Note from the Editor
By Sherrod Sturrock

This issue of the Bugeye Times, Volume 40, No. 2, is special. This year CMM celebrates the 45th anniversary of the founding of the museum, the 40th anniversary of the Museum Store, and the 30th anniversary of the Waterside Concerts. When we officially celebrate our birthday in October, we will unveil our new orientation film. Next year we will be mounting a new temporary exhibit looking back over the many musicians we have hosted here as part of the Waterside series. And in the next issue, a pictorial retrospective is planned.

In this issue, you can hear from former curator of exhibits, Jim Langley, about the early days in the museum’s history. Dr. Ralph Eshelman, the museum’s first director, shares his stories about how he came to the museum and brought a passion for paleontology with him. And store manager, Maureen Baughman, gives us a glimpse into the evolution of the Museum Store.

One of the museum’s tenets is the preservation of local history, and the museum is part of that story. We reflect and amplify the community that gave us our start. As Jim Langley says, CMM was started by people who wanted to preserve the way of life they had grown up with. Our work reflects the things that people are passionate about, be it old boats and engines, lighthouses, fossils, or the Chesapeake Bay. Caring leads to taking care of … and therein lies our purpose.

The Beginning of Paleontology at Calvert Marine Museum
By Dr. Ralph Eshelman

As a DC high school student, I was mentored by Dr. Frank C. Whitmore, Jr., a vertebrate paleontologist with the U.S. Geological Survey, whose office was located at the National Museum of Natural History, Smithsonian Institution, Washington, DC. Dr. Whitmore hired me over that summer to help collect fossil whales along Calvert Cliffs. When the Calvert Cliffs Nuclear Power Plant was under construction, I was hired for two more summers to help collect fossils that were being uncovered during the construction but also in a special area set aside solely for paleontological research.

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**Retrospective Musings on CMM Post Retirement from Jim Langley**

Jim Langley retired in January 2015 after 32 years with the Calvert Marine Museum, 15 of those spent as Curator of Exhibits. Prior to his employment, Jim was a volunteer. He was actively involved in the museum from its very beginning, first helping his father, Pepper Langley, and later in his own right. I invited Jim to reflect on his years helping CMM grow and evolve and the following comes from our conversations.

– Sherrod Sturrock

Pepper would be 100 years old this year. That’s a century of memories that have gone into the museum. The museum was started by a group of people who were proud of their heritage and were alarmed that the way of life they had lived was disappearing. That banded them together. Mr. Alton Kersey (1931-2014) was the last of that generation who helped start the museum. Most of the local founders are all gone now. But they had the idea.

All the good ideas came together back then and all of us worked together in a volunteer mode. We had zero budget. Whatever we had was left over from the old elementary school. *(The museum moved into the old Solomons Island School in 1975, now the Administration Building.)* We used our own money to buy what we needed.

We were really lucky to have Ralph Eshelman as our first director. He had a plan in mind and he kept us on a local focus. I heard him say that so many times: “We want to keep this local. The confluence of the Patuxent River and the Chesapeake Bay is where we want to concentrate.” In the beginning we were just collecting and focusing on what was going on right there in Solomons and lower Calvert County. There was no bridge then and we were more isolated. Things have changed since then, but that’s the way it was.

The museum as we know it never would have happened without the nuclear power plant. At that point the county budget quadrupled. The commissioners sent a questionnaire out to all of the voters asking where they thought the money should go. The Marine Museum came in number two after the schools. The people involved in the museum couldn’t believe it, since we were at one end of the county, but that meant that the commissioners would have to pay attention to what was going on. They were local boys themselves.

We had some major friends that helped us get started. One of the most important was Judge Perry Bowen. If anything came along that we needed and we ran into a problem, somebody would call Judge Bowen and he got it taken care of. Good old boy network or not, that’s the way it happened back then.

The most important person in that whole equation was Captain Joe Lore. He was a very important person because of his business. He had the political clout and the network of friends to really get the museum moving. Everyone was interested, but he could make it happen. He and Judge

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Bowen were in the “upper class” Calvert County group at the time. He was involved in the Historical Society and he was a big help getting the old school turned over to the museum.

Dr. George Weems was a county commissioner and he had a network of political cronies you wouldn’t believe. Bernie Fowler was always there whenever anything was going on and would do anything he could. Having grown up in a water town he understood that it had to be saved before everything was lost. Ralph also understood that sometimes you have to collect things before they become rare and valuable. It was a real community effort; everyone was bringing pieces of history to the museum. People had a lot of pride in their history and everyone wanted to help preserve it.

When I came to work at the museum, they split Pepper’s salary and hired me. He was ready to retire and wanted an apprentice. He told me about it and I said I was interested. He was kind of surprised and said “Are you serious?” I said, “Yes, I am interested. I’ve worked with you my whole life and I enjoy doing that kind of stuff.” He didn’t expect me to be interested. Did I get the job because he’s my father? Probably, but I don’t think I have anything to apologize for. I’ve worked hard and done my best.

We are a completely different museum now than we were then. We have a different audience with different interests. We had to change. With the bridge in place, we have a much larger community to serve. I think the museum has changed the way it should be changing. Change is hard for anybody. But the reality is that we have to serve the demographics that exist today. I still think people love the museum.

During my time there, I am most proud of the shark skeleton project. We wanted a shark skeleton for the museum but we knew we didn’t have enough time, money, or research to make that happen. We borrowed the shark jaws mold from the Smithsonian Museum of Natural History and made a set of jaws that we sold to the Suni Aquarium in Osaka, Japan. I also made a set that went to the Natural History Museum in New York. We made a third one, and that’s the one in our museum. We kept those jaws hanging in the old museum for years until we hired our first Curator of Paleontology, Dr. Mike Gottfried. Mike got a grant from the National Science Foundation to create the full skeleton in collaboration with the South African Museum in Cape Town. It was completely outside of my experience, but I was able to sculpt, shape, size, and put it all together. I hired Skipper (Skip Edwards) to come in and help me. We had to do it piecemeal because there wasn’t a space large enough to work on it all together. I was worried it wouldn’t fit! First I made a one foot model, then a five foot model — and that helped us get the grant to make the full size model. I am most proud of that project. After Mike and Curt Bowman (exhibit curator) left, I took over the completion of the paleo exhibit. It was a good project.

Another project that meant a lot to me was the outboard motor temporary exhibit (2001-2004); it made me feel like a kid again. When you’re the exhibits curator, it’s like doing a new book report every so often. You get to learn a whole lot about what you’re working on, and then you get to show people and tell them about it. It’s fun. I love it. I always liked the exhibits that pull from all three of our themes, like the “Sirens and Sirenians” exhibit (2001-2003). I think that’s the key to our success.

I’m proud to have had the opportunity to work there and I hope we continue to do things like the Antique Boat and Marine Engine Show (part of the Solomons Maritime Festival). Talking about maritime history and paleontology and the ecology of the bay is not only our job, but our responsibility. Even if we sometimes lose money, or it seems like it’s not the most interesting thing in the world to a kid with an iPad in his pocket, we need to do it. That’s just my opinion.

Retrospective Musings on CMM Post Retirement from Jim Langley (Continued from page 2)
The Beginning of Paleontology at Calvert Marine Museum (Continued from page 1)

I eventually ended up at the Museum of Paleontology, Department of Geology (now Earth and Environmental Sciences), University of Michigan, where I obtained my doctoral degree. One day during my final year as a graduate student the phone rang and my mentor, Dr. Whitmore, asked if I was interested in a job as director of a museum in Southern Maryland. I knew Southern Maryland, having collected fossils there for years, but never knew a museum was in the works.

Turns out that Joseph Lore of Solomons Island, Maryland, had contacted the Smithsonian Institution to identify a fossil that a waterman had brought up in his patent tongs from the Patuxent River. Lore owned and operated the J.C. Lore Oyster House (now part of CMM) where this waterman sold his catch. Lore spoke with Dr. Whitmore who drove down from Washington and identified the fossil as a skull of an extinct baleen whale belonging to a group known as Cetothers. The fossil specimen, though broken in two sections, was unusually well preserved. That fossil whale skull is presently being studied, as it is the most complete specimen of the species.

Lore was president of the Calvert County Historical Society which was in the process of establishing a museum then called the Solomons Maritime Museum. When the fledgling museum began looking for a director, Lore contacted Whitmore for a recommendation — thus, the phone call that morning in Ann Arbor, Michigan. Imagine being offered a job, not quite fresh out of graduate school, near where my family lived, near Calvert Cliffs, Michigan. I knew Southern Maryland, having collected fossils there for years, but never knew a museum was in the works.

That Saturday in late December of 1973 was sunny and warm as I drove the length of the Calvert County peninsula. This was before the Thomas Johnson Bridge was built and there were more watermen than tourists. The museum was located in a rather small wooden Quonset-hut-like affair located between the post office and a former oyster shucking house, now Kingfisher’s Restaurant. The museum building was well kept with an American flag flying out front. Inside were about seven to eight men, all in sports jackets and ties.

We toured the old Solomons School property (now the museum Administration Building) which had recently been declared surplus by the Calvert County Board of Education. On the lower level of the school in the southwest corner was a room in which artifacts for the museum were stored. Unlike the “temporary” museum building on the island proper, this property needed lots of work. Yet, I found the whole area and the museum concept quite exciting.

Thanks in part to the new revenue being received by Calvert County Government from the Calvert Cliffs Nuclear Power Plant, the historical society was able to convince the county to help fund the museum project. I became the first paid staff member of the museum and our first budget, as best as I can recall, was $25,000 to move the museum from the Quonset-hut-building on the island to the old school building. That included removal of the old hot water radiator heating system, installation of a new HVC system, spackling and painting walls and ceilings, sanding and polyurethaning the floors, new light fixtures, creation of new exhibits, etc.

Part of the agreement when I accepted the job as director was that I be given one day a week to conduct paleontological research. Nearly every Friday I drove to the Smithsonian Institution where Dr. Whitmore had arranged a cubical for me to work from. From 1976 to 2005, I was appointed a Research Associate in the Department of Paleobiology at the National Museum of Natural History. The current CMM Curator of Paleontology, Dr. Stephen Godfrey, is also a Research Associate.

From the beginning fossils were part of the Calvert Marine Museum. There was a small display of fossils in the original Quonset-hut that opened in 1970. On June 29, 1975, the museum officially opened in its new home. On September 12, 1975, the museum officially adopted a mission statement with a focus on local maritime history, estuarine biology, and paleontology of Calvert Cliffs. The first exhibit in the old school was the maritime history of the region followed by the “Life of the Waterman” exhibit in July 1976. That year, a separate paleontology collections storage area was established. Prior to this all the collections were housed together. In September 1979 the “Fossils of Calvert Cliffs” exhibit opened. The second club to be formed at the museum

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was the Fossil Club established in the autumn of 1981. The fossil preparation laboratory was opened to the public in 1986, in the basement of what today is the administration building. Dedicated volunteers such as Norm Riker and Wallace Ashby made important systematic collections for the museum.

I served as the de facto Curator of Everything until curators were hired for the three main themes: Paula Johnson, Curator of Maritime History was hired in 1987; Kenny Kaumeyer, Curator of Estuarine Biology was hired in 1988; Mike Gottfried, Curator of Paleontology was hired in 1990. Prior to Gottfried, Dave Bohaska, a trained vertebrate paleontologist, was hired as registrar and he assumed much of the paleontology work. Currently at the Smithsonian National Museum of Natural History, Bohaska continues to be an important resource for the museum.

Much of the paleontological collection, research, and fossil educational programing is enhanced by a significant endowment made possible by Clarissa Dryden in memory of her husband Lincoln. Lincoln was one of the paleontologist-geologists who worked with me at the Calvert Cliffs Nuclear Power Plant site during its construction and later moved to Scientists Cliffs. The Lincoln and Clarissa Dryden Paleontology Endowment was established upon her death.

Today, the Calvert Marine Museum has the second largest collection of fossils vertebrates from Calvert Cliffs, second only to the Smithsonian Institution. The collection and the research program is recognized within the United States and beyond for its excellent work.

SYNOPSIS OF SYMPOSIUM

By John Nance, Assistant Paleontologist

On May 25th and 26th the Calvert Marine Museum Fossil Club and the FOSSIL Project presented the Citizen Scientist Symposium for Fossil Enthusiasts. The symposium was attended by approximately 50 people from clubs and institutions across the country. The goal of the conference was to bring different fossil clubs together to collaborate and emphasize the impact that fossil clubs and amateur collectors have had in the field of paleontology.

There were four talks presented over the two day event. Rob Weems, retired from the United States Geological Survey, presented a talk about the geology of Calvert Cliffs and the surrounding area. Dave Bohaska, Smithsonian Museum of Natural History, gave a talk on the best practices for taking field notes. Stephen Godfrey, Calvert Marine Museum, presented on the contributions of amateur paleontologists to our museum. Lastly, Bruce MacFadden of the Florida Museum of Natural History gave a talk comparing Calvert Cliffs with Florida and Panama, which span similar time frames in the Miocene Epoch.

In addition to the talks, the Calvert Marine Museum department hosted field trips to Calvert Cliffs and behind the scenes tours of the paleontology prep lab and collections. Field trips were designed to showcase the various geology and fauna that can be found along Calvert Cliffs. We were able to explore both the Choptank and Calvert formations and everyone found some wonderful fossils to take home.
Merchandising the Mission: 40 Years of the Museum Store

By Maureen Baughman, Store Manager

A museum store or gift shop has a unique role in any museum setting — it is a window into what the museum experience will hold; it is an opportunity to discover high quality, unique gifts; and it is an important extension of the museum’s mission. Visitors expect to be able to buy a little bit of the museum to take home with them, and a successful museum store delivers on that expectation. We are extremely fortunate to have Maureen Baughman at the helm of our Museum Store. She brings coolheaded business acumen, a clear-eyed understanding of our mission and assets, and an uncanny ability to translate that into successful retail. Anyone who visits the Museum Store immediately grasps the connection between exhibits and merchandise — there is a seamless transition. We asked Maureen to reflect on her experience as Store Manager as we look back at 40 years with the CMM Museum Store.

– Sherrod Sturrock

The original “Ships Store” was nothing more than a counter in the lobby of the old school house that sold postcards, booklets, notepaper, and jewelry; but even at that time the merchandise reflected the exhibits. Sales receipts were hand written and the cash was stored in an old cigar box stashed in the broom closet at night. It was a cozy spot and the store volunteer could often be found resting comfortably in a rocking chair. Gradually the store expanded the product selections and began to need a better space.

In 1981 the store underwent its first renovation and expansion. An article in the Bugeye Times Summer 1976 issue notes that favorite items were fossil books and watercolor prints. Interestingly, fossil books remain the most popular book subject today. By 1989 the new Exhibition Hall was complete and the Museum Store opened in a beautiful new space just off the lobby. Under the direction of Dee Danzig, who had been hired in 1985, and with the assistance of Ellen Zahniser and Linda McGilvery, the store was fully stocked and reflected the quality and the mission of the museum. The new store accepted credit cards for payment and sales were rung through a cash register. Pepper and Jimmy Langley built the displays and a dedicated group of volunteers helped with daily operations. Dee talked her friend Zelma Margelos into becoming her volunteer assistant manager. Together they began networking with the managers of other marine museums across the country and Dee joined the Museum Store Association.

When Dee retired twenty-one years ago, I was hired to be the new store manager. I was very fortunate that the volunteers all stayed onboard to help me launch the next chapter in the history of the store. They informed me that anything that cost over $40 wouldn’t sell. So of course the first thing I did was test that boundary by bringing in beautiful woven throws to sell for $50. That throw ended up being a best seller for years, and more than a few went home with those same volunteers! My goal to increase store sales and thereby the financial support the store provides the museum was off to a good start. While maintaining the standards of quality and value already set in the store, I broadened the scope of the merchandise we offered for sale to include more high-end products. The resulting increase in sales supported the need for our store to provide a wide range of price points to our customers and members.

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Merchandising the Mission: 40 Years of the Museum Store  (Continued from page 6)

There have been plenty of challenges along the way —major local and world events have affected sales trends and changed the way our customers shop and what they are interested in buying. Shoppers are more considerate of what they are purchasing these days and have high expectations for the source of the item — made in America is a huge plus — as well as for the perceived value. I believe that it is the store’s responsibility to provide beautiful merchandise that supports the mission of the museum and allows our visitors to share our mission with their family and friends through their purchases.

It is my personal challenge to expose our shoppers to new and creative interpretations of the life in and around the Chesapeake. When choosing merchandise for our store I ask myself: Is this a “good value”? Will it be unique to our store? Who is going to purchase it? There is a balance of low and higher end merchandise to fit the needs of different budgets and occasions. Because the store has become a destination shop for so many, I am constantly sourcing and bringing in new items so that our inventory stays fresh and interesting. I am always learning and researching and experimenting!

As Store Manager for the past 21 years, I have maintained a professional membership in the Museum Store Association whose resources guide many of my decisions. Currently I am serving as the President of the Mid-Atlantic Chapter and am working to bring more resources and learning opportunities to the smaller museums in the five-state region.

In the last few years we have updated our store with a computerized point-of-sale system that gives us instant access to information and statistics on what visitors buy and when. With a great deal of support from fellow staff members, our online store has been revamped and re-launched with a clean, modern look. I will continue to expand our online offerings to reach customers across the country. To keep up with social media, we post to Facebook and Pinterest weekly … who knows what our next leap into technology will be!

The store’s most recent renovation and expansion was jump-started with the incredibly generous gift of our early store volunteer Zelma Margelos. Responding to that support with donations of their own was a long list of special friends of the store, demonstrating their belief that the store is an important asset to the museum. All of the profits from store sales go to support the museum’s programs and projects. And that income continues to grow as the Museum Store grows. My adventures in the store aren’t over yet and I’m looking forward to exploring the Chesapeake through our store merchandise and sharing my finds with you for many more years.

Bugeye Times on CMM Website

Through a joint effort of museum volunteers and staff, all issues of the Bugeye Times, dating back to 1976, are now available on the CMM website. Library volunteer Pam Jones scanned nearly 100 separate back issues of the Bugeye Times and Exhibit Graphics Technician Rachel Reese uploaded the PDFs to the website’s document center. Office Assistant Kathleen Porecki instructed library volunteer Marky Wissman on the procedure for editing the Bugeye Times webpage and creating links to the PDFs. Volunteer Karl Garland assisted with bringing a master list of Bugeye Times contents up to date. A shorter list of selected titles, searchable by keyword, has been added to the Bugeye Times webpage. Rachel Reese edited the list to create links so the reader can click on an issue containing a title to view that issue of the Bugeye Times.

Here is a link to access the Bugeye Times page on the CMM website: http://www.calvertmarinemuseum.com/275/Bugeye-Times

Kudos to our dedicated volunteers and to our website administrators, Kathleen and Rachel, for making this project happen!
The harmonies of the Brooks Male Chorus kick off the traditional music stage in the Corbin Pavilion at the Solomons Maritime Festival. (Photo by Rob Hurry)

Visitors to the Drum Point Lighthouse got to “Meet the Keeper’s Wife” and learn about living in a lighthouse from Interpreter Diane Milgrim. (Photo by Rob Hurry)

Solomons Maritime Festival waterfront activities included canoe, pedal boat, and workboat rides and radio controlled model boat demonstrations. (Photo by Rob Hurry)

Patuxent Small Craft members Ed Kobrinski, Tony Pettit, and Brian Forsythe discussing the next step in building the pedal boat. (Photo by Rob Hurry)

Smith Island racing skiffs are well represented at the Antique Boat and Marine Engine Show. (Photo by Rob Hurry)

Evan Scott tends to the rigging of the Dee of St. Mary’s. (Photo by John Fulchiron)

Ken Kaumeyer watches as Tom Younger starts a one-cylinder motor at the Antique Boat and Marine Engine Show. (Photo by Rob Hurry)
Students from Our Lady Star of the Sea School make distinctive stepping stones for the Children’s Garden. (Photo by Rob Hurry)

Chesapeake Fiber Arts Workshop participants pin weaving with ribbons in the Museum Lounge. (Photo by Rob Hurry)

John Fulchiron and Rege Becker rigging the new jib sail on the Dee of St. Mary’s. (Photo by Rob Hurry)

Mike Roche of Think Speak Act Video Production filming John Fulchiron during the Solomons Maritime Festival for a new museum orientation video. (Photo by Rob Hurry)

GeeZer performs for visitors at the June First Free Friday. (Photo by Bob Hall)

Little Minnows learn about “Animals in Motion” through an activity in the Discovery Room loft. (Photo by Rob Hurry)

A lively performance by the Smoke Creek Ramblers pleased the audience at the Solomons Maritime Festival. (Photo by Rob Hurry)

Toy boat building is always a popular event at the Solomons Maritime Festival. (Photo by Rob Hurry)
GET OUT ON THE RIVER THIS SUMMER WITH CMM

Throughout the summer the museum offers a variety of opportunities to explore the Patuxent River and Chesapeake Bay. The *Wm. B. Tennison* has regular 1-hour cruises Wednesday through Sunday during the day, May through October.

**Sunset Supper History Cruise on the Tennison,**
*September 12, 6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.* you can hear about life through history along the Patuxent River. Learn fascinating facts about Solomons, the WWII Amphibious Training Base, and Solomons’ rich tradition of boat building. See old steamboat wharves, view historic homes, landmarks, and other points of interest. Discover where heroic battles were fought, submarines sunk, lighthouses lit, and Ghost Fleets docked. Enjoy a tasty supper provided by Lotus Kitchen. Guests are welcome to bring a libation of choice. Iced tea and water provided.

The boat leaves from the museum dock. Tickets are $60 per person in advance.

The skipjack *Dee of St. Mary’s* has 2-hour public sails scheduled both Friday evenings and Saturday afternoons, monthly throughout the summer.

**Saturday Afternoon Sails:** July 25, August 15, August 29, and September 19, 2:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m. Tickets are $15 for ages 8 – 12, $25 for 13 and up.

**Captain Jack Russell** will be on board for the Saturday, August 15, sail to entertain you with his stories of life as a waterman sailing aboard the *Dee*.

**Friday Sunset Sails:** July 17, August 7, and September 4, 6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m. Tickets are $25 each. Children under 12 are not permitted on evening sails. You are invited to bring along your own refreshments.

**Lighthouse Adventure Cruises** aboard a private charter vessel invites lighthouse lovers out for a day on the Chesapeake Bay seeing lighthouses and hearing fascinating stories that make each light unique. All cruises take place on Saturdays, leaving from the museum dock at 7:45 a.m. and returning by 4:00 p.m. The cost is $130 per person; museum members pay $120.

*July 11 and August 8 Southern Route; July 25 Northern Route.*

All special cruises and sails require advance registration. You can check our website for details — www.calvertmarinemuseum.com.

To register, call Melissa at 410-326-2042 ext. 41 or email mccormmj@co.cal.md.us.
Maritime Performance Series 2015

The 2015 Maritime Performance Series continues to celebrate traditional acoustic music in a variety of styles. The series begins in September and runs through December. All performances are from 7 – 9:00 p.m. in the museum's Harms Gallery. Tickets are $10 per person in advance online, and $15 at the door. The Volunteer Council will have wine and beer available for sale. Don’t miss this impressive line up.

September 11 — John Mock performing From Sea to Shore
John Mock is an artist and the ocean and its coasts are his muse. John’s concerts include both traditional and original instrumental compositions performed on guitar, concertina, mandolin, and tin whistle enhanced by his narration and storytelling.

October 16 — Calico Jenny: A Trio of Sultry Sirens
Janie Meneely and her trio celebrate the maritime history, characters, and traditions of the Chesapeake Bay, adding the lady’s point of view and setting the record straight at the same time. The trio includes Meneely on vocals and guitar, fiddler Chelle Fulk who adds a layer of spice to the group’s buoyant vocal harmonies, and Molly Hickman on vocals, banjo and cello.

November 20 — Bumper Jacksons throws “a big, fat party”
Returning by popular demand after last year’s sold out performance, Bumper Jacksons early jazz and country repertoire paints America’s story from New Orleans’ brothels to Appalachian hollers. Recognized as DC’s “Best Traditional Folk Band” at the 2013 Washington Area Music Awards, the group has positioned themselves squarely at the helm of the young roots music scene in DC, pioneering a new, fresh take on American music.

December 18 — EVA in The Turning of the Year
Celebrate the holidays with the international band EVA. Featuring breathtaking voices with roots in Australia, Ireland, the UK & the USA, EVA performs a seamless mix of traditional and contemporary original folk music. For this special holiday show, Kath Buckell, Liz Simmons, and Melissa McMillan blend the sounds of the piano, guitar, percussion, and harmonious vocals, melding worldly sensibilities with time-honored musical traditions.

COVE POINT LIGHTHOUSE

The Cove Point Lighthouse, built in 1828, is one of the few active lighthouses where people can stay overnight. This iconic piece of Chesapeake Bay history takes on a whole new meaning when you’re sleeping on the third floor and watching the lighthouse beam from a fourth-order Fresnel lens sweep across the bay at night. The museum assumed ownership of the lighthouse from the U.S. Coast Guard in 2000. Since then, the light tower has been stabilized, the keeper’s house has been fully renovated as a weekly rental, and the cottage turned into a Visitor’s Center.

In the two years we have been renting the keeper’s house, we have had many satisfied people come to stay. Friends sharing a ‘girls’ weekend away, family reunions, wedding parties, and family vacations have all found a happy temporary home here on the shore of the Chesapeake. The Cove Point Lighthouse is a unique way to experience Southern Maryland.

To learn more about staying at the Cove Point Lighthouse visit our website for details, www.calvertmarinemuseum.com or call 410-326-2042 ext. 17.
HEART SETS NEW MUSEUM RECORD
By Vanessa Gill, Director of Development

Rock-N-Roll Hall of Famers, Ann and Nancy Wilson of Heart, kicked-off the summer on Saturday, May 23, with a live concert at the Calvert Marine Museum. With an audience of nearly 6,000 people and the overwhelming support of our community, the Heart concert set a new fundraising record for the museum. Sold-out seating and perfect weather combined with the endless rock hits made for a perfect night to have fun in support of the museum.

On May 16, 2015, CMM held The Bugeye Ball Casino Royale. This year’s ball was an evening of fun and entertainment that showcased fine dining, live dance music, and casino-style gambling. Ken’s Creative Kitchen prepared a menu inspired by the rolling Tuscan Hills. Live music from the band Playlist had the dance floor filled and casino tables in a tent on the boardwalk tested the luck of all those that desired a chance to win big.

The annual event raised over $60,000 to support the final phase of our Maritime Gallery renovation and to renovate the interior otter holding area.

Thank you to Bugeye Ball chairperson Eileen Bildman and all of the sponsors and attendees for making this exciting evening a huge success.

25TH ANNUAL BUGEYE BALL
By Lisa Howard, Membership

This year marks the Waterside Music Series’ 30th anniversary. Over the years, proceeds from the events have continued to provide necessary funding for new exhibits, education programs, preservation of our local history, and the general advancement of the museum. We are so lucky to have such great support. When someone buys a ticket to a concert, what they are doing is investing in our community. Every dime goes back to making this museum a more and more amazing place. I love seeing the familiar faces at each concert and knowing we’re making a difference together.
This May, David Moyer, Estuarine Biology Curator at the Calvert Marine Museum, and Sea Scout Ship 548 of Solomons, Maryland, undertook a project in and along the Marsh Walk exhibit to identify and remove a number of invasive plant species. For each plant removed, a local species was planted to replace it. Moyer hopes that this purging of invasives will increase the overall health of the wetland, and allow visitors to see what a natural wetland in Southern Maryland should look like. In order to preserve the wetland, the removal of invasive plants will need to be repeated annually.

On Tuesday, April 28th, Moyer and Peter Vogt, an expert on invasive flora, gave a presentation to six Sea Scouts, and one Eagle Scout who plans to do a project on invasive species. The demonstration included a dozen samples of vines, branches, and tree trunks that the group could examine, accompanied by an information placard going over each one’s features and history in the area.

Vogt explained that some introduced species pose more of a threat than others, and that many have uses for crafting, decoration, or food. Many came from Asia, and have been introduced into the local environment by gardeners for aesthetic appeal. The dangerous species are the ones that become invasive by spreading unchecked, absorbing all the soil’s resources, growing on and weighing down their host plant, or shading out native plants as they compete for sunlight. Fortunately, Mr. Moyer has enlisted Ship 548 as the army to banish the invaders. Initially, the project’s scope is a manageably small area of the exhibit’s 12,000 square feet. Over time, the goal is to expand the managed area every year, eventually keeping the entire marsh free of invasives.

Following the presentation, the Sea Scouts practiced identifying the species that are invasive with the help of Vogt, as well as pointing out what small shoots are not to be removed.

Much of the zone had already been marked with red tape denoting the invasive plants and yellow ribbons highlighting the natives by Mary Alves and Judy Okay of the Yard Arms group.

The Sea Scouts is a co-ed branch of the Boy Scouts for ages 13-21 that specializes in nautical-themed activities that are often coordinated by the youth, and Ship 548 meets at the Calvert Marine Museum on Tuesdays from 6:30-8:00 pm.
STAFF UPDATE

New Staff

Heidi Brandstetter is our new custodian. She transferred from the Calvert County Public Works Department where she had a reputation as a hard worker and fast learner. She is also a trained chef. We are delighted to have her here at the museum.

Carey Crane is the new Curator of Exhibits. Carey comes from Las Cruces, New Mexico, where he served as Director and Senior Exhibits Curator for four city museums: the Las Cruces Museum of Art, Branigan Cultural Center, Museum of Nature & Science, and the Railroad Museum. Carey brings over 30 years of exhibit experience in zoos, natural history, and health and science museums.

Sissy Moore is the new admission clerk. Sissy is a lifelong Maryland resident and has lived in Calvert County for 16 years. She and her daughter started volunteering at the museum five years ago. In 2013, she was hired as an “if and when” admission clerk, which proved good training for her current position. Sissy also works as a substitute teacher.

Summer Interns & Seasonal Employees

Sarah Carter has rejoined the estuarine biology team as the summer aquarist intern. Sarah completed over 200 hours as a volunteer intern at CMM during the summer of 2013. She went on to intern at the National Aquarium in Baltimore working with marine mammals and learning about operant conditioning, and to work in the private sector managing kennelled critters. Her crowning achievement prior to returning to us was her successful completion of her undergraduate studies at Towson University in May 2015.

Cecily Hein is also returning to work as the education summer intern. Thanks to her strong background in geology, Cecily will be heading up our fossil camp this summer as well as working with the boat camp. Cecily is a student at the University of Mary Washington in Fredericksburg, Virginia, where she is majoring in geology as well as getting a GIS certification.

Alex Jones, senior biology major concentrating in Ecology at Messiah College, Mechanicsburg, PA, is interning with the paleontology department. Alex says, “I would like to learn about the prehistoric environment that our creatures were found in and learn more about evolutionary histories of the animals we find at the cliffs.”

Kelly Jones has joined the maintenance team as the seasonal grounds worker. Kelly is a lifelong Calvert County resident currently pursuing a degree in Criminal Justice at the College of Southern Maryland. You can see her smiling face all over the grounds this summer keeping us clean and trimmed.

Departures

Paige Fischer started volunteering at the Calvert Marine Museum in 2010 in the paleontology prep lab after she discovered and helped excavate a whale skull at Plum Point. In June of 2012 she was hired as the Prep Lab Intern at the Calvert Marine Museum. In that position she has spent countless hours preparing some of our most delicate fossils for research and curation. She has also assisted with the CMM Fossil Camp for the past few years and regularly goes to the cliffs in search of more treasures.

Paige has recently joined the U.S. Marine Corps and will be leaving the museum in August for boot camp. She still plans to continue to pursue her love of paleontology.

MEMBERSHIP

Museum members receive many benefits including free admission year-round, a 10 percent discount on all purchases in our Museum Store, insider invitations to exhibit openings and events, our quarterly newsletter full of news and interesting articles, and the opportunity to register for programs and purchase concert tickets before the general public.

Get FREE admission every day! Renew you membership now and continue to receive these great benefits that will lead to a lifetime of memories.
Volunteer Spotlight  By Sherry Reid, Volunteer & Events Coordinator

Congratulations to CMM’s Volunteer of the Year 2014 Award Winners

At the annual volunteer recognition in March, Ilse Metz and Ned & Margaret Clarke were awarded the Golden Otter Award as our Volunteer of the Year 2014 recipients. There were two hand carved trophies, designed and carved by our own Skip Edwards, given to the winners. They each also received a gift donated by Maerten’s Jewelers and the Museum Store.

Ilse Metz began volunteering at the museum in January 2004 after spending 30 plus years in the Biotech field in the DC/Maryland area. She started in the paleontology department where she cataloged books. She later moved into the library working on the computer and most recently inventoried a collection of some 1,500 plus books that were donated to the museum. Since the passing of long-time volunteer, Paul Berry in 2014, Ilse has stepped up and taken on additional duties in the library. Volunteering three days each week, Ilse still catalogs books for the paleo library and maintains the extensive newspaper clipping files. She has become fascinated with Maryland and its rich maritime history, especially the steamship era. As of December 2014, Ilse has logged 4,608 volunteer hours — wow!

Ned & Margaret Clarke have been volunteering at the museum since 1998 & 1997, respectively. Ned is a retired mechanical engineer and Margaret is a retired civil service worker. On most projects and tasks, you will find them volunteering as a team. Every concert season, they prepare new kits of concert sleeves and after the concert they pick them up and prepare them for the next show. For many years, Margaret has created lovely arrangements to decorate the Drum Point Lighthouse for Christmas and Ned assists with collecting the fresh greenery. In 2014, they helped to design the Christmas decoration theme, purchased the decorations, and decorated the lobby. Ned is also the architect of Boat Camp, our most popular summer camp. Not only did he design it but for the past seven years, has run the boat building camp with Margaret’s assistance and help from the Patuxent Small Craft Guild. This dynamic duo team up with Janet Addiss during the major events at the museum to prepare a luncheon for our staff and volunteers. As of December 2014, Ned has logged 1,024 volunteers hours and Margaret has logged 1,674 hours.

Congratulations and thank you for all you do to make CMM a success!