

The Atwood Log

SUMMER 2015



THANK YOU
CHS/AHM
VOLUNTEERS



The Quarterly Newsletter of
The Chatham Historical Society



From the Interim Director

Greetings to all. I hope you are all enjoying sunshine and the season's activities. Here at the Chatham Historical Society we are welcoming visitors from near and far who come to see our 1752 sea captain's home, our camp saved from the ocean and transported to our grounds, the museum displays of items preserved from the Pendleton wreck in 1952 and from the orient, the fishermen's gallery, and more.

As you enter, notice the herb garden, cared for by the Chatham Garden Club. The flowers and greenery are especially lush this year as seems evident in plantings all around town. Many thanks to members of the Garden Club, who put in hours of volunteer time weeding and feeding.

As I come to the end of my term as Interim Executive Director, my thanks to all who have helped make my time here both productive and rewarding. The Society is fortunate to have a fine group of dedicated and knowledgeable women and men who bring to life decades of the history of Chatham.

Cynthia B. McCue
Interim Executive Director
January 2015 - August 2015

2015 Notice of Annual Meeting of Members

Sunday, August 16, 2015, the Chatham Historical Society's 2015 Annual Meeting will be convened at 3:00 pm at the Chatham Community Center, 702 Main Street, in the Lecture Hall on the 2nd Floor.

Immediately **before** the business meeting, there will be a lecture by Michael Tougias, co-author of the book, *The Finest Hours*. The title of his lecture will be "The Finest Hours: the Book, the Movie, and Leadership/ Decision Making During the Rescue", about the rescue of the Pendleton crew by the Coast Guard in 1952.

There will then be a short business meeting including election of officers and trustees, appointment of the Board of Overseers, reports of the Treasurer and standing committees, amendment to the ByLaws, and consideration of any other business that may properly come before the meeting.

At the conclusion of the meeting, there will be an informal reception to meet our new Executive Director, and refreshments in the small room adjoining the Lecture Hall.

Chatham Historical Society

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Stephen S. Daniel
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Judi Clifford
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Wayne Jostrand
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Barbara Newberry
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Winifred Portenoy
Phyllis Nickerson Power
Christopher Rhinesmith
Christopher Seufert
Mark Simonitsch
Linda Wiseman

Administrator/Newsletter Editor
Margaret L. Martin

Two Recent Gifts to the Chatham Historical Society

Recently the Society has been gifted with a most elaborate model of a sailing ship, possibly, according to the donor, the SS Chesapeake, which dates back to the early 1800s at least. Part of the United States Navy fleet, the USS Chesapeake was bested outside Boston Harbor in 1813 by HMS Shannon.

The fully rigged model, complete with small boats, the American flag, and other sailing needs, was built by Arthur Cheney, using original plans found in the collection of Ernest J. Wesson.

The model rests perfectly on top of a beautifully carved wooden Dutch chest with initials A.I.F. and the date 1765. The chest also is in excellent condition.

The model and chest were given to the Society by Meg McDonnough, former animal control officer for the town of Chatham. Meg has recently moved to a farm in Virginia with all her animals.

Meg has relatives who came to Chatham for summer vacations, staying at Chatham Bars Inn until buying a home. She told us that her mother believed the model and chest belonged in Chatham, as did she. We think so too. Thank you Meg.



The newly acquired ship model on its Dutch chest now residing in the Portrait Gallery of the Atwood House Museum



Chatham Fish Pier, painted by noted Chatham artist, Marguerite Falconer

The painting to the left was a recent gift to the Historical Society by Susan Falconer Eldredge and Kevin Eldredge in memory of Charles Edward Falconer, brother of the donor and son of the artist. It now hangs in the entrance lobby of the Atwood House Museum, over the stairway, and has been admired by numerous visitors.

The caliber of Mrs. Falconer's work has been recognized by her peers, including membership in the Copley Society of Boston and the Salamagundi Club, a New York center for the arts. Her work is in the permanent collections of the National Museum of Women in the Arts and the American Museum of Art at The Smithsonian Institute.

The Chatham Historical Society and its Atwood House Museum are indeed fortunate to be the recipients of this beautiful painting by Marguerite Falconer, who has been active as an artist in Chatham for so many years.

Where oh Where Can They Be?

The Atwood House Museum /Chatham Historical Society is fortunate to have what is believed to be a complete collection of the novels and plays of the greatly esteemed writer of Cape Cod stories, and Chatham summer resident, Joseph Lincoln.

Mr. Lincoln had a great friend and admirer, fellow author Barton Wood Currie, who also summered in Chatham. Sometime prior to the year 1950, Mr. Currie undertook - with great effort, since of course there was no online purchasing at that time - to create an entire collection of first edition Joseph C. Lincoln novels for the Atwood House Museum's library. By November, 1950, the collection was nearly complete. He wrote that month to Alice Guild, President: "Here's another of the very hard to find Joe Lincoln's. Only two left to complete the lot." Eventually he did complete the collection and it became a treasured acquisition of the museum.

In February of this year, I was asked, as an archives volunteer with a keen interest in the works of Joseph Lincoln, to catalog the complete collection of Lincoln books owned by the museum, including both the library volumes and the several additional copies of each that are part of the museum's larger, permanent Lincoln collection. I was thrilled to be given the task and have since been working at it steadily, if slowly.

It has been disheartening however, to discover that of the 52 volumes in the library's Currie Collection, 20 are missing. They had been stored on open shelves in the library and over the years, perhaps, folks may have borrowed one or two and neglected to return them. Perhaps they ended up long-forgotten on a high, dusty bookshelf in a parent's summer home, or in the attic of someone doing research, long since abandoned. In any case, we would very much like to have them home.

What remains of the library's collection will soon be secured under glass, and, until that is accomplished, it is being stored in the museum's vault for protection.

Inside the front cover of each is a bookplate stating that it is a gift of Mr. Currie to the Chatham Historical Society. The museum is most eager to have its lost volumes returned. We are appealing to all members to please check their bookcases and urge their circles of friends and families to keep their eyes peeled in an effort to find these books, which Mr. Currie gathered with great determination for our museum, and to bring them together once again.

Thank you for your efforts. If you find that you have one of these books, please contact us at 508-945-2493, or bring the book or books to the museum during our open hours

Kathryn Hutchings Manson

The missing Currie Collection titles are listed as follows:

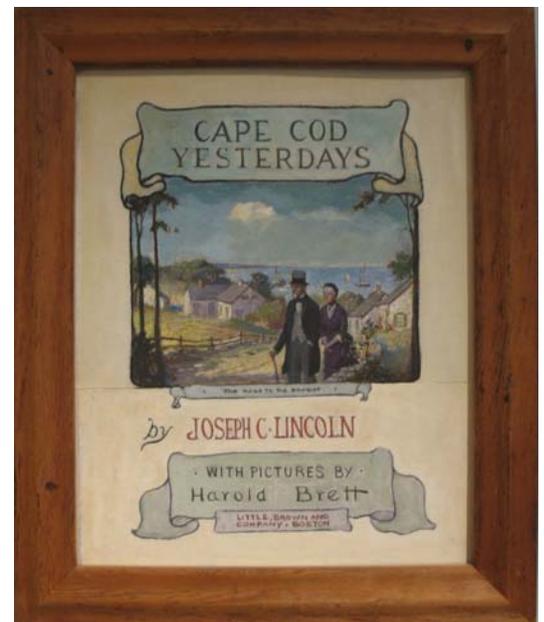
Cape Cod Ballads
Cap'n Eri
Partners of the Tide
Mr. Pratt
The Old Home House
Keziah Coffin
The Depot Master
The Rise of Roscoe Paine
Thankful's Inheritance
Galusha the Magnificent
Dr. Nye
Queer Judson
Head Tide
Back Numbers
Cape Cod Yesterdays
(Chatham Edition)
Cape Cod Yesterdays
(Trade Edition)
Great Aunt Livinia
Christmas Days
Rhymes of Old Cape Cod
The New Hope

Chatham Historical Society

Joseph C. Lincoln
First Editions

Given by
BARTON CURRIE

*The bookplate in each of the
books in the Currie Collection*



Cover painting from Lincoln's
book, *Cape Cod Yesterdays*, part of
the Museum's collection

2015 Evening to Remember

The Atwood Log had to go to press before this year's Evening to Remember so we cannot provide you with details about the evening itself. The event included eight exciting Live Auction items, including the opportunity to be part of a shark research trip by special arrangement with the Atlantic White Shark Conservancy. Atwood House friends and many local businesses again provided a beautiful array of Silent Auction items for guests to bid on. The Live Auction also included the opportunity to "Fund a Need"; guests could make a donation to the Atwood House Museum/Chatham Historical Society without taking anything home. Since many of us are trying to give things away rather than bringing more things home, this can be an attractive way to support the museum and society.

The "Bringing History to Life" award was presented to Donald St. Pierre at this annual summer event, held Saturday, July 25, 2015 under a tent at here at Atwood House Museum. Don has been one of the most active and contributing members of the Chatham community for many years. He was a call fire fighter and dispatcher for some years, and he worked endlessly to restore the old fire engine that is seen every year in the July 4th Parade. He also has been the herring warden with the goal of clearing out the run to get the herring back. Moreover, his years as a lobsterman have made him something of an expert with boats, and in that capacity he frequently advises the Historical Society on nautical matters. That experience gave him the expertise to help restore the Coast Guard 36500 boat that became famous in the daring rescue of the crew

of the Pendleton. He was also involved with the restoration of the beautiful traditional dory that sits outside the North Beach Camp, at which he is a most knowledgeable guide. He was instrumental in arranging for the donation of the dory to the Chatham Historical Society. Not surprisingly, he is a member of the waterways committee.

Event chairman Linda Cebula expressed great appreciation to the generous donors of auction items, both private individuals as well as businesses, and to the dedicated



Photo from a previous Evening to Remember



Port Royal, location of one of the items available in the Live Auction



Don St. Pierre, recipient of the 2015 "Bringing History to Life" Award, alongside the ship's wheel from the Pendleton

members of her committee who worked to make this evening a success. The Wequassett Inn and Resort generously provided libations, and members of the Executive Board and the Board of Overseers underwrote the cost of refreshments, prepared by Betsy Hunt of the Pampered Palate. The cheese platter was courtesy of Chatham Bars Inn.

We are sure that a delightful evening was enjoyed by all who were able to attend.

Afternoons at the Atwood Lectures Fall 2015

The Program Committee has been working diligently at scheduling lecture programs for the Fall of 2015. The first will be on SEPTEMBER 13th and will be presented by Deborah Ecker. It will be "An Anecdotal Account of the Stage Harbor Lighthouse from Government to Private Ownership". Long time Chatham resident Deborah Ecker will talk about how the lighthouse happened to be built in the first place, and about its transfer to the Ecker/Hoyt family in the mid-1930s. Using photographs she collected, she will show how the family has worked to protect the building through the years as well as maintain a lifestyle appropriate to the lighthouse's remote location.



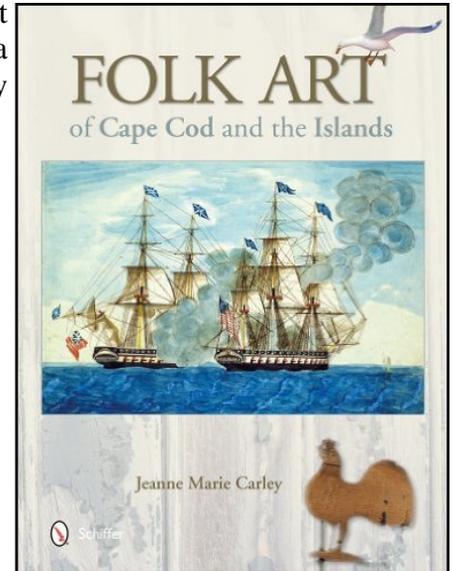
Stage Harbor Lighthouse

On OCTOBER 18th Jeffrey Bolster will present a program titled "The Mortal Sea: Fishing the Atlantic in the Age of Sail". Using his wide knowledge of history and his experience as a professional seafarer, Jeffrey Bolster, will discuss overfishing in the Atlantic Ocean, not only as a contemporary problem, but one that has spanned the ages and now, more than ever, needs to be addressed.

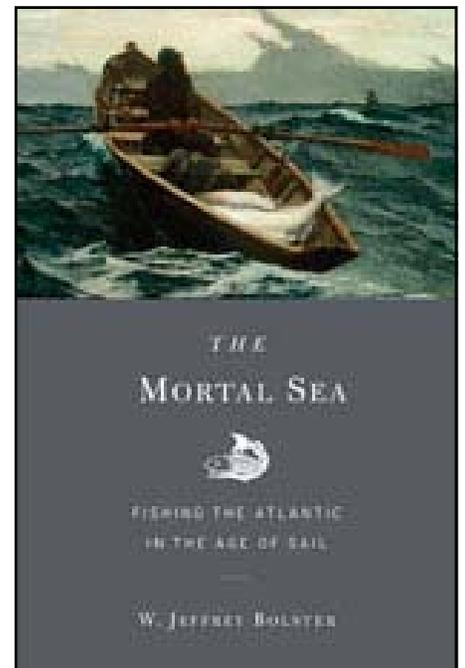
This program is supported in part by a grant from the Chatham Cultural Council, a local agency which is supported by the Mass. Cultural Council, a state agency.



On NOVEMBER 8th Jeanne Marie Carley will present "Folk Art: Painting on Cape Cod and the Islands". Author and genealogist Jeanne Marie Carley's lecture will concentrate on "folk" painting of the 18th and 19th centuries. During that period, individual citizens on the Cape turned to art as an antidote to their harsh and often difficult lives. Carley will highlight paintings from that period, which have a unique simplicity and beauty.



Book by Jeanne Marie Carley



Book by Jeffrey Bolster

Announcement from the Search Committee and the Executive Board

On July 11th the Executive Director Search Committee presented its recommendation of Danielle Jeanloz to be our new Executive Director, and the Executive Board unanimously endorsed the recommendation. We are looking forward to her start in the middle of August. It will be the beginning of great change at the museum.

At the same time we have been so fortunate to have had the interim leadership of Cynthia McCue who has done a great job as our Interim Director for the past seven months.

Please join us in welcoming Danielle and thanking Cynthia.

Steve Burlingame



Danielle Jeanloz will be starting as the Executive Director of the Chatham Historical Society and the Atwood House Museum in August

Mission Statement

The mission of the Chatham Historical Society is to collect, preserve, exhibit and interpret art, decorative arts, artifacts, archives, and places of historical interest relating to the history of Chatham and vicinity; and in so doing provide a record of the cultures and the people of our past and thereby inform and educate succeeding generations.

Photos on the front cover of this issue are some of our many dedicated volunteers

Join Us !

Chatham Historical Society members receive free admission to The Atwood House Museum, 10% off Museum Shop purchases, and a complimentary subscription to our newsletter. Our members play a vital role in helping to preserve the rich history and culture of Chatham and the surrounding region. Many members cherish volunteer opportunities at the Museum

Membership Categories

___ Captain Atwood Circle	\$1000 +
___ Heritage Society	\$ 500 - 999
___ Discoverer	\$ 250 - 499
___ Explorer	\$ 100 - 249
___ Family	\$ 50 - 99
___ Individual	\$ 25 - 49
___ Student Historian (to age 18)	\$ 10

Amount Enclosed \$ _____

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The Chatham Historical Society
and mail with this form to:
The Chatham Historical Society
PO Box 709
Chatham MA 02633**

If you have allowed your membership to lapse, please consider renewal now. If you are an active member perhaps you can think of someone to pass this along to who might be interested in becoming a member.

OR CURRENT RESIDENT

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Mark Your Calendars

Coming up at
THE ATWOOD HOUSE MUSEUM

At the Atwood -

Unless otherwise noted, Programs are 2:00 pm
at the Atwood House Museum

AUGUST 16, 2015 - ANNUAL MEETING OF MEMBERS: to be held at the
Chatham Community Center, 702 Main Street, Chatham at 3:00 pm

Program: *"The Finest Hours: the Book, the Movie,
and Leadership/ Decision Making During the Rescue"*

Speaker: Michael Tougias

SEPTEMBER 13, 2015 - *An Anecdotal Account of the
Stage Harbor Lighthouse from Government to
Private Ownership*

Speaker: Deborah Ecker

OCTOBER 18, 2015 — *"The Mortal Sea: Fishing the
Atlantic in the Age of Sail"*

Speaker: Jeffrey Bolster

NOVEMBER 8, 2015 — *"Folk Art: Painting on Cape Cod and the Islands"*

Speaker: Jeanne Marie Carley

