



## **Windsor Locks Preservation Association, Inc.**

*We're on the Right Track!*

### **Train Station Committee Updates**

The WLPA is involved in ongoing negotiations with Amtrak, to purchase the Historic Windsor Locks Train Station. During the negotiations, we received, to date, 8 of 11 necessary approvals for our group to move forward with the purchase.

Last summer, we hired Attorney Edward McAnaney, of Suffield, to assist us with the negotiations. With his help, as well as the persistence of some political leaders, we have continued a slow but steady pace forwards, towards our goal.

Within the past 2 weeks, we learned that Amtrak has asked if we would consider leasing the Station instead of purchasing it. After discussions with several State agencies, that are assisting with some of the funding for the project, we have made the decision that it is not in the Association's best interest, to pursue a lease.

We are waiting for word from Amtrak regarding how we will proceed.

The Preservation Association has begun a support letter "campaign" to ask for the continue assistance from Senator Christopher Dodd and Congressman John Larson. A copy of the support letter is attached with this newsletter. We are asking everyone, who has an interest in seeing the Train Station restored to sign the letter and return it to the Preservation Association. The letters are forwarded, in "bundles", to the offices of our political leaders, along with an invitation for them to visit the site. Letters will also be available at our upcoming Flea Market.

During the month of April, Windsor Locks Economic Development consultant, Patrick McMahon, sent requests to try to schedule a meeting with Amtrak representatives as well as US, State and town officials. To date, no meeting has been scheduled.

Due to the rate of deterioration of the structure, if we hope to Save the Station, it must be done now!

Please view our website regularly for the most current updates on our ongoing negotiations.

## Fund Raising Committee

Our Fund Raising Committee, lead by Barbara Carlson, continues to hold events to raise much needed funds that keep the group operating and are a necessary requirement to obtain State funding for our project.

In March, the group hosted its Annual Wine Tasting at the VFW Hall in Windsor Locks. With over 50 people in attendance, wines were provided by Bert's Spirit Shop for all to sample. Assorted goodies were provided by several group members and a teacup auction was held. Members of the committee provided help setting up, cleaning and greeting everyone in attendance. Thanks to Barbara Tarbell and Kathy and Amy Bloom for handling the door and to Jenn DiPoppo, who prepared a beautiful advertisement book and organized the auction. A special Thank You to all the local businesses for their support in making our wine tasting a success! The committee raised about \$1,000.00.

Easter brought out many of the town's finest bakers, to support our Annual Easter Bake sale, organized by Jean DeSousa. There were an assortment of candies, pies, cakes, cookies and other Easter goodies. Thanks to Jean and Jordy DeSousa, Barbara Carlson, Martha Jarvis, Kathy Bloom, Pat Plamondon, Barbara Tarbell, Mickey Danyluk, Linda Breault, Cindy Porowski, Nancy Lowry, Joe Gronda, Trudy Barnard, Carol Plante, Catherine Danyluk and any of the generous people I have forgotten to mention!

Thanks to the support of the local community and a special THANK YOU to our friends at Dexter Plaza, Windsor Management and Elaine Rossingnol for making this all possible!

With Spring in the air, the planning of our **5<sup>th</sup> Annual Preservation Flea Market** is under way. The group is looking for donations of clean, gently used items for the Market. Martha and Dennis Jarvis have again, undertaken the task of collecting all the items for the Sale.

This year's Market will be held on **May 16, 2009 at the Windsor Locks Town Hall**, 50 Church Street in Windsor Locks. The sale will be held from **8:00 am – 2:00 pm** in the parking lot. We are looking for vendors to rent spaces. The space rentals are \$15.00 each.

To make a donation, rent a space or for more information, please contact **Martha @ (860) 623-4234**. We look forward to seeing everyone there!

***“Let's Save the Windsor Locks Train Station!”***