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# Founders News

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*Newsletter of the Society of the Descendants of the Founders of Hartford* March 2007

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## Connecticut Historical Society Director to Speak

**K**ate Steinway, the new Executive Director of the Connecticut Historical Society and Museum, will be the speaker at the annual Court and Dinner of the Society of the Descendants of the Founders of Hartford. The dinner will be held on Thursday, May 10, at the Hartford Golf Club in West Hartford.

The title of her talk will be “Whither the Connecticut Historical Society? Challenges and Opportunities Facing the Organization – Or, What Happens When You’re Named Director and All Hell Breaks Loose.”

The title refers to the fact that the Connecticut Historical Society took over operations at Hartford’s Old State House about four years ago. Since then, the CHS has said it is unable to keep the Old State House financially afloat. The City of Hartford actually owns the 1796 building, but has cut back on its financial contribution due to reductions in federal grants.

Steinway, who lives in West Hartford, earned an M.A. in art history from the University of Chicago and has been associated with the Connecticut



**Kate Steinway**

Historical Society for more than 20 years. She oversees all exhibition and educational programs, and previously had been curator, department head, and exhibit designer. She was formerly the Deputy Director for Interpretation for both the Historical Society and the Old State House, and was named to the new post at the end of December 2006. Less than two months later, the financial drain on the CHS from running the Old State House led the Historical Society to announce that it would have to close the national landmark if it did not receive financial assistance.

At the event, cocktails will be served starting at 6 p.m., followed by dinner at 7:00. Steinway’s talk will follow. **Please note the new location of the court and dinner.**

## Founders of Hartford To Sponsor ‘Massing of the Colours’ Event

This year’s Massing of the Colours, the ceremony and church service for all state hereditary and patriotic organizations, will be sponsored by the Society of the Descendants of the Founders of Hartford this year.

The event will be held on Sunday, October 21, at 2:30 p.m. at the First Church of Christ Congregational, 12 South Main St., West Hartford (corner of Farmington Avenue). All Founders of Hartford members are urged to attend, and to bring their friends.

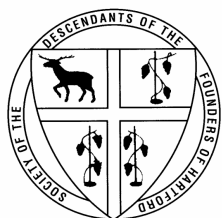


## Donations Made To Organizations

The Founders Council has voted on some of its annual contributions to history-oriented organizations. At its December meeting, the Council voted to give \$500 to the Connecticut Historical Society (CHS); and \$200 for CHS History Day prizes. More donations will be decided upon at the Council’s April meeting.

## **New Members Welcomed to Founders of Hartford**

We are pleased to say that 16 people have been accepted as members of the Founders of Hartford in the past year. They are: Julie Griggs of Avon, descended from *John White*; David Condon of Middlebury, Va., descended from *John Steele*; Sara Caddell of Mount Carmel, Ill., descended from *Robert Day*; Theodore Stocking of Lakewood, Ohio, descended from *George Stocking*; Nancy Clifford of Ridgefield, descended from *William Goodwin*; Janice Hall of East Hartford, descended from *William Goodwin*; Ruth Clarke of Boston, Mass., descended from *John Warner*; Eric Winchell of Kingston, N.Y., descended from *Stephen Hart*; Jean Hillegass of Norfolk, Va., descended from *William Whiting*; Ross Perry of Arlington, Va., descended from *George Wyllys*; Elizabeth Chain of Chandler, Ariz., descended from *Thomas Bull*; Carol Ann Morrison of Lumpkin, Ga., descended from *William Spencer*; Ward White of Simi Valley, Calif., descended from *John White*; Stephen Miller of Cambridge, Mass., descended from *John Haynes*; and Karl Fransson of West Hartford, descended from *Ozias Goodwin*. Congratulations to our newest members!



## **Members of the Founders Council**

Current members of the Council (Executive Committee) of the Society of the Descendants of the Founders of Hartford are: Governor, Dr. Robert Hall of West Hartford; Deputy Governor, Carol Lee Joslin of West Hartford; Corresponding Secretary, Jean Greene of Glastonbury; Recording Secretary, Susan Motycka of Glastonbury; Treasurer, Barbara Ulrich of West Hartford; Genealogist, Timothy Jacobs of Middletown; Chaplain, Rev. Canon Robert G. Carroon of Hartford; and Council members Barbara Abraham of Glastonbury; Ethel Davis of West Hartford; Wilson Faude of West Hartford; Pamela French of West Hartford; Virginia Grant of Bloomfield, Terry Harlow of Glastonbury; Henry McNulty of Cheshire; Peter North of Woodbury; Meredith Richardson of West Hartford; Stephen Shaw of East Haddam; and Robert Storm of West Hartford.

## **Court and Dinner Moves To Hartford Golf Club**

This year, the Founders of Hartford annual Court and Dinner will be held at the Hartford Golf Club, 134 Norwood Road, West Hartford. The club is located near the juncture of state Routes 184 and 189, not far from the University of Hartford. Despite the new location, the time (6 p.m. cocktails, 7 p.m. dinner) and format remain the same as ever.

## **Check Out the New Founders Web Site**

At last, the Society of the Descendants of the Founders of Hartford has its own web site! Check it out at:

**[www.foundersofhartford.org](http://www.foundersofhartford.org)**

The site was designed by Founders Council member Stephen Shaw, who owns Payson LLC, a business that offers website development, web hosting, and web design.

The site features lots of information about the Founders of Hartford, including:

- ❖ A complete list of all the Founders, with a link to mini-biographies from “The Original Proprietors”;

- ❖ Information about the founding of Hartford, and the early history of the city;

- ❖ An interactive map of historic sites in the city of Hartford, as well as photographs of the Founders Monument and plaques placed by the Founders of Hartford;

- ❖ Links to important historical and genealogical web sites;

- ❖ Information about joining the Founders of Hartford; and

- ❖ A downloadable worksheet for those wishing to be members.

Now it’s easier than ever to find out about our organization and – for those who qualify – to join. Bookmark our web site, and tell others about this great new resource for those with an interest in early Hartford!