

ANNUAL FOUNDERS' DAY LECTURE
SUNDAY, OCTOBER 24, 2010
2 P.M. at 1508 High Ridge Road

Visit our latest exhibit
“Kids’ Stuff: Tracing the Lives of Children through their Possessions”

Come hear Shirley Teresa Wajda speak about
“Childhood in Mark Twain’s America”

What was it like to be a child in Mark Twain’s America? Ms. Wajda will give an illustrated talk reconstructing children’s lives. She will explore their possessions, from schoolbooks to clothing to toys. We will learn about children’s rooms and American social thinking about children and childhood in the Gilded Age.

Speaker: Shirley Teresa Wajda is the Project Historian for the *Encyclopedia of Connecticut History*, a program of the Connecticut Humanities Council. She is a cultural historian with a specialty in American material and visual culture. She has published essays on children’s cabinets of curiosities, nineteenth-century commercial portrait photography, the invention of the bridal shower, and Martha Stewart. With Helen Sheumaker, she edited *Material Culture in America: Understanding Everyday Life* (2008), the first encyclopedia on the topic. Exhibitions include *Designing Domesticity: Decorating the American Home since 1876* and *The Kokoon Arts Club: Cleveland Revels!*, both at the Kent State University Museum. She has taught at universities on the East Coast and in the Corn and Rust Belts.

Admission: Free to members of the Stamford Historical Society
\$5 for non - members

Reservations are recommended.

Please contact the Society at 203-329-1183.