Founders News

Newsletter of the Society of the Descendants of the Founders of Hartford January 2019

May Talk: 2 Historically Important Hartford Homes

J ana Colacino, from Connecticut Landmarks, will be our speaker at this year's Annual Court and Dinner. Her program will be a slide show presentation about the Butler-McCook and Isham-Terry Houses, the significance of these Hartford properties, the very interesting people who lived in them and their rich connections to the Founders of Hartford.

The Court and Dinner will be Tuesday, May 7, at the Town and County Club. Cocktail hour begins at 6:00 p.m. at the club, 22 Woodland St., Hartford. Dinner will be at 7:00, with Ms. Colacino's talk to follow.

Jana Colacino is Connecticut Landmarks' Hartford Educator and Site Administrator for the Butler-McCook House and Garden and the Isham-Terry House. She ioined Connecticut Landmarks in 2015 and oversees educational and public programming at the Hartford properties. She spearheads education for all ages, including K-12 school programs and internship programs for college students, and oversaw CTL's participation in the inaugural year of Trinity College's Public Humanities Collaborative.

Since 2016, Jana has led Connecticut Landmarks' Youth Employment Program, a cornerstone in the educational mission of the organization. This gives Hartford-area high school students from urban and under-



Isham-Terry House



Butler-McCook House

served populations an opportunity to learn about their hometown's rich history and create a sense of pride-of-place. The program introduces students to the nonprofit world through hands-on projects; to Hartford's and CT's cultural resources through field trips and research; and to the career world through work experience and by talking with a variety of professional guest speakers. A number of YEP interns remain active with Connecticut Landmarks after the summer program by helping with events including Butler-McCook's Sunset Sounds Concert Series and the Hale Homestead Corn Maze. YEP alumni are also employed as site

interpreters at the Butler-McCook House and Garden.

Jana is also an adjunct faculty member in the Department of Art and Art History at Eastern Connecticut State University, teaching courses on American Art, Visual Culture, and Women in the Visual Arts. She holds a BA in Fine Arts from the University of Notre Dame, an MA in Art History from Syracuse University, and completed doctoral work at Indiana University in American Art with minors in African Art and American Studies.

Here Are the Society's Newest Members

Meet the newest members of the Society of the Descendants of the Founders of Hartford:

No. 1923, Kathleen Louise Ellis Walsh of Manchester, New Jersey, a descendant of *William Kelsey*;

No. 1924, Amy Jane Beach D'Lima of San Diego, California, a descendant of *William Hills*;

No. 1925, Thomas Hawkins Alton of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, a descendant of *George Stocking*;

No. 1926, Sarah Heath Sharp Meckstroth of New Orleans, Louisiana, a descendant of *Stephen Post*;

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No. 1927, Donald Reeve Andrews of Brookfield, Connecticut, a descendant of *Francis Andrews*;

And No. 1928, Donna Diane Melton Hual of Pensacola, Florida, a descendant of *Thomas Judd*.

Congratulations to all!

Donations Made To CT History Day

Again this year, the Society of the Descendants of the Founders of Hartford has made donations to Connecticut History Day, a program for students in grades 6 to12 that encourages exploration of local, state, national, and world history.

The Founders Council voted to make one \$500 donation to support Connecticut History Day in general, and another \$500 to be awarded as a prize specifically for the top entry relating to the history of Connecticut in the 17th century.

Connecticut History Day is led by the Connecticut Public Affairs Network with support from the Connecticut League of History Organizations, Connecticut Explored, and Connecticut Humanities' website, *ConnecticutHistory.org*.

In making the donations, the Founders Council is fulfilling one of the purposes listed in the Society's Certificate of Incorporation, namely financially supporting groups that promote Hartford history.



Another Request For Your E-Mail

Postage expenses are among the biggest annual costs of the Society of the Descendants of the Founders of Hartford. In an effort to better serve our members, we are now sending this newsletter electronically instead of by postal mail.

This will allow us to provide more timely and complete news of the Society's doings, and will also save us considerable expense – funds that can go toward other initiatives of the Society.

Two years ago, we asked all members to send their current email addresses to Bob Hall, Governor of the Society, and many did. But we still need to hear from many members, so please take this as a request to write him. Bob is at rshallct@gmail.com.

Please be assured that the Society of the Descendants of the Founders of Hartford will use your e-mail address solely for the purpose of communicating news of the Society to you.

Your address will not be shared with anyone else, nor will it be used for advertising.

If you do not presently use email, send a notice to that effect to our post office box: Founders of Hartford, P. O. Box 270215, West Hartford, CT 06107-0215.

Consider Membership For Your Descendants

If you are a member, it's easy for your descendants to join. All they, or you, need are your membership number, proof that the person is descended from you by blood, and the lifetime membership fee of \$300. All the "heavy lifting" of proof establishing your descent from a Founder of Hartford has already been done, so all your child, grandchild, or great-grandchild need do is prove descent from you. That can be done using birth certificates, easily obtained from the town of birth. Wouldn't it be a meaningful gift to a newborn to have a lifetime link to Hartford's earliest days?

Membership information may be found on the Society's website, foundersofhartford.org (select "Membership").

Show Your Pride With Our Insignia

There are several ways you may show your membership in the Society of the Descendants of the Founders of Hartford:

Rosettes are \$15 each; small medals are \$60, or \$55 if purchased at the Annual Court and Dinner; large medals are \$135, or \$125 if bought at the Court and Dinner; and a genuine full-size Founders of Hartford Flag is \$200.

Anyone interested should write to P. O. Box 270215, West Hartford, CT 06107-0215 or by emailing Governor Bob Hall at rshallct@gmail.com.

