

Life on Lake Waramaug: Past, Present, Future — May through October 2010

Through pictures, stories and artifacts this wonderful exhibit took visitors on a journey, starting 10,000 years ago with the first inhabitants of the Lake, the Native Americans and Chief Waramaug, to its rise as a 19th century summer resort showcasing the hay day of inns and summer fun on the Lake. This celebration was a collaboration of the Gunn Memorial Library and Museum, Lake Waramaug Association, Lake Waramaug Task Force, Institute for American Indian Studies and Washington Art Association. The exhibit and associated programs were made possible by the generous support of The Community Foundation of Northwest Connecticut in collaboration with the Connecticut Humanities Council.

The following programs enhanced this exhibit:

- May 27: Dr. Lucianne Lavin, Director of Research at the Institute for American Indian Studies, gave a Powerpoint presentation, "**Native Americans at Lake Waramaug**," in the Wykeham Room of the Gunn Library. Dr. Lavin discussed lifeways of the original inhabitants of the Lake, Chief Waramaug and his tribe, as well as findings from past and recent archaeological excavations around the Lake.
- June 12: Connecticut Open House Day. Stephen Bartkus, Gunn Museum Curator, gave a Powerpoint presentation, "**Lake Waramaug: A 19th Century Summer Resort**" in the Wykeham Room of the Gunn Library. Visitors were given a visual tour of the numerous inns, restaurants and cottages that have risen and fallen over the past 150 years on Connecticut's second largest natural lake.
- August 17: In collaboration with the Gunn Junior Library, we hosted a music and story program for children called "**Waterbound by Tom Hanford's Musical Menagerie and Chimneyside Tales**." Tom's show illuminated the history of America's lakes, rivers and canals through songs and stories of steamboat captains, roustabouts and canal hoggees of yesterday.
- October 23: **Oral History Roundtable** where friends and neighbors gathered at the library to reminisce about memories of Lake Waramaug. A reception followed in the Museum.

