing questions of personal as well as national identity that will also be explored in this talk. Her cookbook, which includes recipes for New World ingredients like pumpkin, cranberry and cornmeal, has been designated by the Library of Congress as one of eighty eight books that shaped America.

Stavely and Fitzgerald have written three books about New England food history, the most recent one is : *United Tastes: The Making of the First American Cookbook*. Copies of this book and their earlier books will be available for sale and signing.

The event will conclude with refreshments, including a gingerbread dish from the first American cookbook and copies of the recipe.

Door prizes, too!

**SEATS ARE LIMITED FOR THIS EVENT.
IMPORTANT DETAILS ON NEXT PAGE.**

What more appropriate venue to enjoy this presentation on early American food than in an 18th century tavern? While Viets Tavern is NOT open to the public at this time, the Historical Society has received special permission to hold this event, but we are restricted to a limited amount of seating. **RESERVATIONS ARE REQUIRED** for ALL persons wishing to attend, including society members at no charge and an \$8 fee for non-members. Business meeting will begin at an earlier than usual time of 1:45. Please note that since this will be our Annual Meeting, which includes voting on the '20-'21 budget and officers/directors, we need a quorum of at least 15 members. Reserve your seat early before the spots are all taken! Questions? Call Sharon Casabella: 860-658-5905

“The First American Cookbook” presentation, Sun. May 17

Society member(s)_____

Non-member(s)_____

Total number of persons_____

Total \$_____ Make check payable to and mail to: East Granby Historical Society P.O. Box 188 East Granby, CT. 06026

Your contact info._____

Help is needed prior to May 17 program. We are responsible for interior cleaning and setting up----date and time TBD. If you are potentially interested, give your name to Sharon along with your reservation. Cleanup help needed, too!



NO SPRING TAG SALE THIS YEAR----WHY?

While we have had several successful tag sales in recent years, they do require many hours of work from many people and the weather is always a critical and unpredictable factor, due to our outdoor venue. Then there's the issue of distributing the leftovers to different places. So.....

New Fundraiser: Crafters Market, Sat. Sept. 12, Kilbon Barn (East Granby Farms)

The board is in the process of planning this "first annual" (we hope!) event, which will feature local quality crafts for sale. We hope to fill the building with many vendors, charging them a (yet-to-be-determined) fee. Those vendor fees, in addition to possible food item sales by our society, would provide the income. Look for more details in the next newsletter and if you have ideas to share or are willing to help, please speak to any board member.

Newsletters now on society website

We have started posting the newsletters on eastgranbyhistoricalsociety.org This means anyone going onto the website may read them and the photos are even in color! Also, perhaps by this fall, we would like to send newsletters by email to as many members as possible to reduce printing and mailing costs. If your email has changed recently or you're not sure we have it, please send it to:

eastgranbyhistorical@gmail.com (no word "society" for the email)

If you wish to continue receiving a paper copy, send along that message or call Nancy Moody: 860-653-2866

OFFICERS:

President.....Nancy Moody
Vice Pres.....John Rusnock
Secretary.....Rick Woods
Treasurer.....Phil Fontaine

BOARD OF DIRECTORS: (term ending)

Kenneth Biter ('21) Bob Ravens-Seger
Sheri Biter ('22) ('21)
Les Boynton ('20) Sharon Wolf ('22)
Sharon Casabella ('20)

Curator: Ruth Westervelt

East Granby Historical Society
Business Meeting
January 26, 2020

Meeting was called to order at 2:07 pm and was attended by about 20 members and guests.

Secretary's Report: The minutes for the October 13, 2019 were approved by the members as published in the January newsletter.

Treasurer's Report: Phil provided handouts of his report. He explained the \$200 transfer on the budget to provide seed money for the Fyfe & Drum Muster and Town Tour day last fall. He also explained the increase in price on the Security fees at the barn. It has been an oversight by the provider for quite some time until it was reconciled.

President's Report: Nancy relayed the success of the Fall Events and proposed a new fundraiser idea in lieu of the annual May tag sale. Board members have suggested a craft fair in the fall with exhibitors paying for spaces and the society possibly selling food items. Discussion and planning for this will be continuing with the board.

Nancy also presented a large photograph of a submarine that a former resident served on during World War II which was recently donated to us.

The meeting adjourned at 2:25 pm and was followed by a presentation of Connecticut 169 Club: Your Passport and Guide to Exploring Connecticut by author Marty Podskoch.

Respectfully submitted by,

Rick Woods, Secretary