



Best Wishes & Congratulations on a job well done!



Adam Nucci



Jonah Nucci



Kunsang Dorjee



Serena Eldredge

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It is time to take a minute to leave the frantic and incredible barrage of words that come to us through social media and print of all kinds to reflect on the lives of four young adults who committed to working with us four years ago and now leave for the next phase of their lives.

Marie McFarlin

Kunsang Dorjee

Throughout my high school career, I have involved myself with many activities within my school and town community. Within school, I was the co-Editor-In-Chief of the high school newspaper, the captain of the Varsity Math Team, a member of the National Honor Society, and an actor for the drama productions. I am also an accomplished bassoonist and have performed with the CMEA All-State Orchestra and the Rhode Island Philharmonic Youth Orchestra at Carnegie Hall. Outside of school, I volunteer at the Old Saybrook Historical Society, the Town Hall, and as a tutor. In addition, this past summer I took part in the Yale Summer Program in Astrophysics where I participated as an astrophysics researcher. Next year, I will be attending Yale University where I hope to study mathematics and physics.

Volunteering for the Historical Society has given me immense knowledge on the history of Old Saybrook as well as developing skills in public speaking, guiding, and teaching. I am forever grateful for the positive influence that the Old Saybrook Historical Society has had on my life.

Adam Nucci

Throughout my high school career, I have devoted countless hours to several sports, clubs and volunteering opportunities. I also traveled on three mission trips with St. Paul's of Old Saybrook to help those in need around the country.



Students at a recent Trustees' meeting receiving Society awards for service.

Finally, I have worked to spread awareness for the prevention of both teen drinking and poverty in our community with projects organized by Youth and Family Services. Volunteering opportunities catalyzed my passion to get involved in my community and make a difference as well as motivating a work ethic in me that will persist through my future endeavors.

Next year I am headed to Northeastern University in Boston, Massachusetts to study industrial engineering. I plan on participating in many university activities and volunteering in the Boston community.

There is something about the Old Saybrook Historical Society that makes it an experience that I will cherish the rest of my life. I've spent many hours giving tours and talking to the Society mentors and volunteers who inspire young individuals like me. I found the Historical Society is a place of passion, knowledge and, most importantly, inspiration to value the history around us and for generations to come.

Serena Eldredge

High school was a wonderful time for me especially concerning my involvement in the community. I attended the Marine Science Magnet High School in Groton, Ct. a perfect fit since I love being around the water and especially sailing. During high school I was a class officer and Student Council representative, a member of the National Honor Society and an editor of the Year Book. I spent countless evening and hours volunteering for many school activities and recorded during the four year over 458 volunteer hours for my town and my school.

I will be attending Fairfield University and major in psychology and minor in education and Italian studies. I chose to not go to college far from my home because I love the small town feel and take immense pride in living in Old Saybrook. During my many volunteer hours I became a mentor and hope to attend graduate school to become a high school counselor. This will bring me great joy.

Without the Historical Society I know that I would not be the person I am today. The Society taught me how to relate to different groups of people and feel comfortable talking to them and giving the information that I learned. I was shy in the beginning but spent much time studying the history of Old Saybrook and learning about the House and all the artifacts within it. Eventually I became more confident and was excited to meet people and do tours. There were other opportunities to volunteer with the fundraisers and special events. These activities provided an opportunity for me to gain leadership skills and help the younger volunteers as well as the adults.

The experience of being a student volunteer at the Society increased my pride in the Town where I was born. It made me realize that sharing the knowledge of its history is a duty of its residents and I cannot thank the Society enough for the privilege to do so.

Jonah Nucci

Throughout my high school career I have participated on both varsity soccer and tennis teams, been a member of the Drama Department and held positions of the Math Team, Student Council Executive Board, and Envirothon team. I was fortunate enough to be selected to participate in the Discovery To Cure High School Program at Yale University during the summer of 2017

where I conducted ovarian cancer research. These accomplishments have led me to attend the University of California-Los Angeles next year to study engineering.

I have been a volunteer at the Historical Society since the summer of eighth grade and now, looking back at the people I have met, the information I have learned, and those members and visitors I have helped, I can only say that this experience has been a vital part of my time spent here in Old Saybrook. I gave tours of the Hart House, portrayed an historical character on the Cypress Cemetery tour, and worked in the Archives. This experience taught me about professionalism, accountability, and has shown me that there is still time for lively, intelligent conversation and debate among the generations of our community. The Old Saybrook Historical Society, wherever I may end up in the future, will forever hold a special place in my heart.

**The Old Saybrook Historical Society
proudly presents**



**THE UNITED STATES COAST GUARD
DIXIELAND/JAZZ BAND**

Sunday, August 26, 2018

4 - 5:30 pm

at the Hart House Campus

Public Welcome
Bring a chair



The Tradition Lives On

On a warm Friday evening in June 1971, six fife and drum units marched up Main Street to Firemen's Field on Elm Street where they held a two day tattoo and raised a Liberty Pole. Under the leadership of Bill Reid, and with his wife June playing a fife and his son Ken on the drums, a tradition was born that lives on today as Old Saybrook's annual Torchlight Parade.



Sadly, this past year Bill and June Reid have passed away and, in their memory, a significant and substantial contribution has been made to the Old Saybrook Historical Society by the Reid family and Bill and June's son and Historical Society Trustee, Ken Reid.

Among the prized items are several large framed oil paintings depicting the Parker House, the David Bushnell House, and others. In addition, there are some 20 binders of professional photographs of local musters and Torchlight parades, framed pictures of Fenwick Hall, Main Street, an 1870s map of Say-Brook, a framed 1830 document listing members of the Second Regiment of Light Artillery under the command of Samuel Tully, a Civil War discharge document, and more.

Among the artifacts are pewter mugs, a militia cartridge box, two wooden canteens and, the highlight of the collection, a hand-made snare drum inscribed "Strength Through Unity - Old Saybrook, Connecticut."

These items fill a void in the Society's collection and after the items are cataloged they will become available for display and research.

Tedd Levy

Facilities Report



Two Old Saybrook Historical Society projects have received funding: restoration of the Hart House 32 antique windows and restoration of the Hart House Gallery Garden.

The 1772 Foundation in cooperation with the Connecticut Trust for Historic Preservation

awarded a twelve thousand dollar

2018 Connecticut Historic Preservation Matching Grant to the Old Saybrook Historical Society for restoration of windows in the General William Hart House.

This matching grant will enable us to complete restoration of all 32 antique windows of the Hart House. The restoration project will return the windows to the similar operable condition of 250 years ago, with a completion date of June 1, 2018.

Many thanks to our dedicated donors for providing funds for the first half of the window project. The grant award is a testament to our diligent and conscientious efforts to preserve the Hart House and be financially sound.



General William Hart House Gallery Garden

A direct descendant of Robert Chapman provided a generous donation for the restoration of the Hart House Gallery South Garden. This project will enhance the use and safety of the Gallery garden. Restoration will include removal and resetting the garden brick pathway (to complement the existing antique millstone), adding a hardscape patio and improving the garden drainage.

Ed Armstrong

Goodbye to Good Stuff

When it comes to antiques or other objects of uncertain value, an item's price is determined by the transaction between a willing buyer and willing seller and there's no better way to quickly determine that figure than an old-fashioned country auction.

So, this year's antique show again featured many friendly dealers with quality items but the excitement was at the auction attended by some 150 curious or bidding participants who jammed the fellowship room at Grace Church just as the rains began at 1:00 p.m. For many old items, sellers said "goodbye" and purchasers said, "good buy."



Organized by Karen Emack-Dolson, Peter Dolson, Janet Temple and featuring auctioneer extraordinaire Greg Jankowski and his impeccable record keeping wife Lori, the lively event offered a rapid succession of treasures and trinkets that found new and happy owners.

Highlighting the auction and bringing sweet music to the consignor was a Regina music box with six metal disks that went for \$850, the high price of the day. Three small boats were among the bargains with a Dyer Dhow dinghy bringing \$475, a 12 foot wooden row boat sailed off at \$150 and a gently used canoe brought \$100.

However, bidders seemed more attracted to paintings of boats than the actual objects. A nautical print of the ship *Agatha* in an oak frame brought \$160 and a painting of a boat by Old Lyme artist Tim Eastland brought \$130.

Several pieces of furniture went to new homes with a tiger maple butler chest going to a fortunate bidder at \$250. Decorative items were popular with a hanging brass oil lamp bringing \$125, a brass barometer hit \$80, a slag glass lamp went for \$100, and a piece of Rookwood pottery reached \$75.

Among the jewelry items, a 14k cameo pin brought \$130 and a collection of Bakelite bracelets brought \$45.

A collection of military items including a uniform, medals, compass, and booklets from the World Wars brought \$200. A Williams black powder

shot gun, about 1840, found its target at \$150. A 1940s tricycle was bought for memories and \$50

Several box lots featuring assorted attic assets brought \$5 and \$10 each with a box containing photos, a scrapbook and various paper items going for \$60.

The above prices do not include a buyer's fee of 10 percent. Thanks goes to the many members and friends of the Historical Society who consigned their items and who contributed a percentage of their winnings to the Society.

Contributing to the success of the event

were many volunteers, including society student volunteers Jampel Dorjee and Clarissa Schilke, and members Nancy Bell, Donna DiBella, Stephan Brodeur, JH Torrance Downes, Mary Epifanio, Wayne Harms, Diane Hoyt, Teddi Kopcha, Cathy Loguidice, Ed Mosca and Matthew Rubin. Sponsors of the event were Saybrook Recycled Furniture, Essex-Saybrook Antiques Village and Lorensen Auto Group.

Tedd Levy



Stacey and Gregory Kenneally are examining the replica of Saybrook's First Militia Flag now on display in the Hart House Winthrop Room annex

What's Happening in the Archives

As always, we are grateful to both the past and present donors who have entrusted us to protect and preserve the history of Old Saybrook.

Newest Contributions

Hand-made drum and canteen made for the Old Saybrook Fife & Drum Corps, 1971. Donated by **Ken Reid**.

"Chalker Papers", family collection of original papers and documents. Donated by **Mr. & Mrs. Ben Gleason**. (See article)

Gloves, two hats, 2 capes: hand-made from wool loomed locally. Sewn and donated by **Carol Levy**.

Library

Autographed copy of **Anne Nyberg's**, "**Remembering Katharine Hepburn**". Donated by the author.

"**Puritan Parkers**", a narrative of Sgt. William Parker, a co-founder of Hartford and veteran of the Pequot War.

"**Denizens**", narrative of Capt. George Dennison and his New England contemporaries.

"**Transatlantic Conversations**" and "**Race & Transatlantic Identities**" (section on Jeanette Hart); both written and donated by **Elizabeth Kenney**.

"**Where You Can Hear the Sea and Sea the Sound**", **Dorothy Howell**, author and donor.

Diane Hoyt



Students from Mr. Vautrain's creative writing class at a Hart House poetry reading. Students wrote poems based on their tour of the House.



*Linda Kinsella and Marie McFarlin in the car of member Mike Satmary called "The Gatsby" which was part of the Society's presence in the Memorial Day Parade.
Photo: JH Torrance Downes*



The seal of Old Saybrook was adopted from the College Arms of Saybrook College of Yale University. Old Saybrook was the site of the Collegiate School of Connecticut which was relocated to New Haven in 1716 and became Yale University.

Garden Report

May and June are the best “showy” months for the Hart House Gardens. Spring flowers are in their glory. Some trees and shrubs that bloom abundantly are the Tulip Magnolia, Bartlett Pear, Persimmon, Quince, Deutzia, Scotch rose, Viburnum and Lilac. There are so many wildflowers and perennials in bloom, the garden is simply a heavenly place to be.

These are the busiest work months as well. Drenching rains, the end of May impeded plant growth and many were behind their scheduled blooming. We rushed to prepare the garden and grounds for the annual Antique Show and Auction held on June 2nd. Though it rained in the afternoon, the morning was warm and sunny and the crowd turnout was gratifying.

Our yearly plant sale, held in conjunction with the Antique Show, was a big success. We were glad to have many perennial plants added to the sale from Beverly Kegler’s home garden. Bev is a certified Master Gardener, she has volunteered at HHG since 1999. Her plants and ours are grown in soil free of herbicides. Buyers like that, plus our gardener’s knowledge of plant care is extremely helpful in deciding what to purchase. This annual sale has a long list of satisfied and repeat customers.

Special thanks to sale-ladies: Joanne Goduti, Bev Kegler, Bonnie Penders and Christine Yannelli and to Karen & Peter Dolson and Curt Wendler for setting up the tent and tables.



June is the month for school visits. We gave garden tours for 3rd and 4th grade students from the Goodwin School and 4th & 5th grade students from St. John School.

Bonnie Penders, who has designed and cared for the three herb gardens,

delighted the kids with the tales of herbs used in colonial times.

On June 27, fifteen members from the Old Saybrook Garden Club visited and enjoyed a brown bag lunch sitting under the pergola. It was a pleasure for me to give a brief history on the development of the HHG to fellow gardeners. The garden is now 44 years old and has twelve different beds with plants, trees, and shrubs known to grow in American gardens in the eighteenth century. After lunch, Bonnie provided a very engaging walk & talk of the Lady Fenwick Memorial Garden, the Donation Herb Garden and the Herbs with a Purpose Garden.

Some OSGC members commented it was their first time at the garden, but they will definitely return.

Carin Roaldset was weeding the garden on Monday July 2nd when she was suddenly privileged to



be present at a lovely wedding. John Wachen, (son of Society member, Nan Wachen) married Kim Thien Do, in a beautifully simple ceremony officiated by Nan. Carin happens to be a professional photographer as well as a great gardener; she took a snap shot for the happy couple.

In August, another couple plans to be wed in the Hart House Garden.

There are so many different perennial flowers growing in the garden; the composition and color is continually changing. Photographers often find their subjects here. We have some beautiful photos. We plan to use the photos for note cards and offer them to the members for sale later this year. (Please call 860-395-1635 if you wish to be on the advance sale list.)

Come play croquet on Sunday afternoons in August with the “Wine & Wickets” crowd.

Spread beauty, be a gardener.

Linda Kinsella



The Old Saybrook Historical Society

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Mark Your Calendars

August 26 – US Coast Guard Dixieland Band Concert. Hart House Campus
4-5:30 p.m.

September 8 – “Hosting for History”,
“Taste of the Town”, 5:00 – 8:00 p.m.
Hart House Gardens

September 27 - Acton Public Library
Lecture “Gillette Castle” 7:00 p.m.

October 17 – Annual Meeting, 5-6:30
p.m. Hart House. Refreshments

October 28 – Cypress Cemetery Tour,
4:00 p.m.

December 9 - Wassail Party 4-6 p.m.

OLD SAYBROOK HISTORICAL SOCIETY'S
HOSTING FOR HISTORY

Taste
OF THE
Town

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 8, 2018
5 to 8 pm
350 MAIN STREET, OLD SAYBROOK

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