

July 2004 News Letter

And The Walls Came Tumbling Down

Kronenberger & Sons Crews Deconstruct Pavilion.

Well, maybe not tumbling down but taken down piece by piece. Razing a structure is demolishing it. Deconstructing it is removing each board, numbering it, and then saving it for reassembly.... like the Phoenix rising from the ashes. The first phase is now completed. An empty cellar hole stands ready for phase two. Heavy equipment will now be brought in to dig out a new larger cellar hole for the new poured foundation, which will support the new reconstructed pavilion/visitor center.



6/04 Going



6/18 Going



7/20 Going



Gone! July 22, 2004

The old posts, beams, joists and wall boards are all numbered and stacked in neatly covered piles around the building site. Some new posts and beams will have to be replicated, but as much of the old materials as possible will be used in the reconstruction.

July FAN's Meeting



The July meeting of the Friends group was held on Monday, July 12th at the Redding Town Hall.

Discussions held included:

1. Progress on the 1893 Pavilion Project.
2. Repointing and repair of Putnam Park obelisk will be done by the Kronenberger & Sons company.
3. Lighting fixtures for the museum. Purchase some immediately. Consultants for lighting and heating will be called in to give ideas and cost estimates for park museum.
4. Summer Craftsmen Program going on at museum.
5. Surprise guest speaker. After sitting in our meeting for 15 or 20 minutes, Jack Orchulli told us an interesting story of when he went camping in the Colorado mountains years ago. Great story. Jack then informed us he was in the wrong meeting room. Go Jack!



Summer Craftsmen Program

The summer craftsmen program where re-enactors demonstrate their craft in front of the museum on weekends, is in full swing. Surgeon, musket ball maker, tinsmith, potter and colonial cook will demonstrate on Saturdays & Sundays (approximately 10am to 4pm).

Jim Freebairn, a whitesmith, demonstrates making 'lead' musket balls.



Project On-site Boss

The Kronenberger & Sons company is tops in restoration work. They tackle all size jobs from churches to large historic projects like the Cold Spring Foundry across from West Point on the Hudson. The company has multiple projects going on at once. The Putnam Park 1893 Pavilion is one of those projects.

Pete Hansen is the Project Superintendent on the pavilion job. Pete and his crews have been on site since the end of May. Deconstructing a 100+ year old building can be a dusty and dirty job, but Pete has kept the project both cleaned up, neat and above all safe for his workers.

No More Rangers!



For years now we have been calling the men and woman serving the state park service, “Park Rangers”. No more, folks. We have been told that the State Parks Division of the Bureau of Outdoor Recreation of the Connecticut Department of Environmental Protection doesn't have Park Rangers in their employ.

They have Park Supervisors, EP Maintainers, and Interpretative Guides. So next time you see one of these persons in the park, please address him or her according to his proper title..... but don't call him “Ranger”.

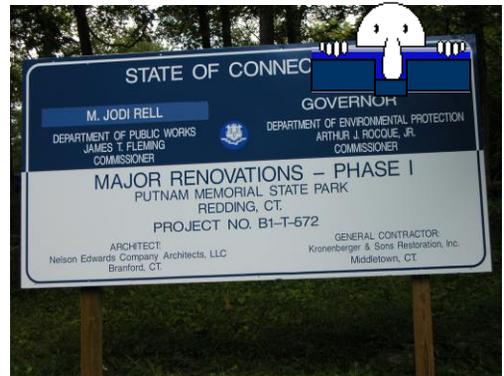
Note: This information was relayed to us by the Senior Park Ranger at the park museum.

North Gate



The North Gate entrance on Rt. 58 is now ready for use as a temporary gate while the main entrance is under construction..

Name Changer



The busiest man in the state of Connecticut came to the park this month The official State of Connecticut Name Changer, who travels around the state to change the name of the “governor” on thousands of project signs. What a job!

Next Meeting



The next FAN's Meeting will be on Monday Evening **September 13th** (No August meeting) at the Redding Town Hall. The meeting will start at **7:00pm**. Please come and join with us in the planning of events and projects at Putnam Park. Nominations for elections – next meeting.

