



Issue 9 Winter 2017-18

The Maritime Messenger

Newsletter of the Havre de Grace Maritime Museum

We'd like to extend a warm welcome to our new and returning members!

Jean Sfikas
Lynn & Jerry Van Keuren
Gary & Janie Sherman
David & Ann Brownlee
Katharine O'Doherty
Debnath De & Family
Augustus & Penelope Brown
Mike and Sue Capp
Richard Wahl & Family
Ed & Karen Garono
Gary & Diane Foster
Mary & Gary Leavens
Harold & Janet Butler
Ronald G. Browning & Mark T. VerValin
Shonn & Barbara Moore
Paul & Janet Carrick
John & Laura Haug
Tyre Jay & Family

We greatly appreciate the support of our members. Members receive complimentary admission to the museum and a 20% discount at our What Knots Gift Shoppe.

Get Social

The Maritime Museum is on [Facebook](#) & [Twitter](#), so connect with us to get all the latest news!

From the President's Desk...

Dear Friends,

After moving to Havre de Grace in July 2011, I decided to volunteer at the Maritime Museum. I was still working in my consulting practice, and thought volunteering would help ground me in the community. Little did I foresee that I would immediately be elected as Treasurer and then, fifteen months later, as President. It has been rewarding for me personally; new friendships, amazing volunteers, a strong and engaged Board of Directors. It has also been a great segue as I phased down my consulting practice and employed my managerial skills; I could share and explore my interest in things maritime and my passion for the environment.

I am proud of what our amazing teams of volunteers, staff, members, donors, grantors, and program partners have accomplished. It has been an honor to serve, and has been among the most rewarding (although sometimes most frustrating) experiences in my life. Last year, I advised the Board of Directors that I needed to step down as President, and that we needed to hire an Executive Director with excellent managerial skills. Gary Foster, a board member and active volunteer with whom I worked closely on Museum projects, stepped up. Our board voted him as our new President, effective March 1st. I will stay on as Vice President, and assist our new leadership team in taking over the day-to-day management and longer-term programming of the Museum. Jean Johnson was voted in as our new Secretary and officer of the corporation. We also recently hired our new Director, Mary Leavens.

Additionally, we have reorganized the Environmental Center. Sarah Shpak decided that teaching was her passion, so she will now be our Environmental Educator, primarily focusing on our summer camps and related programming. Sarah remains an active volunteer. Logan Poore, a recent graduate of Salisbury University, was hired as our Environmental Project Coordinator. He is creating two new exhibits for our Environmental Center gallery, installing an osprey cam in our new osprey nest, and will be project lead overseeing our new waterfront/riparian restoration project, under a \$35,508 grant that we were just awarded from the Chesapeake Bay Trust.

We also formally established working committees chaired by either a board member or a senior staff person, to oversee and implement our business plan. I will continue chairing two of those, our Exhibits and Environmental Center Committees. We have fifteen exhibits under development - some large, some small. As these are completed, we will announce them on social media. I am pleased with the leadership team that we have built, and confident that they will continue to grow into their new roles.

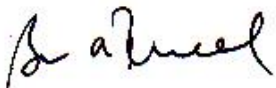
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I have asked Gary, Mary, Logan, and Jean to prepare brief introductions in this newsletter. I am sure that you will be hearing more from them.

All my best,



Bruce Russell, President

Letter from the Incoming President, Gary Foster

As of March 1st, 2018 I will be taking over as President of the Havre de Grace Maritime Museum. I would like to thank the Board of Directors for voting me in, and for their confidence in my ability to handle this position. The Museum has come a long way in the past 7 years, and my goal is to make sure it continues in a positive direction. My immediate goal is to make sure we maintain our current budget and don't overspend our income. We have many returning and new programs set up for 2018, which I plan to encourage and support. Long term, I want to make sure we look at our maintenance needs to keep the Museum in good physical shape. I am looking forward to working with board members, all our members, and volunteers.

Our New Director - Mary Leavens

We are glad to welcome Mary Leavens as our new Executive Director. She joined our team in mid-December. She has a strong background in non-profit management, fundraising, and event planning and execution. Her previous employment includes being the Director of College and Alumni Development as well as Executive Director of the Harford Community College Foundation, and the Executive Director of the Humane Society of Harford County. Mary is excited about working with our Board members, staff, and volunteers, as well as the community, to make the Maritime Museum the very best it can be!

Logan Poore - Project Coordinator

I am the Project Coordinator for the Environmental Center here at the Havre de Grace Maritime Museum. I started here in late October, when the Environmental Center was finishing up their Submerged Aquatic Vegetation (SAV) survey on the Susquehanna Flats. I was very excited when Bruce offered me this position, because I believe the Environmental Center has the potential to one day be the staple of environmental science and education in the Upper Chesapeake Bay region. Currently, there are several projects that I am involved in and working on, including but not limited to our SAV monitoring program, osprey nest camera, creating interactive exhibits for the Environmental Center, and our big shoreline restoration project, starting in March. I could not ask for a better place to work and better people to be surrounded by. I am thrilled to be working towards the betterment of both our local environment and community.

Contact Us

Phone: (410) 939-4800

Email:

hdgmaritimemuseum@verizon.net

Website:

www.hdgmaritimemuseum.org

Visit Us

100 Lafayette Street
Havre de Grace, MD 21078

**Spring & Summer Hours
(April 1 - October 14):**

Wed - Sat: 10am - 5pm
Sun: 1pm - 5pm

**Fall & Winter Hours
(October 15 - March 31):**

Sat: 10am - 5pm
Sun: 1pm - 5pm

Coming Up This Spring...

What the Health - A FREE Movie Night
February 14, 2018
7 PM

MD Boating Safety Course
March 10-11, 2018
9 AM - 1 PM (both days)

An Inconvenient Sequel - A FREE Movie Night
March 14, 2018
7 PM

Hometown Habitat - A FREE Movie Night
April 11, 2018
7 PM

Freightened: The Real Price of Shipping - A FREE Movie Night
May 9, 2018
7 PM

MD Boating Safety Course
May 5-6, 2018
9 AM - 1 PM (both days)

12th Annual Secret Garden Tour & Garden Mart
May 19-20, 2018
10 AM - 6 PM

How to Read Nautical Charts
May 19, 2018
9 AM - 1 PM

Our New Secretary - Jean Johnson

Jean Montgomery Johnson is a former librarian who, after retiring from Lehigh University, chose to return to her hometown of Havre de Grace, after many years of residing in Bethlehem, Pennsylvania. Jean graduated from Johns Hopkins and Rutgers. She serves on the Havre de Grace Maritime Museum's Board of Directors and the Historic Preservation Commission. She enjoys doing volunteer work at the Havre de Grace public library and with the Citizens Against Trash (CAT).

Two years ago, she switched to a "no-mow" yard, and is excited about the birds and butterflies now attracted to the meadow there. An enthusiastic traveler, she has most recently visited Trinidad & Tobago and Panama for bird watching, and England to walk the South Downs Way. Her daughter is a novelist in Oregon, and her son a nurse in Tennessee. Corvallis, Oregon, her "second home," is where her two grandsons live.

Our New Murals

On October 4, 2017, a sunny Wednesday afternoon, we revealed our own bold new art initiative - these colorful murals painted by internationally recognized Philadelphia artist Paul Santoleri.

Installed on the Museum's exterior walls, *Windward Trim* is a three-panel painting of colorful and fanciful images of ships, nautical instruments and sea and air creatures. "I tried to make a piece that was both responsive and sensitive to the architecture of the building, yet added a new layer of life that might reveal and inform about the building's exhibits and programs," Santoleri explained. Known for his large-scale murals, he has traveled the world to create artworks that engage their communities through whimsy and imagination. His art includes works commissioned in Paris, Brazil and Edinburgh. Santoleri's work is well-known on walls throughout Philadelphia. He did extensive research for a composition that would communicate with the audience who would live with the artwork.

In the first panel, a ship's deck is exposed to the wind and waves. In the second panel, a huge crab dominates the foreground of a marine world beneath the waves. The third panel combines a sextant and pulleys with an image common to those living on the waterfront, but startling to others: a large osprey flying overhead while clutching a fish in its talons.

The resulting artwork conveys buoyancy and movement through the use of changing perspectives. See the next page for photos of the process!



From left to right: The panels are unpacked, successfully mounted, and installed onto the façade of the Museum, easily visible to traffic and pedestrians traveling down Lafayette Street.



New Exhibits

Over the last few months we have installed several new exhibits. Our Boat Shop crew completed a partial renovation of an early 20th century (circa 1930s) wooden single-person racing shell for display. It is handsomely displayed in the rafters of our main gallery. Harford Community College student Paule Audebert conducted extensive research on an historic and evolutionary ship design, the Baltimore Clipper, and its importance in the founding of our county and the growth of our economy. A model of the Baltimore Clipper and a summary of her study are on display in our main gallery. Twelve artifacts from our collection, along with a model of a Chesapeake Bay “Deadrise” commercial fishing boat, are now on display in our reception area and gift shop.

Finally, we will be opening our Environmental Center gallery to the general public on or about April 1st, without docent supervision (as was the case previously). These exhibits include two Chesapeake Bay fish tanks and two digital interactive exhibits on the environmentally sensitive (at risk) wildlife and plants in the Upper Chesapeake Bay. You can see the results of last year’s survey and monitoring of the Submerged Aquatic Vegetation (SAV) in the Susquehanna Flats, conducted by our Environmental Center staff and volunteers. There is also a disturbing poster and graphic folk display on the global problem of plastics in the marine environment. An informative and thought-provoking series of six posters on our local watershed accompanies it. Many of you may have noticed that the Baltimore Gas and Electric Company donated and installed (at our request) a 45-foot pole topped with an osprey nesting platform on the Museum grounds. We are currently working to mount a camera above the nest and livestream images to a monitor in our reception area. Hopefully, a pair will claim the nest in early March. We are excited.

Our Programs and Classes

Our lecture series and monthly environmental film series (in collaboration with the HdG Green Team) have been very well received. Our Programs Committee is lining up new lectures on a variety of topics of local and regional interest, and there are films to be shown in the queue. In the coming months we will be lining up musicians for our 2018 summer concert series. We have now begun to include old-time Blues, Bluegrass, and Celtic music alongside our traditional folk concerts. We hope to have Miss Sue (Capp) back again this summer for our Thursday morning children’s story and craft time. Abe Spergel and Bruce Pringle from the Coast Guard Auxiliary are returning to teach our boating safety and navigation classes.

Oars for Art

The Museum is excited to work in collaboration with the Philadelphia Sculptors, and invites artists who work in 3D media to put their oars in the water and participate in a creative repurposing of maritime artifacts. The Maritime Museum has long served as a repository for abandoned, forgotten, and neglected wooden oars and paddles. No longer attached to rowboats, canoes, or kayaks, they have lost their identity and purpose. Selected artists will breathe new life into these artifacts by transforming them into artworks. During July and August 2018, the resulting creations will be exhibited in various indoor locations and storefronts in the commercial center of Havre de Grace and its environs, before being returned to the Museum in September for a final exhibition and auction, to benefit both the Museum and artists.



In cooperation with

Are YOU an artist?



These old oars need an artist's touch. Transform one into a masterpiece! Artists to receive a \$200 stipend. Must apply by April 2, 2018. Artists can submit their application by visiting **Philadelphia Sculptors** online at www.philasculptors.org. (The application process is completely online.)





SHRIMP & BBQ FEST

Saturday, June 2, 2018

6:00 – 9:00 PM

WATERFRONT

Overlooking the Susquehanna River

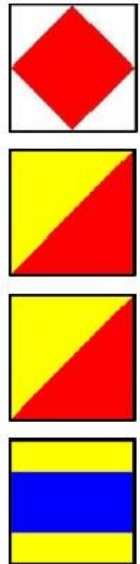
“Under the Big Tent” at Frank J. Hutchins Memorial Park
121 St. John Street, Havre de Grace, MD 21078



Cost: \$40 per person

Tickets can be purchased
at the Havre de Grace Maritime Museum
or
at the Havre de Grace Visitor’s Center
or

by contacting Mary Leavens at 410-939-4800
Email: HDGMaritimeMuseum@Verizon.net



Artisan smoked foods provided by Route 40 Barbecue

Old Bay Steamed Shrimp ♦ Nic’s Rub Pork Ribs ♦ Pulled Pork
BBQ Chicken ♦ Salads ♦ Water ♦ Sodas ♦ Wine ♦ Beer
Coffee ♦ Dessert

Silent Auction



**BINGO
POPP-OPENS**



All proceeds benefit the the Havre de Grace
Maritime Museum and the Environmental
Center programs.

