Wm. B. Tennison Cruise Season Starts

The WM. W. TENNISON, CMM's 61-foot passenger buy-boat, will begin its second season of regular one-and three-hour scenic cruises on Patuxent River, May 1, 1980. Built in 1899, the TENNISON is the oldest US Coast Guard licensed passenger vessel on the Chesapeake Bay.

Sailing schedules are convenient and rates are reasonable. A one-or three-hour cruise is a unique way to entertain family, friends, visitors and clients aboard an historic bugeye oyster buy-boat.

The TENNISON also offers exclusive charter and catered-food service for group sightseeing, business meetings, private affairs, fund raising events or any social function.

Write Calvert Marine Museum, P.O. Box 97, Solomons, Maryland 20688 or call 301-326-3719 for information and the 1980 brochure.

Fossil Seals From The Miocene Of Maryland

The presence of fossil seals at Calvert Cliffs was first detected by Dr. Frederick True in 1905 when he found several isolated bones. Since that time additional finds have been made on rare occasions, so that today there are several dozen specimens in museum collections, almost all being single bones. However, in the summer of 1979 Wallace Ashby, a CMM member and author of CMM's "Fossils of Calvert Cliffs" booklet, discovered a seal skeleton near Parker's Creek in Calvert County consisting of about fifty bones. This may be the most nearly complete Miocene seal discovered thus far in the world. Wallace Ashby, Dave Bohaska, and Ralph Eshelman collected the specimen which is now at the Smithsonian...
FOSSIL SEALS (Continued from Page 1)

Institution. Even more recently, Linda McGilvery, a volunteer at CMM, donated two fossil seal teeth to the Smithsonian. The seals and their relatives have been classified traditionally as a group called the "pinnipeds." The living pinnipeds have been subdivided into two families. One family consists of the true seals or earless seals which lack an external ear flap and have a sausage-shaped body with a small neck and limbs. They cannot rotate their hind legs under their body, so they must wiggle to move about on land. In the water, they mainly use their hind legs for propulsion. All the fossil seals from Calvert Cliffs are in this family.

The other family includes the sea lions or eared seals, familiar to us as circus animals. Sea lions have an external ear flap. They are more land mammal-like, with a more distinct neck and longer limbs. They are able to rotate their hind legs under their body, so that they can walk on land. They use their large forelimbs to swim underwater.

Despite the outward similarity of the two groups to each other, recent research suggests that the two groups actually represent two separate invasions of the water from land carnivores, so that they are not really closely related. Current theory, based on biochemistry and other evidence, suggests that an otter-like carnivore was the ancestor of the earless seals and something similar to a bear was the ancestor of the sea lions and the walrus. Recent research, using fossils, is confirming this theory and filling in details as to the time and place of origin. The history of the sea lion family is fairly well-known thanks to numerous fossils found on the Pacific Coast. Much less is known, however, of the fossil record of the true seals. It is here that the seals of Calvert Cliffs become important, because some of them are the oldest known from anywhere in the world.

There are three different geologic formations of the Miocene age in the Calvert Cliffs. From the oldest to the youngest they are the Calvert, Choptank, and St. Mary's formations, and span the time from about 15 million to 12 million years ago. The greatest variety of seals and number of specimens are from the Calvert formation, although even here they are rare. The best known is Leptophoca lenis (none of these fossil seals have common names) which Dr. True described in 1906 and to which the recently discovered skeleton belongs. One specimen has been found which looks like Prophoca, a seal originally found in Europe. A third seal, related to the living monk seals, was found in the Calvert formation near Richmond, Virginia.

There are a few monk seal-related bones from the Choptank; only one specimen of Monotherium (also a monk seal) has been found in the St. Mary's formation. A cast of it is on exhibit in CMM.

Looking at the fossil record, the early sea lions are known only from the North Pacific region, and the true seals only from the North Atlantic (both North America and Europe). Using this evidence, it is thought that these represent the areas of their respective origin, and that both groups later expanded their range into other oceans.

The fossil seals of Maryland have been instrumental to this understanding. Further collection and study will enhance our knowledge and fill in many gaps. For example, an otter-like animal from Europe known as Potamotherium has been suggested as a possible ancestor of the true seals. Better skeletons of the earliest fossil seals might help confirm this theory or suggest a different ancestor. A skull would be particularly useful. To date, not even a partial skull has been placed in museum collections from Calvert Cliffs.

Some of the fossil seals in Europe seem to be related to, or may be, even, the same species as the seals from Maryland. The partial skeleton that Wallace Ashby found will help in making comparisons, since some of the different species are known from bones from different parts of the body. Perhaps this will show that several "species" are actually just one.

Other information gleaned from the skeletons might tell us how advanced these early seals were.

Anyone who may have fossil seal bones from Calvert Cliffs or other localities is urged to contact the Calvert Marine Museum or Dr. Clayton Ray at the Smithsonian Institution. The original research papers on fossil seals are available for reading at CMM library, and we have some modern seal skeletons available for comparison and for short term loan. Please call in advance if you would like to use these facilities.

Dave Bohaska

Rigg Memorial Fund

Henry Hemingway Kilborn Rigg, known to his friends as "Bunny," passed away in February. Bunny was a long time friend of CMM and served on its Advisory Committee for more than three years. Thanks to the friends and family of Bunny a memorial fund to the Museum on his behalf now exceeds $1,000.

Bunny was a prominent author and yachtsman. The high point in his racing career was when he served as watch officer on Mitchell's yacht "Finnestere" when she won the coveted Bermuda race three times in a row, a record unequaled before or since. Bunny wrote yachting articles for the New Yorker and later became editor and publisher of Skipper magazine. Bunny was a frequent visitor and contributor to the Museum. His encouragement went a long way in making CMM the Museum it is today. His presence will be missed but not forgotten thanks to the Rigg Memorial Fund.

Bunny Rigg hunting rail birds on Patuxent River, c. 1950.
Photo by M. E. Warren
THE GHOST OF DRUM POINT LIGHT

You've heard the stories. From the corner of your eye you see a woman with long dark hair pacing the walk outside the cupola. What is she looking for? You turn to look at her more directly — and she is gone!

You're in the first enclosed floor of the lighthouse and you hear footsteps crossing on the floor above. You are pretty sure no one is up there, but you wind up the spiral stair to check, and, sure enough, nobody is there. But the footsteps were so clear. You check the cupola. Nobody up there, either — and there's no other way out.

But most of the activity seems to occur at night after the lighthouse is closed for the night, locked with the security alarm set. Flowers in a vase on the kitchen table are repeatedly dumped out and strewn about the floor. The icebox alarm set. Flowers in a vase on the kitchen table are repeatedly dumped out and strewn about the floor. The icebox alarm set.

Footsteps were so clear. You check the cupola. Nobody up there — pretty sure no one is up there, but you wind up the spiral stair to check, and, sure enough, nobody is there. But the footsteps were so clear. You check the cupola. Nobody up there, either — and there's no other way out.

We discussed the various reports of ghostly manifestations to determine what we might expect. Dave declined our sincerest invitations to spend the night with us and left to seek his own bed. Dr. Eshelman and I chatted for a while longer and then decided to take one last flashlight tour before crawling into our sleeping bags.

We checked the dining room and then the kitchen; the flowers were still in their mayonnaise jar. That's when it happened. Or — more precisely — that's when we noticed it. Dr. Eshelman checked his watch to note the time of our round. It read midnight. My watch, however, read 20 after. We both had confidence in our timepieces, so we checked more carefully. My watch was running; his had stopped dead.

We finished looking around; everything was in order. So we turned in and there were no further incidents. In the morning we checked again. Everything was as we had left it.

It is said that there is no time in the spirit world, that a spirit occupies a place with a sense of its own era, its own time. It is typical of ghostly activities that they show a resistance to the passage of time.

Then we settled into the one room with electricity, the display room on the first level. There we found a small electric heater and turned on the display cases for light.

We finished looking around; everything was in order. So we turned in and there were no further incidents. In the morning we checked again. Everything was as we had left it.

It is said that there is no time in the spirit world, that a spirit occupies a place with a sense of its own era, its own time. It is typical of ghostly activities that they show a resistance to the passage of time.

Dr. Eshelman got his watch started again. Had it ever stopped before? No. Had he forgotten to wind it? No, it's electric. Was the battery dead? No, it ran for sometime after that. Was it just a coincidence that it stopped for no apparent reason at midnight on Halloween in a supposedly haunted lighthouse? Maybe.

William H. McGilvery

CMM Elects New Board of Governors

In an effort to better inform the CMM membership we ran an article in the last issue of the Bugeye Times detailing the new governance of the museum. This quarter we are attempting to familiarize members with the election of the new Board of Governors which grew as a direct result of this new museum restructuring.

The new Board consists of seventeen members including the museum director and one member of the Board of County Commissioners of Calvert County, both ex-officio. Each year the Calvert County Historical Society and CMM's Board of Governors nominate five persons. The Calvert County Board of Commissioners then selects five members from the ten nominations. Each nomination is based on the nominee's willingness to provide input into the museum's objectives. Nominations are not based on honorary recognition but for working contribution and knowledgeable experience in related fields. A resume of each nominee and his expected area of contribution is forwarded with each nomination to the Calvert County Board of Commissioners.

Appointed members serve for a term of three years, thus every year one third of the Board is renewed. Reappointment to the Board is possible after one year following termination of a previous appointment.

The full Board meets not less than four times a year and the executive committee not less than monthly. The executive committee consists of the Board's chairman, George Van Winkle; vice-chairman, Walter Ewalt; secretary, Dorothy Oursler; treasurer, Bernard Loveless; CMM director, Ralph Eshelman; and members, Linda McGilvery and Lt. Cdr. Mike McMillen. Commissioner "Pete" Grover is the Board of Commissioner's representative to the museum.

In addition to the executive committee, there are twelve other committees each consisting of at least one Board member. In our next quarterly of the Bugeye Times, information on these committees will be provided.
The Solomons Island Model Boat Club, sponsored by CMM, has been organized only since this winter, but already members have eight model skipjacks in various stages of construction. All the models are built from plans drawn by Bill Hall, CMM staff Naval Architect. The hulls are 48 inches long and when completed will be radio controlled. The first race of the year is scheduled for this spring at the museum’s waterfront (see calendar of events). The club also plans to build other model types including 12 meter racing sloops.

Pepper Langley, CMM’s master woodcarver and model maker, will be commodore of the skipjack fleet and Barney Wood, a member of CMM’s Budget and Finance Committee, is the secretary-treasurer.

The club meets at 7:30 p.m. the first and third Wednesday of each month at the CMM model shop. Interested persons are welcome to join or to stop by and visit. For more information, contact Pepper Langley during the day at 326-3719 or 326-3878 after 5:00 p.m.

**JOIN A MUSEUM SPONSORED CLUB**

Two Museum-sponsored clubs are already organized and functioning well. Planning for a third group is in the talking stage.

**JOHN OLSEN SHIPCARVERS GUILD** meets the first and third Tuesdays of each month from 7:30 to 9:00 p.m. in the woodcarving shop at CMM. Membership is open to all persons interested in learning the skills involved in marine carving. It is possible to enter as a novice and progress through five steps to master carver. Annual membership dues are $7.00.

**SOLOMONS ISLAND MODEL BOAT CLUB** meets the first and third Wednesdays of each month from 7:30 to 9:00 p.m. in the model shop at CMM. Membership is open to anyone interested in model making. You may build any type boat from square rigger to a steamboat, a racing sailboat to a high powered cruiser. Annual membership dues are $10.00.

**ANYONE INTERESTED IN CANOEING?** An increasing number of persons are indicating an interest in forming a canoe club. An organizational meeting will be held at CMM in May. If you are interested, write Programs, Calvert Marine Museum, P.O. Box 97, Solomons, Md. 20688.

**Estuarine Studies**

Man is laying waste his environment at a rate unequaled in any other period of history. Grasses, trees, all growing things need man’s concern because they are essential to the life of man himself. Yet he cuts trees, drains marshes, uses herbicides and pesticides, disposes of dangerous wastes, and has paved grass and farm lands — all with little or no awareness of the stress to the environment.

The Chesapeake Bay is the largest, most productive estuary in the United States. Located in a rapidly developing section of the country, the Bay is subject to the great stresses modern man is placing on his environment everywhere. For residents of Calvert County the Bay, with its rivers and marshes, is both our most valuable and our most vulnerable resource. Its health and wise use should be a major priority for us now and in the future.

Education may well be the best long-term investment in the Bay’s future. For this reason the Calvert Marine Museum is developing a program in estuarine studies for school groups. During April and May Calverton students will engage in a pilot project “Creek Critters” sponsored by CMM. This project is made possible in part to a grant from the Citizen’s Program for the Chesapeake Bay, Inc., to CMM.

Classroom activities at the school will prepare the students for experiences at the Museum and on the water. Students will study and observe life in and around marsh, river and bay. Follow up studies will focus on state and county management policies now in effect. Students will be encouraged to produce a consciousness-raising flyer for distribution in their school. On board CMM’s vessel, “Wm. B. Tennison,” students will participate in biological sampling and water quality testing.

**DOCENTS NEEDED**

Our Docent Program has gotten off to a good start, but we still need more people to help us show off our remarkable Museum and its expanding activities. We’ve had four training sessions covering the Fossils of Calvert Cliffs exhibit room, the Waterman’s exhibit room, a memory tour of Calvert County and the Maritime History exhibit room. We’re just about ready to start “Docenting” — that is, giving informative tours to our visitors.

Starting in April, we will have a docent meeting once a month on the following dates: April 16th, May 7th, June 11th. Watch for additional dates in your subsequent “Bugeye Times” or the local papers. We plan to have an interesting speaker at each meeting.

For you volunteers who would like to join our staff, but cannot come during the week, we will set up a Saturday training session. We also need weekend hosts. Volunteer shifts are 10:00 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. and 1:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. on Saturdays; 1:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. on Sundays. For further information call Barbara Wilson at 326-3491.
SPRING CALENDAR AND PROGRAM SCHEDULE

All programs begin at the Museum at 7:45 p.m. unless otherwise noted. Programs are free to members; $1.00 to non-members unless otherwise noted. For additional information call Dorothy Ordwein at 326-4162.

APRIL
1. 15 John Olsen Shipcarver's Guild, 7:30 p.m.
2. 16 Solomons Island Model Boat Club, 7:30 p.m.
22 THE CHARLIE and RALPH SHOW. A slide presentation of two adventures under sail: Charles Shinn on the Lady Katie in the Chesapeake Bay and Ralph Eshelman on the Ganzia Primero from Portland, Maine, to New Bedford, Mass.

MAY
6, 20 John Olsen Shipcarver's Guild, 7:30 p.m.
7 Docents monthly meeting, 10:00 a.m. in CMM Library
7, 21 Solomons Island Model Boat Club, 7:30 p.m.
17, 18 MUSEUM PARTICIPATES IN SOUTHERN MARYLAND FOLKLIFE FESTIVAL: sponsored by the Maryland State Arts Council. CMM is responsible for the demonstrations of marine skills. We will have oystermen, net makers, woodcarvers, ship cutters, and other craftsmen exhibiting their skills. 1 to 5:00 p.m. both days at St. Mary's City.
18 International Museum Day, Visit Calvert Marine Museum
19 CURRENT RESEARCH AT MONITOR MARINE SANCTUARY. The sanctuary, located 20 miles below Cape Hatteras, contains remains of the iron-clad Monitor of Civil War fame. Marine engineer Edward Miller and Captain Ernest Petterkin, USN, have been involved in work at the Monitor. They will present an illustrated lecture on the discovery of the wreck and the archaeological diving now under way.
30 CHEMPEAKE AND OHIO CANAL CLIPPER TRIP. Take a trip back through time on a canal barge. Leave Prince Frederick at 8:45 a.m. Trip includes a visit to the Canal Museum and a picnic at Great Falls. Bring your own box lunch. Approximate cost, $10 to $12.

JUNE
3, 17 John Olsen Shipcarver's Guild, 7:30 p.m.
3, 18 Solomons Island Model Boat Club, 7:30 p.m.
8 MODEL SAILBOAT RACES. 1:00 to 3:00 p.m. at CMM dock. Sponsored by CMM. The Solomons Island Model Boat Club will hold monthly meetings during the summer culminating with the annual award of trophies in September.
11 Docents monthly meeting, 10:00 a.m. in CMM library.
13, 20 PALEONTOLOGY CLASS. 7:00 to 9:00 p.m. at CMM under the leadership of Dr. Ralph Eshelman and Dave Bohaska. Lecture and "hands-on" laboratory period each evening. Field trip June 14 for class participants.

LOOKING AHEAD

WEEKLY WEDNESDAYS. Every Wednesday, July 9 to August 27, from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m., Program offers a variety of activities including woodcarving, canoeing for beginners, nautical knot tying, and other marine related skills; estuarine and paleontology study sessions with field trips. Watch next issue of Bugeye Times and local newspapers for details.

SEA CHANTEY CONCERT. A Sunday evening on the lawn in July. Date to be announced.

BALTIMORE TRIP. Planned for August date. See the new Baltimore Aquarium, Maryland Science Center, ship models at the Maryland Historical Society and take a tour of the Harbor.

LADY KATIE CRUISES. Cruises will continue in July, August, and September. For information write for brochure. See June calendar for address.

21-23 CMM announces the availability of cruises aboard the skipjack Lady Katie. The cost of $50 per day includes three meals, beverages, bed linens, and auto parking. For brochure write Lady Katie Cruises, Calvert Marine Museum, P.O. Box 97, Solomons, Md. 20688.

CONTRIBUTIONS
Calvert County Sportsman Club

ACQUISITIONS
BOBBY M. POUNCEY — ship’s docking wheel and telegraph
HAMILTON WILSON — boatbuilding tools and hardware
CHARLES GALLAGHER — drop tongs
WALTER E. LAWSON — shaft tongs
MARTIN O'BERRY — boat iron hardware fitting
ROBERT C. QUARLES — Oyster culling hammer
MRS. OREM LOWERY — seafood harvesting and processing equipment
MRS. PAUL KRAFT — goldeneye duck, oldsquaw duck for bird collection
STEVEN OURSLER — outboard motor
LEVI A. HUBER — sailmaker's bench
LINDA McGINLY — fossil pecary teeth
BILL HALL — pearl attached to oyster shell
GLADYS PEDERSEN — photograph of Solomons Harbor c. 1920
FRED TILP — copies of Rudder Magazine 1895 - 1920
GLADYS BOWERS — book The Waterman
LOUISE GIRAHR — book Flotting, Seamanship and Small Boat Handling
JAMES W. MILLS — Scuba tanks
MARY HAZLETON — invalid chair for Drum Point Lighthouse
LOUISE RICHARDS — archaeological material
DAVE BOHASKA — book The Oysters of Locmariague

INTRA-MUSEUM LOANS
HARRY LUNDEBERG SCHOOL OF SEAMANSHIP — gift of library books

SPECIAL THANKS
ERNESTINE FEDETTE for archival photography work
JOE MISHOU, Solomons Mobil Station provided free use of tow truck for Museum-related work.

MEMORIAL FUND
The Museum has received donations to the Memorial Fund honoring
MR. RALPH M. ESHELMAN
MRS. LEE ELMER HAMILTON
MR. HENRY HEMINGWAY KILBORN RIGG (Bunny)
ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

MEMBERSHIP PRIVILEGES INCLUDE:

1. Subscription to the quarterly “Bugeye Times” newsletter.
2. Quarterly calendar of events.
3. Free admission to Museum programs (films, lectures, slide-shows).
4. Invitations to previews and receptions for new exhibits.
5. Discovery & Exploration Labs (D&E Labs) for children.
6. Trips and tours.

MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO:
Calvert Marine Museum
P.O. Box 97
Solomons, Maryland 20688

(Your membership expires)

PLEASE ENTER MY ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP FOR:
( ) $ 2.50 Student (under 25 yrs. old)
( ) $ 5.00 Individual
( ) $ 7.50 Family
( ) $ 50.00 Supporting
( ) $100.00 Sustaining
( ) $500.00 & over - Life Membership

Name

Address

City  State  Zip

PLEASE RETURN THIS PORTION