

The Friends of Fort Trumbull Welcome Prof. Stephen Jones



On September 26, 2019, The Friends of Fort Trumbull are proud to present Prof. Stephen Jones, co-author of *Connecticut River Ferryboats*. In keeping with the Friends' 2019 theme of "America on the Move-Transportation to Build a Nation", the Friends wanted to focus upon these once-vital modes of transportation.

Before the advent of steam power and bridge construction, there were over 100 ferries that crossed the Connecticut River. Today, there are only two- The Rocky Hill Glastonbury Ferry and the Chester-Hadlyme Ferry which crosses at the base of the Gillette Castle.

Jones has said that he and his co-author, Wick Griswold, decided to write this book to focus awareness on and to generate support for the remaining Ferries. Prof. Jones has said, "The major misconception regarding ferries is that they either are no longer running or that to ride one is something so special as to require a space suit and an insurance rider!" Speaking from first-hand experience, the Chester-Hadlyme Ferry is a delightful summer adventure. Bring a picnic lunch, eat on the Castle Grounds, and then tour this unique attraction.

Before the book came into existence, Jones had asked Griswold to be a producer for a documentary that he was making for Connecticut Public Television called *Ferryboats of the Connecticut River*. Once the documentary was completed, they decided to expand on the exposure by publishing a book on the same topic. The Friends and the public will be able to view the documentary and purchase the book the night of the presentation.

Stephen Jones, who is retired Professor Emeritus in the Maritime Studies Program at the University of Connecticut-Avery Point, has had the life of a true Renaissance man. During this long career, he has served as a lobsterman, dock worker, filmmaker, Coast Guard lighthouse keeper, historian, author, publisher of Flat Hammock Press, and raconteur.

The public is welcome to attend this free presentation, at 7 p.m., at the Fort Trumbull Conference Center. New members are always welcome. Come early as seating is limited. Bring a friend, stay for refreshments, and get to know us. More information about the Fort and the Friends of Fort Trumbull is available on Facebook at Friends of Fort Trumbull State Park.