

# custom house

## MARITIMES

SPRING 2011



## On The Horizon...

The crescendo of events is dizzying this spring at the New London Maritime Society, especially as the July 1 kick-off of **Sentinels on the Sound**, our Celebration of New London's Lighthouse Heritage, approaches. A Custom House initiative, funded by the **Connecticut Humanities Council**, the weekend has grown into a city-wide program of lighthouse tours, talks & exhibitions. And, for the first time ever, all three lighthouses in New London Harbor will be open to the public at the same time. The lesson of the past year is, in fact, that we're *all* stronger when we pull together. This issue of our newsletter is devoted to upcoming special events and new partnerships. It promises to be a honkin' great summer on the New London waterfront. Hope to see you there!

## upcoming events

### JUNE

- 16 Third Thursday - 6:30 pm, Richard Radune author of *Sound Rising*. \$8, *FREE* for members.
- 18 CribbageFest IV - 10am to 4pm - an all-day team cribbage tournament. Fun fundraiser. \$15.
- 21 Jibboom Club GAM - 1 to 4 pm. *Donation*.

### JULY

- 1-3 **Sentinels on the Sound** - Celebration of New London's Lighthouse Heritage. Call 860-447-2501 for info. See schedule inside..



New Haven's **International Festival of Arts & Ideas** brought poet **Randall Horton** to the Custom House in May. Randall Horton met with head docent Bill LaRoue and worked in the Frank L McGuire Maritime Library.



**Lighthouse Kids**, a program with the NL Public Schools, ended its 1st year; above: the Sea Shanty Chorus. Lighthouse Kids is funded by **Dominion Nuclear**, & the **Community Foundation of Southeastern Connecticut**.



A 2011 **Frank Loomis Palmer Fund Grant** allowed John Marshall to replaster the 2nd-floor US Customs Office. We've also almost finished the courtyard handicap-access ramp, thanks to **CDBG & the City of New London**.



# SENTINELS ON THE SOUND

## LIGHTHOUSE WEEKEND, July 1 thru 3, 2011

More lighthouses can be seen from the lantern of New London Harbor Light than from any other spot on earth.

Last fall, New London Maritime Society took on stewardship of the Light. Built 251 years ago, it is the first built on Long Island Sound, the oldest lighthouse in Connecticut, the 4th oldest in North America and still an active aid to navigation. The current tower was built in 1801.

This summer, to celebrate New London's lighthouse heritage, we are hosting a Lighthouse Weekend of exhibitions, tours and events.

**Sentinels on the Sound** launches **New London's Waterfront Summer**, with **2011 SailFest** up next, July 8 thru 10.

### Schedule by Date

Call for information and tickets: 860-447-2501

Tours inside NL Harbor Light (by boat from Custom House Pier). dates/times TBD, \$35 adult, \$15 children 16 years and younger. Call 860-447-2501 for reservations.

### Pre-weekend events

**Henry Savin - Storytelling** *family*

**Thursday June 30, 2011, 6:30 pm • Venue: New London Public Library**  
Storyteller Henry Savin shares tales of the sea in the Community Room.  
FREE - Sponsored by Public Library of New London

### FRIDAY, JULY 1

**Walking Tour of Lighthouse Window Displays** *tour family*

**Event 1 • Friday July 1, 2011 • Venue: Downtown New London Storefronts**  
Self-guided tour of artist Rob Groves's lighthouse creations in downtown store windows.  
FREE - Sponsored by New London Maritime Society

**Three Area Lighthouse Models by Bob Landry** *exhibition family*

**Event 2 • Friday July 1, 2011, 9 am-5 pm • Venue: Fort Trumbull State Park**  
Three scale models of area lighthouses are on display in the Visitor Center at Fort Trumbull State Park. Crafted by Robert A. Landry of Uncasville, the lighthouse models include New London Harbor Light, New London Ledge Light and Race Rock Light. On a clear day, two of the actual lighthouses can be seen from the park.  
Price: \$6 adult admission, 860-444-7591, 90 Walbach Street, New London.  
Sponsored by Fort Trumbull State Park

**Custom House Lighthouse Kids Sea Shanty Chorus - music** *family*

**Event 3 • Friday July 1, 2011, 12 noon • Venue: Parade Plaza**  
FREE - Sponsored by Dominion Nuclear, Previews on Parade - New London Main Street, New London Maritime Society

**1760 LOTTERY TICKET, issued by the Connecticut General Assembly, to raise the funds needed for the first New London Harbor Light.** *exhibition*  
**Event 4 • Friday July 1, 2011, 1-4 pm • Venue: NL County Historical Society**  
Visit the home of Nathaniel Shaw, Jr., who donated the land upon which New London Harbor Light was built and was its first official keeper, and learn about the colonial trade out of New London that made the lighthouse a necessity. On display is a 1760 LOTTERY TICKET, issued by the Connecticut General Assembly to raise the funds needed for building the first New London Harbor Light.  
Price: \$5 adult admission, 860-443-1209, 11 Blinman Street, New London, (near the corner of Bank Street and Tilley Street) Sponsored by: New London County Historical Society



### FRIDAY, JULY 1, cont.

**NLart Gallery Openings in New London** *exhibition tour*

**Event 5 • Friday July 1, 2011, 5-8 pm • Venue: downtown New London**  
Come, see the diversity of art galleries and shops this city has to offer:  
**Caruso Music** - Exhibition of paintings by Pat Kelbaugh: Lighthouses.  
860-442-9600, 94 State Street.

**Custom House Maritime Museum** - Opening of 2 new lighthouse exhibitions: New London-area lighthouses, *Sentinels on the Sound*; the Frank L. McGuire Library exhibit of lighthouse books and manuscripts from the NLMS collection. 860-447-2501. 150 Bank Street.

**Expresiones Cultural Center** - Rosa Tomatis, Peruvian Painter, "My Secret Garden, a collection of mixed media artworks. Opening reception July 2nd. 5.00 p.m. 860 501 9278. 84 Bank Street.

**Lyman Allyn Art Museum - Exhibitions:** Face Off: Portraits by Contemporary Artists; The Subject is Light: The Henry and Sharon Martin Collection of Contemporary Realist Painters. 860-443-2545. 625 Williams Street.

**PINC!** Kimberly Petty's new fabrics (and chocolates) are strewn with sketches of New London's monuments! 860 701 0501, 52 State Street.

**Provenance Center** - 2nd Annual Photograph Exhibition - A World of Woman: Global Images. 860-405-5887, 165 State Street.

**Spirit Gallery** 2nd annual **Skin to Canvas** gallery show. 860-443-0484, 270 Bank Street.

**Studio 33 Art & Frame Gallery** - Lighthouse paintings, prints and notecards from local artists. Robert Hauschild, award-winning artist, will present watercolor demonstrations from 6-7 pm. 860-442-6355, 140 Bank Street.

**The Gallery at Firehouse Square:** Our Silent Force - A Submarine Art Exhibit by local artist Liz McGee. 860-443-8344, 239 Bank Street.  
These exhibitions are part of NLart, a FREE stroll in downtown New London.

**Book Signing: Legacy of the Light** *discussion*

**Event 6 • Friday 1 July 2011, 6:30pm • Venue: Custom House Maritime Museum**  
Todd Gipstein will sign copies of his new novel "Legacy of the Light." This historical thriller focuses on two generations of lighthouse keepers serving on Race Rock Lighthouse, off the tip of Fishers Island. The action takes place in 1907 and a generation later, much of it the day of the great Hurricane of 1938. More information at: www.Gipstein.com  
FREE. Sponsored by Ledge Light Foundation & New London Maritime Society

**Lighthouse Cake Competition** *special*

**Event 7 • Friday 1 July 2011, 7:30pm • Venue: Custom House Maritime Museum**  
Cakes representing area lighthouse, created by local bakeries, will be judged on artistic merit by Louise Pittaway. Come, vote, indulge! Visitors vote to select the best cake by taste. All welcome. 860-447-2501. 150 Bank Street.  
Price: FREE. Sponsored by New London Maritime Society.

**FIREWORKS! plus The Cartells** *special family music*

**Event 8 • Friday 1 July 2011, 8pm • Venue: Boardwalk, Ocean Beach Park**  
Much More than just New England's Finest Beach and Boardwalk.  
Price: FREE. Sponsored by Michael Buschetto and Ocean Beach Park.

### SATURDAY, JULY 2

**Walking Tour of Lighthouse Displays** *tour family*

**Event 1 (repeat) • Saturday July 2 • Venue: Downtown New London Storefronts**

**Three Area Lighthouse Models by Bob Landry** *exhibition family*

**Event 2 (repeat) • Saturday July 2, 9 am-5 pm • Venue: Fort Trumbull State Park**

**SENTINELS ON THE SOUND Lighthouse Symposium - morning session**

**Event 9 • Saturday July 2, 2011, 9:30 am-12 noon • Venue: Fort Trumbull State Park**  
The morning session of our Lighthouse Symposium features  
- Captain Joseph Vojvodich USCG, Commander Coast Guard Sector LIS  
- Petty Officer Stephen Newberry USCG Aids to Navigation Team

## SATURDAY, JULY 2, lighthouse symposium *cont.*

- Mark Schlegel- Norwalk Seaport Association- Sheffield Island Light

- Liz Wood – Stonington Historical Society

Price: \$40 full day, \$25 morning session & box luncheon *only*, space limited reservation required:(for tickets: 860-447-2501), 860-444-7591, 90 Walbach Street, New London. Sponsored by: Friends of Fort Trumbull, New London Maritime Society, Connecticut Humanities Council.

### 1760 LOTTERY TICKET, to raise the funds for the first NL Harbor Light.

Event 4 (repeat) • Sat. July 2, 10 am-4 pm • Venue: NL County Historical Society

### Avery Point Lighthouse *tour*

Event 10 • Saturday July 2, 2011, 11 am-3 pm • Venue: UCONN, Avery Point

Open House and Inspection of Groton's Avery Point Lighthouse

Price: TBD Sponsored by: Avery Point Lighthouse / US Lighthouse Foundation

### SENTINELS ON THE SOUND Lighthouse Symposium - Luncheon session

Event 11 • Saturday July 2, 12 noon-1 pm • Venue: NL County Historical Society

Symposium attendees visit the home of Nathaniel Shaw, Jr., who donated the land upon which New London Harbor Light was built. Box lunch is provided for all Morning Session registrants.

Price: included in *Sentinels on the Sound* morning session admission, space limited - reservation required:(for tickets: 860-447-2501). 860-443-1209, 11 Blinman Street, New London, (near the corner of Bank Street and Tilley Street) Sponsored by: New London County Historical Society, New London Maritime Society, Connecticut Humanities Council

### SENTINELS ON THE SOUND Lighthouse Symposium - Afternoon session

Event 12 • Saturday July 2, 2011, 12:45-3 pm • Venue: Custom House Museum

The afternoon session of our Lighthouse Symposium features

- James Streeter –Co-founder Avery Point Light House Society

- Todd Gipstein – New London Ledge Light Foundation

- John Desjardins – New London Harbor Light

- Panel of presenters, Bob Getman, *moderator*

- Keynote Address- Jeremy d'Entremont, author *The Lighthouses of Connecticut*

Price: \$40 full day, \$15 afternoon session, only, space limited - reservation required: 860-447-2501. 150 Bank Street, New London.

Sponsored by: New London Maritime Society, CT Humanities Council

### Noank Historic Society *exhibition*

Event 13 • Saturday July 2, 2011, 2-5 pm • Venue: Noank Historical Society

Exhibition of historical documents related to Noank's Morgan Point Lighthouse, 860-536-7026. Price: FREE Sponsored by: Noank Historical Society

### Ledge Lighthouse Interpretive Center *exhibition tour family*

Event 14 • Saturday July 2, 2011, 4pm • Venue: Custom House Pier

The New London Ledge Lighthouse Foundation has created exhibits in the lighthouse, including a gallery of photographs; displays explaining facets of the light's operation and history; a theater for lighthouse films; a chart room; a 1930s keeper's room including a figure of Ernie, the keeper whose ghost is believed to haunt Ledge Light. Ledge Lighthouse is visited through Project Oceanology, 860-445-9007, which will run special 2 1/2-hour trips this weekend leaving from the Custom House Pier. Tickets are \$25 for adults, \$20 children. [www.LedgeLighthouse.org](http://www.LedgeLighthouse.org)

### Ocean Beach Park Karaoke *special family music*

Event 15 • Saturday 1 July 2011, 7pm • Venue: Boardwalk, Ocean Beach Park

Much More than just New England's Finest Beach and Boardwalk.

Price: FREE. 860-447-3031. 1225 Ocean Avenue. Sponsored by Ocean Beach Park

## SUNDAY, JULY 3

### Walking Tour of Lighthouse Displays *tour family*

Event 1 (repeat) • Sunday July 3 • Venue: Downtown NL Storefronts

## SUNDAY, JULY 3, *cont.*

### Walking Tour of Lighthouse Displays *tour family*

Event 1 (repeat) • Saturday July 2 • Venue: New London Storefronts

### Three Area Lighthouse Models by Bob Landry *exhibition family*

Event 2 (repeat) • Sunday July 3, 2011, 9 am-5 pm • Venue: Fort Trumbull State Park

### Ledge Lighthouse Interpretive Center *exhibition tour*

Event 14 (repeat) • Sunday July 3 10am, 1 pm • Venue: Custom House Pier.

### Shoreline Lighthouse Bicycle Tour *tour special*

Event 16 • Sunday, July 3rd, 11 am • Venue: Fort Trumbull State Park Parking Lot.

This fun, educational, and exciting tour will take you to visit historic lighthouses rarely open to the public! Beginning at Fort Trumbull State Park, we will visit the New London Harbor Light, the US Custom House Museum, ride over the Gold Star Bridge bicycle lane to Groton and the Avery Point Light, then head over to Noank by way of Groton's new G&S Trolley bike path to visit the Noank Lighthouse. Back on the road, we visit the Stonington Harbor light in Stonington Borough. The final stop isf Mystic Seaport Sunday after 5 PM whose *Sentinels of the Sea* lighthouse exhibition will be open afterhours. This is a really unique opportunity for our area, for history buffs, and cycling enthusiasts of all ages. Email [bicyclenl@gmail.com](mailto:bicyclenl@gmail.com) for information. Price: FREE. Sponsored by Bike New London, Connecticut Humanities Council, NL Maritime Society.

### Lyman Allyn Art Museum - Free First Sunday *exhibition family*

Event 17 • Sunday July 3, 2011, 1 - 4 pm • Venue: Lyman Allyn Art Museum

Art activities, tours of current exhibitions, snacks and fun! A great day at the museum for the whole family! 860 443-2545. 625 Williams Street, New London. Price: FREE Sponsored by Lyman Allyn Art Museum

### Hygienic Art - Sea Shantyman John Roberts *music family special*

Event 18 • Sunday July 3, 2011, 2 pm • Venue: Hygienic Art Park

John Roberts will play a free concert at 2pm in the beautiful outdoor oasis that is the Hygienic Art Park. Bring a lunch and friends and enjoy this great opportunity to see a true national treasure perform. 860-443-8001, 83 Bank Street, New London. Price: FREE. Sponsored by Hygienic Arts New London Maritime Society, Connecticut Humanities Council.

### Noank Historic Society *exhibition*

Event 14 (repeat) • Sunday July 3, 2-5 pm • Venue: Noank Historical Society

### Open House at Mystic Seaport *special family music*

Event 19 • Sunday July 3, 2011, 5 pm • Venue: Mystic Seaport

On Sunday after 5PM the grounds of the Museum are open for free to the public. There is food and drink available for purchase down at the Tavern on the grounds with live music. Price: FREE Sponsored by Mystic Seaport

### Broadway and Opera Favorites *special music family*

Event 20 • Sunday July 3, 2011, 6 pm • Venue: Stonington Historical Society

The lighthouse weekend concludes with picnics and an outdoor concert of Opera Favorites on the grounds of the Old Lighthouse in Stonington. Picnic fare and beverages, including wine, will be available for purchase or guests are welcome to bring their own. Price: \$15 in advance, \$20 on the day. Sponsored by Salt Marsh Opera and Stonington Historical Society.

Our lighthouse activities are made possible by a generous grant from the **Connecticut Humanities Council**. One of the largest humanities councils in the nation, the Connecticut Humanities Council (CHC) nurtures thoughtful exploration of history and literature along with the cultural benefits of both. CHC's reading programs benefit Connecticut citizens of all ages by opening up the world of books to children, encouraging reading as a family activity and engaging adults in thought provoking book discussions. CHC's new \$1.7 million Heritage Revitalization Initiative seeks to stabilize Connecticut's heritage organizations and position them for success while bringing the state's past directly to the public through an online encyclopedia of Connecticut history, the infusion of Connecticut history topics in the social studies curriculum and the creation of new media materials on our past. This year, CHC will provide more than \$3 million in cultural programming and enrich the lives of residents and visitors statewide. Thank you, CHC!





New London's Lighthouse  
Heritage Weekend—July 1st thru 3rd

## SENTINELS ON THE SOUND



## New London's Honkin' Great Summer on the Waterfront

June 18 CribbageFest IV - team competition  
\$30 pair, \$15 individual, 10am to 4pm

July 1-3 Lighthouse Weekend - see inside  
Talks, tours, exhibitions & more

July 6-9 SailFest - new NL Harbor exhibition  
& TagSale@SailFest at the Custom House

July 23 Fish Tales, Tugs & Sails - Sea Shanty Chorus

July 30 Yachting Weekend - Circus! at 4 &  
4 & 6:30 pm - FREE on the Parade

## Yachting Weekend

Saturday, July 30, featuring  
Nimble Arts Circus on the Parade



Sponsored by the Custom House Maritime  
Museum, Thames America's Cup Committee,  
& New London Water Authority.



### 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\_\_\_ Life Membership \$1,500\_\_\_

Cash\_\_\_ Check\_\_\_ ~ please make payment to New London Maritime Society Visa\_\_\_ Master Card\_\_\_ 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 (NLMS) mission is to preserve New London's U.S. Custom House and Harbor Light and promote & interpret the maritime history of the port of New London and the surrounding region through museum exhibitions and educational programs.*

*150 Bank Street, New London, Connecticut 06320, 860-447-2501*

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

complete Lighthouse-Weekend schedule inside



[nlmaritimesociety.org](http://nlmaritimesociety.org)