



Issue 4 Summer 2015

# The Maritime Messenger

Newsletter of the Havre de Grace Maritime Museum

Welcome to our new and returning members!

- Mike & Sue Capp
- Roland Lapointe
- Michelle Kenner
- Joseph & Maggie Brock
- Jeff Swift
- Irene Scheff
- Mark Pry
- Jerry & Lynn Van Keuren
- Paul Carrick
- Robert & Linda Topol
- Jean M. Johnson
- Ann & David Brownlee
- Shelby Fillinger
- Don Daniel

## Upcoming Events

### Summer Concert Series

Ongoing  
June 10 to August 12  
Wednesday nights from  
7-9pm.

### Kids' Summer Storytime

Ongoing  
June 25 to August 20  
Thursday mornings at  
10:15am.

Meet the Author -  
*Leviathan's Master*  
August 19, at 7pm.

## Letter From the President

It is mid-summer now, and summer's heat and humidity and afternoon thunderstorms remind us that the seasons have always been an important part of life on the Bay.

Our new director of our Environmental Center, Dr. John Leader, has "taken the helm," and working with our volunteers, donors, grantors and the community with the expectation of a fall ribbon cutting and grand opening.

Over this past year, we have been working closely with the other Havre de Grace museums and volunteers from the Skipjack *Martha Lewis*. I have been impressed by the dedication and competence of the leadership of each. In particular, we have been working closely with the Concord Point Lighthouse on joint programming. Steppingstone Farm Museum transferred a historic artifact to us that will be displayed to complement our new *City of Norfolk* exhibit, currently under construction in our main gallery. We are collaborating with the Decoy Museum on clearing our invasive species along the city Promenade waterfront. We hope to forge an alliance with the *Martha Lewis* for joint environmental programs. What struck me though are the differences in each museum and organization. One major difference is that we are NOT a historic building or working boat. The Maritime Museum building (and adjacent grounds) is not a historic structure, i.e., an attraction. Our building and grounds display historic artifacts, and our grounds include a wetland and shoreline forested area. We must give ample credit to our Exhibits' Committee, Boat Shop and our Environmental Center Steering Committee for their interests and focus on all that it takes to preserve, research, build, display and restore what is old and/or alive to educate and tell the stories of our maritime heritage.

I have been often asked, *Why an environmental center at a maritime museum?* My answer is an easy one, though it often startles those asking. Mariners have great respect for the waters on which they work and play!

Please read on in our newsletter. We have much to report.

Bruce Russell,

President



# Annual Concert Series

With the summer season now in full swing, our annual summer concert series is well underway; a myriad of talented performers appearing (or, in some cases, reappearing) in this year's concerts. Every week from mid-June to mid-August, the Museum hosts musicians both from the Chesapeake Bay region and beyond. The summer concerts are held in our main gallery, on Wednesday evenings. In the wake of last year's success, we once again worked with editor-in-chief of *Chesapeake Bay Magazine*, folk music impresario, and musician in her own right, the multitalented Janie Meneely, to organize our concert schedule. Later this fall, in early December (our annual Holidays' concert), and in early spring, we will present three additional concerts ... Please consult our website or Facebook page for the dates, times and musicians.

The geographical and cultural diversity of the acts presented in our lineup is amazing. Artists featured so far include the ever-popular Irish balladeer and humorist Seamus Kennedy, originally from Belfast, as well as Ian Bell, a Canadian singer-songwriter and accomplished multi-instrumentalist. Scottish balladeers Alan Reid and Rob van Sante shared their traditional music with us. We also enjoyed musicians whose maritime melodies originate a little closer to our neighborhood, including troubadour Bob Zentz, the duo of Teresa Whitaker and Frank Schwartz, The Salty Dogs, The Jolly Tars, as well as the multitalented group, Calico Jenny. Segueing into the progress of our forthcoming Environmental Center, folk duo *Magpie* recently took the stage with a repertoire of their own songs, dealing with themes of social justice and environmental renewal, evocative of the "protest music" that characterized the early stages of the movement in the '60s. Regional favorite Don Shappelle, a staunch advocate of Chesapeake Bay cleanup efforts, imparted to us his own thoughtfully-crafted songs laced with the beauty and magic of the Bay shore and his beloved Susquehanna River.

The Havre de Grace Maritime Museum's Concert Series is brought to you with the support of the Maryland State Arts Council and is presented inside the museum's air-conditioned exhibit hall. Audience seating is provided; refreshments (beer and wine) are available for purchase. The \$10 (\$15 for our Holidays' concert) admission goes to support the artists who so generously offer their time and talent to highlight the maritime heritage of Havre de Grace and the Chesapeake Bay. For more information, contact the museum at 410-939-4800, or visit us online at [www.hdgmaritimemuseum.org](http://www.hdgmaritimemuseum.org).

*Coming this Fall...*

**Crabtoberfest**

September 26, from 6-9pm.



## Board of Directors

**Bruce Russell**, President  
**David Dulik**, Vice President  
**Philip Barker**,  
Vice Pres. for Public Relations  
**Ann Dulik**, Treasurer  
**Laura Rothenberg Haug**,  
Secretary

## Staff

**Dr. John W. Leader**,  
Environmental Center Director

**Juliette Moore**,  
Museum Assistant

# Environmental Center Progress

There's been a lot of activity as the Havre de Grace Maritime Museum advances toward the official opening of our new Environmental Center (EC). The Environmental Steering Committee has been working on Project Charters for the EC that can now be easily modified and used for marketing, fund-raising, budgeting, and grant applications. The Charters will provide guidance in the development and operation of the EC Lab, Classroom, Exhibit Gallery, and Outdoor Living Classroom (shoreline, wetland, and upland grounds of the Museum). The Committee is also developing an equipment list of lab equipment, furnishings, tools, and supplies we will need to get launched in all these areas.

With the help of the Chesapeake Bay Trust, the MD-DNR-Chesapeake and Coastal Service, the City of Havre de Grace, and the MD-Critical Area Commission, we are designing, planning, funding, and implementing an extensive restoration of the shoreline and wetland at the Museum. The result will be the creation of our "living classroom," which will support multiple education programs for kids through seniors, and for the general public visiting the HdG Promenade.

Real progress is already being made on the start-up of the Center! During River Sweep, back in April, our friends from Vulcan Materials Company's Havre de Grace quarry operation, and other volunteers, removed two tons of debris from our wetland. Already this summer, Lions Club volunteers and the City of HdG have helped with grounds clean-up and maintenance. Additionally, we've connected with the Master Gardeners and the Maryland Native Plant Society, who will lend their skills to help guide us in our wetland and upland native planting projects. We also have local media experts designing digital interactive software for touch screen exhibits in both the museum and EC gallery (Does anyone have great rockfish or waterfowl photos, current or historic?)

Meanwhile, the EC Lab has been prepped for painting of the ceiling, walls, and sprinkler system pipes. The elevator installation is going well, too; hydraulics are in place, the car and lifting machinery are installed in the shaft, and the mechanical room is taking shape on the top floor. With all the contractors, inspections, funding management, etc. necessary to get it done, it is not a simple and quick endeavor. More and more, however, everyone is realizing what a tremendous asset it will be to the EC and the Museum in general.

On other fronts, some of our volunteers have been sampling Swan Creek each week to add samples to a larger research project being done by the Chesapeake Bay Foundation, at Harford Community College, looking at bacteria levels in streams leading to the Bay. In May, we attended the Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math (STEM) Summit at APG, sponsored by the Northeastern Maryland Technology Council (NMTC). This appears to be a worthwhile forum to hear about local STEM education programs, organizations, and resources, and to network with others who are active in this area. The Museum also had a display (boat and table) at the "Watermen's Appreciation Day" on July 25<sup>th</sup> in HdG's Tydings Park, to promote Museum and EC programs.

*(Cont. on next page)*

*(Environmental Center Progress, cont.)*

Even our kids' "Summer Story Time" series often includes great hands-on activities and crafts that involve an environmental lesson, along with the fun.

All of the regular Board members, volunteers, Steering Committees, and donors have been doing their usual great job, keeping this high quality Museum in shape and helping us launch the new Environmental Center programs. I am very glad to be working with so many talented and generous folks that have built such a great material, economic, and social contribution to Havre de Grace and the Upper Bay region. We always depend greatly on our volunteers, so let us know if there is something you specialize in, or would like to help with, that we haven't mentioned yet. Again, all our volunteers and donors, past and present, deserve a big "Thank you." Though I haven't met you all yet, I've seen the great work that you've done and look forward to working with you and thanking you in person.

"Best fishes,"  
John Leader

**Thank you** to our recent donors!

**Douglas S. Wilson**  
**William Putland**  
**Drew & Lisa Fender**  
**Cecil F. Hill**  
**Ramona F. Bolen**  
**Dr. Charles N. Morris**  
**Henry Bradley**  
**Rob Flanagan**  
**Sandra M. Nichols**  
**Dr. Susan Galada**  
**Robert F. Hickey**

## Update on the Boyer Shad Shack

In our first issue of the Maritime Messenger, back in Spring of 2014, you were introduced to the Museum's Boyer Shad Shack, one of the last Chesapeake Bay fishing arks, and to the work then being done by Museum member/volunteer, Ron Hendrickson to restore and preserve it. That work was finished last fall, with a complete repair and repaint of the exterior and interior, as well as the subsequent addition of several period-authentic interior furnishings and personal items donated by other members.

Then, this spring, the Shad Shack was given a new and better location, befitting its new look. With a load of crushed stone generously provided by the Vulcan Materials Company's Havre de Grace quarry operation, Museum member Cecil Shook, and Museum member/volunteer and Board President Bruce Russell prepared a level pad and base for the Shad Shack. At the end of May, Tidewater Marina kindly sent a large forklift, with operator, to pick up the Shad Shack, and move it to its new, prominent spot overlooking Lafayette Street. Signage, lighting, and more interior amenities will complete the move this summer.



# Upcoming City of Norfolk Exhibit

## "A Collector's Collection"

100 Lafayette Street  
Havre de Grace, MD 21078

(410) 939-4800

[www.hdgmaritimemuseum.com](http://www.hdgmaritimemuseum.com)  
[hdgmaritimemuseum@verizon.net](mailto:hdgmaritimemuseum@verizon.net)

### Hours:

April 1 - October 14

Wed - Sat: 10am - 5pm  
Sun: 1pm - 5pm

October 15 - March 31

Sat: 10am - 5pm  
Sun: 1pm - 5pm



At one time or another, we all have collected something, from toys or comic books to antiques, postage stamps, sports memorabilia, works of art, or historical artifacts. The collected objects vary as much as those who collect them. A new exhibit, currently under construction in the Havre de Grace Maritime Museum's main gallery, presents the story of a collector with an interest in the maritime history of the Chesapeake Bay. Specifically, artifacts of the Baltimore Steam Packet Company steamer *City of Norfolk* form the basis of the exhibit's collection.

The Baltimore Steam Packet Company, known as the Old Bay Line, provided overnight steamship service on the Chesapeake Bay between Baltimore, MD and Norfolk, VA beginning in 1840, and terminated its service in April 1962. Other steamship lines of the period served as far north as Havre de Grace and Port Deposit. Many artifacts for the exhibit were donated to the Museum, by Sally Brice O'Hara, from the collection of her father, Norman Brice (1924 – 2001), a former Vice Commandant of the United States Coast Guard. Additional artifacts related to overnight steamship service on the Bay, already in the Museum's collection, or acquired from the Steppingstone Museum, will round out the exhibit's "collection." To provide the collection with an appropriate backdrop, Museum member/volunteer and Vice President of the Board Dave Dulik is constructing a full-scale collector's den as the basis of the exhibit. Visitors will not only take a peek into the world of a collector of artifacts, but will also learn some surprising facts about the field of American steam passenger travel and freight transport in the 19<sup>th</sup> and early 20<sup>th</sup> century, especially as it relates to travel up and down the Chesapeake Bay.

- Maggie Nijander-Brock and John Haug



*A few of the artifacts we received from Ms. Sally Brice O'Hara.*

