

The Birth of a New Project – The Ashford Citizen in September, 1952

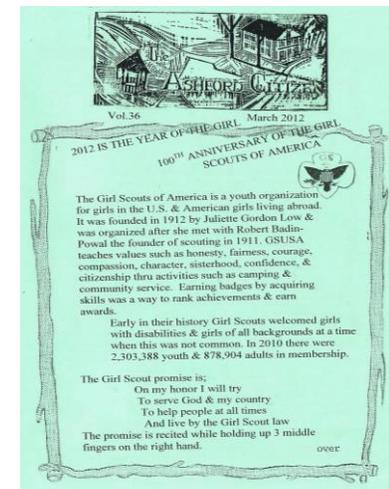
Copy of the first edition cover page with artwork designed by Ann Belanger Supina

Published by the Ashford Better Community Development Board

Editor – Helen Kovarovics



## The Ashford Citizen



Ashford's Monthly Community Newsletter

**All About Ashford** is a service provided by the Babcock Library, 25 Pompey Hollow Road, Ashford, CT 06278

The *Ashford Citizen* is a monthly town newsletter published by volunteers. The *Citizen* was first established in August 1952 by a town agency known as the "ABCD" (Ashford Better Community Development Board). In the words of the ABCD back then:

*"The purpose of the publication is to keep Ashford citizens informed on what is going on in town. It is not a money-making scheme, but strictly a community service."*

A group of volunteers under the direction of Helen Kovarovics as editor first published the newsletter semi-monthly from Sept 15 to July 1<sup>st</sup> every year until the 1960's. The original logo is a grist mill designed by town resident Anne Belanger Supina (shown on the reverse side of this brochure).

As America approached its 200<sup>th</sup> Anniversary in 1976, a number of Ashford residents called for the *Ashford Citizen* to be resurrected. Antoinette (Ginger) Willard, then Ashford's Tax Collector, spearheaded the project and the "*Citizen*" was reborn.

The newsletter continues today in the same spirit of its founding philosophy

established in 1952. Today, the *Ashford Citizen* is supported by donations and advertisements. The number of pages in the monthly issue has increased from eight to as many as sixty-four. Regular features include:

- Town Meeting notices
- Calendar of Town Board and Commission meetings
- Vital Statistics such as marriages and deaths
- Building Permits
- Land Transfers
- Legal Notices
- Sample election and referendum ballots
- Babcock Library news
- Updates on Ashford residents who serve in the armed forces.
- Sports license information (fishing and hunting)
- Education notes

Other interesting articles include historical notes, announcements and

news from Ashford civic organizations such as the Scouts, seniors, and Historical Society as well as items from state and regional organizations like the Last Green Valley, the CT Agriculture Commission and the McSweeney Center in Willimantic. The *Citizen* will even print poetry written by town residents.

You can receive the "Ashford Citizen" simply by making a donation at the Town Clerk's office in the Town Office Building in Warrenville.

For more information call the town offices at 860-487-4404 and ask for Bev, or call 860-487-4401 and ask for Barbara or Sherri.

With enthusiastic volunteers busily collating pages into booklets, labeling, stapling and sorting for mailing (as shown below), the *Ashford Citizen* will continue to endure for years to come.