

Old Lyme Historical Society
Thursday April 23rd @ 7:00pm 55 Lyme Street, Old Lyme CT

Caring for your Treasures: The Art and Science of Furniture Conservation

Guest lecturer and nationally recognized wood conservator Tad D. Fallon will speak on the care and preservation of historic furniture and wooden artifacts.

Topics include how furniture conservators examine objects, what they look for, and how they formulate intervention strategies. Tips on surface examination techniques, deciphering patina, and identifying past interventions will be discussed.

Small museum and personal collections upkeep, along with the dos and don'ts of furniture care will be outlined. This talk is filled with practical knowledge that will interest anyone with family heirlooms, wood furnishings or detailing in their home they want to preserve for future generations.

Immediately following the talk, there will be an informal question-and-answer session. Participants are welcome to bring a small object or photos for discussion.

Tad D. Fallon Bio

Tad grew up around art and antiques, working within the family business, Copake Auctions Inc., prior to college. In 1991, after beginning college as a studio art major, he entered the Fashion Institute of Technology's Restoration program in New York City and studied decorative arts restoration. After graduation with a BFA in 1993, he was hired by Sotheby's Restoration, and was soon promoted to supervisor of the Finishing Department.

In 1996, he was accepted to the Smithsonian Institution's graduate Furniture Conservation Training Program, and from 1999-2000, Tad served a graduate internship at the Metropolitan Museum of Art's Sherman Fairchild Center for Objects Conservation. He holds a certificate of completion from the Smithsonian Institution and an MA in Conservation from Antioch University, in Yellow Springs, Ohio.

In 2000, he formed a business partnership with fellow Smithsonian classmate and renowned furniture maker, Randy Wilkinson to open the private conservation practice Fallon & Wilkinson, LLC, where he specializes in the treatment and research of both historic and modern surfaces, colorants, and coatings. His client list includes the U.S. Department of the Treasury in Washington, D.C., The Florence Griswold Museum, Yale University Art Gallery, The Roosevelt Vanderbilt National Historic Sites, Blithewold Mansion and Gardens, The Newport Restoration Foundation, Brown University, and many other public and private collections.

Tad resides in Old Lyme with his wife Jennifer and their two sons.