



## Ellington Historical Society

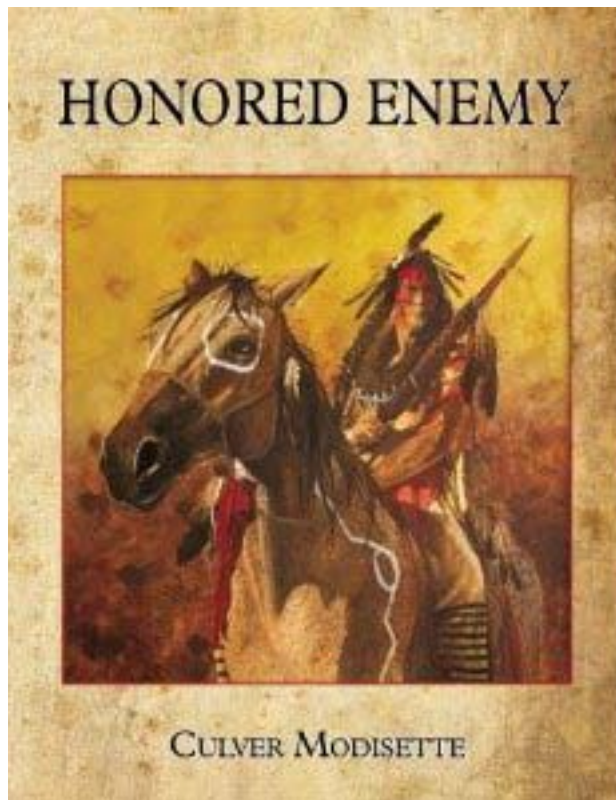
P.O. Box 73

Ellington, Conn. 06029

### October 2011 Newsletter

#### October Meeting Notice

The Ellington Historical Society will meet on Thursday, October 27, 2011 at 7:00 p.m. at the Hall Memorial Library at 93 Main Street. After a brief business meeting, Culver Modisette of Stafford, president of the Northern Connecticut Land Trust, will present a program about his just released historical novel, *Honored Enemy*. He will be speaking about the Native American tribes and the U.S. Cavalry in the Great Southwest in the late 1800s, as well as his research methods. The program is free, and the public is invited. New members are always welcome. Bakers for the meeting will be Connie Nichols and Bev Nichols.



“This historical novel adheres to the history of the Great Southwest in the late 1800s, a past shared by the Comanche, Kiowa and Cheyenne tribes, as well as their adversaries, the United States Cavalry. Colonel Ranald Mackenzie’s Fourth Cavalry was pitted against Comanche war chief, Quanah Parker, and his Indian allies in a struggle for dominance in Texas, Kansas and Oklahoma, as the whites recklessly squandered the vast buffalo herds.

Written after extensive research, the book sheds light on little-known events of the era, culminating in Parker’s friendship with President Theodore Roosevelt. As the saying goes, ‘Truth is stranger than fiction.’ Liberally illustrated by historic photographs, the book appeals to readers for enjoyment, as well as those who seek little-known history of the Southwest. The plight of the tribes, the loss of their mainstay food source, the buffalo, and the usurpation of their lands, will give pause to all Americans young and old.”—amazon.com

**New Member:** Bev Nichols

### **News from the Curator-Nancy Long**

The museum has closed for the season and our work continues to complete Nellie's bedroom. The furniture has been placed and we are now working on the finishing touches. The public will be directed into Nellie's bedroom and through the walk through closet into the front bedroom, which has been rearranged to accommodate the traffic. Lots of surprises for all!



The museum will be open for *Winterfest* on Saturday, December 3, from 2:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m. We will be contacting our members for volunteers in the museum that day. The showcasing of Nellie's bedroom will be the big item for the open house but we will also have a display in the front parlor about the house itself, which will celebrate its 200<sup>th</sup> birthday in 2012.

The following items have been donated to the museum in 2011 (some donations may not all be listed in order to conserve newsletter space).

**L. James McKnight:** horse drawn ice cutter, ice tongs, studded horse shoes

**Deborah Wallace:** Vintage ladies petticoats, shawl, collar insert

**Elizabeth McCarthy:** Victorian beaded cape

**Leo & Mary Miller:** Copy of Proprietor's map of Ellington Period 1728-1752

**Mildred Dimock:** Wedding gown, hat boxes, top hats, baptism dress of Hazel Dimock Bedard, wedding dress of Hazel Dimock Bedard, clipped obituaries, class photo from Rockville High 1928

**Herman Dahl:** Hand carved taps for maple sugaring, mounted display of skeleton keys

**News from the Archivist-Lynn Kloter Fahy**

In my 2009 book, *Crystal Lake, Tolland County*, there is a photograph of a house which was built on a hill to the west of the lake in 1832 by Warren Richardson, who married Luna Dimock. I read in her son Merrick’s autobiography, *Looking Back*, that Luna earned money to furnish the house by braiding palm leaf hats for the slaves of Southern planters. This summer, in the Nellie McKnight Museum, I found a hand-written reference to sacks of palm leaves being shipped to Ellington, and further research revealed that many New England housewives earned extra money by braiding palm leaf hats.

<http://www.ellingtonhistsoc.org/>

**Membership dues were due in September and we have enclosed a form to fill out and include with your dues payment, *if you have not paid them yet.***

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**Ellington Historical Society Membership Dues**

Class of Membership     (Check one)	_____	Individual \$10.00
	_____	Senior Individual \$8.00 (Over 62)
	_____	Family \$20.00
	_____	Senior Family \$15.00 (Over 62)
	_____	Patron \$25.00
	_____	Business \$50.00

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Telephone Number \_\_\_\_\_

\*E-mail address \_\_\_\_\_

Make check payable to: Ellington Historical Society

Mail this form and payment to: Ellington Historical Society  
P.O. Box 73  
Ellington, CT 06029

\* If you would like to receive your EHS newsletter by e-mail as a Microsoft Word file instead of “snail mail,” please include your e-mail address.