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Letter from the President



Dear Members and Friends:

We hope you have enjoyed the summer and taken advantage of the Athenæum's Friday salons, events, and our wonderful garden.

We have an exciting list of fall programs ready for you: "Last Drops of Summer," an informal tasting of locally produced rums and other libations in the garden on September 13 (this is a fundraiser for our library); our annual book sale the weekend of September 19; the annual Conservation Night on September 29, when we share the joys of the Athenæum's collections; a lecture series by longtime-member Sue Schopf on World War I writers and artists in October; and a host of other programs.

We're very pleased to welcome a new trustee, Owen Mathieu, to the Athenæum. A retired pediatrician, Owen brings a wealth of board experience to us, and an abiding interest in literacy and books.

We're grateful to all of the hard-working trustees on our board. Along with planning our programs, Athenæum trustees have been studying our tax filings and reviewing our by-laws with help from our consultant Gayle Gifford, under an Essex County Community Foundation (ECCF) grant.

The Athenæum is fortunate to have a terrific board and a great director in Jean Marie Procious, and we are doubly blessed with a cadre of volunteers on whom we depend. We urge YOU to join these volunteers in whatever way you can--from helping with an event to serving on a committee, helping Jean Marie with library work, or working in our garden. My deepest thanks go to you who already volunteer: You make the Athenæum the extraordinary community of people that it is.

Before I close, a gentle reminder to renew your membership if you haven't already. It's to you and to our area sponsors that we owe grateful thanks for support.

One last note: Look for a member survey this fall that will guide us as we begin to think about the future of the Athenæum--our programs, the preservation of our building, and the upkeep of our garden, as we begin to plan for the next 20 years. As part of our community, you and your views are of paramount importance.

We'll look for you at the library this fall.

Best regards,
Meg Twohey
President, Board of Trustees



We are grateful to our 2015 Program Sponsors

Beverly Bank

Boston Private Bank

Salem Five Charitable Foundation



2015 Conservation List

Below is a list of our 2015 conservation candidates. Stay tuned for details about the upcoming Conservation Night on September 29.

L.C. Baker

History of the U.S. Secret Service

Philadelphia: Published by L. C. Baker, 1867.



From the Director's Corner

In response to recent questions, I would like to shed some light on how the Athenæum adds to and maintains the library collection. New books are selected based upon published book reviews along with special attention to popular authors and subjects at the Athenæum. Additional consideration, especially for non-fiction, is given to books we have on the subject already and whether the new title will fill a gap or update outdated information.

As a member, you are welcome and encouraged to request books for the collection. We gratefully accept recent releases that you wish to donate to us, especially if it was something you enjoyed and recommend. Nearly all books and audio books offered will be accepted for the annual book sale.

Evaluating materials for the library does not end once the books are shelved. It is an on-going process and your feedback is critical. Many books on the shelves stand the test of time and here are a couple of discoveries I've enjoyed this summer.

Totto-Chan by Tetsuko Kuroyanagi is a charming childhood memoir set during WWII that chronicles the two years Kuroyanagi spent at the unconventional Tokyo elementary school, Tomoe Gakuen.

Another gem, the *New York Review of Books* 2000 reprint of *Hindoo Holiday* by J.R. Ackerly, was lauded upon its original release in 1932 and is still a delight. It is a very humorous fictionalized chronicle of Ackerly's five-month stint as secretary to the Maharajah of Chhokrapur.

Keep the questions and suggestions coming. We welcome your participation, whether casually or as a member of the Collections Committee.

Happy reading,
Jean Marie Procius

New Trustees

Salem Athenæum Board of Trustees welcomes a new Trustee.

Owen Mathieu was born in New Orleans, but spent his early life in the Washington, D.C. area. He moved to the Boston area in 1974, and was director of ambulatory pediatrics and the primary care residency training program at Boston City Hospital and Associate Professor of Pediatrics at Boston University School of Medicine until 1990.



In 1990, he moved to Salem Hospital as Medical Director of the North Shore Children's Hospital, joined the faculty of Tufts University School of Medicine as Associate Professor, and served ex officio on a number of hospital committees, including one term on the Board of Trustees of North Shore Medical Center, and was the school physician for the city of Salem. He received the honorary degree Doctor of Humane Letters from Salem State University in 2001.

In 2000 he left the hospital and began a full-time primary care practice in Salem, which he closed in 2013. Locally he has been a member of the North Shore Jewish Community Center, The Old North Church, the Boston Yacht Club, and currently the Marblehead Yacht Club. He served six years on the Board of Trustees of the Tower School of Marblehead.

Since closing his office, he has enjoyed working on a medical team associated with Fundacion Superemos, delivering health care in and around the city of Esteli, Nicaragua. He is on the board of Bottom Line, a Boston foundation that coaches and supports low-income first generation college applicants through the admissions process, and then through college itself. He also serves on the board of the Princeton Prize in Race Relations.

He lives in Marblehead with his wife Eileen, who is also a primary care physician. They have three adult children and two grandchildren. In his leisure time he enjoys biking, cooking, sailing, and cross-country skiing.

Maria Edgeworth

Little Plays

Philadelphia: Thomas T. Ash,
1827.



Nathaniel Hawthorne

Mosses from an Old Manse

New York: Wiley and
Putnam, 1846.



Edward Augustus Holyoke

*A. Dr. Holyoke's estimate of
the excess of heat and cold.*

Salem, 1790.

*B. Temperature
observations in Salem
1793-1818.*

*C. Dr. Holyoke's
meteorological observations.*

Boston, March 1820.
(Bound together)

Edwin James

*A Narrative of the Captivity
and Adventures of John
Tanner.*

New York: G. C. & H. Carvill,
1830.

*Juvenile History of Birds.
Part 1.*

Philadelphia: E. & R. Parker,
1818.



Garden Help Needed

Pam Jendrysik has been the Athenæum's Gardener for ten years -- and has transformed the space into the oasis we enjoy today.

While volunteer assistance on work days is invaluable, Pam is asking for your help in keeping the garden looking splendid throughout the year.

If you enjoy gardening and would like to spend time in the peace of the garden on a schedule that suits you, please let Pam know

Jendry@msn.com.

Get Involved!

Salem
Athenæum

We are able to accomplish much at the Athenæum because so many members share their time and talent. Please consider becoming a volunteer.

All Athenæum members and proprietors are welcome to join the volunteer committees that keep the Athenæum vital. Collections, Membership, and Building and Grounds, are just a few committees that have year-round projects. With your help they can do even more.

Collections Committee

Collections seeks 2-3 members who are interested in the care of the Athenæum's collections--storage, security, access, circulation, and preservation. Meetings are monthly on the third Wednesdays at 7:30 pm.

Membership Committee

Membership organizes member events and festivities including: Annual Garden Party, Members Preview Book Sale, New Members Night, and Welcome Winter!, which help us introduce new members to the Athenæum and provide special events for members and their friends.

Please [contact Jean Marie](#) if you would like to know more about serving on a committee.

Theatre of Words & Music

Saturday, September 12, 7:00-9:30 p.m.

This fun, bi-monthly series includes a literary reading, concert, pop-up art gallery, and open mic. Learn more at www.thetwm.com.



The September TWM will feature readings by Ben Courchesne and Janaka Stucky, and music by As the Sparrow.

Contact organizers Shari Caplan and Casey Roland with questions or suggestions for future programs: theatreofwordsmusic@gmail.com

Tickets: \$8 at the door

Fiske Kimball

*Mr. Samuel McIntire, Carver,
the Architect of Salem.*
Portland, Maine: The
Southworth-Anthoensen
Press for the Essex
Institution, 1940.

Edward S. Morse

*Japanese Homes and Their
Surroundings.*
Boston: Ticknor & Co., 1886.



John Pickering

*Eulogy on Nathaniel
Bowditch.*
Cambridge: Folsom, Wells
and Thurston, 1838.

John Lovell

*Funeral Oration...Peter
Faneuil*
Cambridge: Folsom, Wells
and Thurston, 1743.
(Bound together)

Genio Scott

Fishing in American Waters
New York: Harper & Bros.,
1873.

William Henry Scott

British Field Sports
London: Sherwood et al.,
1820.

Alexander Wilson

*American Ornithology; or, the
Natural History of the Birds of
the United States*
Philadelphia: Bradford &
Inskeep, 1808 - 1914 - 9
Vols.



Last Drops of Summer

An Informal Tasting in the Garden

Sunday September 13, 4:00-6:00 p.m.

Join us for an afternoon fundraiser in our favorite place--the Athenæum Garden. Taste some of the best treats and libations the North Shore has to offer. Sample offerings from Rumson, the Cheese Shop of Salem, Pamplemousse, Flour(ish) and All Fruit, Inc., to name a few. Space is limited, so reserve today!



Feel free to invite guests who you think may have an interest in the Athenæum.

[Reserve Now](#)

Annual Book Sale

Member's Preview: Friday, September 18, 6:00 to 8:00 p.m.

Book Sale: Saturday, September 19, 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Sunday, September 20, 11:00 to 2:00 p.m.

Members, plus one guest, have the opportunity to attend the Member's Preview Book Sale on Friday night. before it opens to the public on Saturday morning.

[Reserve for Member's Preview](#)

Public book sale is on Saturday and Sunday. Sunday is clearance day, \$3/bag. Teachers with ID may receive free books for their classroom.

Proceeds benefit the Athenæum collections and educational programs.

Tango Demonstration

Tuesday, September 22, 7:00 p.m.

La Tertulia has invited two local professional tango dancers to give an one-hour demonstration of their art during its regular meeting on Tuesday, September 22.

Athenæum members are invited to attend, but space is VERY limited. Registration is required.

[Reserve Now](#)

You can see Adam Cornett and Tilly Kimm dance [on their website](#).

Pencils, Teachers, Dirty Looks

Friday, September 25, 7-10:00 p.m.

Summer's over. Back to school and work we go. Ease back into Fall with tales told out of school by local writers who will take the stage with no notes, nothing but the truth...and the challenge to tell their best school-related story.

Salem
Athenæum
for Writers

These storytellers will be telling original stories that they crafted themselves. It might have happened to their cousin, but they were there and this was how they saw it.

\$10 Members

\$15 Non-members

Free for Students with ID.

Young Writers Morning

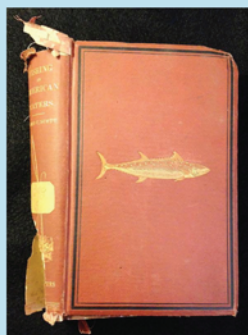
Saturday, September 26, 2015 9:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.

Kids ages 8-14 are invited to a fun morning of writing activities with several professional writers: a best-selling novelist, a news journalist, a blogger and an award winning advertising copy-writer; all of whom turned their love for words into career as a writer.



Talk with them about their experiences as grown professionals, and learn about the importance of writing in their lives, even when they were young writers themselves!

[Reserve Now](#)



Conservation Night

Tuesday, September 29, 7:00 p.m.-9:00 p.m.

Our fourth annual Conservation Night is in September this year. We will unveil the recently conserved volumes -- books sponsored by generous participants of the 2014 Conservation Night -- and present the carefully chosen candidates for conservation in 2015.

See the left sidebar of this newsletter for a list of the 2015 conservation candidates. More details to come!

Jumpstart Your Writing

Starts Wednesday, September 30

6:00 - 9:00 p.m.

6 sessions



Grub Street instructor Judah Leblang returns to teach a 6-week writing course.

This course has a very clear mission: devote three hours of your week to writing. Through a series of fun, directed writing exercises, we will explore the terrain of memoir and personal essay: we'll mine for material, construct characters and settings, shape vivid dialogue, understand point of view, and find your voice. Discussions will focus on the process of writing and the strengths and weaknesses of the work we produce in class. We will examine some short published texts with an eye on craft, then write exercises inspired by them, in a supportive and generative environment for both new and practicing writers. Note that this is not a course in the fundamentals of nonfiction, but an opportunity for beginners and advanced students to generate new stories and scenes.

Tuition:

\$305 members, \$330 non-members

[Reserve at www.grubstreet.org](http://www.grubstreet.org)

Fall Course

The Art and Fiction of World War I

Sue Weaver Schopf, instructor
5 Thursdays starting October 1
7:00 - 9:00 p.m.



As a follow-up to her Spring lecture on the poetry that emerged from World War I, Dr. Sue Weaver Schopf will present a Fall series, in which she will examine how painting and the novel were transformed by the horrors of the war. Heroic battle scenes were nothing new in the history of painting or writing. How the artists and authors captured their personal experience of the war in their art will be the focus of this series.

The art of World War I is anything but "heroic" in what it set out to capture: the blistering reality of trench warfare and the destructive technology of the machine gun, modern explosives, and mustard gas. The genre of the war novel underwent a similar transformation, the two greatest examples being *A Farewell to Arms* by the American Ernest Hemingway and *All Quiet on the Western Front* by the German Erich Maria Remarque.

Sue Weaver Schopf, Ph.D. is Associate Dean of the Master of Liberal Arts Program, Research Advisor in the Humanities, and Lecturer at the Harvard Extension School. Dr. Schopf teaches a range of literature courses focused on 19th- and early 20th-century authors as well as popular culture topics such as "The Vampire in Literature and Film." She has appeared in *The Times of London* and the *Boston Globe* and has been a guest on national radio programs. Her courses have been featured in articles in various publications including *The Huffington Post* and *MTV.com*.

\$155 Members
\$175 Non-members

[Reserve Now](#)



Friday, October 2, 7:30-10:30 p.m.

On occasional first Fridays, the Night Owls will convene. We invite you to bring games to share, a topic to discuss, or to just show up and join the fun. It'll be a hoot!

[Sign up!](#)

Pirate Picnic

Sunday, October 4, 4:00-6:00 p.m.

This family-friendly outdoor event is for pirates of all ages. Bring a picnic and blanket and set your course for adventure.



Dress as a pirate or landlubber.

Entertainment by the Scurvy Fellows Indeed.

[Reserve](#)

Book Event

Dickens and Massachusetts

The Lasting Legacy of the Commonwealth Visits

Saturday, October 10, 2:00 p.m.

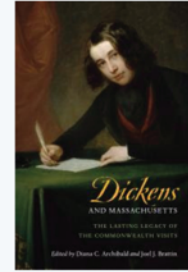
Charles Dickens traveled to North America twice, in 1842 and 25 years later in 1867. On both trips, Massachusetts was part of his itinerary. Although many aspects of the U.S. disappointed him, Massachusetts was the one state that met and even exceeded his expectations and influenced his future writings. He formed deep and lasting friendships with several Bostonians that gave him enduring ties to the Commonwealth.

Meet the editors and discover the significance of Massachusetts in Dickens' life and work. This event includes a talk, light tea, book signing and dramatic reading.

Advance tickets: \$15 members, \$20 non-members.
\$25 at the door

[Reserve](#)

Program presented by Dickens Fellowship North of Boston; proceeds to benefit Salem Athenæum.



CSEM

Chamber Music by Candlelight series
Saturday, October 17, 8:00 p.m.



The Crown of the Kingdom of Poland

Celebrate 250 years of Polish music (1500-1750) with sacred choral, secular vocal and instrumental music performed by an ensemble of voices, strings, winds and basso continuo featuring Il Giardino D'amore of Vienna and Cambridge Concentus, directed by Stefan Plewniak & David Kjar.

Tickets at the door (cash or checks):
\$30 / \$25 seniors and Athenæum members / students with ID free.

To reserve tickets, visit csem.org or call 617-489-2062.

New Members Night

Thursday, November 5, 7:00 p.m.

Get to know the Athenæum! Come and see what's hidden away in our library while exploring it top-to-bottom. Learn the stories and fascinating facts about the collections and 100-year-old building.

Familiarize yourself with the collection and meet fellow members while enjoying wine and cheese.

Any member--new or not--is encouraged to attend these semi-annual orientation nights. Our next one will be in June.

[Reserve Now](#)

saalem literary festival

November 12-14

Each November, The Salem Literary Festival brings readers, writers, and publishers from all over the country together for three days of learning, discussion, and celebration. From panels on science and fantasy in poems, to prompts that will shake you out of your funk, to a cocktail party with music by Ruby Rose Fox and a literary scavenger hunt, there is fun to be had for every type of lit lover.

Kick off on Thursday, November 12, at Salem State University with a reading by Frank Bidart. Stacy Schiff, author of *Cleopatra*, will speak at PEM on Friday, November 13 about her new book, *The Witches: Salem, 1692*. Spend all day Saturday, November 14, at the Salem Athenæum with local talent to listen, write, and party!

Tickets will be available soon at saalemfest.org.

Welcome Winter! Members Party

Saturday, December 12, 2:00 - 4:00 p.m.

Join the membership of the Athenæum to enjoy the fellowship of the season together.

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

Free.

[Reserve Now](#)



Returning in January

Reappraisal Reading Circle

Last winter, the Collections Committee initiated an informal reading group focused on authors once popular and prolific. Readers gather to discuss their impressions, and determine whether the authors' works withstood the test of time.

The slate of 2016 authors is below. Get a head start!



January 15

E. Phillips Oppenheim (1866-1946)

Oppenheim was a writer nearly everybody read. He wrote 116 novels of adventure and political intrigue, of which the Athenæum holds 70 titles. Sometimes referred to as "upper crust thrillers," tales by this English Edwardian should still have wide appeal.

February Anne Douglas Sedgewick (1873-1935)

March Booth Tarkington (1869-1946)

April Eden Phillpotts (1862-1960)

May William Dean Howells (1837-1920)

Salem History Lecture Ada Louise Huxtable at Home

Wednesday January 27, 2015, 7:00 p.m.

As part of Historic Salem, Inc.'s celebration of Ada Louise Huxtable and her influence on historic preservation in Salem, Ed Nilsson will present the Salem History Lecture on the subject of Huxtable's own house. The annual lecture is presented by the Salem Athenæum and Historic Salem, Inc.

Edward O. Nilsson is principal of Nilsson + Siden Associates, Inc. Architects & Planners, of Salem and serves on the board of Historic Salem.

\$15, \$10 for members of Historic Salem, Inc. and the Salem Athenæum, Free for students with ID.

Groups at the Athenæum

The following groups meet regularly at the Salem Athenæum. If you are interested in participating in any of them, please follow the links provided in their listings (or [contact Jean Marie](#) if no link is included).

Monday Evening Conversations

Second Mondays at 7:00 p.m.

Topics for discussion are wide open, but must be amenable to good conversation.

Athenæum Book Group

Second Saturdays at 10:00 a.m.

Meetings: September 11, October 10, November 14, December 12

The Athenæum book group meets monthly. Group members take turns selecting a book for discussion. Whoever chooses the book also serves as discussion leader and provides background materials (if needed). Join us for this opportunity to discuss, debate, and grow together as book lovers!

September

The Rainbow by D.H. Lawrence

October

Red Mars by K.S. Robinson

November

A Brief History of Everything by Ken Wilber

December

One More Thing by BJ Novak



[Contact Jean Marie](#) if you are interested in joining or leading a discussion!

Dickens Fellowship

Literary discussion meetings on First Saturdays at 11:00 a.m.

For details on all events, visit [Dickens North of Boston](#).

Our next book is *The Old Curiosity Shop*:

September 5, Chs. 1-18; October 10, Chs. 19-36; November 7, Chs. 37-55; December 5, Chs. 56-end.

Salem Writers' Group

First and Third Tuesdays at 7:30 p.m.

Writers' Open Studio Hours

Wednesdays from 8:45-11:30 a.m.

For details visit <https://www.facebook.com/groups/salemwriters/>

La Tertulia Spanish Language Discussion Group

Second and Fourth Tuesdays, 6:00-8:00 p.m.

Incessant Pipe Poetry Salon

Fourth Tuesdays at 7:00 p.m.

Mandarin Chinese for Children

Wednesdays at 3:30 p.m.

[Contact Judy Wang Bedell](#) for more information or visit

<http://www.pandalandchinese.com/>

Board of Trustees

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David Hart

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Richard Jendrysik

Owen Mathieu

Pat Padden, *Treasurer*

Meg Twohey, *President*

Angela Williams

David Williams

Welcome!

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

Christiane Alsop

Bonnie Bishop and Con Squires

Colleen Bowdren and Jay Famico

Kristin Coppola

Scott Francis

Carolyn Herman and Brian Loh

Denise Kent

Guy Lento and JoAnn Lento

Isa Leshko and Matt Kleiderman

Owen and Eileen Mathieu

Janet and David Mohler and Family

Martin and Elizabeth Hart O'Toole

Hollin Elizabeth Pagos

Judith and Athena Picciotto

Karlene and John Pierce

David Polanski

New Shareholder

Magdalene Cullen

**Salem Athenæum**

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Salem, Massachusetts 01970

salemathenaeum.net

Contact Info

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

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978-744-2540

info@salemathenaeum.net

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