

October 2020

"Halloween, Halloween,
Oh! What spooky things are seen-
Witches hats, coal-black cats
Spooks and goblins
Mice and rats."

I'm not sure what Halloween will be like this year, but I hope that Historical Society members are doing well, following safety protocols, and enjoying being outdoors in the crisp autumn air to walk some of East Haddam's many historic sites and nature preserves.

*******MEMBERSHIP DRIVE*******

Please renew your membership today!!

As a membership-driven organization, the Historical Society relies upon your annual renewal for income. The Society both wants and needs your continued support so we can continue to archive, research, and tell the stories of East Haddam's past and present.

For your convenience, you can renew your membership through the website
<https://www.easthaddamhistory.org/membership.html>

Or...you may complete the enclosed membership form and mail along with your check, whichever method you choose is fine.

*****Please renew your membership before December 31, 2020*****

The Board of Trustees deeply appreciates the continued support of all our members!!

The Board of Trustees has continued to be busy with a number of important initiatives:

Strategic Planning: The Board will participate in a second all-day retreat on Oct. 24 with our consultant to continue creating a three-year strategic operating plan.

Building Project: Construction is slated to begin October 6 on the addition that is to be built between the main building and the Wynn-Shepard Annex. Fellner Architects (Trustee George Fellner) has designed the addition and is serving as the project manager.

Saving Land, Saving History: Ken Simon is completing the final mini-documentary in the series which is a profile of the Historical Society. We're all looking forward to receiving this one! All of the videos in this series have been uploaded to our website:

<https://www.easthaddamhistory.org/>

Exhibits: Our museum director Marianne Halpin is busy cataloging the collection, responding to inquiries from historical researchers, and designing new exhibits for our eventual re-opening. Thank you to the members who volunteer to assist Marianne with the exhibits.

Building & Grounds: Many thanks to Trustee Anthony Valentino who continues to do a great job maintaining the property and coordinating (and doing himself, in many cases) the many repairs and ongoing upkeep of the property.

Social Media: Many thanks to Trustee Chris Conti who continues to upload new, relevant content on the Society's social media platforms. Please follow and be sure to "like" us on these sites:

Twitter @EHHSMuseum

Instagram <https://www.instagram.com/ehhsmuseum/>

Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/ehhsm/>

Programs: Many thanks to Judi Glover who has contacted all the speakers who were scheduled to present this year and re-booked them for 2021.

Zero Boys Project: The Society has partnered with the Hale-Ray Alumni Association as principal funders for a series of mini-documentaries that focus on the phenoms that were the 1958 Hale-Ray boys state championship soccer team. They were named the "The Zero Boys" by Fred J. Post ("ole FJ"), the longtime sports editor of The Middletown Press, in honor of their historic record of having never had a goal scored against them all season! The documentary series is being written, produced, and directed by H-R alums Justin Bellucci and Eliot Francese.

I also want to give a special shout-out to our longtime member, former Trustee, and past president Mary Ellen Klinck who nominated the Society for a "Virtual Pop-Up Grant" by the Community Foundation of Middlesex County and we were selected to receive a \$500.00 grant!! Thank you Mary Ellen and Thank you Community Foundation of Middlesex County!

And, finally, a huge **THANK YOU** to the entire membership for sharing your love of history and preservation with all of us. Through sharing our collected memories we enrich our understanding of the past and more deeply appreciate the need to preserve and protect the present for the benefit of future generations.

Please consider donating to the museum items of direct historical importance to the history of East Haddam.

Take care,



Bruce Sievers
President