



THE OLD SAYBROOK HISTORICAL SOCIETY

DEDICATED TO PRESERVING, PROTECTING AND PROMOTING THE HISTORY OF OLD SAYBROOK

OLD SAYBROOK HISTORICAL SOCIETY ANNUAL APPEAL LETTER for FISCAL YEAR
October 1, 2024 to September 30, 2025

*"If we lose our collective history, our stories as a people and nation, we are going to be in big trouble."
David McCullough, author and historian*

April, 2025 : A gift of history

I am writing to you today at one of my favorite places. It is the working/meeting table in the Frank Stevenson Archives Building that has the outstanding window view overlooking our heritage gardens. It is a special place not only for the beauty of the view but also for the thoughts it evokes when I have sat here more times than I could ever count: The stalwart work and expertise of the gardeners, the marvelous donations that we have received from all over the Country, the sounds of the children who play in the dingle, the concerts, weddings, reenactments, special events including the Antique Shows, the Witness Stone program, the ceremonies including the dedication of the Archives Building and the 250th celebration of the 1767 General William Hart House. There are also the memories of the visitors, the school children, the Exhibits and, most of all, the outstanding volunteers who care so much, as well as our financial supporters without whom we could not exist.

This fiscal year, along with our wonderful Christmas Home Tour, we are providing two outstanding lectures at The Kate and are planning for our participation in the 250th celebration of our Country. Our stewardship continues as we are thoroughly studying and planning for the replacement of the Archives Building roof. The new air conditioning systems are now in place. As with all of us, our expenses continue to increase and we work hard, in spite of the increases, to be fiscally prudent in managing our expenditures and maintaining our buildings, grounds and collections, a never-ending challenge.

With your support, we will continue to tell our stories and preserve and protect this special place. The past has so much to teach us about the present and must NEVER be forgotten.

With gratitude,

Marie