



Our first tour of Harbor Lighthouse in four years was with the Thomas family, *above*, from left Aliyana, Nicole, and Natalya.



From top, Rogovin Movers made room for a WW II-era periscope at the museum. Will Golaboski unveils our restored Ellery Thompson painting on April 26. Mark Seth Lender taught 3rd graders to Go WILD, with Veronica Hoard and Roger Ryley.

from our president

We want to thank all of the donors, visitors, and supporters of our great museum and collection of lighthouses.

Our team has been hard at work refining our selection of artifacts to improve the displays in each of our rooms. A ship model gallery was installed in the museum's lower level this winter. *Kids Ahoy*, our first exhibition designed especially for families, opens in April. On the horizon is the installation of a periscope, with views out over the harbor.

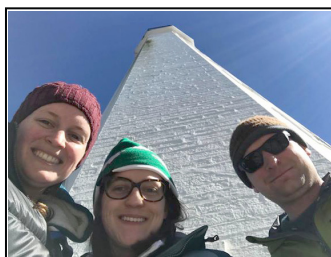
We continue to operate as a non-profit entity partnering with other regional non-profit agencies and community businesses to promote historic tourism. We love that many businesses share logos of our iconic structures connecting the past to the present. This connection of the past to the present embodies our vision for the museum.

What better way to make that connection than to offer tours to all three of our lighthouses, including the New London Harbor Lighthouse on Pequot Avenue. Maintaining lighthouses that range from 110 to 208 years old required capital for their upkeep including safety, structural, and and for the functional areas.

We have designated fees for both Ledge Light and Race Rock to cover the costs of a boat, in addition to the above items. However, we have suggested donations for adults and children to access New London Harbor Lighthouse of \$20 for NLMS members, \$15 for children, and \$30 for all others. Due to the location in a residential area, we want to landscape the site this spring -- an added expense.

We look forward to seeing many of you this year to show you where your donor dollars and membership fees have been spent: to preserve history for today and tomorrow.

Warmest Regards, Ed Cubanski



Visit inside the oldest & tallest lighthouse on Long Island Sound - New London Harbor Pequot Light.

On a clear day at the top, one photographer recently captured *nine* different lighthouses -- more than can be seen from any other place on earth! How many can you find?

Go to brownpapertickets.com/event/4191563 to sign up.
photo: Lauren Elizabeth (a lighthouse neighbor)



We invited the USCG in for an early SPRING CLEANING. We actually requested from 2-4 cadets, but we received 19, which was tremendous luck. They are, from top left: c/3 Lindsey Tarro, 3/c Jacob Cheeseman, 3/c Ester Choe, 3/c Justin Steiner, 3/c Jason Houle, 3/c Zach Woods, 3/c Aaron Martin, 3/c Thomas Hardy, 3/c Benjamin Waalkes, 3/c Julia Bentz, 4/c Devin Bettman, 4/c Lindsay Richardson, 4/c Laura May, 4/c Adam Nix, 3/c Justin Gardner, front row: 2/c Ashley Hatfield, 2/c Sarah Eaton, 3/c Samantha Koval, 4/c Jacob Carse, and John Orefice. The cadets repainted, reorganized, scraped, sealed, and cleaned. One month later, they straightened out Harbor Lighthouse - closed for the last four years. THANK YOU for all your good work.

SPRING 2019 - Here's what's up - for full listings, go to nlmaritimesociety.org

ONGOING PROGRAM: **JIBBOOM CLUB**, meets the 3rd Tuesday of the month, April through November. Sponsored by the Maco Family Fund, the gatherings are *FREE* and open to all. Upcoming dates are **April 16, May 21, and June 18**. Please come and bring a friend.

- April 16, Tuesday, 1:30 PM. **JIBBOOM Club #1, with Norman Brouwer.** *When Guantanamo was just a Naval Base, Norman Brouwer* discusses his Navy experiences on Cuba at the time of the revolution in the Late 1950s; he also presents a brief history of the Noank-built and New London-owned schooner *CHARLES H. KLINCK*. Join us for coffee, treats & a talk. Sponsored by the Maco Family Fund. *FREE*.

- April 26, Friday, 7 PM, **Unveiling: Ellery Thompson's *Racing to Harbor*, with Will Golaboski.** Three years ago, we had a 117th birthday celebration for local draggerman / artist / writer Ellery Thomposn. It was a party at which we also raised money for the restoration of *Racing to Market*, a painting donated by William and Elizabeth Lacey. William Lacey's father worked in Groton and his parents received the painting as a wedding present in 1940. Just in time for Ellery's 120th, art restorer **Will Golaboski** has brought in the finished piece. This calls for another party! -with cake. \$24. Call 860-447-2501. (photo pg. 1).

- May 21, Tuesday, 1:30 PM. **JIBBOOM Club #1, with Jason D. Golden**, Public Affairs Officer, US Dept of Homeland Security, Science and Technology Directorate, Plum Island Animal Disease Center. Questions about Plum Island? **Jason Golden** has been the public's liason with the island and the federal government for 5+ years. Jason will present an overview of the island lab's large animal disease prevention program and on the current status of the lab's move to Kansas. Join us for coffee, treats & a talk. Sponsored by the Maco Family Fund. *FREE*.

- May 22, Wednesday, 12 noon, ceremony, 1 PM lunch & talk. **National Maritime Day observance, with John Laurence Busch.** National Maritime Day is a United States holiday created to recognize the maritime industry. It is observed on May 22, the date in 1819 that the American steamship *Savannah*, captained by New London born Moses Rogers, set sail from Savannah, Georgia on the first ever transoceanic voyage under steam power. We invite you to a commemorative ceremony at 12 noon at the Sailors Memorial at Ft. Trumbull, followed by a chowder lunch at the Custom House. As this year marks the 200th anniversary of that voyage we have author **John Laurence Busch** as a guest speaker. His presentation will show how Captain Rogers created such a revolutionary vessel...two centuries ago! Ceremony *FREE*. Lunch & talk by donation. Space is limited. Call 860-447-2501.

Don't forget to visit the **MUSEUM SHOP** for all kinds of wonderful things -- from solar boat lanterns, to picnic set backpacks.



From the McGuire Library

We're about to publish the latest in our series of online features highlighting various chapters of New London's maritime history. Going public in mid-March will be the memoir of a Norwich boy who rode the steamboats from his hometown to New London, Watch Hill and Block Island with his pals during summer vacations in the late 1890s. This nostalgic, richly descriptive memoir by a retired college professor was first published in 1967 in the magazine of the Steamship Historical Society and will be republished in online format with the permission of the SSSH, illustrated with vintage postcards from the Library collection.

Brian Rogers, Librarian

New London's Third Graders Visit the Custom House



2019 saw close to 600 students visiting the Custom House. Black History Month brought classes from the Regional Magnet and Williams Schools to learn about the Amistad. NLMS's Historic Landmarks Program, a partnership with New London Public Schools lead by NLMS educator Jody Barthel, had us teaching students on three floors at the museum all at once. Jody explained the elements of the sailor suit, then we posed for photos.

Make History

The Custom House is available for private rentals.

Meetings, weddings, birthdays, retreats.

Call 860.447.2501

Explore the World with the Museum Travel Alliance

New London Maritime Society is now part of the Museum Travel Alliance (MTA), a consortium of museums whose patrons and supporters are passionate about cultural travel.

MTA offers affiliated museums and cultural institutions access to a curated selection of travel opportunities led by renowned curators and scholars.

Join the MTA and the New London Maritime Society on journeys that awaken new insights into art and culture. Visit UNESCO World Heritage sites, and travel on elegant chartered ships, planes, and luxury trains. Go behind the scenes of major cultural institutions and visit private collections as you discover masterpieces in context and in situ. museumtravelalliance.com

The Custom House Maritime Museum - your local, independent, community museum - open year-round - telling the stories of New London's waterfront!



I'M JOINING THE NEW LONDON MARITIME SOCIETY!



Name _____ phone _____ e-mail _____

Street _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Individual \$35___ Family \$50___ Contributor \$100___ Sponsor \$250___ Patron \$1,000___ Sign-up date _____

Cash___ Check___ ~ please make payment to New London Maritime Society Visa___ MasterCard___ AmEx___

Number _____ Exp. date _____ Security code _____

Benefits of membership include *free* admission, invitations to special events, discounts, and a newsletter.

New London Maritime Society's mission is to protect, preserve, & and celebrate New London's U.S. Custom House, three area lighthouses, and Long Island Sound, and to interpret the rich maritime life & history of the port of New London and the surrounding region through museum exhibitions, educational programs, and preservation initiatives. Learn more about us at nlmaritimesociety.org.

New London Maritime Society - Custom House Maritime Museum, 150 Bank Street, New London, Connecticut 06320 860.447.2501

N.L.M.S.

_____ I'm donating \$ _____ to the Custom House. _____ Contact me about leaving a legacy.

Planning for 2019 at New London Ledge Lighthouse



Above, Boat tours to visit *inside* Ledge Lighthouse commence in June. Go to ledgelighthouse.org for charter tour information. Go to nlmaritimesociety.org to schedule fun-sized tours for up-to 6 people.

Work already is in progress planning for opening the Ledge Lighthouse & Museum, and making it ready for tours beginning in June. The maintenance and restoration of the 110 year old structure is never ending. 'Being on the water in the open, at the mercy of high winds and storms, every year when we go out to begin our 'spring cleaning' we always have a surprise left by Mother Nature', explained Bruce Buckley, a Museum volunteer.

This year, in addition to the perennial need for scraping and painting, two maintenance projects for the Lighthouse work crew will be: 1.) restoring power (either with an undersea cable repair, or working off the solar grid) plus, 2.) patching and painting the secondary foundation.

The Lighthouse volunteer maintenance crew has been very fortunate to have their work augmented by volunteer work crews from the Navy Base, the Coast Guard Academy, and other volunteer groups. This additional volunteer support is greatly appreciated by all of us that are committed to preserving our richly unique maritime heritage.

--Bruce Buckley, president Ledge Light Foundation

local-friendly-authentic

The New London Maritime Society's **Custom House Maritime Museum** is an historic gem in downtown New London. *Join us!*

We are teachers, sailors, historians, librarians, & maritime aficionados.

NLMS is independent. We chart our own course defending your access to historic sites and preserving our shared maritime history. **Please donate today.**

nlmaritimesociety.org

Kids Ahoy

Celebrating the enduring Nautical influence on Children's Fashions, Toys & Entertainment.

Opens April 26, 2019
at the Custom House



We broke out the **JIBBOOM CLUB** whale boat for New London's **St. Patrick's Day Parade**. What a great team: Christina, Harry, Curtis, Hank, Hallsi, Rob, Jody, and missing are Veronica, Mike, Roger, our first lighthouse visitors, the Thomas family, and several 3rd graders. Impressive float, terrific parade!



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