

Connecticut Society of the Sons of the American Revolution

Real Property Committee Report

October 27, 2019

All properties were closed on September 29th, except for 2 remaining school programs at the War Office. The property fall cleanup on November 3rd will officially close any activities at Nathan Hale in East Haddam. The War Office will be open on the evening of December 8th for the annual tree lighting on the Lebanon Green. We will be open on December 14th for the Color Guard members to muster before leaving for the Wreaths Across America Ceremony at the Lebanon Town Hall and the Ceremony at the Trumbull Cemetery.

This year we saw 1,471 visitors, including 563 school program attendees. These visitors contributed \$812 and purchased another \$652 in merchandise.

The School Programs went very well with good weather on all dates. Student attendance was 472, chaperoned by 91 adults, with 9 programs representing 6 school districts. (Detailed report available). Educational materials provided by the CT Society of the Cincinnati grants were made available to all students. My records show that out of the 2018 grant for \$1,500 and the 2019 grant for 1,300 we have only spent \$504. This is due to the elimination of the school program in New London, where we were paying docents to assist. I am suggesting that we find more materials or do not apply for any future grants until we use the remaining funds.

We gained several more volunteer docents, mostly DAR and their family members. There were 22 DAR volunteers compared to 5 SAR members. Again, another poor showing on our part. With this said, we did have a successful season with many interesting folks from around this country and beyond. The Dues Reimbursement Program needs some adjustment and will be discussed at the next Property Committee meeting. \$2,034 was reimbursed to 25 combined Chapter and Branch members.

To date we have not completed our wish list for 2019, repairing the driveway, flagpole repairs and lighting in East Haddam. Drainage issues at the War Office are ongoing. As usual, there are problems that eat into the budget. Some of our ash

trees are being attacked by the pesky ash bore and trees have to be removed in East Haddam. After having our exterminator inspect the War Office, it was discovered that we need to treat the loft area for active powder post beetles, slated for November 1st.

The highlight for the 3 properties came from a visit on October 5th, from NSSAR President General, Jack Manning and his wife, First Lady, Sheila. I believe that he was very impressed with everything that has been accomplished by preserving these historical buildings and having them open for all to visit. PG Manning, an electrician by trade, gave us insight as to how to proceed installing flagpole lighting.

A special thanks goes out to the Property Committee members for their support, especially to Josh Taylor and Stephen Taylor for their efforts with rearranging and installing the informational posters in the War Office.

The Nathan Hale Award, sponsored by the Real Property Committee, was presented to C/1 Alaric Bjorn Stone, for Excellence in Strategic Intelligence. The award was presented on Saturday, October 25th at the United States Coast Guard Academy.

Please note that the Fall Cleanup in East Haddam is scheduled for Sunday, November 3rd from 10:00 AM – 4:00 PM. Bring whatever brush cutting and lawn equipment that's available. We will have limited equipment, pizza and beverage. We hope as many as possible will attend.

Thank you to every one who made this season such a great success. We look forward to having you and many more to improve our vision in 2020.

Patriotically yours,
David Packard
CTSSAR Real Property Steward

See School Program Attendance for 2019 on the next page.

School Program Attendance - 2019

<u>Date</u>	<u>School</u>	<u>Students</u>	<u>Chaperones</u>
3-May	Lebanon Elementary 3rd grade WO CREC Museum Academy 5th grade	72	21
17-May	WO	57	13
28-May	Lebanon Middle School 7th grade WO	76	10
31-May	East Hampton 5th grade WO	51	7
3-Jun	East Hampton 5th grade WO	37	6
6-Jun	East Hampton 5th grade WO	47	6
7-Jun	East Haddam 3rd grade EH	83	17
16-Oct	EASTCONN Hampton WO	5	5
25-Oct	Preston 7th grade WO	44	6
	Totals	472	91