

River & Sound

Old Lyme Historical Society
"The history of Old Lyme – the people of Old Lyme"

Issue 17 🍀 December 2014

2015 Now & Then Calendar Launch



Photos: James Meehan

On Friday, November 14th, the Old Lyme Historical Society celebrated the launch of the 2015 "Now & Then" historical calendar with a reception at the Lyme Art Association.

The atmosphere was most convivial—wine was poured, canapés nibbled, publications perused and purchased by the nearly 80 members and guests in attendance.

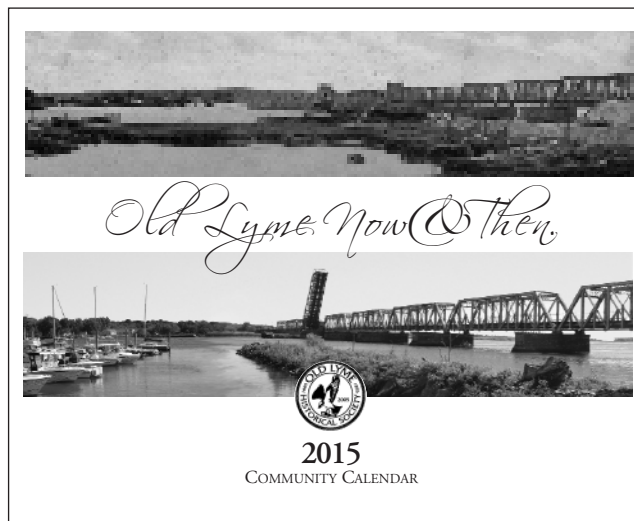
Timothy Griswold and Mark Lander, co-chairs of the Society, made brief speeches thanking the LAA for hosting the launch event; Alison Mitchell, Michaelle Pearson and James Meehan for producing the calendar again this year; and the sponsors for their support.

The 2015 calendar is the third successive edition produced by the Society. This year's sponsors include the Town of Old Lyme, The Phoebe Griffin Noyes Library, Speirs Plumbing, Lyme Art Association, The Carousel Shop, The First Congregational

Church of Old Lyme, The Black Hall Grille, The Florence Griswold Museum, The Lyme Academy College of Fine Arts, The Bee & Thistle Inn, and The Cooley Gallery. The month of December was reserved for the Old Lyme Historical Society in honor of our Tenth Anniversary.

Calendars may be purchased at the Library, in the Genealogy Room during office hours, The Florence Griswold Museum, The Bowerbird, and also at the Society's headquarters at 55 Lyme Street on Saturdays in December, or whenever you see the flags flying outside the building to indicate that someone is "at home" to greet visitors.

The Now & Then calendars make lovely holiday gifts for colleagues, teachers, relatives and friends who are interested in Old Lyme history or would like to keep track of events around town. The calendar sells out quickly. Be sure to obtain yours soon!



Old Lyme Historical Society, Inc.

55 Lyme Street, Old Lyme, Connecticut
Mailing Address: P. O. Box 352, Old Lyme, CT 06371

oldlymehistoricalsociety.org



*The mission of the
Old Lyme Historical Society, Inc.,
is to collect, preserve, and interpret
the rich history
of Old Lyme and its environs
for the benefit of its residents and visitors.*

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NEWSLETTER

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Photo: James Meehan

OLHSI 2014 BOARD OF TRUSTEES

First row left to right: Janet Littlefield, Dick Miller, Bob DiNapoli, Karen Winters, Susan Morrison, Leslie Markowicz, Mark Lander, Carol Winters, Ellis Jewett, Michaelle Pearson, Arthur Beebe, Kevin Cole, Roger Breunig, Kristin Magnussen. Second row left to right: Dyanne Rafal, Tim Griswold, Alison Mitchell, Ned Farman. Back row left to right: Dolores Green, Martha Hansen, Jane Cable, Jennifer Hillhouse, James Noyes. Not shown are Julia Griswold and Adela Wilmerding.

From the Co-chairs

The past two months have been very exciting for the Society. We held an open house at 55 Lyme Street, and a plant sale in October which raised over \$1,000 for the capital campaign. Many thanks to Judge's Farm for generously donating the plants.

In November we celebrated the launch of our third "Then & Now" Community Calendar, produced by Alison Mitchell, Michaelle Pearson and James Meehan, with a reception at the Lyme Art Association.

The Facilities Committee is busy converting the entry foyer into office space. The ceiling has been insulated and electrical work begun. Thanks to Ellis Jewett, Arthur "Skip" Beebe, Kevin Cole and Ted Freeman.

Sincere thanks must also go to Norman Stitham, former building steward of the Grange, who reglazed the windows and continues to provide innumerable services in and around the building.

Please continue checking our newsletter, our website and our Facebook page for the latest news of your Historical Society.

Timothy Griswold & Mark Lander
Chairs, Board of Trustees
Old Lyme Historical Society, Inc.

Mark Your Calendar!

Old Lyme Historical Society *Vintage* Appraisal Event

Old Lyme Memorial Town Hall • Sunday, March 8, 2015 • 1-4 p.m.

The Loving Parting

February 13, 1665

The Old Lyme Historical Society, in cooperation with its sister organizations from Old Saybrook, Lyme, East Lyme and Salem has begun planning a commemoration of The Loving Parting, which took place on February 13, 1665. A variety of activities will include participation by local schools and town officials, among others.

In 1631, Robert Rich, the Earl of Warwick, gave to several friends a deed, or patent, granting them lands at the mouth of the Connecticut River. These included Viscount Saye and Sele, Lord Brooke and Colonel George Fenwick. These worthies chose John Winthrop the Younger as governor of the territory and hired Lion Gardiner to build a fort and lay out a town, which he did in 1635. When Governor Winthrop arrived, he named the town Saybrook, in honor of Viscount SAYe and Sele and Lord BROOKE. In 1637, George Fenwick, the only patentee to come to the colony, became Governor.

In 1648 outlying areas were divided into quarters to be granted to prospective settlers. The third quarter, on the east side of the river, included today's Old Lyme, Lyme, East Lyme and part of Salem. When the settlers on the east side of the river had reached "a competency of land to entertain thurty families" they petitioned the Connecticut General Court for permission to call their own minister and to establish their own town. A minister, a young man named Moses Noyes, was located in Massachusetts and permission was granted to establish a new town covering the area described above. To complete the process, an agreement was

signed by representatives from both sides of the river on February 13, 1665 in an event known as "The Loving Parting" due to the amicable nature of the affair. The name Lyme was attached to this new town in 1667, coming from the community of Lyme Regis in England, a town to which some of the settlers had ties.

Signers for the east side were: Matthew Griswold, William Waller, Reynold Marvin, John Lay Sr., Richard Smith and John Comstock. For the west side, signers were: John Westall, William Pratt, Robert Lay, William Parker and Zackariah Sanford. The 17th century town of Lyme eventually further divided, becoming today's towns of East Lyme (around 1720), part of Salem (around 1820) and Old Lyme (mid 1850s). Oddly, when today's Lyme and Old Lyme separated, the folks in the northern part of town were allowed to keep the name Lyme while those in the southern part, where the area was originally settled, chose to be called South Lyme. However, feeling that this name did not do justice to the original settlement, they quickly requested a name change to OLD Lyme.

Join OLHSI in bringing Old Lyme's past to the present!

Benefits of OLHSI membership

- A subscription to the *River & Sound* newsletter
- Your own copy of Lyme Street walking tour
- Advance notice of and discounted rates for selected events
- A 10% discount on our books, and the opportunity to buy them in advance
- Priority status to obtain genealogical research material at the PGN Library
- Training in historical research techniques, and opportunities to be involved with our oral history project
- The realization that your tax deductible contribution is supporting a vital cultural resource

2015 Membership

Become an OLHSI member or renew your membership today.

Dues are fully tax-deductible.

New member Renewing member

Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____ Email _____

Student \$10 Individual \$20 Family \$35

Patron \$100 Business/Corporate \$100

Benefactor \$250 Lifetime \$500 Additional donation

Please make your check payable to the Old Lyme Historical Society, Inc.

You may also use PayPal, on our website. *Thanks for your generosity!*

My check for \$ _____ is enclosed.

Are you interested in volunteering with the OLHSI? If so, what areas are of interest to you?

The OLHSI is a non-profit corporation incorporated in the State of Connecticut. It is a registered charity with the state Department of Consumer Protection and is recognized by the IRS for 501(c)3 status.

Join or renew your membership online at oldlymehistoricalsociety.org

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