



# Salem Athenæum News

Incorporated in 1810

Fall 2012

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## Letter from the President

Dear Members and Friends:

The humidity of Summer is over, and the crisp air of Autumn beckons.

Looking back, our Summer Salon series closed out our most successful season, with more than 250 people attending the eight events. Thanks to Jim and Judy Kearney for coordinating the program.

Our new logo is fully implemented now: a 21st-century look with a nod to our illustrious 19th-century member, thanks to the talents of Jeffrey Williamson and Ted Jendrysik.

Our Adopt-A-Book campaign is continuing into the implementation phase for 2012 and the planning phase for 2013. By the time you read this, all pledged funds for 2012 should be in hand to support the schedule.

Looking forward, our calendar is filled with literature, music and laughter, as befits Autumn in New England.

Eric Jay Dolin lectures on September 18, Dorothy Dudley begins a Charles Dickens course on the 22nd, and a new exhibit will appear in the Wendt Room following our annual book sale on the weekend of the 15-16th. A Preview Party will precede the book sale on Friday, the 14th, (6-8 pm), exclusively for members of the Athenæum.

## Next time you visit...

Take note of the restored grandfather clock in the foyer. If you're here at the right time, you'll hear it chime!



For the first time, we are having a SeptemberFest Party. Join us on September 30th from 5-7 pm, in the Garden, under a full Harvest Moon. Following SeptemberFest, the Annual Garden Clean-Up on October 20 will get us set for the coming season.

The rest of the season promises to be just as lively, with music, lectures, and parties, please read the newsletter for details.

When you visit this September, please take note that the grandfather clock in the foyer has returned and is fully operational. Thanks to all who participated in *Clockwork & Cocktails* in March, and made this much-needed repair possible, especially to antique clock expert Les Tyralla for his excellent work.

In November, you will start to see our new assistant librarian, Stephanie Buck, in the Athenæum. Stephanie will be filling in when Jean Marie is on leave, and we welcome her to the Athenæum family.

In closing, I want to thank those of you who included donations with your annual dues and assessments. It is greatly appreciated. The prompt payment of the annual dues and assessments are vital to support the operating budget of the Athenæum. If you have not payed yet, please do so as soon as possible.

Richard S. Jendrysik  
President, Board of Trustees  
The Salem Athenæum

## Annual Book Sale!

### Members' Preview

Friday, September 14

6:00 - 8:00 p.m.

*Members may bring one guest to the preview sale.*



New members accepted at the door. [Reserve for the Preview.](#)

### Book Sale

Saturday, September 15, 10:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

### Clearance Sale

Sunday, September 16, 12:00-2:00 p.m.

One of the best book sales in town! We feature new and used books and magazines. Offerings include: fiction, mysteries, biographies, cookbooks, travel, architecture, general non-fiction, and children's books.

Most books priced \$2. Select titles and sets \$10 and up.

\$7 per bag clearance on Sunday.

For more information or to volunteer, contact [Jean Marie Procius](#).

*Proceeds benefit the collections and educational programs of the Salem Athenæum.*

## **When America First Met China**

*A Lecture by Eric Jay Dolin*

Tuesday, September 18, 7:00 p.m.

Salem's early trade with China resulted in economic and political influences that have lasted for centuries. Historian Eric Jay Dolin will explore them with us on September 18, as the Athenæum kicks off its fall program season.



In his third appearance at the Athenæum, Dolin discusses his new book, *When America First Met China: An Exotic History of Tea, Drugs, and Money in the Age of Sail*. Revisiting his fascination with the ways early New England trade practices shaped America, Dolin examines America's relationship with China through the lens of the tea, silk, and opium trade. Illuminating one of the least understood areas of American history, Dolin traces our fraught relationship with China back to its roots and sheds light on our modern relationship with China. Indeed, this trade relationship might have catalyzed America's international economy, but it also sparked an ecological and human rights catastrophe that can still be felt today.

Members \$10; non-members \$15.

Free for students with ID.

[Reserve Now](#)



## **Fall Course The Timeless and Inimitable Charles Dickens**

Dorothy Dudley, instructor

Saturdays from 2:30 to 4:30 p.m.

Sept. 22, 29; Oct 6, 13, 20, 27; Nov. 3, 10

As part of the bicentenary celebration of Charles Dickens' birth, the Salem Athenæum presents an in-depth look at the life and work of this most-beloved 19th-century British writer. This 8-week course, designed and conducted by Dorothy Dudley, will extend our experience beyond Dickens' genius as a storyteller and emphasize his cognizance of contemporary social issues and the rising anxiety of a nation in the throes of radical change.

We trace Dickens' maturation with the nearly autobiographical *David Copperfield*, a masterful mix of humor and pathos. Then, we turn to two of his less well-known works: *Hard Times* and *A Tale of Two Cities*.



Opportunities to view the film versions of *David Copperfield* and *A Tale of Two Cities* will also be offered after two of the class meetings.

Dorothy Dudley has taught English and American literature at Tufts University for the past ten years. In addition to teaching, she has also led her students on five "literary pilgrimages" to the UK and Spain, following in the footsteps of authors including: the Brontës, Jane Austen, Thomas Hardy, Hemingway, Orwell, and Shakespeare. Dorothy is an avid Dickens scholar and a member of the International Dickens Fellowship.



Members \$185, non-members \$205.

[Register here](#)

**Fall Exhibition:**  
**The Good Father**  
(With some exceptions)

Opens Thursday, September 27, 7:00 p.m.

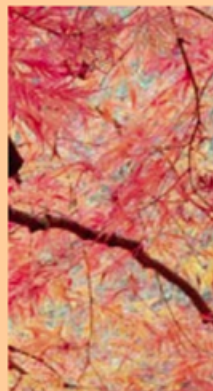
Join us for the opening of our Fall Exhibition, curated by Elaine von Bruns! This exhibit celebrates a variety of good fathers with a sprinkling of very bad ones, just for spice.



The good fathers include presidents, writers, scientists, artists, animal fathers, and dads in children's books. Fathers give intimate advice to their children and children reveal private thoughts about their fathers.

Athenæum members are all invited to participate in this exhibit! Please submit a photo of yourself with your father to Elaine von Bruns by September 19. (*Digital photos are preferred but not required. Print photos will be scanned and promptly returned.*)

[Email your photo to Elaine.](#)



**Septemberfest**

Saturday, September 30, 5:00 to 7:00 p.m.\*

It's nearly autumn but still lovely and warm, and our garden couldn't be more inviting. Please join us for an early fall evening of beer, wine, cider and light refreshments under a harvest moon. Friends, family and neighbors are welcome. Casual dress.

Members \$25 in advance; non-members \$30  
Tickets at the door, \$30.

*Ticket includes one complimentary beer or glass of wine.*

**New members joining between Sept. 15-30 will receive one free ticket.**

[Reserve now!](#)

***Proceeds benefit the collections and educational programs of the Salem Athenæum.***

*\*In case of rain, we'll celebrate indoors.*

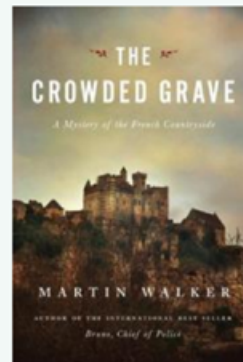
## **Book Group**

Choice of meetings:

Second Wednesdays at 12:30 or 7:00 p.m.

Second Saturdays at 10:00 a.m.

The Athenæum book group offers members a chance to discuss, debate, and grow together as book lovers. The reading list will include both fiction and non-fiction. Each month's title will be selected by popular vote.



October's selection is *Crowded Grave* by Martin Walker

[Contact Jean Marie](#) if you are interested in joining!

## **Solstice Sackbuts**

Sunday, October 14, 3:00 p.m.

This is NOT your average chamber music group! The Solstice Sackbuts presents a lively and eclectic repertoire of medieval and Renaissance music, as well as Classical music, pop, and jazz. They will take you on a musical tour through the centuries with anecdotes about the music, the times, and the history of the trombone.



The Solstice Sackbuts are David Lindsey, Alan Johnson, and Leslie Havens and they perform on soprano, alto, tenor and bass trombones. Formed in 2010, its members have played with the likes of Tony Bennett, Dave Brubeck, Natalie Cole, Ray Charles, and Mel Tormé.

Members \$10; Non-members \$15

Free for students with ID.

[Reserve now](#)

For more information about the group and its members, visit [www.solsticesackbuts.com](http://www.solsticesackbuts.com).

## Former People

*A lecture by Doug Smith*

Thursday, October 18, 7:00 p.m.

Epic in scope, precise in detail, and heart-breaking in its human drama, *Former People* is the first book to recount the history of the aristocracy caught up in the maelstrom of the Bolshevik Revolution and the birth of Stalin's Russia.

Former U.S. Diplomat and Soviet Affairs Analyst Douglas Smith chronicles the fate of two great aristocratic families--the Sheremetevs and the Golitsyns--and reveals how even in the depths of terror, daily life went on.

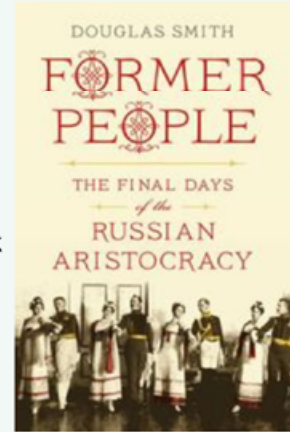
When discussing what he'd like readers to take away from his book, Smith says, "While working on the book, I had people in the West ask me why I was even bothering with the nobility, implying that they had gotten what they deserved and that their fate need not concern us. If I've done my job, no one will read *Former People* and continue to think that the fate of these people does not speak to all of us."

Douglas Smith has a doctorate in history from UCLA. Over the past 25 years, Smith has made many trips to Russia. In the 1980s, he was a Russian-speaking guide on the U.S. State Department's exhibition "Information USA" that traveled throughout the USSR. He has worked as a Soviet affairs analyst at Radio Free Europe and served as an interpreter for late President Reagan. An award-winning historian and translator, he has authored four books on Russia.

Members \$10; non-members \$15.

Free for students with ID.

[Reserve Now](#)



## Grand Wine Tasting

Friday, November 2, 6:00-9:00 p.m.

Hawthorne Hotel, Salem



Enjoy a fine selection of wines and light refreshments. Proceeds benefit The Salem Athenæum, Historic Salem, Inc., Historic New England, and Hamilton Hall.

Tickets are available at Salem Wine Imports, 32 Church Street, Salem or by calling 978-741-9463.

\$35, \$25 for members of the above-mentioned organizations.

*This event is sponsored by Salem Wine Imports.*



## Wesley Morris

Thursday, November 15, 7:00 p.m.

Winner of the 2012 Pulitzer Prize for Criticism and staff writer at the *Boston Globe*, Wesley Morris will speak to us about his work in film criticism. He is the first African-American to win the criticism prize and a Yale graduate with a razor-sharp gift for words. Don't miss the opportunity to hear this accomplished wordsmith!

Before joining the *Boston Globe*, Morris wrote films reviews and essays for the *San Francisco Examiner* and the *San Francisco Chronicle*. He is featured in the 2009 documentary film *For the Love of Movies: The Story of American Film Criticism*.

Members \$10; non-members \$15.  
Free for students with ID.

[Reserve Now](#)

## The Singles

A reading by Meredith Goldstein

Thursday, December 6, 7:00 p.m.

Advice columnist and entertainment reporter for *The Boston Globe*, Meredith Goldstein will read from her recently published first novel, *The Singles* (Penguin/Plume). Not surprisingly, it's a story about complicated relationships.

Goldstein's column *Love Letters* is a daily dispatch of wisdom for the lovelorn that gets about 1 million views monthly on *Boston.com*. *Love Letters* appears in the *Globe's* print edition every Saturday.

Meredith Goldstein was born in New Jersey, raised in Maryland, went to Syracuse University, and now lives in Roxbury, Massachusetts with a carnival-size cotton candy machine that she bought for herself on her 30th birthday. She appears on WBUR, WFNX, MIX 104.1, NECN and FOX.

Members \$10; non-members \$15.  
Free for students with ID.

[Reserve Now](#)



## **Welcome Winter!**

### **Members Party**

Saturday, December 8, 2-4 p.m.

Join your member friends (and make new) in the cozy Athenæum to mark the end of another busy year and the beginning of the holiday season.

Refreshments, seasonal music, children's craft activity and plenty of good cheer included!

### **Fundraiser at the Adriatic**

Tuesday, Jan. 15, 6:00-8:00 p.m.

Adriatic Restaurant and Bar  
155 Washington Street, Salem



Join the Salem Athenæum and Adriatic Restaurant and Bar for a mid-winter cocktail party and fundraiser for the Athenæum at the restaurant. Enjoy complimentary hors d'oeuvres, and soak in the warmth of one of Salem's premier eating establishments.

The Salem Athenæum began this annual winter cocktail gathering in 2010 to kick off its Bicentennial.

Tickets are \$25 per person.

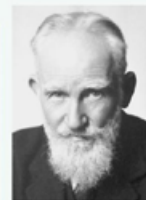
[Reserve Now](#)

*All proceeds go to the Salem Athenæum.*

### **Spring Course Preview**

#### **Ibsen, Shaw, Chekhov: Modern Masters**

Theo Theocharis, instructor  
6 Saturdays starting March 2



Each of these three dramatists transformed drama, both its writing and performing, so powerfully and comprehensively that they effectively created the modern form of the art.

We will read two plays by each: *Ghosts* and *Hedda Gabler* by Ibsen, *Major Barbara* and *Heartbreak House* by Shaw, and *The Seagull* and *Uncle Vanya* by Chekhov. Together we will analyze how each writer handled dialogue, characterization, and theme; and how the three created a new theater—one whose shape and style reaches straight through to Harold Pinter, Samuel Beckett, and David Mamet.



Theoharis has lectured widely on American and European literature both in the United States and abroad. He is author of *James Joyce's Ulysses: An Anatomy of the Soul* and *Ibsen's Drama: Right Action and Tragic Joy*, and well as the translator of *Before They Could Change Them: The Complete Poems of Constantine P. Cavafy*. He has received teaching awards from UC Berkeley, MIT and Harvard. He has taught courses on the epic, tragedy, and

[Reserve Now](#)

## Recent Events

*The following highlights recent noteworthy events at the Athenæum.*

### Summer Salons

Regardless of the weather, summer Fridays at the Athenæum were not to be missed this year. Much thanks to Judy and Jim Kearney for organizing a sizzling series of speakers who covered subjects far and wide: Spanish pilgrimages, oddities of the Athenæum's collection, and beekeeping, to name a few. This season was our best-attended yet, as you may see for yourself in the snapshots below.



*Thank you for making Salons part of your summer!*

## Also at the Athenæum

*The following events are not sponsored by the Salem Athenæum. Due to their cultural focus, they are occurring at the Athenæum and may be of interest to members.*

### Dickens Fellowship

**Regular literary discussion meetings on the following Thursdays:**

Oct. 4     *Martin Chuzzlewit*, Chs. 14-29  
Nov. 1     *Martin Chuzzlewit*, Chs. 29-42  
Dec. 13    *Martin Chuzzlewit*, Chs. 43-end

For details on all events, visit [Dickens North of Boston](http://DickensNorthofBoston.org).

### CSEM Concert

Saturday, September 29, 8:00 p.m.

#### Virtuoso Music of the Baroque

Three international stars will light up the first concert of the CSEM season:

Eva Legêne, the extraordinary Dutch recorder player; Wieland Kuijken, eminent Belgian master of the viola da gamba; and American harpsichordist Arthur Haas. Their skills combine to offer one gorgeous musical experience after another. Music of France, mostly for King Louis XIV, is set off by three favorites of the Bach family. Each player shines as a soloist, and they all combine as joyful equals in one of J.S. Bach's most beloved trios. A reception follows.



### Board of Trustees

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Meg Twohey, *Treasurer*



For tickets and information, call 617-489-2062 or visit [www.csem.org](http://www.csem.org).

Members and seniors, \$25; non-members, \$30.  
Free for students 17 and under.

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*Vice-President*  
Donna Seger  
Meg Twohey, *Treasurer*

## Welcome!

We would like to extend a warm welcome to the following new members:

Sylvia Belkin  
Lisa Du Breuil  
Lynne Konior  
Margo Steiner

New Shareholders:  
Martha Chayet



## Salem Athenæum

337 Essex Street  
Salem, Massachusetts 01970

## Contact Info

For general information about the Athenæum or its events, please contact the Director:

**Jean Marie Prociuous**

978-744-2540

[info@salemathenaeum.net](mailto:info@salemathenaeum.net)

For comments or suggestions about the newsletter, please contact the editor:

**Carolyn McGuire**

[Contact me!](#)