



MILL NEWS & NOTES

FROM THE

Water Mill Museum

41 Old Mill Road, Water Mill, NY 11976

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Ice Boating in Water Mill

Ice boating is a Water Mill tradition that originated in Holland in the early 1600s as a practical means to transport goods during the winter months when the water was frozen solid. Brought to America by the Dutch settlers, these original ice boats were rudimentary in design; basically ice skates attached to the bottom of a wet-water boat. While the first boats were used for transportation and trade, over time ice boating evolved into a recreational activity. In his January 1837 diary entry Daniel Hildreth III noted that he and Charles Howell sailed across the frozen Hayground Bay in an ice boat they built themselves, the first ever constructed in Southampton. By the turn of the century, more local residents took up ice boating and in 1927, the Mecox Bay Ice Yacht Club was formed with five boats. A recreational activity soon turned into a highly competitive sport and over the years the design of the boats evolved and new enthusiasts became involved. What has never changed is the love of the sport, the long-standing traditions and the camaraderie between families and friends.

This season the Water Mill Museum will be exhibiting photographs from the private collections of local families along with memories highlighting the history of ice boating in Water Mill.



From left to right: Evelyn Halsey, Duane Arnister, Bud Topping, John Eckert, Jack Eckert, Dave Brown (not pictured), Ed "Rock" Hildreth, Tom Halsey

2022 DUES ARE DUE!

Please use the enclosed envelope to pay your Water Mill Museum dues for the 2022 season. For just \$25.00 for an individual and \$35.00 for the family, you can help keep the Mill grinding, participate in the Members' Art Show, and enjoy a 10% discount at our Gift Shop!

NEW MUSEUM HOURS

May 26th – October 9th, 2022

Open: Thursday – Saturday,
11 am – 4 pm
Sunday, 1 – 4 pm

Closed: Monday – Wednesday,
July 4th, Labor Day,
and Columbus Day

Extended Hours for Quilt Show
DONATIONS ARE ALWAYS WELCOME.

All scheduled art shows and events for the 2022 season at Water Mill Museum are subject to change due to current concerns with COVID-19. Our main focus is to keep everyone safe and healthy during this time. Please check our website for updates.

36th Annual Quilt Show & Sale August 18 – Sept. 4

Our 36th annual Quilt show will feature quilts of all sizes, patterns and colors. Come and enjoy the colorful displays when you visit our museum between August 18th and September 4th. We've extended our hours: Daily 11 am–4 pm (Closed Wednesdays), Sunday open 1 pm–4 pm. The admission donation is \$5.00 in support of the museum, and receive a chance for the raffle quilt or \$5.00 off a book.



"Cleopatra's Puzzle" is the title of this year's raffle quilt that will be displayed in the museum all season. It is a generous queen-sized quilt hand-made and hand-quilted by Anne O'Neill in 2009. Raffle tickets are enclosed so please return your tickets to take a chance to win this beautiful quilt. The drawing will be held at our *Bowls of Plenty* benefit in October.

We are looking for collectors or quilters who would be interested in selling or entering pieces in our show. For more information, call Peggy Helstowski at 631-725-1896, Eileen Noonan at 631-726-4899, or the Mill manager, Rachel Verno, at the museum 631-726-4625.



Ann Lombardo - Solo Art Show

"Off the Wall"

Thursday, June 16 – Sunday, July 3

Reception: Saturday, June 25, 4 to 6 pm

Local and long-time artist Ann Lombardo presents her still-life and landscape paintings. From oversized country-themed subjects to smaller set-up gems, indoors and out. Find the art on our gallery walls that speaks to you and take it home.



Good Ground Artists

"Good Ground Happy at the Water Mill"

Thursday, July 7 – Sunday, July 24

Reception: Saturday, July 9, 4 to 6 pm

Good Ground Artists is based in Hampton Bays but reaches artists as far west as Hauppauge and on both the North and South Forks. Lauded for the caliber of works presented, it is also appreciated for the eclectic selection of artwork—from traditional to avant-garde to surreal.



East End Photographers Group

"New Visions"

Thursday, July 28 – Sunday, August 14

Reception: Saturday, July 30, 4 to 6 pm

The East End Photographers Group will present an exhibit of diverse photographic imagery, featuring traditional, digital and alternative photographic processes—carrying out its mission to promote photography and the visual arts in a community setting. The EEPG encourages photographic artists to exhibit new work at each show and provides support and a forum for new artists who are just beginning to exhibit their work and realize their personal vision.



Thirty Squared

"Summer Finale 2022"

Thursday, September 8 – Sunday, September 18

Reception: Saturday, September 10, 4 to 7 pm

The Thirty Squared painting group was formed in January of 2015 when artist Aubrey Grainger challenged her Facebook friends to paint 30 paintings in 30 days. The result was an exhibit featuring the fun, lively and free-spirited work of 18 artists. This year participating artists were asked to paint every day for 30 days, either doing a painting a day or working longer on more developed pieces. Along the way they encouraged one another with praise and constructive criticism. Come to this fabulous show and see what they achieved!

Museum Calendar of Events 2022

Water Mill Museum's

30th Annual Members' Art Show

Thursday, May 26 – Sunday, June 12

Reception: Saturday, June 4, 4 to 7 pm

This year's exhibit, featuring the work of more than 100 Museum members, may include oil, acrylic and watercolor paintings, pastels, photography, mixed media and sculpture. The majority of the work will be for sale. The artist member in charge of this year's show is Kathy Odell-Hamilton.

Any artist members interested in participating should contact Kathy at kaoh@optonline.net or go to the museum website, www.watermillmuseum.org for more information.



Art Muller skate sailing on Mill Pond with his sons circa 1959. Ricky is riding on his foot and Mosey is being pulled along by the hand. Art made the sail out of light weight canvas and added a plastic window for better visibility. Can any of our readers tell us if the building in the far background might be the old Western Union on Water Mill Towd Road?



"I recall meeting Bud (Topping) at Mecox on Flying Point and seeing the ice was not sailable he thought Kellis Pond was a possibility. There I watched Bud walk out with no fear to cut a hole with his hatchet, then with a nod we were off to load the boats." (As told by Bob Liehr)

Find us on [Facebook](#) or at the watermillmuseum.org

SKATE SAILING

Skate Sailing, not to be confused with Ice Boating, was introduced to North America by the early 1900s and the Skate Sailing Association of America was organized in 1922. According to the Encyclopedia Britannica, "Skate Sailing is the sport of moving over ice on skates by carrying a small sail for propulsion by the wind." The sport probably originated in Scandinavia. A skate sail is generally rectangular or triangular and about 50-60 square feet of sheeting, unbleached muslin, lightweight sailcloth, balloon silk, or nylon stretched tightly on spars and rigging and carried on the sailor's windward shoulder (between the sailor and the wind).

Smooth, strong, snow-free ice creates the best conditions. There have been claims of speeds up to 55 miles per hour, but watch out; it can be really hard to slow down.

According to Caperton Tissot, "Although it is rarely practiced today, Skate Sailing was quite popular through the 1940s."

Thanks a Million

Thank you for your generous response to our Annual Fall Appeal. Your support will help us to continue offering programs and keep our Mill grinding.



Got Gifts? This Summer, shop locally and buy specially designed and crafted items by our own Water Mill artisans.

For sale this season: Spoon Jars! Mug, Cup and Spoon Rest! Available only in The Water Mill Museum Gift Shoppe.

**ICE CREAM SOCIAL
at the
WATER MILL MUSEUM
JULY 21, 2022 at 7 PM**

If you are between the ages of 3 months to 93 years, you are invited to join your friends, neighbors and of course, your grandchildren, for an old-fashioned ICE CREAM SOCIAL. Please bring your muscles and help to churn an old-fashioned, wooden ice cream maker to make the best ice cream you have ever tasted.

And why are we offering ice cream in a water mill, you ask? By the early 1900s, all milling stopped at our mill, and the Benedict family used the building to store ice that they harvested from the Mill Pond. They adapted the mill gears to manufacture ice cream in the basement from the abundance of cream from local dairies. You can also explore our Ice Harvesting exhibit on the second floor of our Mill.

Please call to reserve your spot by calling the Museum at 631-726-4625.



BEEES IN THE COLONIES

Stay tuned. Join us for an evening discussion about the busy bees and their life story, focusing on the early 1600s up until today. Many facts and stories will astound and entertain you. Quotes from local beekeepers, farmers and exterminators will enrich your experience.

Refreshments: Mead, (rumored to be a favorite beverage of Queen Elizabeth I) and a cool refreshing Citrus Honey Lime Mint Mocktail, along with small bites featuring honey, will be served.

Date and time will be available soon on our website and Facebook page.

IN MEMORIAM

Honorary Life Member Marilyn Corwith passed away in Greenport this winter. On the Museum board for many years, she served as secretary, worked on raffle quilts and was on numerous committees. Marilyn was very helpful in the tedious job of getting oral history tapes transcribed and given to each Water Mill resident who made a recording. She was a strong, dedicated, and dependable member and was greatly missed when she moved from Water Mill to Peconic Landing.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

The annual meeting of the Board of Directors of the Water Mill Museum and the election of Board Members for 2023 will be held on Tuesday, October 11th, at 4 pm at the museum. This meeting is open to the public.

Honorary Life Members

Marlene Haresign

Arthur Muller

Janet Lavinio

Lucille Berrill Paulsen

Mary Maran

Muriel & Bill Petty

R. Timothy Maran

**We are online at
www.watermillmuseum.org
or find us on [Facebook](#)**

To write us: Water Mill Museum
PO Box 63
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