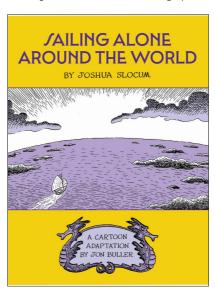
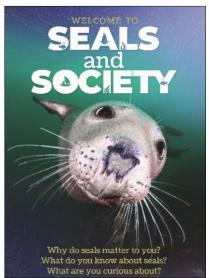


The original arwork for Jon Buller's graphic-novel adaptaion of Joshua Slocum's Sailing Alone Around the World, will be on view at the Custom House through January 25, 2026.





Photos from top: The cover of Jon Buller's graphic-novel adaptation of Joshua Slocum's beloved Sailing Alone Around the World, below: Seals and Society opens on January 15, 2026.

from the director

To be honest, it's a rare moment when we've scheduled our activities several months ahead—but everything's falling into place at the Custom House. Artist Jon Buller, who taught cartooning here for many years, recently shared his soon-to-be-published graphic-novel adaptation of Joshua Slocum's *Sailing Alone Around the World*—the classic 1900 adventure tale. We're presenting Jon's original artwork for the book in a new exhibition, and hosting an **Opening & Book Launch** on **Sat. Nov. 15, from 2 to 4 PM.** Fresh-off-the-press copies will be available—a great gift for your favorite sailor!

Because of this new date, **Greg Shea's** tintype portrait exhibition, originally planned for November, has been rescheduled to **January 30–March 2026**. Greg's intimate portraits—and the chance to have your own tintype portrait made—are a perfect fit for the Valentine's season. Greg will return in February to set up his studio at the Custom House. His October sessions sold out (all 14 of them!), so keep an eye on our website and weekly news blasts for sign-up details.

This winter, we'll also celebrate **seals** with an exhibition on loan from the **New Bedford Whaling Museum**. This multi-panel display dives into the daily lives of these remarkable, specially adapted animals—focusing on **harbor and gray seals**, the two species most common in our region. Stunning photographs, custom graphics, and the latest research bring visitors into the seals' watery world, helping us better understand their lives and our connection to them. NLMS will also offer seal watches near local haul-out sites, and other special programs—stay tuned for dates and details! •

--Susan Tamulevich





Teamwork makes the dream work! Open Mic's **Doc Frasier** and artist **Jon Buller**, *above*.

Local Friendly Authentic

Open Thursday, Friday, Sunday, from 1-5 PM; & Saturday from 10 AM to 5 PM

Custom House Mairitime Museum - 150 Bank Street - New London - Connecticut - Telling the stories of New London's Waterfront.













winter highlights - for full listings, go to nlmaritimesociety.org

- Tours to **climb HARBOR LIGHT** run *year—round*. We meet at the lighthouse, then climb 116 steps to the lantern room with its 4th-order Fresnel lens; It is the oldest and tallest lighthouse on Long Island Sound! Sign up with the link on our website, or email to schedule your custom tour: nlmaritimedirector@gmail.com.
- Opening & Book Launch for Jon Buller: Sailing Away, Saturday Nov.15, 2-4 PM. Join us for an exhibition of Jon's original artwork from Sailing Alone Around the World. Pick up a copy and have Jon sign it—just in time for your favorite sailor.
- Annual Tuba/Euphonium Holiday Celebration, Sunday, Dec. 7, 2 PM. FREE
- NLMS Annual Meeting, Sunday, Dec. 7, 4 PM. The NLMS year in review. FREE.
- Santa's Stroll, Sunday, Dec. 13, 11 AM-5 PM. Pirates, carolers in partnership with the Thames River Gallery, and Shaw Mansion- NL County Historical Society.
- Opening for Seals and Society, Saturday January 17, 2-4 PM.
- Open Mic at the Museum meets from 6-9 PM the last Sunday of the month. Share your original music, poetry, prose, stand-up, or just say what's on your mind. \$5 donation. November 30, December 28, Jan. 25.
- JIBBOOM CLUB #1 meets the 3rd Tuesday of the month at 1:30 PM. Join us for a talk, good company, coffee & cookies. Sponsored by the Maco Family Fund, the gatherings are FREE and open to all. Nov. 18—Jon Buller on Sailing Alone, Dec. 16—Claudia Kenyon & the Ukeladies. There is no Jibboom in Jan. or Feb.

Photos, below, from left: educators **Jim Fitzmaurice** & **Jody Barthel,** 3rd-graders examine a display.



Be the first to know - sign up for weekly email news blasts: nlmaritimedirector@gmail.com



local-history & landmarks

When NLMS learned in 2009 that we would receive **New London Harbor Light** through the National Historic Lighthouse Preservation Act, we knew local ownership had to be about more than just the Custom House. Working with the New London Public Schools, we launched **Lighthouse Kids**, led by award-winning educator **Jody Barthel**. Since then, the program has evolved into a city-wide third-grade course: **Local** History & Landmarks. This fall, Jody is back at the helm, guiding students through lessons in social studies and local history brought to life by visits to many of New London's storied sites. In October, students explored Fort Trumbull; next up are the Shaw Mansion and the NL Custom House. Assisting Jody is recently retired third-grade teacher **Jim** Fitzmaurice. The program is funded by a grant from the Community Foundation of Southeast**ern Connecticut**, ensuring that our city's young learners continue to discover—and take pride in the history all around them. •

seals and society

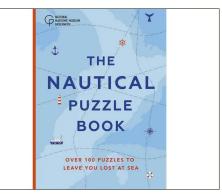
Each winter we offer seal watch trips to our members. The trips are fun, bracing (i.e. chilly), and great photo opportunities. But did you know that seals only began to repopulate Long Island Sound in the mid-1970s? There's a lot to learn about our sleek new neighbors, which is why we're so happy to bring in **Seals** and Society, a traveling exhibition. Created by Dr. Andrea Bogomolni, Elizabeth Bradfield, Ren Bettencourt, Elizabeth James-Perry, with support from Monica DeAngelis, the U.S. Navy, Robert Rocha, the New Bedford Whaling Museum, and the Wheatland Foundation, it will be on vew January 17—March 22 2026. Our next Seal Watch trips—aboad the Black Hαwk out of Niantic—will take place in March 2026. Bundle up, bring your binoculars, and join us for one of our most popular winter adventures!



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Benefits of members	hip include free admission, invitations	s to special events, discounts, and a new	slette
and Long Island Sound, and		te New London's U.S. Custom House, three area lig the port of New London and the surrounding region t more about us at nlmaritimesociety.org.	
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Now on view: Kodak BROWNIE Cameras The Camera That Brought Photography to the Masses









Visit the Custom House Museum Gift Shop & support our work!

Our MUSEUM SHOP offers all kinds of unique gifts, an extensive selection of books, toys, holiday cards & decorations. Members always receive 10% off!













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cheers to our sponsors: Anthony & Elizabeth Enders Fund - Charter Oak Credit Union - Andy Champagne - Chelsea Groton Foundation - City of New London - Community Foundation of Eastern CT - Elevate+ - Frank Loomis Palmer Fund, Bank of America, N.A., Trustee - Kozmik Music Services - Ludwick Family Foundation - Maco Family Fund - Louise Novitch - Robinson+Cole - Veolia/NL Water Authority. Thank you!

Photo, below: Mitchell College students on a scavenger hunt at the Custom House Maritime Museum

