

Greenwich Historical Society

Explore our colorful past



news+programs

september | october 2015

GREENWICH HISTORICAL SOCIETY

is dedicated to promoting Greenwich's unique and colorful past. Our collections actively chronicle the life of our town for future generations, our programs and exhibitions help people of all ages better understand their connection to history, and our preservation efforts safeguard an architectural heritage that includes the National Historic Landmark Bush-Holley House, the site of the Cos Cob art colony.

BUSH-HOLLEY HISTORIC SITE

is a member of the Connecticut Art Trail, a partnership of 18 world-class museums and historic sites across the state. Discover collections rich in history and heritage, including European masterpieces, American Impressionism, ancient art and contemporary culture.

HOURS

Storehouse Gallery

Open Wednesday through Sunday,
12–4 pm

Docent-led tours of Bush-Holley House

Wednesday through Sunday,
1, 2 and 3 pm and by appointment.

Library and Archives

Wednesdays, 10 am–12:30 pm
and 1 pm–4 pm, or by appointment

ADMISSION

\$10 for adults

\$8 for seniors and students

Admission always free to members and children under 12.

Free to the public the first Wednesday of every month.

CONTACT US

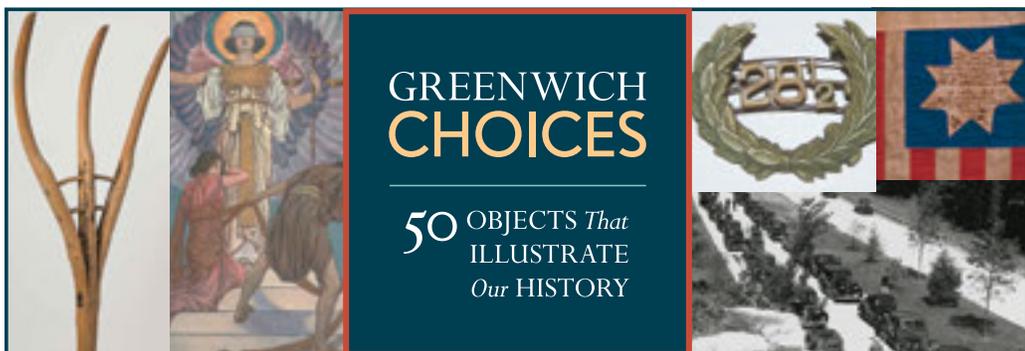
Greenwich Historical Society
39 Strickland Road
Cos Cob, CT 06807

203-869-6899

www.greenwichhistory.org

DIRECTIONS

Off I-95 at exit 4. Visit
www.greenwichhistory.org for details.



GREENWICH CHOICES

50 OBJECTS That
ILLUSTRATE
Our HISTORY

Every town has a story to tell, and Greenwich's is 375 fascinating years old. *Greenwich Choices: 50 Objects That Illustrate Our History* explores defining moments in the town's growth and development through objects drawn from our collections. A shirt worn by Obadiah Mead, shot by a loyalist "cowboy," connects visitors with the American Revolution. A bill of sale for a three-year-old slave boy containing an emancipation clause speaks to changing attitudes toward slavery. Records from local manufacturers tell a tale of early entrepreneurs and opportunities for immigrant workers. A congresswoman's scrapbooks on the construction of the Merritt Parkway chronicle

changes that altered both the landscape and the movements of town residents.

All 50 objects reflect transformational moments in Greenwich's social, economic, industrial, political or artistic stories and symbolize choices made by generations of residents that shaped today's community. Curated by Karen Frederick, the exhibition also features responses to the objects by local high school students.

September 30, 2015 through February 28, 2016

Open Wednesday through Sunday, Noon to 4:00 pm
Storehouse Gallery

GREENWICH
MAGAZINE
MOFFLY MEDIA

Exclusive Media Sponsor



2015 Frolic at French Farm

The entire family is invited to French Farm, where art meets nature in a truly unique private, historic landscape. Children can get up close and personal with the farm's animals; enjoy games, nature crafts and a scavenger hunt; press cider and explore the fossil garden and pterodactyl tower. Adults can take a horticultural tour of the property led by noted landscape designer Florence Boogaerts or learn about the property's cultural landscape, collections and development in a tour led by Jacek Nidzgorski, the farm's long-standing resident. Artists are invited to set up their easels during the event, and visitors are free to snap photos for personal enjoyment. (Permission to publish photos must be obtained by the Friends of French Farm.) A finger-food

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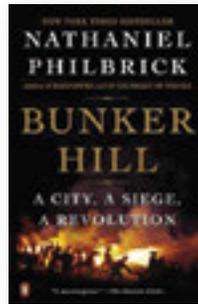
From Plymouth Rock to the Battle of Bunker Hill

84th Annual Meeting and William C. Crooks Distinguished Lecture by Nathaniel Philbrick



Nathaniel Philbrick

The *Cape Cod Times* has written, “No one can tell you about the history you thought you knew quite like Nathaniel Philbrick.” We heartily agree. The Historical Society is thrilled to host celebrated author and historian Nathaniel Philbrick at our annual meeting. Philbrick’s lecture will focus on *Bunker Hill*:



Away Off Shore, Abram’s Eyes, In the Heart of the Sea (currently the basis of a forthcoming film by director Ron Howard), *Sea of Glory, Last Stand* and his latest, *Bunker Hill: A City, a Siege, a Revolution*. He has written for *Vanity Fair, The New York Times Book Review, The Wall Street Journal, The Los Angeles Times* and *The Boston Globe*. He has appeared on the *Today Show, the Morning Show, Dateline, PBS’s American Experience, CSPAN* and *NPR*. Don’t miss this evening with one of America’s pre-eminent historians.

Copies of Nathaniel Philbrick’s latest book will be available for purchase and signing at the event.

Thursday, September 17, 2015, 6:00 to 8:00 pm

Indian Harbor Yacht Club, 710 Steamboat Road, Greenwich

Tickets: \$60 Members

\$80 Nonmembers (includes Individual Membership through June 30, 2016)

\$125 Angel Ticket (includes Dual/Family Membership through June 30, 2016)

Reservations required. Reserve online or call 203-869-6899, Ext. 10

by September 9, 2015.

A City, a Siege, a Revolution, and he will talk about how it inspired him to further explore issues covered in *Mayflower*, his account of King Philip’s War—events that laid the groundwork for what would happen in Boston and throughout Massachusetts during the early stages of the American Revolution.

Philbrick is a long-time Nantucket resident, champion sailor, graduate of Brown University and a Duke Fellow with a masters’ in American Literature. Among his impressive oeuvre of bestsellers are



Fifth Connecticut Regiment and young “recruits” in action

Fall Festival: A Revolutionary Concept

In celebration of the town’s 375th anniversary, this year’s Fall Festival will focus on early Greenwich history.

Reenactors from the Fifth Connecticut Regiment will demonstrate camp life at the time of the American Revolution and march, fire muskets and display uniforms, flags, crafts and weapons from the period.

Visitors may take a hayride along historic Strickland Road; enjoy a special family-friendly, early history tour of Bush-Holley House linked to the Fifth Connecticut Regiment; visit the exhibition *Greenwich Choices* and try their hands at Colonial-inspired crafts. They may also compete in the annual

scarecrow-making competition. Registration fee for the competition (in addition to the entrance fee) is \$10 for members and \$15 for nonmembers and includes armature (“the bones”), hay for stuffing, twine and a burlap sack for the head. Please enroll in advance for Scarecrow Competition.

Sunday, October 11, 2015, 12:30 to 3:30 pm

Bush-Holley Historic Site

\$10 for adults; \$5 for children (no charge for children 2 and under); \$25 for family admission

Generously sponsored by: **THE FIRST BANK OF GREENWICH**

French Farm 2015 (Continued from front cover)

buffet will include tea sandwiches and sweet and savory pastries by celebrity chef John Barricelli of The SoNo Baking Company. Live music.

Sunday, September 13, 2015, 1:30 to 4:30 pm
Rain or shine.

Advance reservations required.

Members: \$35 adults; \$10 children 4–12 yrs.
Nonmembers: \$45 adults; \$15 children 4–12 yrs.
Children under 3 are free.

The event is made possible by the David R. A. Wierdsma Fund and is chaired by Holly Cassin, April Larken and Catherine Tompkins.

Announcing New Membership Benefits!

Membership makes a great gift!

Membership has its benefits at the Historical Society! If you haven’t renewed your yearly membership, consider upgrading now. You’ll receive the newsletter and unlimited admission to the Storehouse Gallery, along with invitations to members-only events. At the Benefactor level (\$1,000), you’ll gain access to all of our public education programs. Learn more at www.greenwichhistory.org.

Susan Larkin to Lead Tour of Bush-Holley House Art Collection



Susan Larkin

19th and early 20th centuries. Join us as art historian Susan Larkin takes us on a special art tour of the Greenwich Historical Society's

BUSH-HOLLEY HOUSE has many a tale to tell but none more colorful than the story of the Cos Cob art colony and its influence on the American art scene in the late

collection with a focus on the pieces currently on view in Bush-Holley House—many created when Cos Cob was a bohemian hub for artistic and intellectual exchange. Leading visitors through the Holley Boarding House period rooms, Larkin will discuss how the confluence of individuals, the surrounding landscape and the ambience created by the Holley family were instrumental in ushering in a new era in American art.

Susan G. Larkin is an independent art historian and curator who has published and lectured widely on American art. She is the author of *The Cos Cob Art Colony: Impression-*

ists on the Connecticut Shore and most recently curated the exhibition *In a Good Light: The Artist's Studio in Cos Cob* for the Greenwich Historical Society.

Wednesday, September 30, 2015, 1:00 pm

Tour begins at the Storehouse Gallery.

Free to members and students.

\$10 for adult nonmembers; \$8 for seniors.



This event is a featured program of

An Evening with Author Steven Stolman

at Jonathan Adler Greenwich to Benefit the Historical Society

Join us for an exclusive evening of shopping, sips and bites at Jonathan Adler on Greenwich Avenue with special guest Steven Stolman. Hosted by Suni Unger, Suzanne Frank, Rachel Kelley, Reggie Olmstead and Jordan Rhodes, the event will celebrate Mr. Stolman's book, *Confessions of a Serial Entertainer*, with a portion of the proceeds from the evening donated to the Greenwich Historical Society.

Thursday, October 15, 2015, 6:00 to 8:00 pm

Jonathan Adler, 88 Greenwich Avenue

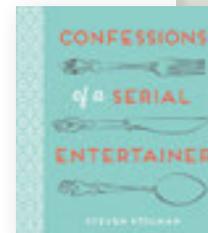
No charge, but advance reservations required.

Call 203-869-6899, Ext. 10. Spaced limited.

Door prize courtesy of:

JONATHAN ADLER

The media sponsor for this event is Serendipity Magazine.



Steven Stolman



Greenwich Reads Together:

An Evening with Princess Omaa Adaobi Ume-Ezeoke:

Women's Roles in Traditional Nigerian Folklore and Their Contemporary Impact



Princess Omaa Adaobi Ume-Ezeoke

This year's Greenwich Reads Together book selection is *Americanah*, by Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie, a story of race and identity that unfolds against three continents, chronicling a Nigerian woman's immigrant experience in America.

As part of the town-wide program, guest speaker Nigerian

Princess Omaa Adaobi Ume-Ezeoke will share stories that reflect traditional Igbo worldviews on the roles of women in the contexts of family, marriage and work. The program will include a discussion that moves understanding of these roles into the contemporary environment of Adichie's *Americanah*.

The speaker is a visual and performing artist, as well as a storyteller of Igbo folktales. Her experiences from the 1967-70 Nigeria-Biafra civil war constitute an important influence on her work. She contributed to the reader *Pearls of Wisdom* and co-curated the

exhibition *Producing Histories: African Art at the Housatonic Museum of Art*. Ume-Ezeoke is the founding president of the Igbo Women's Association of Bridgeport.

Thursday, October 22, 2015, 7:00 to 8:00 pm

Free and open to all; no registration required.

Vanderbilt Education Center

Cosponsored with Greenwich Library



39 Strickland Road, Cos Cob, CT 06807

Save the Dates:

September 13

Frolic at French Farm

September 17

84th Annual Meeting and
William C. Crooks Distinguished
Lecture by Nathaniel Philbrick

September 30

Art Tour of Bush-Holley House
with Susan Larkin

September 30

*Greenwich Choices: 50 Objects
That Illustrate our History Opens*

October 11

Fall Festival

October 15

An Evening with Author Steven
Stolman to Benefit the Historical
Society at Jonathan Adler, Greenwich

October 22

Greenwich Reads Together:
An Evening with Princess Omaa
Adaobi Ume-Ezeoke

The Greenwich Historical Society chronicles the past, but the future is in your hands. Please remember us in your estate plan so that future generations may continue to explore the ongoing story of our community.



news

Handmade in Greenwich



Seaton Crossman (rear right) and the delivery crew test out our new picnic table.

Seaton Crossman, a senior at Greenwich High School, recently led a project to build two much-needed picnic tables for Historical Society campers. Crossman is the Senior Patrol Leader of Boy Scout Troop 10 in Cos Cob, CT, and managed a group of 21 participants to fulfill a service requirement needed to become an Eagle Scout.

Said Crossman, "I chose the Bush-Holley Historic Site for my Eagle Project because I have many fond memories drawing and painting in the American Impressionist painting camp in fourth and fifth grades. I wanted to do something for them."

Many thanks to Seaton for selecting the Historical Society for his project and to all who assisted!



Visit us on Facebook to see changing Greenwich History articles and event announcements.

Call for Volunteers for 375th Anniversary Gala Parade

The Greenwich Historical Society will be participating in the town's 375th Anniversary Parade with a Cos Cob Art Colony-themed float. We are looking for volunteers to help design and decorate the float and for reenactors to dress in early 20th-century attire to ride along and bring the scene to life on the day of the parade. Please contact Anna Greco at 203-869-6899, Ext. 31, if you are interested in helping out.



Welcome New Employee Suzanne Flinn



There's a new face at the Historical Society. Suzanne Flinn, a local Greenwich resident, joined the Historical Society in June as development and guest services coordinator. She brings over 15 years of office management, development and administrative experience to the position, having worked in a variety of industries including real estate, publishing and healthcare. Suzanne moved to Greenwich

from Boston in 2001. She is married and has two sons, aged 9 and 10, who attend North Street School.