

## **Wassail Weekend Events**

We begin a week full of weather uncertainties. One thing for certain is there is no going backwards to the balmy days of fall! And so, it feels right that we are within a month of Woodstock's Wassail Weekend.

We kick our weekend of activities with a concert, December 14<sup>th</sup> featuring the Whiffenpoofs, Yale University's acclaimed collegiate a cappella singing group founded in 1909. One might ask why the peculiar name for a troupe that performs in tuxedos and white gloves? Answer: one of the founding members Denton Fowler was taken with the name he drew from Victor Herbert's 1908 Operetta: Little Nemo, that featured the Whiffenpoofs, a mythical dragonfish. Boy scouts may also know the term as an item used for tracking devices. Regardless we look forward to presenting this accomplished and now co-ed group of young talented performers. Tickets are still available [pentanglearts.org/event/whiffenpoofs](http://pentanglearts.org/event/whiffenpoofs).

We will be in early Saturday morning December 14<sup>th</sup> to open the doors for the hundreds of participants going on Pentangle's 18<sup>th</sup> Annual Holiday House Tour. A heartfelt thank you to the village homeowners opening their doors, and the nearly 100 volunteers both of whom make the event possible!

Over the years I've heard a wide range of perspectives about the Holiday House Tour and Wassail Weekend. Obviously, those who return year after year love the experience and welcome a warm place to sit and snack on concession items before, during and after the Tour. Some residents resent the traffic and congestion between our activities and the plethora of others offered by the numerous organizations and businesses who participate.

While it is a busy, crowded weekend, it is an inescapable fact that we all --non-profits, businesses, churches, artisans alike-- rely on the income that flows into the village over the weekend to help sustain us through the shoulder seasons when tourism is down and when many of our homeowners leave for warmer climes.

We close out the busy day with an encore performance by the fiery Celtic group Coig, at 8:00 pm December 14<sup>th</sup>. Though their long-time band member player, Jason Roach has moved on, we are thrilled to welcome his 2019 replacement, Acadian multi-instrumentalist Zakk Cormier from Prince Edward Island. Zaak is a dynamic musician with deep roots in his own Franco-Celtic tradition. Tickets are still available at [pentanglearts.org/event/coig](http://pentanglearts.org/event/coig).

On Sunday, December 15<sup>th</sup> at 2:00 pm it is our annual Cookies with Santa at 2:00 pm and screening of the 2018 version of the Grinch at 3:00 pm. Kiddos should come with their Christmas wishes, and be prepared for some holiday treats! [pentanglearts.org/event/cookies-with-santa](http://pentanglearts.org/event/cookies-with-santa).

We close out the weekend with our 36<sup>th</sup> Annual Messiah Sing this year featuring conductor, Mary Westbrook-Geha, Artistic Director of the Putney-based Blanche Moyse Chorale.

The Chorale was founded in 1978 by Blanche Moyse as a chamber choir which focused primarily on the Church Cantatas and other choral works of J.S. Bach, and was showcased in the annual New England Bach Festival, as well as in other concert settings.

Under Mary Westbrook-Geha's leadership, the Chorale has expanded on its beloved Bach and now explores an ever-widening range of repertoire with a fresh commitment to the highest level of choral excellence, precision and beauty of tone.

### **On the Free Screen:**

#### **The Game Changers**

On Tuesday, November 19, 2019 at 6:00 pm join us for a screening of The Game Changers, as part of our Climate Change and Sustainability Film Series presented with Sustainable Woodstock.

The Game Changers is a film produced by James Cameron, Arnold Schwarzenegger and Jackie Chan that documents the explosive rise of plant-based eating in professional sports, mixing real-time, groundbreaking science with cinematic stories of struggle and triumph.

Admission is free with a \$10 donation graciously accepted!

### **On the Big Screen:**

#### **Current War: The Directors Cut (PG-13)**

Thomas Edison and George Westinghouse -- the greatest inventors of the industrial age -- engage in a battle of technology and ideas that will determine whose electrical system will power the new century. Hence, war of the currents! Backed by J.P. Morgan, Edison dazzles the world by lighting Manhattan. But Westinghouse, aided by Nikola Tesla, sees fatal flaws in Edison's direct current design. Westinghouse and Tesla bet everything on risky and dangerous alternating current.

Show times:

- Friday, November 15, 2019 at 7:30 pm
- Saturday, November 16, 2019 at 7:30 pm
- Sunday, November 17, 2019 at 3:00 pm
- Monday, November 18, 2019 at 7:30 pm