

# HARWINTON HISTORICAL SOCIETY NEWSLETTER

## NOVEMBER 2022

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### *On the hunt at the Barn Museum*



*On Sunday, October 30<sup>th</sup>, visitors to the Historical Society's Barn Museum participate in a history-related scavenger hunt. Armed with a prepared list, they searched for artifacts on display in the barn that are featured in David Ryan's book "The Barn Corner." Ryan was a local middle school social studies teacher and member of the Historical Society's Board of Directors. He contributed monthly short stories for this newsletter describing the purpose of objects displayed in the barn.*

*Along with the scavenger hunt on Sunday there was an opportunity to visit the 1840s one-room First District School. The historic one-room school building underwent renovations this year including replacing the roof, improving rafter supports, and repairing and repainting windows and siding. The project was made possible with funds from the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA).*

## **“Harwinton’s Hungerfords”**

An article written by Harwinton Town Historian Sue McClen was featured in the Fall 2022 edition of “Connecticut Genealogy News” magazine, a quarterly publication of the Connecticut Society of Genealogists, Inc.

The article titled “Harwinton’s Benefactors – The Hungerfords” describes how the generosity of Theodore and Newman Hungerford is still evident today at the Hungerford Library (now a museum) and the Hungerford donation of a large 7300-pound stone watering trough.

In addition to the article, Sue submitted photographs and endnotes

 ***Bus Trip to Florence Griswold Museum***   
***Tuesday, December 6, 2022***

*The Society is sponsoring a bus trip to The Florence Griswold Museum in Old Lyme*

*The bus will leave at 9:15 AM and return about 5 PM*

*There will be a guided tour of exhibits at the museum including traditional holiday decorations.*

*Tickets are \$20 which includes museum admission and Northwest Transit Bus transportation.*

*Make checks payable to the Harwinton Historical Society and mail to PO Box 84, Harwinton, 06791. Please include your name, address and a telephone contact number.*



### **“The Barn Corner” Book Available to Purchase**

*“The Barn Corner” book, which is the basis for a recent scavenger hunt mentioned on page 1 of this newsletter, is available to purchase for \$15 by sending a check made out to the Harwinton Historical Society to PO Box 84, Harwinton, CT 06791. Please include a mail address and a phone number.*

# Remembering Harwinton's One-Room Schoolhouses

Presenter: Dr. Jennifer Golec

Sunday, November 20, 2022 @ 2:00 p.m.

Harwinton Town Hall Assembly Room

Hear an interview with a Harwinton resident who graduated from a one-room schoolhouse in Harwinton. Questions such as the following will be answered:

- What was it like to go to school in a one-room schoolhouse?
- Where were Harwinton's one-room schools located?
- How far would you really have to walk to school?
- Learn the fate of Harwinton's one-room schoolhouses.
- What subjects were taught and how did a school mistress/master teach with students ages 5 to 13?

Get answers to these inquiries... and much more. . .



Our presenter, Dr. Jennifer Golec, attended Harwinton Consolidated School and graduated from Lewis Mills High School. Jen's curiosity about Harwinton history led her to do extensive research and conduct interviews to learn about Harwinton's one-room schoolhouses. She is excited to share her findings with us in a PowerPoint presentation complete with photos (historical and recent), interviews, as well as first person accounts of students who attended Harwinton's one-room schools!

## Harwinton Historical Society Country Store Report for 2022 Harwinton Fair

The Country Store at the Harwinton Fair had another successful year despite the cool, windy weather and the smaller-than-usual crowds. The store sold a variety of baked goods, candy, pickles, apples, household items, tools, and historical items. Thanks to all who donated.

Our Take-A-Chance was a big draw again this year. Business was brisk for most of the weekend. Our spinner, local resident Renee Skarp, was an added highlight this year. Thank you to Renee and Jay Delay for the donation of locally grown apples.

Thanks also to the following people who assisted us by working shifts at the Country Store. They are as follows: Marti and Bob Lecko, Bonnie and Dennis Andrews, Kevin Smail, Kristin Gallagher, Sue Ryan, Maureen Thierry, Jill Brown, Cindy Banach, Martha Mitchell, Jeff Newton, Sue McClen, Carol Kearns, Harry Schuh, Elaine Sederquist, Suzanne Barlow, Lou and Charlene Giovannello.

We'd also like to thank the area businesses that so generously donated and participated in our Take-A-Chance (TAC) with gift certificate donations: Our TAC had the best year yet.

A special thanks to Marti and Bob Lecko. Marti handled the setup, paperwork, and the letters for TAC and Bob handled the daily finances for the entire store. Also, thank you to the Lecko's and to Bonnie and Dennis Andrews who assisted with store setup and store take down. We couldn't have done it without their help!

We look forward to next year's Country Store. Please contact us with ideas that might improve our offerings. ....**Nancy and Everett Lyons, Country Store Co-Chairs**

**\*\* SEE PAGE 5 FOR A LIST OF BUSINESS DONORS AND WINNERS  
OF THE TAKE-A-CHANCE DRAWING \*\***



### *Annual Call for Cookies*

The following is a letter/reminder to Historical Society members and friends.

The Harwinton Volunteer Fire Department Auxiliary will again be serving free cookies at the annual Harwinton Hometown Holiday Celebration on Saturday, December 3, 2022. The event will be a walk-through this year.

Your help was truly appreciated in the past. Without the support of organizations like yours, it would never be possible.

Cookies may be dropped off at the town hall any time from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Dec. 3. Someone will be outside collecting them right from your car. Or they may be left in my breezeway (306 North Rd.) anytime the week of the Celebration.

Thank you for your support!  
Cindy Fredsall  
President  
H.V.F.D Auxiliary

## ***2022 Take-a-Chance Donors and Winners***

The *Take-a-Chance* drawing has become an increasingly popular feature at the Historical Society's Country Store during the annual Harwinton Fair. *Take-a-Chance* highlights area businesses that generously donate the prizes. This year 18 businesses participated. Proceeds from the event support the preservation of local history and enable the Historical Society to continue to care for thousands of artifacts and to promote an interest in local history.

Throughout fair weekend visitors to the Country Store were able to browse the marketing materials provided by the participating businesses before taking a chance on the prizes that the businesses had donated. Below is a list of the 2022 TAC businesses and the lucky prize winners.

**A Healing Trail Wellness Center**, \$50 gift certificates won by Linda Nielson-of Wolcott

**A Healing Trail Wellness Center**, \$50 gift certificates won by Jamie O'Meara of Harwinton

**Bell Electric**, \$100 donation

**Big Y**, \$25 gift certificate won by Amy O'Toole of Barkhamsted

**BJs Wholesale Club**, \$25 gift certificate won by Bill Green of Harwinton

**Claussen Cookies**, 1 dozen cookies (\$50 value) won by Amber Grey of Litchfield

**Countryside Market and Pizza**, two egg and cheese sandwiches and two coffees won by Jennifer Basile of Harwinton

**Deeply Rooted Farms, LLC**, \$30 gift certificate won by Sarah Urso of Harwinton

**Edison Grill**, \$50 gift certificate won by Amy O'Toole of Barkhamsted

**Fairview Farm Golf Course**-(value \$172) won by Peter Traudeau of Rocky Hill

**Greenhouse Tavern**, \$25 gift certificate won by Bob McLuin of Harwinton

**Harwinton Pizza**, gift certificate (value \$45) for three large pizzas won by Brandy Serkey of Harwinton

**Hayward Farm**, \$25 gift certificate won by Frank Losquadro-of Harwinton

**Hometown Pizza II**, \$30 gift certificate won by Martin Bozak of Torrington

**KidsPlay**, four admissions (\$40 value) won by Liz Hanlon of Torrington

**Market 32**, \$25 gift certificate won by Robin Thurlough of Torrington

**Stop & Shop**, \$25 gift certificate won by Kathy Borton of Bethel

**Tony's Drive-In Package Store**, \$30 gift certificate won by Mark Dautrich of Torrington

**The Warner Theatre**, four stage@thewarner 2023 Tickets (\$108 value) won by Elaine Surveski-of New Hartford

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*.PLEASE VISIT OUR NEW WEB SITE  
at [harwintonhistory.org](http://harwintonhistory.org)*

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**OFFICERS - 2022**

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**Term Ends 2022**  
Bruce Burnett  
Martha Lecko

**Term Ends 2023**  
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**(non-board positions)**  
**TOWN HISTORIAN**  
Susan McClen

**AUDITOR**  
Marilyn Mitchell

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**Interior of First District Schoolhouse**

**Thank You To All Who Helped**

Many thanks to volunteers and professionals, town officials, HHS board members and others who helped guide the schoolhouse restoration project.

On the interior of the First District (Center)) School, windows were removed, reglazed and repainted by Larry Connors, who was once a student in the one-room school.

Appreciation and a special thank you also goes to Charles Kirchofer for donating wood to replace clapboards on the school throughout the years. Everett Lyons , project manager and Dennis Andrews, HHS buildings supervisor, assisted with the various projects including cleanup of the interior of the school and maintaining progress reports. Restoration work was completed by Mitchell Restoration utilizing ARPA funds. The last piece of the restoration project will be installation of drainage, which is being led by Historical Society board member Michael Orefice.

Thank you to all who helped!

*Bonnie Andrews*

*President*

*Harwinton Historical Society*