

# ***Mainsheet***

*The Newsletter of the Woods Hole Historical Museum  
P.O. Box 185, Woods Hole, MA 02543  
[www.woodsholemuseum.org](http://www.woodsholemuseum.org)*

## ***Fall-Winter 2017***

### ***Summer 2017: Highlights and Reflections***

As we close for the 2017 season, I have completed my first full year at the museum. It was busy, interesting and rewarding. A measure of the activity was that our docents worked 20 weeks – the longest time ever for our amazing volunteers! Thanks to Bill Wheeler, they were rewarded with a lovely dinner at his Treetops home in October.

With more than 3,000 visitors from June through October, our exhibits were appreciated by many. Special thanks to all, especially Tom Chilton for the shellfishing exhibit, Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution for the antique charts, and Steve Wagner, Virginia Land and Jennifer and Arthur Gaines for assistance with the navigation exhibit. We plan to keep much of the exhibit material up through the holidays, possibly longer.

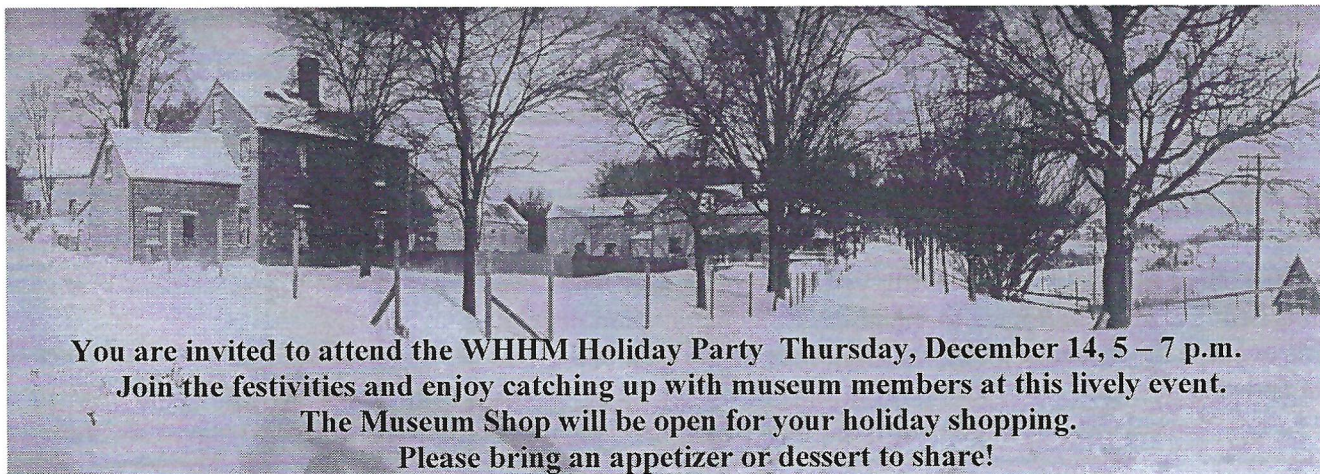
Our interns, Brendan Smith, Marcus Papandrea and Marisa Dell'Anno, were an integral part of our museum's successful season. Brendan and Marcus also led the science walking tours. Brendan is off to his freshman year at Tufts; Marisa to her first year at Northeastern, and Marcus is teaching English in Milan!

We thank Susan Pennington for again leading walking tours of historic places in the village.

The museum participated in several outreach activities this summer. We had a booth in Waterfront Park for the Woods Hole Science Stroll in August, which was well attended despite a rainy start. In September, Jennifer Gaines and I gave talks at the Woods Hole Business Association's Destination Science: Discover Woods Hole weekends. And the museum was part of a field trip to Woods Hole taken by the New England Museum Association members from their 99<sup>th</sup> annual conference held at Sea Crest in North Falmouth.

Two Museum Conversations took place during the summer. "Preserving the Historic Village Character in Woods Hole" was given by Nicole Goldman, vice-chairman, Falmouth Historical Commission, and Capt. Virginia Land, Sea Education Association, explained in more detail the "Fundamentals of Navigation." At our well-attended annual meeting in August, Tom Chilton gave a fascinating talk on his career designing exhibits, "From Pit Houses to Ice Houses: 25 years of telling stories of people, places and events with exhibits."

*continued on page 2*



**You are invited to attend the WHHM Holiday Party Thursday, December 14, 5 – 7 p.m.**  
**Join the festivities and enjoy catching up with museum members at this lively event.**  
**The Museum Shop will be open for your holiday shopping.**  
**Please bring an appetizer or dessert to share!**



*Summer 2017: Highlights and Reflections, continued from page 1:*

At our Oyster Talk and Tasting on August 25 there were 74 attendees, three oyster growers, and 600 oysters!

The boat shop crew led a family in boat-building the week of August 14. And many thanks to the folks who donated boats (and the members who encouraged their donations!) that we have been able to sell over the summer.

Some nice media coverage came when WCAI interviewed me on the Pacific Guano Company in May. Falmouth *Bulletin* and Falmouth *Enterprise* have carried stories on our exhibits and other events, Cape Cod *Times* wrote up the Conversation on the WH historic district, and Travel Channel's "Mysteries at the Museum" spent a day filming our piece of guano – and the museum! – for their show that was broadcast in October.

One of the obvious benefits of being at the Museum is the opportunity to talk to our visitors. You never know what continent they are from or what their connection to Woods Hole might be. One special encounter for me this summer was chatting with a man who had been out to sea on WHOI's ship, *Caryn*, in the 1940s. As I talked to him, he mentioned that he had also gone to sea on a Woods Hole fishing dragger, the *RW Griffin Jr.* That boat's owner and captain was my grandfather, Warren Vincent, lost at sea in 1958 when the *Griffin* was struck by a freighter in the fog off Nantucket Lightship. That conversation meant a lot to me. I look forward to more encounters like that, whether personal or more general, that help bring history to life.

*Deborah Griffin Scanlon*  
Executive Director

### ***Woods Hole Historical Museum Mission***

*The Woods Hole Historical Museum is dedicated to the collection, preservation, and celebration of the area's unique and colorful past and present, beginning with its farming and fishing roots and wending through centuries of adventurous maritime enterprise, world-renowned scientific exploration and achievement, and the parallel history of summertime recreation that has transformed Cape Cod. This history is brought to life throughout the year with a roster of exhibits, talks, multimedia presentations, special publications, archival resources, as well as with the hands-on living history of our wooden boat-building and restoration programs.*

### ***Start Planning Now for the July 2018 WHHM Summer Auction***

It's just about time to start surveying your basement, attic, shed and garage for treasures to donate to the museum's next auction in July. This event is the museum's biggest fundraiser of the year and great fun as well.

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

#### **STEERING COMMITTEE**

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Martha Speirs

#### *Executive Director and Curator*

Deborah G. Scanlon

#### *Archivist and Assistant Curator*

Susan Fletcher Witzell

#### *Archives Open*

Tuesday and Thursday

10—2

And by Appointment

#### *Exhibits Open*

Mid-June—October

Tuesday—Saturday

10—4

#### ***Mainsheet***

Published by the

Woods Hole Historical Museum

P.O. Box 185

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Woods Hole, MA 02543

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Leonard Miele

*Designed by Susan F. Witzell*

*Contributors: Arlene Lowenstein  
and Debbie Scanlon*



### *News From The Boat Restoration Shop*

Two and a half years have now passed since the Museum acquired the *Sultana* as the flagship attraction of the Boat Restoration Shop. This half-scale, 27.5-foot model of the merchant vessel *Sultana* is the major restoration project of our Saturday morning boat shop crews. Thus far, they have built a new raised transom for the *Sultana*, staying true to the original design of the boat. They have redone the decking and constructed new deck hardware, including an anchor windlass. New hatch grates and compartments for two bilge pumps have been built, and the lead ballast has been removed and is available for sale. To protect the *Sultana* from the winter weather, it has been shrink wrapped with an entryway for continued restoration during the winter months.

Another major project being prepared for a future sale in the boat shop is the construction of the Glen-L Bull's Eye sailboat donated by Ann Mulligan and her husband Greg Hirth. They began building, but never finished, this 11-foot skiff 12 years ago as students in Bob Leary's Falmouth Community School boat building class. The Glen-L is a lug or sprit rig with a stitch and glue design.



Dr. Richard McElvein, Jim Baker, Bob Leary and Paul Schenck check out the Glen-L skiff. *Photo by Len Miele.*

### *Holiday Helpers Needed at the Museum Shop and Renaissance Fair*

Get in the holiday spirit by volunteering at the Museum Shop during one (or more) of the shifts listed below.

#### **In the Museum Shop:**

- Friday, November 24: 10 am to noon, or 12:30 to 2:30 pm.
- Saturday, November 25: 10 am to noon, or 12:30 to 2:30 pm.
- Friday, December 8: 10 am to noon, or 12:30 to 2:30 pm.
- Saturday, December 9: 10 am to noon, or 12:30 to 2:30 pm.
- Saturday, December 16: 10 am to noon, or 12:30 to 2:30 pm.

#### **Renaissance Fair, Community Hall:**

- Saturday, December 2: 10 am to noon, or 12:30 to 2:30 pm.

To volunteer: please contact Kathy Cooper at [kathycooper61@comcast.net](mailto:kathycooper61@comcast.net)



### *Our Newest Steering Committee Member*



Martha Speirs. *Photo by Len Miele.*

Martha Speirs, the newest member of the Museum's steering committee, has led an adventurous, academic life as an international library consultant. Although she has traveled the world advising diverse governments on how to design, organize, and install new university libraries for the past quarter century, she has now settled in Falmouth and become a valued volunteer at the Museum. Besides serving as a docent and assisting in the archives, it is hoped that she will help develop educational programs the Museum can share with the Woods Hole/Falmouth community.

As an "army brat" born in Quincy, Massachusetts, Martha became a world traveler at a young age. She attended elementary school in Florida and Germany; middle school in England; grades 9, 10, and 11 in Great Falls, Montana; and her senior year in Paris, France at the Paris American High School. Returning to the United States, Martha attended the University of New Hampshire, earning a BA degree in Social Services, the first of four degrees she would obtain during her career. Following college, she moved to Woods Hole working at such various jobs as running the printing press at the Job Shop (located at the current WCAI building) and waiting on passengers on one of the Steamship Authority's coffee/sandwich bars, which required her to join the Merchant Marine. With marriage and the arrival of three sons, Martha became a substitute teacher in the Falmouth, Bourne, and Dennis-Yarmouth school systems teaching social studies and history and received a Masters degree in Education from the University of Massachusetts in 1979.

Martha's consulting career began with her three-year stint as the Assistant Director/Manager of African and Caribbean Import Library Services providing research universities with information about African and Caribbean primary source publications. At this time, she earned a second Masters degree in Library and Information Science from Simmons College in 1991. This position was followed by her work with the Cape Libraries Automated Materials Sharing, Inc. (CLAMS) as the Bibliographic Database Manager for five years. In 1996, her library expertise took her to Cairo, Egypt where she became the Director of Library Technology Services at the American University in Cairo Library. During her seven years there, she obtained her third Masters degree in Comparative Literature from the American University in Cairo in 2001.

As a world traveler, Martha continued her library work in the emirate of Abu Dhabi along the Persian Gulf in 2003. For two years, she had funds as the Head of Library to organize and equip the Emirates Center for Strategic Studies and Research, a state-of-the-art UAE Federation Library. In 2005, she moved to Nigeria for seven years as the guiding force behind the building of the University Library at the American University of Nigeria. She was also the co-founder of the Karatu Library Foundation, a local community library network encouraging literacy and the love of reading in Nigeria. Finally, in 2011, Martha spent four years in the former Soviet republic of Azerbaijan on the Caspian Sea where she assisted in establishing a new campus and library as the Dean of the library. With the collapse of the Azerbaijan economy, however, Martha was one of many ex-pats to leave the country in 2016.

Now that Martha lives in Falmouth and her professional travels have now come to an end, she is sharing her love of libraries and education with our Museum family. The steering committee, especially, is now the lucky beneficiary of her time and talent.



*Message from the Chair  
Fall 2017*

*Another great season at the museum has passed, and I hope that you had the opportunity to enjoy our exhibits, programs and special events. From July through October our dedicated team of docents welcomed more than 3,000 visitors from 42 states, the District of Columbia, and 16 countries. You'll see highlights of the summer throughout this newsletter.*

*And now we're turning our thoughts to 2018. Our Exhibit Committee is already planning the exhibits for next summer. Our Program Committee is sorting through a wide variety of ideas of programs that will inform, instruct and entertain. And our dedicated Boat Shop Crew is working on several projects – including the Sultana, a 27.5 foot half-scale model of a Revolutionary War-era vessel. If you're in the village on a Saturday morning, please stop by to see what the boat builders are working on... or better yet, join the teams. Recruits are always welcome!*

*The Woods Hole Historical Museum thrives because of the hard work of our dedicated staff and volunteers. I am so grateful to all of you who contribute your time and money to keep the museum a vital part of the community.*

*Elsewhere and below in this newsletter you'll see some of the positions that we need to fill within the next few months. I hope that you will review this list and consider donating some of your time to the museum.*

*Arlene Lowenstein  
Steering Committee Chair*

### VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

With just two part-time staff members, the museum relies heavily on volunteers throughout the year to serve its mission to the community. Some of the tasks are “one-time only,” others are regularly scheduled positions. These are some of our current needs....

**Docents:** greet visitors and interpret exhibits—one morning or afternoon a week from mid-June through mid-October.

**Exhibits:** curate and/or interpret permanent and new exhibits.

**Museum Shop:** assist shop manager during our busy holiday shopping season. See page 3 for specific dates and times.

**Membership:** assist with recruitment and retention, data entry and/or mailings.

**Mainsheet:** write for the Museum's newsletter.

**Spritsail:** write for the Museum's award-winning publication about all things Falmouth and Woods Hole

**Archives:** assist archivist with special projects.

**Social:** coordinate and/or assist at Museum events and programs.

**Facilities:** help maintain buildings/grounds and technology.

**Boat Shop:** lend your skills or learn the craft of wooden boat building and restoration.

If you have interest in learning more about these opportunities, please contact Executive Director Debbie Scanlon at 508 548-7270 or email [whhmdirector@gmail.com](mailto:whhmdirector@gmail.com)



## FROM THE ARCHIVES: Salted Kiss Sundaes and "A Real Bar"

By Susan F. Witzell, Archivist

The popular bar and restaurant in Woods Hole known as the Cap'n Kidd originated as an ice cream parlor and confectionary store. Around 1916 or 1917 Mrs. Ernest Rohmeling sold her store on the site to Harry Daniels. The building was built over pilings. The land was owned by Isaiah Spindel, who owned many plots around the Eel Pond Channel. Mr. Daniels had a retaining wall built and the land filled. He also put on an addition, adding a basement and a new front. The new addition was used for the sale of wine and beer. The original store sold ice cream, confectionaries and tobacco.

Mr. Daniels made his own ice cream until about 1929 or 1930. At that time he began selling lunches, soup and chowder, as well as breakfast, and began buying his ice cream. He called the restaurant The Oasis.

One of the most popular menu items, especially with MBL summer people who spent time there after evening lectures, was a Salted Kiss Sundae. It was made of vanilla ice cream smothered in hot butterscotch sauce and topped with whole salted peanuts.

When Mr. Daniels died in 1939, The Oasis was taken over by Antone Augusta and his wife Leoni. Augusta changed its name to the Cap'n Kidd.

Along the Eel Pond Channel on the north side of the Kidd is a building partly built out over the Channel's water. This small building has been both restaurant and bar. In the early 1900s it was known as The Ideal and

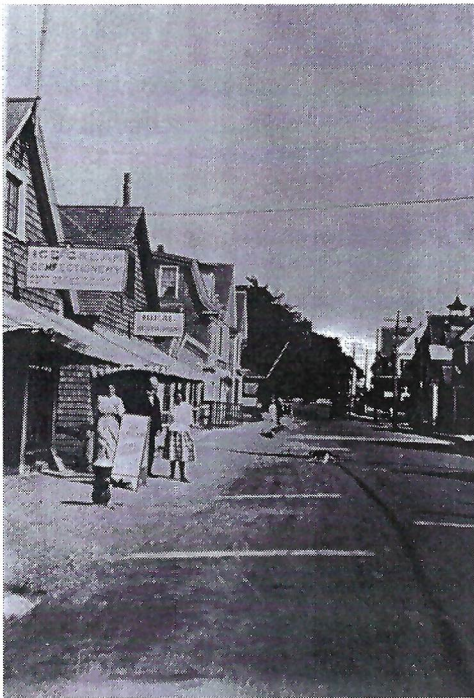


Mr. Daniels with a clerk in front of the original ice cream parlor, 1918.  
*WHHM Archives, from Elsa Keil Sichel.*

housed a restaurant and bakery. Some Portuguese immigrants of the time, boarding and working in Woods Hole with no permanent address, used it as a place to receive mail. Its owner was Anselmo Durien, originally from Puerto Rico. The building became the Rendezvous Bar sometime after 1938 when Durien left Woods Hole for Waquoit. It was always a rougher bar with sailors and fishermen as its patrons as contrasted with the Cap'n Kidd next door. Since then it has housed many restaurants.

Antone Augusta operated both the Cap'n Kidd and the Rendezvous from about 1939 to 1941 when he died. His wife, Leonie, ran both places after that. The Kidd was formally sold to the Augusta family by Harry Daniel's daughter Harriet in 1946. Leonie and her son Jack Cauley ran the Kidd. Leonie had been married to William Cauley before she married Antone Augusta (see sidebar, next page).

The Kidd was always a colorful place and little changed in its decoration for almost 70 years. Pirate murals were painted on the walls by Lloyd T. Nightingale and Joe Miron in 1946. The round tables were supported by huge barrels; nail kegs with nailed-on leather tops formed the seating as well as built-in benches along the walls. Leonie had a green parrot who whistled. She had trouble over the years keeping a year-round liquor license and there were many years when she closed for the winter and went to Florida, and sometimes on to Cuba.



Main Street Woods Hole, c. 1925, looking east with Daniels Ice Cream parlor on the left. *WHHM Archives (a copy from the MBL Archives).*

*Continued on page 7...*



## LEONIE

*Leonie M. Seymour was a native of South Berwick, Maine. In the 1920s she married William T. Cauley of South Berwick.*

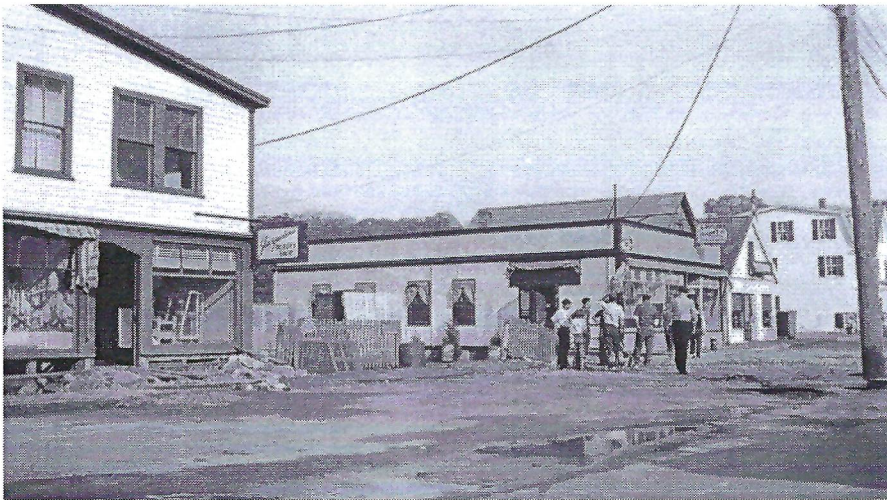
*Patrick Cauley emigrated from Ireland in 1862 at age 12. He moved to Maine in the early 1890s from New Hampshire with his wife Bridget. They had 7 children and owned a gable-end Greek Revival home on lower Main Street in South Berwick. In the 1890s the Cauleys had a confectionary store in the basement (street level) of the house, under the name Sullivan & Cauley Confectionary; the family lived upstairs. The confectionary store carried a "FIRST CLASS STOCK OF CONFECTIONARY, CIGARS, FRUIT, ICE CREAM, ETC. which we sell at the lowest prices consistent with the quality of the goods, TRY OUR HOME MADE FUDGE – Ice Cream and Pure Fruit Sodas and College Ices a specialty" (1925 South Berwick Town Report). In 1926 the store passed to the ownership of Alfred J. Seymour. It was there that Alfred's daughter Leonie met and married the youngest Cauley, William.*

*By 1939 Leonie was married to Antone R. Augusta, a Falmouth native. In 1939 he leased the former Daniels restaurant from the Daniels family and ran it as the Cap'n Kidd. He also ran the neighboring channel-side restaurant as the Rendezvous. Antone died November 14, 1941 and Leonie took over the management of both places. The Kidd was formally sold to the Augusta family (meaning Leonie) by Harry Daniels' daughter Harriet in 1946.*

*By then Leonie was married to Theodore L. Chase and newspaper articles about the Kidd refer to her as Leonie Chase. In 1950 they divorced.*

*Her fourth husband was Dr. Donald R. Charles, a cancer researcher who spent summers at the MBL. He taught at a number of universities and colleges and became head of the biology department at the University of Rochester in 1948. In 1954 he retired because of ill-health, suffering from Hodgkin's disease (as it was called then). Dr. Charles died in 1955, possibly a suicide, as reported in his obituary in the Enterprise.*

*John Edward Cauley, Leonie's son from her first marriage, became the manager of the Cap'n Kidd and worked along with his mother for many years as well as being a general contractor and house builder.*



After the 1938 Hurricane: N.E. Tsiknas Co., Inc. (later the Woods Hole Market), left, and The Oasis (right). The space between the Daniels building and the Market has gradually been filled in. *WHHM Archives.*

*From the Archives, continued from page 6.*

In 1960 Tom Vahey wrote in a "Falmouth After Dark" column in the *Enterprise*: "Speaking of atmosphere, which somebody usually is, one of the few authentic Cape Cod-type places is the Cap'n Kidd in Woods Hole. There's no chromium, formica or other stuff like that and the only thing that's wall to wall is the bare floor. The tables are rough wood and the chairs are nail kegs and the bar is mahogany; it is, as Red Wright the public information feller of the Oceanographic, says, "a real bar." Possibly the longest bar on the Cape, with a marble armrest, it was imported from the old Rockingham Hotel in Lowell, as was the back bar with its huge columns."

*continued next page...*



In a 1946 column in the *Enterprise* called “Our One Saloon Town” it was stated that “Only Mrs. Chase offers us unabashedly, the saloon.” “You find it tucked away under the shadow of an institution for oceanographic research, stone’s throw from one of the world’s greatest biological laboratories, next door to our town’s swankiest summer homes. It is Woods Hole, that village of many facets, which again testifies to its individuality by fostering Mrs. Chase’s saloon. On Woods Hole waterfront Mrs. Chase dispenses ‘topside chow’ (than which there should be none better) from her ‘mess deck’ and ‘toddy’ from her saloon.”

Leonie’s 4<sup>th</sup> husband, Dr. Donald Charles, died in 1955. Leonie continued on as the proprietor of the Kidd with her son Jack as manager until it was sold in the late 1960s to several teachers who ran it summers only. By then the back deck had been enclosed with glass as it is today and the pier out back was extended. The parking lot between the Kidd and the market was partly used for another addition.

Sometime in the 1970s the Kidd was bought by the Crowley family. The wing between the bar and the market was made into a two-story building with a restaurant serving fine food on the first floor. The bar continued as it had since the 1940s with marble bar, nail keg seating around circular table tops supported by barrels and pirate murals until about three years ago. At that point, the old tables and nail kegs disappeared (except on the glassed-in back porch) and were replaced with high round wooden tables, sleek sage green leather banquettes and high chairs (both with nail-head trim – perhaps a nod to the old nail-keg seats). The walls were cleaned and lightened (except for the murals). This modern style has taken away from the gritty authentic atmosphere that made the Kidd so well-loved. It is no longer a saloon, a dive or even “a real bar.”

*Sources: Letter from Harriet Daniels Ferrari to Elsa Sichel, June 4, 1981; “Daniels’ Ice Cream Parlor” by Elsa Keil Sichel (typed manuscript); Falmouth Enterprise; interview with Jack Landers Cauley and the recollections of many locals.*

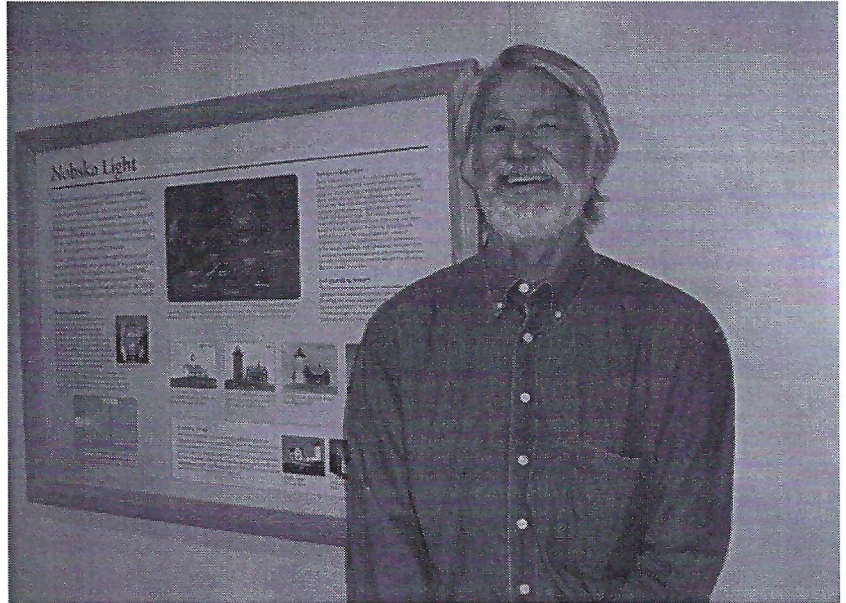


A big snow storm, late 1940s. The Woods Hole Home Bakery, right, (Sullivan’s or Sullie’s) is on the site of the Rendezvous by the Channel. Beyond that is the Kidd (called Capt. Kidd) with its Ballantine Ale & Beer sign and N.E. Tsiknas store. It looks like an artist visited the snowy window of the bakery! *WHHM Archives.*



Tom Chilton, the keynote speaker at the Museum's annual meeting in August, delighted museum members with anecdotes about his career designing interpretive exhibits for visitor centers at city, state, and national parks and forests throughout the United States. With his wife Christie, a talented interpretive planner, they started their company Discovery Exhibits in 1996 while living in Santa Fe, New Mexico. Together, they created and installed interpretive panels, dioramas, and educational/cultural exhibits in over twenty-six states and the Philippines. Tom believes that "storytelling is part of our human nature" and when he and Christie create an exhibit they are "Storytellers who have a great deal of freedom that other storytellers do not have." They are able to incorporate music in an exhibit and utilize instructive visuals such as photos, art, and relevant objects so that visitors can interact with the exhibit experientially.

As the chair and driving force of the Museum's Exhibits Committee, Tom has created and installed three outstanding exhibits for the Museum during the past three years. The first was Historic Ice Harvesting in 2015 when he first became a member of the Museum's steering committee. It is interesting to note that Tom and Christie live next to Ice House Pond in Sippewissett. His second exhibit was Historic Cod Fishing in 2016, and Shell Fishing on Cape Cod was installed this year. Although Tom's expertise is vital to the success of our Museum, he believes it is important for him to volunteer his time and contribute to the Woods Hole community. As he says, "I am like a service dog. If I don't have a job I will chew the furniture. That being the case, as long as I can keep creating exhibits for the museum, the sofa is safe."



Tom Chilton. Photo by Len Miele.

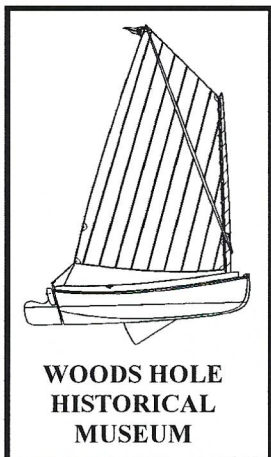
Tom was born in Houston, Texas, attended the first eight years of school in Tulsa, Oklahoma, and graduated from high school in Chicago, Illinois where his father was president of Amoco Pipeline. After graduating from Purdue University with a BA degree in Industrial Design, Tom returned to Tulsa, Oklahoma where he freelanced as a graphic designer for 22 years. As Tom says, the "job got mechanical." He moved to Santa Fe in 1994 where he met Christie and began their creative life together. As one might expect of Tom's cowboy spirit, he was also the fire chief of Santa Fe County's Hondo fire district for five years before moving

### *Docent Thank-You Party, October 19, at Treetops*



Retiring docent coordinator Bob Werner with wife Marilyn (left) and Olive Beverly. Photos Courtesy of Arlene Lowenstein.





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### Woods Hole Historical Museum Annual Appeal

As we approach the giving season the Woods Hole Historical Museum once again asks for your generosity in supporting our Annual Appeal. Since membership dues account for less than 40% of our revenue, we depend on gifts and grants to maintain the high levels of programming, publications, archival and facilities management, and staffing. Your contributions to last year's Annual Appeal raised more than \$10,000. We used these contributions to build our summer intern fund and support other needed expenditures. Please help us continue our important work in the community by including the museum in your year-end giving. Thank you for your generous support.

#### WOODS HOLE HISTORICAL MUSEUM ANNUAL APPEAL December 2017 Count me in!

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ \$50  
\_\_\_\_\_ \$100  
\_\_\_\_\_ \$250  
\_\_\_\_\_ \$500  
\_\_\_\_\_ \$1,000  
\_\_\_\_\_ other \_\_\_\_\_

*Please make checks out to WOODS HOLE HISTORICAL MUSEUM and mail to  
Woods Hole Historical Museum, P.O. Box 185, Woods Hole, MA 02543*