

Event Calendar

SEPTEMBER

- **Civil War Encampment:** Sat., Sept. 12
Featuring Civil War re-enactors in authentic uniforms, weaponry and camp equipment, portraying and exploring the daily life of Civil War soldiers.
- **Let's Make History! Bicycle Ride:** Sun., Sept. 20, 8:30 am-2:30 pm

OCTOBER

- **Tea & Talk with guest speaker Elizabeth Kahn Kaplan:** Thurs., Oct. 8, 1pm
"Political Puns & Social Satire in the Paintings of William Sidney Mount."
Made possible through the support of the New York Council for the Humanities' *Speakers in the Humanities* program.
- **Civil War Symposium:** Sat., Oct. 17
A one-day presentation focusing on Long Island's participation and experience in the Civil War. *Further details TBA.*
- **Lecture with the LI Paranormal Society:** Thurs., Oct. 22, 6:30 pm
"Long Island's Ghosts of the Civil War"

NOVEMBER

- **Photo Exhibit & Contest:** Opening Reception Fri., Nov. 13, 6pm
- **Veteran's Day Breakfast:** Wed., Nov. 11
Veterans are invited to a special ceremony on the SCHS lawn, followed by bagels and coffee.



The activities and publications of the Suffolk County Historical Society are made possible with public funds from the New York State Council on the Arts, a State Agency.

SUFFOLK COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Wallace W. Broege, *Director*

300 West Main Street
Riverhead, NY 11901
631.727.2881

schsociety@optonline.net
www.suffolkcountyhistoricalsociety.org

Hours:

Museum: Tues. through Sat., 12:30 pm – 4:30 pm
Library: Wed., through Sat., 12:30 pm – 4:30 pm

Membership is open to everyone.
Individual yearly dues are \$30
and family dues are \$35.

The Suffolk County Historical Society is a private, non-profit organization, and an Authorized Agency of Suffolk County, that receives partial funding from Suffolk County, Steve Levy, County Executive.



Suffolk
County
Historical
Society

NEWSLETTER of the SUFFOLK COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY



300 WEST MAIN STREET • RIVERHEAD, NEW YORK 11901 • 631.727.2881

SUMMER 2009

FROM OUR DIRECTOR

If you haven't had the opportunity to visit the museum to see "Patriots Come Forward: Suffolk County's Role in the Civil War", our new temporary exhibit, I hope you will be able to come in before the end of November. The exhibit culminates over a year of work by Kathryn Curran, our Public Programs and Exhibition Development Coordinator, and Dr. Richard F. Welch, the Guest Curator for this project. They have done a wonderful job. The exhibit is beautiful and informative. We are indebted to the many individuals and institutions who were generous in sharing their collections and stories, and to the other staff members and volunteers who worked tirelessly with Kathy and Richard to bring the exhibit to fruition. I also want to thank Ms. Georgette Case, a SCHS volunteer and the Riverhead Town Historian, for being with us in costume at the opening on July 10th. What a treat!

There are so many wonderful artifacts, documents and photographs in the exhibit it is really hard to know where to begin writing about it. I might as well brag a little bit about things that belong to the Suffolk County Historical Society. Two of the most interesting artifacts in the collection have been included in the exhibit, the Zouave uniform worn by Benjamin Tyler Davis and the tent owned by Henry Prince. Both are unusual if not rare. The uniform is striking, with its bright colors and unique design. The tent is superb, in almost new condition. Civil War soldiers were each issued half a tent, with the expectation that two soldiers would assemble a tent and share it. The two pieces were buttoned together at the joint. When Henry Prince ended his military service he left with two halves, and therefore we have been able to display a whole tent. We are indebted to Mrs. Natalie (Hill) Rundquist and Mrs. Helen Prince for donating these important artifacts to the society.

Please watch future issues of the newsletter for information about our Civil War Symposium and the encampment planned for this fall.

– Wallace W. Broege, SCHS Director

NEW EXHIBITION, SYMPOSIUM AND ENCAMPMENT

PATRIOTS COME FORWARD: SUFFOLK COUNTY'S ROLE IN THE CIVIL WAR

The SCHS is pleased to announce a new exhibit, "Patriots Come Forward: Suffolk County's Role in the Civil War." This exciting new exhibit will be on display at the Society through November 14th.

Curated by Dr. Richard F. Welch, this exhibition explores the experiences of Long Islanders during the Civil War. Civil War artifacts from the Suffolk County Historical Society collections are featured, as well as objects rarely seen from both public and private collections.

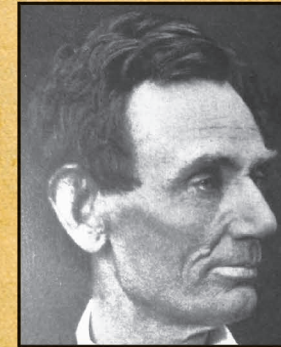


The high rate of literacy of Americans at the time of the Civil War offers a microscopic view of daily life in the 1860's. The Suffolk County Historical Society has in its archives the Prince Collection and Moore Collection, each holding written records and accounts that are included in the exhibit in the form of diaries and letters reflecting the personal experiences of soldiers. The exhibition also features two rare objects from the Society's collection: a colorful uniform worn by Benjamin Tyler Davis, a member of the renowned fighting regiment Duryee's Zouaves (the 5th New York Volunteer Infantry) and a two-man tent from the Prince Collection.

Read more about this exciting new exhibit on Page 3!

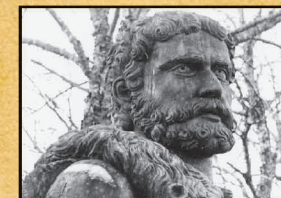
In This Issue

• New Civil War Exhibit



• Past Event Highlights

• Photo Contest & Exhibit: "Suffolk County Landmarks and Icons"



• New Gift Shop Books

• Let's Make History! SCHS Fundraising Bicycle Ride - Sept. 20



• Upcoming Events

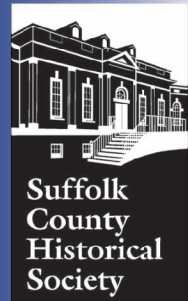
• *Civil War Exhibit News Inside!*
Join us for the 2nd Annual Let's Make History! SCHS Fundraising Bicycle Ride - Sept. 20, 2009

Past, Present, and Future, We Make Them
300 West Main Street
Riverhead, NY 11901

SUFFOLK COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

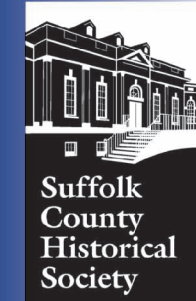


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ABOUT THE SUFFOLK COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

The Suffolk County Historical Society was founded in 1886 by a group of forward-looking county residents. Since its founding, the purpose of the Suffolk County Historical Society has remained essentially the same: to collect, preserve and interpret the ongoing history of Suffolk County and its people. To fulfill these purposes the Society operates a history museum, a library and archives, and offers educational programs and events for our students and residents. The Society houses a unique, ever-growing collection of artifacts, reflecting more than three centuries of history.



• SUFFOLK COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY EVENT HIGHLIGHTS •



On May 19th, Dr. Harriet Davis-Kram, a Professor of American History at Queens College, was our featured "Tea & Talk" speaker. Her informative presentation, "Dying for Beauty: American Women's Quest for Acceptance," was well attended and enjoyed by all. Make sure to visit the SCHS site at: www.suffolkcountyhistoricalsociety.org or join our mailing list to receive special announcements on all SCHS events and happenings!



During Contact Week, which coincided with the February vacation for local schools, cultural institutions in Riverhead offered special programs for children. For the entire week Mudge read books with children and went on treasure hunts with them throughout the museum. Here Mudge enjoys a book with two young visitors, Bobby and Tommy McBrien. Mudge, whose real name is Gussie, is a Certified Therapy Dog, with Therapy Dog International.



Ms. Georgette Case, SCHS volunteer and Riverhead Town Historian, in costume with young people at the Civil War exhibit opening, July 10th.

"SUFFOLK COUNTY LANDMARKS & ICONS" EXHIBIT & PHOTOGRAPHY COMPETITION



Images: Glacial Boulder and Barn, Rocky Point, 1905; Montauk Point, showing Lighthouse and Wireless Station in Winter, c. 1900; Shinnecock Links Lady Golfers, with Stanford White clubhouse, 1901. Image on newsletter cover: Canoe Place-Figurehead of Hercules from the Battleship Ohio, 1900. All images from the Suffolk County Historical Society's Fullerton Collection.

The SCHS is pleased to announce a call for entries for a juried photography competition that will take place in connection with a new photography exhibition. The juried photography exhibition, entitled "Suffolk County's Landmarks & Icons," will be on display at the SCHS from November 13 through the end of the year.

Suffolk County abounds with enduring sights and symbols that evoke individual responses and reflections. Whether famous and recognizable or humble and personal, Suffolk County's special places can be transformed by events and memories. The Suffolk County Historical Society invites amateur and professional photographers to participate in this exhibit and competition by sharing their favorite images.

The exhibition will consist of current photographic work, by contemporary photographers, that depicts Suffolk County's landmarks and icons – both natural and man made – juxtaposed with a sampling of historical photographs from the Society's collection.

The competition is open to all artists. All work must be framed, wired and ready to hang. Framed photos not to exceed 16" x 24". Entries without wire will not be accepted. Limit three works per artist; \$5 non-refundable fee for each work submitted. All work must be received at the SCHS Nov. 3 - 6; 12:30 - 4:30 pm (labeled with artist name, address, phone, and title). For additional information, please contact the SCHS at 631-727-2881 or e-mail curranschs@optonline.net.

CIVIL WAR EXHIBIT HIGHLIGHTS & INFORMATION



On display through Nov. 14, 2009, this exciting exhibit features period artifacts, photographs, diaries, and archival material from both public and private collections.

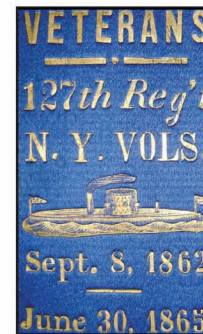
When the call to war came, Long Islanders heeded the distant alarm. Hundreds of Long Islanders enlisted in dozens of companies that were attached to regiments and militia units. This is the story of local soldiers and communities swept up in war based on human rights and the powers of the Federal Government that engulfed the entire nation.

Special events will accompany this exhibition, including:

September 2009: Civil War Encampment. Civil War re-enactors in authentic uniforms, weaponry and camp equipment, portraying and exploring the daily life of Civil War soldiers.

October 2009: Civil War Symposium. A one-day presentation focusing on Long Island's participation and experience in the Civil War. Subjects will range from the battlefields to the home front.

Full event details to be announced. Visit the SCHS website and look for special event mailings.



Left to Right, from Top: Photograph of Civil War Soldier; period desk; "On the Home Front" display; detail of Civil War service ribbon; detail of Honorable Discharge document; Civil War weaponry.

NEW BOOKS AT THE GIFT SHOP

The Weathervane Gift Shop is pleased to offer the newest book by member Willis H. White entitled "The Tillotson Family, Long Island Cordwood, and the Decline of East Coast Sail." This book is actually three books in one. It opens with an enjoyable narrative of four generations of Tillotson mariners who participated in the coastal trade vital to Long Island's economy. Then there follows a four-generation genealogical study of the family. Finally, Mr. White presents a transcription of Daniel S. Davis's compilation of the 19th century coastal vessels, their captains, and their disposition.

In addition to the extensive research and the meticulous documentation exhibited in his books, Will White also provides the reader with primary material of value to social historians and genealogists alike. A study of the cordwood industry as documented in Richard Tillotson's account books and a collection of related photographs accompany the aforementioned listing of boats.

His prior book "The Ancestry of Alila May Miller (1881-1960) of Miller Place, Long Island, New York" was not only a narrative and genealogical study of the related Miller family. It also presented vital genealogical data from many diaries (Miller, Norton, Tuthill), the 1857 Parish Census (Mt. Sinai, Miller Place, Rocky Point), and the Rev. Aaron Snow's record of deaths in that parish.

Each book is over 240 pages, indexed, and sells for \$25. Contact the shop for P&H and sales tax.

LET'S MAKE HISTORY! BICYCLE RIDE

Once again this year, the SCHS will sponsor a 50-mile, scenic "LET'S MAKE HISTORY! BICYCLE RIDE" from Riverhead through Southold, on Sunday, September 20, from 8:30 am – 2:30 pm.

Proceeds from the ride will benefit the SCHS. Registration is \$25 per person in advance and \$30 the day of the event.

We need you to help make this event a success! Please consider volunteering your time the day of the event, becoming a sponsor or getting on your bicycle and taking part!

For ride details, sponsorship opportunities, and to volunteer, please contact Kathryn Curran at 631-727 2881, or at curranschs@optonline.net

For a link to register, visit the SCHS web site: www.suffolkcountyhistoricalsociety.org or go directly to: www.active.com and type "Let's Make History Bicycle Ride" in the search bar.

