



## THE OLD SAYBROOK HISTORICAL SOCIETY

DEDICATED TO PRESERVING, PROTECTING AND PROMOTING THE HISTORY OF OLD SAYBROOK

April 2023

Re: gift for history and acts of kindness

“The effort of the people of this community to preserve history is fantastic. The heritage public gardens are a must to see” CT Jack, member of the Old Saybrook Chamber of Commerce

Dear friends and supporters,

There is a part of our organization that does not get enough recognition mainly because it happens almost every day. It is the acts of kindness and generosity that are constantly with us. They come from the hearts of those who are frequently on our Campus, a visit from near or far, or by email, letter, cards, phone messages.

Our gardens are a prime example of these acts of kindness. If you visit, you will admire the pear espalier tree, other magnificent trees, herbs, stone walls, the precious garden shed etc. They are all gifts of labor and donations. There are tributes to those no longer with us, herbs for the soup kitchen, and joy because of the beauty and serenity of its essence. Thousands of weeds are removed, and new growth planted with friendships flourishing along with the flowers and foliage and kindness ever present.

Elise Bischoff was a heritage garden volunteer for 25 years and, during that time, she created a special herb garden and was the keeper of the gardens doing whatever needed to be done to create a special place with a very limited budget. Her legacy gift of \$10,000 for the gardens provided its first major funds and the means to add a sprinkling system and make other incredible improvements. In honor of her service, generosity, loyalty and kindness, a tall bush David Austin blush rose was planted in 2015. This year it had to be moved because of the new General Hart House air conditioning condensing unit. Linda Kinsella, the present keeper of the gardens, had wanted an arch trellis for this memorial climbing rose and thought that this was the time to find it. Another act of kindness was about to come! She found out about the Fresh Start Pallet Project; a nonprofit Hartford enterprise started by the Asylum Hill Congregational Church. Its motto is: “Building Furniture. Rebuilding Lives”. Using discarded wood and shipping pallets, they are building fine furniture and giving training opportunities for the economically disadvantaged. Linda found the perfect arched trellis built through this project and donated it to honor Elise. Acts of kindness and generosity growing roots...

Your generous donation to help us with the many expenses necessary to keep our Campus and its buildings in good repair also provides us with the ability to present our many programs and exhibits and I can guarantee many more acts of kindness to follow.

With gratitude and best wishes,

Marie

1767 GENERAL WILLIAM HART HOUSE AND EXHIBIT GALLERY • PUBLIC HERITAGE GARDENS  
FRANK STEVENSON ARCHIVES & MARTHA SOPER RESEARCH LIBRARY BUILDING

350 MAIN STREET  
PO BOX 4

OLD SAYBROOK, CONNECTICUT 06475

*The Old Saybrook Historical Society is a 501(c) (3) non-profit organization*

860-395-1635

WWW.SAYBROOKHISTORY.ORG  
EMAIL: [contact@saybrookhistory.org](mailto:contact@saybrookhistory.org)

## PRESERVE



## PROTECT



## PROMOTE

