



Salisbury Association

Serving Our Community Since 1902.

Land Trust

• Historical Society

• Community Events

FALL

2021

Salisbury Association Celebrates SVAS



SA President Jeanette Weber presented the 1741 Award to Jacquie Rice and Mike Brenner of the SVAS.

The Salisbury Association celebrated the Salisbury Volunteer Ambulance Service's 50th Anniversary with a reception for ambulance members on August 14. The event was also the opening of a special SVAS exhibit telling 50 years of stories, which will run until mid-October.

Using an oral history approach, present and past squad members, patients and doctors talk of inspiration, community service, gratitude and caring for others. Through the dedication of more than 700 volunteers over 50 years, the residents of Salisbury have been well cared for.

At the reception, the Salisbury Association awarded its first 1741 Award to the SVAS in recognition of its 50 years of exceptional service to our community. Thank you, SVAS, for providing emergency medical service to the Town of Salisbury, 365 days a year, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week!



In Her Own Words

In 1941 to celebrate the town's bicentennial, the Salisbury Association published a collection of biographies by Malcolm Day Rudd entitled, *Men of Worth of Salisbury Birth*. Over the years, we've been asked many times, "What about the women?"

Town Historian Jean McMillen and her predecessors have compiled nearly 400 oral histories, which collectively present an illuminating and engaging portrait of life in Salisbury. Using excerpts from those oral

histories, the Historical Society answers the question with *In Her Own Words: Illustrative Stories from the Oral History Archive*. The exhibit will highlight the words of twenty women who have lived in Salisbury. The intent behind this project is not so much to suggest these are the most important community stories, but to personalize and provide illustrative vignettes from what is a tremendous reservoir of information.

Due to open in late October, the exhibit will be on display through winter.



Summer Interns Shine Again at the Salisbury Association

This summer the Salisbury Association was delighted to employ two student interns. These bright young people gain experience in an area that interests them, while they provide valuable assistance with SA's work.

Gabriel Perkens is a rising Hotchkiss junior we enlisted through the Salisbury Youth Summer Jobs program. Gabriel's interest in history manifested itself early, as he was the 2019 recipient of the Salisbury Central School's Excellence in Social Studies award. This summer Gabriel split his time between the Salisbury Association Historical Society and Town Historian Jean McMillen. His work included scanning and formatting oral history transcriptions, digitizing collections for better preservation, indexing a collection of historic photographs, and updating a timeline of Salisbury history. Gabriel's technological proficiencies were invaluable to our goal to create digital copies of SA and town collections, particularly historic documents.

Katie Galt is entering her third year at Oberlin College and Conservatory where she is double-majoring in viola performance and comparative literature and minoring in environmental



Photo by Harry White

Katie Galt cuts Asian bittersweet vines to protect the trees in the wildlife glade at Schlesinger Bird Preserve.

studies. Her passion for the environment is evident in her work on an organic farm and for the Center for Biological Diversity. Katie even co-authored a paper on Measuring Large Trees for NASA. Katie grew up in Simsbury and was the Summer Land Steward for the Salisbury Association Land Trust. Working outside at the Land Trust's preserves, Katie focused on invasive plant suppression and trail maintenance.

It was a joy to have two such hard-working young people with passion for their work involved in our efforts!



Photo by Lou Bucceri

DAR Award for Jean McMillen

Not only did Jean McMillen expand the Salisbury Oral History Project from 117 interviews in 2010 to 393 today, tirelessly conducting and transcribing interviews over the past 10 years, she has also directed the process of making the transcripts and recordings available online. Recognizing Jean's amazing record of preserving our town's oral histories along with her efforts in restoring town cemeteries, the Daughters of the American Revolution has awarded Jean one of their first DAR awards for Excellence in Historic Preservation. It is a well-deserved national honor for someone who has done so much to preserve the rich history of our town.

Jean McMillen holds her DAR Certificate of Excellence in Historic Preservation.



Volunteer Resource Guide is Here!

The Salisbury Association Community Events Committee has published a special booklet, *Resource Guide for Volunteer Opportunities in Our Community*. The Guide contains information about 49 organizations that provide valuable service to our community. Each

of them relies on volunteers and donations for their good work.

You may have seen volunteers passing out these booklets, along with free ice cream at the Grove this summer. Thanks to LaBonne's for their generous contribution of ice cream and to Stacey Dodge and Lisa McAuliffe of the Grove for their help.

If you missed the sweet treats at the Grove, you can pick up your FREE copy of the Resource Guide at the Academy Building, Town Hall or the Scoville Memorial Library. Or view it in the Community Events Committee section of our website.



Photo by Sarah Morrison

Volunteer handbooks and ice cream at the Grove.



Land Trust Improves Hikers' Trail Experience

The Salisbury Association Land Trust is developing better signage for our hiking trails. New trail signs can be found at Dark Hollow, Pope Preserve, Schlesinger Bird Preserve and Sycamore Field. The easy-to-read signs show routes, distances, and difficulty levels and give a short history of the land. The trail maps can also be viewed in the Land Trust section of the Salisbury Association website.

Another improvement is the addition of benches. Along the Pope Preserve trail two benches have been added where walkers can stop and enjoy the view. Also, on the town-owned Rail Trail bordering Land Trust property, we arranged for the town crew to

install two new benches purchased by Joan Wallace in memory of her late husband. Enjoy your hikes!



Photo by Peggy Heck

David Heck installed the new trail map sign at Schlesinger Bird Preserve.

Salisbury Association Trustees

President: Jeanette Weber, Vice President: Chris Brennan, Secretary: Laura Carlson, Treasurer: Cynthia Walsh, Peter Kent, John Landon, George Massey, Roger McKee, Gloria Miller, Sarah Morrison, Diane Murphy, Dick Paddock, Matthew Pearson, Rich Reifsnnyder, Donald Ross, Abeth Slotnick, Linda Yowell.



Salisbury Association

24 Main Street
PO Box 553
Salisbury, CT 06068

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Roger McKee (right) built two new benches with help from Salisbury School students. Here he is with Chris Pouler installing one at a scenic overlook along the Pope Preserve trail.

Photo by Abeth Slotnick

Upcoming Events

September 19 at 11 a.m. / History Walk with Lou Bucceri: **Cannon at 20 Paces: The Rise and Fall of the Ames Iron Works.** A Housatonic Heritage Walk. Meet at Housatonic River Road boat launch.

October 23 at 9 a.m. / **Volunteer Day.** Come out and help the Salisbury Association Land Trust reroute the Appalachian Trail where it crosses our Prospect Mountain property. Please register by calling or emailing the Salisbury Association.

October 23 through winter/ Academy Building Exhibit: **In Her Own Words: Illustrative Stories from the Oral History Archive.**

Early December / Annual Holiday Concert featuring Judith Dansker with The Salisbury Four.

Contact us: 860-435-0566 • Email: salisburyassn@salisburyassociation.org
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