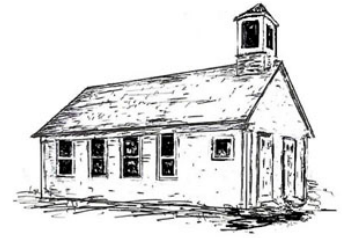


CANTERBURY HISTORICAL SOCIETY
P . O . B O X 2 , C A N T E R B U R Y , C T 0 6 3 3 1



Ellen E. Wilson
President
Canterbury Historical Society
P.O. Box 2
Canterbury, CT 06331
September 2, 2006

Charlene Perkins Cutler
Executive Director and CEO
Quinebaug-Shetucket Heritage Corridor
107 Providence Street
Putnam, CT 06260

Dear Ms. Perkins Cutler,

As president of the Canterbury Historical Society, I am replying to your request for an itemized list of the society's expenditures, in-kind contributions, and volunteer time for the current fiscal year.

I am summarizing all our activities. You may determine that some do not qualify for your purposes, but I will leave that decision to you. I think our activities fit under your categories of "historic preservation" and/or "recreational enhancement," with the exception of the Red Cross blood drive we hosted. All events were free and open to the public except as otherwise noted. Following are my conservative, good-faith estimates.

▪ **One-Room Green District School Restoration**

In 2001, the society began renovating this building, the last one-room school in Canterbury that is open to the public. The project is nearing completion. In the current fiscal year, we finished restoring the windows to their original 19th century configuration, continued the labor-intensive process of removing multiple layers of added flooring and adhesive to expose the original wood floors, had the brick chimney professionally rebuilt, installed a period stove (on loan to the society, originally from another one-room school in the area), painted the exterior, replicated lost interior wood trim, repaired wall plaster where possible, and are currently applying new lath and plaster where required. We also acquired more furniture and appropriate classroom accessories this year, and we mow and trim the property biweekly.

- Monetary expenditures by the society: \$2,700
- Value of donated funds and building materials received: \$1,360
- Volunteer hours: 750

▪ **District School Reunion/Old Home Day**

The society sponsored a reunion for all alumni of Canterbury one-room district schools. The public was invited, but we mailed invitations to more than 100 known alumni, and promoted the event through further PR efforts. We provided each invitee who came with a \$5 coupon for refreshments at the event. We also created and had professionally printed and bound a booklet with labeled photos of all 12 old districts schools, along with many class photos, which we gave as gifts to all invitees in attendance. Inside the school, we mounted an extensive exhibit of district school artifacts from the society's

collection. We also asked attendees to bring their own memorabilia to be scanned or photographed for the society's archives. Finally, we asked attendees to fill out questionnaires about their school memories, which became part of the society's permanent collection.

- Monetary expenditures by the society (including printing, exhibit costs, and free food coupons): \$1,000
- Volunteer hours: 275

▪ **Harvest Dinner**

This is an annual society fundraising event that has become somewhat of an institution in our community. Tickets are limited by practical considerations of how many people our volunteers can cook for, and our borrowed commercial kitchen can accommodate. However, the event is open to the public (not restricted to society members). Without volunteers and donated food, this event would most certainly *not* raise any funds.

- Monetary expenditures for food and beverages, paper products, hall rental, and temporary food permit: \$320
- Volunteer mileage: 75 miles
- Donations of food, beverages, decorations, door prizes received, plus a Celtic musical quartet who played for free: \$1,050
- Volunteer hours: 250

▪ **Progressive Dinner**

This one-time event was held giving equal weight to staging a late-winter social occasion and raising funds to further the society's work. Although it was not restricted to members, we had limited capacity, and so did not promote the dinner to the general public.

- Monetary expenditures by the society: \$140
- Donations of food, beverages, and decorations received: \$1,000
- Volunteer hours: 250

▪ **Collection Acquisitions**

This year was an unusual one for acquisitions by the Canterbury Historical Society. A large stash of Canterbury-related historical material came on the market, all of which we now believe came from a single historic house in town. We even made the *New York Times* when we purchased original Prudence Crandall documents off eBay!

- Monetary expenditures by the society: \$2,100
- Value of donated artifacts received: \$100
- Volunteer mileage to antiques dealers and paper conservators: 295 miles
- Volunteer hours: 75

▪ **Cataloging and Stabilizing the Collection**

We are very fortunate to have recruited Daniel Simmons, a PhD student in History at UConn, to catalog the society's collection to professional museum standards. Volunteers from the society, including our curator, have worked with him. Currently about 75% of the collection has been cataloged. Records are in both paper and digital formats.

- Monetary expenditures by the society for shelving and archival storage materials: \$2,300
- Volunteer mileage: 3,200 miles
- Volunteer hours: 680

▪ **Collaboration with the Prudence Crandall Museum**

This year the society continued its collaboration with the Prudence Crandall Museum. Projects included supporting the museum's grant application for interpretive panels; participating in Prudence Crandall Day; engaging with the public schools in Canterbury for programming at the museum and the Green School for student visits; and participating in the public forum on future uses of the Carter House, recently purchased by the state as an adjunct to the Prudence Crandall Museum. The society also donated \$500 seed money to the new Friends of Prudence organization.

- Monetary expenditures by the society: \$500
- Volunteer hours: 50

▪ **Programming and Refreshments for Regular Meetings**

Every regular monthly meeting of the society begins with a business session, followed by a professional speaker and then refreshments. One board member serves as the program chairperson. All meetings are free and open to the public.

- Monetary expenditures by the society for speakers' fees: \$675
- Monetary donation on behalf of the society to a speaker whose fee exceeded the society's upper limit: \$30
- Value of gifts from the society to speakers who declined fees: \$35
- Donations of food and beverages: \$165
- Volunteer hours, including publicity: 50

▪ **Website Redesign and Expansion**

This year volunteer Chris Pitts and a society committee have worked to redesign and expand the society's website, www.canterburyhistorical.org. The anticipated launch date for the new site is mid-September 2006. Most important, behind the scenes the new site will be powered by databases. This is the infrastructure needed to eventually make the society's collection available online and fully searchable—our long-range goal.

- Monetary expenditures: \$125
- Volunteer hours, including ongoing maintenance of the old site: 110

▪ **Canterbury July 4th Celebration**

Several years ago, volunteer carpenters on the society's Green School Restoration Committee built a scale replica of the school. This year, we refurbished the model; a member donated new decorations for it; and we hauled it in the July 4th parade behind a restored antique tractor. At the post-parade celebration, we displayed membership and programming information and items for sale.

- Monetary value of donated decorations: \$80
- Volunteer hours: 20

▪ **Granite Post Marking Rochambeau's March**

The society sponsored half the cost of a granite post that holds a bronze commemorative plaque, placed near the corner of Westminster and Barstow Roads. Canterbury Boy Scouts funded the other half.

- Monetary expenditures: \$62.50
- Volunteer hours: 3

▪ **History Award to 8th Grade Graduate of Dr. Helen Baldwin Middle School**

For many years the society has provided an annual award for interest and achievement in history to a graduating 8th grader.

- Monetary value of this year's award: \$42
- Volunteer hours, including attending the awards ceremony: 4

- **2007 Calendar Featuring Historic Images of Canterbury's Dr. Helen Baldwin School and Alumni and Faculty**
The society is reviving its calendar fundraising project after a lapse of several years.
 - Volunteer hours: 70

- **Blood Drive**
The society hosted a Red Cross blood drive held in the Canterbury Community Building, providing volunteers as well as snacks and beverages.
 - Donations of food and beverages received: \$100
 - Volunteer hours: 50

- **Miscellaneous Board Activities**
Aside from routine board business, some board members devote considerable time to tasks not captured here earlier, including the treasurer, the recording secretary, the corresponding secretary, and the chair of the fundraising committee. Without their contributions, the organization could not function.
 - Volunteer hours: 125

IN SUMMARY:

- Society expenditures: \$10,000
- Donations received: \$3,885
- Volunteer hours: 2,762 hours
- Donated mileage: 3,570 miles

Please feel free to contact me if you need more information or have questions. Preparing this report has been a useful exercise. It has made me realize just how busy and productive our little historical society is. (Add another eight hours to our totals for researching and typing this report!)

Best regards,

Ellen E. Wilson
President, Canterbury Historical Society