

# Maritime Messenger

Newsletter of the Havre de Grace Maritime Museum



Summer 2011

## ~ Director's Notes ~

The hot steamy days of summer are finally upon us and we are all busy with our many summer activities at the beach, on the Bay, and in the yard. Spring was a fruitful and busy season at the Maritime Museum. We had several excellent lectures that were well attended including: "The Health of the Chesapeake Bay" and "How You Can Help and Maryland's Oyster Wars." The Museum is shifting its focus to environmental and natural history, and of course, its main focus of maritime history and culture. This shift has been well received by our patrons and members and we will continue to add lectures on natural history topics and all things Chesapeake! This summer we have more educational lectures including a "The History of Bainbridge Naval Training Center" (Wed. 7/13 at 7pm), "The History of APG", (Wed. 7/27 at 7pm), and "The Eagles on APG and the Upper Chesapeake with Joe Ondek" (TBA) In October Rick Schwartz will give a lecture entitled "Hurricanes and the Chesapeake Bay Region" (10/12 at 7pm). I hope these lecture titles are stirring your intellectual juices and you will want to know more. If you have any ideas of lectures that you would like to hear please email me and let me know.

Speaking of Bainbridge Training Center, the Bainbridge Association has installed a small temporary exhibit in the Maritime Museum that will be on display through the end of August. I hope you will be curious and stop by. We are glad to have this small exhibit as we get so many questions from patrons about Bainbridge and what happened to the base and what it looks like now.

### Secret Garden Tour

Despite the rain and overcast skies we had a fun and beautiful Secret Garden Tour this year. There were seven gardens that were on display this year. Some were small, but full of verdant treasures such as meticulously pruned Bonsai trees and exotic cactuses. Other gardens were large and full to the brim of flowers and stately trees. I would like to thank all of the gardeners who opened their wonderful gardens to us we thank you very much. Please be sure to come to the Secret Garden Tour in the spring of 2012 when we will have more gorgeous gardens in Havre de Grace to showcase.

### Jams by the Bay Concert featuring The Willmatics

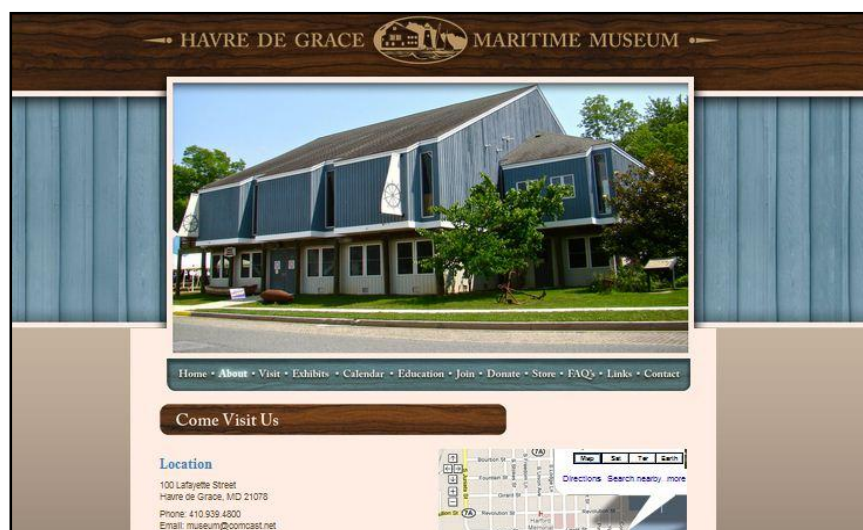
What a night Friday July 2, 2011 was at the Maritime Museum! We had an incredible concert that rocked the house. Over 200 people attended the concert—and that is a record folks! The Willmatics is a local band started by Will Melones, the boyfriend of our own Collections Manager, Keira Gruber. Will and his band so graciously put on a free concert to benefit the Maritime Museum. If you attended and wish to buy his CD come to the museum - we have plenty. We are all hoping that we can get them back to the Museum for another concert and I know all of you who attended are too.

Sincerely,

Darlene Perry,  
Executive Director

## ~ New Website ~

Have you seen our newly updated website design? We think it is a refreshing change from our dark, outdated old site. This new design should be easy to navigate and even easier to read. Please visit [www.hdgmaritimemuseum.org](http://www.hdgmaritimemuseum.org) to see the new site. Special thanks to Mike Parr at Coastal Web Services for all of his hard work and for the beautiful new design!



## ~ Nautical Word - "Fathom" ~

Although a fathom is now a nautical unit of length equal to six feet, it was once defined by an act of Parliament as "the length of a man's arms around the object of his affections." The word derives from the Old English Faethm, which means "embracing arms."

## Summer Hours

June 1<sup>st</sup> through August 31<sup>st</sup> the Museum is open 7 Days a Week from 10 am - 5 pm.

We are still offering  
**FREE ADMISSION**  
in celebration of the  
10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of our Building,  
through August 31<sup>st</sup>, 2011.

Stop by for a visit - there's no better way to spend a hot summer afternoon than enjoying our exhibits and displays. (In our cool air conditioning!)

## What \*Knots Shop

We are now carrying Melissa & Doug items in our Museum Shop! Stop in and take a peek!

You'll find quality children's products, including *puzzles, car/travel games, hats, bug nets, binoculars, arts & crafts* and more!

We've had a positive response to these items and they have been selling well! They certainly add a punch of color to our shop!

Of course we still carry a great assortment of nautical items, t-shirts, CD's, books and Havre de Grace souvenirs!

## Collections Corner

We at the Museum feel that education is a key factor in carrying out our Mission. In order to educate children about European Settlers and Native Americans we have added literature to our research section in our exhibit "Beyond Jamestown: Life 400 Years Ago." We felt that this exhibit was very hands- *off* with a lot of information - something most kids would not have the patience for - but this literature will better explain the life of the European Settlers and Native Americans in a fun and educational way.

We strive to create exhibits that are realistic and accurate. Through a recent interview with a past curator, Ann Persson, I learned that a pair of glass mugs was not appropriate for our Jamestown story. Glass was expensive and very hard to work with and was not created in Jamestown until years after the events our exhibit describes. In order to create a more credible scene we ordered a pewter tankard and plate to replace our replicated glass mugs. Our future plans for this exhibit are to create more text about scenes 4 and 5, to add more hands-on activities, and to create appropriate scenes.

Jack Davis is a wonderful volunteer and member of the Museum, who has agreed to help us in our efforts to create a more educational exhibit. He is in the process of creating a few stone tools which we will use as educational tools for tours. He is also creating a cattail mat for our wigwam, to make it more authentic. It is with the help of our volunteers, members, and community that we can create wonderful, educational exhibits for generations to come.

Sincerely,

Keira Gruber - Collections Manager



## Contact Us

Darlene Perry, Executive Director  
• General Museum Inquiries,  
Donations, Events, Fundraising,  
Volunteering

Jessica Calder, Office Manager  
• General Museum Inquiries, Web  
Site, Facility Rentals, Gift Shop  
Information, Events, Newsletter

Keira Gruber, Collections Manager  
• General Museum Inquiries,  
Membership, Collections,  
Donations, Exhibits

Cynthia Schwarz, Museum Technician  
• General Museum Inquiries,  
Exhibits, Collections

Phone: 410-939-4800  
Email: [museum@comcast.net](mailto:museum@comcast.net)  
Web: [www.hdgmaritimemuseum.org](http://www.hdgmaritimemuseum.org)

## Upcoming Events

Monday, July 11<sup>th</sup> - 7pm  
Summer Concert Series - Tom McHugh

Wednesday, July 13<sup>th</sup> - 7 pm  
Lecture - The History of Bainbridge

Monday, July 18<sup>th</sup> - 7pm  
Summer Concert Series - Don Shappelle

Monday, July 25<sup>th</sup> - 7 pm  
Summer Concert Series - Calico Jack

Wednesday, July 27<sup>th</sup> - 7 pm  
Lecture - The History of APG

Saturday, September 10, 10 am - 9 pm  
Canoe Rendezvous and Crab Feast

Fri. - Sat., September 16 - 17, Times Vary  
Mystic Whaler Weekend

For details on each event, please visit the Events Calendar page at [www.hdgmaritimemuseum.org](http://www.hdgmaritimemuseum.org)

## President's Remarks

Another few months in the growth of our Museum have passed with positive rewards. Activities have flourished - meetings have been held - money has been raised, particularly through the efforts of our Executive Director, Darlene Perry, who secured a Grant from the Dresher Foundation for \$30,000.00. Our Boat School's Teen Boat Building Camp was a smashing success. Now on to our Monday Night Concerts and our Canoe Rendezvous and Annual Crab Feast on September 10.

Please join in on all of the Museum Activities. You will have fun and enjoy meeting friends and family doing the same.

Our Museum is alive and well. Stop by and see our new temporary exhibit about The United States Naval Training Center, Bainbridge, and attend our lecture about the same topic on July 13<sup>th</sup>. There is more to come!

Thank You,

Phil Barker  
President



## Rental Information

The Maritime Museum is situated steps from the Concord Point Lighthouse and Promenade, and is on a beautiful piece of property overlooking the Chesapeake Bay and natural wetlands. For events, we have a 2400 sq. ft. tent and pavilion available. The tent can hold a maximum of 125 guests.

*Our rates have been slashed in HALF!*

1-4 Hours was ~~\$600~~ now \$300  
6 Hours, Max was ~~\$800~~ now \$400

For more information on having your event at the Maritime Museum, contact Jessica at [museum@comcast.net](mailto:museum@comcast.net)

## Membership Information

Student	\$15.00
Individual	\$25.00
Family	\$50.00
Individual Life	\$400.00
Family Life	\$600.00
Corporate Annual	\$1600.00

Membership benefits include:  
Advance Notice of Special Events  
E-Newsletters  
Free Admission  
and now a 20% Discount in the  
What\*Knots Museum Shop.

From Top:

The Teen Boat Builders pose with Mayor Wayne Dougherty and others before the Teen Boat Launch. Darlene Perry, Jessica Calder, Vivian Glover, and Keira Gruber pose for a picture. Jack and Margie Bosen visited the Boat School from Florida and picked up a completed Boat project. A guide boat shows the Teen Boats what NOT to do.



L to R: A choppy trip in the War Canoe • Teens showing off their handiwork  
The great colors of this year's canoes • The launch of the Teen Boats

## Chesapeake Wooden Boat Building School

About 15 years ago - we don't remember when exactly - Bill Putland Sr. built a Six-Hour Canoe for his grandson. Since then - most every year - volunteers and friends of the Boat School have helped Middle School Teens build their own plywood canoes the last full week in June. This year was no exception! Five teens - five days - five canoes!

Three guys and two girls made up this year's class - Kyle, Dale, Joe, Elizabeth and Scott. We had a good group of kids learning wooden boat building skills from a dedicated bunch of Boat School enthusiasts. Staying with tradition - the last week was really hot - and we had a couple good thunderstorms - the boats went into the water on Saturday. No one turned over - except a chase boat - and there were no leaks. Under the direction of our local expert Al Ault, the canoes were started Monday morning and construction was largely completed by Thursday morning. The interiors received two coats of paint Thursday and two on the exteriors on Friday - while the first coat was drying the kids - and some instructors - went on a weather-shortened war canoe trip - with Executive Director Darlene Perry starting a new tradition by riding in the bow of the war canoe.

Saturday was a very full day - the launching of the canoes in the morning, a Boat School Grand Opening in the afternoon and a pot luck dinner at the Boat School in the evening. Bill Putland, Sr. was in attendance as were Jack and Margie Bosen from Florida, Ron Root from Virginia, Vivian Glover, most of the Museum Board and a variety of local politicians including the Mayor of Havre de Grace, Wayne Dougherty.

The Teen Boats received quite a bit of publicity this year - both for the Boat School as well as the Museum. Local papers - the Aegis and the Record - ran articles about the Teen Boats as well as pictures. In addition, WMAR-TV, ABC Channel 2 in Baltimore, sent up a video reporter who shot a three minute piece on the Boat School, interviewing two of the students and myself, as well as taking a number of shots of the Museum and surrounding area.

Finally, the students and instructors from the Boat School deserve recognition for all the time and work that was spent both in preparing the canoe kits for the teens to build as well as the time spent in the heat to actually help get them built. It was calculated that the Boat School logged in some 289 hours of volunteer time to make this Teen Boat School happen, and over \$2,000 was raised for the Museum.

- Bud Gillis, Boat School Instructor

The Havre de Grace Maritime Museum is a 501(C)3 Non-Profit Organization dedicated to collecting, preserving, interpreting, and documenting the Maritime skills and heritage of the Lower Susquehanna River and Upper Chesapeake Bay.

