North American river otters have been the anchor species for the museum’s living collection since the habitat was unveiled on June 25, 1994. The exhibit today reflects the highest standards in habitat design and integrated animal care or husbandry, as we refer to it. On April 11, 2017, the museum will dedicate the completion of the interior holding area renovations — and recognize the many supporters whose contributions made this project possible.

Like the otters that were here in 1994, the otters we house today are playful and engaging to watch for our visitors (kids especially). Otters are curious by nature and the opportunity to observe their antics up close has made this our most popular live exhibit from the beginning. The original habitat consisted of a naturalistic river bank and a large pond made entirely of concrete. While immersive (providing guests the feeling of being in the otters’ habitat with them), the design had some serious shortcomings that became apparent after the otters started using the enclosure. Modern husbandry calls for provision of natural substrates (bark, sand, soil, grass), more space, and enrichment — creating a dynamic naturalistic habitat with constantly changing contents to stimulate the animals. In a static exhibit space, clever and curious otters soon become bored. Learning from experience, then Curator Ken Kaumeyer took on the challenge to improve the lives of our otters by expanding the outdoor habitat beyond the pool.

Serving as general contractor for the museum, Kaumeyer organized the addition of 200-square-feet of space in the outdoor area that allowed the otters to get out of the pool onto dry land. The design enabled the animal care staff to more easily modify the enrichment and substrates in the exhibit. Large logs could now be swapped out, and the base of the expanded yard was all locally scavenged beach sand. Completed almost entirely by in-house staff, the newly expanded otter habitat was dedicated on August 16, 2003.

Continued on page 3
FROM THE DIRECTOR

By Sherrod Sturrock

In April, the museum celebrated our volunteers at the annual Volunteer Recognition Dinner. This is the capstone of the year for them and an opportunity for staff to say “Thank You.” It is a lovely event to honor the people who volunteer during the year, attended by staff members and supported by our board (who are also volunteers). Volunteers are part of the fabric of this institution. To say that we couldn’t do it without them is an understatement; the museum wouldn’t even exist without the efforts of volunteers.

Volunteers started the museum 46 years ago, and have been an integral part of our evolution ever since. Volunteers are mentioned in our Core Values. They are often the ‘face’ of the museum, the person visitors interact with at the Touch Tank, in the lighthouse, in the Paleo Prep Lab. They enhance our programs, support our staff, extend our mission, and serve as our voice in the communities where they live. They are our advocates and our staunchest supporters.

Our Affiliates are another manifestation of volunteer activity at the museum. Affiliates are members who have come together around a common passion that aligns with our mission. The Fossil Club, Canoe and Kayak Club, Solomons Island Model Boat Club, Yard Arms, Patuxent Small Craft Guild, Purple Martin Club, Dee crew ... all are vibrant expressions of our mission, giving it life and growing it in new directions.

People often ask me how they can get involved in the museum. The first step is to become a member. Membership opens the door to many opportunities here and signifies that you are ready to step up and be counted as a supporter. The next step is to volunteer. Whether you volunteer to work one event or you sign up to be here every week, it all counts, it’s all important, and it all helps. Members can also join one of our affiliates, thereby expanding their own social network and community involvement. You can support our Annual Appeal, our Aw Shucks Oyster Social, or our Bugeye Ball. You become part of our museum family.

The Calvert Marine Museum is a very special place. We have a remarkably talented and committed staff that does amazing work. These efforts are magnified exponentially by the volunteers who work alongside us. The whole of our collective effort draws our intelligence, creativeness, energy, experience, and expertise together for one purpose, and is far greater than any individual part. That defines synergy, and it is palpably demonstrated at the museum every single day.

Calvert Marine Museum
CORE VALUES

- The three themes should be linked throughout and, where possible, interwoven to create a more coherent story.
- The interaction with volunteers, museum educators, curators, and subject area experts is fundamental to the CMM experience and should be integrated into all planning.
- Technology should be a tool, but not central to the experience.
- The collection and preservation of local history will continue to be a touchstone of the museum.
- To remain relevant, it is critical to link the past to the present and the future in ways audiences find meaningful and can relate to.
- Our underlying goal is to provide learning opportunities as a means of impacting behavior and empowering visitors to act.
- Messages about the importance of preservation — of the environment, of our heritage, and of our link to the past — should be embedded in all exhibits.
- The museum should strengthen partnerships with academic institutions that will help us become a resource for interpreting and presenting current research to the public in our subject areas.
- All new initiatives identified through the planning process must be carefully evaluated for their fiscal sustainability, adherence to mission, and focus on these principals to ensure the long-term viability of the museum.
Today's exterior habitat reflects best practices in housing, space use, and variability. However, the otter support areas behind the scenes — built in 1994 along with the first phase — was in need of serious upgrades. The black painted iron was lackluster and the metal gates were challenging to operate or frozen from rust. An interior play yard intended to increase usable space for the animals was dilapidated with age. The system for moving animals from the main kennels to the play yard was cumbersome, as was our means of administering anesthesia during veterinary exams. The room was poorly lit and visitors, observing through the small window, could only hope to see an occasional flash of otter once they were brought inside. The space was functional and met USDA standards, but it was not the best for our animals or our guests. It was clearly time for an upgrade.

With generous support from our development and administrative teams, a plan was conceived to fund the revitalization of the otter holding area. Like my predecessor, I oversaw the design and served as the general contractor for the project. The Calvert Board of County Commissioners approved a budget request for $35,000 in FY16 capital improvement budget, which was matched by an equal amount from the Benning Endowment. Proceeds from the 2014 Bugeye Ball raised another $25,000. Additional private donations helped us hit our goal of $105,000 to fully fund the project.

This past summer, the Paleontology Department was asked to assist the Natural History Society of Maryland (NHSM) in sorting their paleontology collection. Dr. Stephen Godfrey, John Nance, and I were happy to assist. As we were sorting through the many boxes of fossils, one box captivated all of us. Inside the box was matrix from the Aquia Formation and, on the bottom of the matrix block, a crocodile tooth was protruding outward. With the permission of the NHSM, we took the matrix back to the Calvert Marine Museum to prepare the fossil and consolidate the bone. After preparing the specimen, we found not only a tooth, but the end of the snout of an ancient crocodile. The specimen featured the entire external nares (nostrils), which had never been seen before in this species of crocodilian.

Towards the end of January, we received another set of boxes from the NHSM that contained more material of the crocodile specimen that we had previously prepared. When I opened the first box, I noticed a large, coal colored tooth. This tooth reminded me of a specimen housed at the Smithsonian that I had photographed in December. John Nance and I then began preparing the new fossil material within the NHSM boxes and, to our surprise, noticed that a significant portion of the crocodile’s upper jaw was present in the boxes. After we were nearly finished putting the pieces of the crocodile’s upper jaw together, John found the original field label for the specimen inside one of the boxes. The crocodile was originally collected back in 1935 along Aquia Creek. John and I then went to the Smithsonian’s online database for their paleontology collection and looked for the collection date of USNM 321932, which I thought could be associated with the upper jaw fragment. The collection data showed it was also collected from Aquia Creek in 1935. I rushed to my office to contact the Smithsonian’s collection manager for paleoherpetology, Dr. Michael Brett-Surman, to share the news of our discovery.

We brought the NHSM crocodile material to the Smithsonian on March 9 to assess whether the crocodile material actually belonged to the same specimen. I took the first piece of upper jaw fragment, and gently put it into place with USNM 321932, and to my delight, the two pieces fit together like a lock and key. The rest of the fossil is currently in the process of being donated to the Smithsonian, so that the entire specimen can be kept together. It is truly remarkable to have the specimen reunited after 82 years, and it will be a vital in describing the Paleocene crocodylians of Maryland and Virginia.
CMM's River Otter Program (Continued from page 3)

Modern Construction was the contractor selected to do the bulk of work, supplemented by museum staff. The Exhibits Department (full-time, volunteer, and intern alike) chipped in to execute the “dress-out” at the end. Randy Farmer, Museum Carpenter/Preparator, and Tom Younger used their combined talents to make the “front of house” attractive to our visitors. During construction, we decided to incorporate the installation of a webcam. Funded by private donations, all webcam services were provided by Skyline Technologies with support from the county Technology Services staff. Private donors stepped in to “furnish” the new holding area with lots of enrichment ‘toys,’ as well as a stacked washer/dryer to manage the large number of towels these animals require.

The new holding area is constructed with all non-corrosive materials — stainless steel, aluminum, plate glass, PVC pipe, fiberglass reinforced plastics, and coated concrete. New LED lighting saves on our utility bill and bathes the room in bright light that enables easier maintenance and better visibility. When the otters want to take a nap, they can get out of sight in their igloo-style dog houses. A fold-away veterinary station can be quickly brought into service adjacent to the integrated squeeze box/transfer chute. This squeeze box design allows us to restrain the otters safely while the veterinarian injects anesthesia. It also contains four of the five shift gates used to control where each otter is in the habitat, and is interchangeable with a built-in scale for keeping track of otter weights. The doors and shift-gates are all within easy reach, resulting in smoother operations for the Aquarists. The new space is easier to maintain, has twice the holding area, is more accessible for staff, and provides heightened visibility of the otters for our guests. As an added bonus, it is visible 24/7 on live stream webcam via our website, www.calvertmarinemuseum.com.

Another improvement to the exterior habitat that enhances the lives of our otters was carried out in 2016. Prior to the renovation, our outdoor otter area consisted of a “single containment” (that is, only the glass walls kept the otters inside) and the USDA required that the otters be brought inside every night. In 2016, we added an electric fence to the perimeter of our outside exhibit above the glass, thus creating secondary containment (two barriers). In so doing, the USDA now allows us to give the otters full access to the exhibit space, inside and out, for 24-hour housing. The otters have more freedom and space to move around in, representing a significant improvement in the daily lives of our animals.

The exhibit now boasts three North American river otters. They are on exhibit every day and can be virtually visited via the webcam — with a second camera soon to go live on the outside enclosure. Chumley is our senior otter; an old boy of 14, he came to the museum in 2003 as a pup, assuming the stage name “Squeak.” Otters in the wild live to be seven to nine years old — though in captivity, river otters are known to live to 27! Chessie Grace is our princess. A year old now, “Gracie” — as she is affectionately known by staff, was abandoned by her mother soon after birth. She was completely hand-raised and is very comfortable with people. In her first months at the museum, staff rotated taking her home, waking to feed her three to four times a night, and returning her to the museum daily to continue her care. This was an opportunity of a lifetime for our team, and of course she became our sweetheart. In February, Calvert joined the otter family. He was a wild otter trapped along the Gulf Coast, probably as a result of his activities related to an aquaculture farm. In many parts of their range, otters are considered a nuisance because they eat farmed fish. Oftentimes, the nuisance is removed by dispatching the offender. Calvert was fortunate to have escaped this fate and to have made his way into our collection where he is wrapping up his quarantine. It is our hope that soon all three otters will be fully integrated and playing together.

All of the Aquarists — Linda, Lori, and Laura — take a turn on a weekly otter rotation. Each has her own special approach that varies the otters’ weekly routine, but some things are always constant. Otters are fed three times a day, every day: 9:30 a.m. / 1:15 p.m. / 4:00 p.m. (good times to tune into the webcam). Enrichment — the toys, natural materials, scents, and constant stream of clean linens — is changed every day both inside and outside. Otter feedings and trainings, along with their daily rough and tumble play, provide guests many hours of entertainment.

Otters have been at the Calvert Marine Museum for 23 years now, and we are very proud of the latest improvements to our holding facilities, our animal husbandry program, and our ability to share this remarkable native species with our visitors. We hope you will continue to monitor our progress as the program continues to grow and evolve. You really otter stay tuned! 🐿️
Activities & Events

NOON YEAR’S EVE 2016

A young visitor enjoys a hug from the Otter during the Noon Year’s Eve celebration. (Photo by Rob Hurry)

A young visitor enjoys a hug from the Otter during the Noon Year’s Eve celebration. (Photo by Rob Hurry)

Face painting is always a popular offering at the museum’s Noon Year’s Eve celebration. (Photo by Rob Hurry)

The balloon drop capped off the Noon Year’s Eve celebration in the Harms Gallery. (Photo by Rob Hurry)

SHARKABET

Paleontology Collections Manager John Nance shows specimens to guests at the Sharkabet opening reception. (Photo by Bob Hall)

Curator Stephen Godfrey showing a cast of a fossil scissor tooth shark jaw to Eric Zabiegalski at the Sharkabet opening reception in February. (Photo by Bob Hall)

MARITIME CONCERT SERIES

A Maritime Concert Series performance on St. Patrick’s Day featured the Benjie Porecki Trio. (Photo by Sherrod Sturrock)

Mardi Gras was celebrated with a Maritime Concert Series performance by the Redwine Jazz Band in March. (Photo by Sherrod Sturrock)
Activities & Events

FIRST FREE FRIDAY

A reception at the March First Free Friday kicked off Youth Art Month featuring Calvert County student artist’s works in “Portraits of the Chesapeake.” (Photo by Bob Hall)

Band Bone and String presented traditional music and songs of the sea at the March First Free Friday. (Photo by Bob Hall)

Huntingtown High School student Alex Dolen enjoying the Youth Art Month exhibit at the opening reception during First Free Friday in March. (Photo by Bob Hall)

OUT AND ABOUT

A driftwood sculpture of a blue crab, crafted by artist Larry Ringgold and donated by Ray and Sheila Hiebert, is mounted in the Museum Lounge. (Photo by Randy Parmer)

The Museum Store found the perfect complement to the annual Valentine Jewelry Trunk Show with the addition of local, artisan-made chocolates. (Photo by Rob Hurry)

Estuarine Biology Curator Dave Moyer discusses tortoises from the living collection during the Members’ Party. (Photo by Bob Hall)

Staff greeted attendees of the Volunteer Recognition Awards dinner with showers of bubbles! (Photo by Rob Hurry)

Tim Scheirer painting the mural that will be part of the upcoming Recreational Playground exhibit in the Maritime History Gallery. (Photo by Bob Hall)
Capt. Frank Arbusto (right) works on the Dee rigging with First Mate John Fulchiron (left) and former Captain of Record Jim Black (center).

The museum is pleased to welcome aboard Capt. Frank B. Arbusto, Jr. as the museum’s new Captain of Record for the skipjack Dee of St. Mary’s. Capt. Arbusto is a graduate of the SUNY Maritime College with a Bachelor’s degree in Meteorology and Oceanography. He also earned a Master’s degree in business from Central Michigan University. Frank steps up to the position after serving as a relief captain for the Dee of St. Mary’s last season. Capt. Arbusto retired as a commissioned officer with NOAA after a 25-year career. During his time with NOAA, he commanded vessels ranging in size from 25’ hydrographic survey launches to 225’ fisheries research vessels. He also has extensive experience operating small craft and sailing various wooden boats throughout the northeast and mid-Atlantic.

Casey Murray is the current Estuarine Biology Intern. She is a 2015 graduate of St. Mary’s College of Maryland with a Bachelor’s degree in biology. Casey is currently pursuing her Master’s degree at the University of Miami studying tropical marine ecology and conservation. She hopes to pursue a career in the aquaculture of ornamental coral reef fish. In her spare time, Casey enjoys practicing nature photography and playing with her pet mallard duck, Tiny.

Museum Employees Recognized for Years of Service
In February, several CMM staff members were recognized at the Calvert County Employee Service Awards ceremony. Office Specialist Cindy Smith was honored by the Board of Calvert County Commissioners for her 30 years of service, while Maritime History Curator Richard Dodds and former Director Doug Alves were among staff recognized for their 25 years of service. Plant Supervisor Kenny Heard also received a certificate for his 15 years with Calvert County Government. The Deputy Director: A Long Time Coming
By Sherrod Sturrock, Director

My mother always said that good things come to those who wait. After a long, arduous process, I am delighted to introduce Jeffrey Murray as the museum’s new Deputy Director.

Jeffrey Murray comes to us from Lakewood, Colorado, where he has been serving as the Administrator for the Lakewood Heritage Center. In this capacity, he oversaw all day-to-day operations of a multi-faceted regional museum that has both permanent and changing exhibits, a museum gift shop, a 15-building campus, and a festival area that hosts events throughout the year. Prior to that, he worked at the Wade House Historic Site in Greenbush, Wisconsin, for 17 years, two years as a Program Assistant before being promoted to the Curator of Interpretation and Collections. His experience encompasses staff supervision, budgeting, strategic planning, interpretation, collections management, events coordination, and grant writing. Throughout his career he has been involved in developing and implementing educational programs in both formal and informal settings. He is also a hardcore lighthouse enthusiast.

Jeff earned a Bachelor’s degree in History and German from Indiana University, and a Master’s degree in History & Historical Administration from Ball State University in Indiana. Jeff’s wife, Laura, is a professor of philosophy and education and currently works as a university-level academic dean. She attended high school in Delaware and is looking forward to returning to the Mid-Atlantic region. Jeff’s daughter, Alina, turns two later this month, and she can’t wait to visit the beach. They are delighted by what Southern Maryland has to offer and are excited to explore the area.

When asked for a comment, Jeff wrote: “I am beyond thrilled to be joining such a diverse group of highly skilled professionals, who, with the support of the Society and the museum’s highly talented corps of volunteers, are providing visitors with a multitude of opportunities to explore the history and biology of the Chesapeake Bay region in very unique and engaging ways.”

Employees Participate in the Water Bottle Challenge

Kate Dumhart, one of our educators, threw down the gauntlet, challenging all museum staff to use only reusable water bottles for one entire month. Everyone who meets the challenge will participate in a drawing to win one of the beautiful water bottles for sale in our Store. Next month the challenge goes public — so be prepared!
MUSIC AT CMM THIS SPRING

There is so much going on this spring that there is sure to be something exciting just for you! Our Calendar of Events has all the details, but here is some of the music that is happening — and this does not include our Waterside Music Series, just the inside concerts. [www.calvertmarinemuseum.com/172/Events](http://www.calvertmarinemuseum.com/172/Events)

**Friday, April 7 First Free Friday**
The Gray Green & Travers Trio: Using a unique combination of ‘dobro’ guitar, acoustic guitar, and upright bass fiddle, accompanied by tight vocal harmonies, this trio offers a fusion of folk, country, and blues tossed with jazz and brushed with bluegrass. Performing in the Harms Gallery at 6:00 p.m. FREE

**Sunday, April 23 Maritime Performance Series**
The Celtic Fiddle Festival celebrates the violin in all its globe-trotting variations. Each of these talented artists plays a solo set, showcasing their individual musical styles and cultural heritage, followed by a collaborative set featuring all three fiddlers. Tickets are $20 online, $25 at the door.

Monday, May 22 Road Scholar Summer Music Series
Tom Lewis: Born in Northern Ireland, Tom’s Celtic heritage is obvious in his clear, strong voice, evoking quiet sorrow for a fisherman lost to the sea just as honestly as it powers out a chanty “to be heard above the gales.” Harms Gallery, 7:00 p.m. Cost is $10 at the door, cash or check.

Tuesday, June 13 Road Scholar Summer Music Series
Janie Meneely and Rob van Sante: Well known in chantey circles, Janie has been singing about Chesapeake people, places, and history for years. Dutch-born van Sante is a guitarist of skill and subtlety, who recently toured with The Battlefield Band, a Scottish group steeped in traditional music. Harms Gallery, 7:00 p.m. Cost is $10 at the door, cash or check.

GET OUT ON THE WATER THIS SPRING

May is the official opening of our boating season when public sails and cruises start up. There are many opportunities to get out on the water this spring. More opportunities abound throughout the summer. Check our website [www.calvertmarinemuseum.com/227/Cruises](http://www.calvertmarinemuseum.com/227/Cruises) for full schedule.

**Wm. B. Tennison Mother’s Day Brunch Cruise / Sunday, May 14**
11:30 a.m. – 1 p.m. and the Mother’s Day Evening Cruise 5 p.m. – 6:30 p.m. Adults $25, children 5 – 12 $15, children 4 and under $10.

**Wm. B. Tennison Kid’s Pirate Pizza Cruise / Saturday, May 20**
11:30 a.m. – 1 p.m. $ 15 per person.

**Wm. B. Tennison Father’s Day Brunch Cruise / Sunday, June 18**
11:30 a.m. – 1 p.m. and the Father’s Day Evening Cruise 5 p.m. – 6:30 p.m. Adults $25, children 5 – 12 $15, children 4 and under $10.

**Dee of St. Mary’s Public Sails / Saturday, May 27 & June 24**
Enjoy a 2-hour public sail departing from the Calvert Marine Museum dock at 2:30 p.m. Cost is $25 for adults, and $15 for children 8 – 12.

**Wm. B. Tennison Historic Sunset Supper Cruise / Saturday, June 17**
Coby Treadway, historian and museum educator, will share fascinating facts about Solomons, the WWII Amphibious Training Base, and Solomons’ rich tradition of boat building. Return to the museum for discussion and a light supper from No Thyme to Cook. Fee is $50 per person, reservations required. Participants are invited to bring their own libations. [www.calvertmarinemuseum.com/237/Wm-B-Tennison-Cruises](http://www.calvertmarinemuseum.com/237/Wm-B-Tennison-Cruises)

---

**Solomons Maritime Festival**

**Saturday, May 6**

10 am - 5 pm

- Antique Boats & Motors
- Master Maritime Carvers
- Boat Rides
- Home Craft Demonstrations
- Traditional Music
- Toy Boat Building

**FREE FUN!**
The Calvert Marine Museum offers members many opportunities to get involved in the museum, and one great way to do that is through our clubs. The museum supports a number of affiliated groups made up of members who come together around a common interest that aligns with the mission of the museum. If you have a passion and are looking for a group of like-minded people who share it — check out our Affiliates to see if there's a match for you. Contact information for each group is available on our website: calvertmarinemuseum.com/9/Clubs.

**Canoe/Kayak Club**
*By Ken Spring*

The CMM Canoe/Kayak Club offers museum members an opportunity to explore the creeks, marshes, and rivers in Southern Maryland. All skill levels are welcome and lessons in basic paddling are offered to beginners as needed. The best way to learn more about the club is by joining a trip; newcomers and guests are welcome. A trip is scheduled approximately twice a month from April to November with the excursions lasting two to three hours. The CMM Canoe/Kayak Club also offers free canoe rides and instruction during Patuxent River Appreciation Days (PRAD).

You must be a member of the Calvert Marine Museum to join the Canoe/Kayak Club. Check the Calvert Marine Museum calendar for the schedule or contact Ken Spring, club president, by email at springk@hughes.net or by phone at (410) 326-6669. The first meeting of the club is Saturday, April 8.

**Fossil Club**
*By Stephen Godfrey*

Membership in the Calvert Marine Museum Fossil Club is open to all CMM members who have an interest in paleontology. Club membership is $10/year. The club meets four times a year for members to show-and-tell what fossils they've found, discuss club business, and to take in a fossil-related public lecture. The club publishes a newsletter, The Ecphora. Current and back issues are available on the museum website. The club also hosts fossil-collecting field trips, which are listed on our webpage. If you don't want to formally join our club, no worries, you are still welcome to attend meetings and all of our free public lectures. The next club meeting is Saturday, April 15. The Fossil Club meets at 1 p.m. in the Museum Lounge.

**Patuxent Small Craft Guild**
*By Jim Wilson*

This group of boat enthusiasts works on selected weekday and Saturday mornings building, restoring, sailing, and rowing traditional craft typical of the region, all under the direction of the museum’s boatwright, George Surgent. Large projects like ongoing maintenance of the skipjack Dee of St. Mary’s take place throughout the year. The Guild builds and raffles off canoes to raise funds to support their work. Club members also actively participate in the Solomons Maritime Festival (May), Patuxent River Appreciation Days (October), and the Build Your Own Canoe Summer Camp.

**Purple Martin Club**
*By Ken Ritter*

The Purple Martin Club has supported a successful purple martin colony at the museum for the past three years. We have installed another house at Cove Point Lighthouse in the hopes of starting a colony there as well. Because purple martins are totally dependent on human-supplied housing, once they nest in a box the parents and babies usually return year after year.

The overall goal of the Purple Martin Club is to use the colony as an opportunity to educate our visitors to the benefits of having their own colony. In the future, we hope to conduct workshops at the museum on how to start your own purple martin colony. Our goal is to ensure that there is housing available so this wonderful song bird will be around for our grandchildren and their grandchildren.

**Solomons Island Model Boat Club (SIMBC)**
*By Randy Parmer*

On January 28, the Solomons Island Model Boat Club began a 10-week skipjack model boat building class. The class is led by SIMBC long-time members and master craftsmen Al Suydam and Tom Younger. This year's class is being held in the Wood Carving Shop and has ten participants. With the completion of these ten skipjacks, the SIMBC fleet size will double.

SIMBC’s fleet of 48” radio-controlled skipjacks, built by club members, is raced on summer weekends at the museum waterfront. The club also holds regattas, inviting enthusiasts from up and down the East Coast to demonstrate their skill. [https://sites.google.com/site/simbclub/](https://sites.google.com/site/simbclub/)
Yard Arms
By Kathy Ellwood

The Yard Arms are a group of volunteers that have created and maintained several gardens throughout the museum grounds. They have produced a landscape that enhances the beauty of the campus of the museum, as well as aiding in improving water quality to Back Creek, a tributary to the Patuxent River. One of the cornerstone gardens has been the creation of the Maritime Children’s Garden. Yard Arm activities include maintaining the museum landscape, creating new gardens as funding and time allows, and educating the public about good landscape practices and what they can do in their gardens. The Yard Arms welcomes new members. No gardening experience is necessary. If you enjoy being outdoors and don’t mind getting a little dirty, consider joining. The group will start up again on Tuesday, April 4, at 9:00 a.m. Contact Kathy Ellwood for more information.

Sea Scouts at the Calvert Marine Museum
By Doug Yeckley

Sea Scout Ship 548 meets in the museum’s Patuxent Small Craft Center on Tuesday evenings from 6:30 to 8:00 p.m. You may have seen some of the scouts around the museum during special occasions on various weekends. Most recently they helped out with OtterMania on March 31.

Ship 548 is actively seeking new membership. Sea Scouts is a coed program for teenagers from 13 to 21 supported by the Boy Scouts. They share the same core values with the Boy Scouts, but their programs focus on the water. The scouts attend regattas and go to Safety at Sea training with the Coast Guard. Ship 548 conducts annual leadership training at Coast Guard Station St. Inigoes, staying at the station for a weekend in the fall. Members do community service and look forward to more nautical service in the future through their relationship with the museum. The scouts also take weekend and summer-long cruises on their 46 foot schooner Sea Eagle.

Information on how to join is available at the museum and in the Patuxent Small Craft Center. Check us out on the web at www.SSS548.web.com or email their Adult Committee Chairperson at douglas.yeckley@comcast.net.

Chesapeake Biological Lab Announces their Spring Outreach Seminar Series

The Chesapeake Biological Lab’s Spring 2017 outreach seminar series, titled Science for Citizens, offers talks throughout the month of April. For more information, visit the CBL website:

www.umces.edu/cbl/science-citizens

Science for Citizens
Chesapeake Biological Laboratory (CBL)
Free Public Outreach Seminar Series

Seating available on first-come basis
Tuesdays from 7:00 – 8:00 p.m.
CBL’s Bernie Fowler Lab
Solomons, MD 20688

March 28 DolphinWatch: Dolphins in the Chesapeake Bay
April 04 A View into the Secret Lives of Animals on the Swim
April 11 A Plastic Ocean Film Screening
Screenings from 2-4pm and 6-8pm
April 18 Raising the Grade: Patuxent River and Chesapeake Bay Report Cards
April 25 Foraging in the Chesapeake

www.umces.edu/cbl/science-citizens
n Wednesday, March 22, the annual Volunteer Recognition Awards dinner was held at CMM. The volunteers were greeted by staff and the otter blowing bubbles and welcoming them to the event. Our Master of Ceremonies, Director Sherrod Sturrock, announced the total number of volunteer hours logged for 2016 at 34,079! Based on the current volunteer value per hour in the state of Maryland, that equates to $907,865 of in-kind service. Certificates and a small gift were given to those volunteers that logged in 100 or more volunteer hours in 2016, followed by recognition of volunteers that achieved an accumulative 1,000 hour milestone during their volunteer time at CMM.

Congratulations to the following volunteers that were nominated by the staff for the 2016 Volunteer of the Year Award: Judy Angelheart & Dimitrios Papadakis volunteer for the indoor and outdoor concerts, First Free Fridays, and as crew on the Dee of St. Mary’s. Darlene Bremer volunteers behind the scenes each week in the Estuarine Biology Department and at special events. Sherry Carter volunteers in the Development Department and in the Education Department as a docent in the Drum Point Lighthouse every Friday. Christa Conant volunteers in the Paleo, Education, Maritime, and Estuarine Biology Departments. Christa also helps with special events and is a Jack of all Trades! Linda Densmore volunteers every Wednesday morning as a docent in the Skates & Rays Exhibit. Mike & Kathy Ellwood volunteer their time together in the Paleo Department and share their knowledge at all of the First Free Fridays. Kathy also leads the Yard Arm in making the museum beautiful! Herb Moore volunteers for all of the concerts by recruiting volunteers, laying out the seating and putting up the chairs. He is also the leader of the security team and so much more. Sherma Munger volunteers every Thursday in the Skates & Rays Exhibit and also works behind the scenes each week in the Estuarine Biology Department.

Congratulations to the following nominees for the 2016 Rookie Volunteer of the Year Award: Katrina Carey volunteers behind the scenes in the Estuarine Biology Department. Jennifer Crump volunteers in the Paleontology Department, mainly in the fossil prep lab. Sharon O’Neill volunteers every week as a docent at the touch tank in the Discovery Room. Breanna Thorne volunteers with the Exhibits Department, starting as a paid intern and staying on as a volunteer.

Congratulations also go out to the following nominees for the 2016 Group Achievement Award. CMM Dive Crew includes Aaron Alford and Walt Johns who scuba dive to find fossils to add to the paleo collection. Development & Administration Office Volunteers that include all of the volunteers that helped with phones, filing, membership, and other office work in those areas. Estuarine Biology Volunteers are the ones behind the scenes feeding fish, cleaning holding areas, and whatever else needs doing. Herb Moore and the Waterside Music Series Security Team volunteers make sure that the concert goers are in the right seating section, the crowd is under control, and everyone is safe and free to enjoy the event. Library & Archives Volunteers are the dependable and dedicated behind-the-scenes worker bees. Lunch Gang Volunteers consist of Janet Addiss, and Margaret and Ned Clarke that feed the staff and volunteers at the large museum events such as PRAD, Sharkfest, and the Solomons Maritime Festival. Special Needs Night Volunteers are all of the volunteers that assist in making it a great evening at the museum with those that have special needs and their families. Waterside Museum Series Volunteers are those that volunteered their time with any (or all) of the five concerts in the summer of 2016.

As you can see, the ballot was full of awesome nominees which made it very hard for the staff to choose just one in each category but they did and the winners are …

Mike & Kathy Ellwood, 2016 Volunteer of the Year. They received a plaque, a gift from the Museum Store, and the Golden Otter Award. They will also have a reserved parking space for a year. Breanna Thorne, 2016 Rookie Volunteer of the Year. She received a plaque and a gift donated by Maertens Fine Jewelry & Gifts. Waterside Museum Series Volunteers, 2016 Group Achievement Award. They received a plaque and will be treated to a special night in the museum in June.

Thanks to all of our volunteers for giving so much of themselves to make CMM the best it can be. We could not do all we do without you!
THE MUSEUM STORE

Discover Your Museum Store!

By Maureen Baughman, Director of Retail Operations

“New” is our theme this spring. New clothing, new books, new housewares, new toys, new jewelry, new everything! Don’t worry — our customer’s favorites are still here! Think of us as your destination for birthday, special occasion, hostess, and every day gifts. We are excited to share it all with you, your friends, and families.

Our online store is expanding to better meet the needs of our friends who live too far away to visit. You can visit it at your leisure at www.calvertmarinemuseum.com or give us a call anytime and we will be happy to wrap up and ship that special something that you wish you’d bought and just can’t get out of your mind.

Your purchases in the Museum Store directly support the programs and projects of the museum. As a thank you for your support, museum members enjoy a 10% discount every day and 20% off on the 20th of every month.

MEMBERSHIP UPDATE

By Lisa Howard, Membership and Development Coordinator

RENEW NOW!

Members receive many benefits, including the opportunity to order concert tickets a week prior to the general public — the best way to ensure yourselves a ticket. Renew online today at www.calvertmarinemuseum.com/FormCenter/Membership-3/Membership-45 or call 410-326-2042 x16.

Members’ Party 2017

Fun was had by one and all on Sunday, March 12, as CMM Members enjoyed our annual Members’ Party. Guests enjoyed a scavenger hunt with great prizes, access to our curators, discounted shopping in the Museum Store, and a visit from our CMM shark and Squeak the river otter.

Every year we look forward to the Members’ Party because it allows the museum staff to spend time with our members and their families. Getting to know you is one of the true pleasures of the party each year.

Welcome new members Patrick, Teddy, and Madlyn Bren who signed up at the Members’ Party in March. (Photo by Bob Hall)

Guests enjoying refreshments at the Members’ Party. (Photo by Bob Hall)
You Too Can Be a Philanthropist

By Pamela Paterson, Director of Philanthropy

What do you think of when you hear the word “philanthropist”? Most people think a philanthropist is a really rich person giving away lots of money. That’s one way to look at it. But anybody can be a philanthropist. If you volunteer your time, share your expertise, or donate money (a lot or a little), you already are a philanthropist! Philanthropy helps us introduce you to what Calvert Marine Museum does and finds ways for you to partner with the museum to make a difference.

With good planning, there are some easy ways that you can make a big difference without even writing a check. Charitable planning does not have to be complex to be effective.

**Appreciated Stock** ~ If you have stock that has appreciated greatly, you can donate the stock to Calvert Marine Museum, take a charitable tax deduction for the appreciated value, and ease your capital gains tax burden.

**Planned Gifts** ~ A bequest or other planned gift, such as a charitable gift annuity or life insurance, enables you to provide major support to the museum that you might not be able to offer through an outright gift. Many planned gifts also benefit you and your family by providing income sources, tax relief, or other advantages.

**Tribute Gifts** ~ A gift in honor or memory of a loved one is a wonderful way to pay tribute to someone or commemorate a special occasion. It’s easy to ask friends to make a donation to the Calvert Marine Museum Society instead of giving you a gift for your next birthday!

Remembering the Calvert Marine Museum with charitable gift planning has a lasting impact and it helps us extend today’s efforts to create the programs for our visitors tomorrow. If you would like more information about charitable gift planning, please contact Pam Paterson at patersps@co.cal.md.us or 410-326-2042, ext. 13. Financial planning and tax laws are complicated matters; we advise you to speak with your professional advisor (attorney, CPA, or financial planner) before making your gift.