



FALL 2023 - NEWSLETTER

President's Letter

Greetings to All,

Once again, fall is upon us. We have had an active year thus far. It has been so nice to get back to normal and hold our regular events.

Our big spring event was our Wine Tasting, and it was a sold-out event. We are looking forward to next year's wine tasting and will schedule it soon.

Fall is our annual membership campaign, and we are including the registration form along with this newsletter.

We just had our fall Beer Tasting, and it was a great event, with local beer, good food, and live music. We were lucky to have such a nice day this year. The Beer Tasting used to be an annual event, and we are happy to have this back in our program.

We will hold our annual membership meeting on Wednesday, November 15th, at the Guilford Free Library. Please plan to join us as we present our new Board members and enjoy a talk by Tracy Tomaselli, a wonderful Guilford historian who will be speaking about some interesting Guilford history.

As always, we would like to thank our membership for your support and volunteerism throughout the year, we could not do it without you!

Best,

Robert Hartmann, Jr.

GKS Board of Directors

Officers

President - Robert Hartmann, Jr.

Vice President - Stephen Dudley

Treasurer - Brendan Smith

Recording Secretary - Sarah Cooper

Corresponding Secretary - Hope Ryan

Board Members

Jeff Beatty

Dan Fisher

Jeff Hutchins

Carol McGrath

Peter Mousch

Dana Nelson

Tony Piscatelli

Winnie Seibert

Susan Smith

Steven VanDerMaelen

Staff

Museum Director/Curator - Pat Lovelace

Camp Assistant Director - Angel Brechlin

GHS Interns

Luci Brechlin

Claire Kingsbury

Leila Ruser

Additional Intern

Michael Auchelonie

MISSION STATEMENT: The Guilford Keeping Society collects, preserves, and shares the history and heritage of Guilford, Connecticut for present and future generations.

Box 363, Guilford, CT 06437 (203)-453-2263. www.guilfordkeepingsociety.com

The Guilford Keeping Society Membership Drive

Do you know that the GKS mission is to collect, preserve and share the history of Guilford? If you're interested in Guilford's history, culture, or early way of life, our museums are surely the places to visit. Come to the Medad Stone Tavern (1803), the only CT tavern that never was a tavern, located on Three Mile Course; or stroll the campus of The Thomas Griswold House (1764) located on Boston Street that hosts a historic blacksmith shop, a Victorian privy and an English woodworking barn.

A GKS membership invites you to share in our events. From the New Years Day open house at the tavern to wine tasting in the spring and beer tasting in the fall, quarry tours, library lectures and other key societal events of interest throughout the year posted on our guilfordkeepingsociety.com website, you are sure to find suitable opportunities that fit your interests.

We are a volunteer organization and depend on our volunteers. Your support of GKS has a powerful effect. It allows us to connect neighbors. There's a newsletter to publish; photos to snap; educational programs and historical exhibits to plan; special events to organize; and buildings and grounds that need attention. Carpentry and painting are welcomed at the museums. Grant writing experience helps us to find the funds needed to preserve our buildings. Please get involved. Your support and help gives us the ability to maintain our historic museums and open spaces for present and future generations to come.

We appreciate you. Whether you're a student, an individual, a senior or a family, there is a place for you at the Guilford Keeping Society. We hope to increase our membership and invite all of our Guilford residents, past and present, to become active members in our organization. We can't do it alone. We count on you!

Please consider renewing your membership or becoming a new member. Go to our website at the guilfordkeepingsociety.com to join us or return the enclosed envelopes to us. Thank you to all of our members and friends for all that you do!

Fall Scenes at the Thomas Griswold House

Local artists were out at the Thomas Griswold House earlier this fall enjoying the weather while doing some plein air with oils.



The Guilford Fair Parade passed in front of the Thomas Griswold House on Saturday, September 16th. Bishop's Cider truck was decorated for the occasion. GKS provided parking in the field at the Thomas Griswold House, as we do every year during the Fair.



Thank you to the Guilford Garden Club for always making such beautiful flower arrangements for both Museums when they are open for the season.



GKS Annual Meeting – Save the Date November 15, 2023

Please be sure to join us for our Annual Meeting. It will be held at the Medad Stone Tavern on Wednesday, November 15, 2023. The meeting will commence at 7:00 p.m. Members will be asked to approve Board officers as we have an excellent slate of new Board members. We will also welcome Stephen Dudley as the new GKS president. We give thanks to our outgoing president, Robert Hartmann, Jr.

Tracy Tomaselli, Historical Room Specialist from the Guilford Free Library will be providing a fascinating talk on the “Scandals in Guilford” (17th – 20th Century). Light refreshments will be provided.

WHEREAS *MARCY* the wife of me the subscriber, hath eloped from my bed and board, residing in Old Guilford, in Connecticut, and threatens to imbezle my goods, and to run me in debt: These are therefore to forbid all persons harbouing of her in their houses, or trading with her on my account, for I hereby declare that I will not pay any debt that she shall contract after the date hereof; as witness my hand, this 20th day of Nov. A. D 1775. **TIMOTHY LEETE.**

Newspaper Clipping – Connecticut Journal
[New Haven, CT] 6 Dec 1775

New Year's Day Open House at The Tavern

Our New Year's Day celebration will be held at the Medad Stone Tavern on Monday, January 1, 2024. Food and beverages will be provided by GKS. We are hoping to make the home-made bread again in the bee-hive oven. This is a great way to start the New Year and visit with friends. Please join us to bring in 2024.



New Year's 2023 at the Tavern

GKS Fall Beer Tasting



Beer Tasting at the Tavern – Some Outdoor Fun

The Annual Fall Beer Tasting is back! The event was held on Saturday, September 30th. The event was well attended. Local beer, food, and live music were enjoyed by all. Thanks go out to all who helped pull this event together. We lucked out as the rain was pretty much over by the time the Beer Tasting started, there were just a few light sprinkles.

Thanks go out to all the vendors who donated beer. Beer was graciously donated by New England Brewing Co., Two Roads, Whaler, Athletic Brewing Co., and Thimble Island Brewing Co. Special thanks go out to Myrcene, Caius Farm Brewery, for attending the event and serving their beers. Thanks also to Keith Bishop for serving Bishop's Hard Cider, just to add a little variety to the venue.

Bill and Kara Welch (Father and Daughter) from Welch's Jam serenaded us, and they were truly wonderful, so we thank them for joining us.



Bill and Kara Welch

Guilford Keeping Society
P.O. Box 363
Guilford, CT 06437

Return Receipt Requested

Non-Profit Organization
U.S. Postage
PAID
Guilford, CT 06437
Permit No. 142



Guilford Keeping Society Newsletter • Fall 2023

2023 Ornaments

GKS is happy to present **two** pewter ornaments for 2023. The first one is of the Guilford Institute, and the other is the Acadian House. The Guilford Institute was built by Sarah Griffing in 1855 as a private school, it later became the home of The Shoreline Times. The building was converted to condominiums in 2012.

The Acadian House was built by Joseph Clay in 1670. It is one of Connecticut's oldest surviving houses. The house has its name because a family of Acadians from Grand Pre, Nova Scotia was sheltered there by the Town of Guilford following their deportation from Nova Scotia in 1755. The ornaments will be sold at the Hartmann Group, the Museums, the GKS Website, Sachem's Card and Party. The price is \$20 per ornament. Ornaments will also be sold around town during the Holiday season.

