



# *Tydings of Canaan Parish*

Vol. 45 No. 2 \*A Publication of the New Canaan Historical Society\* December 2017

## **Egg Nog & Caroling**

**Sunday, December 3rd**

**3:00 — 5:00 PM**



Richard Weidlich

Fa-la-la-la-la-la-la-la! Join us for a festive start to the holidays with an afternoon of Egg Nog & Caroling. Professional singer and actor, Dr. Richard Weidlich, will perform holiday classics and lead us in singing.

Dr. Weidlich has performed in opera, operetta and musical theater, as well as with symphonies and chamber ensembles. He is a professor at Sacred Heart University, teaching music classes and individual voice lessons. He has performed with the Summer Theater of New Canaan in performances that include Sir Lancelot in Camelot, Professor Harold Hill in *The Music Man*, Max in *The Sound of Music* and the King in *Cinderella*. In addition, he teaches at the Performing Arts Conservatory in New Canaan.

Come enjoy holiday cheer, cookies, egg nog, mulled cider and music. The event is free. It's our gift to you!



**STOP BY THE NEW CANAAN HISTORICAL SOCIETY FOR GREAT HOLIDAY GIFTS.**

**We've got genuine bayberry candles, notecards, toys and many new items. There are also many beautiful works of art on display and for sale in the *Waveny—Now and Then* exhibit thru Dec. 22.**

## Janice Luddy Receives the 2017 Board Hall of Fame Award

Board member Janice Luddy was honored by the New Canaan Community Foundation as the 2017 recipient of the Board Hall of Fame Award. Below is an excerpt from her inspiring acceptance speech:

Often, we hear that a Board member should bring at least one of the three W's to the charity: Wealth, Wisdom, and/or Work. Wealth -- can you lend financial support to your charity? Wisdom—do you bring a special talent that the organization needs? Work – Need I say more. I know that everyone here in this room understands what we mean by work!

But the more important question for me is “Why” do I serve on a Board? The simple answer is that I have led a charmed life in a charming community and I want to give back. But why did I volunteer for the Historical Society for 25 plus years? Over that time span, I volunteered for many other organizations. But the one constant during this time was the New Canaan Historical Society. Why? Because, I am very passionate about its mission. The Society is a cultural organization, and all too often the cultural charities are taken for granted in their community because they do not always pull the heart-strings like so many of the wonderful humanitarian groups here tonight. Yet the Society is crucial to the cultural fabric that makes New Canaan special. And I know in my heart, it would be sorely missed if it were not part of our town.

Last month, we sent out a town wide mailing that included a bumper sticker. It said, Celebrate the Past, Embrace the Present, Inspire the Future.

Yes, we want to “Celebrate the Past”—the Society is historical. We are the caretakers of 6 museums. Our oldest is the Hanford Silliman House, a colonial home from the 1700's. Our newest is a wonderful example of mid-century modern architecture, the Gores Pavilion in Irwin Park. We are also a library. We do not own the current bestsellers. But we do have hundreds and hundreds of books, manuscripts, and photographs. We have a digitized collection of the New Canaan Advertiser. People from New Canaan and from across the United States come or call to do research on an ancestor, the history of their home, or a past event.

But we also “Embrace the Present” by bringing in lecturers, storytellers, and authors. Our latest exhibit is called Waveny, Now and Then. It features the works of contemporary artists and photographers as they view Waveny Park. If you have not seen this exhibit, I urge you to do so by visiting the Society. It is a fabulous exhibit, one not to be missed.

And by celebrating the past and embracing the present, we hope to “Inspire the Future” --not only the future of the Society but also its community members, and the Town of New Canaan as well.

But, bottom line, you, as a volunteer, need to find the charity that speaks to you. Many of you have found your passion. But if you have not, keep looking. Because when you do find it, you will realize that as much as your charity benefits from your good work, the fulfillment that you experience will be far greater.

Congratulations to Janice on this well-deserved award!



## Orientalism in American Art And the Silvermine Art Colony

The New Canaan Historical Society is presenting a unique exhibit on Orientalism curated by Tom Davies (curator of *Art in America*), Susan Gunn Bromley, Museum and Art Consultant, and Advisory Committee member Edward Vollmer. The show opens on **January 7th at 4 pm** with a reception and talk by Mr. Vollmer and Ms. Bromley.

The exhibit features American artists who traveled, painted and often lived for extended periods in an area that stretched from Morocco across North Africa, Egypt, The Holy Lands and Persia, to India. In the 19th Century, this mostly Islamic world became known as the “Orient.” The European and American artists who, beginning in the 1840s, ventured into this forbidden world were called “Orientalists.”

Included in this exhibit of 35 paintings and etchings by 20 artists will be works by Silvermine artists who traveled and painted in the Orient during their careers.



*The Arab Gunsmith* by Addison Millar

## 2017 NEW CANAAN ORNAMENTS FOR SALE



\$15 each

## PAST NEW CANAAN ORNAMENTS FOR SALE



\$15 each



## GORES PAVILION

Each season the Pavilion is open weekends with the great help of volunteers.

**Thank you to all the docents who volunteered this summer:**

Helen Belluschi  
Lyn Chivvis  
Maddy Culpepper  
Amanda Guarino  
Mark Markiewicz  
Doug Marshall  
Laszlo Papp  
Ehiko Satai  
Kate Shannon  
Katie Stewart  
Pat Stewart  
Frances Wilson



Risom Room  
Gores Pavilion

## SCHOOL ENRICHMENT PROGRAM

Our talented education volunteers are trained to lead elementary school students in a program on colonial life held in our Hanford-Silliman House Museum, Tool Museum, and Rock School. This fall volunteers James Bach, Gretchen Gersten, Laurie McGrath, and Patricia Oxman conducted the tours, along with staff members Nancy Geary, Donna Dearth and Michael Murphy. Many thanks for their help.

New docents are welcome and needed as the spring schedule is filling up. Call if you can help!

## IN MEMORIAM

It is with great sadness that we say goodbye to the following members.

Louise Goodridge  
Marjorie "Muffy" Nichols  
Hudson Stoddard

## WELCOME NEW MEMBERS MAY-NOVEMBER 15, 2017

Paula and John Addeo  
John Archer  
Ellen and John Bailey  
Susan and Peter Bergen  
Betsy and Ben Bilus  
Emily and Christopher Burns  
Elizabeth Cahill and David Ruksznis  
Sarah and Alec Casey  
Regina and Charles Cleever  
Joy and Christopher Corapi  
Dale Daddona  
Mary and Ted Dardani

Janet and Roger DeBard  
Mary DiCosimo  
Luz Dono  
Nick Ellison  
Joan Feick  
Claire and Alex Foster  
John Emert and Mary Ellen Gaw  
Kirsten and Michael Gregario  
Joan Guzzetti  
Mrs. Joseph Haas  
Krystie and David Inman  
Matt Ivanhoe

Malgorzata Jaros  
Cathy Kangas  
Katherine and Leo Karl III  
Martha and Keith Lane  
Mariko and Matt LeBaron  
Michael and Ali Luddy  
Donna and Jim Lutton  
Alexandra Martins  
Jeanne and Michael McDonagh  
Tracey and Sean McManus  
Constance and John Old  
Liza and Chris Pohle

Rand Insurance  
Emily Rubenfeld and Erik Hogstedt  
Jane and Mark Schoenholtz  
Lennox and Elizabeth Stuart  
John and Ceci Teitler  
Deborah and Craig Thompson  
Suzanne and Ed Weissmen  
Linda Williams  
Joan Yim  
Torrance York and Greg Walters

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## WINTER CALENDAR OF EVENTS 2017-2018



Dec. 03	Sun.	Egg Nog & Caroling	3:00 — 5:00 pm
04	Mon.	Board of Governors Meeting	7:00 pm
23-26	Sat.-Tues.	Society Closed for Christmas Holiday	
30-02	Sat.-Tues	Society Closed for New Years	
Jan. 07	Sun.	Orientalism in American Art and the Silvermine Art Colony Opening Reception— Speakers Edward Vollmer and Susan Bromley	4:00 pm
08	Mon.	Board of Governors Meeting	7:00 pm
18	Thurs.	Volunteer & Donor Cocktail Party	6:00 pm — 8:00 pm
28	Sun.	Orientalism Event: The Rise of Arabism—Speaker Zuhair Suidan	2:00 pm
Feb. 05	Mon.	Board of Governors Meeting	7:00 pm
14	Wed.	Valentine Tea	12:00 pm— 3:00 pm

THE SOCIETY FOLLOWS SCHOOL CLOSINGS ON SNOW DAYS  
THE SOCIETY IS CLOSED TO THE PUBLIC ON MONDAYS



Town House and Library Hours are:  
Tuesday-Friday 9:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Saturday 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.  
Historic houses open by appointment  
nchistory.org info@nchistory.org  
Call: 203.966.1776

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