



Old Fort Western

Old Fort Western Fund
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News from Old Fort Western

For immediate release

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Old Fort Western 2008 Winter Lecture Series Schedule Expands

Old Fort Western's 2008 Winter Lecture Series will get underway Thursday, February 14 and will continue through Sunday, April 6. The series theme is **"To the Nineteenth Century and Beyond: Fort Western, Augusta, and Maine after 1840."**

Two new programs have been added since the original schedule was put together in January, making the series total 15 instead of 13. On March 2nd, Old Fort Western director and curator, Jay Adams, will talk about agricultural practices in 19th-century Maine and New England. On March 27th, filmmaker, Jim Sharkey, will talk show "Hard Work," his film about laboring women in 19th-century Maine. See below for more information about the new as well as the programs originally on the series schedule.

The revised series schedule is as follows:

Thursday, February 14, 7:00 p.m. **Behind the Knee Walls: Nineteenth-Century Artifacts from the Main House Attic.** Speaker: Patricia Violette.

Thursday, February 21, 7:00 p.m.. **"Stand Firm Ye Boys from Maine: the 20th Maine and the Impact of the Civil War in Maine."** Speaker: Historian and author, Thomas A. Desjardin.

Sunday, February 24, 2:00 p.m. **"Signs of the Times: A Museum in the Streets in Augusta Project Preview."** Speaker: Jay Adams.

Thursday, February 28, 7:00 p.m. **"Tenement Tales: Stories about Nineteenth-Century Main House Residents."** Speakers: Janet C. Doerr and Patricia Violette.



*Protecting, Preserving and Interpreting the National Historic Landmark Fort, Store and House
on the Kennebec River in Augusta, Maine's Capital City*

Old Fort Western participates in the Time Travelers and Collette Vacations World Connect membership benefit programs

New! Sunday, March 2, 2:00 p.m. **“The Farmer’s Year: Some Thoughts on Agriculture in 19th-Century Maine.”** Speaker: Jay Adams

Thursday, March 6, 7:00 p.m. **“The Kennebec Arsenal.”** Speaker: Historian and author, Marius Peladeau.

Sunday, March 9, 1:00 p.m. (Note the start time) **“Dinner and a Movie.”** Old Fort Western will host an old-fashioned Sunday pot roast dinner, then show the 1939 classic, *Drums along the Mohawk*, starring Claudette Colbert and Henry Fonda. Program cost is \$15 per person for Friends of Old Fort Western (\$20 per person for all others). Participation is limited to the first 40 people to pre-register. February 29th is the registration deadline. A minimum of 15 people must pre-register for the program to be held. Call 626-2385 or e-mail patti@oldfortwestern.org to register.

Thursday, March 13, 7:00 p.m. **“A History of Kennebec Savings Bank.”** Speaker: Kennebec Savings Bank president, Mark L. Johnston.

Sunday, March 16, 2:00 p.m. **“Against the Tide: Maine Anti-Imperialists in the Age of Empire.”** Speaker: University of Maine historian, Dr. Elizabeth Hazard.

Sunday, March 23, 1:00 to 3:00 p.m. at the Fort. Old Fort Western’s annual **“Maple Syrup Day.”** Tree tapping, sap boiling, and hearth-baked corn bread - all the old-fashioned way. Part of Maine Maple Sunday.

New! Thursday, March 27, 7:00 p.m. **“Hard Work: A Film and Discussion about Laboring Women in 19th-Century Maine.”** Speaker: Filmmaker Jim Sharkey.

Sunday, March 30, 2:00 p.m. **“Made in Maine: From Home and Workshop to Mill and Factory.”** Speaker: Author, historian, and former Maine State Museum director, Paul E. Rivard.

Thursday, April 3, 7:00 p.m. **“Augusta in Pictures: Downtown in the Nineteenth Century.”** Speakers: David and Vivian Dennett.

Sunday, April 6, 2:00 p.m. **“Tenement-Period Tunes: A Nineteenth-Century Musical Review.”** Vocal and instrumental tunes by the Fort Western Singing School, Robert Webb, Alison Le Freeman, Debbie Leschinski, and The Halftones.

Except for Maple Syrup Day (see above) all programs will take place at City Hall, 16 Cony Street, Augusta. Aside from Dinner and a Movie, all programs are free. Donations in support of the Fort’s new Nineteenth-Century Initiative will be gladly accepted.

Call 626-2385 or go to www.oldfortwestern.org from week to week for more information on each program during the series period.