

# PLAINFIELD HISTORICAL SOCIETY

SPRING

# NEWSLETTER

2014



## CALENDAR OF EVENTS - EVERYONE WELCOME

**Meetings are held at Plainfield Community Services Complex  
482 Norwich Road, Plainfield, CT unless otherwise noted.**

### SPRING PROGRAMS:

## *Lincoln, Radio and Annual Meeting*

## In This Issue

From the board.....	2
Who's Who.....	2
Preservation Award.....	3
Moosup Library.....	3
History Room.....	3
Membership.....	4

Plainfield Historical Society  
P.O. Box 104  
CentralVillage, CT 06332  
Visit us at  
[www.plainfieldhistory.org](http://www.plainfieldhistory.org)

*The Plainfield Historical Society  
newsletter is published each Spring  
and Fall. Newsletter Committee:  
Marge Hoskin, Ruth Bergeron,  
Laura Moorehead (Angell House  
Design,)*

### Wednesday, March 26 • 7 pm

#### **“Loving Mr. Lincoln: An introduction to President Lincoln’s Life”**

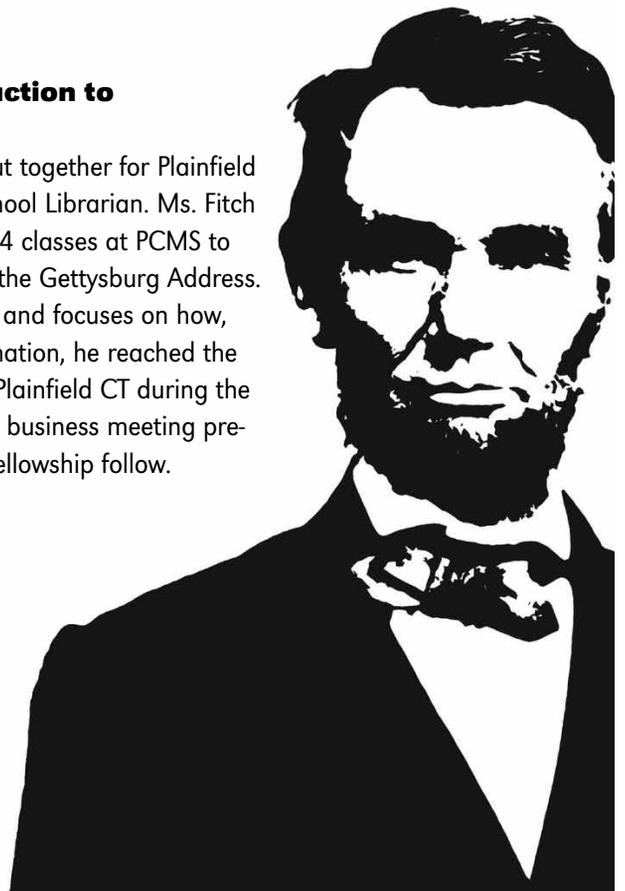
A PowerPoint and enrichment activity put together for Plainfield Central Middle School by Lura Fitch, School Librarian. Ms. Fitch presented the program last year to all 24 classes at PCMS to spark interest in a contest to memorize the Gettysburg Address. It is a quick introduction to Lincoln’s life and focuses on how, through grueling work and self determination, he reached the highest office in the land. A handout, “Plainfield CT during the Lincoln years,” will be presented. A brief business meeting precedes the program. Refreshments and fellowship follow.

### Wednesday, April 30 • 7 pm

#### **“The Golden Age of Radio”**

Join Robert and Sarah Noiseux on a journey back in time to the “Golden Age of Radio.” They will bring several period radios from the early 1900’s through 1950 and some vintage pieces

*continued on page 2*



## PROGRAMS

*continued from page 1*

of radio programming guides. Experience classic radio programming firsthand and enjoy the lively discussion of the unique characteristics and workmanship of early radios. Explore how radio broadcasting paved the way for modern communication and media. A brief business meeting precedes the program. Refreshments and fellowship follow.

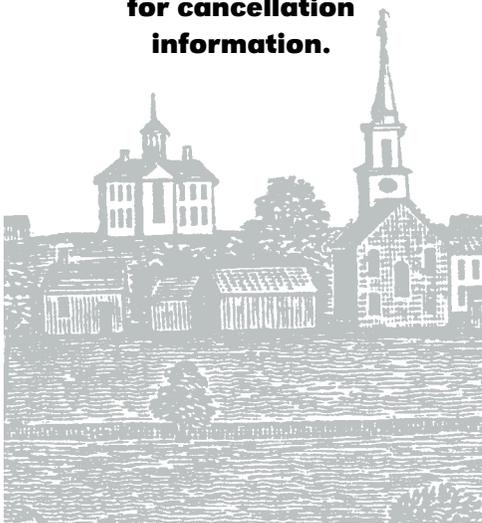
### Wednesday, May 28 • 6:00 pm 44th Annual Meeting and Potluck Supper.

Bring a friend and enjoy the good food and company, elect officers and directors for the new society year. At 7:30 pm Walter F. Cwynar, Chairman of the Plainfield Conservation Commission will speak about the Commission's purpose and accomplishments.

### Saturday, August 2, Sat. Plainfield Historical Society booth & exhibit at Pride in Plainfield event at Lions Park.

## CANCELLATIONS

**In the event of inclement  
weather, call 860-564-8561  
for cancellation  
information.**



## FROM THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Fall and winter have not been boring. We frequently received communications and questions. Many required a search for an answer (with "Plainfield Transformed," our town history often consulted.) For example: Do you know the location of Grafton Wilson's house? What year was the brick All Hallows Church built? How did the Carpet Grounds on Ward Avenue get its name?

We are no longer using the display case at the Killingly Historical Museum. Thank you, Killingly, for sharing. The History Room at the recreation-seniors complex is our main site for display.

The History Room has had a surprising flow of visitors with interesting information and donations brought to us: several photos including an autographed 8x10" of Walt Drope, items from the Tavernier estate including a book of remembrances of Plainfield written in 1983 by Raymond Mercier, and the Plainfield Rotary brought us material on PIMA from its beginnings, including photos of past Miss Plainfields and programs. We also were visited by the new owners of Milner Hall (the former VFW) in Moosup.

During Walktober, we held an Open House at the Plainfield History Room. Our collection of "Hermiads," the Plainfield High School yearbooks, was available for browsing. We recently discovered that the 1917 issue, which we did not have, was never printed.

In November your President spoke at the Thanksgiving Dinner for Rotary's international exchange students. The topic: Thanksgiving and related practices in this region's history. The local DAR invited historical society members to its November meeting with its program on the Thompson Tourtelottes and the Civil War.

The weather cooperated in January for Show & Tell. Al Orlomowski from Canterbury brought his collection of pelts of native animals.

Colonial Health and Rehabilitation (formerly Village Manor) requested assistance in locating old photos of Plainfield to copy and display on the walls of the facility.

The new society committee on fundraising met and is planning to publish and sell a book of old local postcard scenes. Committee members are: Rachel Holmes, Marilyn Labbe, Tom and Melody Guillemette, Marge Hoskin and Ruth Bergeron.

By the way, the Wilson house is on Green Hollow Road, the church was built in 1901-2, and the carpet grounds was the site of a cotton carpet mill in 1832. Isn't history fascinating? Thank you to all our members who are making our society and our history known to others.

Ruth Bergeron, President  
860-564-8561

## WHO'S WHO • PLAINFIELD HISTORICAL SOCIETY • 2013-2014

Board of Directors:  
Ruth Bergeron, President  
Lorraine Young, Vice President  
(Collections & Archives)  
Arthur Nicol, Treasurer,  
Janet Bouley, Secretary  
(Assistant, Dan Ditullio)

Jeanne Alexander, Program  
Mary Ann Gregory  
Connie Hadfield, Education in the Schools  
Madeleine Krecidlo, Membership  
Marilyn Labbe, Research,  
Barbara Stankiewicz, Hospitality  
Advisor: Marge Hoskin, Publicity

# 2013 ANNUAL PRESERVATION AWARDS

The Society's Annual Historic Preservation Award will be presented at the March 26 meeting to the Town of Plainfield for its creation of space for use by the Municipal Historian/Plainfield Historical Society. The space is now known as the Plainfield History Room.

A certificate of appreciation will be given to the Aldrich Free Public Library for storing many of the society's items for years and supporting the historical society's efforts.

# MOOSUP LIBRARY COMPLETES DIGITIZATION PROJECT

The Aldrich Free Public Library in Moosup has digitized "The Plainfield Souvenir" printed in 1895 so that it can be accessed online by going to the library's website Aldrichlibrary.org.

The book has photos of Plainfield, both its industries and private homes, at the turn

of the 20th century. It also includes photos and biographical information on many of the town's "leading citizens" (all men, of course.)

Other Connecticut based libraries, archives, galleries and museums are working to create digital archives. Have you checked out Connecticut History Online (CHC?)

# PLAINFIELD HISTORY ROOM

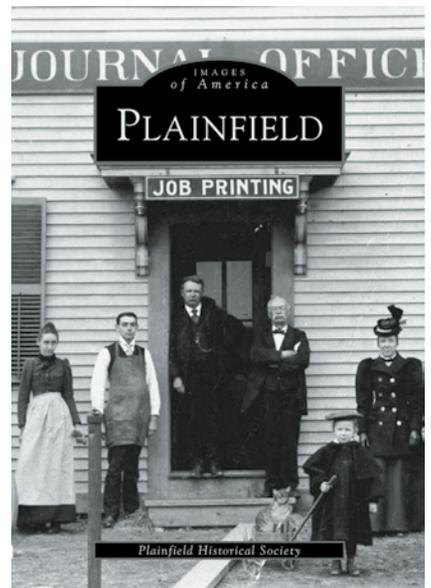
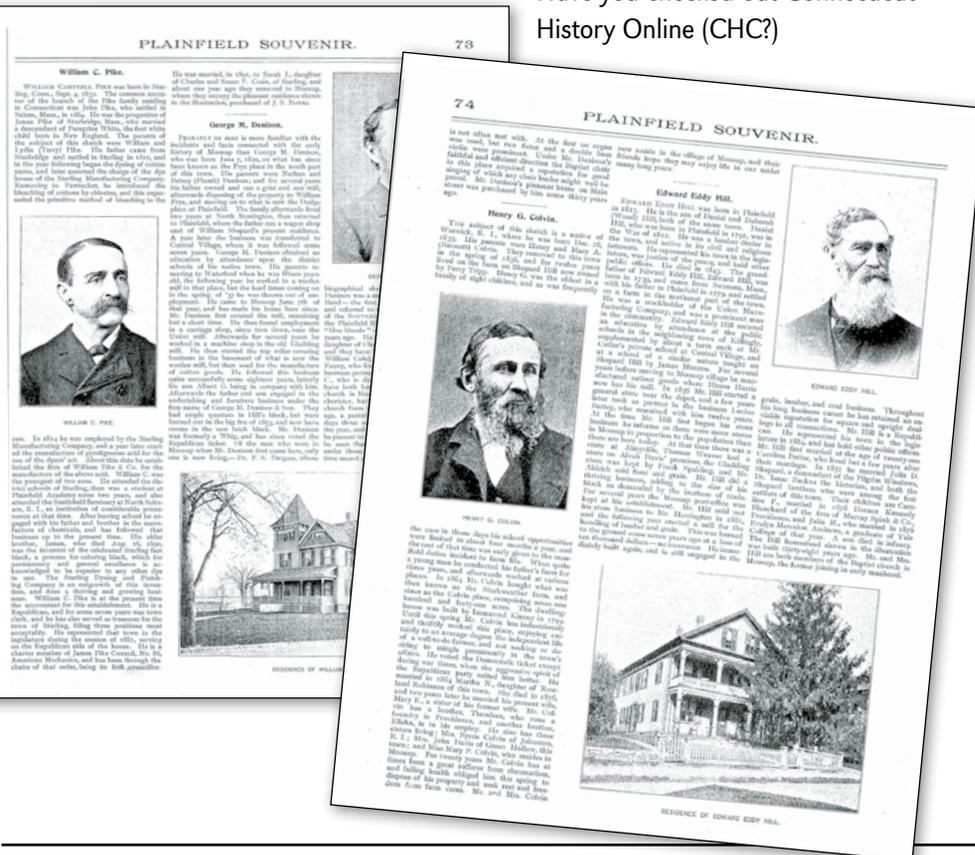
The Plainfield History Room located at the town's recreation/seniors center at 482 Norwich Road is operated by the Town's Municipal Historian, the Plainfield Historical Society. Hours are 2-4 pm Fridays or by appointment.

Stop by with your questions or just to chat. We are grateful to the Plainfield Town Clerk for permitting us to continue to house in her vault, the society's photographs and other items needing a constant temperature.

To volunteer your time and talents at the history room or for other society projects, call President Ruth Bergeron at 860-564-8561.

# "IMAGES OF PLAINFIELD"

Copies of "Images of Plainfield" are available at the Town Clerk's Office, Recreation Department, Aldrich Public Library, Plainfield Shell Station (Mark Andstrom), and Moosup's Village Auto (Carol Davenport.) Copies are \$19.99 each; or \$25 by mail (call 860-564-8493)



---

# PLAINFIELD HISTORICAL SOCIETY MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

To join or renew your membership, complete the form below, or bring your dues to the meeting. The new membership year began May 1st.

Individual \$10.00     Household \$15.00     Life \$150.00

Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_

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

Town \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

Are you interested in working on a Committee? Special project?

Which one? \_\_\_\_\_

Please return form to: Plainfield Historical Society, P.O. Box 104, Central Village, CT 06332.

Checks should be made payable to: Plainfield Historical Society.

---

Plainfield Historical Society  
P.O. Box 104  
Central Village, CT 06332

