

THE FRIENDS OF FORT TRUMBULL

WELCOME JENNIFER EMERSON

The Friends of Fort Trumbull are honored to present as their July speaker, Jennifer Emerson-author, first person Interpreter, and museum consultant-who will portray Miss Jane Perkins of the Shaw Mansion. Born and raised in Groton, Jennifer has fifteen years of experience in Historic and First Person Interpretation. Her work has been seen at venues such as Mystic Seaport, the Shaw Mansion, Fort Griswold, the Smith-Harris House, and the Denison Homestead Museum, where she is now the supervisor of Collections and Interpretations.



Jennifer holds a Master of Fine Arts in Creative Writing from Fairfield University. In 2012, she published her first novel, *Dickens and the Whore*, a work of historical fiction.

Miss Jane Perkins was a descendent of the original owner- Captain Nathaniel Shaw- who had the house built in 1756. In 1907, Miss Perkins sold the Shaw Mansion to the New London County Historical Society. In 2007, Jennifer was hired by the New London County Historical Society to research and portray Miss Jane Perkins, the last owner of the Shaw Mansion. With little more than a few documents and photographs, Jennifer spent over twelve months “resurrecting” Miss Perkins.

Jennifer will be dressed in replica 1876 period-attire. She will begin the talk in character, having “Miss Janey” talk a bit about her life and family. Then, she will switch to 3rd person to discuss her research on Miss Perkins, the costumes of the period, and the Shaw Mansion. In addition, she has promised to sing a period appropriate selection. Always enjoying the challenge and excitement of bringing history alive, Jennifer strives to present to a modern audience a presentation that is fun, fresh, and believable.

The meeting will take place on Thursday, July 28, 2016, at the Fort Trumbull Conference Center, 90 Walbach Street, New London, CT at 7 p.m. The public is welcome to attend this free presentation. New members are always welcome. Come early as seating is limited.

***** ALSO *****

If you have never visited the Shaw Mansion, put it on your summer visitation list; it is a very enjoyable afternoon. The Shaw Mansion was one of the few structures to survive the attack in 1781 by Benedict Arnold and his force of British, German and Loyalist soldiers who burned New London.

In 1795, the house was inherited by a great-granddaughter of Captain Nathaniel Shaw- Lucretia Shaw Woodbridge. When she married Judge Elias Perkins, the Mansion became known as the Perkins house. In 1907, her daughter, Jane Perkins sold the Mansion to be the headquarters of the New London County Historical Society.

For more information www.newlondonhistory.org

New London County Historical Society, Inc.

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Tours of the Shaw Mansion:

Wednesday-Friday 1 – 4 PM

Research: By Appointment ONLY

Saturday: By appointment ONLY