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The Museum welcomes

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as the new cafe
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Charlotte's offers
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sure to delight
your taste buds.

OPEN DAILY

Monday - Saturday

11 a.m. - 3 p.m. Sunday:

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No Museum admission required!



Visit The Mariners' Museum Shop
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& summer with brand
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The
Mariners' Museum

100 Museum Drive
Newport News, VA 23606
MarinersMuseum.org

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General Info

■ **Museum Hours** Open Monday through Saturday: 9 A.M. to 5 P.M., Sunday: 11 A.M. to 5 P.M. For general information, call (757) 596-2222 or (800) 581- SAIL (7245). Memorial Day to Labor Day: 9 A.M. - 5 P.M. daily.

■ **Library Hours** The Mariners' Museum Library will be closed to the public until Fall 2017 while Christopher Newport University completes construction on campus.

■ **Admission** \$13.95 for adults, \$12.95 for military & senior citizens (65+), \$8.95 for children 4-12, free for children 3 and under. 3D movies in the Explorers Theater are \$5 for Members, \$6 for non-members with admission.

■ **Group Tours** Group rates for parties of 10 or more are available by calling (757) 591-7739 or email groups@MarinersMuseum.org.

■ **Education Programming** for student groups. For information, call (757) 591-7745 or email schoolprograms@MarinersMuseum.org.

■ **Membership** Museum Members receive exciting benefits, including free admission and program discounts. Call (757) 591-7715 or email membership@MarinersMuseum.org for more information.

■ **Location** The Mariners' Museum is located at 100 Museum Drive in Newport News, VA. Take exit 258A off I-64 and follow J. Clyde Morris Boulevard for 2.5 miles. Cross over Warwick Boulevard and take your first left onto Museum Drive. Go straight until you reach the Museum.

■ **Event Space** Nestled on the banks of Lake Maury, The Mariners' Museum boasts spectacular indoor and outdoor settings for your special occasion. To make an appointment to view our facilities, call (757) 591-7731 or email events@MarinersMuseum.org.

■ **Café** The Museum Cafe is open daily for lunch with made-from-scratch sandwiches, soups, and salads. Open Monday - Saturday 11 a.m. - 3 p.m. and Sunday 12 - 3 p.m.

■ **Museum Shop** Stop by Unclaimed Cargo to find the perfect nautical gift for yourself or someone special. Members receive a 10% discount.

■ **Image Collection** Visit images.MarinersMuseum.org to explore The Mariners' Museum Image Collection. For more information or to order photo reproductions, email photography@MarinersMuseum.org or call (757) 591-7769.

Stay
connected...



@MarinersMuseum

Ahoy!

NEWS & UPCOMING
EVENTS FROM


The
**Mariners'
Museum
and Park**



Set Sail for Summer Adventures

Summer Camps, Free Concert Series,
Paddle Boats & More! Pages 5 & 6

MAY • JUNE • JULY • AUGUST 2016
AMERICA'S NATIONAL MARITIME MUSEUM



Image credit: Polynesian Voyaging Society & 'Ōiwi TV"

Dear Museum friends,

Spring is a time for new beginnings and that certainly holds true here at the Museum and Park.

The Mariners' Museum is honored to experience the awe of *Hokule'a* and her worldwide voyage as she travels to Hampton Roads this spring. *Hokule'a* is a Polynesian voyaging canoe currently circling the world, spreading the important message of how to care for our earth and its oceans. *Hokule'a* will be in Hampton Roads until May 7, with numerous educational programming at the Museum. The arrival of *Hokule'a* is paramount for us as a maritime museum, as it gives us an opportunity to educate visitors about the world's waterways and ensure that future generations will be able to benefit from and use the natural resources that today we take for granted.

We are pleased to formally introduce our Members to Anne Conner, our new Chair of the Board of Trustees and the first female Chair in the Board's 80-year history. To learn more about Anne and her vision for The Mariners', please continue to page 4.

As we continue to preserve and protect our collection, The Mariners' Museum Library at Christopher Newport University's Paul and Rosemary Tribble Library closed to the public on April 1. We will remove our entire collection before construction begins on CNU's campus this summer. The Library will remain temporarily closed to the public until we return our collection to CNU's campus and the renovated Paul and Rosemary Tribble Library in the fall of 2017.

Over the past three years that I have served as President and CEO of the Museum and Park, I am proud to say the public profile of the Museum has been raised dramatically. Visitation has increased, we have become an active member of our community, and there is now a genuine buzz in Hampton Roads about our programs and activities. And now, the Museum approaches a new chapter in its growth. After careful consideration, my wife, Elinor, and I have decided to return home to the Washington, D.C. area to be closer to family and friends. This was not an easy decision, and we will miss Newport News dearly. Our Board of Trustees and leadership team see the true potential of our no-longer-hidden gem, but of one of the greatest maritime treasures in the United States and the world. My last day at the Museum will be April 30, 2016.

I would like to offer you my sincere thanks for your continued support as a valued Member and patron of the Museum and Park. I have enjoyed my time here and look forward to returning as a visitor. I hope you have a great summer and that you will continue to enjoy our programs and events.

Best wishes,

Elliot Gruber
President and CEO, The Mariners' Museum

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Correction

In the 2016 January - April issue of the Ahoy!, there was a misspelling on page 4. In the article about Mrs. Eugenie Havemeyer, we regretfully misspelled her name in the title and in the content.

Ahoy! Magazine
(757) 591-7746
marketing@MarinersMuseum.org
Editors: Crystal Breede, Serena D'Angelo,
Jenna Dill & Kelsey McLain
Graphic Designer: Ann Marie Jenkins



A gold and silver model of the steamboat *Commonwealth*.
Crafted by Tiffany and Co.'s silversmith John Dean Benton in the mid 1800s.

A musical model - a true gem in the Mariners' collection

One of the hidden gems in the Museum's model collection is most certainly the steamboat *Commonwealth*, which is also a music box. It was made circa 1863/1864 by John Dean Benton, a silversmith with Tiffany & Co. He fashioned it out of gold and silver and included a music box below the model that played 10 popular tunes of the day, including "By Banks and Braes of Bonnie Doon" and "Nellie Bly." While the music plays, the paddlewheels and walking beam engine move.

The real *Commonwealth* was commanded by Captain Jerome Wheeler Williams from the time she was built until 1864, when he retired. As a retirement gift and a way to thank Captain Williams for his excellent service (the ship had no major mishaps under his leadership), the model was presented to him in 1864 by the Norwich and New London Steamboat Company. Ironically, the ship caught fire and was destroyed the following year.

The model has not only been displayed at The Mariners' Museum, but was exhibited at the 1867 Paris Universelle Exposition as well as the 1929 New York World's Fair, which is actually where Mariners' Museum staff first spotted it. It remained in possession of Captain Williams's family until the Museum had the amazing fortune to purchase it in 1947.

Artifacts on the Move

The Mariners' Museum's extensive collections are not only a valuable resource for its own programs, but also for the exhibitions of other institutions.

Curators continue to work with Dan Finamore of Peabody Essex Museum in Salem, Massachusetts on surveying objects in the Museum's collection for the upcoming international-traveling exhibition *Ocean Liners: Modernism and Glamour*. The exhibition is about the cultural and aesthetic ideals of these ocean liners as symbols of progressive style, providing a model for new ways of living, while also capturing the imagination of artists, engineers, and architects. It is being co-organized with the Victoria & Albert Museum in London. The show will travel to other international organizations, possibly even The Mariners' Museum.

At least two objects will be included in the show *Our Future Lies Upon the Water*: from the steamship *Kronprinz Wilhelm* and the more modern, decorative light panel from the SS *United States*

by artist Charles Tissot. Museum staff anticipates that many more objects from the collection will be included in the show.

In January, an aluminum alligator sculpture by Anna Hyatt Huntington traveled to the Virginia Living Museum for their 50th anniversary exhibition; in March, the *Liquid Light* exhibition traveled to the Art Museum of South Texas; and over the summer months objects will travel to the Jamestown Yorktown Foundation, Minnesota Marine Art Museum, and the Peninsula Fine Arts Center.

An aluminum alligator sculpture made by Anna Hyatt Huntington and is believed to be one-of-a-kind.





Earl S. Morris, Jr., *Coal Piers at Night*, c.1963, gelatin silver print, P25-16-02

Focus on the Marine Salon collection

A unique photography collection spanning 25 years has been discovered in The Mariners' Museum Library's archives. Beginning in 1948, The Mariners' Museum hosted an Annual Salon of Marine Photography in partnership with the James River Camera Club. From 1948-1972, both amateur and professional photographers would submit their prints to a juried exhibition to be held each spring.

The Museum's interest was to foster the creation of maritime-themed artistic and documentary photographs. The collection features local photographers A. Aubrey Bodine, Frederick Hill, J. Elwood Armstrong, William Radcliffe, and many others, including photographers from all over the world.

"When I came across this group of stunning photographs that have not been seen in 40 years, I began to think of this as a potential exhibition," Curator of Photography Sarah Puckitt said. "There was very little background on the Marine Salon, so I reached out to the James River Camera Club. I was directed to Carol Giles, who was the club's secretary from 2001-2010. She donated two scrapbooks that provided insightful information on the club's history."

Giles has fond memories of her years as a member of the James River Camera Club. "I was so impressed by the wonderful photographs of many of our members at that time, who had been members for many years. A number of them had been professional photographers for years and their work certainly demonstrated the very best in composition, light control, and vision," Giles said.

The James River Camera Club continues to offer programs for new and experienced photography enthusiasts. For more information about club activities, visit them online at Meetup.com/JamesRiverCameraClub.



Left: Anh Tai Le, *Union is Strength*, c.1960, gelatin silver print, P25-13-01
Right: John Lockhead, *Port Matiland, Nova Scotia*, 1938, gelatin silver print, P25-05-07



The Mariners' Museum Library closed to the public until Fall 2017

As part of the ongoing improvements to the Christopher Newport University campus, construction will soon begin on a major addition to the Paul and Rosemary Tribble Library. The much-needed expansion to the building will impact the space occupied by The Mariners' Museum Library, and it will be necessary to remove its entire collection from CNU's campus before construction begins this summer.

"Preserving and protecting the Library's world-renowned collection will always be our top priority," said Elliot Gruber, president and CEO of The Mariners' Museum and Park. "Arrangements have been made for the Library holdings to be stored in a secure, climate-controlled environment while work on the building continues."

The Mariners' Museum's Library collections consists of more than 2,000,000 items including: books, magazines, rare books, manuscripts, maps and charts, vessel plans, newspaper articles, photographs, Chris-Craft archives, and The Mariners' Museum's archives - making it the largest maritime library in the Western Hemisphere.

Public access to The Mariners' Museum Library ceased on April 1, 2016 to allow staff time to prepare for the temporary relocation of the fragile, one-of-a-kind items in its vast collection. The Library staff greatly appreciates your patience and understanding while the Library and archival collections remain inaccessible to staff and researchers.

"I want to personally thank the entire Library staff for all of their hard work. During this transition, they will continue working on projects critical to the Museum and Library," said Gruber.

The Museum looks forward to reopening the Library in its current location at CNU's Paul and Rosemary Tribble Library in early Fall 2017. Look for additional information and updates on this project from us in the near future!



"The thing that makes me happiest is knowing that young women and girls today will believe they can accomplish anything they dream of, whether that means being President of the United States, CEO of General Motors or Chairman of an important non-profit. Every time there is a 'first' for a woman, that barrier no longer exists."

**~ Anne Conner
The Mariners' Museum
Board of Trustees Chair**

Anne Conner appointed first Chairwoman of the Museum Board of Trustees

For the first time in more than 80 years, there's a woman at the helm of The Mariners' Museum Board of Trustees. Anne Conner was appointed Chair of the Board on January 1, 2016; a title she has earned after eight years of dedication as a Trustee to the Museum.

Since she joined the Museum Board in 2008, Conner has seen it grow and change for the better. "We continue to attract some of the most influential, successful and respected leaders from across Hampton Roads and beyond to our Board of Trustees," she said.

As Chair, Conner hopes those leaders, along with the devoted and knowledgeable Museum staff, will ensure the Museum reaches its goals. Over the past year, the Museum staff and Board of Trustees worked together to create a Strategic Plan to help propel the Museum forward. The plan calls for a focus on the Museum's collection and the improvement and enhancement of the Museum's facilities.

Conner's vision as Chair of the Board aligns with these priorities. "My vision for the Museum is to achieve national recognition as the finest collection of maritime art and artifacts in America," she said. "The collection is at the heart of our institution...the Strategic Plan recognizes this and focuses much of our work on preserving, conserving and providing access to the collection."

Conner hopes the Museum can do a better job of providing access to the collection—98% of which is not displayed in the galleries. "It is my goal to ensure that anyone who is interested in our collection is able to access it, whether for research, scholarship or entertainment, whether in person or digitally," she said.

Another critical aspect of the Strategic Plan considers the Museum facilities, which haven't seen any significant investment in years. "We are focusing heavily on space planning, gallery

redesign and other infrastructure improvements that will provide the resources our staff requires to properly care for our collection and assist in our goal of broadening access," Conner said.

Conner's background in banking is a major asset to the Board of Trustees. She is currently the President of Public Finance and Community Investment at Townebank, and was previously the Senior Vice President of Bank of America. The experience she's gained in 30 years in the banking industry will be valuable to the Museum staff and the Board Finance and Investment Committee Chairs. "Managing our financial resources prudently and judiciously will ensure that the Museum will survive and thrive for another 80+ years," Conner said.

During her time on the Board, Conner has had the chance to explore and learn about many artifacts in the collection. Picking a favorite was tough, but she was able to point out a few pieces that stood out. "I love the paintings and the intriguing stories they tell," she said. "The scrimshaw is breathtaking in its intricacy, and the captain's logs from the 1700s contain some of the most beautiful drawings of birds and fish that I have ever seen."

The Museum staff is confident that Conner will lead the Board and the Museum to reach its goals as Chair. As the first woman to achieve this title, Conner is happy to be a role model for generations to come. "The thing that makes me happiest is knowing that young women and girls today will believe they can accomplish anything they dream of, whether that means being President of the United States, CEO of General Motors or Chairman of an important non-profit," she said. "Every time there is a 'first' for a woman, that barrier no longer exists."



Summer Learning and Fun for Kindergarten through High School Students

Have you heard of the summer slide? Unfortunately, it's not a fun, new piece of equipment at the local playground. It refers to the backslide in learning that can take place over the summer while students are out of school. The good news is that museums play an important role in preventing summer slide by offering fun and educationally-stimulating programming for students during their summer breaks. The Mariners' Museum is no exception.

This summer, the Museum is offering a number of summer learning opportunities, allowing students to experience the diverse maritime world.



Maritime Adventure Camps

For rising kindergarteners through rising 6th graders, these camps will take students from exploring the depths with remotely-operated vehicles (ROVs) to traveling to 1912 to learn the story of the *Titanic*. They'll join a pirate crew, travel back in time to an age when sea monsters and mermaids existed in the minds and maps of sailors, and more. Each day will be filled with games and learning activities. Half-day camps for rising K – 2nd grade students and full-day camps for upper elementary students are available throughout the summer.

Maritime Drama Camp

New this year, students in middle and high school can join this two-week camp. Designed for all experience levels, participants will learn stage production and the basics of acting as they create and present one-act plays based on exciting maritime stories. Drama camp will help students develop 21st century skills including collaboration and presentation skills, and will conclude with a public performance at The Mariners' Museum.



Junior Volunteer Programs

Students ages 15 to 18 can apply for our Junior Volunteer program. Junior Volunteers gain valuable experience interacting with Museum visitors and assisting with student programs, all while gaining volunteer hours necessary for many college applications.

Maritime Mondays

Students without a week or more to spend with us can still enjoy learning opportunities at The Mariners' Museum through Maritime Mondays, a story and craft time designed for children 18 months – 5th grade.

Family Gallery Guides

Families will enjoy our newly-designed guides specifically for parents, grandparents, and children and offered free with admission. If you know a child in a day-care program, be sure to let their program directors know that the Mariners' has field trip opportunities for them as well.

For information about any of our exciting summer student offerings, please visit MarinersMuseum.org



WORLD OCEANS DAY

Saturday, June 4 • The Mariners' Museum and Park

Since 2008, the United Nations has recognized June 8 as World Oceans Day - a day to celebrate, appreciate, and work to protect the oceans that sustain human life. Here at The Mariners' Museum, we are honoring World Oceans Day by giving back to our local waterways. Join our education team on Saturday, June 4 for a special "citizen science" project - working to keep the James River clean and healthy. Details coming soon!

MarinersMuseum.org/WorldOceansDay



FREE CONCERTS

Every Thursday June - August,
6-10 P.M.

Load up your blankets and lawn chairs and come to the Museum's front lawn for Thursdays by the Lake this summer! Listen to Hampton Roads' hottest bands, enjoy local food vendors, and sip on beer and wine (tickets available for \$5 each).

MarinersMuseum.org/ThursdaysByTheLake



Concert Schedule

JUNE:

June 2: The Deloreans
June 9: Snack Bar Jones
June 16: Wonderland
June 23: Audio Sauce

JULY:

July 7: Borderline Crazy
July 14: Hey! Hey! Hooligan
July 21: The Fuzz Band
July 28: Party Fins



AUGUST:

August 4: The Deloreans
August 11: Butter
August 18: Pop Wlre
August 25: Hey! Hey! Hooligan

Discover the Noland Trail with Dr. Harold Cones

Go on a walking tour of the Noland Trail with Dr. Harold Cones!

Dr. Cones, who spent 27 years as Chair of Christopher Newport University's biology, chemistry and environmental science department, is the leading expert on The Mariners' Museum Park, and is the author of *The Mariners' Museum Park: The Making of an Urban Oasis*.

In this educational nature series, Cones will lead groups through the Noland Trail and The Mariners' Park, so please wear appropriate shoes, clothing, and protection for outdoor adventure. Weather permitting. Programs begin at the main Museum entrance and run from 8-10 a.m.



May 7 • Photographing the Park

BYOC (Bring your own camera) and learn photography techniques while exploring the flora and fauna of The Mariners' Museum Park and Noland Trail.

June 18 • History of the Park

Discover the fascinating history of The Mariners' Museum Park.

July 9 • Park Ecology

Learn about the native and invasive plants and animals who inhabit The Mariners' Museum Park.

All programs are FREE! To register, visit MarinersMuseum.org/NolandTrail



PADDLE BOAT HOURS

May 1 - Sept. 5
Daily: 9 A.M. to 4 P.M.

Paddle Boats Rentals open Sunday, May 1

Spend a day on Lake Maury with friends and family while exploring and enjoying the beautiful weather. Visitors can rent paddle boats with rates per hour and half hour.

See admissions desk for rentals and visit website for more details.

Bronze Door Society's upcoming events

The Bronze Door Society has begun planning for 2016 and it promises to be another outstanding year! Planning is well underway for the International Wine Classic happening on Saturday, June 18, with several sponsors including presenting sponsor Tower Park Real Estate.

Clear your calendars, and if you have not yet joined the Society, contribute now to guarantee your invitation! Your membership will also give you a rare view of the USS *Monitor's* turret at our annual behind-the-scenes event on June 7 at 10:30 a.m. and June 9 at 2:30 p.m. while the tank is temporarily drained for conservation work.

Our membership grew by 13% during 2015, and we hope we can at least equal that in 2016. Remember, it's not just the special events you will be participating in, it's the knowledge that your money will be going to fund a Mariners' Museum and Park acquisition or innovation you have chosen yourselves at the Annual Dinner Meeting held in the fall.

For more information about The Bronze Door Society membership or to join, visit BronzeDoorSociety.org or call (757) 591-7715.

Mary Sherwood Holt and Sandy Armstrong
Co-Chairs, The Bronze Door Society



BDS MEMBERS ONLY

**Behind-the-Scenes
of the *Monitor* Turret**

May 31 & June 2



Superior Wines in a Spectacular Setting

SATURDAY, JUNE 18

6-9 P.M. • Main Lobby

Enjoy a selection of unlimited tastings of international & domestic wines.

Listen to live music by the Jae Sinnett Trio.

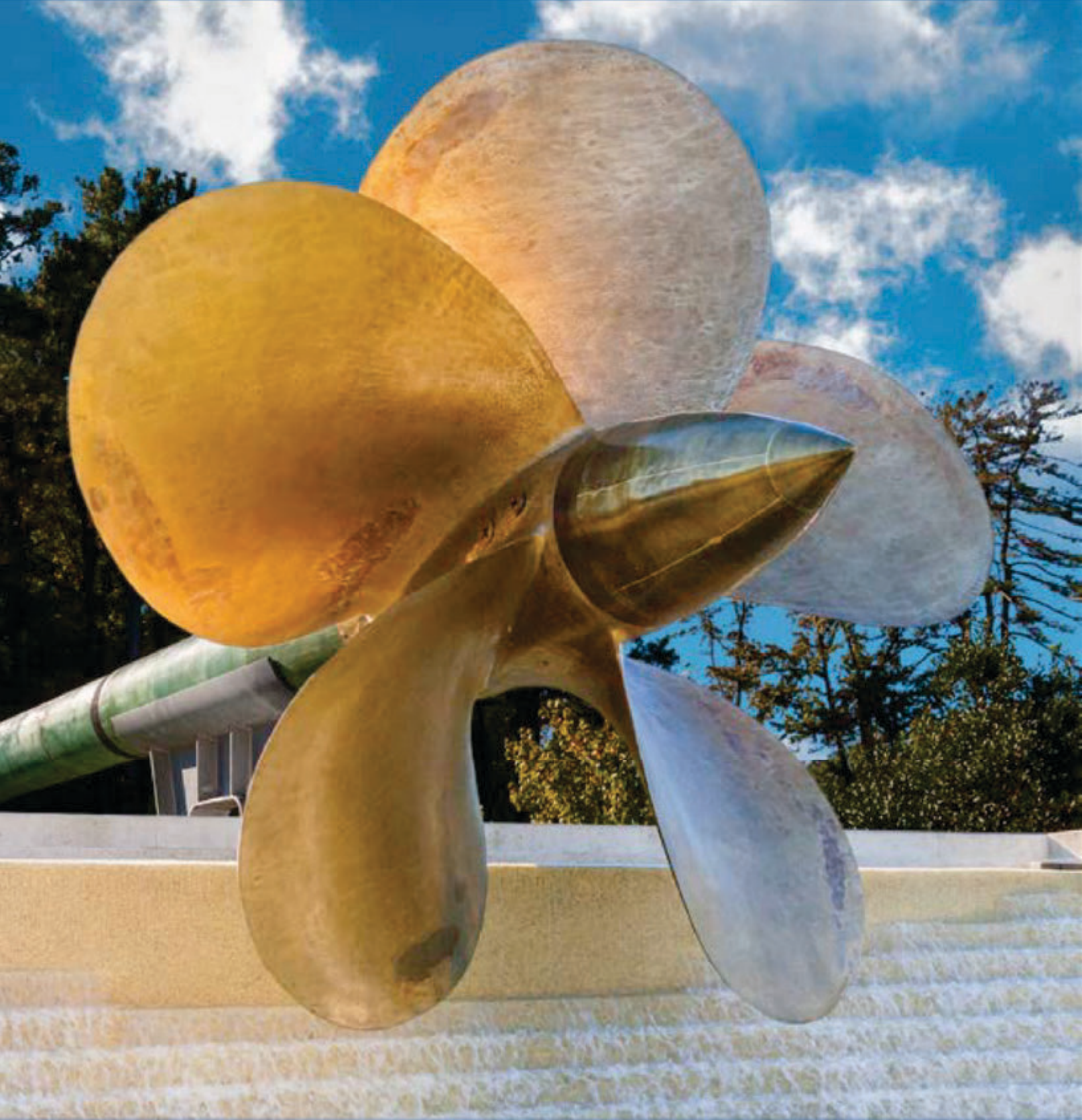
Dine with hearty hors d'oeuvres and an expanded food station.

Special thanks to
our Sponsors:



Visit BronzeDoorSociety.org to purchase tickets.

Ticket prices: \$60 before June 13 • \$70 on and after June 13 • \$25 for non-drinkers
Tickets include unlimited tastings, a commemorative wine glass, complimentary buffet and live music.



MUSEUM ANNUAL GIVING REPORT 2015

The Mariners' Museum Giving Report

Gifts made between January 1, 2015 - December 31, 2015

The Museum and the Board of Trustees would like to recognize the following individuals, corporations and foundations for their generous support to fund the ongoing activities of the Museum during the period of January 1, 2015 - December 31, 2015.

Great care was taken to ensure the accuracy of this listing. We would appreciate you sharing with us any errors or omissions by contacting Development, at (757) 591-7733 or development@MarinersMuseum.org.

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The Mariners' Museum and Park

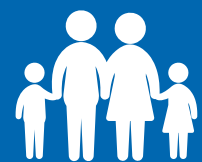
2015 was a great year!

Our success would not have been possible without support from our donors, sponsors, members, community partners, docents and volunteers.

2015 BY THE NUMBERS...

167 Artifacts

were loaned to other institutions
expanding access to our collection
outside of the Museum.



1,254

New Museum
Members



OVER 17,439 STUDENTS

were reached through our
educational programs.

DONATED

Museum admission and
Membership valued at **\$8,000** to
NON-PROFITS
for their Fundraising efforts

19,969 HOURS

total from
our

VOLUNTEERS

Museum & Park

Social MEDIA

1,723,684
PEOPLE
REACHED WITHIN
45 countries



OVER **52** MUSEUM HOSTED
EVENTS
drew **24,669** people

#1

Newport News
Attraction



tripadvisor

Great things are underway for 2016

and with your continued support, this year will be even better!

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Sea Flash, a 1956 *Runabout*, Displayed in International Small Craft Center

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Volunteer Ron Lewis works on a ship model in the shipmodel stand in the Great Hall of Steam

POLYNESIAN VOYAGERS: THE TRUEST OF MARINERS

New exhibition coming this fall

Continuing on its worldwide voyage, the Polynesian voyaging canoe *Hokule'a* will depart Hampton Roads in early May to head north to New England, before turning back to make its way home to Honolulu, Hawaii. During its brief stay this spring, the crew and staff of *Hokule'a* visited The Mariners' Museum and Park, Yorktown, and James River Fishing Pier, and participated in educational and social activities with the local community.

As *Hokule'a* traverses the ocean on its way back to Hawaii, it will pass through Hampton Roads again this fall. In conjunction with the canoe's second appearance, the Museum will unveil its newest exhibition, *Polynesian Voyagers: The Truest of Mariners* on October 1, 2016. This exhibition will feature the time-honored navigational skills of the Polynesian navigators who relied on their knowledge of waves, winds, stars and nature instead of modern instruments. It will also highlight some of the real history behind Disney's upcoming animated feature film, *Moana*.

In collaboration with Hawaiian educators, the *Hokule'a* crew and staff, and the Polynesian community, this new exhibition is designed to evoke the feeling of what it is to be a voyager. Guests will encounter displays demonstrating the origin of the Polynesian culture and community and how they are inherently maritime focused. With an emphasis on navigational techniques that precede technology, the exhibition will guide visitors through the story of exploration and settlement of the vast Pacific islands. *Polynesian Voyagers: The Truest of Mariners* will feature the traditional supplies and methods encountered on a Polynesian voyaging canoe, and guests will be able to listen to Polynesian chants that would have been used in ancient times to share history among civilizations without a common language.

The

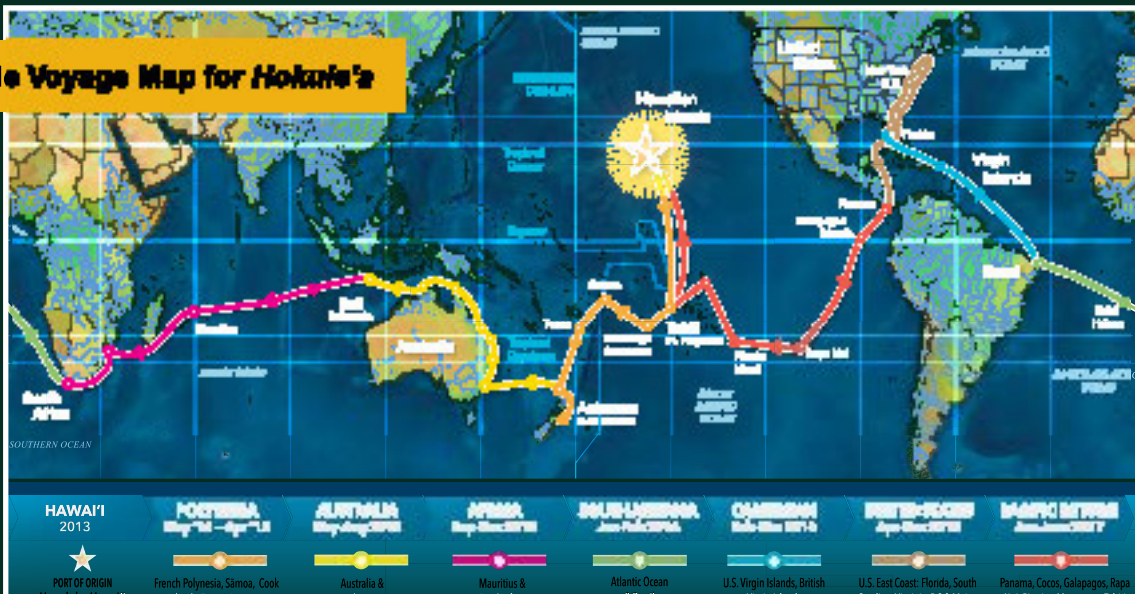


SAVE THE DATE!

**Friday,
September 30**
Members Opening
of *Polynesian
Voyagers: The
Truest of Mariners*

Details and invitation
coming soon!

Worldwide Voyage Map for *Hokule'a*



Images & map credit: Polynesian Voyaging Society & 'Ōiwi TV"



USS Monitor conservation in action

The USS *Monitor*'s gun turret tank will be drained this summer, weekdays from May 2 to July 15! Watch as conservators drain special treatment solutions from the USS *Monitor*'s gun turret to dismantle, excavate, and treat this fascinating object. Don't miss this rare opportunity to see *Monitor*'s most iconic artifact from a whole new perspective.



New this year, sign up for a turret tour!

Each tour is a once-in-a-lifetime experience led by historian John V. Quarstein. Tours include a walk through the *Ironclad Revolution* exhibition and a behind-the-scenes look at the Batten

Conservation Complex, the largest marine archaeological metals conservation lab in the world. Experience the rare opportunity to go inside the turret tank and come within inches of this piece of history, and handle some rarely seen USS *Monitor* artifacts. Tours are \$100 per person and are a tax-deductible contribution to the USS *Monitor* Foundation. They are not suitable for children under the age of 12, and are limited to 15 people. Waterproof boots at least eight-inches tall are necessary.

For questions, details, or to schedule your tour, please contact USS *Monitor* Center and Foundation Coordinator Hannah Piner by email at hpiner@USSMonitorFoundation.org or by phone at (757) 952-0465.

Available tour times are limited due to the nature of the work and are subject to change for technical reasons.

Please visit MonitorCenter.org for the most up-to-date information.



Destruction of the Rebel Ram Merrimac, engraving, Currier & Ives, 1862. Courtesy The Mariners' Museum.

The Virginia is no more

President Abraham Lincoln's arrival at Fort Monroe on May 6, 1862, prompted Union forces to strike at Norfolk, Virginia. On May 10, Major General John Ellis Wool captured both Norfolk and Portsmouth, leaving the CSS *Virginia* without a port or repair facilities.

The loss of Gosport Navy Yard left the Confederates with few options. The *Virginia*, also known as the *Merrimack*, could have been taken out to attack the Union fleet, perhaps sinking in a blaze of glory. Neither this action nor any efforts to take the *Virginia* out to sea, en route to another port, were considered wise. Flag Officer Josiah Tattnall replaced the wounded Franklin Buchanan as commander of the Confederate James River Defenses with the CSS *Virginia* as his flagship. He soon realized that an effort must be made to get the *Virginia* up the James River toward Richmond. The pilots advised that this could only be achieved if the huge ironclad could reduce her draft from 23 feet to 18 feet so that she could pass Harrison's Bar. The crew immediately went to work throwing coal, ballast, and nearly everything else overboard except the ironclad's guns and ammunition.

Even though the *Virginia* had been lightened to 20 feet, the pilots learned from the ship's executive officer, Lieutenant Catesby ap Roger Jones, that the *Virginia* could still not get across the bar. The pilots noted that the wind was from the west rather than east, blowing water away from the bar and making it even shallower. Since the reduction of the draft had made the *Virginia* no longer an ironclad, it was therefore unable to engage the Federal fleet, causing it to be scuttled. Consequently, the *Virginia* steamed across the mouth of the Elizabeth River from Sewell's Point and was grounded. Catesby Jones and John Taylor Wood led a group of 10 men to lay combustibles throughout the warship while the rest of the men rowed to shore.

At 4:58 a.m. on May 11, 1862, Jones lit a slow match and headed for shore, saying "by the light of our burning ship." By daybreak, the huge ironclad quickly became a mass of flames. A Union officer, Lieutenant Samuel Franklin, thought it was a beautiful sight as he said, "she had been a thorn in our side for a long time and we were glad to have her well out of the way." As he watched the scene, he noted that the "casemate grew hotter and hotter, until it finally became red hot, so that we could distinctly mark its outlines...when, with a tremendous explosion, the *Merrimack* went into the air and was seen no more."

The James River doorway to Richmond was now open. Nevertheless, the crew was marching to Suffolk to entrain to Petersburg as they were there to defend Drewry's Bluff against the Union fleet. As they reached toward Suffolk, they heard "that last, deep, sullen, mournful boom...that their gallant ship was no more." Crew member Richard Curtis reflected, saying, "a sad finish for such a bright beginning." Curtis and his CSS *Virginia* compatriots would soon have an opportunity for redemption at Drewry's Bluff.



Family matters: Announcing the Captain Worden Challenge

The USS *Monitor* Center is pleased and privileged to announce the launch of the Captain Worden Challenge, in honor of the ship's captain, John Lorimer Worden. Members of Worden's family will lead a five-year fundraising campaign to help underwrite a robust agenda of conservation and education. An important goal of the funds raised is to celebrate the ship's unique design and Worden's leadership, explaining how both are relevant to ground-breaking technologies and entrepreneurship today.

Included in the challenge mission is the restoration and exhibition of the XI-inch Dahlgren shell gun stamped 'WORDEN' that once was housed in the iconic revolving turret that fired at the *Merrimack* in the first years of the Civil War. This priceless artifact was recovered by NOAA and U.S. Navy divers in 2002 from the ironclad's wreck site off Cape Hatteras, North Carolina. It is believed to be one of two surviving examples of its kind, both located in The USS *Monitor* Center.

Lieutenant John Lorimer Worden became the toast of the nation on March 9, 1862, when he commanded the USS *Monitor* during her epic engagement with the CSS *Virginia* (previously the USS *Merrimack*). Worden, who was badly wounded that day, later commanded the USS *Montauk* and rose to the rank of rear admiral. A pair of Worden's descendants, Howard Lowell of Portland, Maine, and Robert Worden of Annapolis, Maryland, hope Americans of all ages as well as corporate sponsors will be inspired to support and benefit from the Captain Worden Challenge.

A genuine 'Huzzah!' to the Worden family for their commitment to bring the story of a true naval hero to life, making it relevant to lovers of history today and for generations to come.

For more information on this exciting gift opportunity, please contact John V. Quarstein at jquarstein@USSMonitorFoundation.org or call (757) 591-7726.



Top: USS *Monitor* captain John Lorimer Worden.
Bottom: USS *Monitor* conservationists work on the ship's XI-inch Dahlgren shell gun while the tank is drained.



Panel discussion following a screening of *Mercy Street*.

Museum hosted screening of PBS's *Mercy Street*

Close to 600 people visited the Museum for WHRO's *Mercy Street* screenings in January. *Mercy Street* is a new PBS Civil War medical drama. The USS *Monitor* Foundation had the privilege of hosting two preview screenings of the show before its premiere on Sunday, January 17.

WHRO was impressed with the professionalism and friendliness of the Museum's staff. "I just want to thank all of you at the Mariners' Museum and *Monitor* Foundation for being the very best of partners for the *Mercy Street* Screenings," WHRO Grants Writer Carla Johnson said. "You guys are so professional, adaptable, and easy to work with that we are now completely spoiled. Our audiences enjoyed both evenings, and I am certain they learned something. All in all, a wonderful experience."



Share Your Stories

Noland Trail turns 25

This year marks the 25th anniversary of the beloved Noland Trail. Dedicated as a gift from the Noland family in 1991, the trail has been a community treasure ever since. The five-mile trail is owned and maintained by the Museum with ongoing support from the Noland Family.

With the upcoming anniversary, we are inviting the community to share their favorite stories, experiences and memories that involve the Noland Trail. We would love to see your photos, poems, songs and cherished moments.

You can submit your stories to marketing@MarinersMuseum.org or submit online at MarinersMuseum.org/NolandTrail

EXPLORERS THEATER



NOW SHOWING

Wonders of the Arctic 3D
Now through July 31

Galapagos 3D
May 2 - November 6

Visit MarinersMuseum.org/ExplorersTheater for information on upcoming movies in 2016.



Teacher Professional Development Opportunities

Join The Mariners' Museum education staff for either a day or a week of teacher professional development. All programs cover content and learning strategies for educators to take back to the classroom. Sessions are \$55 each, with discounts available for multi-day bookings. Each day earns teachers five recertification points.

Schedule:

- June 27 • Age of Exploration
- June 28 • Slavery and the Transatlantic Slave Trade
- June 29 • Exploring the American Civil War through Primary Sources
- June 30 • Indigenous Peoples of the Americas: A True Perspective
- July 1 • Chesapeake Bay: An Estuary in Crisis

MarinersMuseum.org/teacher-workshops



The Mariners' Museum welcomes Kimberly Sherlaw as its Director of Individual Giving

As Director of Individual Giving, Kimberly Sherlaw's principal charge is to create numerous, resourceful, and compelling opportunities for donors to support The Mariners' Museum and Park, and to make the experience of giving satisfying and rewarding.

"Building a culture of philanthropy through committed relationships is very important. I am excited to meet our loyal donors and cultivate new prospects who share our passion for the Museum's mission and who want to be part of its growth and future sustainability," Sherlaw said. Sherlaw will work directly with donors in our patron-level giving societies for those who make contributions of \$1,000+ to help them realize their goals and charitable giving plans in support of The Mariners' Museum and Park.

Most recently, Sherlaw was the Senior Director of Development for Physicians for Peace, a global health charity headquartered in Norfolk. She gained her knowledge of fund development and executive leadership as a long-standing nonprofit professional in the Hampton Roads region and internationally in Bermuda. Sherlaw has served diverse constituencies in arts education, youth mentoring, and animal welfare.

Sherlaw earned her bachelor's degree in psychology from Purdue University in Indiana, and her master's in social work from the University of Michigan. She has a true appreciation and love of our coastal waterways and seas. She lives in Norfolk along the Lafayette River, where she can be found on daily walks with her rescued flat-coat retrievers.



Welcome aboard Kimberly!

~ Jessica Susnock

MEET A MEMBER

Regina Asaro

A psychiatric nurse and co-author of *Military Widow: A Survival Guide*, Regina Asaro, embarked on her journey with The Mariners' Museum and Park during a trip to Hampton Roads in the late 1980's, a visit inspired by her husband's interest in and passion for the sea.



Regina's favorite memory of the Museum was a rare opportunity to participate in a live radio discussion with archaeologists researching an abandoned, early 20th century camp in Antarctica. Participants were able to learn about the firsthand experiences of living and working in such a physically and mentally challenging environment.

As she reminisced about the many Museum programs over the past year, Regina described feeling a special connection with the *Liquid Light: Photography Beneath the Sea* exhibition. She observed that the pictures were truly immersive: the photographers' works "made (her) feel present in the moment," as the artists shared their experiences and what they saw in the black and white images as they were captured. She was particularly drawn to a photograph by Wayne Levin entitled "Diving Humpback Whale."

Regina feels that the exhibitions and programs at The Mariners' Museum have long been a catalyst, broadening her understanding and enjoyment of history. Further, hearing the stories of everyday people who either work or travel on the sea reinforces the notion that we are truly dependent upon one another and allows us to develop a greater sense of empathy and compassion for others.

Share your Member photos and stories with us!

Please contact your Membership Coordinator at (757) 591-7715 or email membership@MarinersMuseum.org.



Members' Appreciation SATURDAY

The Mariners' Museum would like to help you start or refresh your exploration!

If you're a new Member of The Mariners' Museum or even if you've been a Member for many years, we would like to help you start your exploration!

**Pick a Saturday:
July 16 or October 22**

Docent-Led Tours
at 11 A.M. & 2 P.M.

Behind-the-Scenes Tour at 1 P.M.

Register by contacting your Membership Coordinator at (757) 591-7715 or membership@MarinersMuseum.org

Speaker's Bureau volunteer opportunities

One of the primary missions of the Museum is to educate people about humankind's interaction with the seas. Taking to heart that mission, the Speakers Bureau is tasked with telling maritime stories to people and organizations across Hampton Roads. This could not be done without the knowledge, desire, and assistance of the Museum's volunteers.

Volunteers present the majority of our Speakers Bureau programs to historical societies, library and church groups, retirement homes, and countless other organizations in the area wanting to learn more. While the primary goal is to educate, the Speakers Bureau appearances also serve as an outreach to the local community about all the Museum has to offer.

There is no charge for this community service in the Hampton Roads area. However, donations are gratefully accepted and go to the support of the Museum's educational mission.

"I have become an important link to the Museum and a compelling part of the audience's education," Speakers Bureau presenter Ron Lewis said. "I remind my students of the wonderful fact that there's much more to my story; and it can be readily and easily obtained by stepping through the doors of America's National Maritime Museum, The Mariners' Museum. My Museum. I am a proud and a very fulfilled teacher!"

If you would like to volunteer to be a part of the Speakers Bureau program, or if you would like the Speakers Bureau to present to your organization, please contact Lauren Furey at (757) 591-7747 or lfurey@MarinersMuseum.org.



Top:
A Volunteer presents a
lecture at Christopher
Newport University.



Right: Speakers'
Bureau presenter
Carson Hudson.



**GIVE LOCAL
757!**

**TUESDAY,
MAY 3**

Did you know that Mariners' Park is the largest privately owned and maintained park in America and costs The Mariners' Museum more than \$300,000 to maintain annually?

Help support The Mariners' Park today and celebrate the 25th anniversary of The Noland Trail through Give Local 757 on May 3. By taking part in this local day of giving, you can help us share this urban oasis with our community year after year.

GiveLocal757.org

**Understand
Your Options,
Strengthen
Your Plan.**



**ChooseHome, the Peninsula's
comprehensive long-term care program
delivering resources and support for you
to remain in your home.**

**Plan now, call 757-585-2654 to RSVP for
one of our Lunch & Learn Sessions.**


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choosehome.com



The History of Grog

Saturday, September 3, 2016 • 1:00 P.M.

Join us as we delve into the story of grog in the U.S. Navy. Food historian Eric Jeanneret will explore the tradition of the grog, or spirit, ration, the transition from rum-to whisky-based grog in the early 19th century, and more. We'll complete the event with a tasting to determine what makes the best base for grog – whisky or rum.

FREE for Members. Included in admission for non-members. MarinersMuseum.org

SAVE THE DATE!



SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 24

Back for its second year, sip, savor and explore the Museum like never before! Move through The Mariners' Museum's permanent galleries as you experience rarely-seen artifacts, and enjoy food and libations related to each exhibition.

MarinersMuseum.org/GalleryCrawl

Purchase advance tickets online to save.

Now with more artifacts and a three-course food-pairing station in each gallery.



MUSEUM CALENDAR

MAY

May 1
12 P.M.

The Mariners' Craft Beer Festival
Great Beer & Live Music

May 1
9 A.M.

Paddle Boat Rentals Open
Enjoy a relaxing afternoon on Lake Maury.

May 7
8 A.M.

Discover the Noland Trail with Dr. Harold Cones: Photographing the Park

May 14
2:30 P.M.

Civil War Lecture Series: Ramming Speed: The Rise & Fall of the Ram as a Naval Weapon

May 23
7 P.M.

Spring Lecture Series: Brilliant Beacons: A History of the American Lighthouse

JUNE

June 2, 9, 16,
23 & 30 • 6 P.M.

Thursdays by the Lake
Summer Concert Series

June 4

World Oceans Day

June 11
2:30 P.M.

Civil War Lecture Series:
Where are we in the conservation of the turret?

June 18
8 A.M.

Discover the Noland Trail with Dr. Harold Cones: History of the Park

June 18
6 P.M.

The Bronze Door International Wine Classic
Annual Fundraiser

June 27
10 A.M.

Maritime Mondays
Storytime & crafts for children 18 months - 5th grade

JULY

July 7, 14, 21 & 28
6 P.M.

Thursdays by the Lake
Summer Concert Series

July 9
8 A.M.

Discover the Noland Trail with Dr. Harold Cones: Park Ecology

July 9
2:30 P.M.

Civil War Lecture Series: "Going Through the Batten Conservation Complex's Lab Fridge"

July 11, 18 & 25
10 A.M.

Maritime Mondays
Storytime & crafts for children 18 months - 5th grade

July 11-15
9 A.M.

Mini Mariners Adventure Camp
Summer camp for K - 2nd grade

July 16
9 A.M.

Members' Appreciation Saturday

July 18-22
9 A.M.

Maritime Explorers Adventure Camp
Summer camp for 3rd - 6th grade

July 25 - August 5
9 A.M.

Maritime Drama Camp
New this year! 7th - 12th grade

AUGUST

August 1, 8, 15,
22 & 29 • 10 A.M.

Maritime Mondays
Storytime & crafts for children 18 months - 5th grade

August 1-5
9 A.M.

Mini Mariners Adventure Camp

August 4, 11,
18 & 25 • 6 P.M.

Thursdays by the Lake
Summer Concert Series

August 8-12
9 A.M.

Maritime Explorers Adventure Camp

August 13
2:30 P.M.

Civil War Lecture Series: Fugitive Slaves and the Use of Steamships and Small Crafts to Escape in the 1850