

# **ZEB-Schooner Life**

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**\*\*\* Media Release \*\*\***

## **Famed Chilmark Mariners Celebrated**

CHILMARK, MA- The lives of Zebulon Northrup and George Fred Tilton, two of Chilmark's most illustrious sons, were celebrated on Friday, August 1 at the Chilmark Library. The featured presentation was the new documentary, *ZEB-Schooner Life*.

In comments opening the evening, the film's director, Gordon Massingham praised the accomplishments of the two famed sea captains from this Martha's Vineyard town. Zeb Tilton gained national recognition as master of the iconic schooner *Alice S. Wentworth* as he moved cargoes along the Atlantic Seacoast. His older brother, George Fred Tilton was captain of seven different whaleships, gaining great fame for a remarkable 2,000 mile trek across Alaska to rescue whalemens stranded in the ice off Point Barrow.

Massingham went on to point out that their stories are told in the film with the help of a number of residents of Chilmark – fisherman Jimmy Morgan, retired harbormaster Fred Littleton, and the late Robert Flanders. Another Chilmark figure featured in the documentary is the eminent artist Thomas Hart Benton, once a longtime summer resident of the town.

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The evening was sponsored by the Friends of the Chilmark Library and drew a near capacity audience, some of whom were related to the famed brothers.

Next up for *ZEB-Schooner Life* is an outdoor showing at Ocean Park in Oak Bluffs on Saturday, August 9, sponsored by the Martha's Vineyard Festival. The Whaling Church in Edgartown, which plays a role in the film, will be the site for another screening on August 20.

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