**New Themed Behind-the-Scenes Tours at Connecticut Historical Society**

*Every month reveals new treasures*

Hartford, CT (January 2013) – Beginning January 12, 2013, and every second Saturday of the month thereafter, the Connecticut Historical Society will be offering a new series of guided Behind-the-Scenes Tours of its treasure trove of costumes, maps, and artifacts, from the exquisite, fascinating, and unusual to the truly peculiar.

**Behind-the-Scenes Tours:**
Last January saw record crowds at the CHS for the first Behind-the-Scenes Tours offered to the public, and as Executive Director Kate Steinway reflects, “We were gratified by the interest in the special pieces in our collection and we were pleased that we could offer visitors the unique experience of visiting areas that are usually closed to the public.” Few museums in the area offer this level of access to the working areas of their collections, and the CHS tours are especially dramatic because they visit the numerous underground and warehouse-like storage additions to the 1928 historic house located on Elizabeth Street in Hartford, once owned by inventor Curtis H. Veeder.

**New for 2013:**
Building on the popularity of last year’s tours, the 2013 tours will offer new themes each month, highlighting gems of the collection that are not on display to the general public. Visitors are invited to return often to experience all the CHS has to offer. Behind-the-Scenes Tours will be held on the Second Saturday of every month at 11AM and 1PM. Each tour lasts approximately 45 minutes and costs $5 for CHS members and $15 for non-members. Tickets include free admission to the museum for the entire day (value = $8 for adults) as well as free parking. Due to limited space restrictions, preregistration is required at [www.chs.org/calendar](http://www.chs.org/calendar), via email (jennifer_steadman@chs.org), or by phone at (860) 236-5621, ext 289. CHS is located at 1 Elizabeth Street in Hartford.

**The 2013 lineup includes:**

**January 12: Winter Wonderland**
A seasonal exploration of the rich history of winter fun in Connecticut—featuring everything from skates to mittens.

**February 9: CHS Undressed**
Explore CHS costumes with our collection specialist and learn just what it takes to get mannequins ready for display in our Making Connecticut exhibit twice a year.

**March 9: Women’s History Month at CHS—From Corsets to Spanx: Have We Come a Long Way, Baby?**
Look back to the 19th-century to explore how women’s fashions and women’s rights go hand in hand.

**April 13: The Civil War 150 Years Later**
Rare opportunity to see Civil War-related material, including the “Lincoln Flag”—a must see for the 150th anniversary of the Civil War.
May 11: Spring has Sprung
    Dig through gardening tools, seed packets, spring bonnets and more.

June 8: Putting History on the Map
    Abel Buell’s first map of the U.S., Dutch maps from 1600s, and the earliest published maps of Connecticut.

July 13: The CHS Toolbox
    A Yankee craftsmen’s peek at CHS’s incredible collection of vintage tools

August 10: CHS Undressed, Part 2
    Join our collection specialist as she prepares mannequins for the next rotation of costumes in our Making Connecticut exhibit.

September 14: Putting History on the Map, Part 2
    The tour of highlights from our newly cataloged map collection continues, charting even more territory.

October 12: CHS Gets Creepy
    A spooky look at vampires, corpses on ice, death portraits, and séances.

November 9: A Veteran’s Day Remembrance of Military History
    Remembering those who served through their scrapbooks, uniforms, letters, photographs, & weapons.

December 14: G. Fox and Holiday Shopping: Remembering Holidays Past at the CHS
    Take a holiday stroll down memory lane through the CHS’s collection of 1950s-1990s G. Fox memorabilia, store displays, and holiday ornaments.

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About The Connecticut Historical Society:

Founded in 1825, the Connecticut Historical Society is a non-profit museum, library, research and education center. We strive to inspire and foster a life-long interest in history and facilitate a passion for learning about history through research assistance, exhibitions, tours and programs for all ages. Visit www.chs.org or call 860.236.5621.