



GREENWICH HISTORICAL SOCIETY

is dedicated to promoting Greenwich's unique and colorful past. Our Archives actively chronicle the life of our town for future generations, our programs and exhibitions help people of all ages better understand their connection to history, and our preservation efforts safeguard an architectural heritage that includes the National Historic Landmark Bush-Holley House, the site of the Cos Cob art colony.

BUSH-HOLLEY HISTORIC SITE

is a member of the Connecticut Art Trail, a partnership of 17 world-class museums and historic sites across the state. Discover collections rich in history and heritage, including European masterpieces, American Impressionism, ancient art and contemporary culture.

HOURS

Storehouse Gallery

Open Wednesday through Sunday,
12–4 pm

Docent-led tours of Bush-Holley House

Wednesday through Sunday,
1, 2 and 3 pm

Library and Archives

Wednesdays, 10 am–12:30 pm
and 1 pm–4 pm, or by appointment

ADMISSION

\$10 for adults

\$8 for seniors and students

Admission always free to members.

Free to the public the first Wednesday of every month.

CONTACT US

Greenwich Historical Society
39 Strickland Road
Cos Cob, CT 06807
203-869-6899
www.greenwichhistory.org

DIRECTIONS

Off I-95 at exit 4. Visit
www.greenwichhistory.org for details.

27th Annual Landmark Recognition Program to Be Held on April 19

This year's program chaired by Robin Kencel will recognize five historic properties: French Farm, whose former owner David Wierdsma was a preservation pioneer in Greenwich; the former Greenwich Post Office on Greenwich Avenue (now Restoration Hardware); a stunning backcountry estate once home to Joseph Hirshhorn and the fabulous modern art collection he later donated to the Smithsonian Institution; a charming Victorian house in Cos Cob's newest historic district and the Riverside Avenue Bridge (Connecticut's only cast iron bridge).

In addition to plaques and complete title searches and architectural surveys of the properties, all recipients will be presented with customized books specific to their properties, written by former Landmark Recognition committee chairman Jack Morris and designed by committee member Joel Dawson—a tradition begun just last year.

We are very pleased to announce that this year's keynote speaker will be Stephanie Meeks, president and chief executive officer of the National Trust for Historic Preservation. Under Meeks, the Trust has developed an ambitious strategic plan to save imperiled places, engage new and younger audiences in preservation and develop new models for preservation funding—all issues as relevant to our community as they are to the national scene.

The National Trust has also launched an effort to highlight the critical connection between older buildings and vibrant cities, developing and using research to reflect the benefits of historic preservation in today's urban areas and fostering



Keynote Speaker
Stephanie Meeks

the concept that historic sites—from Roosevelt's Elkhorn Ranch to Joe Frazier's Gym—contribute immeasurably to understanding “the wide contours of America's past.” You will not want to miss this opportunity to hear a

true leader in the new preservation movement.

The Landmark Recognition Program, now in its 27th year, is generously sponsored by ACE and Hub International Northeast, Charles Hilton Architects, Cummings & Lockwood, David Ogilvy & Associates and Northern Trust.

Sunday, April 19, 2015, 5:00 to 7:00 pm

Greenwich Country Club

*Tickets: \$75 per person; \$250 for Patron level;
\$500 for Benefactor level*

Advance reservations required.

Champagne, wine and hors d'oeuvres will be served.

*Reserve at www.greenwichhistory.org or call
203-869-6899, Ext. 10.*



**Last chance to see
Greenwich Faces the Great War**

Greenwich Voices

Opens April 22



In celebration of the town's 375th anniversary, Greenwich Voices has been designed as an oral time capsule of life in Greenwich in 2015. Over the course of four months, guest curators Karina Skvirsky and Liselot van der Heijden ranged throughout town to record the voices of residents who, in response to questions about life in Greenwich, discussed what the town represents to them and what it's like to live here. Through their varied observations, these myriad anonymous voices capture a rich portrait of the community that is unexpected, personal and resonates with larger social issues. Visitors to the exhibition will be able to pick up a receiver and listen to the recordings that create a multilayered portrait of Greenwich and its denizens.

Quotes taken from past newspapers, along with images drawn from the Greenwich Historical Society's collections, will complement contemporary voices throughout the Storehouse Gallery. A recording space will also be available for those who wish to respond to some of the questions.

All recordings (including those not used in the exhibition) will be saved in the Greenwich Historical Society Library and Archives, and the project will serve as a unique gift to future residents when the town celebrates its 400th birthday in 2040!

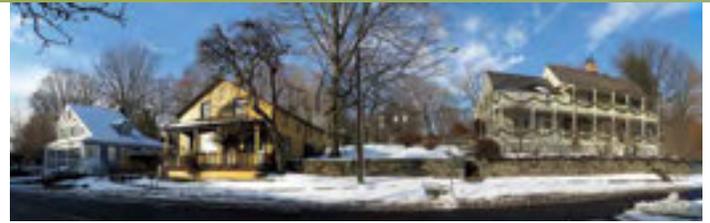
Karina Skvirsky and Liselot van der Heijden, guest curators
Karen Frederick, curator

Members' Preview: Tuesday, April 21, 2015, 6:00 to 8:00 pm

Reception begins at 6:00 pm in the Vanderbilt Education Center

Opening remarks and curator introduction at 6:30 pm

Gallery open from 7:00 to 8:00 pm



New Mission Statement Looks to the Future

After a careful examination of the Historical Society's strategic goals and plans for the next five years, the board of directors approved a new mission statement at the final board meeting of 2014.

Endorsing the change, board chairman Davide Strackbein commented, "The new mission statement defines the core values of the Greenwich Historical Society by setting forth principles which can guide the organization's strategic plan for its future growth and development."

Revision of the mission statement ushers in a new era for the Historical Society as we look to improve our site and facilities to benefit the community and to seek new ways to make the study and interpretation of Greenwich history more meaningful.

Mission Statement Adopted November 18, 2014

THE GREENWICH HISTORICAL SOCIETY PRESERVES THE HISTORY OF GREENWICH, ENGAGES THE PUBLIC IN AN EXPLORATION OF OUR RICH CULTURAL HERITAGE, INSPIRES A SPIRIT OF DISCOVERY THROUGH EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS AND ENCOURAGES ACTIVE PARTICIPATION IN THE PRESERVATION AND INTERPRETATION OF THE TOWN'S PAST.

Preservation Network Formed

Publicity and active responses from residents regarding recent demolitions of historic structures signal the need to educate the community on what our town's historic resources really are and how and why we should preserve, protect and promote these unique structures.

To this end, the Greenwich Historical Society plans to form a Greenwich Preservation Network and invite a cross-section of the leadership of public and private organizations and businesses in town to participate. In late March, Historical Society member Diane Fox will chair a meeting to establish goals and objectives for the Preservation Network. The Network will outline possible economic and governmental incentives for preservation of historic and architecturally significant structures (residential, commercial and institutional) and form a plan to publicize and develop programs to educate the community on local resources. Experts in historic preservation and economic development will be tapped to provide information on what other communities have done to preserve their structures and to shed light on funding sources and preservation incentives. We look forward to leading this new effort in Greenwich preservation.

New Faces at Greenwich Historical Society

We are pleased to announce the appointment of Katrina Dorsey as Director of Development, filling the position formerly held by Anne Bradner. Katrina comes to us from the YMCA and says that she is thrilled to make a transition back to her early career in the cultural arts, which included work at the Guggenheim (among other arts organizations). Working most recently at the YMCA in Greenwich and Stamford, Katrina focused on building relationships with members and corporate partners and is looking forward to continuing to be a part of the Greenwich community, which she characterizes as “extremely generous and civic minded.”



Katrina Dorsey

Post Campus in Brookville, New York, this May. Kathleen is currently working on her master's degree in information and library science with a certificate of advanced study for archives, and will assist archivist Christopher Shields by scanning and cataloguing our extensive local postcard

Katrina is an alumna of Reed College in Portland, Oregon, with a bachelor's degree in art history.

We also welcome intern Kathleen Jean who will graduate from Long Island University at the



Kathleen Jean

collection so that it may be shared on our digital collections website. Says Kathleen, “I look forward to this wonderful opportunity. My goal is to become an archivist for either a historical society or a museum. During my internship, I hope to acquire some essential career skills and to learn more about how they are applied on a practical basis.”

for kids

History and Art Camp to Celebrate Greenwich's 375th Anniversary with Special Activities

This year, Greenwich Historical Society History and Art campers will mark the town's 375th birthday with a wide variety of activities. Early American Weeks (1 and 3) will feature stories of Greenwich from the onset of the Revolutionary War, and campers will put on a production of the history of Bush-Holley House. In preparation, campers will be immersed in Early American life as they study the skills that were necessary for daily survival in Colonial times, such as farm chores, weaving and soap making. They'll also have fun making and playing with toys that were popular during our town's early history.

During Art Colony weeks (2 and 4), campers will explore the history of the Holley family boarding house and its distinction in the development of American Impression-

ism. Campers will learn Impressionist painting techniques from master painter Dmitri Wright, and activities will focus on notable guests who visited the Holley boarding house, including painters Childe Hassam and John Henry Twachtman and writer Willa Cather.

The camp schedule includes a weekly field trip and family reception to showcase what campers have learned and created.

Campers are led by Historical Society staff, experienced educators, reenactors, professional artists and counselors, all dedicated to providing an enriching camp experience.

For a full description of activities, visit www.greenwichhistory.org/camp.php.

Register as an early bird and get something a lot better than the proverbial worm: a discount on camp tuition! Early registration discount is available to all Historical Society members' children. Become a new Family Member by April 1 at a discounted rate of \$50 (normally \$65) and you may also take advantage of the early registration rate. Family Membership includes discounts for special events throughout the year and free admission to exhibitions in the Storehouse Gallery and tours of Bush-Holley House.



Senior Historians: Grades 4-7

July 6-10, July 13-17

Junior Historians: Grades 2-4

July 20-24, July 27-31

Deadline for Priority Registration: April 1, 2015

Tuition: \$550 for two-week session;
\$350 for single week

Deadline for Open Registration: June 15, 2015

Tuition: \$700 for two-week session;
\$450 for single week

Registration forms are available online at www.greenwichhistory.org/camp.php. For more information, contact LoriBeth Talbot at 203-869-6899, Ext. 32 or email ltalbot@greenwichhistory.org.



The fourth in a series of essays featured in conjunction with Greenwich Faces the Great War

Artists Respond to World War I

By Karen Frederick

Artists of the Cos Cob art colony, like many other Americans, responded to the Great War by supporting the war effort. Four artists' stories illustrate the range of their contributions from the home front to the battle front—Childe Hassam, Elmer MacRae, Rose O'Neill and Kerr Eby.

Childe Hassam studied and lived in France, and, not surprisingly, demonstrated a strong allegiance to its people and culture. In September 1914, while the United States was officially neutral, Hassam joined the American Artists' Committee of One Hundred, formed by New York painters and sculptors in order to raise money to aid families of French soldier-artists. *The New York Times* (August 15, 1915) reported that its members "felt that the suffering and distress caused by the war gave them their opportunity to express their own feeling of grateful obligation in a material way." In addition to donating a painting, Hassam



Childe Hassam, Allies Day, May 1917. Oil on canvas. Collection of the National Gallery of Art. Gift of Ethelyn McKinney in memory of her brother, Glenn Ford McKinney.

and his wife served on the committee that organized the inaugural fundraising exhibition held at M. Knoedler & Co. from February 1 through 13, 1915.

Of Hassam's work from 1914 to 1919, his paintings documenting Fifth Avenue bedecked with flags are the best known. The critic Albert Gallatin later wrote about the importance of his depictions of American patriotism and how "fortunate that NEW YORK had such an artist [as Hassam] to paint her bannered beauty." Following the U.S. entry into the war on April 6, 1917, emissaries from the Allied countries came to New York and Washington, D.C. Hassam's oil painting, *Allies Day, May 1917*, celebrates the visits of the French and British war commissioners, General Joffre and Mr. Balfour. The

French and British flags fly alongside the Stars and Stripes for the first time, commemorating the British-French-American alliance in the fight for liberty and democracy. This painting was used as the frontispiece in *The Avenue of the Allies and Victory*, a book of poems published in 1918 by Alfred Noyes. Reproductions of the painting, as well as copies of the book, were sold for the Art War Relief Fund.

When war broke out in 1914, many other organizations formed to raise money for a variety of war relief efforts. In 1917 many took part in Hero Land, "the greatest charity bazaar ever held in America," at the Grand Central Palace in New York City from November 24 to December 12. "The 16-Day Military Pageant, Theatrical Entertainment, Oriental Wonderland and Charity Mart; Devised, Created,



Elmer Livingston MacRae, Garden Chair, ca. 1918. Painted Wood. Collection of the Greenwich Historical Society. Holley-MacRae Collection.

Elmer Livingston MacRae, Garden Bench, ca. 1918. Detail of back. Painted Wood. Collection of Choate Rosemary Hall.



The Smiling Kewpies

By Rose O'Neill



To save for Thrifty Stamps this Kewp
Now cuts his bills in two,
And if it's not too personal
I fain would ask --Do you?
--The Kewp Who Sells Thrifty Stamps

Rose O'Neill, McClure's
Newspaper Syndicate.

children have been taught to idolize toy soldiers. . . . Perhaps had they played with smiling dolls instead of stern soldiers all Europe would be smiling now, instead of weeping." In 1917 and 1918, Kewpies began to address such issues as food conservation, buying Thrift Stamps, aiding the Red Cross, even telling Santa to give presents to the orphans in France and suggesting ways to foil German U-boats—"take the stopper out and let the seas run dry." In addition, O'Neill designed war-themed Kewpie patterns, including doughboy figures, which could be embroidered on quilts, pillowcases, hand towels and other home decorative items.

Kerr Eby was 28 when the United States entered the war. He first served in the Ambulance Corps as a driver, then joined the 40th Engineers, Artillery Brigade, Camouflage Division and later fought in the battles of Belleau Wood, Meuse-Argonne, Château-Thierry and Saint Mihiel. Whenever he could, Eby drew what he witnessed and created powerful images of the harsh reality of war. In 1919 he translated some of these drawings into prints. One of these, *Stuck*, illustrates soldiers putting their shoulders to the wheels of a gun mired in a sea of mud. Later he included this print in *War*, a book he wrote as the probability of a second world war loomed. Published in 1936, dedicated "To those who gave their lives for an idea, the men who never came back," Eby's hope was "that somehow [this book] may be of use in the forlorn and seemingly hopeless fight against war."

Karen Frederick is the Curator of Collections and Exhibitions Coordinator at the Greenwich Historical Society. The full version of her article with references can be read on the Historical Society's website: www.greenwichhistory.org.

Managed, and Financed by One Hundred Approved National War Relief Organizations for the Benefit of American and Allied Relief" hoped to bring in one million dollars.

Over 250,000 people attended. Elmer MacRae contributed three large carved and painted pieces of garden furniture that were shown in the booth of Mrs. William Astor Chanler. Included were a chair featuring Japanese irises (in the collection of the Greenwich Historical Society), a bench with pink flamingoes and white cranes (owned by Choate Rosemary Hall) and a peacock chair (owned by Mrs. John D. Chapman in 1918, current location unknown).

Rose O'Neill used her enormously popular Kewpies to encourage the public to do "one's bit" for the war. Her Kewpie drawings began appearing in 1909 in such magazines as *The Ladies' Home Journal*, *Woman's Home Companion* and *Good Housekeeping*; they were also featured in newspapers across the United States. In 1915 she urged parents not to buy toy soldiers: "Generations and generations of European



Kerr Eby. *Stuck*, 1919. Lithograph. Collection of the Greenwich Historical Society. Gift of Meriwether Cowgill Schmid in memory of Captain W. Cowgill, U.S.M.A. '17, 19th Field Artillery, 5th Artillery Brigade, 5th Division, American Expeditionary Forces.

Save the Dates:

March 22

Greenwich Faces the Great War closes

April 1

Early-Bird Camp Registration ends

April 19

Landmark Recognition Event

April 22

Greenwich Voices opens (Members' Preview April 21)



The Greenwich Historical Society chronicles the past, but the future is in your hands. Please remember us in your estate plan so that future generations may continue to explore the ongoing story of our community.

news

Fall Lectures Now on Public Access TV



Judge James E. Baker
(above); Kathleen
Hulser (below)

Check listings for GCTV Channel 79 to view the 2014 William C. Crooks Distinguished Lecture by Judge James E. Baker. A wider selection of lectures and films made by and for the Greenwich Historical Society is also available on our Greenwich Historical Society YouTube Channel.

Newest offering includes two fall 2014 WWI lectures, "Sympathy and Suspicion in WWI Greenwich" by Kathleen Hulser and "American Women Rebuilding France," a lecture by Elaine Uzan Leary on philanthropist Anne Morgan's leadership relief efforts following the devastation of WWI.



Message from Katrina Dorsey, New Director of Development

THANK YOU FOR YOUR MEMBERSHIP AND SUPPORT OF THE HISTORICAL SOCIETY!

Due to the generosity of friends like you, the Historical Society is able to be "all about Greenwich." Maybe you're interested in our educational programs, such as "Patriots vs. Loyalists" or family events like the Fall Family Festival and Candlelight Tours of Bush-Holley House. Perhaps quality exhibitions such as *Greenwich Faces the Great War* and *Great Estates* are favorites? Or your interests run to preservation and ensuring that our history is recorded and available for future generations. Whatever the reason, it's your membership and contributions to our annual campaign that make it all possible. To contribute to the annual campaign or to learn more about additional ways to support the Historical Society, please visit www.greenwichhistory.org or contact kdorsey@greenwichhistory.org.



*Antiquarius Patron Party, hosted by
Suzanne and Ramsey Frank, November 2014*