

2023 New England Societies' Annual Gathering

Connecticut

The Constitution State

or

"The Nutmeg State"

The Order of the First Families of Connecticut is hosting the 2023 New England Societies' Gathering the weekend of October $6^{th} - 9^{th}$ in Hartford, Connecticut.

Hartford is the capital of Connecticut and is filled with so much history as being the World's Insurance Capital; home of the oldest Public Art Museum, "The Wadsworth Athenaeum," opening its doors in 1844 in the US; the oldest continuously published newspaper, "The Hartford Courant," since October 29, 1764; the oldest publicly funded park, "Bushnell Park," opened in 1854; the site of the First Witch Hunt in America, sometimes referred as the "Hartford Witch Trials," occurred from 1647 to 1663 thirty years before the Salem trials; home of Mark Twain; home of the largest hand painted ceiling mural in the US; and home of Harriet Beecher Stowe for some of her life. A fascinating tidbit "The Charter Oak" an oak tree which was the hiding place of the Colony of Connecticut Charter from October 31, 1687 until the time the oak tree fell on August 21, 1856.

We are looking forward to hosting this weekend with you and members of your society and their families.

Come see what Hartford has to offer and make new friends and meet new members of attending societies.

Our secured block of rooms will be at the Holiday Inn Downtown Hartford. The code for the discounted rooms is FFC or ask for the First Families of CT group block when calling. The phone number for the Holiday Inn is 877-834-3613.

More information will be available soon. Please contract Pat Babbitt at wmbpab@yahoo.com after you make your reservation as she is planning the events.

Just a couple of the events in the planning are a Living Experience at the Mark Twain House which is a tour of Mr. Twain's house and an actor impersonating his wife or staff member giving us a 30 to 45 minute presentation question and answer session in the old barn and a combination of a one hour boat excursion and $1 \frac{1}{2}$ hour train tour though the Valley.

We are looking forward to meeting and seeing as many members as possible that can attend.

More information to follow.

Wesley W. Babbitt, Governor OFFCT