DRUM POINT LIGHTHOUSE DEDICATED

At long last Drum Point Lighthouse was officially dedicated on June 24, 1978. Numerous dignitaries including Senator Edward Hall, U.S. Senator Roberts of Texas, Acting Governor Blair Lee and Comptroller Louis Goldstein were present. The dedication marks the completion of 12 years of local effort to have this structure restored.

The Museum was most fortunate to have Anna Weems Ewalt, born in the lighthouse, head the Interior Furnishings Committee. Without a doubt, Drum Point Lighthouse is the best restored screw-pile, cottage type lighthouse extant.

All members and friends of CMM should be proud of this accomplishment and thankful to the National Park Service, Maryland Department of Waterway Development and Improvement, and the Maryland Historical Trust for granting the necessary funds for the restoration.
Patuxent Appreciation Days

Patuxent River Appreciation Days is to be hosted on CMM grounds. Mark your calendar for October 7 and 8. This is a weekend you won’t want to miss.

Boat rides on the Patuxent River, raw seafood bar, arts and crafts, flea market, boat show, games, pony rides, live entertainment, and refreshments are scheduled for both days. Special guest will be Miss Maryland. On Sunday there will be a parade at 1:00 p.m. followed by oyster- and pie-eating contests and the Calvert County Oyster Shucking Contest.

The focus of the First Annual Patuxent River Appreciation Days is directed toward generating public interest and understanding of the river’s economic, cultural, recreational, and aesthetic importance. Exhibits, movies, and open houses at both Calvert Marine Museum and Chesapeake Biological Laboratory will relate the complexities and dependence of the area upon the Patuxent River.

Anyone wishing more information, costs for booth space, etc., should call CMM at (301) 326-3719. Everyone welcome.

CMM IN THE NEWS

Thanks to Dot Ordwein’s Educational Programs, the Museum made the front page of The New York Times Travel Section on August 6, 1978. The article, “A Voyage Aboard a Vanishing Species” by Richard Lyons, relates the author’s trip aboard the skipjack “Lady Katie.” The success of the CMM-sponsored cruises through the summer was beyond our expectations; bookings came from as far north as Connecticut and the summer cruises for 1979 are already being booked.

The entire article was entered into The Congressional Record on August 10, 1978, by U.S. Senator Charles Mathias of Maryland.

Drum Point Lighthouse was featured on Maryland Center for Public Broadcasting, Educational Television (Channel 22) on August 31 and September 1. If you missed the program keep your eye out for the rerun sometime later this fall.

Fred Tilp, long-time friend of CMM, wrote a very complimentary letter to the editor in the August 16-22 issue of The Alexandria Packet, commenting on the success of CMM.

CMM Welcomes 100,000 Visitors

July was a memorable month for CMM; eight thousand, four hundred and fifty-seven visitors made it a record month and on July 4th, the 100,000th visitor entered the Museum.

A grand total of 113,850 people have toured the Museum since it first opened in 1970. Who would have believed it! In 1970 the visitor count for the entire year was 530 and eight years later that many people enter the Museum in one day.

Drum Point Lighthouse has been open only two months and is already proving to be the main attraction. Nine thousand, four hundred and sixty have taken the half hour tour. On weekends, when the Museum is most crowded, some wait as long as forty-five minutes for the next tour.

Parking, especially on weekends, has been troublesome. Now that school has started the crowds should drop. Visiting your Museum this fall and winter should prove more enjoyable and rewarding.

Skipjack Cruises Successful

Time was when sailing the Chesapeake on a skipjack would have been an everyday occurrence rather than an "exciting happening." Not too many years ago there were as many as 500 skipjacks on the Bay. Today only 28 remain to please the eye with their classic lines and spectacular mainsail. And though such a sight is rare these days, it is one you will never forget!

The skipjack is a native design developed in our area as a workboat. In the winter they "drudge" for oysters by "pushing" on Monday and Tuesday and by sailing the rest of the week. It’s hard work with few comforts and it breeds hardy folks. But it also brings abiding satisfactions that a softer way of life cannot provide.

The "Lady Katie," like the rest of the fleet, oysters in season but in the summer is available for charter. She is equipped with a large galley, a head, and bunks below deck for six to eight persons plus crew - nothing fancy but clean and comfortable.

The "Lady Katie" was built with two other skipjacks - the "Rosie Parks" and the "Martha Lewis" - at Wingate, Maryland, by Bronza Parks. Completed in 1956, she measures 60 feet and carries 665 square feet of sail. Her pushboat, when not in use, is carried in davits astern. When the wind fails the "Little Katie," lowered into place and held securely against the stern, takes over as its huge auto engine purrs into action.

The Calvert Marine Museum has chartered the "Lady Katie" for two weeks each of the last two summers as a part of its educational program. Trips of different lengths have provided opportunities for one-day sailors as well as more hardy souls who go for two days or more. A typical overnight trip will visit St. Mary’s City, a 27-mile run down the Bay, or cross over to Oxford, St. Michaels, Tilghman or Smith Island. The day is spent reading charts and spotting navigational aids, watching for landmarks ashore, picture taking or having a turn at the wheel and best of all - just "unwinding." When port is made there is time for a walking tour or a swim and showers before dinner ashore - which is always a memorable occasion.

The Museum began the charters as an experiment with no thought that this would become such a happy way to learn so much about our past and the possible future of the Bay. But interest has grown and 49 persons participated in the cruises this summer. Dozens more had to be left at home for lack of space. There is a waiting list even longer hoping to make a trip next season. — The passenger list is a surprise too. There are family groups, young singles, and retirees - there are doctors and nurses, lawyers and secretaries, business executives and clerks. Many have come from faraway places like Connecticut, Massachusetts, Upstate New York, New Jersey, and Pennsylvania. They have arrived the day before to tour the Museum, visit places of interest in the county and stay overnight in order to be ready for the 8:30 A.M. departure from the Museum dock. Many have come from closer home - Baltimore or Washington and nearby Virginia - as well as from Calvert County. But one and all are glad they came and reluctant to say goodbye. Could it be there is a wistful yearning in all men for a quieter, less harried life style? Whatever the reason, it is a memorable experience which promises to be an important and continuing part of the Museum’s program.
Scuttlebutt From Pepper’s Shop

With fall approaching, the John Olson Chapter of the American Shipcarvers Guild is back in full swing, meeting the first and third Tuesday of each month in the CMM woodcarving shop at 7:30 p.m.

Last June the Guild showed some of their skill at the Prince Frederick Elementary School Carnival. In August the members sold handsomely mounted spikes taken from lumber removed during the restoration of the Drum Point Lighthouse. The proceeds were used to purchase the necessary wood for the Guild’s next major project, a full-size carved eagle with a wing span of about six feet. The Guild will be working on this project at Patuxent River Appreciation Days, Chesapeake Appreciation Days, and on weekends at CMM. You won’t want to miss this.

Paleontology Library Enlarges

Thanks to two recent large donations of books and professional papers to the paleontological section, CMM can now boast as possessing one of the most complete research libraries in the field of Miocene paleontology.

The first collection was donated by Charles Buddenhagen who earned his master’s degree on the biostratigraphy of Calvert Cliffs. Over the years Chuck amassed a library which he generously donated to CMM in May.

A second collection was donated by Wallace Ashby in August. Wally has been collecting vertebrate fossils near Scientists’ Cliffs for years and has recovered more fossil bird bones from the cliffs than any other individual.

Both of these collections are now cataloged and filed for reference and research. The Museum is fortunate to have received these collections and is grateful to the donors for their thoughtfulness and generosity.

MUSEUM NEEDS

VOLUNTEERS for refreshment committee.

VOLUNTEERS for educational programming committee. (If interested call 326-4162.)

RUG, 10x12, for youth group Orientation Room.

LECTERN with amplifying capabilities.

ACQUISITIONS

RUSSELL L. BERRY: Ship’s fog horn
JACK LAWRENCE: Matted photo of Drum Point Lighthouse
HELmut SCHAde: Bottle nose porpoise skull
VIRGINIA LUMBER CO.: Lumber for two log canoe cradles
HOWARD & KATE STROTT: Fossil vertebrates
WALLACE L. ASHBY: Paleontological library collection

ACQUISITIONS FOR DRUM POINT LIGHTHOUSE

RUSSELL McQUEEN: Candle holders
CLAIRE EWALT: Candle holder and chimney
AMELIA MORSELL: Chamber pot
GERTA MASON: Coal scuttle
W. HAMMOND WEEMS: Pitchers and enamel milk bucket
JOSEPH JEROME: Enamel sauce pan
JAMES L. WEEMS: Loan of Patchwork quilt
JEAN RIDGELY: Four tin milk cans

ACQUISITIONS MONETARY

CALVERT COUNTY LIONS CLUB
CHARLES RATH
MARYLAND HOUSE & GARDEN PILGRIMAGE 1978
SOLOMONS CIVIC ASSOCIATION, INC.
JOHNS HOPKINS UNIVERSITY ALUMNI COLLEGE

ACQUISITIONS INTRA-MUSEUM LOANS

RADCLIFFE MARITIME MUSEUM: Loan of Weems steamer painting by black artist Selby; Lloyd’s Register of American Yachts.
RADCLIFFE MARITIME MUSEUM: Gift of duplicate U.S. Merchant Vessel List.

SPECIAL RECOGNITION

CAPT. STANLEY LARRIMORE for his fine work with the “Lady Katie” cruises.
ROBIN L. STARK for identifying and cataloging estuarine collections.
CARL FAUST of Brass Tacks for restoration of lighthouse furniture.
FALL CALENDAR AND PROGRAM SCHEDULE

OCTOBER

7 & 8 PATUXENT RIVER APPRECIATION DAYS. Continuous showing of films, demonstrations of nautical skills and hobbies, open house Chesapeake Biological Laboratory, boat rides, food, arts & crafts, contests, exhibits, parade, and more. Fun for everyone.

11 SMALL CRAFT HULL DESIGN - Speed versus Function. Lecture by Bill Hall, Naval Architect, CMM staff.

21 D&E LAB - MARSH MARCH. Saturday field trip to Cove Point marsh for study and observation of marsh life. Open to grades 7 through 12. Reservations required. Limited to 12 students. Members $5.00; non-members, $7.50. Phone 326-4162 for reservations.

NOVEMBER

1 VOLUNTEER APPRECIATION NIGHT. Annual get-together for Museum volunteers. Buffet Dinner - 6:30 following with Awards and special Smithsonian film on “The Docent Doesn’t.”

13 LIQUID NATURAL GAS TANKERS and the COVE POINT TERMINAL. An illustrated lecture by Jeff Beale, Operations Engineer, Columbia LNG.

DECEMBER

6 CHESAPEAKE SAILING CRAFT. An illustrated slide lecture by Robert Burgess, noted Bay historian, author, and honorary members of CMM Board of Trustees, returned from Mariners Museum.

* All tours/trips/instructions require reservations. 326-4162.
* Programs begin 7:45 at the Museum - unless otherwise noted.
* Programs are free to Museum members and $1.00 to non-members unless otherwise noted.

Calvert Marine Museum Membership Application

MEMBERSHIP IS FOR ONE YEAR

☐ $5.00 Individual
☐ $7.50 Family
☐ $50.00 Supporting
☐ $2.50 Student (under 25 years old)
☐ $100.00 Sustain
☐ $500.00 Patron**
☐ $1,000.00 Benefactor**

Send a GIFT subscription – in my name

My name is

Address

City State Zip

Send with your check to: Calvert Marine Museum, Box 97, Solomons, Md. 20688

**unrestricted contributions of $500 or more qualify for LIFE MEMBERSHIP.

CALVERT MARINE MUSEUM

Solomons, Maryland 20688
Tel: 301-326-3719

A Quarterly Newsletter for Members of the Calvert Marine Museum

NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION PERMIT NO.
35 PRINCE FREDERICK MARYLAND