



REHOBOTH ANTIQUARIAN SOCIETY SUMMER 2024 NEWSLETTER

SPOTLIGHT ON THE RAS BOARD: CONNIE WENZEL- JORDAN



The Rehoboth Antiquarian Society Board of Directors can seem like a mysterious bunch. So our members can get to know our volunteer Board and how they got involved with our three organizations this newsletter series highlights a member each edition. We continue the series with Connie Wenzel-Jordan!

A native of South Dakota who grew up in Las Vegas, Connie was drawn to Massachusetts through family genealogy, specifically Wood and Lawrence ancestors from the Littleton area. "When I arrived at UMASS in Amherst, I planned for a single school year and ending up staying forever," she shared.

Connie and her husband John, a native of Raynham, moved to Rehoboth forty years ago and raised two daughters in a house that was built in 1970. "I always imagine the builders working on the roof listening to a transistor radio playing "Crystal Blue Persuasion" and "Ride Captain Ride," she described. "I definitely know they were drinking Dawson beer up there," she added, "because we found the bottles lodged in the soffits!"

A communications professional, she has worked for health care organizations, non-profits and small business in both MA and RI. Connie became involved in the local community as a feature story writer for the Rehoboth Reporter, something she did for seventeen years. She volunteered for both the Rehoboth 350th and 375th anniversaries. For almost ten years she published an online daily newspaper RehobothNow.

UPCOMING CARPENTER MUSEUM EVENTS

Healing and Native Herbs with Kristine Sky Wind Thomas-Jones
Thursday July 25th 6:30PM
Join Kristine, a member of the Pokanoket and Seaconke Wampanoag Tribe, as she shares here knowledge of herbs and their uses.
Free for RAS members / \$10 for non-members
Eventbright or call to register

First Saturday of the Month
Carpenter Museum and Dyer Research Center
Open 1-4PM
August 3rd
September 7th
October 5th

Passport to History Program
Now - September 1st
Pick up your passport for free entry into participating museums across the Old Plymouth Colony all summer long!
In partnership with the Old Colony History Museum and 14 other area museums. Program ends Sept. 1st.

Genealogy Group Meetings
3rd Wednesdays of the Month 7PM
Tilton Room (LL of the Carpenter Museum, enter at back door)
All are welcome to attend! Beginners and expert genealogists alike. Meetings often have guest speakers.



rehobothantiquarian.org/carpenter-museum

UPCOMING BLANDING PUBLIC

LIBRARY EVENTS

Read. Renew. Repeat. Summer Reading 2024!

Now - August 29th

Readers of all ages may pick up reading logs, a brag tag necklace, bookmarks & take part in our Read & Bead program.

Ocean Creature Scavenger Hunt

Now - August 31st

Try to find all twenty-one pictures of ocean creatures hidden around the library!

Each creature gives you a letter to help decipher a special message. Complete the hunt and choose your prize!

An Octopus Story Walk

Now - August 31st

Come walk and read page-by-page around the library's front garden. Enjoy *Inky the Octopus*, a story of one brave octopus' daring escape from his aquarium to the open sea - based on a real adventure.

Story and Craft Time

Thursday, July 18 10:30AM

Join us for a story or two! Guest author Carla Marrero reads her purr-fectly wonderful cat stories. A simple craft will be available to make or take home. Geared for ages 3+ (siblings welcome)
Registration Required

I Can Do Ballet

Friday July 19th, 1PM

Beginner ballet class for ages 6-8. Pirouette! Learn the elements of ballet while having fun. Led by instructor and professional ballet dancer, Miss Joy Lima.
Registration Required

Sailors Valentine: Ocean Craft Night

Wednesday July 17, 2024

Sailor's Valentines were popular gifts of shellcraft brought home by sailors in the 1800s. Join us and create your own decorative framed version of a vintage sailor's valentine. Ages 15+
Registration Required
(508) 252-4236

In 2014 Connie was approached to produce the monthly RAS newsletter. She then volunteered to develop the fundraising campaign for the new addition at the Blanding Library, and work on the Celebrate Art, Rehoboth! exhibit sponsored by the Rehoboth Cultural Council. Two years later, she was asked to join the RAS board.

"I have been captivated by history, genealogy, museums and libraries since childhood," she noted, "so I am delighted to serve as a trustee. "It's rare for a small non-profit like RAS to own and operate both a public library and museum."

Connie is also a long-time member of the Rehoboth Cemetery Commission. "I grew up in the funeral business and being called cemetery girl," she explained, "so old friends are never surprised to learn I still ramble about graveyards."

When asked about the future, she noted the RAS is vital to the cultural identity of the town. "The RAS has served the community for generations and we continue to be responsive, grow and evolve," she said. "You don't need to be from an old Rehoboth family, or live in a 200-year-old house to be a member," she said. "No matter where you are from, or what your age, if you live in Rehoboth, you play an indelible part in our collective history."



Join the Carpenter Museum
for the second in our 2024
Summer Workshop Series!

Healing Herbs with

**KRISTINE SKY WIND
THOMAS-JONES**

Pokanoket and Seaconke Wampanoag



**Thursday
25 JULY 2024
6:30PM**



JULY AND AUGUST AT THE BLANDING PUBLIC LIBRARY



Our summer program Read, Renew, Repeat! is underway now that school is out. Featuring the idea of conservation, and incorporating a nautical theme, the library has transformed into an ocean of fun activities, such as, an ocean scavenger hunt, selfies by our "sea wall", and even a visit with Fiona the 55 ft. finback whale!

After kicking-off our summer with indoor Mini-Golf, followed by Miss Frizzle (yes, think Magic School Bus), we are looking forward to more programs thanks to our Friends of the Blanding Library, Oakhill Engineering LLC, and to the Rehoboth Cultural Council for their support.

July brings Dr. Rosie Helps the Animals, author Carla Marrero with Magical Cat stories, Science Heroes' Adventure of the Lost Treasure, and a Japanese Folktale & Origami program (RCC supported) -- family fun for all levels.

In August teen volunteers from Rehoboth Land Trust will lead Thursday morning Story & Craft hours, introducing stories of night animals, whales, and more,



along with a related craft. Additional events include PopUp Art - create a "Felted Otter", and Joe's Crazy Critters with reptiles and amphibians.

Thar She Blows! Fiona the whale will visit Goff Hall for three days. Visitors are invited to walk inside the belly of a whale. Craftivities will be offered.

The Blanding staff is prepared, ready and waiting to help all of our summertime visitors. All program dates will be posted on our library website's Programs and Event Calendar.

OCEANS OF ART

We are hosting an Ocean of Art exhibition and would love your participation!

The submission deadline is **August 22**, and the works of art will be on display from **August 26 to August 31**. There will be an Exhibit Reception Tuesday, **August 27** at 6:30 p.m.

Entry Rules

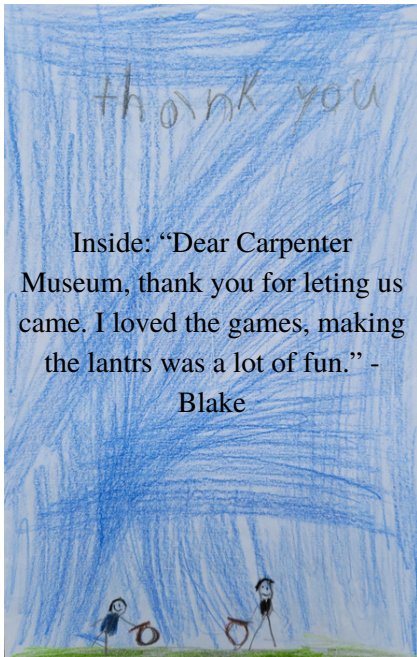
- Any and all ages welcome and encouraged
- All art (any medium) must be related to the ocean in some way
- All art must be original
- A maximum of two entries per person
- All two-dimensional submissions must be framed, matted, or attached to sturdy backing

Every entrant's name will be entered into a drawing for prizes.

SPRING AT THE CARPENTER MUSEUM: A RECAP

3RD GRADE FIELD TRIPS

We had a busy spring here at the Carpenter Museum! We hosted 6 days of Palmer River Elementary School 3rd Grade Field Trips with 120 students total! The kids make ginger bread and corn chowder over the open hearth, learn about herbs in the garden, play historic games, try their hand pitch-forking hay, carding wool, use a drop spindle, and tin-punch their own lanterns to take home. It's an action packed 3 hours every time they come. Especially since we fit lunch in too. Below are a couple of thank-you cards we received from students.



2024 WORKSHOP SERIES

Our first summer workshop was Thursday June 20th. Axel Boy presented on 17th century men's clothing. Boy has two decades of historical interpretation experience and has a hands on component at the end of his presentation. It was enjoyed by all who attended.

Later this month we will host Kristine Sky Wind Thomas-Jones scheduled to do a workshop on Native herbs and healing. Thomas-Jones is a member of the Pokanoket and the Seaconke Wampanoag tribes. This event is free for members of the RAS and \$10 for non-members. Register Today at [HealingHerbs.eventbrite.com](https://www.eventbrite.com) or by calling the Museum (508)252-3031

STRAWBERRY FESTIVAL

This year's Strawberry Festival was a great success with over 500 visitors! We had nice weather, enough volunteers to cover all the stations, and we did **not** run out of strawberry shortcake. Thank you again to all who volunteered!



PASSPORT TO HISTORY

Explore Local This Summer! The annual Passport to History Program kicked off June 1st and we've already seen many visitors come in with their passports. The program offers free admission to 16 museums and historic sites throughout southern Massachusetts.

It is a joint effort of local museums to share and explore the diverse history of southeastern Massachusetts for FREE through September 1. Grab your passport at the Carpenter Museum!

To Learn More Visit:

www.oldcolonyhistorymuseum.org/explore/passport-to-history/