



# The Lisbon Quarterly

A Newsletter for Lisbon Residents



## Eagle Scout Project Underway at Ames Cemetery

Life Scout, Matthew Triocchi, from Lisbon's Troop 73 is working on an Eagle project to map out, identify and document the grave sites in the older section of Ames Cemetery on South Burnham Highway (Route 169). His project also includes identifying and recording all Veterans buried at the cemetery and ensuring markers and American flags are placed at these gravesites. A Veteran marker and flag placement dedication is planned for Veteran's Day 2011.

If you are able to provide any historical background information about any Ames Cemetery grave sites or any Veteran buried there, please contact Matthew at [eagleproject73@yahoo.com](mailto:eagleproject73@yahoo.com)

### ANNOUNCEMENTS

By Thomas Sparkman, First Selectman

On May 7, 2011, Town of Lisbon Fire Marshal/Burning Official John Pellett retired from active service. John has been the Fire Marshal for the Town for the past twenty years and I am sure that his decision to retire was a difficult one. During his twenty years of service as the Town of Lisbon Fire Marshal, John without question saved lives and made this a safer community.

I am now pleased to report that on May 9, 2011, Richard Hamel, was appointed as the Town of Lisbon Fire Marshal and Burning Official. A State of Connecticut certified Fire Marshal and Past Chief of the Lisbon Fire Department, "Rick" brings with him a wealth of knowledge and experience. Correspondence can be directed to Richard Hamel, Town of Lisbon Fire Marshal, Lisbon Town Hall, 1 Newent Road, Lisbon, Connecticut

06351, or by telephone at 860-234-3173.

**Paying taxes** has now become as easy as going to your home computer. Town of Lisbon residents can now pay their taxes by going to [lisbonct.com](http://lisbonct.com) and clicking where it says "pay your taxes online."

In response to residents interest in Lisbon hosting a **Farmers' Market**, Paula Stahl from The Last Green Valley Institute spoke on March 9th, and Mark Zotti, from the Connecticut Department of Agriculture spoke on May 16th. Kenneth Mahler kindly recorded and made CD's of both presentations which are available in the Selectmen's office.

The goal will be to be up and running next year if there is enough interest. The next step will be to appoint a committee and hold an organizational meeting. If you are interested in serving on the Farmers' Market committee, please contact the First Selectman at [tsparkman@lisbonct.com](mailto:tsparkman@lisbonct.com)

### Lisbon Historical Society Quarterly Notes

By Kim Sperry

Spring is on the horizon and as sure as another storm or two is expected, our long snowy winter is coming to an end. While we grow weary of shoveling and plowing, snow removal in the country during the 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> centuries was not a big deal. In fact keeping packed snow on dirt roads was an asset to farmers traveling by horse-drawn sleds. The community's snow warden had the task of keeping the road smooth by packing and filling in melt and bare spots, this was done by using snow rollers pulled by oxen, or dragging

the road with a heavy log. Often, winter roads were in better shape than the same road the rest of the year. Come spring, off came the sleigh runners, replaced with wagon wheels until the next snowfall.

Last fall the Historical Society invested in a modern fix to keep the chill of winter at bay. New Plexiglas storm windows were installed over the John Bishop House's 32 windows. Each window had to be custom fit, but we expect the investment will pay off in lower heating costs. Winter work on the Bishop House roof while ready to commence, was deferred until more cooperative weather arrives in the spring.

Many of you might have noticed the green candles in the windows of the JBH, as well as green lights in the synagogue and adorning the bushes in front of the town hall. The Last Green Valley initiated The Green Light Campaign in an effort to communicate the organization's efforts to unify resources and that will preserve and protect our collective natural resources. The Last Green Valley stretches across the 35 towns in northeastern Connecticut and south central Massachusetts, its mission, programs and opportunities to support the region can be found on their website, [www.tlgv.org](http://www.tlgv.org).

Our thanks go out the town Public Works crew for donating the downed tree to the Bishop House. Once cut and split the wood will get us through several seasons of hearth cooking demonstrations and classes, and school field trips.

There are several times during the year that can and bottle drop-offs peak and one beverage is the most popular for that event. The week after the Super Bowl is

one of those times. This year's can and bottle Super Bowl winner is Mike's Hard Limeade (might that have something to do with the green label?), Sam Adams, any flavor was runner up. Thank you to all our can and bottle donors, we hope your team took home the trophy.

The Society meets on the second Friday of each month in the town hall and new members are welcome. For information on Lisbon history and LHS event go to [www.99main.com/~chill/Historic.html](http://www.99main.com/~chill/Historic.html).

### Summer News Letter

By Marcia Shafer, Town Historian

I need to make a correction to my spring letter about my discussion regarding the tunnel that was filled in when the new 169 south highway was completed in the early 1960's. The tunnel was an overpass for the railroad and the cars drove through it. I hope to observe it this spring before the new spring growth comes in and obstructs the view of the car underpass. The location of the stone bridge is along Kendall Road but cannot be seen from the road.

How will you celebrate Memorial Day and the 4<sup>th</sup> of July? Will you have a picnic, see a parade, listen to patriotic music, visit a cemetery, anticipate the fireworks display or participate in another means of celebration? On July 4, 1826, fifty years after the Declaration of Independence was signed there was a celebration in Lisbon. It was held at the home of John Brown of Lisbon and Elijah Rose was the parade marshal with the church choir signing along the way from the Brown home to the Newent Church. Ebenezer Potter read the Declaration of Independence, speeches were made, and the ceremony was closed by music from the band. The location of John Brown's home is unknown at present but must have been near the church as they walked to it.

The procession then returned to the Church where erected on the high ground, east of the meeting-house, were tables tastefully furnished with the bounties of nature. Ezra Bingham acted as the President and Lester Hyde as the Vice President. The toasts were enlivened by the social glass, and the melody of instruments and the laughter of the persons attending the event. When the meal and entertainment were completed it is noted that "they returned to John Brown's hospitable mansion without one accident to mar the unity, festivity, and happiness of the day."

Some of the comments of the day were-"While from this eminence, scenes of luxuriant festivity and social happiness meet our views, may we not forget these who by their exertions have secured us to these blessings." Another comment was "May the influence of his example (George Washington) be the terror of tyrants and may the immense temple of freedom which he has erected, forever remain an asylum for the oppressed." A comment from the Fair Daughters of America "May they ever shine as a bright constellation in the sphere where nature has placed them."

As we salute our soldiers in all branches of the military currently on active duty protecting our freedom and democracy, please also take time to reflect on the freedom we have and say thank you to the veterans who have fought in past wars. Salute them for their sacrifices in pursuit of our freedom and way of life. Wave Old Glory with pride and honor to all who serve and have served, whether on the front lines or behind the scenes.

Thomas Jefferson, the second President of the United States, died on July 4, 1826, the fiftieth anniversary of the Declaration of Independence, as well as John Adams, the second President of the United States, and the father of John Quincy Adams, the sixth President of the United States.

### Planning and Zoning Commission Quarterly Notes

By Kim Sperry

The much anticipated Aldi grocery store held its grand opening on Thursday, May 19<sup>th</sup>. Lowe's held their Contractor's Day, and Friends & Family Day the same week with the grand opening scheduled on the 26th. Both retailers are welcome additions to the neighborhood and the town's grand list.

The only space left to be developed at *The Crossing at Lisbon* is a pad next to the Aldi store.

Dick's Sporting Goods site plan and elevations were approved several months ago and construction has begun at their site next to O'Neil Cinema. Work has also begun on the Michael's space. Kohl's renewed its commitment and investment in Lisbon Landing with the remodeling of their entryways and retail space.

During the quarter, the Commission approved an amendment to the excavation regulations that allow ponds under certain conditions. A pond can be an aesthetic asset that adds property value, enhances or creates wildlife habitat, and is often a necessary component to farming operations. The new regulation requires that ponds be designed and constructed by a Licensed Professional Civil Engineer in accordance with *USDA Natural Resource Conservation Service Handbook 590-Ponds Planning, Design & Construction*. The handbook can be accessed and downloaded from [www.in.nrcs.usda.gov](http://www.in.nrcs.usda.gov).

The regular meetings of the Commission take place in town hall at 7:00 p.m. on the first Tuesday of each month. Public Hearings on applications before the Commission are noticed in the Norwich Bulletin under "Legals" twice (1 & 2 wks. before the hearing).

The 8<sup>th</sup> Season of the Lisbon Recreation sponsored Women's Volleyball League culminated with the Annual Season End Gathering on April 21, 2011. The 2010-11 Season began in September and involved 18 Teams of 6-8 players competing in 25 weekly 3-Game Matches, All-Star Matches and Play-Off Series. Following is a summary of season play. For more information, including inquiries regarding the upcoming 2011-12 Season, please contact Program Director Nancy Smigiel @ 860.822.9560.

**Lisbon Recreation Women's Volleyball League 2010-11**

League Champion - "Court Jesters" - Sponsored by MCR Refrigeration, Dino's Grill, Zuckerbraun Dental

Runner-Up - "Pink Crush" - Captained by Robin Wojtcuk

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Blue Division Finalist - "Good Life Girls" - Sponsored by "About You"/John Russ  
Blue Division Finalist - "Lady Diamonds" - Sponsored by Geico of Groton, Simply Majestic Jewelers of Mystic

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White Division Playoff Winner - "Shockers" - Sponsored by Coastal CT Research, Apple Valley KenCo., Inc KFC/Taco Bell of Plainfield, CT, Windshield Doctors, Happy Jack's Sports Bar

White Division Runner-Up - "Team World Gym" - Sponsored by World Gym and Sports Complex

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**~ Regular Season Order of Finish ~**

"Lady Diamonds" - Captained by Eileen Green

"Court Jesters" - Captained by Wendy Dayger

"DES" - Sponsored by Dynamic Enterprise Solutions, Captained by Nini Whitaker

"Good Life Girls" - Captained by Judy Paradis

"Pink Crush" - Captained by Robin Wojtcuk

"Lady Bulldogs" - Sponsored by Phyllis Nelson, Arbonne Intl. Indpndt Consultant, Capt. Medora Dally

"DC Sheetmetal" - Sponsored by DC Sheetmetal, LLC, Capt. Deb Gozzo

"Griswold Gals" - Captained by Lisa Wojtkiewicz

"Cocktail Girls" - Sp. by Attorney Jayme Stamper, Altered Image Customs, Cpts. Jess Greczkowski/Amanda Harvey

"Prokop Signs" - Sponsored by Prokop Sign Company, Capts. Karen Houle/Billie Sue Burelle

"Byrnes Agency" - Sponsored by The Byrnes Agency, Inc., Capts. Allie Martin/Mel LaFrance

"Shockers" - Captained by Tanya Tetreault

"Team 'Venture'" - Sponsored by Preventure Innovative Health Mgmt. Solutions, Cpts. Nancy Smigiel/Bess Brewer

"Team World Gym" - Captained by Marissa Miller/Donna Bengtson

"Pink Ladies" - Sponsored by Irish Spring Pool Water, Captained by Shirley Kutia

"DJLS" - Sp. by Surrell's Family Pizza, Lathrop Vending, John Gagnon's Dog House, Cpts. Donna Harris/Lisa Lewis

"Dock Restaurant" - Sponsored by The Dock Restaurant, Captained by Lauren Sylvestre

"Diggers" - Sponsored by JK Masonry, Johnny's Pizza, Lollipops Fashion, Capts. Sylvia Michaud/Jessica Fortin

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## Town of Lisbon Revaluation

Representatives from the Lisbon Assessor's office are performing the State mandated revaluation for the Grand List of October 1, 2011. Home inspections throughout town will be ongoing for the next six months. While it is almost impossible to inspect the interior of every house in town, there will be an inspection of the property. The State of Connecticut requests an inspection at least once every ten years so not all houses will need a physical inspection. We have entered enough homes in the past ten years to satisfy the standard the State has set. There will be random inspections for quality control purposes.

We will be collecting the data necessary to establish the new assessments required by State Statute. However, it is important to note that these assessments will not be computed and finalized until November 2011 and will not be effective until the tax bill of July 2012.

Each representative will be properly identified and any concerns regarding the identity of these employees should be directed to the Assessor's office at 860-376-5115 or the Resident Trooper's office at 860-376-8868.

## Fall Festival Schedule

By Leonora Szruba

This year's Lisbon Fall Festival activities will encompass two weekends, according to decisions recently voted by the Lisbon Fall Festival/Community Center Committee. Discussions centered around offering activities that would appeal to various age groups.

The Lisbon Meadows Park Community Center (also known as "The Barn") will be the site of a Community Bingo Night on Friday evening, September 9<sup>th</sup> and a Guitar Hero competition on Saturday, September 10<sup>th</sup>.

A youth dance for Lisbon Central grades 6 through 8 will have the Center jumping on Friday evening, September 16<sup>th</sup>. The annual road race will kick off from in front of the Town Hall on the morning of Saturday,

September 17<sup>th</sup>, while registrations will be taken and results posted in the Community Center. Later in the day, a classic car cruise is being planned for Lisbon Meadows Prk. A portion of the Community Center parking lot will be set up as a food court, featuring chowder and fritters in the late afternoon as well as hotdogs and hamburgers throughout the afternoon.

More detail on these events will be made available via posters and flyers in late summer. In the meantime, the Community Center is seeking additional use for family and community events such as birthday and welcome home parties, baby and wedding showers, and activities by Lisbon non-profit and municipal organizations. The committee's website, [lisbonfallfestival.org](http://lisbonfallfestival.org), has details about use of the Center. The cost to reserve the Center is a \$50 donation to the Heat Fund and a \$50 refundable deposit to cover the possible cost of additional cleaning following the event. Since the building is currently unheated, the Heat Fund was established to cover the cost of insulation and a heating system, hopefully without any additional cost to the taxpayers through town funding.

LISBON RESIDENT  
RURAL BOX HOLDER  
LISBON, CT 06351

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