

JANUARY - FEBRUARY 2019 NEWSLETTER



NEW CAMPUS...NEW OPPORTUNITIES



A record 700 people gathered as we cut the ribbon and welcomed the community to our reimagined campus October 6. The sophisticated, glass-walled spaces that blend with the meticulously restored Toby's building impressed visitors as did the beautiful new museum galleries. Neighbors are particularly excited to have a new spot to meet for coffee and to pick up a perfect gift without having to search endlessly for a parking spot. Former U.S. Senator Scott Frantz called the new campus a "home run," and board member Anne Ogilvy sees it as "the new center for our cultural history."

"The whole complex is a delight in so many ways: materials, lighting, colors, seamless flow between spaces...informative and beautifully designed!"

—Josie Merck Longtime Greenwich Historical Society supporter

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE NEW CAMPUS

PERMANENT COLLECTIONS GALLERY

Exhibitions include *The Cos Cob Art Colony; Highlights of Greenwich History* timeline; *Treasures from the Collections;* and the short film "Our Place in History."

GALLERY FOR SPECIAL EXHIBITIONS Gift of the Frank Family Foundation

The inaugural exhibition in the new museum, *History Is...* prompts visitors to think about how their place in history evolves from childhood to adulthood.

MUSEUM STORE

Nearly five times the size of its former incarnation, the carefully curated Museum Store is a new go-to resource for high-quality gifts. Members receive a 10 percent discount.

ARTISTS' CAFÉ

Relax in this new neighborhood spot over tea, coffee, and light

LIBRARY AND ARCHIVES

More than 40,000 items that document Greenwich's rich cultural heritage are housed in our newly expanded library and archives

FLOWER, FRUIT AND VEGETABLE GARDENS

Two new gardens are being restored and include the Hortulus American Impressionist Gardens and the Greenwich Garden Club Tavern Gardens. The new campus provides more green space for outdoor events and children's programming.

BETTER ACCESS

for welcoming the community includes double the parking, an elevator, and a leveling of the terrain for ADA accessibility and maximum efficiency.

MEET YOUR NEW BOARD CO-CHAIRS AND TRUSTEES



Haley Rockwell Elmlinger and Bruce Dixon

CHEERS TO ANOTHER SUCCESSFUL ANTIQUARIUS!

We would like to express our deepest gratitude to all who made Antiquarius 2018, our biggest fundraiser, a smashing success. On Opening Night, hundreds celebrated Antiquarius Honorary Chairs Davidde and Ron Strackbein and enjoyed the transformation of the Eastern Greenwich Civic Center by Honorary Design Co-chairs David Monn and Alex Papachristidis.

Thank you to the more than 200 volunteers who gracefully managed the logistical whirl of our Holiday Boutique and Holiday House Tour. Special thanks to the five homeowners who so graciously shared their unique abodes, the many who chaired committees responsible for everything from the raffle to transportation, our patrons and attendees and generous corporate sponsors Betteridge, David Ogilvy and Associates, AP Construction, Ashforth Company, RAGO Arts and Auction Center, Douglas VanderHorn Architects, Bridgepoint Risk Management and Moffly Media.



Alex Papachristidis, Anne Ogilvy, David Ogilvy and David Monn

At the October meeting of the Greenwich Historical Society's Board of Trustees, the board elected longtime Greenwich residents and Greenwich Historical Society supporters Haley Rockwell Elmlinger and Bruce Dixon as its new co-chairs to lead the Historical Society, and B. Cort Delany, John Dixon and Susan Larkin as trustees.

CO-CHAIRS OF THE BOARD

HALEY ROCKWELL ELMLINGER

With a life-long interest in history and long-term connection to the Greenwich Historical Society, Greenwich native Haley Rockwell Elmlinger is enthusiastic about her new role.

"The Historical Society's expanded campus will usher in an exciting new phase in our organization's history and also in the rich history of Greenwich itself. I couldn't be more proud and excited to be a part of this vital organization at this pivotal moment," says Elmlinger.

While a student at Greenwich Academy, Elmlinger volunteered as a docent at the Bush-Holley House. Elmlinger is currently senior advisor at Fieldpoint Private in Greenwich. She has been a Greenwich Historical Society trustee and is a past president of the board of trustees of the Greenwich Library and is a former trustee of Greenwich Academy.

BRUCE DIXON

A Greenwich resident since 1981 and longtime Greenwich Historical Society trustee, Bruce Dixon is a graduate of Harvard College and former partner of Ernst & Young. Dixon has lent his valuable financial counsel to the Historical Society in his former role as treasurer

"It's been thrilling to be a part of the campus expansion from the planning stages through completion. Our Town's important history and cultural heritage has a stunning new home that will be treasured for generations to come,"

Dixon says.

Dixon is on the Director's Council of the Historic House Trust in New York City, a board member and vice-president of the Greenwich Land Trust and board member and treasurer of the Friends of Nathaniel Witherell

"We are delighted to have Haley and Bruce at the helm as we look to strengthen the Historical Society's connection to the future," says Executive Director and CEO Debra L. Mecky.

TRUSTEES



John Dixon



B. Cort Delany



Susan Larkin

John Morris Dixon, FAIA, an architecture graduate of MIT, has been an advocate for preservation since the 1960s, when he helped survey the Park Slope Historic Landmark District in Brooklyn and wrote key parts of the AIA Guide to New York. Former chief editor of Progressive Architecture, Dixon has served on the Town of Greenwich Architectural Review Committee and is a member of the Gtreenwich Historical Society's Buildings and Grounds Committee.

B. Cort Delany is a Principal in the Greenwich office of Cummings & Lockwood's Private Clients Group. A Greenwich native, Delany works with families to protect assets through avenues including wills, trusts and estate planning. He is a Dartmouth College graduate and holds an LL.M. from New York University School of Law and a J.D. from Fordham University School of Law. Delany is commodore of the Belle Haven Club and a past Brunswick School trustee and Executive Committee member.

Author of *The Cos Cob Art Colony: Impressionists on the Connecticut Shore,* Susan G. Larkin has served the Greenwich Historical Society in capacities including chairman of the board, trustee, chair of the Exhibitions and Art Advisory committees and member of the Executive Committee and the Professional Advisory Board. A graduate of the College of Notre Dame of Maryland, Larkin received her M.A. from The City University, London, and her Ph.D. from the Graduate School of the City University of New York.



WHITE WINES OF THE WORLD

Thursday, January 24, 6:30 to 8:30 p.m.

Members: \$10; non-members: \$15

Sample a variety of domestic and international wines with an expert whto will provide guidance on food pairings—a perfect way to warm up on a cold winter evening. The Museum Store will be open.

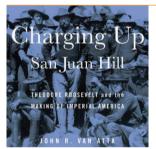


COFFEE WITH THE CURATOR

Wednesday, January 30 and Wednesday, February 27 10:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.

Members \$5, nonmembers \$10

Tour the new museum galleries with Curator of Museum Collections Karen Frederick, learn about the artists of the Cos Cob art colony whose works are on display in the Permanent Collections Gallery; and see the fascinating and interactive *History Is...* exhibition.



HOW THE ROUGH RIDERS MADE TEDDY ROOSEVELT PRESIDENT

Tuesday, February 5, 6:00 to 7:00 p.m.

Members \$10, nonmembers \$15

In his recently published book, *Charging Up San Juan Hill*, Dr. John R. Van Atta recounts the day in 1898 when 39-year-old Colonel Theodore Roosevelt led the Rough Riders in a charge up San Juan Hill. The Oaklawn Chair in American History at Brunswick School, Dr. Van Atta has published four books and numerous scholarly articles.



MEMBERS' APPRECIATION BREAKFAST

Wednesday, February 13, 9:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.

Free for Greenwich Historical Society members
Join us for a complimentary buffet breakfast and a program
in appreciation of your support. Our members have helped
create the foundation for all that we are and all that we do.
We salute you!



CHOCOLATE SUNDAY! FAMILY PROGRAM

Sunday, February 17, 2:00 to 4:00 p.m.

Adult members \$15, adult nonmembers \$20, family \$25
To celebrate February's link with romance and chocolate, local chocolatiers, chefs and bakers will provide a delicious sampling of treats to indulge the most discriminating chocoholics. Bring the kids: There will be creative craft projects for children to enjoy in the Vanderbilt Education Center.



ART AND HISTORY CAMP 2019

Early Registration Deadline: Friday, April 5

July 8-19 are for grades 5-8; July 22-August 2 are for grades 2-4 During the Early American Life week, campers weave and create colonial toys. During the Art Colony week, campers learn about the Cos Cob art colony and practice Impressionist art techniques. STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Art, and Math) activities are incorporated into both weeks.



Go to greenwichhistory.org or call 203-869-6899. The main museum lobby entrance, reached via the upper parking lot, should be used for all events.



ON VIEW THROUGH JANUARY 15

Barn in Winter, Greenwich, Connecticut, ca. 1890s John Henry Twachtman Oil on canvas

A founding member of the Cos Cob art colony, John Henry Twachtman painted this winter scene of his barn in Greenwich. It's on loan to us through January 15 and may be seen in our Permanent Collections Gallery during regular gallery hours.

VOLUNTEER!

HELP REVEAL OUR HISTORY

Join a team of volunteer transcribers working from home to use voice dictation to digitize handwritten Town records. This will reveal much new information about early Town meetings, land records before the American Revolution and wills, deeds, and genealogy that have never been accessed before. Please email author Missy Wolfe at CT1640@gmail.com with questions and to indicate your attendance at an informational meeting to be held on January 10 at the Greenwich Historical Society

INTERESTED IN PHOTOGRAPHY?

Greenwich Historical Society is looking for a volunteer to manage our This Place Matters Photo Contest, a town-wide celebration of what makes Greenwich special. The volunteer will accept digital photos via email, organize them, correspond with the photographers, create a spreadsheet of entries and check the quality of the submissions. The contest runs early May-early July. If you'd like to learn more, contact Stasha Healy at shealy@greenwichhistory.org or 203-869-6899.

For details about other opportunities including Gallery Attendant and Green Team, see greenwichhistory.org





47 Strickland Road Cos Cob, CT 06807 greenwichhistory.org | 203-869-6899

HOURS:

HOLIDAY CLOSINGS

January 1, January 21, February 18

OFFICE, MUSEUM STORE AND CAFÉ

Monday through Friday 9 am to 5 pm Saturday and Sunday 12 to 4 pm

MUSEUM GALLERIES

Wednesday through Sunday 12 to 4 pm

BUSH-HOLLEY HOUSE WINTER HOURS

January-February, Saturday-Sunday Guided tours at 1, 2 and 3 pm

LIBRARY AND ARCHIVES

Wednesdays 10 am to 4 pm and by appointment

ADMISSION

\$10 adults, \$8 seniors, \$7 group rate Free: Youth under 18, members, active military / Blue Star Free for all the first Wednesday of every month.

Visit all 21 museums on the Connecticut Art Trail for only \$25: Buy a passport at the museum lobby desk or at ctarttrail.org.





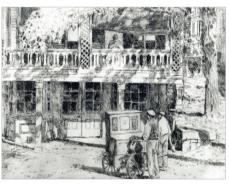


THE BURKE CONNECTION



Descendants of Tobias Burke, original proprietor of Toby's Tavern, gather for a family portrait.

The restoration of the Toby's building, a former Railroad Hotel and saloon, holds special meaning for one local family. The saloon's proprietor Tobias Burke and his wife Bridget had three daughters. The youngest, Mabel, who was born in the building, married George Delage. In addition to owning Greenwich's first TV and radio store, Mabel and George raised nine children—grandchildren of Toby and Bridget Burke—in Cos Cob. Descendants of the Burkes from five states as far as Oregon and Florida gathered on Opening Day to celebrate their shared history.



Toby's Cos Cob, ca. 1914, Childe Hassam, Greenwich Historical Society collection

An etching by famed Cos Cob art colony artist Childe Hassam depicts an organ grinder in front of Toby's. For Opening Day, the Historical Society invited an organ grinder and the Burke family recreated the scene.

"It's great to see and touch family history. I enjoyed getting a real sense of my roots," said Robert Tobias Morus, Oregon native and great-great grandchild of Toby and Bridget Burke.

SAVE THE DATES

JANUARY 10

Informational session for digitizing archival Town records.

JANUARY 15

Last day to view Twachtman's Barn in Winter

JANUARY 24

White Wines of the World

JANUARY 30

Coffee with the Curator

FEBRUARY 5

How the Rough Riders Made Teddy Roosevelt President

FEBRUARY 13

Members' Appreciation Breakfast

FEBRUARY 17

Chocolate Sunday!

FEBRUARY 27

Coffee with the Curator

APRIL 5

Early-bird rate deadline for Art and History Camp

APRIL 28

Landmarks Recognition Program