# Greenwich Historical Society

## Explore our colorful past



## news+programs november

ember | december 2014/

## GREENWICH HISTORICAL SOCIETY

is dedicated to promoting Greenwich's unique and colorful past. Our Archives 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 17 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 1, 2 and 3 pm

Closed Monday and Tuesday

*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 studentsAdmission always free to members.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.



## ANTIQUARIUS: THE HOLIDAYS IN HIGH STYLE

Antiquarius is quite simply our most important fundraising event of the year, and when you support Antiquarius, you make a lot of good things happen. You enable the Historical Society to collect and chronicle the vibrant history of this unique community so that we can share it with current and future residents, scholars and students. You help to sustain the Library and Archives to tell the Greenwich story through photos and primary source documents.

You become a steward of beloved Bush-Holley Historic Site, help launch fascinating art and history exhibitions, further preservation initiatives and allow us to offer education programs for all ages.

When you participate, it's a win/win. You contribute immeasurably to the cultural vitality of Greenwich and have a really good time doing it. What could be better?

We urge you to attend all these exciting events, to celebrate the holidays in high style and to uphold a great Greenwich tradition. Many thanks!

## ANTIQUARIUS SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

Visit www.greenwichhistory.org/antiquarius or call 203-869-6899, Ext. 14, for tickets or more information.

## Gala Preview Party of the Greenwich Antiques Show: Sugarplums and Snowflakes, A Nutcracker Holiday Gala

Browse the Greenwich Winter Antiques Show before it opens to the public. Meet over 40 nationally recognized antiques, art and jewelry exhibitors featuring their holiday best.

Preview Party catering by Marcia Selden Catering

Friday, December 5, 6:30 to 9:00 pm Eastern Greenwich Civic Center Advance reservations required.

## 🐛 The Greenwich Winter Antiques Show

Inc. Presented by Frank Gaglio, Inc.

Saturday, December 6, 10:00 am to 6:00 pm Sunday, December 7, 11:00 am to 5:00 pm Eastern Greenwich Civic Center Admission is \$15 per person, payable at the door.



## The Holiday Boutique

Something for everyone on your holiday gift list! Tuesday evening features complimentary wine and passed hors d'oeuvres.

Tuesday, December 9, 6:00 to 8:30 pm Wednesday, December 10, 9:00 am to 6:00 pm Christ Church Greenwich Free admission



## Holiday House Tour

The 2014 House Tour will showcase five spectacular Greenwich homes.

Wednesday, December 10, 10:00 am to 4:00 pm Advance reservations required.

## Holiday House Tour Luncheon

Enjoy a country club buffet lunch with friends as part of your day on the House Tour.

Wednesday, December 10, 11:30 am to 1:30 pm The Milbrook Club Advance reservations required.

We are extremely grateful for the support of the following Antiquarius sponsors:



Fireman's Fund







David Ogilvy & Associates | CHRISTIEN

All images from the Collection of the Greenwich Historical Society

## events + programs

## **Decorating The Way I See It:** Lecture and Luncheon with Markham Roberts to Benefit the Historical Society

oin us as renowned interior designer Markham Roberts shares professional insights key to creating the perfect home. The program will include remarks, a video presentation and a lively Q&A session where you'll discover sources of inspiration, share design queries and get coveted personal advice.

Markham Roberts is known for his ability to work in any vernacular, bringing a fresh approach to classical design. His work has been described as "the very definition

of chic," and is frequently published in prominent design publications. Roberts trained with renowned decorator Mark Hampton before opening his own firm in 1997. He has earned a reputation as one of the top decorators of his generation and was named to the AD100.

Each guest will receive a complimentary copy of Markham's book, *Decorating: The Way I See It*. Guests will also be able to purchase Markham Roberts-designed tablecloth overlays and centerpieces inspired by his look and have the opportunity to enter to win a fabulous door prize.



## The Belle Haven Club 100 Harbor Drive, Greenwich

Thursday, November 13, 2014 Arrival and Seating: 11:00 am Lecture and Luncheon: 11:30 am sharp

Question & Answer and book signing to follow

Tickets: \$250 / \$500 / \$1,000 Seating is limited. Advance reservations required.

## ANTIQUARIUS 2014 LEADERSHIP

Deborah and Chuck Royce Honorary Chairs

Tiffany Burnette Samantha Moro Catherine Tompkins Co-Chairs, Designer Luncheon

Lynne Wheat Suzanne Frank Co-Chairs, Patrons

Sandra Morgan Laird Morgan Tolan Co-Chairs, Holiday House Tour

Holly Cassin Catie Salyer Co-Chairs, Holiday Boutique

Lisa McAtee Beth Taylor Carrie Wallack Co-Chairs, Gala Preview Party Jacki Brew Kathryn Stewart Co-Chairs, Silent Auction

Rachel Kelley Serena Perlman Co-Chairs, Holiday House Tour Logistics

Catherine Tompkins Elizabeth Lake Co-Chairs, Holiday House Tour Hospitality

Ashley Allan Chair, Holiday House Tour Luncheon

Frank Gaglio Producer.

Greenwich Winter Antiques Show

Markham Roberts Honorary Chair, Designer Forum Davidde Strackbein Chairman, Board of Trustees Bush-Holley House by Candlelight

long-standing holiday tradition, Bush-Holley House will feature costumed interpreters, period holiday decorations and "candle" lighting throughout.

Tours will begin at the Vanderbilt Education Center and take roughly 45 minutes. This year, in keeping with our WWI exhibition theme, they will focus



on how the Holley family celebrated the holidays during the war years, including the meals they might have prepared. Visitors may also enjoy hot chocolate and seasonal treats, music, crafts and, from 5:00 to 6:00, a visit from Santa Claus.

Sunday, December 14, 2014; 5:00 to 7:00 pm

Vanderbilt Education Center

This event is free to all. Reservations not required.

# *Treasure Hunt* Holiday Performances by No Strings Marionette Company

ll aboard for a swashbuckling treasure hunt! When young Jim is lured out to sea in search of adventure, a wild storm throws him overboard, and an unexpected underwater odyssey begins. With an enchanted kiss from a young mermaid, Jewel, Jim is able to breathe under water.



Together they meet a host of amazing sea creatures, but also discover that King Neptune's domain is threatened by pollution. See how Jim and his companions encourage everyone to take better care of the sea so that all the creatures above and below can live in harmony.

This family program includes a 30-minute marionette show followed by a Q&A session where everyone has an opportunity to touch and ask questions about the marionettes. There will be a craft program in the Vanderbilt Education Center where children can create their own "underwater creatures."

No Strings Marionette Company is a two-puppeteer touring marionette theater, concentrating on performance pieces for family audiences. Each production is created in-house. They perform primarily in New England, New York and New Jersey, and also teach their craft to a wide range of people through puppet-making workshops and residencies.

Saturday, December 20, 2014; One-hour programs at 1:00 and 3:00 pm

Vanderbilt Education Center

Members: \$10; nonmembers: \$15. Space is limited. Advance purchase is strongly advised.

## The William C. Crooks Distinguished Lecture:

Lasting Post: Love, Law and Laureates: The Forgotten Legacies of WWI James E. Baker, Chief Justice of U.S. Court of Appeals for the Armed Forces

udge James E. Baker will explore legacies of the First World War including the war's influence on letters, law, remembrance and the concept of service. Judge Baker currently serves on the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Armed Forces, which is an appellate body composed of five civilian judges that handles cases arising under the Uniform Code of Military Justice.

Judge Baker attended Yale University, served in the Marine Corps as an infantry officer and graduated from Yale Law School in 1990. He was a legislative aide to Senator Daniel Patrick Moynihan and went on to serve in a variety of important civil service capacities including appointments to the U.S. Department of State, the National Security Council, the Council to the President's Foreign Intelligence Advisory and Intelligence Oversight Boards, and as Special Assistant to the President and Legal Advisor to the National Security Council. He is the author of In the Common Defense: National Security Law for Perilous Times (a text widely used in the study of the subject) and, with Michael Reisman, Regulating Covert Action. Judge Baker is the recipient of the 1999 Colonel Nelson Drew Memorial Award (the NSC's highest honor) and the Director of Central Intelligence's Director's Award. He is also the greatgrandson of John Henry Twachtman and a grand-nephew of WWI veteran J. Alden Twachtman, both members of the Cos Cob art colony.



Wednesday, November 5, 2014; 7:00 – 8:00 pm Greenwich Library, Cole Auditorium, 101 West Putnam Avenue, Greenwich, CT 06830 Admission is free, but reservations are strongly suggested. Call 203-869-6899, Ext. 10.

# Lecture by Elaine Uzan Leary: American Women Rebuilding France

his presentation by Elaine Uzan Leary, based on a travelling exhibition, "American Women Rebuilding France 1917-1924," focuses on the amazing response to the devastation caused by WWI in France led



by Anne Morgan, youngest daughter of financier J.P. Morgan. CARD (Comité Américain pour les Régions Dévastées) was created by Morgan to aid the civilian population and helped rebuild war-torn Picardy after WWI. Over 350 American women responded to Morgan's appeal and came to the aid of the French people. Leary will share original photographs of the era from the Anne Morgan archives of the Franco-American Museum, Chateau of Blérancourt in Picardy, France.

Leary is a graduate of Stetson University, Université de Strasbourg, France; Middlebury College Graduate School; the Chambre de Commerce in Paris; and Emerson College Graduate Studies in Boston. She is currently Executive Director of the American Friends of Blérancourt, which supports the Franco-American Museum, Chateau de Blérancourt in Picardy, France.

This program is co-sponsored by Alliance Française Tuesday, November 18, 2014 1:00 to 2:00 pm, followed by short Q&A session Vanderbilt Education Center Members: \$10; nonmembers: \$15.

## Support the Greenwich Historical Society "Automatically"

he holidays are almost upon us, and chances are you'll be ordering gifts online. Are you an Amazon shopper? If so, next time you shop, please sign up for the Amazon Smile program. Just choose the Historical Society as your designated recipient, and Amazon will donate 0.5% of the price of your purchase each time you shop. What could be easier? For more information visit https://org.amazon.com.



Our thanks to La Bella's Fine Wine & Spirits for providing delightful wines for the opening reception of *Greenwich Faces the Great War*.



**F** Visi cha

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



39 Strickland Road, Cos Cob, CT 06807

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## Save the Dates:

October 1, 2014 through March 22, 2015 Greenwich Faces the Great War Exhibition

#### November 5

2014 William C. Crooks Distinguished Lecture: James E. Baker, Chief Justice of U.S. Court of Appeals for the Armed Forces

#### November 13

Decorating the Way I See It: Lecture and Luncheon with Markham Roberts

#### November 18

American Women Rebuilding France: Lecture by Elaine Uzan Leary

December 5 Antiquarius Preview Party

December 6 & 7 Greenwich Winter Antiques Show

December 9 & 10 Holiday Boutique

December 10 Holiday House Tour and Luncheon

December 14 **Bush-Holley House by Candlelight** 

December 20 Treasure Hunt Marionette Performance

## news

## A Gift to the Archives from the Reba & Dave Williams Foundation

he Greenwich Historical Society recently received a grant to support an acquisition fund for books, archival material and other collection items from the Reba & Dave Williams Foundation for Literature and the Arts. The grant will allow us to acquire important new items for research and exhibition purposes.

When we asked the Williamses why they were motivated to make this particular gift, Reba graciously replied as follows:

> [As a new board member,] I was recently part of a group that visited the storage area for books, papers and paintings. I asked if there was an acquisitions fund allowing for a quick purchase if something came up at auction. When I heard there wasn't, I decided to start one.

I've worked as a librarian where such a fund was necessary to buy a treasure before it was sold to someone else. Also, as a collector, I've known occasions when cash was required to buy an object coveted by others.

We are now indeed poised to expand our collection when items meaningful to Greenwich history become available. Our sincere thanks to the Williams Foundation for their very generous gift.

Reba and Dave Williams



The second in a series of essays featured in conjunction with Greenwich Faces the Great War

# **Greenwich Women Face the Great War**

## By Kathleen Eagen Johnson

he experiences of individual women and girls in Greenwich illustrate the political ramifications of both extraordinary and commonplace activities during World War I. Many women took on jobs traditionally



Grace Gallatin Seton, Paris, France, 1919. Collection of the Greenwich Historical Society

filled by men, running their husbands' businesses and working as military drivers/auto mechanics, farmers and waiters. Jutta J. Anderson, Florence L. Dixon and seven other women from Greenwich served as nurses in the U.S. Army.

Grace Gallatin Seton numbered among the Greenwich women who received accolades for their wartime service and recognized how such work supported the suffragette cause. Seton, whose husband was the famous nature writer Ernest Thompson Seton, founded Le Bien-Être du Blessé (Welfare of the Injured) Women's Motor Unit in 1916. This all-female transport service moved people and goods in the war zone. She was a leader of the Connecticut Woman Suffrage Association during the 1910s.

Others in Greenwich's suffrage movement turned their attention to maximizing agricultural and food production. Rosemary Hall headmistress Caroline Ruutz-Rees, who led the Connecticut Division of the Woman's Committee of the Council of National Defense, and philanthropist, feminist and renowned art collector Louisine Havemeyer publicly championed the Woman's Land Army of America. The WLA was modeled on the British Women's Land Army. In both programs, women took the place of men who left farm fields to fight on battlefields. Havemeyer founded the Greenwich Canning Kitchen, a model program for preserving home-garden bounty. Havemeyer had cofounded the National Women's Party with Alice Paul in 1913. She provided financial support to-and spoke, marched and demonstrated for- the cause of women's suffrage. Ruutz-Rees served on the executive board of the Connecticut Woman Suffrage Association, was active in the Greenwich Equal Franchise League and organized the National Junior Suffrage Corps. Her students cultivated potato fields and war gardens while also helping with landscape maintenance on the school's campus.

The Woman's Land Army was one of the many war-related initiatives that helped-



Lithograph poster, circa 1918, by Carter Housh (1887–1928).

break down gender barriers as women assumed the heavy farm labor typically reserved for men. With a training camp in nearby Bedford, New York, the WLA began

Women and girls working at the Greenwich Canning Kitchen, circa 1918. Collection of the Greenwich Historical Society.





Louise Van Dyke Brown, 1914. Collection of Louise Van Dyke Brown. Courtesy of the Greenwich Library Oral History Project.

working in farm fields in Greenwich, such as Sabine Farms. The Greenwich Canning Kitchen was established in 1917 as a way to contribute to food coffers. The goal was to preserve the produce of war gardens and small farms that might otherwise go to waste. Residents brought in produce to be processed for their own use or for consumption by troops or civilians in need. This program operated out of a storefront on Railroad Avenue.



Women's Motor Unit at the donations warehouse for the Bien-Être du Blessé ("welfare of the wounded"), 1918-1919. Grace Gallatin Seton, second from left. Collection of the Greenwich Historical Society, gift of Karin Crooks.

As was true of women across the nation, Greenwich women and girls immersed themselves in American Red Cross activities. Louise Van Dyke Brown, Alexandra Spann and others recalled (as part of the Greenwich Library Oral History Project) gathering at the Greenwich YMCA and other locations to fashion surgical dressings and to knit socks, mufflers, helmet liners and other items for soldiers. Annie Louise Brush wrote of this work in her diaries, which were recently added to the collection of the Greenwich

Rosemary Hall students heading toward the potato fields, circa 1917. Courtesy of Choate Rosemary Hall Archives.



Historical Society. On April 21, 1918, she recorded that the death of Colonel Raynal Bolling from Greenwich had been verified and that "Mrs. Bolling is from all I hear a herione [sic], when she knew that her husband was missing she controlled herself and had the people come to her house as usual for dressings and worked with them."

Both far from and near to home, Greenwich women supported the war effort in meaningful ways. They served as nurses, drivers, farmers and Red Cross workers, assuming jobs generally reserved for males in response to a labor shortage. While antisuffragettes and suffragettes alike took part in food and fuel conservation, fundraising for relief charities and other activities, there was a definite spirit in the air that women had shown their mettle and were deserving of the vote. This was particularly strong in Greenwich, the home of some of the movement's most high-profile leaders. Women's passionate service during the war inspired the previously reluctant President Wilson to finally agree to women's suffrage. As he recognized in a speech to Congress in 1918, "We have made partners of the women in this war; shall we admit them only to a partnership of suffering and sacrifice and toil and not to a partnership of privilege and right?"

The expanded version of this article will be published in the Winter 2014/15 issue of Connecticut Explored magazine and on the Historical Society's website. Kathleen Eagen Johnson is the guest curator of Greenwich Faces the Great War. She is a freelance museum consultant and writer at HistoryConsulting.com.