Main Street Navigator

NEWSLETTER OF THE CONNECTICUT MAIN STREET CENTER

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2006 Annual Meeting & Awards Presentation

The Crocker House in Downtown New London

Connecticut Main Street Center and Downtown New London hosted 150 attendees from throughout the State at CMSC's 2006 Annual Meeting and Awards Presentation. CMSC selected the beautifully restored Crocker House, winner of the 2006 Connecticut Trust for Historic Preservation Award of Merit, as the site of its evening of networking and celebration.

In the midst of a late spring heat wave, New London's historic waterfront district provided a cool and beautiful evening, which began with an outdoor reception in the Garden Courtyard of The Crocker House. Staff and volunteers from Connecticut Main Street Communities were joined by state and local elected officials, professional state and municipal staff, and representatives from economic development and historic preservation. Gubernatorial candidate John DeStefano, Mayor of New Haven, made appearance at reception.

Following the reception, where attendees could spend some time catching up with each other, attendees retired to the Grand Ballroom for the program and Awards Presentation. This event has quickly become the highlight of the year for both CMSC and award-winning Connecticut Main Street Communities selected through a competitive process.

State Senator Andrea Stillman, a downtown New London business owner, welcomed the crowd. CMSC Board Chair, Keith J. Kumnick, provided an overview of the past year, thanking CMSC Board members and staff for their dedication and encouraging and congratulating all representatives from Connecticut Main Street Communities. Kumnick also expressed his gratitude to departing board members, Andrea Pereira of LISC and Kinson Perry of AT&T, and he welcomed new directors Tim Coppage of CHFA and Tom Marano of CL&P.

above: Anita Mielert, Connecticut Advisor to the National Trust for Historic Preservation, presents Ray Necci, President & Chief Operating Officer of Connecticut Light & Power, with the 2006 National Main Street Business Leadership Award.

above: Tom Condon, PLACE Editor of *The Hartford Courant*, accepts the CL&P Award for Outstanding Contributions to Main Street Revitalization on behalf of the newspaper.

right: Connecticut Main Street Executive Director of the Year, Carl Rosa of Main Street Waterbury, surrounded by family and friends. (from left): Andrew Rosa, Sandy Rosa, Carl Rosa, CMSC's Dave Helmin, Darien Revitalization Inc. Executive Director Debbie Parnon, and Jennifer Rosa.

Anita Mielert, Connecticut Advisor to the National Trust for Historic Preservation, presented CL&P with the 2006 National Main Street Leadership Award. Raymond Necci, President and Chief Operating Officer of CL&P, accepted the award. In accepting the award Necci stated, ***"We at CL&P understand the need to make optimal use of our state's many historic town centers. Our motivation for launching Connecticut Main Street in 1995, and our commitment to sustain its work, represents a marriage of enlightened corporate self-interest with a dedication to the quality of life in our cities and towns."***

Mr. Necci joined CMSC President and CEO, John Simone in presenting the CL&P Award for Outstanding Contributions to Main Street Revitalization to The Hartford Courant for its focus on and commitment to the preservation and revitalization of Connecticut's downtowns and neighborhood commercial districts. Tom Condon, PLACE editor of the Courant, accepted the award on behalf of the newspaper.

A total of 34 awards were presented to local Main Street programs, professional staff and volunteers. As in previous years, each award recipient received a Citation from Governor M. Jodi Rell. The full list of award winners appears on page 3.

All Annual Meeting photos by Vincent Scarano.

Board of Directors 2006 - 2007

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John Simone, *President & CEO*
Kimberley Parsons-Whitaker, *Associate Director*
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Welcome
New Downtown Resource Center Members!

- *Town of Enfield*
- *Town of Southington*
- *Southeastern CT Enterprise Region (SECTOR)*

Connecticut Main Street Center growth partners (from left): John O'Toole of CL&P, Larry Lusardi of DECD, and Ray Necci of CL&P.

Our Funders and Partners

CMSC acknowledges the following institutions for their generous support and partnership:

Growth Partners

The Connecticut Light and Power Company
The State of CT Department of Economic and Community Development

Bank of America
Burnes Consulting
CERC
CT Association of Nonprofits
CT Commission on Culture & Tourism
CT Preservation Action
CT Economic Development Association
CT Trust for Historic Preservation
CT Urban Legal Initiative
National Main Street Center
National Trust for Historic Preservation
New Alliance Bank
Webster Bank

Economic Development That Works

Nationally, the Main Street Approach to Downtown Revitalization™ is one of the most powerful economic development tools known. Here are the cumulative reinvestment statistics for Connecticut Main Street communities from 1996 – June, 2006:

Public Improvements	212
Net New Businesses	331
Net New Jobs	1,921
Construction Projects	1,470
Number of Volunteer Hours	157,069
Public Investment	$223,853,383.
Private Investment	$247,605,988.
Total Investment	$471,459,371.

For every $1 spent on a local Main Street Program's operating budget, $70.39 has been reinvested into Connecticut Main Street Downtowns.

CONNECTICUT MAIN STREET CENTER
2006 Awards for Excellence in Downtown Revitalization

Private Sector Partnership
Simsbury Main Street Partnership - *Simsbury CT Next Generation Program & Reception: "Restaurants Leading Downtown Redevelopment"*

Volunteer Recruitment Effort
New London Main Street -*Volunteering at New London Main Street: A Volunteer Expansion Campaign*

Public Relations/Organizational Communications
New London Main Street - *Community Outreach Through Publications and Gatherings*

Public Improvement Project
The Rockville Downtown Association - *Cogswell Memorial Fountain*

Building Rehabilitation
Circa Builders, LLC - *Historic Home in Niantic*

New Construction
db design LLC - *9 Methodist Street, Niantic*

Adaptive Re-use of a Building
Thames River Wine & Spirits and Brie & Bleu, New London

Merchant Service Award
Bob & Kelly McCarthy of Kelly's Kitchen, Winsted

Bob and Kelly McCarthy, owners of Kelly's Kitchen, and winners of the Merchant Service Award.

Merchant Lifetime Achievement Award
Tom & Mary Margaret Horan of Horan's Flowers & Gifts, Simsbury Center

Image Enhancement
Friends of Main Street (Winsted) - *Winsted Wins: An Image Campaign*

Award of Merit in Image Enhancement
Upper Albany Main Street - *Anti-litter Campaign: "Live the Dream, Keep the Avenue Clean"*

Special Event
Main Street Waterbury - *Eat Your Art Out, 2005*

Connecticut Main Street Executive Director of the Year
Carl Rosa, Chief Executive Officer - Main Street Waterbury

Outstanding Main Street Volunteers of the Year
New London Main Street — *Jean Brown*
Niantic Main Street — *Madeleine Makiaris*
Rose City Renaissance (Norwich) — *John Aronica*
The Rockville Downtown Association — *Debbie Muro, Tina Parker, Christina Savage, Jennifer Torres (interns from ECSU)*
Simsbury Main Street Partnership — *Mary Margaret Horan*
Upper Albany Main Street — *Kathleen Yantosca (intern from UHart)*
Main Street Waterbury — *Ken Killer*
Friends of Main Street (Winsted) — *MaryPat Leger*

Outstanding Main Street Board Members of the Year
Darien Revitalization Inc. — *R. David Genovese*
New London Main Street — *Kathleen Neal*
Niantic Main Street — *Pauline Lord*
Rose City Renaissance (Norwich) — *Fawn Walker*
The Rockville Downtown Association — *Stephen Marcham*
Simsbury Main Street Partnership — *Mike Goman*
Upper Albany Main Street — *Nadine Francis West*
Main Street Waterbury — *Marianne Vandenburgh*
Friends of Main Street (Winsted) — *Ernest L. Wolff*

2006 National Main Street Community board representatives from Friends of Main Street-Winsted and Main Street Waterbury congratulate each other.

PROMOTION

DON'T MISS THIS WORKSHOP!

Developing Promotional Strategies for Your Commercial District

Jane Jenkins
Downtown Boulder Business Improvement District

October 27, 2006
8:30 am to 4:00 pm
Northeast Utilities Auditorium
Berlin, CT

For more information visit www.ctmainstreet.org
or call 860-280-2337

Connecticut Main Street Center, a statewide nonprofit corporation, is dedicated to the concept of economic and community development within the context of historic preservation. CMSC is committed to bringing Connecticut's commercial districts back to life socially and economically by providing education and training, resources and technical assistance, and advocacy.

Connecticut MAIN STREET Center

CHARTING YOUR COURSE TO A VIBRANT DOWNTOWN

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