
Founders News

Newsletter of the Society of the Descendants of the Founders of Hartford March 2013

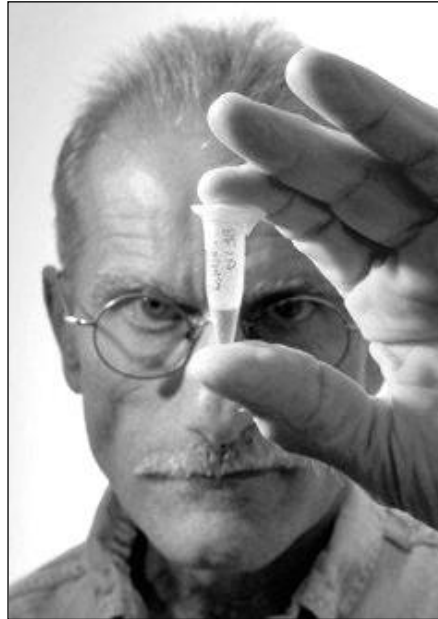
Connecticut's State Archaeologist To Speak in May

Connecticut's State Archaeologist, Dr. Nicholas Bellantoni, will speak at this spring's Court and Dinner of the Society of the Descendants of the Founders of Hartford. The dinner will take place on Tuesday, May 14, at the Town and County Club, 22 Woodland Street, Hartford. Cocktails begin at 6:00 p.m., with dinner, a brief business meeting, and Dr. Bellantoni's talk to follow.

The talk is titled "Bodies Under the New Haven Green." Last fall, superstorm Sandy toppled the 100-year-old "Lincoln Oak" on the New Haven Green. Intertwined in the tree's root system were human skeletal remains. Dr. Bellantoni was called in by the New Haven Police Department to investigate. The Green was the burying ground for the City of New Haven since its founding in the late 1630s, until 1797. Tombstones were removed in the early 1800s, but not the bodies.

Dr. Bellantoni will tell the story of archaeological removal of the skeletal remains and the forensic identifications of the early Colonial ancestors. The details will undoubtedly be relevant to the burials of those who founded Hartford in the 17th century.

Please make it a point to attend the Court and Dinner to hear this remarkable tale of detective work, archaeology, and history.



Dr. Nicholas Bellantoni

After growing up in the South End of Hartford, Dr. Bellantoni served in the Navy aboard an aircraft carrier and then attended college on the G. I. Bill, earning degrees from Central Connecticut State University and the University of Connecticut.

He is an Adjunct Associate Research Professor in the Department of Anthropology at UConn, as well as a State Commissioner for the Commission on Culture and Tourism. He also sits on the State Historic Preservation Council and has been President of the National Association of State Archeologists.

He has been excavating in Connecticut for more than 30 years.

Could You Be On the Council?

The Society of the Descendants of the Founders of Hartford is always looking for members willing to serve on its Council (executive board).

Council meetings are held twice a year in Hartford, so a requirement of Council membership is that a person live close enough to Hartford to be able to attend meetings.

Anyone interested should contact Governor Bob Hall at the Founders post office box (see Page 2) or by writing him at rshallct@gmail.com.

Meet Your Founders Council: Rob Pease, Deputy Governor

This is another in a series of brief profiles of those on the Council (executive board) of the Founders of Hartford.

Deputy Governor Robert W. Pease is descended from Thomas Hooker. He became interested in the Founders of Hartford after his late father, Alfred M. Pease Jr., signed him up "unbeknownst to me."

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Rob Pease

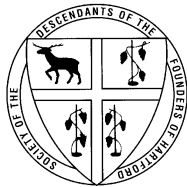
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A lifelong area resident, Rob Pease has had an interest in genealogy for years. “My great-grandfather had a sister who developed a huge family tree, and I ended up with it,” he says. “It made me more interested than ever in my family.”

Rob and his wife, Hillary, live in West Hartford. They have two children and three grandchildren. “When I get copies of all their birth certificates, I’ll make them members, too,” he says.

A financial adviser at Merrill Lynch in Hartford, Rob is a graduate of the Kingswood School in West Hartford (now Kingswood Oxford) and Union College in Schenectady, N.Y. He enjoys travel, numismatics, and mineralogy.

“Growing up, I didn’t have much time for genealogy,” he says. “Now, I’m glad to be able to pay some attention to it.”



Insignia Available

Three types of insignia are now available to members of the Founders of Hartford. Why not buy one and show your pride in your ancestry?

The rosette, shown here, costs \$15.



Small medals, about the size of a dime, made of enameled silver, are \$60 by mail or \$55 at the annual Court and Dinner. Worn without the ribbon, they make a quite attractive pendant.

Large medals, about the size of a half dollar, are \$135 by mail or \$125 at the dinner. Each medal has a ribbon attached. To order by mail, send a check payable to “Founders of Hartford” to the Society of the Descendants of the Founders of Hartford, P.O. Box 270215, West Hartford, CT 06107-0215.



Do You Know People Eligible to Join the Founders of Hartford?

Many people have become aware of the Founders of Hartford by speaking with a present member. Membership information may be found on the Society’s website, foundersofhartford.org (select “Membership”). Or a prospective member may write us at P.O. Box 270215, West Hartford, CT 06107-0215.

The Founders of Hartford web site also has much information about our organization that a prospective member will find of interest. Those who select “Membership” will find a comprehensive list of instructions and suggestions for proving descent from a Founder.

Interested in Hartford? Use the History Center

The Hartford History Center at the Hartford Public Library (500 Main Street, Hartford) is home to the Hartford Collection, a non-circulating, multi-media collection of more than 50,000 books, trade publications, directories, postcards, photographs and memorabilia that convey community life in Hartford spanning nearly 300 years.

Officially named in 1945, the archives and special collections of Hartford Public Library date back to the 18th century, to the library’s own beginning.

Formerly established by Chief Librarian Magnus Kristofferson in 1945, the Hartford Collection is divided into three sections: Hartford subjects, Hartford authors, and Hartford imprints.

Nineteenth-century Hartford was a major publishing center. The collection holds a number of books published in the city during this time. These books cover a great range of topics that are not necessarily about Hartford. Included in these publications are texts on gardening, religion, women, history, and education. A card index for Hartford imprints is available in the Hartford History Center. It is arranged by year of publication and spans 1777 to 1983.

The Center also has much information about the land records of the original settlers of Hartford, making it useful for our members’ research.

Over the years, the Society of the Descendants of the Founders of Hartford has provided financial support to the Hartford History Center.