



KENT HISTORICAL SOCIETY SEVEN HEARTH'S MUSEUM

Monday, November 24, 2025

Dear Friends and Supporters,

Every year, the Kent Historical Society works to collect, preserve, interpret, and share the stories that make our community unique — from the earliest settlers who built this town to the generations who shaped its schools, farms, churches, and neighborhoods. These are our stories, many of which you've read in our newsletters. ***They deserve to be remembered, protected, and passed on.***

This year, we've accomplished a great deal together. Thanks to your past support, we were able to:

- Make significant improvements to Seven Hearths Museum, including a new front porch, a wooden railing to the second floor, newly installed paintings from our collections, and upgrades to the back entrance area with a widened doorway and a stone walkway;
- Welcome more than 100 local students for tours and hands-on history programs;
- Provide free community events, including Memorial Day, the Annual Christmas Party, and programs at the Senior Center.
- Expand volunteer opportunities through our Museum Docent program and Collections & Archives training.

But there is still more history to protect — and more stories waiting to be told. As we look ahead to 2026 and the nation's America 250 commemorations, we are counting on your support to keep this vital work moving forward. This year, we have set a goal of \$25,000 to fund critical needs at the three historic properties we own and operate:

Seven Hearths Museum (4 Studio Hill Road)

- \$5,000 for landscaping, snow removal, garden care, and outdoor improvements
- \$2,500 to glaze and repaint the south-facing windows
- \$2,400 to update and improve picture rails for expanded exhibitions
- \$2,500 to repair the back porch flooring

Tallman House (10 Studio Hill Road)

- \$1,000 to begin upgrading our museum collections software for future online access
- \$1,000 for archival storage supplies
- \$1,000 for environmental monitoring equipment

Skiff Mountain Schoolhouse (on the Marvelwood School Campus)

- \$1,000 for essential repairs to the front door and windows

We are also refreshing our membership schedule to better sustain year-round operations. Moving forward, membership renewals will be sent twice a year — in January and May — in addition to our Annual Fund appeal. Renewing your membership helps provide steady support so we can plan responsibly and continue offering exhibitions, programs, and preservation work. Our goal is to raise \$15,000 in memberships this year to return to pre-pandemic levels of support.

Your **Annual Fund gift** helps cover the essentials: conservation materials, exhibit development, educational programming, and the ongoing care of our collections and historic buildings. Every dollar you give ensures that Kent's history remains alive, accessible, and meaningful for generations to come. Will you make your tax-deductible contribution to the 2025–2026 Annual Fund today? You may give securely online through the QR code at the left or by mailing your gift in the enclosed envelope.

Thank you for helping us preserve the past — and inspire the future.

Sincerely,

Deborah Chabrian
President, Board of Trustees

Deborah Chabrian,
President

Roger Gonzales,
Vice President

William Watts,
Treasurer

Trustees

Carolyn Casey

D. Kent Freeman

Debbie Shiflett-Fitton

Christine Jewell

Executive Director

Marge Smith

Curator / Archivist

Kent Historical Society

P.O. Box 651

Seven Hearths Museum

4 Studio Hill Road

Kent, CT 06757

860-927-4587

Please call to inquire
about wire transfers
or making a gift of
appreciated
securities.

