

The Friends of Fort Trumbull S.P. to present
“A Song of Whales and Men”



Songs of pride, bravado, pity, sadness, grief, triumph and despair- all of these emotions can be found in the music which depicts mariners' relationship with the Goliaths of the sea. Rick Spencer and Geoff Kaufman, internationally known authorities on the history and presentation of traditional maritime songs, in collaboration with Mystic Seaport, will present a new musical program on man's relationship with cetaceans, using songs from a variety of whaling cultures and periods to explore this multifaceted relationship.

Geoff Kaufman and Rick Spencer met at Mystic Seaport, where they have both been on staff for over 25 years. They have presented on all three American coasts and in Canada, England, France, and other European countries. Information will be included on man's early whaling, the "golden age" of whaling, modern industrial whaling, and the "Save the Whales" movement.

This musical program is timed to coincide with the activities planned for the newly-restored whaling vessel CHARLES W.MORGAN, which is being prepared to sail again in 2014. This voyage, her 38th, will be the first one since 1921, when she retired from whaling to teach her part of the story of Whaling on the High Seas. This time, however, instead of hunting whales, the old vessel will be on a symbolic voyage of reconciliation, searching for ways to better understand our relationship with whales.

The presentation will take place on Thursday, May 29, 2014, at 7 p.m., at the Conference Center at Fort Trumbull, New London. The event is open to the public free of charge, but seating is limited. New members to the Friends are encouraged and welcome. Refreshments will follow the presentation.