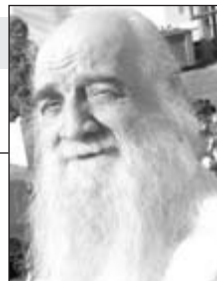


# Arts

## John Luttman's Joke of the Week

Q. Why did the fish cross the river?  
See answer page 23



## for the ARTS record

### A SAFE PLACE HOSTS ART COMPETITION



A Safe Place is hosting the second annual Children Against Child Abuse art competition with each participating child receiving a small wooden house to decorate in a way that tells their story of what makes a safe home. The goal of the competition is for local children to learn about child abuse and relay to the community that Nantucket can and should be free from such suffering.

The project was created last year by Kristen Brock, A Safe Place coordinator. With funding provided by The Toy Boat on Straight Wharf, Brock approached local organizations and businesses seeking their support for the project to deliver the message, "Every Home Should Be A Safe Home." Brock felt that using the beauty, joy and strength of children's art would be a more effective way to communicate the message than through reports or speeches. Using shoe boxes, glue and other materials, last year the children created vivid stories expressing what child abuse is, why it must stop and how to prevent it. After a judging by island artists, each child was praised and rewarded with a Stop and Shop reusable grocery bag containing the community's message of love and encouragement to them. There were also prizes and an awards ceremony.

With the generous support of the Nantucket Arts Council, The Toy Boat and many local businesses and individuals, this year the competition is expanding and the children will have art supplies to use in decorating their individual wooden homes. Also this year, the sites for decorating has doubled, including use Nantucket Boys and Girls Club, and it is anticipated that many more children will take part in this powerful project. There is no charge to enter the competition.

"I can't wait to see what these talented young people come up with this year," said Loren Brock, owner of The Toy Boat. "These kids are real artists. They took the message and ran with it. The houses that they created last year were so insightful and touching. I expect this year to be even more remarkable now that they have paint and paper. I am very excited to be a part of this."

For more information on becoming part of the project call Kristen Brock at A Safe Place, 228-0561.

### POETRY FOR PEACE

Spoken Word, Nantucket's poetry reading series, continues this Sunday, March 16 with an open mic — Poets Against War — from 2-4 p.m. at the Umass Field Station/Grace Grossman Environmental Center, 180 Polpis Rd.

This reading marks the soon to be fifth anniversary (March 19) of the Iraq war. Poets are encour-

aged to bring a poem that best voices their feelings about war. This reading is in conjunction with The Nantucket Peace and Justice events.

The featured poet will be Eric "Zork" Alan, a four-time National Slam Poet and author of "Things to do with Beer Bottles" and "I am NOT a poet". Alan is probably best known for standing on chairs. He is also known for gratuitously dropping names, like that he is the only poet ever to have his book ("I am NOT a poet") blurbed by Davy Jones, Dobie Gray & Wild Cherry. Zork has appeared at many poetry venues around the country, including Boston's Cantab, Worcester's Java Hut, Providence's AS220, Ann Arbor's Slam and Chicago's legendary Green Mill, where slam started. He hosts Westchester County, New York's two largest poetry series.

For more information: 774-836-5035 or [www.nantucketpoetryslam.org](http://www.nantucketpoetryslam.org)

### SILVER LADLE PURCHASED FOR NHA COLLECTION



The Nantucket Historical Association's Max and Heidi Berry Acquisition Fund has purchased, for the NHA collection, a sterling silver ladle that was presented to *Essex* Captain Daniel E. Russell in 1819.

Daniel E. Russell was the captain of the whale ship *Essex* between 1811 and 1817. The ladle was presented to Russell in 1819 by the *Essex's* owners and crew, after he had left the ship and became captain of the whaleship *Aurora*. The ill-fated *Essex* was stove by an 80-ton sperm whale in November 1820. The few survivors were not rescued until February 1821, thus providing Herman Melville with the story line for *Moby Dick*.

The sterling ladle was made by Theophilus Bradbury, circa 1815, in Newport, R.I., and is

engraved at the top end of the coffin-shaped handle: "Ship *Essex* to Dan Russell, April 1819." The ladle remained in the Russell family, being passed down to George G. Russell in 1885, as noted on a subsequent engraving, until the owners of the ladle, direct descendants of Captain Daniel E. Russell, offered the item to the NHA.

"This recent gift to our collection has an important, wonderful history," said Executive Director Bill Tramosch. "The NHA is so pleased to have an additional link to the whale ship *Essex*, and this acquisition will be immediately showcased in our *Essex* display. We are immensely grateful to the Berrys for this generous gift, and for their continuing support."

### NEW ZEALAND AND NANTUCKET

Nantucket Historical Association Executive Director Bill Tramosch will present "New Zealand and Nantucket" at the NHA's Food for Thought Series on Thursday, March 20, 2008, in the Whaling Museum, 13 Broad Street, at noon. Admission is free, and bring your lunch.

The relationship between Nantucket and New Zealand has been strong due largely to Nantucket whalers. As the NHA plans a special Explorations tour of New Zealand for 2009, Tramosch will explore some of these connections, focusing on the special places in the New Zealand landscape that express these historic relationships.

Tramosch was raised in Connecticut. Prior to moving to Nantucket in 2006, he lived in New Zealand for 10 years. His knowledge of that county and its whaling heyday, juxtaposed with his insight into Nantucket as the one-time whaling capital of the world, will open wide the window of similarities between these two distant lands.

The March 27 Food for Thought will feature Pat Butler, who will discuss "Sea Captains' Houses and Rose Covered Cottages."

### FIND THE POT-O-GOLD

The Nantucket Lightship Basket Museum will conduct the "Pot-O-Gold" Scavenger Hunt Saturday & Sunday, March 15 and 16 and invites children of all ages to find the pot-o-gold while learning about lightship baskets and the current exhibit, "On My Own Time." Those visitors keen enough to complete the treasure map will win a prize as well as learn many new facts about the NLBM, lightship baskets and their makers.

The scavenger hunt and the Youth Weaving Program are both part of an ongoing initiative to involve young people in the Nantucket Lightship Basket Museum. Another six-week youth weaving course began on March 10 and is free of charge thanks to a generous grant provided by the Nantucket Golf Club Foundation. Local basketmaker and longtime NLBM volunteer, Dale Rutherford, teaches the class comprised of young people ages 11-17.

The "Pot-O-Gold" Scavenger Hunt will be held at the Nantucket Lightship Basket Museum, 49 Union Street. The program is free with the cost of admission to the Museum and offered at no cost to NLBM members.

Youth weaving classes are held each Monday from 2:30-5:00 p.m. For more information regarding NLBM's Youth Weaving Program or adult basket classes call the NLBM at 228-1177. ■