



Southold Historical Society

PROMOTING INTEREST IN AND EDUCATION ABOUT THE HISTORY OF SOUTHOLD

In the News!

Did you see Southold Historical Society in the Newsday segment entitled ***Illuminating history: Students' research lifts up stories of African Americans on LI?***

Executive Director Deanna Witte-Walker, Collections Manager Amy Folk and Board Secretary Lee Cleary were interviewed to discuss how Southold Historical Society is working to include more diverse histories of the people of Southold Town. Turn to page 5 to read more!

Upcoming: Art Exhibition and Sale

Southold Historical Society is pleased to announce 10 Squared Art Exhibition and Sale Entitled: *North Fork in Winter*.

The **online** art sale and exhibition takes place from November 15 - December 15, 2020. Call 631-765-5500 or visit our website: www.southoldhistoricalsociety.org for more information!



Newsday Interview photo: Amy Folk, far right, curated the Southold Historical Society exhibit about enslaved people at the former home of Samuel Landon. Here, she's seen outside the home with Deanna Witte-Walker, executive director of the historical society, left, and Stony Brook graduate Felicia LaLomia. Photo Credit: Randee Dadonna

From the Director

Dear Society Members,

As always, I hope that you are happy and healthy. We have been using expressions like "stay safe" and "be well" so frequently lately, I fear they have lost their impact. But I truly hope that you are safe and well.

As we continue to march on during these unprecedented times, I feel reassured by the support and generosity of the community. The backing of people like you, our terrific volunteers and faithful members, has made it possible to not only keep the Society functioning but also to branch out into new realms.

Have you had the opportunity to check out our online virtual exhibits? The newest one was composed by and features one of our lighthouse volunteers, Micky Kalich. Micky, a Mattituck High School student, was unable to greet visitors in person in the tower,



Collections Corner: Artist Highlight

Irving Ramsey Wiles (1861-1948) was one of the most important American Impressionists and portrait painters of his day.

Wiles was born in Utica, New York. He first came to the North Fork at the invitation of Edward August Bell, who was instrumental in starting what was to become the Peconic School, a loosely associated group of important painters who fell in love with our area's bays, creeks, and Sound-front, our harbors and fields and woodlands. Like the many painters who followed the original group, Wiles was enchanted by the North Fork's ever-changing light, as it sweeps from Sound to Bay.

Starting in 1895, along with his father, Wiles began a summer painting school in Peconic. The Old Mill at Goldsmith Inlet was a favorite spot for the Wiles and their students to paint.

After staying in varying hamlets on the North Fork, Wiles bought a 10-acre bay-front stretch along Indian Neck, where he built a cottage and several studio buildings. There, he and his father continued to paint and to teach. He also taught at the Art Students League and the National Academy, of which he was an important member.

He painted society portraits-portraits of important politicians and of major performing artists. But it is for his beautiful, contemplative landscapes, domestic scenes and maritime paintings, especially of scallop boats, that Wiles is best remembered today.

so instead he put together a video of Horton Point Lighthouse which is chock full of interesting facts.

Our newsletter, which is the creation of the office administrator, Rachel Johnson, attempts to update you on the innovative initiatives that our board and staff have implemented as well as highlight some of the most popular features of our online efforts. Your suggestions and comments are always welcome. Please feel free to give a call or drop a line. I look forward to hearing your thoughts!

Best regards,
Deanna Witte-Walker, Executive Director

Collections Corner: Facebook Fan Favorite



*This image from 1965 was featured in our Collections Corner and gained a lot of attention from folks on Facebook and Instagram. It was our most popular with almost **5,856** views on Facebook!*

Have you ever driven down the North Road and wondered what it looked like before it was widened? Or where the original road was? This 1965 photograph in our collection answers both questions. Looking east, the two lane paved road is what later became the west bound lanes of today's four lane divided highway.

The red barn on the right side of the photo still stands, but the old Wickham house that once stood in front of it was moved to the Cutchogue-New Suffolk Historical Council before the road was widened. Also interesting to note is that the road was not Route 48 at that time. It was called Route 27!



Picnic feast at Peconic Inlet, circa 1937.

Collection Corner Featured Items List

If you missed any of our Collections Corner highlights, please check out our website for past posts! Here are a few items that we have featured over the past few months.

- Southold Town School District # 7 School Bus circa 1937
- Cyanotype photo of the Protection Engine Company fire station on Beckwith Avenue
- Painter, Irving Ramsey Wiles (1861 -1948)
- Photo of Main Road, Southold. Circa 1890
- 1935 photo of a picnic feast at Peconic Inlet
- Painter, Wendy Prellwitz (1950 -)
- Stained glass window in the Ann Currie-Bell House
- Barrel (cask) from Barnabas Horton, purported to be the earliest item in SHS collection

What Have We Been Up to at SHS?



Society members and friends enjoying the summer social hosted by Mickey and Patrick St John

MISSION RELATED AND COMMUNITY EFFORTS

- Southold Historical Society participated in the Newsday segment entitled "Illuminating history: Students' research lifts up stories of African Americans on LI." (Read more on page 5).
- We continue to feature highlights from the Society's collection, as well as featuring local artists from Southold. You can follow this via our weekly eBlast, our website, or on Facebook and Instagram.
- Virtual Exhibits: We have added two new virtual exhibits to our website. Stella Prince: Horton Point's Lady Lighthouse Keeper by Society volunteer and lighthouse enthusiast, Mary Korpi as well as a virtual tour of our Horton Point Lighthouse by our volunteer lighthouse tour guide, Micky Kalich.
- Virtual Ice Cream Social: On August 22, 2020, we hosted our first ever virtual ice cream social featuring local musician Brady Rymer and Southold Free Library children's librarian, Dana Buey. Thank you to all who participated!

What Have We Been Up to at SHS? (continued)

FUNDRAISING EFFORTS

- "Cheers to 60 Years Raffle": The fundraiser was a success and the lucky winners, Mary Ann Howkins (5 Night Stay), Steve Latham (Decoy), Jason Canales (Canoe), Brian Reiss (Painting) and Susan Krupski Fisher (Cash) were quite pleased!
- Summer Socials: Board members graciously offered to host small cocktail parties in their gardens. Each attendee made a \$50 donation to the Society. The offer was well received and we were thrilled that despite the current situation, so many were able to join us. Thanks to all who hosted and participated.
- Yard Sale/Lawn Sales. Thank you to all of our volunteers who masked up, pulled up their sleeves and put themselves to work! The lawn sales and yard sale were fun and profitable. It was great to see so many new and familiar faces (masked, of course)!
- Dinner for Two by Maroni Southold. "Dinner for Two by Maroni Southold" was SOLD OUT! Ticket holders enjoyed a delicious dinner of Grandma Maroni's Famous Italian meatballs served over Penne Pomodoro while also supporting their local history museum. Maroni Southold donated their goods and service so that all proceeds benefited Southold Historical Society!
- 10 Squared Art Exhibition and Sale: Back by popular demand, but new for winter is the online art exhibition and sale which will be held online from November 15 - December 15, The theme and title is "North Fork in Winter". Be sure to mark your calendars and set your alarm. Our previous exhibition and sale in July sold **22** paintings in the first 18 minutes!!

BUILDING/EXHIBIT EFFORTS

- The Tuesday Crew of volunteer carpenters has been doing outside work. In addition to making hand rails for the step into the Thomas Moore House, they also assembled shelving (donated by Southold Free Library) for our supply of books. Currently, they are making repairs to the Reichert Family Barn, including decreasing the slope of one of the ramp entrances.
- Our exhibitions committee is looking at ways to highlight the "Slavery in Southold" exhibition for Black History Month and upgrading the labels in the barn as well.

OCTOBER
29 - 31
drop off
between
3-5pm

The Pumpkin Patch

at Southold Historical Society
Museum Complex

Free Event!
Includes:
Treat for participants.
(non-food)

You are invited to drop off your carved pumpkins to create a magical pumpkin patch. Each carved pumpkin will be fitted with a tea light. Come back after dark to see the complex glow with creativity! For more information, call 631-765-5500 or email info@southoldhistorical.org.



Southold Historical Society in Newsday!!



Stony Brook graduate Felicia LaLomia inside the Southold Historical Society enslavement exhibit. Photo Credit: Randee Dadonna.

Executive Director Deanna Witte-Walker, Collections Manager Amy Folk and Board Secretary Lee Cleary were interviewed to discuss how Southold Historical Society is working to include more diverse histories of the people of Southold.

Executive Director Deanna Witte-Walker, states "This was a story that needed to be told. Sometimes topics like slavery can be uncomfortable; it can be difficult to talk about. I really applaud the historical society for realizing how important it was not to let that story go untold."

The following is an excerpt from the article.

"I wanted to give acknowledgment to the existence of all the people who lived in that house," said Amy Folk, Southold town historian and the exhibit's curator. "They [enslaved people] are a mostly unspoken part of the history, but they are very much part of the history of this town...The exhibit, she noted, is the first step. Another part of the learning process for Folk involved vocabulary, she said, explaining that the exhibit refers to "slaves" though the term "enslaved people" is becoming more widely used."

Lynda Day, an Africana studies professor at Brooklyn College, said exhibits like this are rare.

"Telling the story of the enslaved people of the house is pretty revolutionary in the telling of history," she said. "History is usually the story of the elites of any society. So focusing on the lower-status people of any place indeed turns the story on its head and makes the invisible visible."

Continued on page 6

Southold Historical Society in Newsday!! (Cont'd from page 5)

Deanna Witte-Walker, the historical society's executive director, said the exhibit is its push to include more diverse histories (of) Southold's people.

"The question of how to be more inclusive has been an important one for our museum," she said. "The exhibits committee felt that it was our duty to explore the fact that Samuel Landon was a slave-owner. Enslavement in Southold Town is not a new concept. But we had never explored it ourselves."

Credit: Newsday 2020, *Illuminating history: Students' research lifts up stories of African Americans on LI*, 14 September, 2020 <<https://www.newsday.com/long-island/illuminating-history-students-lift-up-stories-of-african-americans-on-li-1.49129184>>

Social Media Update!



Do you follow us on Social Media? If not, please give us a "like", "share" and a "follow"! We love to keep followers up to date about what is going on here at Southold Historical Society. Facebook allows us to share important, time sensitive updates, and it is a great platform for spreading the news about what makes Southold Historical Society and the history of Southold so unique. We hope to see you online!

SHS Brain Teaser!

Congratulations to Chris Wruck, our winner from the Late Summer Newsletter! Test your word search skills with words from this newsletter. Try your hand at the puzzle.....this one could earn you a \$25 Amazon Gift Card! All you have to do is complete this puzzle and send it in for a chance to win!

Name: _____
Phone: _____

SHS WORD SEARCH

Send completed word search to Southold Historical Society, PO Box 1, 11971 for your chance to win a \$25 Amazon gift card donated by our gift card sponsor Peconic Energy Corp.

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winter
raffle
artist

Prellwitz
Beckwith
diverse
history
picnic
Horton



Coming Soon & Looking Ahead...

Here is a little view of some upcoming and exciting new things happening at Southold Historical Society!

- The Pumpkin Patch will be at the Museum Complex. October 29 - 31. Everyone is invited to drop off their carved pumpkin to create a magical pumpkin patch. The complex will be glowing with creativity!
- Scavenger Hunt!! We are planning an exhilarating and engaging event with the scavenger hunt app Goose Chase! Goose Chase is an app that you can download on your smartphone. The scavenger hunt will be a twist on the classic...think riddles, puzzles, questions, creative check-ins and games. It will be an exciting way to get your friends and family outdoors and moving all while learning about the history of Southold.
- The Annual Appeal will be arriving in your mailbox shortly. Look for our newly formatted letter that will detail all of the important things the Society has been doing to fulfill our mission of promoting interest in and education about Southold. We appreciate your consideration.
- Another online Art Exhibition and Sale begins on November 15 and runs through December 15th. For a nominal fee, the buyer will be able to have the artwork gift wrapped and shipped. You won't want to miss it! All artwork will sell for \$100 with half to benefit the Society.
- The Board and committee are discussing alternate plans to replace the Annual Candlelight Tour. We will share more information as it develops.

Each fall, our volunteers at the Nautical Museum at Horton Point Lighthouse gather together to celebrate another great season. This "Chilly Chili" party has been a time of camaraderie and reflection. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the museums were closed this year. But we wanted to take the opportunity to celebrate our lighthouse volunteers who normally would have been at the Chilly Chili party. Here is a traditional chili recipe taken from the Horton Point Lighthouse Cookbook which was published in 2007 to celebrate the 150th Birthday of the Horton Point Lighthouse.



LIGHTHOUSE PARTY "CHILLY CHILI" by Gordon Wells Moore, Southold
INGREDIENTS:

- 2 T. vegetable oil
- 2lb. ground beef
- 2c. chopped onion
- 4 cloves garlic, finely chopped
- 3 1/2 c. kidney, pinto or black beans (2 - 15oz. cans), drained
- 3 1/2 c. of crushed tomatoes (29 oz. can)
- 1 3/4 c. thick & chunky salsa (16 oz. jar)
- 1/2c. dry white wine
- 1 (4oz.) can diced green chilies (1/2 c.)
- 3T. chili powder
- 1-2 T. diced jalapeños (add only if you want it hotter)
- 1 T. ground cumin
- 1 T. dried oregano, crushed
- 2tsp. salt

DIRECTIONS:

Heat vegetable oil in large saucepan over medium-high heat. Add beef, onions and garlic; cook for 4 to 5 minutes or until no longer pink; drain. Stir in beans, crushed tomatoes, salsa, wine, chilies, chili powder, jalapeños (optional), cumin, oregano and salt. Bring to a boil. Reduce heat to low, cover. Cook, stirring frequently, for 1 hour. Makes 12 servings.

Summer Socials

This summer our members and supporters had an opportunity to come together to renew friendships through summer socials, with each social limited to 12 - 15 people.

There were four socials sponsored by members and held at their homes. Mickey and Patrick St John, Marie Scalia, Jay Cardwell with Sara Evans and Joan and Steve Latham all hosted sold-out, hugely successful events. Our participants, arrived with masks on, enjoyed an evening outside, with wine, light bites, and great weather.

Since SHS had to cancel our larger in-person fundraisers this year, the summer socials were welcomed events during this unusual time. It was an opportunity to safely gather away from home and see one another again. Thank you to our hosts for this opportunity, and thank you to those who attended and supported us.

Janet Larsen, President





Southold Historical Society

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