



# MILL NEWS & NOTES

FROM THE

Water Mill Museum

41 Old Mill Road, Water Mill, NY 11976

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## A Message From Our President

The Water Mill Museum is kicking off the 2025 season on May 23rd with our 33rd Annual Members' Art Show. On June 11th from 4-6 pm our Museum Board will be holding a reception to celebrate all of our talented members whose generous support helps keep the mill running. The museum is also hosting a number of art shows in our gallery throughout the summer and fall. The complete schedule can be found on our website.

An ongoing mission of the museum is to provide educational programs geared for all ages, and we are excited to be collaborating with Stacy Meyers, the Director of Education at the East Hampton Historical Society, on a number of projects that will be held at the mill. We will also be continuing our children's milling program with dates in July and August as well as a quilting event during our 38th annual quilt show and sale.

This year was finally cold enough for some iceboating on Mill Pond and on Mecox, so be sure to come visit our iceboating exhibit which will be updated with new photographs from this winter. If you time your visit right, you might even catch one of our veteran iceboaters giving a firsthand account.

Thanks in part to a grant from the Town of Southampton, we are installing a new exhibit this year with photographs and a model of the original tub wheel that is still housed in the lower level of

the museum. We will also be reaching out to the community for historical photographs and documents to add to our war memorial exhibit in preparation for the America 250 initiative. Archivist

Wendy Ambrozewicz has also been busy working throughout the year adding to our digital collection, which can be viewed at: [www.nyheritage.org](http://www.nyheritage.org).

We have a lot planned for the upcoming season, and I hope all of you will be able to visit, bring your friends and family, and enjoy everything the museum has to offer.

Rachel Verno  
Director



## 2025 Membership Dues

We depend on your dues and donations to keep the stones grinding and to help us share the rich history of our hamlet. Please use the enclosed envelope to rejoin or become a member for the first time. \$25 for individuals or \$30 for the family gets you a 10% discount in the gift shop and free participation in the Members' Art Show — as well as the good feeling of helping to sponsor programs and exhibits benefitting the whole community.

## 2025 Season at the Water Mill Museum May 22 – October 12, 2025

Open Thursday-Saturday 11:00 am – 4:00 pm

Sunday 1:00 pm – 4:00 pm

Closed Monday-Wednesday and July 4th  
Water Mill Museum

41 Old Mill Rd., Water Mill, NY 11976



## 39th Annual Quilt Show & Sale August 14th – August 31st

Please join us in enjoying our 39th Annual Quilt Show this summer. The museum will host the show from August 14th to August 31st.

This year's Quilt Show and sale will feature quilts and fabric works of art of all sizes, patterns and colors. We've extended our hours during the show: Daily 11AM – 4PM (Closed Wednesdays), Sunday open 1-4. The admission donation is \$5 in support of the museum, and you will receive a chance for the raffle quilt or \$5 off a book of raffle tickets.

"1800's Antique Red Stars" is the title of this year's raffle quilt, which will be displayed in the museum all season. It is an expertly hand-pieced and hand-quilted antique in beautiful condition. These types of quilts are very hard to find. We are excited to offer this as our raffle quilt!

Please return the enclosed tickets to get a chance to win this beautiful quilt. For only \$20 a book you get 6 chances to win this beautiful piece of American history. The drawing will be held at our board meeting in October.

If anyone would be interested in selling or entering pieces in our show, please contact us. For more information, call Peggy Helstowski at 516-443-6692, Eileen Noonan at 516-848-7500, or the mill manager, Rachel Verno, at the museum: 631-726-4625.



## Museum Calendar of Events 2025

### Water Mill Museum's 33rd Annual Members' Art Show Thursday, May 22 – Sunday, June 8, 2025 Reception: Saturday, May 31, 4 to 6pm

This year's exhibit, featuring the work of more than 50 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.

### Good Ground Artists "Good Ground Joy in June at the Water Mill" Thursday, June 12 – Sunday, June 29, 2025 Reception: Saturday, June 14, 4 to 6pm

Good Ground Artists is based in Hampton Bays but reaches artists throughout Suffolk County, especially 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.

### Adam Bundy, Mary Godfrey, Dean McNamara & Jason Poremba "Group Show" Thursday, July 3 – Sunday, July 20, 2025 Reception: Friday, July 11, 4 to 7pm

Four local artists—Adam Bundy, Mary Godfrey, Dean McNamara and Jason Poremba—present their unique perspectives through photography and painting. Their work explores themes of resilience, growth and community, drawing from personal experiences. This exhibition highlights both their diverse stories and shared themes of strength and connection, inviting viewers to engage with art's power to unite and inspire.

### East End Photographers Group "Chasing the Light" Thursday, July 24 – Sunday, August 10, 2025 Reception: Saturday, July 26, 4 to 6pm

The East End Photographers Group will present "Chasing the Light," 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 2025" Thursday, September 4 – Sunday, September 14, 2025 Reception: Saturday, September 6, 4 to 7pm

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!

### Marilyn Stevenson "Explorations" Thursday, September 18 – Sunday, October 5, 2025 Reception: Saturday, September 20, 4 to 6pm

The exploration of unpredictability best describes my continuing study of photographic light drawings and monotype prints. Both artistic approaches create compositions which project a sense of light, energy and movement forming patterns that invite subjective interpretations. The intentional camera movements and creating the monotype plates both lead to unpredictability of abstract form, color, movement and spatial relationships.



**Wendy Ambrozewicz has been organizing the Water Mill Community Club's and Museum's archives for nearly two years and has now completed this important project. Here is Wendy's description of her work:**

As I approach the end of the Water Mill archives project, I feel a bit of melancholy. This has been an incredible experience both professionally and personally, and I am excited to see how the Museum and other local organizations utilize the work I've done, but I am also sad to no longer be immersed in such unique, fun, challenging work.

My family is from New York, but I grew up in northeastern Maryland. After moving to NY for college and library school, I became interested in the history of Long Island and sought opportunities to use my skills, such as this project. I would like to thank everyone I met through the project, and especially everyone who helped.



Over the last nearly two years, I went through closets, cabinets, dozens of boxes, and hundreds of folders. I designated a primary 'subject' for each document or item, and arranged like items in new, archival folders and boxes. I cataloged each item in a spreadsheet according to date, number of pages, title/description, and often additional notes. I scanned each item (minus a few large items), and uploaded TIF, JPG, and often PDF formats to a secure cloud

platform. The only items discarded were exact copies on regular paper. I removed metal fasteners, rubber bands, and Post-Its, and put highly acidic materials (such as newspaper clippings) into their own folder inserts within larger folders. I repaired and stabilized items when necessary, including archival boxes and special ties to secure rare books. I overhauled the Museum's video player hardware, and oversaw brand-new videos and the conversion of 60 oral history tapes to digital.

As for volume, the Museum and the Community House each hold over 10,000 documents, photos, ephemeral objects (i.e. ads and news publications), and more.

How can you view and enjoy these items? New York Heritage! NYH is a collaboration between the Empire State Library network and over 430 libraries, museums, and cultural institutions, including the Water Mill Museum. There are currently 4 collections up on the Water Mill Museum NYHeritage websites, profile, and several more are to come. Items not suitable for NYHeritage may be available digitally for research use; in-person use depends on organizational policies.

Some of my favorite parts of the collections:

- *Papers of Gideon Halsey, coroner, 1801-1806*
- *Water Mill School District Trustee Minutes, 1833-1857*
- *Coins from 1854, found underneath the Corwith Windmill in the late 1980s*
- *The Old Water Mill guest book, 1936-1947 (already on NYHeritage!)*
- *Friends of Lake Nowedonah newsletters, 1990-1993*
- *Suffolk County Air Raid Signals poster, undated (WWII)*



Wendy Ambrozewicz, *archivist*  
archives@watermillmuseum.org

Water Mill Museum | New York Heritage  
nyheritage.org

## East Hampton Students To Study The Mill

Stacy Meyers, director of education at the East Hampton Historical Society, will be bringing a group of grade-school students to study the water mill this May. This exciting initiative will launch the Museum's mission of partnering with the Historical Society and other fellow organizations. Stacy Meyers and Sandy Raynor agree that our museum is a good fit for collaboration with the Historical Society. Discussions are underway for developing future programs.



In March, Stacy Meyers spoke with Rachel Verno, our museum director and manager, about her plans for the May study tour. Here are highlights from their conversation:

**Rachel Verno:** You'll be bringing your students to the museum to study the water mill and also the windmill. Would you tell us about the program you have planned?

**Stacy Meyers:** We are so excited to teach science and engineering with your team in May. I have taught many classes in the Gardiner Windmill and the Pantigo Mill in East Hampton over the years. When I learned the Corwith Mill was being restored, I thought how cool it would be for our students to tour a windmill and a water mill in one day.

The students will explore topics similar to but not limited to:

**Throughout human history, waterwheels and windmills performed many types of mechanical work: saw timber, drive pumps, run farm equipment, trip hammers, grind grains into flour, make iron products, and power textile mills.**

Humans have been harnessing renewable energy for thousands of years, and maybe this type of progressive place-based education will encourage our next environmental engineer or architect. The windmill is an incredible machine, and to stand inside the mill with the gears and levers surrounding you is a stunning example of our architecture and engineering.

(continued on back page)

## Mini Quilting Project



If you like our Quilt Show, you will love this magical experience!

The Water Mill Museum is offering a unique "Mini Quilting Project" in our 1644 Water Mill, where you will be surrounded by hundreds of quilts at our Annual Quilt Show. Come join us on August 21st from 3-5pm.

A placemat has been assembled and is waiting for you to learn the technique of quilting. The placemat features a checkerboard and is surrounded by small pen and ink drawings of our 1644 Water Mill along with small replicas of typical grinding stones. To complete the project, a set of wood checkers are included in a small linen bag.

*Experienced quilters will be on hand to guide you along the way.*

*Registration is required. For more information, check our website or call the Museum.*



**A very special thank you**  
to all those who generously donated to our  
Fall appeal. Your support will help us to  
continue offering programs and  
to keep our Mill grinding.

### ANNUAL MEETING

The annual meeting of the Board of Directors of the Water Mill Museum, the Quilt Raffle Drawing and the election of Board Members for 2026 will be held on Tuesday, October 14th at 4PM at the museum. This meeting is open to the public.

#### Members of Water Mill Museum

If you are interested in serving on the board of Water Mill Museum, please notify the board of directors by email through [director@watermillmuseum.org](mailto:director@watermillmuseum.org)

#### Honorary Life Members

Marlene Haresign	Lucille Berrill Paulsen
Mary Maran	Muriel Petty
R. Timothy Maran	Gay Colina

Online at [www.watermillmuseum.org](http://www.watermillmuseum.org)  
or find us on Facebook  
and on Instagram

## Recycling Shingles Into Artwork

Louis Puglisi, a good friend of the Museum, often contributes handmade items for sale in the gift shop. This year, Louis has found a unique source of raw material for his artwork: recycled shingles from the Corwith windmill.

This winter, as the restoration of the windmill got underway, Louis noticed the workmen throwing discarded wood shingles into a dumpster. He felt sad that these historic shingles were being unceremoniously tossed away. Then he thought, "Why not repurpose these wood slats into paintings? I could take the shingles from the dumpster and paint a picture on them. That way, the shingles could once again be useful." He quickly set about transforming the wood shingles with colorful artwork. His painted wood shingles will be on display and for sale at the Museum gift shop this spring.



### EH Students Study The Mill (continued from page 3)

**Rachel Verno:** Do you change your curriculum each year, and how do you decide what programs work best for your students?

**Stacy Meyers:** Yes, my curriculum and assessments are always evolving and changing to meet the needs of the students. I work directly with school and college administration and the superintendents' offices, teachers, and deans for program development with an interdisciplinary and place-based learning approach.

All of the curriculum and programs I implement follow New York State Standards and, when applicable, National Science standards. Sometimes the community or the needs of the environment helps to direct the program development.

**Rachel Verno:** Could you tell us a little about your role as the director of education for the East Hampton Historical Society?

**Stacy Meyers:** I have been collaborating with the East Hampton Historical Society and the East Hampton Town Marine museum since 2005. When I decided to work full time for the Historical Society in 2018, teaching about architecture, art, and preservation spiraled into my life at a rate I never predicted.

**Rachel Verno:** Thank you so much for speaking with me. We look forward to your visit and hopefully, many future programs!

Please scan and sign up  
to receive emails about  
our news and events.

We appreciate your support!  
Thank you



To write us: Water Mill Museum  
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