Volunteers Honored

A recognition evening for volunteers was hosted by the museum staff on November 11. Approximately 25 of the regular weekend volunteers plus several of the daily workers participated in the evening’s activities. Everyone enjoyed a tour conducted by Pepper Langley throughout both levels of the museum. Of great interest to everyone was the peeking into the off-limits storage area on the lower level. When the museum is expanded to the place where it is exhibiting all these stored treasures, our visitors will have greater appreciation of the heritage of this area.

A short slide show gave volunteers the opportunity to see themselves and other volunteers at work - beginning with the pouring and leveling of the temporary museum’s concrete foundation to hoisting the Poquoson canoe through the windows of the present facility.

The high-light of the evening was the presentation of the Thousand Hours plaque. James Buys, Joseph C. Lore, Jr., and George Van Winkle have each donated a thousand hours to the museum and are honored for the generous gift of their time by having their names engraved on this plaque which now hangs in the South Hall.

The volunteer program is built around its faithfull fifty or so regulars. Were it not for this care, the museum could not operate on the weekends. Outstanding among these weekenders are Mrs. Bert Cherry and Mrs. Kay Wood who keep the Ship’s Store, each of them working alternate weekends. The museum committee and staff honor all of those who give so generously of their time and skills.

USS VALCOUR Gives Anchors and Canon

The Williams Marine Construction Co., and Southern Maryland Dredging Co., helped CMM remove two 2.5 ton anchors and a salute canon from the Navy Ship USS VALCOUR docked at the Naval Weapons Center Test Facility pier at Solomons.

The VALCOUR, a long familiar sight to residents of the Solomons area, is being stripped by the Navy for salvage. CMM was fortunate to procure these items from the USN. The anchors are on each side of the entrance portico and the salute canon stands its silent sentinel over the museum grounds.

New Winter Hours

The CMM Committee has decided to enact new hours of operation for the winter season, November thru March.

Office hours:
Monday thru Friday: 8:30 AM to 5 PM.

Visiting hours:
Monday: Closed
Tuesday thru Friday: 10:00 AM to 4:30 PM
Saturday & Sunday: 1:00 PM to 4:30 PM

Holiday: Closed except for Memorial Day, 4th of July and Labor Day.
Benning Oyster Plant Acquisition

CMM recently obtained its largest collection of maritime artifacts. The Harry Benning estate of Galesville, Md., was sold and the contents of the oyster shucking and packing plant, as well as the oyster shell crushing plant, were offered to the CMM. The staff had a hay-day going through the accumulation of materials gathered by Mr. Benning and his brother since the plant opened in 1913. Over nine truck loads of equipment and associated paraphernalia was moved from the plant, including haul seine nets, trotlines, bow sprit and sails from the bugeye G. A. ZERKEL, eel pots, oyster shaft tongs, and 20 gal. wooden oyster shipping tubs.

The real gem of the collection, however, is a Fairbanks Morse, 25 hp, Y-type engine with two, five foot, fly wheels and a Wilson Brothers Crushing Mill, Patent 1885. CMM plans to reconstruct the lime plant, including all its conveyors and sifting hoppers, in the museum's outdoor marine commercial exhibit area.

CMM appreciates the cooperation the former owners gave the staff and also the opportunity to help save this collection from possible destruction or division into smaller, unrelated, collections of less historical value.

CMM Sponsors American Shipcarvers Guild Chapter

The CMM is now forming the JOHN OLSEN CHAPTER of the American Shipcarvers Guild, named in recognition of the first known professional shipcarver from Calvert County. This chapter is being sponsored by the CMM and will be under the leadership of the museum's own resident woodcarver, LeRoy "Pepper" Langley.

The museum is fortunate to have two staff members who are founding members of the guild; Pepper Langley and Dr. Ralph Esherian. Pepper has received the highest rating of the guild, master-carver; and Ralph is an acting director.

The purpose of the guild is to foster woodcarving as a high order of art form, promote the teaching of various techniques in order to preserve the skills of those who have gone before, and promulgate friendship and good fellowship among all of like interest.

Persons of all ages are urged to contact the museum if they are interested in becoming members of this chapter. So far, the JOHN OLSEN CHAPTER is only the second in the American Shipcarvers Guild; the parent chapter is located at Huntington Station, Long Island, New York.

Winter Program Activities

BOAT MODEL MAKING CLASS
CMM 7:30 to 9:00 PM
Jan 18 & 25.
Instr: Roy Emmans & Norm Riker
CMM members - Free
Non-members - $4.00 (space available) payable first night of class.
Since model building requires much out of class time it will be necessary to plan the rest of the sessions on the basis of individual need. Registration form must be sent in to secure space.

LECTURE AND SLIDE SHOW by MIKE REBER
CMM 7:30 PM
Feb. 1
CMM members - Free
Non-members - $1.00
Mike Reber of the Chesapeake Biological Laboratory is well known for his marine photography. Mike's topic will be - We've only just begun: Ecology and the Chesapeake Bay.

WATERFOUL WALK and CANOE TRIP
March 26
Destination: Merkle Waterfowl Preserve on the Upper Patuxent River. See the many species of waterfowl wintering here.
Leader: John Page Williams, Field Trip Director of the Chesapeake Bay Foundation.
Equipment required: Waterproof footwear (boots, galoshes), lunch, thermos, suitable clothing.
CMM members - $7.00
Non-members - $10.00
(Fee covers use of CBF equipment)
Limited to 20 persons.
Car pools will be formed to and from the starting point. Call 326-4162. Registration form and check must be sent in.

WINTER PROGRAM REGISTRATION FORM
□ Boat Model Making Class
CMM members - free
Non-members - $4.00
□ Lecture & Slide Show
CMM members - free
Non-members - $1.00
□ Waterfowl & Canoe Trip
CMM members - $7.00
Non-members - $10.00
Send check & registration form to: D. Orndwein, Cove Point, Lusby, Md. 20657 (326-4162)
Name ___________________________ Phone __________
Address __________________________ Zip ________
Members have been responsive to the museum's efforts to provide worthwhile activities. Now we would like to ask you to help us plan the spring and summer program. A tear-off form is provided below for your convenience or phone 326-4162.

**7 DAY SAIL & BUS TRIP TO VISIT MARINE MUSEUMS:** onboard the 34 passenger, Coast Guard approved schooner HARVEY GAMAGEE. Itinerary: Chartered bus from CMM to Mariners Museum, Newport News. Board the HARVEY GAMAGEE and sail via the Bay and Inland Waterway to New York. Visit Southstreet Seaport Museum. Return to CMM on chartered bus, date open. Approximate cost is: $325 for members; $350 for non-members.

**2 DAY PATUXENT RIVER CANOE TRIP** on upper Patuxent River. Participants will need to provide their own gear and have at least minimum skill or experience in canoeing and camping. Approximate cost: $15, date open.

**7 DAY CHESAPEAKE BAY CRUISE** onboard EAGLE or INDEPENDENCE, American Cruise Line out of Haddam, Conn. Leave Annapolis and cruise the Bay with stops at St. Michaels, Oxford, Crisfield and others. Approximate cost: $450.00

CHECK THOSE INTERESTED
☐ 7 Day Marine Museum Tours  ☐ 2 Day Canoe Trip
☐ 7 Day Chesapeake Bay Cruise

Please keep me informed of the progress on the trips I have checked above.

Name ____________________________  Phone ______
Address __________________________  Zip ______

**WANTED Volunteers**

Can you dive a nail? plane a board? brush on paint? use a wrecking bar? polish brass? Or do you know how to refinish furniture or polish an old cook stove? Or, maybe, engine tune-up is your thing? Do you know anything about newspapers or publications? Can you wash and mend old flags?

If your answer to any one of these questions is “Yes” then there is a job waiting for you at the museum. We need volunteers to do repairs and painting on our small craft; the lighthouse needs its paint scraped, and furniture to be used in it needs refinishing; small marine motors need tuning up. You might splice some ropes or polish brass.

If you have any knowledge of writing and publishing newspapers or putting out newsletters, we could use your talents. Come to the museum, offer your skills to Ralph Eshelman, and be prepared to go to work right then!

**New Boat Shed Completed**

The boat shed is now complete and awaits the museum’s rapidly growing small craft collection. The CMM Staff has the chore of exhibiting this collection. To date there are nearly twenty boats, including a Patuxent River rail skiff, Chesapeake Bateau, Potomac River dory, and a brogan.

Many of these boats are the last of their kind and are being preserved and exhibited thanks to numerous individuals who donated them for posterity.

The job of restoring the boats will be long and involve much work. We hope most of it can be done in the new boat shed by volunteers, serving as an educational exhibit at the same time.

Any volunteers who are interested in such projects are encouraged to notify the museum.

**New Exhibits**

On April 10th, Norm Riker of Dowell, Maryland, discovered a dead Whistling Swan washed up on the beach near Long Beach. Mr. Riker immediately contacted CMM on the off-hand chance the museum may want a study skin or to mount it for our marine collections.

The museum eagerly accepted the swan and sent it to George McGinnity to be stuffed and mounted. The swan has returned to the museum and is a very proud addition to the waterfowl collection. It is temporarily on display in the library.

In August, Capt. Dillon caught a 122 lb., seven foot, record Sting Ray off Chesapeake Beach and donated it to the museum. This was also mounted and is now hanging in the hall along with the other record mounted fish.
Calvert Marine Museum

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

☐ $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**

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

MEMBERSHIP IS FOR ONE YEAR

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