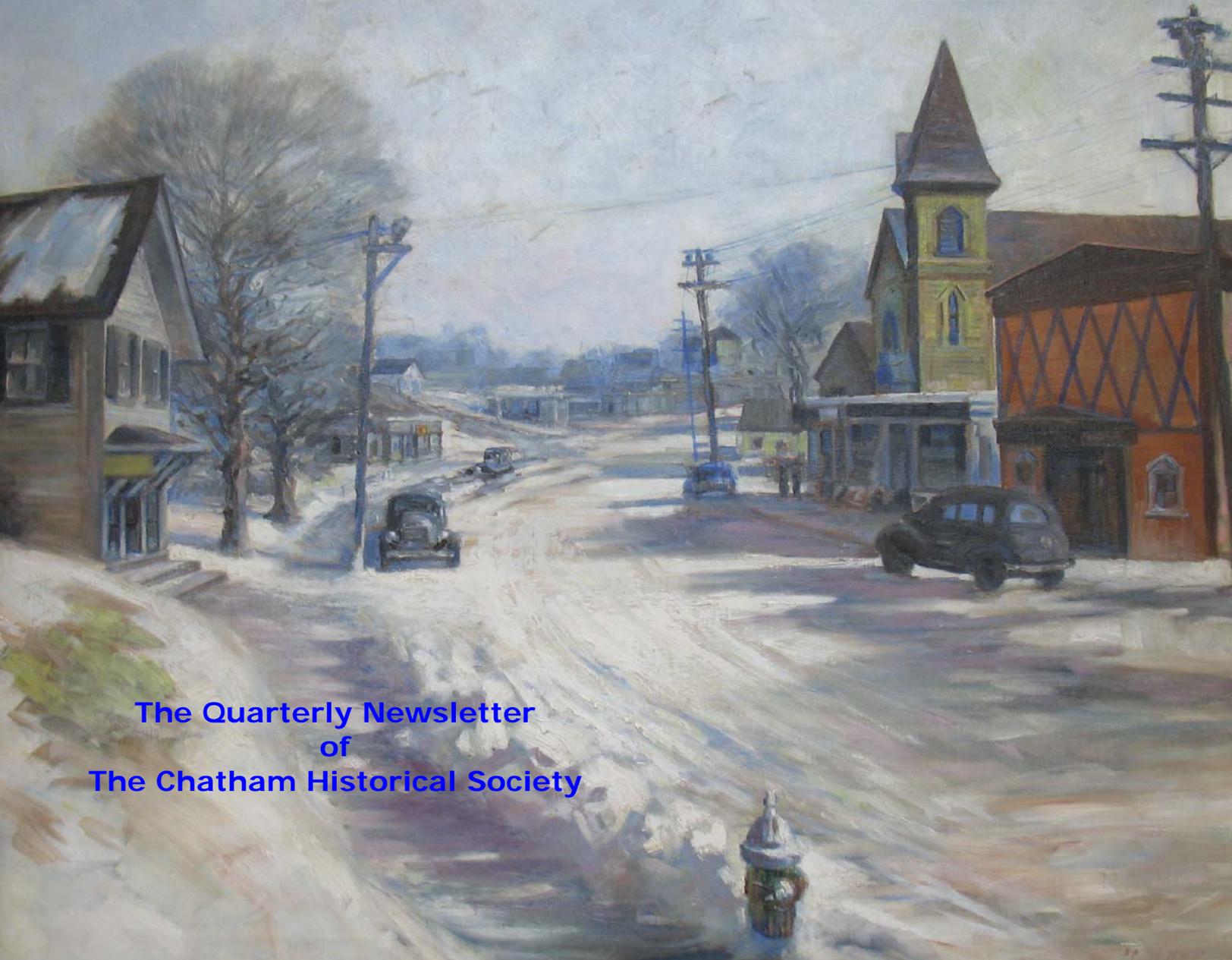


WINTER 2014

The Atwood Log



The Quarterly Newsletter
of
The Chatham Historical Society



From the Director

As Chatham's tercentennial celebration drew to a successful conclusion a little more than a year ago it brought a collective sigh of relief from the town's historic sites and museums. All of them had participated, and while they had found the effort rewarding, it had also exhausted their resources. The planning and implementation of the tercentennial had stretched over several years and demonstrated what was possible on occasion, if not on a regular basis. The project also made clear the value of collaboration. Under Ron Nickerson and John King, the co-chairs of the committee charged with coordinating the efforts of Chatham's history organizations, there had been regular meetings, schedules had been set, conflicts avoided, and resources shared.

The benefits of collaboration inspired representatives of the history organizations that had participated in the tercentennial to continue meeting with the goal of building on the success of the project. The result is Historic Chatham, a consortium that seeks to foster communication among the town's history organizations, provide information about them and their activities to the public, and occasionally to undertake shared initiatives. For 2014 several members of Historic Chatham are focusing on anniversaries. The year will mark the centennial of the opening of the Marconi facility on Ryder's Cove and the Chatham Marconi Maritime Museum will be celebrating that milestone. For Monomoy National Wildlife Refuge 2014 marks the 50th anniversary of the passage of the Wilderness Act under which a significant portion of the Refuge was provided with additional protection. As noted elsewhere in this issue of The Log, the Atwood House has developed a project entitled Constructing Wilderness to mark that anniversary. The year is also an important one for others in town. It is the centennial of the opening of the Chatham Bars Inn which is planning a season long celebration.

One of Historic Chatham's goals moving forward is to raise awareness of events and programs like these. Individual organizations will continue their efforts to get the word out to their members and friends. But there is a strong sense that there are many other members of the Chatham community who may not be aware of the great experiences that await visitors to places like the Chatham Railroad Museum, the Caleb Nickerson House, or the Windmill. In an effort to raise awareness of the organizations in town that share a commitment to history, Historic Chatham is organizing its second Chatham History Weekend, June 20th – 21st. All of the museums and historic sites will be open, many free of charge, and planning is underway for a scavenger hunt that will take participants to each of the sites. Keep an eye open for more information about the weekend and other Historic Chatham projects.

Dennis McFadden, Director

The cover of this addition of the Atwood Log is comprised of a photograph of Main Street, Chatham, taken by Director Dennis McFadden after our January 22-23, 2014 snow storm in a similar position to that of the painting below the photo. The painting, in the museum's collection, is by artist Wendell Rogers (1890 - 1973) from about 1940 with the title *Painting of Main Street (Chatham) in Winter*.

Chatham Historical Society

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Christopher Seufert
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Linda Wiseman

Administrator/Newsletter Editor
Margaret L. Martin

Program Series: Constructing Wilderness

A series of five programs exploring the concept of Wilderness in the United States is planned to complement the exhibit planned for the 2014 season in the main gallery space. The scheduled dates for the events are March 2nd, March 16th, April 27th, May 25th, and June 8th.

The speaker for March 2nd is Sarah Luria, Associate Professor in the Department of English at the College of the Holy Cross, Worcester, Massachusetts. She will be discussing the depiction of the western landscape of the United States in 19th century survey photography.

Two contemporary artists and a scientist are scheduled for March 16th. Elizabeth Nickles and Megan Singleton are Aldo and Leonardo Project Artists who worked at the Monomoy Wilderness in 2013. Kate Iaquinto is one of the scientists with whom the artists worked. This program will be a conversation about this collaboration between artists and scientists at Monomoy Wildlife Refuge.

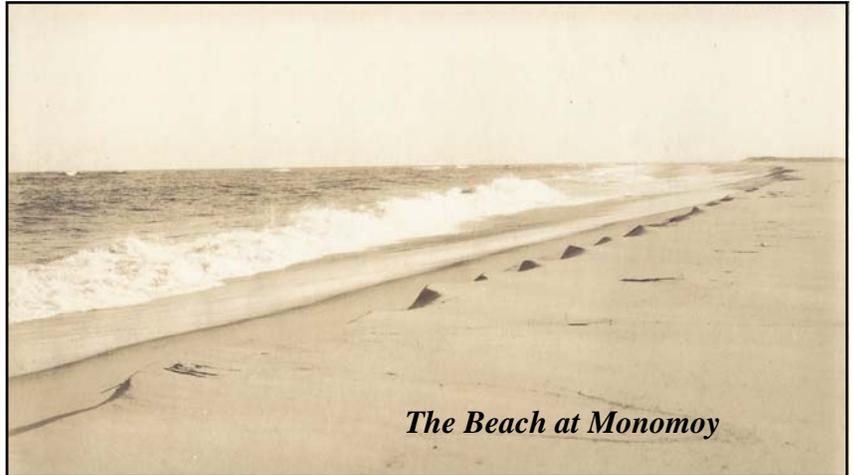
In April Professor Kent Ryden of the University of Southern Maine will discuss the place of wilderness in New England Regional Cultures. Professor Ryden is a member of the Department of American and New England Studies at USM.

Dave Brownlie, Manager of Monomoy National Wildlife Refuge and Nancy Roeper, National Wilderness Coordinator for US fish and Wildlife Service will speak in May on the challenges of managing a wilderness in the 21st century.

The final program in this series is scheduled for June 8th and will be presented by John T. Cumbler, a professor in the Department of History at University of Louisville, Louisville, KY. The title of his program is *The Natural World and Its Uses, 1660 - 2010*. This program will focus on the natural resources of the Cape, how they were used, and how their use changed from

resources for production to resources for esthetics.

All programs will be held in the main gallery of the Atwood House Museum at 2:00 pm. While they are free and open to the public, donations are welcome. Seating is limited. Additional programs may be added to the schedule. Please check the society's web site or call the society office to check about changes or additions to the program schedule (see the back cover for contact information).



The Beach at Monomoy

Project Partners for Constructing Wilderness include Monomoy National Wildlife Refuge US Fish and Wildlife Service, Mass Audubon Wellfleet Bay Wildlife Sanctuary, The Eldredge Public Library, The Chatham Conservation Foundation, and the Friends of Monomoy (Wildlife Refuge).

Generous financial support has been received from The Cape Cod Five Savings Bank Charitable Foundation, The Chatham Fund of the Cape Cod Foundation, and The Jean and William R. Vanderbilt Program Fund.

Change of Executive Board Leadership

At the most recent meeting of the Society's Executive Board, the Governance and Nominating Committee announced the resignation of board chairman John King from both the chairmanship and the board. In his letter John cited his increased involvement with causes that promote research and education related to understanding the importance of biodiversity and marine environments and spending more time off Cape in the coming months as reasons for his resignation. He also felt that, as his term would be ending in August, it would be wise to have the new chairman start working now so as to be able to be involved with the planning for the 2014 season.

The Governance and Nominating Committee reviewed suggested candidates for this position and presented a resolution to appoint board member Stephen Burlingame to fill out John's unexpired term. The Executive Board moved the resolution and voted to appoint Mr. Burlingame to the chairmanship until the next Annual Meeting. Steve had been a docent in the Old House for the last five years and became a member of the Executive Board in 2012. He and his wife have maintained a residence in Chatham since 1981 and retired here from Connecticut, where he had a law practice, in 2008. He has had a long time interest in American history and has also served as a docent at the Mayo House on Main Street.

Death of Overseer Compton Allyn

Compton Allyn, member of the Board of Overseers and generous donor to the Chatham Historical Society and the Atwood House Museum, died in December, 2013. The Reverend Dr. Allyn donated a number of beautiful items to the museum over his years of association with the Society. Among the most recent was his organization and generous support of the acquisition of the painting of Captain Joseph Atkins' house in North Chatham. This painting is believed to be one of only two paintings by a Chinese artist brought to the United States during the 19th century. Captain Atkins provided the artist with a sketch of his home and the museum is fortunate to own that sketch, also donated by Dr. and Mrs. Allyn.

2013 Volunteers

Our wonderful volunteers work in many aspects of this organization. Many serve as docents and shop volunteers. Others work downstairs in the archives, in costumes and textiles, preparing mailings, planning events, serving on boards, and a range of

small tasks that come and go. We have tried to list all who volunteered during 2013, but I know that I will have somehow missed at least one person who should have been named. Please accept my apologies.

Margaret Martin

Sally Ackerman
Compton Allyn
Dave Archibald
Rebecca Arnold
Peg Balfe
Stephanie Bartlett
Richard Batchelder, Jr.
Sue Bauer
Joan Bawden
Tamara Bazzle
Marie Becker
Linda Botsford
Marilyn Brown
Joan Bulkley
Ward Burian
Kay Burlin
Steve Burlingame
Mary Frances Carey
Anne Carlson
Margaret Carr
Pat Cass
Linda Cebula
Ron Clark
Judi Clifford
Susan Collins
Bernard Cornwell
Carolyn Coursen
Gerry Cox
Joann Creedon
Annette Cremisi
Peggy Crespo
Edee Crowell
Emily Cunningham
Priscilla Dalrymple
Stephen Daniel
Barbara DeBonte
Barbara Donald

Marge Duffy
Elizabeth Edge
Robert Eldred
Marilyn Eldredge
Carol English
Betsy Evans
Lorraine Fleming
Phyllis Freeman
Mary Ann Fritsch
Ted Fritsch
Laurie Gates
Mary Ann Gray
Spencer Grey
Dot Gross
Sue Halligan
Stephanie Hamilton
Marjorie Hendel
Laurie Hill
Barbara Hogan
Beth Holden
Janet Holden
Bill Horrocks
Meta Hutchings
Luke Jodice
Vincent Jodice
Barbara Johnson
Donna Jordan
Emily Jostrand
Wayne Jostrand
Lily Karr
Katheryne Kazemi
Roland Kelley
Kim Kenyon
John King
Pam King
Barbara Kline
Cindy Knight

Robert Knoblauch
Carol Kolb
Peter Kolb
Sharon Kunz
Laurie LaConte
Joyce Lashway
William Litchfield
Paula Lofgren
June MacDonald
Donna Makken
Janet Marjollet
Margaret Martin
Ryder Martin
Cynthia McCue
Ellen McKinley
RoseMarie McLoughlin
Elaine McSweeney
James McSweeney
Walter Meier
Dwight Myer
Florine Myer
Gary Myer
Elizabeth Natoli
Thomas Natoli
Barbara Newberry
Terry Newberry
Ginny Nickerson
Joshua A. Nickerson, Jr.
David Oakley
Eleanor Oakley
Carol Pacun
Norman Pacun
Richard Pears
Rose Pears
Brad Pease
Mike Pease
Jeanne Petersen

Phyllis N. Power
Jane Powers
Ann Reydel
Christopher Rhinesmith
Susan Ridgley
Nancy Ruez
Alan Sachtleben
Pat Sachtleben
Joanne Schaller
Betty Schiller
Barbara Schweizer
Janine Scott
Barbara Semple
Christopher Seufert
Regina Shakin
Phyllis Shaw
Florence Seldin
Linda Simonitsch
Mark Simonitsch
Donald St. Pierre
Ann Stern
Betsey Stevens
Donald Stevens
Paula Stookey
Peg Storer
Wendy Storer
Betsy Suter
Debbie Swenson
Jane Tirrell
Ali van der Burg
Craig Vokey
E.B. Wilson
Linda Wiseman
Nancy Yeaw
Andy Young
Jean Young



Volunteers and guests alike enjoyed the Old House fireplaces and decorations, the shopping, the trains, visiting with Santa, and the wonderful refreshments during the annual Hearth Warming in December

Atwood House Museum Volunteer Form 2014

Please provide the following information if you are interested in becoming a volunteer.

Name: _____ Summer Phone _____

Email: _____ Winter Phone _____ Cell: _____

Summer Address: Street or Post Office Box _____

Town _____ Zip _____ Reside from _____ to _____

Winter Address if different from above: _____

The museum has two general areas that need volunteers.

The first area welcomes both year- round and summer resident participation.

Please place #1 next to the choice that interests you most. If you are willing to work in more than one area, number the others in order of preference. Our goal is to assemble a group of volunteers who can help us cover more than one area. Preference will be given to volunteers who can work weekly.

____ 1. **The Old House:** Lead visitors through the old Atwood House, relate its history, and point out furniture and other items of interest.

____ 2. **The Museum Galleries:** Lead visitors through The Durand Room (seashells, Parian ware, Sandwich glass, Crowell Birds); Portrait Gallery (sea captains' portraits and recollections); Tool Room; Joseph Lincoln Gallery; Fishing Gallery; and other galleries containing Special Exhibits. Explain and interpret the displays in these areas.

____ 3. **The Mural Barn:** Provide information about the famous Stallknecht Murals, the artist, her work, the people of Chatham depicted in the murals, and their way of life.

____ 4. **The Nickerson Camp:** Describe summer vacations in this two room camp saved from North Beach storms and preserved in its original 1940's condition.

____ 5. **Hostess or Host:** Meet, greet, and assist visitors; accept admission fees; promote museum membership and activities; and open and close museum when necessary.

____ 6. **Museum Shop:** Greet visitors and assist them in purchasing museum-related books and merchandise.

The second area offers comradeship while performing essential services. If you can work year-round, on Tuesdays or Thursdays for one, two, or more hours in the office and/or archival areas, please check which of the following areas interest you:

Mailings ____ **Data Entry** ____ **Archival Filing** ____ **Folder Sorting and Filing** ____

You will be contacted for individualized training.

For docents, hosts/hostesses, and shop volunteers, please check below all that apply to your preferences:

Weekly ____ semi-weekly ____ mornings ____ afternoons ____ either ____
year- round for special events ____

Check at **least** two day preferences: Tues. __ Wed. __ Thurs. __ Fri. __ Sat. __

In order to be ready for opening on **Saturday, June 21, 2014**, all volunteers must agree to attend one of the **Preparation for Opening Day Sessions**. This year, we will divide preparation sessions for each area into two types. The first scheduled session is planned for new or second-year volunteers. The second session is planned for returning volunteers who might need less preparation; however, plan to stay for the entire session. If you will not return to Chatham until late June or early July, we will arrange an individualized session.

Cont. from page 5

NEW & SECOND-YEAR

The Old House: Tuesday, June 3, 12:30-2:30;

The Galleries: Tuesday, June 10, 9:30-2:30;

The Mural Barn: Tuesday, June 3, 9:30-11:30;

The Nick. Camp: Tuesday, June 10, 12:30-2:30;

Hostess: Thursday, June 5, 12:30-2:30;

Shop: Thursday, June 5, 9:30-11:30;

VETERAN VOLUNTEERS

Wednesday, June 18, 9:30-11:00

Wednesday, June 18, 12:30-2:00

Thursday, June 19, 12:30-2:00

Thursday, June 19, 9:30-11:30

Tuesday, June 17, 9:30-11:00

Tuesday, June 17, 12:30-2:00

Please return this form before Wednesday, March 19, 2014

Carol Kolb

Volunteer Coordinator

The Chatham Historical Society

P.O. Box 709, Chatham, MA 02633

(508) 945-2493

Comments: _____



Photograph of Chatham Bars Inn under construction. The inn is celebrating its 100th anniversary this year.

Are You Interested in Local Travel?

After suspending trips to museums and historic sites several years ago, the Atwood House Museum/Chatham Historical Society is considering reintroducing this program. At the moment we are thinking about a day trip this spring to the Massachusetts Historical Society to see *Tell It with Pride: The 54th Massachusetts Regiment and Augustus Saint-Gaudens' Shaw Memorial*, an exhibition that was organized by the National Gallery of Art in Washington. If you might be interested in joining a group from the museum to see this exhibition, please call Margaret Martin at the museum (508-945-2493) or send her an email mmartin@chathamhistorical.org.

We would also welcome your more general thoughts about travel with the Museum. In particular we would like to know:

How long a trip you might be interested in?

How much time you would be willing to spend in a bus getting some where?

What subjects would be of the greatest interest to you – History, Fine Arts, Decorative Arts, Other?

Do you have a preference as far as days of the week or times of year to travel?

How much would you be willing to spend to participate in a trip?

Please let us know if you have specific destinations that you would like to visit or have questions about possible trips.

Interesting Reading

A week or two ago I finished a book that had been sitting on my bookshelf for the past year. While the title, *Clearing the Coastline*, had been intriguing, it was the subtitle that really caught my attention. It reads, “The Nineteenth-Century Ecological and Cultural Transformation of Cape Cod.” As a newcomer to the Cape I am still trying to get my mind around the history of this place and this book has outlined for me certain elements of that history, specifically how fishing practices changed during the nineteenth-century. It also places that story in a regional economic context. I wouldn't call it an easy read. There are graphs and tables showing fluctuations in the annual catches of baitfish in Barnstable County, for example. But the main story line about the transformation of the Cape is fascinating. The author is Matthew McKenzie and it is published by the University Press of New England.

Dennis McFadden

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.

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 \$ _____

Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____

Email _____

Method of Payment

Check Visa MasterCard

Credit Card # _____

Exp. date _____

Security Code _____

Signature _____

**Make checks payable to
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

347 Stage Harbor Road
PO Box 709
Chatham, MA 02633

The
Chatham
Historical
Society, Inc.

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Mark Your Calendars

Coming up at
THE ATWOOD HOUSE MUSEUM

Afternoon's At the Atwood - Series on *Constructing Wilderness*

Programs are 2:00 pm at the Atwood House Museum

March 2, 2014

**Speaker: Sarah Luria - *The Camera, Nature, and Us:
Lessons from Great 19th Century Photographs of the
Wild American West***

March 16, 2014

**Speakers: Elizabeth Nickles, Megan Singleton, Kate
Iaquinto - *Working in the Wilderness, a Conversation***

April 27, 2014

**Speaker: Kent Ryden - *The Place of Wilderness in
New England Regional Cultures***

May 25, 2014

**Speakers: Dave Brownlie and Nancy Roeper -
*Managing the 21st Century Wilderness***

