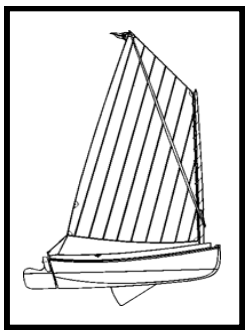

Mainsheet

The Newsletter of the Woods Hole Historical Museum
P.O. Box 185, Woods Hole, MA 02543
www.woodsholemuseum.org

Spring-Summer 2016

Director Jennifer Gaines To Retire in August

Jennifer Gaines surrounded by Woods Hole history.
Photo by Len Miele.

At the end of August, Jennifer Stone Gaines will retire as the Executive Director and Curator of the Woods Hole Historical Museum. She announced her plans to the Board of Directors in March, presenting the Board with the difficult task of finding a competent person to replace her. For 35 years Jennifer has been the guiding force of the Museum, having been hired as its archivist in 1981. She has set a high standard as the Director with her unwavering commitment and dedication to the Museum and her broad knowledge of the people and history of Woods Hole.

Jennifer Stone Gaines was born in Wakefield, Rhode Island on the same street as her grandmother, mother, and two daughters. Just recently, Jennifer's daughter Sarah and her family, after living in Paris, France for almost a decade, purchased the family home that Jennifer's parents built when she was twelve years old. To date, ten generations of her family have lived within five miles of Wakefield, Rhode Island.

In 1965, Jennifer received a scholarship to Pembroke College in Providence. During her sophomore year, she transferred to the University of Rhode Island, where her father Leslie was a physics professor, to major in English and to minor in botany. As an upperclassman and during her early twenties, she worked each summer as an instructor at the National Outdoor Leadership School in the Wind River Mountains of Wyoming. Upon her graduation from URI, Jennifer worked for the Audubon Society of Rhode Island for the next five years teaching nature education to fourth and fifth graders, after which she returned to the University of Rhode Island to earn a teaching certificate in environmental education.

Jennifer married scientist Arthur Gaines in 1975 and began a one and a half year adventure in Wales where Arthur taught chemistry and oceanography at the United World College of the Atlantic. After returning to the United States, Jennifer was a librarian at the Langworthy Public Library in Hope Valley, Rhode Island before moving to Woods Hole in 1977.

Continued on page 3….

Join us for Our Opening Party In the Courtyard!
Friday, June 17 5 – 7 p.m.

Catch up with friends.
Be among the first to visit our 2015 exhibits.
Please bring an appetizer to share!

Archivist Pens New Book

Susan Fletcher Witzell, our Museum archivist and esteemed Woods Hole historian, has just published her latest book, *The History of the Falmouth Coal Company and Dyer's Dock, Woods Hole*. This 49-page history of the coal company covers a span of almost one hundred years, chronicling the efforts of William A. Dyer to establish a successful coal and oil company along the docks in Woods Hole and throughout the Falmouth community. Although this book is about the hardworking Dyer family, it also discusses the importance of Walter O. Luscombe, the Woods Hole entrepreneur who made it possible for many businessmen to start their careers in Woods Hole and Falmouth.

From 1919-1924, William Dyer purchased four local coal companies that made up the Falmouth Coal Company. Coal was delivered by rail to Dyer's Depot Avenue coal yard and by barges to his dock in Woods Hole, which became known as Dyer's Dock. In 1930, the company expanded its operations when Dyer obtained a Gulf Oil franchise to open gas stations throughout Falmouth.

Susan Witzell has collected some wonderful photographs to highlight her narrative of the Falmouth Coal Company. Of special interest are the photos of the sorely missed public parking lots in Woods Hole, the photos of the destructive 1938 hurricane, and the photos of the vintage coal and oil trucks from the 1920s and 1930s.

The book will be available in the Museum Gift Shop when it opens for the season.

Susan Witzell with her new book *The History of the Falmouth Coal Company and Dyer's Dock Woods Hole.* Photo by Nick Witzell.

Woods Hole Historical Museum
A Division of
The Woods Hole Public Library

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Jennifer Stone Gaines

Archivist and Assistant Curator
Susan Fletcher Witzell

Archives Open
Tuesday and Thursday
10—2
And by Appointment

Exhibits Open
Mid-June—Early-October
Tuesday—Saturday
10—4

Mainsheet
Published by the
Woods Hole Historical Museum
P.O. Box 185
579 Woods Hole Road
Woods Hole, MA 02543
www.woodsholemuseum.org

Written and Edited by
Leonard Miele

Designed by Susan F. Witzell

Thank you to Tom Chilton and
Kathy Cooper

Woods Hole Historical Museum Calendar of Events—Summer 2016

June 14 **Docent Training**, 10:30 AM.

June 17 **Opening Reception for Members:** 5-7 PM.

June 18 **Exhibits open:** 10-4 PM. Tuesday-Saturday. *Free to the public.*
Gallery 1: "Science Connection: —Woods Hole and Japan"
Gallery 2: "Historic Cod Fishing"

June 28 **Talk:** "Cod and the Cape," John Cumbler. 1 PM.

July 6, 13, 20, 27 **Demonstration by Gerald Ross:** The Craft of Creating Ships in a Bottle, 11 AM-1 PM. *Free and open to the public.*

July 16 **Auction:** Viewing 9-10 AM; Bidding begins at 10 AM.

July 17 **Tag Sale:** 10 AM-2 PM

July 25-29 **3rd Annual Family Boat Building:** 8 AM-1 PM, *$1195 members, $1295 non-members.*

August 2 **Annual Meeting:** 7:30 PM. Fisher House, Church Street, Woods Hole.

August 26 **Fifth Annual Oyster Talk and Tasting:** 5-7 PM, *$30 members, $40 non-members.*

September 6-October 8 **Exhibit:** Gallery 1: "Nature Drawing" by students of Julie Child.

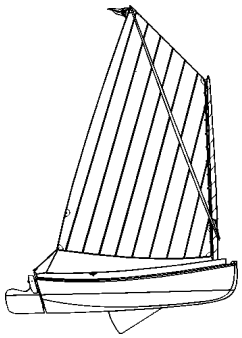
October 8 **Galleries close for the season.**

Walking Tours: History of Woods Hole, Tuesdays, July and August, 3:30-4:30 PM with Susan Pennington. *Free to members, $5 for non-members. Ticketing begins at 3 PM.*

Walking Tours: Science in Woods Hole, Tuesday-Friday, 10-11 AM, July 5-August 26. Supported by the Woods Hole Business Association. *Tickets $5 per person or FREE with dated and signed ticket from a member of the Woods Hole Business Association (go to WoodsHole.com). Ticketing begins at 9:30 AM. Tours start promptly at 10 AM. Tour is limited to first 20 guests. No advance reservations accepted.*

Thursdays: Kids' Hour: 10:30 AM. Read-aloud for young children: books about cod and other fish, fishing games and activities.

Visit woodsholemuseum.org for updates to the schedule and "Like" us on Facebook!



WOODS HOLE HISTORICAL MUSEUM

P.O. BOX 185
WOODS HOLE, MA 02543
www.woodsholemuseum.org
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Membership Renewal—The WHHM Needs You!

We're looking forward to another wonderful summer season at the WHHM. For more than 35 years we have counted on our members to provide the financial support to help keep up our charming property; offer programming, exhibits, publications; and maintain the archives - all making the WHHM a unique place in our community. Please help us continue our fine traditions by returning your membership renewal form — or joining the museum — today. Many thanks!

WOODS HOLE HISTORICAL MUSEUM
Box 185, Woods Hole, MA 02543

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