

Maritime Messenger

Newsletter of the Havre de Grace Maritime Museum



Fall 2011

Director's Notes

As the warm weather winds down and the leaves start to turn the bright colors of fall, the Maritime Museum is happy to report that we had a wonderful summer. Our Summer Concert Series started off with the jazzy sound of The Willmatics. The band's great sound attracted 180 music lovers to our event tent. They were so popular that we asked them to perform at our September Crab Feast where they knocked the socks off the guests. If you miss hearing The Willmatics, stop by our Museum Store where we are selling their CD. We were also serenaded by Calico Jack, Bob Zentz and Don Shappelle, who brought rich Chesapeake history and sounds to our Museum each Monday in July. If you missed their performances please be on the lookout next summer as we hope that they will come back. Thanks to Captain John and his crew of *The Mystic Whaler*, a reconstructed schooner, who so graciously donated their time and services of a day sail and luncheon to raise operating funds for the Maritime Museum. Thanks to Jackie and Martin Hoover for making a wonderful gift box for the Captain and crew and the door prizes for the day sail. The Hoovers are wonderful new friends of the Maritime Museum.

Thanks to all of our serious crab eaters who came to our Crab Feast and made it a huge success - we hope to see you next year. I wish to personally thank 'Charlie' and Phil Barker for all of the hard work they did in putting on the Crab Feast - it would not have happened without them. Also, thanks to Cecil Hill who knows everyone in Havre de Grace and single-handedly sold half of the tickets!

In recognizing the Barkers I would like to ask you, our members and friends, to think about volunteering on our Events Committee. The Maritime Museum desperately needs friends to serve on our Events Committee as we cannot keep asking volunteers such as the Barkers to volunteer to organize every fundraiser. What? You say you don't think that you would make a difference? Nonsense! You can volunteer to make a few phone calls to get sponsors or help us set up, brainstorm ideas for events, decorate, etc. Anything and all skills would be appreciated. Some people think that if they volunteer they will "get sucked in" to doing it all. I can assure you that if you decide to volunteer for the Maritime Museum that will not happen. You can work as much or as little as your schedule allows. We have so much fun here that working does not even seem like work because we are enjoying the time together. We greatly need volunteers at the Maritime Museum - please think about being a part of the "life" of the Museum. You would be amazed just how fulfilling volunteering can be.

If the Events Committee is not something that you think you would like to volunteer for, but you are still interested in volunteering we have many opportunities such as being a docent (tour guide) in the Boat School or in the exhibits gallery, helping with school groups, helping to create programming, helping with our building and grounds, helping with our capital campaign, or maybe you have some unique talent which we must cultivate -contact us and let us know!!!

Sincerely,

Darlene Perry,
Executive Director

Nautical Word

Baggywrinkle: is a soft covering for cables (or any other obstructions) to reduce sail chafe. There are many points in the rig of a large sailing ship where the sails come into contact with the standing rigging; unprotected sails would soon develop holes at the points of contact. Baggywrinkle provides a softer wearing surface for the sail.

Baggywrinkle is made from short pieces of yarn cut from old lines that have been taken out of service. Two parallel lengths of marline are stretched between fixed points, and the lengths of yarn are attached using a hitch - similar to a cow hitch - called a "railroad sennit". This creates a long, shaggy fringe which, when the marline is wound around a cable, becomes a large hairy cylinder. (Cited from Wikipedia.)



'Charlie' Barker
Phil Barker
Cecil and Kathryn Hill

❧ Fall/Winter Hours ❧

September 1st - April 30th
Mon, Wed, Fri, Sat, Sun
10 am - 5 pm

We have decided to
permanently offer
FREE ADMISSION

Stop by for a visit! The Museum is a great place to spend a cool autumn day indoors (out of the rain). We hope you will come in with your friends and families and enjoy all that we have to offer! Spread the word!

❧ What *Knots Shop ❧

Have you visited our Gift Shop and noticed our popular hand-made *Cloth Necklaces*? These necklaces are unique, affordable, lightweight and great for travel. Available in almost 20 beautiful colors. Perfect for birthday or holiday gifts. Pick one up for yourself, too!



❧ Collections Corner ❧

Plans for reorganizing the Collection storage area have been put on hold due to the lack of manpower and a limited budget. We are hoping to complete the task of organizing artifacts before the New Year.

We are currently working on a new exhibit space. This new space will be dedicated to educating young visitors about the Chesapeake region, Native Americans, the English settlers, watermen, boat building and more! At the moment the plans for this space are in the beginning stages. The proposed idea is to fabricate a "boat" to contain the space. Kids will be able to walk up a gang plank into the boat to explore and discover many activities. Some of these activities include: a boat wheel and bell for them to play with; a dress up area so kids can be a sailor or a waterman; a television with educational videos which correspond to our exhibits; puzzles, discovery boxes, a felt board with different shapes allowing children to create maritime scenes; and a small library filled with children's books related to our mission, such as boat building for kids and Chesapeake Bay books.

If you would like to donate to this project, please be sure to contact the museum so we can make arrangements. Our Museum can expand and thrive with the help of your generosity!

Keira Gruber - Collections Manager

❧ Contact Us ❧

Darlene Perry, Executive Director

- General Museum Inquiries, Donations, Events, Fundraising, Volunteering

Jessica Calder, Office Manager

- General Museum Inquiries, Web Site, Facility Rentals, Gift Shop Information, Events, Newsletter

Keira Gruber, Collections Manager

- General Museum Inquiries, Membership, Collections, Donations, Exhibits

Phone: 410-939-4800

Email: museum@comcast.net

Web: www.hdgmaritimemuseum.org

❧ Upcoming Events ❧

Lecture: "Hurricanes and the Chesapeake Bay Region"
Wednesday, October 12, 7 pm

Lecture: "The History of the C&D Canal"
Thursday, October 27, 7 pm

Lecture: "The History of Gunpowder Neck (Edgewood)"
Wednesday, November 9, 7 pm

Founder's Day
Saturday, November 12, 10 am - 5 pm

Maritime Christmas
Sunday, December 11, 10 am - 5 pm

For details on each event, please visit the **Events Calendar** page at www.hdgmaritimemuseum.org

~ President's Remarks ~

We all worked hard on our Crab Feast! Hurricane Irene and Tropical Storm Lee did not treat us very nice. Because of the flooding around our Museum, we determined on Friday, September 9, 2011, that we could not use our tent for our Crab Feast and the Canoe Rendezvous was also in jeopardy. Several Board Members, regular members and staff got together that Friday morning and decided to move our Crab Feast to another venue. We hoped the local Elks Lodge would be available and it was. So, we changed our venue. What a team effort! Everyone, including volunteers pitched in to make it successful. We're on a roll. It was the second fully successful fundraiser this year that made money for the Museum. Thank you to the Elks Lodge for hosting us, and to our Board and Volunteers for helping to pull it all together. Also, a big Thank You to those who attended!

We need to continue these types of fundraisers to help keep our doors open. We need to keep working together, sharing the load, cooperatively. We cannot expect only a few to do all of the work. Please volunteer.

Thanks to everyone who helps to support our Museum and its programs.

Phil Barker
President

~ Birds of the Chesapeake ~

Have you stopped in to see our newest temporary exhibit? "Birds of the Chesapeake" is a collection of paintings by Kelly Singleton, a local Havre de Grace Artist. On display until early November, the paintings are occupying our newly refurbished temporary exhibit space. A fresh coat of paint really makes the space stand out.

On display you will find seven of Kelly's stunning paintings in various mediums.

Included in this collection:

Blue Grosbeak
Green Heron
Carolina Wren
Cardinal
Canvasback
Hooded Merganser
Sanderling

For more information visit Kelly's website: www.kellysingleton.com

~ Membership Information ~

Student	\$15.00
Individual	\$25.00
Family	\$50.00
Individual Life	\$400.00
Family Life	\$600.00
Corporate Annual	\$1600.00

Membership benefits include:
Advance Notice of Special Events
E-Newsletters
Free Admission
and now a **20% Discount** in the
What* Knots Museum Shop.

~ Why Become a Member? ~

When visitors come to the Maritime Museum and express a love of what they see or they are excited by a lecture they just heard we will often say "If you love what you have seen why not become a member?" By becoming a member you will support the events, exhibits, programming, and lectures we provide—in truth you will be a part of the life of the Museum. Our Maritime Museum is more than a place of static exhibits—we are a gathering place for the people of Havre de Grace and the Upper Bay Region. In a time where people spend more time on their cell phones and Facebook the Museum is a local place where we can gather and learn about interesting topics and subjects—together—as a community. Many studies have found that people are substituting interfacing with their computers more than they experience face time with their neighbors. You can change this trend by joining the Maritime Museum and supporting our mission. Unsure of what our mission is?

The Havre de Grace Maritime Museum's mission is to *Collect, Document, Preserve, and Interpret the maritime skills and cultural heritage of the Lower Susquehanna River and Upper Chesapeake Bay region.* And how do we accomplish this? Through our exhibits, temporary exhibits, programming, and educational lectures. This year we have branched out and have added natural history and local ecology lectures to our calendar and they have been very well attended. In fact, our last lecture "The Eagles of APG" by biologist Joe Ondeck was standing room only!

It was so popular that Joe has agreed to partner with the Museum and provide two lectures a year - one on the Eagles and one on the other wildlife that he takes care of on APG. But we need you to support us to help us keep the Museum going so we can continue to be a meeting place for local citizens to gather, learn, and enjoy each other's company. So, won't you please become a member of the Maritime Museum? If you were a member some years ago please renew your membership and "Come on home!"

Chesapeake Wooden Boat Building School

The Boat School started the new semester fulfilling a promise made some time ago. Joe Squires, the builder who finished the new upper level of the Museum as well as the new Boat School, offered to lower the final bill for the Boat School by \$5,000 if we would restore an old boat of his. In September, Ned Colburn and his crew completed the boat - a St. Lawrence skiff estimated to be over 100 years old - and returned it to Joe, fulfilling our part of the agreement.

The fall semester started and we have a total of 24 students. One of our new projects will be a lapstrake ultra-light boat. We haven't built one in quite a while, so it will be a learning experience for the new folks.

The Grady-White which we were restoring for Jack Bosen was returned to him during the summer. It was a wooden lapstrake boat built in the early 1960's and will be used in Georgia.

The Boat School has new T-shirts for sale. Ernie Dubble and his daughter came up with a revision of the design we have been using for many years. It simplifies the old design and makes it "less busy"!

We have just returned from our annual trip to St. Michaels for the Mid-Atlantic Small Craft Festival. More than 30 folks from the Boat School showed up at the weekend event, and had a wonderful time. The weather started out great, and some of the early attendees spent several good days on the water, but the front came thru Saturday afternoon and the weather became cold and windy. Ken Price came back from Washington State to join us, and Chris and Kay Wilson had the inaugural launch of their sailboat that they built at the school. Joe Manning and others provided a camp feast Saturday evening, and Al Ault caned away the weekend. Joe Manning received an award for his 1915 Old Town canoe, and Ron Blackwell and his wife were recognized by the Mid-Atlantic Small Craft Association for their many years of support to that group.

- Bud Gillis, Boat School Instructor

Boat School Information

Interested in the Boat School? Stop by the lower level of the Museum on Tuesday nights from 7-9 to speak with the guys. If you would like to join, log on to www.harford.edu next semester to register! Also don't forget about our popular Teen Boat Building Camp: June 25 - 30, 2012. Call or email for details.



Flooding from "Leo" forced us to move our Crab Feast from our tent, but fortunately our Museum did not sustain any damage.

The Havre de Grace Maritime Museum is a 501(C)3 Non-Profit Organization dedicated to collecting, preserving, interpreting, and documenting the Maritime skills and heritage of the Lower Susquehanna River and Upper Chesapeake Bay.

