



Past Times

Published by The Little Compton Historical Society ~ Summer 2017

Little Compton's 20th-Century Artists

A Community-Curated Exhibition

July - October 2017

Celebrating Artists & Their Work

Our 2017 Special Exhibition celebrates thirty-five local artists whose lives and artwork span the twentieth century. From Jennie Furbish's early-century botanical watercolors to the late-century photographs of Nunnie Byers, the exhibit will include an array of work from artists who differed in many ways, but who each drew inspiration from the people and places of Little Compton.

Planning

For the last ten months the eleven members of the Exhibit Committee have been working with over fifty community members to identify local artists and learn more about their lives and artwork. Each artist in the exhibition had a strong connection to Little Compton, created a large body of work in the twentieth century, and is now deceased. We have been gathering images of their artwork along with biographical information (supplied in many cases by family members) and are creating a permanent

archive of their work. Several new works of art have been donated to the Historical Society as a result of this process.



*Painting by Audrey Buller,
Courtesy of Phil and Lee Havens*

The Exhibition

From July 1 to October 9 we will host a special exhibition featuring works by each artist. Beginning Sunday, July 2, the exhibit will be open to the public from 1 to 5 PM each Thursday through Sunday until Labor Day and on Saturday and Sunday through October 9. Admission is free to members of the Little Compton Historical Society and \$5 for non-members. Non-members may also include a tour of the Wilbor House Museum for an additional \$2.50. Whenever possible our staff will accommodate requests to open the exhibition at other times.

Exhibit Preview Party & Family Day

We invite you to attend our Exhibit Preview Party on Friday, June 30 and Family Day on Saturday, July 1. Please see pages 5 & 6 for details.

Save The Dates

Exhibit Preview Party	June 30	Antiques Festival and Classic Car Show	August 5
Family Day	July 1	Annual Meeting	August 9
Genes and Genealogy Lecture	July 10	Wilbor House Museum Turns 60!	August 26
Spite Tower Social	July 27	Cocktails at Brownell Farm	September 23
Antiques Festival Preview Party	August 4	Cider Social	October 9

President

Dora Millikin

Secretary

Jane Lorch

Vice-President/ Treasurer

Bart Brownell

Directors

Claudia Cooley Bell

Shelley Bowen

Fred Bridge

Randy Byers

George Kilborn

Richard W. Lisle

Diane MacGregor

Richard Menoche

J. William Middendorf, II

Carolyn J. Montgomery

Christopher Rawson

Maureen Rego

Mike Steers

Paul Suttell

Caroline Wilkie Wordell

Managing Director

Marjory O'Toole

Administrator

Nancy Carignan

Carol Scanlon

Newsletter Designer

Shelley Bowen

Little Compton

Historical Society

PO Box 577

Little Compton, RI 02837

(401) 635-4035

lchistory@littlecompton.org

www.littlecompton.org

Wilbur House Museum

548 West Main Road

Little Compton, RI 02837

(401) 635-4035

WANTED AS GIFTS OR LOANS!

Antique or Vintage Items

To be sold in our Antique Sale to benefit the Historical Society.

Antique Items with Little Compton Histories

For possible inclusion in our permanent collection. The Collections Committee will review each item.

Digital Images of Family Photographs

Your clearly labeled photographs may help us identify the hundreds of unidentified photos in our collection.

Digital Images of Early Documents

Scans or photographs of original deeds, wills, inventories, bonds, contracts, indentures, manumissions etc.

Obituaries, Funeral and Memorial Service Programs, Copies of Eulogies

Help us document the lives of our residents by sharing information about your loved ones with us.

Written Histories

Record your Little Compton memories and we will archive them.

VOLUNTEERS

Family Day—July 1

Antiques Festival—August 4-5

Docents

Receptionists

Wilbur House Tour

Focus Group Participants

Corporate Members

Local businesses play an important role in the preservation and presentation of Little Compton's history. Additional Corporate Members are always welcome. Please call 635-4035 or complete the membership form on page 10.

SEASON SPONSORS

Briggs Beach, Inc.

Compton Catering & Clambakes

EVENT SPONSORS

Art Care

Jane Moffett, MD

Lees Supermarket

Newport Lamp & Shade Company

Partners Village Store

Sakonnet Point Club

SCHOOL PROGRAM SPONSORS

Amesbury Mowing, Inc.

Madden Electric Company

CORPORATE MEMBERS

Able Engineering, Inc.

Arkins Construction, Inc.

Cantin Photography

Carolyn's Sakonnet Vineyards

John M. Cotta, CPA

Country & Coastal Properties

Dr. Donald J. Dufour, DDS

Fern Acres Funeral Home

Franlart Nurseries, Inc.

Gray's Daily Grind

Gray's Grist Mill

Hearthstone Home Inspections

Homestead Construction

Interstate Insurance & Finance

Roger King Fine Arts

L.C. Creative, Inc.

Lamplighter, Inc.

Lapointe Insurance Services, Inc.

Katharine H. Leary, CPA

Little Compton Real Estate

Mataronas Lobster Co., Inc.

Phil's Propane

Sakonnet Events/Wilhelmina's Catering

Sakonnet Lobster Co.

Serena's Studio

Richard Sisson, Jr. Lawn & Garden

Sparks Company, Inc.

Walker's Roadside Stand

Wilbur's General Store, Inc.

Windy Hill Nurseries, Inc.

Wishing Stone Farm

Young Family Farm

Summer Hours

Wilbur House Tours

July ~ Labor Day

Thursday ~ Sunday

1 PM ~ 5 PM

Labor Day ~

Columbus Day

Saturday & Sunday

1 PM ~ 5 PM

Research

Educational Programs

by appointment

Office & Shop Hours

Tuesday ~ Friday

9 AM ~ 3 PM

Genes and Genealogy: DNA Testing as a Way to Extend your Family History

Monday, July 10

7 PM

United Congregational Church—The Commons

Suggested Donation at the Door

\$10 LCHS Members

\$15 Non-Members



Professional Genealogist, Marian Pierre-Louis will share the latest information on personal DNA testing as a tool for exploring your genealogy as well as provide insights into the ways in which DNA testing is currently transforming the field. Marian will discuss the various tests now being offered, help you determine which test might be right for you, and outline the best ways to get the most out of the tests you've already taken, and the ones you may take in the future.

Little Compton Historical Society ANNUAL MEETING

Wednesday, August 9

United Congregational Church

I Knew the Artist

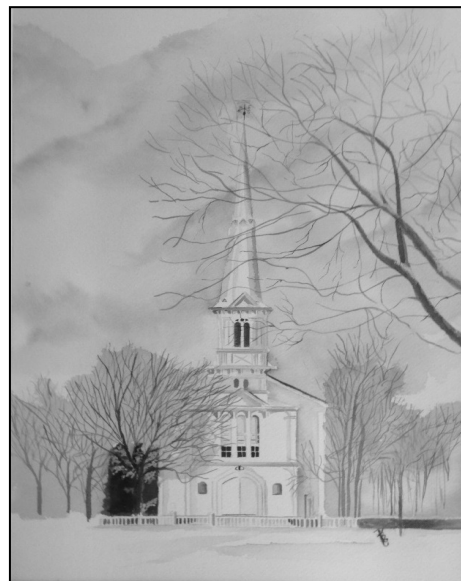
Family & Friends Share Their Memories
of Little Compton's Artists

A panel of invited guests will speak followed by an opportunity for audience members to share their stories. The event will be recorded and archived.

7:00 Business Meeting—Church Sanctuary

7:15 Speakers & Audience Participation

8:00 Reception— Church Vestry



By Deborah Bodington

Free & Open to the Public

Spite Tower Social

The Samuel Church Estate Adamsville

Thursday, July 27
6:30-8:30 p.m.

Gather with friends old and new to tour the Samuel Church mansion and explore Adamsville's famous Spite Tower. Our hosts Kristin and Adam Silveira have been working for months to renovate and restore these important historic buildings in preparation for a new chapter in their history as vacation rental properties. All proceeds from this community event benefit the Little Compton Historical Society.

\$30 per person — Enjoy two complimentary drinks and a picnic supper on the lawn.

**Call 401-635-4035 for tickets or visit littlecompton.org.
Reservations required by July 25.**



An Evening at Brownell Farm

To Celebrate the Members of the Historical Society's New 1937 Legacy Circle



**Saturday, September 23
6-8 p.m.**

Join our hosts Fred and Helen Bridge to tour their historic Sylvester Brownell House and to celebrate the establishment of the Historical Society's 1937 Legacy Circle. Sylvester & Mercy (Church) Brownell built the farmhouse c. 1810, and Fred is the sixth generation of Brownell descendants to own and improve the property. Members of the 1937 Legacy Circle have each remembered the Little Compton Historical Society in their estate plans. Their generosity will help ensure the Society's ability to preserve and share our local history for generations to come.

\$100 per person — Cocktails and Hors d'oeuvres

**Call 401-635-4035 for tickets or
visit littlecompton.org.**

Reservations required by September 20.

Exhibit Preview Party

Celebrating the opening of

Little Compton's 20th Century Artists

A Community-Curated Exhibition

Friday, June 30, 2017

6-8 PM

The Wilbor House Museum

Tickets on sale now

Catering by Compton Catering & Clambakes

Open Bar: Wine, Beer & Soft Drinks

Silent Auction of Works by 21st-Century Artists

Exhibit Preview Party

Reservations Required by June 27



____ I (We) plan to attend

Number Attending ____

- | | |
|-------------------------------------|------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Guests | \$35 per person |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Supporters | \$50 per person |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Sponsors | \$100 per person |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Patrons | \$250 per person |

Name(s) _____

Amount Enclosed \$_____. The amount of your gift over \$30 per person is tax deductible.

____ I am unable to attend but would like to make the following tax deductible donation:

\$ _____

Proceeds benefit the Little Compton Historical Society
Please make checks payable to LCHS. Tickets will be held at the door.
Little Compton Historical Society (401)635-4035

FAMILY DAY

Saturday, July 1
1 – 5 p.m.

Free and Open to the Public

Celebrating the opening of

Little Compton's 20th Century Artists

A Community-Curated Exhibition

Free –

Admission
Special Exhibition
Wilbor House Tours
Refreshments
Children's Activities
Cake Walk



Free Contests –

Trophies for the Best:
Skillet Throw
Seed Spitting
Pie Eating

Little Compton Antiques Festival & Classic Car Show

The Little Compton Historical Society is proud to partner with Preserve Rhode Island and Ferguson & D'Arruda Antiques to present the Little Compton Antiques Festival on the grounds of the Wilbor House Museum and to host, for the first time, a Classic Car Show featuring approximately 30 vehicles.

Proceeds from the festival will benefit both the Little Compton Historical Society and Preserve Rhode Island.

Antique or vintage donations for the sale are welcome anytime before the event.



Antiques Festival Preview Party
Friday, August 4 6 – 8 PM
Tickets \$50 (includes admission on the 5th)
preserveri.org/little-compton-antiques-festival

Antique Festival
Saturday, August 5 10 AM – 5 PM
Tickets \$10 (includes car show & art exhibit)

Classic Car Show
Saturday, August 5 10 AM – 3 PM
Tickets included in admission



LITTLE COMPTON
HISTORICAL SOCIETY



\$2 Off Admission with this page



1st Annual Little Compton Classic Car Show

Sat. Aug 5 11-3 PM

Admission \$10
includes Antiques Festival & Art Exhibit

Car Registration: Forms available at www.preserveri.org/carshow Registration is free for all classic autos on display. Advance registration is encouraged and includes: participation ribbon, discounted lunch tickets, bottled water, and free admission to the Little Compton Antiques Festival for 2 adults.

Day of Event: Cars begin arriving at 10 a.m. All cars in place by 11 a.m. Awards at 3 p.m.

Awards: People's Choice auto judging. Winners in 5 categories!

Questions? Call the Little Compton Historical Society at (401) 635-4035

If Jane Should Want to Be Sold Travels to Providence

Our 2016 Special Exhibition featuring the stories of Little Compton's enslaved, indentured and free people of color is now a traveling panel exhibition at the John Nicholas Brown Center for Public Humanities and Cultural Heritage. The exhibition is free and open to the public Monday—Friday from 9 AM to 4 PM. Because the Center does host special events that may temporarily close the exhibit, we recommend calling 401-863-1177 before you visit.



*Lucy Collins,
Little Compton Farm Owner*



Our Theme for 2018 is Little Compton's Cemeteries

Volunteers Welcome 401-635-4035

Exhibit Planning - Research - Graveyard
Cleaning - Digital Mapping



Wilbor House Museum Turns 60!

Free Admission and Cupcakes

**Saturday, August 26
1 ~ 5 p.m.**

Private Tours & School Programs

Private tours and age-appropriate school programs are available upon request.

Wilbor House Tour

Cemetery Tour

Quaker Meeting House Tour

17th-Century Little Compton Tour

Slavery & Freedom Tour

PLUS

Venue Rentals

Our lawn, our special exhibition gallery, and our Quaker Meeting House are available for rental.

Call Managing Director Marjory O'Toole
401-418-4327 for more information.

Re~Thinking the Wilbor House Tour

This summer the Historical Society staff and volunteers will be re-evaluating and reworking the public tour of the Wilbor House Museum to ensure that it incorporates years of new research and meets the needs of today's visitors. The goal is to produce an engaging tour (or tours) that tell an authentic and inclusive history of Little Compton. The project has been generously funded with a \$10,000 grant from the Rhode Island Council for the Humanities. The tour will evolve throughout the season and the finished product will be offered during our Cider Social on October 9.



Focus Group Participants Needed

Volunteers will be taking part in special evaluation tours scheduled all throughout the summer. If you are willing to volunteer an hour and a half of your time to take and evaluate a Wilbor House Tour please call 401-635-4035 to sign up for a Focus Group Tour. There is no cost to participate. Light refreshments will be served.



RHODE ISLAND
COUNCIL FOR THE HUMANITIES



Jane by Dora Atwater Millikin, 2016

LCHS Wins RI Council for Humanities 2017 Innovation Award

We are honored to announce that the Rhode Island Council for the Humanities has named the Little Compton Historical Society the winner of its 2017 Innovation in the Humanities Award. The award results from the Society's year-long effort to restore the stories of forgotten people of color to our local history with our special exhibition entitled "If Jane Should Want to Be Sold: Stories of Enslavement, Indenture and Freedom in Little Compton, Rhode Island, and to help the community make connections between the legacy of slavery and today's issues of racism and human trafficking through a series of public programs. The Council will present the award to the Historical Society at its annual Celebration of the Humanities on October 5. Tom Roberts, Len Cabral and Valerie Tutson will also receive awards that evening for their outstanding work in the humanities.



RHODE ISLAND
COUNCIL FOR THE HUMANITIES

LCHS Membership

- Event Sponsor \$250 & up
- Program Sponsor \$150
- Supporting \$100
- Corporate \$75
- Contributing \$50
- Family \$30
- Individual \$20
- My Company will match my membership or gift. Completed matching form enclosed.

Please make checks payable to:

Little Compton Historical Society
PO Box 577, Little Compton, RI 02837

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____

State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

Membership

With Benefits from Coast to Coast



Join or Renew Today!
LCHS participates in the

Time Travelers

reciprocal membership program.

Your Historical Society membership card provides you with **FREE**
or Discounted Admission to 250 historic sites
all across the country!

For a complete list of participating sites log onto
www.mohistory.org/content/membershipservices/timetravelers.aspx
or call LCCHS at 635-4035.

As always you'll enjoy local membership benefits including free admission to the Wilbor House and our special exhibitions, invitations to special events and advance registration for our most popular programs. Most importantly, your membership gift helps preserve Little Compton's rich history for generations.

Members receive \$5 off every copy of
If Jane Should Want to Be Sold, Stories of Enslavement, Indenture and Freedom in Little Compton, Rhode Island.

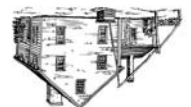
Postal Customer



Exhibit Preview Party June 30
Family Day July 1

Return Service Requested

The Little Compton Historical Society
PO Box 577
Little Compton, RI 02837-0577



Non-Profit
U.S. Postage
PAID
Little Compton RI
Permit No. 30