In order to recognize the hundredth anniversary of the end of World War I and the founding of Armistice Day, today celebrated as Veterans Day, the Museum & Archives is hosting an exhibit in the Procter Gallery. The display contains many items from the collection of author and historian, David Rutstein. Rutstein has always had an interest in World War I, especially the propaganda connected to it. The United States did not have to enter this war! However President Wilson thought otherwise. Propaganda was extensively used to convince the American public that entrance into this conflict was justified.

This exhibit illustrates how mass media such as newspapers, magazines, popular sheet music, silent movies (not exhibited), and especially posters, were used to garner support for the war. Two posters in the exhibit (pictured above) were designed to solicit war bonds to help fund the war.

David has organized exhibits on World War I at the Berkshire Athenaeum in Pittsfield, the Western Gateway State Park in North Adams, and the Mason Library in Great Barrington.
Rutstein’s favorite artifacts from his World War I collection are the decorated propeller (not pictured) and the original advertising sign of the *Lusitania* that probably hung in the New York City offices of the Cunard Line (pictured on page 1 upper left). They are both one-of-a-kind treasures from the war.

Stop by for a better look at this amazing collection. It will be available through Saturday, November 24th.

**NOVEMBER EVENTS**

**November 13 at 6:30 pm** in the Bement Room, Gary Leveille will talk about his newest book, *Southern Berkshires Through Times*.

**November 30 at 5:00 pm** in the Bement Room, ‘Readings Around The Hearth’ presentation – seasonal readings by volunteers in period costume.