



The Lisbon Quarterly

A Newsletter for Lisbon Residents



Lisbon Volunteer Fire Department Safety Campaign

By Albert G. Gosselin, III, Captain, LVFD

The Lisbon Volunteer Fire Department is currently involved in a safety campaign within our town. We are actively trying to enhance response times by placing reflective blue address signs on mailbox posts, or next to driveways. You may have noticed some signs already up in town. These signs will significantly help Fire, EMS, and the State Police locate your residence in the event you need any assistance. The signs are available through the fire department for a cost of \$10. Once purchased, the signs can be dropped off, and our members will be happy to assist you in mounting the sign.

As always, the Lisbon Volunteer Fire Department is actively seeking new members for the ambulance and fire department. If you're interested in either an address sign, or have any questions about joining, please call (860) 376-2558 or stop by the firehouse any Thursday evening at 7:00 p.m.

Veterans Memorials

By Thomas Sparkman, First Selectman

A special "thank-you" to Kim Sperry for her work on behalf of the town so that Lisbon would be part of the "Digital Directory of Veterans Memorials of Connecticut". Cathy Cook, Director of Community Affairs, Connecticut Department of Veterans' Affairs, recently announced that the project has been launched on the state's website at www.ct.gov/ctva. Just click on the icon for the Digital Directory and scroll to "Lisbon" to view the ongoing legacy to our fallen heroes and see the following text with pictures:

The town of Lisbon, Connecticut, the most southerly community on eastern Connecticut's Scenic-Byway, has three memorials commemorating the men and women who served their country during the war. Memorials honoring Revolutionary War veterans and another honoring all vets are situated on the town hall lawn. The third is an "honor roll" memorial located on the Newent Congregational Church lawn on the easterly side of South Burnham Highway. Erected in 1931, the honor roll lists the "The Men of Lisbon Who Served Their Country In the World War, 1917-1918." Although the participants in the war-to-end-all-wars may fade into history, these men are still connected to our community by way of their descendants and by the roads and places that bear their names. Their surnames attest to a community of diverse ancestry, whose citizens rallied to serve and sacrifice for their country as one.

All three sites are located in the center of town at the intersection of routes 169 and 138. Parking is available at the Lisbon Town Hall or the John Bishop House Museum, directly across the street from the Honor Roll memorial.

Planning and Zoning Commission Quarterly Notes

by Kim Sperry

During the July 6, 2010 meeting, the Planning and Zoning Commission approved an amendment to the town's Zoning Regulations, *Section 10.23-Outdoor Dining*. The regulations will allow new and existing dining establishments, located outside the "big box," **to apply for a special permit** to offer seasonal outdoor dining. The

Commission's Regulations Committee worked diligently to craft these new regulations in an effort to enhance the success of our existing commercial districts and to make Lisbon an attractive location for new enterprises that will add to the town's revenue base.

Panera Bread Bakery Café, the newest addition to Lisbon Landing, has completed sewer tie-in and is half way through space renovation at this writing. The Commission anticipates a late August, early September opening. We also expect The Crossing at Lisbon anchor, Lowe's Home Improvement, to break ground late summer or early fall.

The Planning and Zoning Commission has an alternate position vacancy that must be filled in accordance with Town Ordinance by a member of the town's Democratic Party. The commission is made up of volunteers, whose duties include weighing the merits of a land use application, establishing zoning regulations, holding public hearings as required, preparing a Plan of Conservation and Development every ten years, and establishing subdivision regulations, among others. Commissioners should be prepared to attend regular meetings the 1st Tuesday of every month, special meetings as required, and public hearings. While challenging, the work in service to our community is rewarding. The town supports continuing education by funding seminars and conferences. Copies of zoning and subdivision regulations are distributed to all members and the town's professional planner is always available to members. A copy of *What's Legally Required* written by Attorney Michael Zizka,

details powers and duties of the commission, procedural and scheduling matters, conducting public hearings, decision making and conflict of interest issues. The book is available at the town hall for on-site review.

The commission encourages any interested Democrat to submit a letter of interest to the Planning and Zoning Commission, 1 Newent Road, Lisbon, Connecticut. Regular Planning and Zoning meetings take place on the first Tuesday of each month at 7:00 p.m. in the town hall. The public is welcome to attend.

Zoning Questions can be directed to the town's Zoning Enforcement Officer at (860) 376-8291. His office hours are Monday's 9:00 a.m. to noon and Wednesday evenings 6:00 - 8:00 p.m.

Lisbon's Rail Systems

By Marcia Schafer, Town Historian

The train derailment in May 2010 made me curious about the train and rail system of Lisbon and when did the first rail system go through Lisbon. We know about the Lisbon Tunnel being dug through a huge pile of rock and the rail system is still used today. The Lisbon tunnel connects Norwich to Plainfield and was finished in 1837 by hand digging the tunnel. The stone arch tracks on Kinsman Hill Rd was built circa 1850. This track system connects Plainfield through Sprague to Willimantic.

I was curious as to what rail systems might have gone through the Lisbon area and I went on the internet to memory.loc.gov and clicked on maps and then went to Railroad maps. I was able to bring up many maps from 1831 which showed proposed railroad systems in the New England area and the next map was 1847 which was titled "Map of New England and part of New York for the Pathfinder Rail -way Guide". It showed the NEW YORK TO BOSTON rail system going

through the middle of the State of Connecticut as well as the HARTFORD, PROVIDENCE, AND FISHKILL RAILROAD.

Later rail systems to go through the Lisbon area were the NORWICH AND WORCESTER in 1850. There was the HARTFORD AND FISHKILL RAILROAD AND THE NORTHERN AND WORCESTER IN 1853. By 1860 the rail system was now known as the HARTFORD, PROVIDENCE AND FISHKILL RAILROAD.

In the 1860's there was the NEW LONDON, WILLIMANTIC, AND PALMER RAILROAD. These names stayed in existence for many years up to the 1890's when the railroad system exploded into many new companies. I emailed Laura Smith who is a Curator for Business, Railroad, and Labor Collections at the Archives and Special Collections at the Thomas J. Dodd Research Center at UCONN and she directed me to the Connecticut History Online at cthistoryonline.org and I was able to locate 4 pictures in their collection.

The first picture was a view west of the Railroad Arch, Kinsman Road Extension with the railroad tracks over the stone bridge. The second was a view from the south as though you were going to drive through the tunnel. The third picture is the east end of the railroad tunnel-Lisbon Tunnel and gave a date of between 1890 and 1909.

The fourth picture was the NEW YORK, NEW HAVEN AND HARTFORD RAILROAD COMPANY station house with it dated about 1917. My understanding is that the building is long gone but if anyone has any pictures of the railroad station at any given time I would appreciate it if I could make a copy of the photos or any articles related to the rail system for future generations to be able to view via the photo collection we are starting through the Lisbon Historical Society.

I was able to locate railroad maps at the cthistoryonline which indicated Right Of Way and Track Map for the NORWICH AND WORCESTER RR Company, the PROVIDENCE AND WORCESTER RR Company and the NEW YORK, NEW HAVEN, AND HARTFORD Company. These maps were dated 1915 and gave the names of people who had provided-granted-land for the rail system through their property.

The names included Robert Morey, Wm P. Greene, Henry Sarle and James Stetson. Also included in different years were Asa Griswold, Town of Lisbon, Thomas Reed, George B Ripley et al and Daniel Browne et al. Also Peleg Peckham, Town of Lisbon, Marguerite and Paul Ethiers, Sabina Branch, Samuel S. Peckham, Thomas G. Read, and Augustus F. Read. Also Levi Carning, Dwight Lyon, Thomas Kresler and 3 other names I have yet to decipher.

I am sure there are many others who granted land to the rail system but I am still researching this history. If you would like to contribute any information you can contact me at lisboncthistorian@yahoo.com.

Thank you for any information or assistance in this recording of history and I hope to have history albums for all to read through the Lisbon Historical Society.

We are pleased to announce that the town newsletter will be available on-line as soon as the new web site is up and running within the next few weeks. Once the website is available, the newsletter will not be mailed to each residence. A limited number of printed copies will be available at the town hall for your convenience.

TWS

Come to a Party!

The Lisbon Historical Society invites the whole town to celebrate the John Bishop House's 200th birthday on Saturday, September 18th during the Lisbon Fall Festival. The house will be open for tours, hearth cooking, merrymaking and a special birthday event.

The highlight of the Bishop House birthday party is a cake decorating contest. The Society invites our local professional and amateur cake decorators to show off their talents competing in 3 levels of expertise:

Novice: a non-professional home baker

Professional: a paid baker, cake decorator

Youth: Age 12 and under

There are two categories: One is a special theme, "This Old House Cake Bake", remember we are celebrating 1810 to 2010 the possibilities are endless so use your imagination! The other is "Traditional Designs" category. Enter in either or both. Cakes in each group will be blind-judged on taste, so make it real, overall appearance, attention to detail, and creativity. Prizes will awarded for best design, most original, best tasting.

Judging will begin at noon so that we can cheer on our favorite runners competing in the Lisbon Fall Festival 30th Annual Road Race which kicks off at 10:00 a.m.

Rules:

1. Bring your cake to the John Bishop House by 11:00 a.m. on Saturday, September 18.
2. Fill out entry form below and submit it with your cake entry.
3. Present cake on several layers of cake boards (cardboard) or other sturdy material.
4. Cake must be real and fully decorated. No on-site decorating.
(See bottom of page for entry form)

Quarterly Notes

by Kim Sperry

On the heels of the birthday bash is the Last Green Valley's 20th Annual Walktober Celebration in October. The Historical Society once again, plans to participate in this month long event. Visit www.tlgv.org or the Historical Society web page for walk information and schedules.

During the month of November, take a little time as you drive through the center of town to notice the three memorials to our war Veterans. One is located on the Newent Congregational Church lawn and the other two at the town hall. November 11th became a

federal legal holiday on May 13, 1938. A day dedicated to the cause of world peace and was, at that time, known as Armistice Day, initially a day to honor World War I vets. The Act was amended on June 1, 1954 to change the word "Armistice" to "Veterans." The holiday became a day to honor American veterans of all wars. Last year the Connecticut Department of Veterans Affairs solicited information from the 169 towns for a Digital Directory of Veterans Memorials. The Historical Society submitted, on behalf of the town of Lisbon, photographs and brief descriptions of our memorials. Visit www.ct.gov/ctva, scroll to the bottom of the page and click on the digital directory link to read about Lisbon and other communities veterans memorials.

In December we will have our annual Winter Open House. Hearth cooking, cookie sale and handmade holiday ornaments and. As in the past, the date coincides with the Newent Congregational Church gingerbread house sale. Check our web page for updates.

The Society's grant application to the Last Green Valley seeking matching funds to replace the John Bishop House roof with period appropriate cedar shingles was not accepted this year.

Continued on page 4

Cake Decorating Contest Entry Form (please print and submit with cake entry)		
Name	_____	
E-Mail	_____	
Division (check one)	Youth _____	Novice _____ Professional _____
Cake Entry (please attach to cake board)		
Name	_____	
Division (check one)	Youth _____	Novice _____ Professional _____
Category (check one)	"This Old House Cake Bake" _____	Traditional _____

Please call President Paula Adams if you have questions, 860-887-8052.

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The LGV reportedly had 63 grant proposals seeking a total of \$664,000, but the organization had only \$150,000 to award. Although disappointed, we will continue our fund raising efforts. Donations are welcome and can be sent to the Lisbon Historical Society, 1 Newent Rd. Lisbon, attn: JBH Roof Fund.

As always, we like to acknowledge all our can and bottle contributors. Your donations fund programs, keep the lights on and fires lit. Thank you.

The Lisbon Historical Society meets the second Friday of the month in the town hall and new members are always welcome. Please visit our webpage www.99main.com/~chill/Historic.html or just type in "historic Lisbon, Connecticut" for information and updates.

Town of Lisbon Newsletter
Town Hall 1 Newent Road
Lisbon, Connecticut 06351

From the Assessor's Office..

By Susan Rainville, Assessor

The response to the data mailers has been fantastic. The greater the amount of returns the greater the savings. The data mailers not returned mean a visit from the Assessor's office to verify the data.

"Reminder" October 1st is the deadline for filing a DD214 for a veteran's exemption. If you don't remember filing please give us a call to save yourself a needless trip.

Slater Library Celebrates...

By Ann Leffler

On September 19, 2010 Slater Library and Fanning Annex will be celebrating its 125th year. You are invited to join the festivities between 2 and 4pm. Watch your local newspaper for more details as the date gets closer.

LISBON RESIDENT
RURAL BOX HOLDER
LISBON, CT 06351

REMINDER from the Selectmen's office: Citizens and businesses are required by state law to recycle the following: glass food and beverage containers; metal food and beverage containers; newspapers; corrugated cardboard; leaves; scrap metal; used motor oil; lead-acid batteries; white office paper (households exempt); grass clippings and nickel-cadmium batteries.

NOTICE

Sanitarian services formally provided by the Griswold/Lisbon/Voluntown Health Department are now being provided by the UNCAS HEALTH DISTRICT. Contact Albert G. Gosselin, Jr., R.S. , 401 W. Thames St. Bldg. 100, Norwich, CT

Phone: (860) 823-1189 x 113
Email: agosselin@uncashd.org
Internet: <http://www.uncashd.org>

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