



# The Lisbon Quarterly

A Newsletter for Lisbon Residents



## Boy Scouts help to uncover 742-foot section of Old Coach Road

By Kim Sperry

Have you ever driven north on Route 169 and wondered about the old path in the woods, on the right hand side of the road, just past the center of town? Lisbon's roads began in the late 1600's by following the trails of Native Americans, which were just wide enough for a horse and rider. Several months ago, we undertook a project to expose one of the last remaining sections of the colonial turnpike between Lisbon and Canterbury. According to the Connecticut Department of Transportation website, the turnpike era began 1792.

A turnpike usually consisted of a flat stretch of earth about 16 feet wide. Crews of men and teams of animals would plow three-foot deep drainage ditches on both sides of the road and pile all the mud and rocks on the center of the road created.

Our newly uncovered 742-foot section of the Old Coach Road connects with Norwich & Woodstock Turnpike, incorporated in 1801, at the top of Kinsman Hill just to the north. A short bridge, covered with large flat fieldstones crosses Blissville Brook.

We are not sure when this section of road was abandoned, it was likely in the early 1900s and surely by the great renumbering of the turnpike system of the 1930s. We know for sure that North Burnham Highway was straightened by 1959. Although it is hard to believe that motorized vehicles could pass over the bridge beyond that period, Farmer Benker, who lived just to the north of the site, regularly crossed the bridge to reach his back hayfield. Sometime after that, a massive stone went missing from the bed, rendering the old road unsuitable for passage except by foot. continued on page 2



An interesting grade running from the road to the steam bed still exists. It was apparently a ramp where heavy wagons and horses could cross the stream. The theory is that wagons could enter the stream to swell their wagon wells, much like putting air in the tires today.

The Historical Society's Ken Mahler, planned and executed the cleanup for the Old Coach Road's inclusion in The Last Green Valley's Walktober. The months-long process would not have happened without permission and guidelines from the state DOT. Support also came from the Town and Pasteryak Paving, who provide parking for the crew and, LHS members Kevin Shafer and Rich Kerrigan and, most importantly the efforts of Boy Scout Troop 73. The crew of scouts: Max Wawrzynowicz, Blake Wawrzynowicz, Chris Arpin, Blake LaPierre, Jimmy Noel, Scott Brennan, Jason Stirling, Jackson Adams, and Sean Markman and leaders, Dave Wawrzynowicz and Ron Stirling, cleared five dump truck loads of firewood, and thousands (it seemed like millions) of branches, limbs, briars, and saplings that were chipped and laid back to earth as a good bed for the cleared road. The crew also gathered several bags of the usual roadside trash and hauled out two tires, one wheel and a galvanized bucket. This historic path is now open as a treasure to the community, we hope you take a detour and enjoy it while biking, or jogging by. The Old Coach Road, owned by the State of CT Department of Transportation, is part of the Route 169 National Scenic By-Way, established in 1992. The stonewall on the easterly side of the road is the limit of State ownership.

Upcoming events this quarter include the annual **Holiday Open House, Saturday, December 7<sup>th</sup> from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.** at the John Bishop House. We are offering handmade ornaments, and holiday decorations, a cooke sale, open hearth cooking and

museum tours.

Registration for **Open Hearth Cooking Classes on February 8<sup>th</sup> and February 15<sup>th</sup>, 2014** is now open. These hands-on interpretive classes introduce adult students to the 19<sup>th</sup> century cooking techniques, tools and menus common to the residents of the John Bishop House. Our hope is that students take what they have learned and put it to use in their own homes while having a merry time. Check our website for details or call Paula Adams at 860-887-0852 for registration forms.

Can and bottle sorters do not often see our donors, but recently we had the pleasure of meeting a Rolling Rock connoisseur and that got us wondering about the suds history. Rolling Rock was brewed at the Latrobe Brewing Co. in Latrobe, PA from 1939 until 2006. A 7 oz. Bottle of beer that became known as a "pony" was for the workingman who could not afford a full 12 oz. Beer. The 12 oz. Bottle has a picture of a horse on it, so, when coming into a tavern or pub, the customer would ask for either a horse or a pony, meaning a 12 oz. beer or a 7 oz. beer respectively. The number "33" on every bottle has several explanations; one interpretation is that it reflects the repeal of prohibition in 1933. Today, Anheuser-Busch InBev owns Rolling Rock.\*

For information on Lisbon history and LHS events go to ..... [www.99main.com/~chill/Historic.html](http://www.99main.com/~chill/Historic.html) or our Facebook page by typing Lisbon Historical Society in the "find friends" bar and check out videos on You Tube. We hope potential members are enticed by what they see, the Society meets on the second Friday of each month in the town hall, come join us.

\*www.wikipedia.com

**FY2014/15 Budget Schedule**

\*All meetings are scheduled to take place at 7:00 p.m.

12/31/12 – General Government budgets are due to the Selectmen.

03/06/13 – General Government and Board of Education budgets are due to the Board of Finance

03/13/13 – (Town Hall) – General Government Budget Presentation and Discussion

03/14/13 – (Town Hall) – Board of Education Budget Presentation and Discussion

03/20/13 – (Town Hall) – Regular Board of Finance meeting – Discussion on budget if needed

03/27/13 – (Town Hall) – Additional discussion on the General Government and Board of Education budgets. Vote to send budgets to public hearing

04/03/13 – (LCS Cafeteria/ Gymnasium) – Public Hearing on Proposed Budgets

04/10/13 – (Town Hall) – Final vote on the budgets (by the BoF) to send to the Selectmen for the call of the Annual Town Meeting

05/06/13 – (LCS Cafeteria/ Gymnasium) – Annual Town Meeting

Per Ordinance, the Annual Town Meeting is scheduled for the first Monday in May.

1. The Town Aid Road and Capital & Non-recurring budgets will be voted on at this meeting.

The Board of Education and General Governments budgets will not be voted on at this meeting other than to send the budgets to referendum.

The referendum will take place approximately two weeks after the Annual Town Meeting.

### **Burnham Tavern Tour cont.**

By Marcia Shafer, Historian

This is part 3 of the house tour of the old George Hoydila property. We are going to go up the rear or back staircase to the second floor. We are going through the porch entrance but you can also go in through the door in the kitchen. Be careful of your step up going onto the stair landing. You must duck or you will hit your head; it is a short doorway to pass through. The door in the kitchen to the stair case is a vertical ship lap with a thumb latch handle. The interior of the door in the staircase is the batten side with boards across the door to brace or keep its shape. The kitchen side of the door is painted to match the green in the rest of the kitchen. The door from the porch into the staircase is ship lap vertical boards on the exterior and has two small windows in the upper half of the door. The interior of the stair door again has the horizontal braces with the vertical boards.

When you are in the staircase you will note the white paint on the vertical ship lap style wood finish as you scend the stairs. There is a metal pipe style hand rail on the right wall as you ascend the stairs. If you look up overhead you will see the staircase frame of the stairs leading to the attic. The door at the top of the stairs on the interior is painted a cranberry color. It has shiplap boards and the interior is again the batten style using three vertical boards.

When you open the door you enter into the second floor and are in a room that runs across the back of the house. This side of the room, where the staircase opens, has three doors at this corner: the back stair door, a bedroom door to the immediate left,

and a door across from the stair door going into the front right bedroom.

The small bedroom to left of the stair door is a very narrow room. It had a full size bed in it at the time of my first tour with just enough room to walk around the bed. This room on the northeast size of the house has a two-panel door with strap hinges on pintels. The thumb latch has a rounded top and bottom to the handle. The room has a single two-over-two window on the northeast wall facing the highway. It has two gunstock corner posts that are painted and the walls have bouquets of flowers. The west wall of this room is the staircase coming up from the first floor, and part of the attic staircase. The door is framed in on the outside but the interior framing of the door is not of the usual manner. It has a 10 inch deep post style board over the door and a 14 inch wide board that is vertical on the right side of the door jamb. There is a piece of metal or leather sticking out of the frame on the corner near the right front room door. It is difficult to tell what the object is as it has many layers of paint of it.

We will now go into the front right bedroom. This room faces the Burnham Highway to the left from two front windows and one west window. The door to this room is a four-panel door with a thumb latch handle that has rounded ends that attach to the door with the larger end at the top. It also has a sliding lock under the handle. When you are in this room it has gunstock corner posts in all four corners. When you are standing in the doorway to your right is another fireplace that has paneling from one end of the west wall to the other end. It is not as ornate as the two downstairs paneled fireplaces on the first floor. The paneling over the door going into the hallway and the door itself match the rest of the woodwork on the fireplace wall including the closet door. The interior closet door is the batten style and the closet is about four feet deep with shelves on the back wall and is about two and one-half feet wide.

The fireplace has been filled in with a cover that is painted-possibly plaster. You can see the outline of a pipe from a wood or fuel stove. It does not have a mantle over the top of the fireplace. There is a board that does not match the paneling in any way and is sitting on brackets. The paint is peeling off and there is a gray green paint noted.

The door leading out of this room and into the hallway is a four-panel door with a slide lock and a thumb latch handle. This door is included in the decorative wood paneling of the entire southeast wall. The door is on HL hinges and the thumb latch has rounded sections on the top and the bottom. When you exit out this door you are in a short narrow connecting hallway between the two front rooms or you can go down the staircase to the first floor. There are two windows which face Burnham highway on your left and the staircase handrail on the right. There is faded linoleum on the floor with the same wallpaper from the first floor. A lot of the wallpaper has fallen off the horsehair plaster walls. Under the horse hair plaster is an ochre color on the walls of the first floor and second floor.

When you face the high walls of the staircase you will see many cracks in the horsehair plaster but if you look closely you will see stenciling around the edges of each wall near the ceiling and down the corners from top to bottom. In the corners you will also note the ochre color with black lines making a fan like design in each corner. Above the ochre color is a white space to make a border and has a black stenciling design all the way around the white space. It will take some research to discover the name of the design. Also of note is each tread and riser on the stairs is painted black to appear as though there is a runner on the stairs. When you look on the wall next to the treads and risers you will note that there is a ochre color that mimics the treads and risers on the wall.

If you have any information about the Burnham Tavern/Inn or about the property please share it with me at lisboncthistorian@yahoo.com. May the upcoming holidays bring you good cheer and happiness.

Senior Center Activities Schedule

Judy Jencks, Sr. Cntr. Coordinator/Municipal Agent

December -

- 12 - Holiday Party
18 - Shooting Stars Meeting
19 - Winter Breakfast

January -

- 8 - Club Lisbon
14, 21, 28 - Reflexology
15 - Shooting Stars Meeting

February -

- 4 - Souper Bowl
12 - Shooting Stars Meeting
14 - Dessert Day with Lenny Z

Mondays

- 2nd Mondays - Good Reader Book Club
12:30 - Drawing Class

Tuesdays

- 9:30 - Exercise for All
9:30 - Quilting
12:15 - Wii Bowling

Wednesdays

- 9:30 - Chair Caning, Basket Weaving, and Carving
12:30 - Afghan Makers

Thursdays

- 9:30 - Exercise for All
12:15 - Bingo

Fridays

- 9:20 - Crafting
1st & 3rd Fridays -Tongue Waggers
4th Friday - Last Friday Book Club

Check the senior newsletter "Lisbon Link" for more details or call the senior center at 860-376-6545, Monday through Friday 9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m

Planning and Zoning Notes

By Kim Sperry

Recent municipal elections returned Dave Gagnon, Ron Giroux Kim Sperry, and Bob Adams to the Planning and Zoning Commission and new full member Trevor Danburg and alternate member Jim Labonne. The commission now has two alternate positions vacant, one Republican and one Democrat.

The commission is made up of volunteers, whose duties include weighing the merits of a land use application, establishing zoning regulations, holding public hearings as required, preparing a plan of conservation and development every ten years, and establishing subdivision regulations, among others. Commissioners should be prepared to be familiar with the town's zoning and subdivision regulations and to attend regular meetings the 1st Tuesday of every month, special meetings as required, and public hearings. While challenging, the work in service to our community is rewarding.

The town supports continuing education by funding seminars and conferences. Copies of zoning and subdivision regulations are distributed to all members and the town's professional planner is always available. A copy of What's Legally Required written by Michael Zizka, our town counsel, details powers and duties of the commission, procedural and scheduling matters, conducting public hearings, decision making and conflict of interest issues. The book is available at the town hall for on-site review.

The commission encourages registered voters to submit a letter of interest to their party's Town Committee. Regular Planning and Zoning meetings take place the first Tuesday of each month at 7:00 p.m. in the town hall. The public is welcome to attend and speak during any public comment period.

WINTER PARKING BAN

The winter parking ban is in effect for town-owned roads and is enforced when the wether is expected to be hazardous for vehicles. Any vehicle found parked on Lisbon town roads during the ban may be towed at the owner's expense.

CONGRATULATIONS to Lisbon's Newly Elected Officials:

First Selectman - Thomas Sparkman; Robert Browne, John Gwiazdowski - Selectmen; Laurie J. Tirocchi, Town Clerk; Nancy R. Gosselin, Treasurer; Gail L. Izbicki, Tax Collector; Robert T. Dufort, Dennis A. Duplice, Frank Burzycki, Michael T. Zelasky - Board of Finance; Ian A. Rogers, Judith M. Jencks, Jenny R. Danburg, Melissa L. Becotte-Avery, Michelle C. Danieluk - Board of Education; Steven M. Beck, Board of Assessment Appeals; Robert D. Adams, Kim E. Sperry, Ronald E. Giroux, David E. Gagnon, Trevor W. Danburg, James Labonne - Planning and Zoning Commission; Robert Jencks, Steven M. Beck - Zoning Board of Appeals; Kimberly A. Lang, Steven M. Beck, Robert P. Chubka, James E. Labonne - Constables

There are vacancies on the Conservation Commission, Board of Finance, Planning and Zoning Commission, Zoning Board of Appeals, Board of Assessment Appeals as well as the following boards: Eastern Regional Mental Health Board (1); Southeastern Connecticut Water Authority (2); Norwich Area Cable Television Advisory Council (1).

Please contact the Selectmen's office at 860-376-3400 if you have an interest in serving your community.



## LISBON FIRE DEPARTMENT

# Annual Santa Parade

### GIFT DROP OFF

DECEMBER 5, 7:30PM OR ON FRIDAY, DECEMBER 6 BY NOON

#### Fri Dec. 6<sup>th</sup> at 5PM

138 to Route 12  
 Sylvandale Road  
 Lee Road  
 Route 12 to Dogwood Drive  
 Kanahan Road  
 Mell Road  
 Blueberry Lane  
 Ames Road  
 Preston Allen Road  
 Kendall Road  
 Kendall Road Ext.  
 Strnad Road  
 Kenyon Road  
 McNeeley Road  
 Versailles Road  
 Paper Mill Road  
 Allen Road  
 Kinsman Hill Road Ext  
 Town House Road

#### Sat. Dec. 7<sup>th</sup> at 5PM

138 towards Ross Hill  
 Bushnell Road  
 Ross Hill Road Ext.  
 Ross Hill Road  
 Bayberry Lane  
 Strawberry Fields  
 Phillips Road  
 Oak Drive  
 Meadowbrook  
 Kimball Road  
 Kimball Heights  
 Rex Road  
 Baron Road  
 Regina Drive  
 Sullivan Road  
 Gavin Way  
 Westminster Road  
 Inland Road  
 Kinsman Hill Road  
 N. Burnham Hwy  
 Autumn View Drive  
 Lisbon Heights

#### Sun. Dec. 8<sup>th</sup> at 5PM

S. Burnham Hwy to Mell Rd.  
 Round Hill Court  
 Tunnel Hill Rd  
 Tunnel Hill Court  
 Lower Blissville Rd  
 Ice House Rd  
 Blissville Rd  
 John St  
 Jurewicz St  
 Nora St  
 Graham Terrace  
 James St  
 Bundy Hill  
 Lisbon Mobile Park  
 Remik Rd  
 School House Rd  
 Club House Rd  
 Ethel Acres  
 Laurier Lane  
 Rocky Hollow Rd  
 169 to Fire House

For Additional Information Please Contact

Lisbon Firehouse 860-376-2558

Mike Gallagher 860-334-9344

Matt Babcock 860-608-5044

## Town of Lisbon 2014 Meeting Schedule

<u>Board of Selectmen</u>	
Town Hall @ 7:00pm	
January 13, 27	July 14, 28
February 10, 24	August 11, 25
March 10, 24	September 8, 22
April 14, 28	October 27
May 12	November 10
June 9, 23	December 8, 22

<u>Planning &amp; Zoning Commission</u>	
Town Hall @ 7:00pm	
January 7	July 1
February 4	August 5
March 4	September 2
April 1	October 7
May 6	November 4
June 3	December 2

<u>Commission on Aging</u>	
Lisbon Senior Center @ 7:00pm	
January 6	July 7
February 3	August 4
March 3	September 8
April 7	October 6
May 5	November 3
June 2	December 1

<u>Board of Finance</u>	
Town Hall @ 7:00pm	
January 15	July 16
February 19	August 20
March 19	September 17
April 16	October 15
May 21	November 19
June 18	December 17

<u>Zoning Board of Appeals</u>	
Town Hall @ 7:15pm	
January 28	July 22
February 25	August 26
March 25	September 23
April 22	October 28
May 27	November 25
June 24	December 23

<u>Recreation Committee</u>	
Town Hall @ 7:00pm	
January 27	July 21
February 24	August 18
March 24	September 15
April 21	October 20
May 19	November 17
June 16	December 15

<u>Board of Education</u>	
LCS Media Center @6:30	
January 27	July 21
February 24	August 18
March 17	September 15
April 21	October 20
May 19	November 24
June 16	December 15

<u>Conservation Commission</u>	
Town Hall @ 7:00pm	
January 21	July 15
February 18	August 19
March 18	September 16
April 15	October 21
May 20	November 18
June 17	December 16

<u>Farmer's Market Committee</u>	
Town Hall @ 7:00pm	
January 16	July 17
February 20	August 21
March 20	September 18
April 17	October 16
May 15	November 20
June 19	December 18

<u>Board of Assessment Appeals</u>	
Town Hall @ 6:00pm	
March 13	September 11

<u>Water Pollution Control Authority</u>	
Town Hall @ 7:00pm	
January 2	July 3
February 6	August 7
March 6	September 4
April 3	October 2
May 1	November 6
June 5	December 4

<u>Lisbon Historical Society</u>	
Town Hall @ 7:00pm	
January 10	July 11
February 14	August 8
March 14	September 12
April 11	October 10
May 9	November 14
June 13	December 12