

Ahoy!

SPRING/SUMMER 2019


The
**Mariners'
Museum
and Park**



COMMEMORATING D-DAY

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USS Monitor Center

Greetings!

Our team is thrilled to share this issue of *Ahoy!* with you, because it is full of stories about people and engagement and it marks the first full, big step into the bright future of our beloved Museum.

Over the past two-and-a-half years, our team - with the help of many of you reading this issue - launched a major initiative to invest in the conservation of our Collection. During this time, we have made a five-fold increase in our capital and maintenance budget to transition our facility from a deferred maintenance to a preventative maintenance posture. This work in our Collection and our facility will continue for years to come, but I am incredibly proud of the work of our extended Mariners' family to strengthen the foundation of this institution.

In the last issue of *Ahoy!*, we announced our permanent adoption of a \$1 Admission policy. We lowered the barrier to entry for families and people of all walks, affirmatively shifting from thinking about ourselves as merely an attraction, to embracing our role as stewards of the shared maritime heritage of our local, national, and global communities.

Through our work to shore up the health of our Collection, and to ensure access to as many members of our community as possible, we are better positioned to focus on our relevance to the communities we serve. We are relevant when we provide emotional or intellectual value to people through our exhibits, programs, and research support. We provide that emotional or intellectual value through stories - through real, human stories.

Which leads us to this issue of *Ahoy!* Throughout the pages that follow, you will meet real people: our trustees, our volunteers, our guests, our supporters, our staff, and even an eyewitness to the Battle of Hampton Roads. Each person has a story, and we hope you enjoy learning about them. We hope, too, that you will take advantage of the invitations throughout this issue to see an exhibit, join us for a program, or conduct a little research online to learn more about our shared maritime heritage. Most of all, we hope that you will share your connection to the water with us and that you will look for ways to introduce others to the interesting, fun, and important work underway at the Museum and in the Park.

We take our mission seriously...

The Mariners' Museum and Park connects people to the world's waters, because through the waters - through our shared maritime heritage - we are connected to one another.

...and we are grateful that you are on our team, doing all that you do to drive this important mission with us.

Howard H. Hoege III
President & CEO, The Mariners' Museum and Park



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On the cover:
Into the Jaws of Death,
Omaha Beach, June 6, 1944
Robert F. Sargent (USCG), photographer
Mariners' Museum Collection



Jennifer Boykin

Meet a Mariner

Jennifer Boykin first identified as a mariner when she left her home in St. Louis at age 17 to attend the United States Merchant Marine Academy in Kings Point, New York, a member of the ninth class to admit women. The school's mascot then was the "Ancient Mariner"; its sports teams remain the "Mariners."

Boykin spent six months during both her sophomore and junior years at the Academy at sea. She and her sailing partner, another female cadet, traveled to many of the world's great ports of call – from Argentina to Brazil, the Far East to Egypt and Italy, through the Panama Canal and down the St. Lawrence Seaway. As an engineering student, Boykin's hands-on experience on board ships taught her the inner workings of a ship's engine room and cargo deck machinery, not to mention how to sail during inclement weather and even in the vicious remnants of a hurricane.

When asked about how she came to Newport News, Boykin replied, "It was a natural fit to come here as a shipbuilder." Employed at Newport News Shipbuilding since 1987, Boykin has seen opportunities open up for a whole new generation of shipbuilders. An active proponent of STEM education, Boykin says whether one chooses to be a welder, naval architect, or construction supervisor she feels a responsibility to helping people gain access to available resources. She says there is a real demand for filling jobs, high-paying jobs, at the shipyard as well as in our broader maritime community. "This is our future workforce. I am committed to building a bridge to help these young people," Boykin said.

Boykin can often be found out in the shipyard, witnessing testing of castings in the foundry, seeing new, innovative ways to train crane operators, or talking with shipbuilders about their plans to improve manufacturing schedules by working together. She continues to experience her love of being associated with the water, participating in sea trials for every aircraft carrier and submarine that is built or refitted at the yard.

Her time as a Merchant Marine engineering cadet gave Boykin a true appreciation for how all of us are connected to one another by the world's waterways, and led her to embrace the mission of The Mariners' Museum and its branding campaign *#iamaMariner*. Elected to the Museum's board of trustees in May 2018, Boykin feels that maintaining a strong relationship between the shipyard and the Museum is critical. Every day as she enters her office, she sees portraits of former shipyard presidents on the wall. She says that Homer Ferguson, the Museum's first president, looks her straight in the eye. "It's like he is reminding me that our duty is, as the shipyard's founder, Collis Potter Huntington, said more than one hundred years ago, to build 'always good ships,' and I hope also, to make good decisions."

Mariners' Museum trustee, Jennifer Boykin, is president of Newport News Shipbuilding, and executive vice president of Huntington Ingalls Industries, Inc. She is pictured above in the Museum's Ship Model Gallery with oil tanker *John D. Archbold*, a model built by shipyard employees, circa 1936-1938. Boykin is Newport News Shipbuilding's 20th president, the first woman to serve in this position.



Milestone Moment in Conservation of USS *Monitor*'s Turret

After more than eight years of planning, USS *Monitor*'s turret is now resting on a new support system which will facilitate the advancement of the conservation effort for the iconic artifact, and represents a significant milestone in making its public display a reality. Up until this point, the turret had been supported on a portion of the recovery structure used to raise it from the seafloor in 2002 which has inhibited full access to the roof of the artifact (the turret is currently upside down), limiting treatment steps that can be taken.

The re-support was completed in mid-April and would not have been possible without the assistance of personnel from Huntington Ingalls Industries Newport News Shipbuilding division that provided their time, equipment, and expertise. Over the course of a week, Newport News shipyard personnel hydraulically lifted the turret using four 100-ton capacity jacks, cut apart the old support structure, then placed eight pedestal stands under the turret ring, and slowly lowered it back down.

With the new supports in place, conservators within the Batten Conservation Complex at the Museum can access all sides

of the artifact, including an unobstructed view of its roof's exterior - for the first time since the ironclad sank on December 31, 1862, sixteen nautical miles off of Cape Hatteras, North Carolina. Conservation staff are planning to conduct an initial round of dry-ice cleaning on the turret early next year and anticipate disassembling the roof in about three to four years, which provides the possibility of finding additional artifacts!

This re-support project is being called the largest step forward in the turret's conservation since its recovery in 2002 and was a huge undertaking by The Mariners' Museum conservation staff, requiring meticulous planning and key collaboration with the Newport News shipyard, apprentices at Colonna's Shipbuilding in Norfolk, Fairlead Boatworks, and Hampton Rubber Company.

Museum President and CEO Howard H. Hoege III said, "The fact that so many in our community - workers from Colonna's, Fairlead, Hampton Rubber, and Newport News Shipbuilding - are rallying to save the history that *Monitor*'s turret represents is fitting, symbolic, and powerful in these times. We could not be more grateful."



USS *Monitor*'s turret sitting on new support pedestals.



Hydraulic jacks used to lift USS *Monitor*'s turret.



Newport News Shipbuilding personnel removing a piece of the old support structure.



Conservator Josiah Wagener applies a heat-set backing to a sail to provide structural support.

A Model Conservation Project

In 2018, a grant issued by the Calusa Fund at the Community Foundation of Sarasota County enabled conservation treatment of a Spanish Galleon votive model, circa 19th century. Project conservator Josiah Wagener spent several months cleaning the object, repairing and reinforcing damaged rigging, and carrying out extensive work to repair and support the model's fragile sails. Formerly on display in the *Age of Exploration* Gallery, plans are to display the conserved object in the Ship Model Gallery.



Wagener surface cleans the votive model.

What's a Votive Model?

Two things were of utmost importance to a 17th-century sailor: his church and his ship. After surviving a treacherous voyage, a sailor could express his gratitude by presenting his church a ship model that was hung from the ceiling of the chapel.

OMAHA BEACH

1944 • 2019



COMMEMORATING D-DAY, 75 YEARS LATER

**Wars are not beautiful, but we will always
remember the Americans who liberated us.**

- Henri Lepelletier, French farmer

June 6, 2019, marks the 75th anniversary of D-Day, the largest seaborne invasion in history, and a defining moment of the 20th century. More than 160,000 American, British, Canadian, and French troops invaded Nazi-occupied France on the beaches of Normandy.

This forty-mile stretch of seacoast along the English Channel still bears the scars of the Allied invasion in World War II. Five beachheads along the Normandy coast were given code names: Utah, Omaha, Gold, Juno, and Sword. Here, Allied troops landed at first light, and charged ashore under heavy fire from the entrenched German army.

"Standing at the water's edge on Omaha Beach at low tide, you can easily imagine the horror that the invading forces faced," said Lyles Forbes, the Museum's chief curator, who has visited Normandy twice with his family. "The American troops, carrying all their gear, had to cover a couple of hundred yards of beach under constant and heavy fire from the Germans who held the high ground. And the beaches were littered with obstacles and mines, not anything like the pristine area you see now," Forbes continued.



Visiting the beaches of Normandy is an amazing experience. "You can still see so many of the concrete bunkers that made up Hitler's Atlantic Wall, a massive network of coastal defenses that stretched more than 1,500 miles from Norway to Spain," Forbes said. These emplacements were built to repulse any naval invasion of Nazi-occupied northern Europe. It just underscores how high the stakes were that day. "It was imperative for the Allies to establish a foothold in Europe in order to liberate France, and ultimately, push on to Berlin and victory," he added.

*Clockwise:
Invasion "Supply Line" Lies Offshore,
Omaha Beach, June 10, 1944
Mariners' Museum Collection*

*Omaha Beach, August 2018
Courtesy of Lyles Forbes.*

*Soldier stands among wrecked Jeep and other debris
at Gold Beach. Meigs Russell photograph collection.
Gift of the Russell family.*

PROGRAMS

SPRING/SUMMER 2019

Mark Your Calendar!

D-DAY COMMEMORATION

June 6 & 8, 2019

The Mariners' Museum and Park

Join the Museum as it commemorates the 75th anniversary of D-Day. Interpreters will share stories of the Normandy invasion, and the programs aim to convey the heroism and courage of those who fought, lived, and died during "the longest day" in US history.

- Get an overview of the invasion on a large-scale map as Museum Interpreters relay the movement and placement of various divisions.
- Museum staff will tell personal stories of individuals and groups involved in the invasion.
- See artifacts not normally on display from our Collection, including photographs, maps, and more.
- Gather 'round a radio to hear actual broadcasts delivered while the invasion unfolded.
- Meet costumed interpreters and learn about the roles they played in the war effort.
- Make your own remembrance poppy.
- Watch the movie *D-Day 3D*, showing in the Explorers Theater all week.

(Members \$5; guests \$6 plus admission.)



Courtesy of Able Company.

Meet reenactors from World War II Living History groups, including the Old Dominion Squadron, Airman's Preservation Society, and 1st WAC Able Company. Pictured (back row, l-r): Pfc. Hannah Fleming and Pfc. Laurie King, members of The Mariners' Museum Conservation Department.



For more details on the days' events, visit MarinersMuseum.org.



Young mariners enjoy storytime at Maritime Mondays.

The Power of Story

Storytelling is one of the oldest and most powerful methods for sharing history, and for encouraging imagination in children. By connecting with a story, children gain a new way of exploring the world around them.

Family-focused programs like Maritime Mondays continuously boost the Museum's efforts to reach and build our future audience.

Lauren Furey, manager of visitor engagement, states, "One of my favorite things is watching families engaging with each other, and with the maritime stories we are sharing. We are building their connection to the world's waters through each activity." Furey researches children's books with maritime themes, and each program features a new book and craft related to that story.

Other family-focused programming, such as indigo dyeing and rain barrel workshops, Friendly Hours, and Scout programs give young mariners tools to explore the Museum in interactive ways.

Jordan Kimble recently brought his daughters to Maritime Mondays. He said, "Today's program was amazing! You had great energy and interaction during storytime and the craft was so much fun for our two girls. We also appreciated reading a story about a culture that isn't our own and how you made a point to show how different cultures are beautiful!"

**"In my life, the stories...
I have heard from my family,
my friends, my community, and
from willing strangers all over the
world have been the true source of
my education."**

– Holly Near
American singer-songwriter



Viking



Islamic



Chinese

A Refreshing New Introduction to the *Age of Exploration*

Earlier this year, the front section of the Museum's *Age of Exploration* Gallery was closed for some much-needed maintenance to replace an aged air handling unit as well as the carpet. Staff from the Interpretation Department and Exhibition Design took the opportunity to update the exhibit's introduction area. They not only wanted to place some new artifacts in the gallery, but also to present several different cultures and their early attempts to explore the world prior to the sixteenth century.

"In order to better introduce several themes of exploration that are present throughout the existing gallery, we focused on four different cultures to highlight the motivations and technology which made possible the classic age of exploration," said Lyles

Forbes, vice president of collections and chief curator. Viking, Polynesian, Chinese, and Islamic explorers all paved the way for seafarers, such as Christopher Columbus, Ferdinand Magellan, James Cook, and others to encounter new lands and cultures.

The quest for spices and other commodities, and cultural interactions were also focal points of the new introduction. These four cultures explored different areas of the world, developing sea routes as well as increased knowledge of a larger world beyond the horizon.

"...we focused on four different cultures to highlight the motivations and technology which made possible the classic age of exploration..."

- Lyles Forbes

The Vikings not only explored, pillaged, and settled land from Britain to the New World, but also ventured east to modern-day St. Petersburg and down the Russian rivers. The mighty Chinese fleets sailed west and landed at many places around the Indian Ocean, seeking tributes for their emperor and to establish sea routes for trade. Islamic traders – both Arab and Persian – traveled extensively from the Mediterranean, east Africa, and the Persian Gulf, seeking new lands and commercial

opportunities. And the Polynesians sailed vast distances across the Pacific, settling island groups from Hawaii to New Zealand.



Polynesian

Left to right:

Dragon's head carving, 17th century

The Balam Nasari, watercolor, David Taws, artist, 1974

Geomantic compass, 19th century

Tereoboo, King of Owyhee, Bringing Presents to Capt. Cook, engraving, Benjamin Thomas Pouncey, engraver, 1785

Each of the cultures independently developed instruments and methods of navigating out of the sight of land. Their watercraft – all sail powered – were advanced sea-going vessels, predating the ships of Columbus, Magellan, and Cook.

“We are really excited to present the contributions of the Viking, Chinese, Islamic, and Polynesian explorers in a more in-depth way. It broadens the perspective for our visitors and allows for a wider range of programming in the gallery,” said Forbes. He added, “*Age of Exploration* is one of the Museum’s most important and popular galleries, especially with school groups.”



A view of the updated introduction to *Age of Exploration*, featuring Polynesian and Chinese cultures.



Sextant, circa 1782-1790, Henry Gregory & Gabriel Wright, manufacturer.

New in *Age of Exploration* Gallery

The Mariners’ Museum’s collection of navigational instruments has been called “formidable” by world-renowned expert, David Coffeen, and it is viewed as among the best in the United States. There are 149 sextants in this collection, and only two were on display. With the addition of the sextant pictured above, visitors may now view a third, and learn how early sailors used sextants to navigate using the stars.



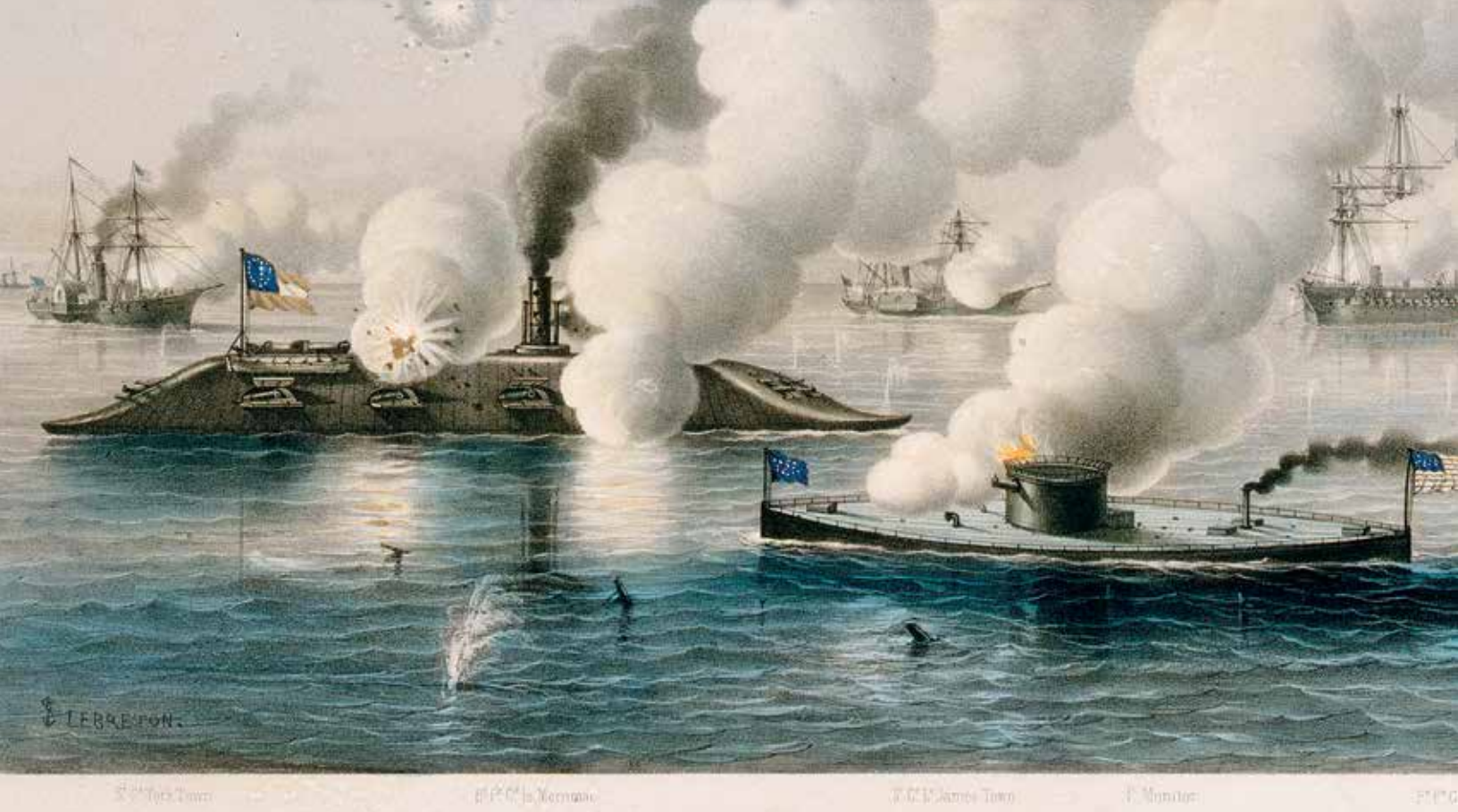
Ship-building, Gloucester Harbor, Winslow Homer, artist, 1873.

Toys Ahoy! A Maritime Childhood

New Exhibition Opens in November

Just in time for the holidays, this fun new exhibition will connect the young and the young at heart. Most people may not think of toys as museum artifacts, but toys are a reflection of our ideas of play and childhood. *Toys Ahoy!* will take you down memory lane with more than 200 maritime toys and games on display from the Museum’s Collection. You won’t help but smile as you explore the incredible toys that connect our past to the present and even into the future.

Eyewitness Account of the Battle of Hampton Roads



The Library is pleased to announce that the Museum has recently acquired a new collection of letters written by members of the Barnabas Newton (1771-1827) family of Westborough, Massachusetts. Most of these letters were written by Barnabus's grandson, George Malcolm Newton, who manned a gun aboard US Steam Frigate *Minnesota* and fought in the Battle of Hampton Roads.

George Newton's six-page letter describing both days of the battle is extraordinarily detailed, and apparently compiled from his daily journal entries. It is written from the perspective of a crew member manning a gun, one who is in a position to see everything.

Here is a taste of Newton's text, dated March 8 and 9, 1862:

I forget to mention that last night about ten oclock the ericsson battery came to our releaf, a queer looking object she was. You had better believe that we was glad to see it, for we were all bound not to be taken prisoners. Our captain sung out to the officer of the ericsson and says I am glad to see you. The officer of the battery made answer. I think someone else will be to morrow (meaning the merramack). The burning of the congress last night was a handsome sight....

More from March 9, 1862:

Then the Erricsson battery went out to meet her, then commenced what you may call a bomb proof fight. The officer of the Monitor, not having a full supply of powder and shot, was very carefull about wasting his shots. The Monitor kept steaming round and round the merrimack, every now and then giving her a shot, the merrimack returning the complement. During the fight the monitor got in range of pig point battery and paid her respects to that battery....

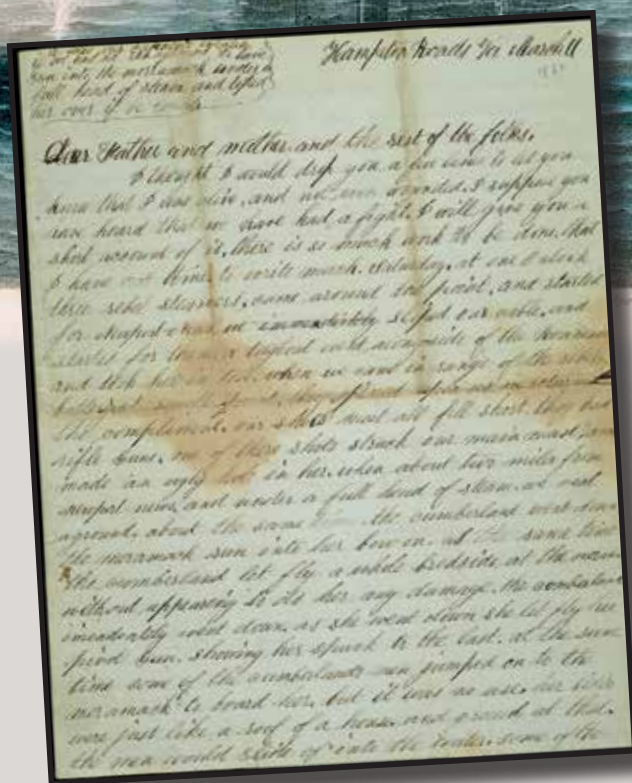
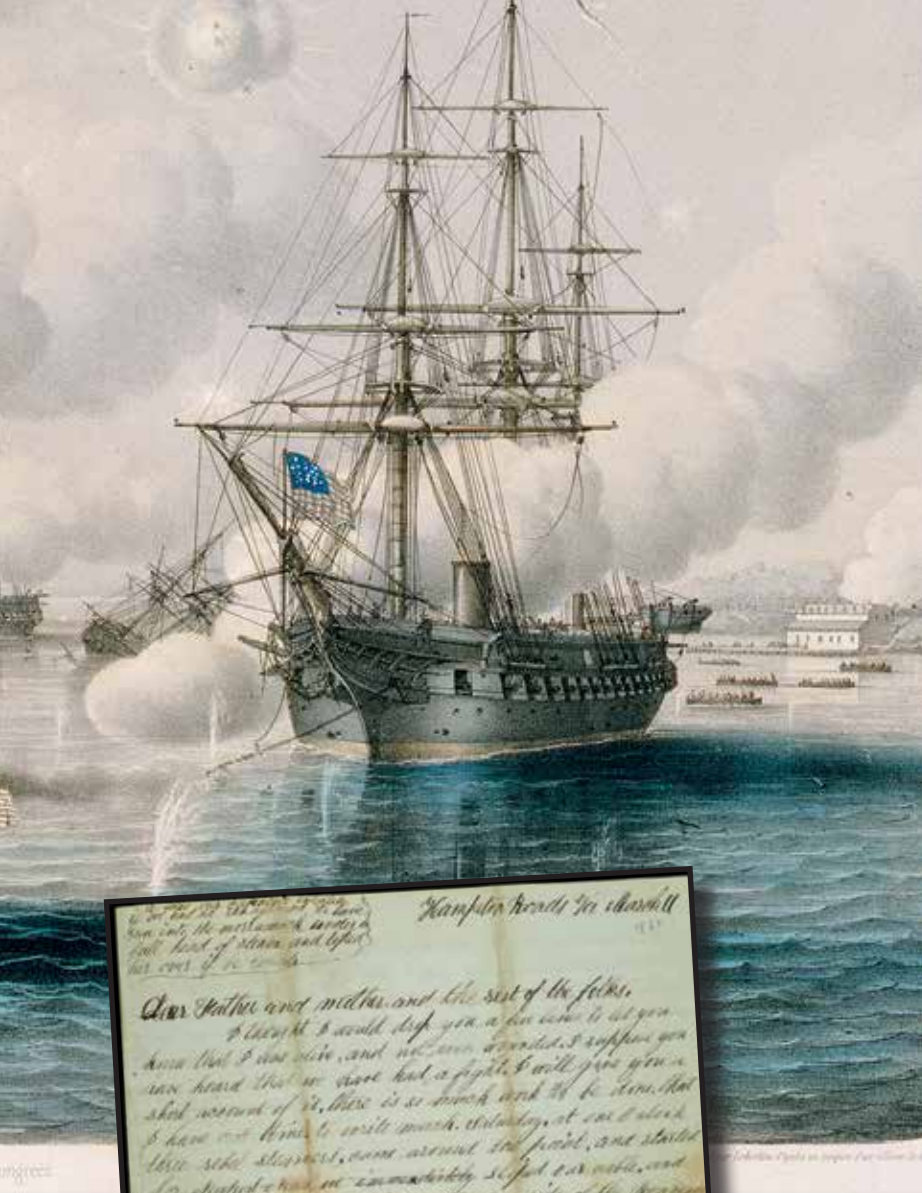
As with any eyewitness account written days later, Newton's may have been embellished with reports of shipmates. It is, nonetheless, a fascinating read. A full transcription of the letter and an article by CNU Associate Professor Jonathan White will be published in August by *Civil War Times*.

If you wish to see any of these letters, contact library@MarinersMuseum.org for an appointment.

Above: *Combat naval livré sur la rade de Hampton (Battle of Hampton Roads)*, by lithographer Louis Le Breton, circa 1862. George Newton and the gun crews aboard *Minnesota* (far right) keep up a withering fire on *CSS Virginia* (left) while it duels with *USS Monitor*.

RESEARCH

SPRING/SUMMER 2019



Letter from
George
Malcolm
Newton to his
parents,
March 11,
1862, written
aboard US
Frigate
Minnesota,
from Hampton
Roads.

Civil War Letters Donation

One Friday afternoon last August, Archivist Bill Barker answered a phone call from Jon Farnlof of Denver, Colorado. His family was looking for a suitable home for a collection of Civil War letters written by a crewmember of USS *Minnesota*. Much to Barker's delight, after a round of email exchanges, Farnlof sent the letters to the Museum, a donation from his mother-in-law Catherine Magee. He and his wife later visited the Museum, pleased that this important collection is housed here, and accessible to the public.



XI-inch Dahlgren shell gun from USS *Monitor*, showing marine corrosion in the bore. A specialized drilling platform must be designed and built to remove this material.

A Conservation Challenge

At over 13 feet long and around 16,000 pounds each, USS *Monitor*'s Dahlgren shell guns represent an unprecedented technical challenge for Museum conservators. While inventing new treatment methods along the way, they are also researching equipment used at other labs to clean smaller guns. Staff is using this information to design new tools to remove corrosion from inside the Dahlgrens. Armed with archival and comparative research, the Conservation Department now has a good idea of the guns' interior dimensions, which tell how far to clean once equipment is built. For updates, see USS *Monitor* Center's blog at MarinersMuseum.org/blog.

It's All in the Details

Sometimes the smallest piece of information can reveal a truly extraordinary story. For instance, the name "C.E. Thorburn USN" on the storage box of this circa 1859 Japanese *shaku dokei*, or pillar clock, uncovered the fascinating naval career of Lt. Charles Edmonston Thorburn of Virginia.

Highlights include a mission to acquire camels for the US Army aboard USS *Supply*, and then using them to survey a route between the Mexican Territory and California; sailing with Lt. John Mercer Brooke to survey a steamship route between San Francisco and Japan; as well as participating in the Japanese "Gold Rush" of 1859.



This Japanese pillar clock was probably purchased in 1859 as a souvenir by Lt. Charles Edmonston Thorburn.

Find out more by reading "From Camels to Cobangs" at MarinersMuseum.org/blog.

Engaging Visitors from a New Perspective

Since merging the Curatorial and Programs departments to form the Interpretation team last year, the Museum has been actively developing a new strategy for visitor engagement. Traditionally, museums depend upon exhibitions to communicate with visitors about a subject. However, exhibitions require a significant amount of time and investment to produce. And as good as any exhibition is, it remains the most passive form of audience engagement. One visitor might walk through and see every object and read every label while another may look at only one thing, breezing through to the next gallery.

Museum staff is spending more and more



Guests try their hand at the interactive game, *Build an Ironclad*, in the USS Monitor Center. Museum staff member Hannah Fleming explains the game's premise, "Will it float?"

international port. On one hand, the Museum is able to bring out items from its Collection that aren't currently on display. On the other, the Museum's mission is brought to life showing how deeply connected we all are through the world's waters. The success of the Gallery Crawl has helped the Museum team to develop a successful formula for creating short-term programs or displays that allow interaction on a more personal level with visitors.

What this means is that more of the Museum's Collection is shared with guests, and these objects are presented in a way that goes far beyond what might be written in label text. Ultimately the opportunity for Museum staff to listen to its visitors' stories is created, thereby adding knowledge and insights about the Collection.



time out in the galleries, talking with visitors and sharing the stories behind the objects on display. There are times when seldom-seen objects and images are able to be brought into a gallery so that staff or a Navigator can expand on a particular subject or story. Such opportunities make for more active engagement with visitors.

One of the Museum staff's more successful efforts is the annual Gallery Crawl event. The theme is typically a "voyage around the world," and features objects and images that tell a story around



The Ancient Mariner's Depth Finder

The Museum recently acquired the Collection's oldest navigational aid — a circa 3rd- to 7th-century sounding lead (or weight). Widely used throughout the Mediterranean, it was the most critical piece of navigational equipment a ship carried until the introduction of the compass in the eleventh or twelfth century.



The earliest mention of a sounding lead being used is in *The Histories*, written by Herodotus in 440 B.C.

In addition to estimating water depth, a tallow-filled cup in the sounding lead's base retrieved a sample from the bottom.

Examination of the sample helped sailors determine whether land or a river mouth were nearby. The sounding lead was especially useful at night or when poor weather obscured the land and sky.

Museum's D-Day Photography Collection Grows



Meigs Vanvoohris Russell. Gift of the Russell family.

Meigs Vanvoohris Russell enlisted in the US Navy on January 13, 1943. He soon joined USS *LCI(L)-509* in the Chesapeake Bay area. On D-Day, June 6, 1944, *LCI(L)-509* transported troops of the British 50th Northumbrian Infantry Division to Gold Beach in Normandy, France. "Gold" was the center beach of the five designated landing areas of the Normandy invasion during World War II.

Russell's daughter, Sandra, and other family members have graciously donated to the Museum some two dozen photos from Meigs Russell's collection. These compelling images were taken on the beaches of Normandy on D-Day. Additionally, the flag that flew on *LCI(L)-509* will be loaned by Ms. Russell for the Museum's 75th Commemoration of D-Day on June 6 and 8, 2019.



Gallery Crawl 2018 took guests to Tierra del Fuego, Argentina. Interpreter Lauren Furey tells about Edwin Tappan Adney's model of the Yahgan people's beech bark canoe, circa 1930-1940.



Achievable Dream Academy students participating in a rain gutter regatta.

Making Waves: The Mariners' Museum, a Center for Learning

Over the past several issues of *Ahoy!*, the Museum has shared stories of its team serving school kids across the Hampton Roads community. The Museum has always recognized the value of teaching kids and building its future audience, but today, it is investing more than ever before in understanding the actual impact of its educational enrichment programs. The members of the Museum's Education team, led by Harriet Smith, are bringing research, their own experience, and the feedback from educators and students together to work towards two important goals.

First, the Museum wants its educational enrichment programs to improve learning outcomes for students. Programs should be well-integrated with the students' classroom experiences and kids should learn better for having participated in one of the Museum's programs.

Second, there is a real desire for kids to experience multiple educational enrichment programs at The Mariners' Museum and Park throughout their time in school. Imagine the power of reaching a child during early childhood, throughout elementary and middle school, and several times during high school. Perhaps the sense of pride, inspiration, and connection to a broader maritime community would increase the value that child places on education.

Over the next several years, you will see much more from The Mariners' Museum and Park as it builds upon its capacity both to measure the results for which they strive and to serve as a model for other institutions and communities. To be "best in class" is now a priority goal for the Museum and Park's Education team. If you would like to learn more about how you can support this important work, please contact Luisa A. Vázquez-López at (757) 591-7705.

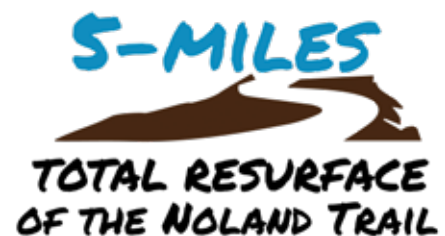
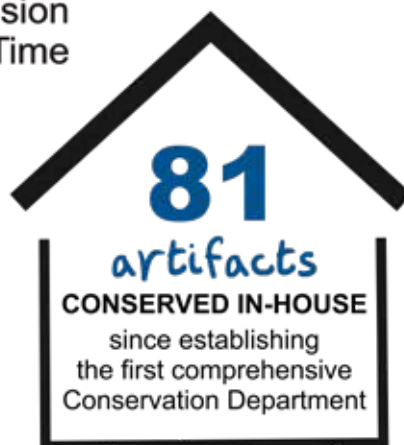
Tax-Saving Ways to Support the Museum

There can be significant tax benefits to donating your retirement assets to The Mariners' Museum and Park during your lifetime and as part of an estate plan. Charitable donations of retirement assets can minimize the amount of income taxes imposed on both your family members and your estate while leaving a lasting legacy.

For more information about donating retirement assets or to learn about other ways to support the Museum, please contact Luisa A. Vázquez-López, director of individual philanthropy, at (757) 591-7705 or lvazquez@MarinersMuseum.org.

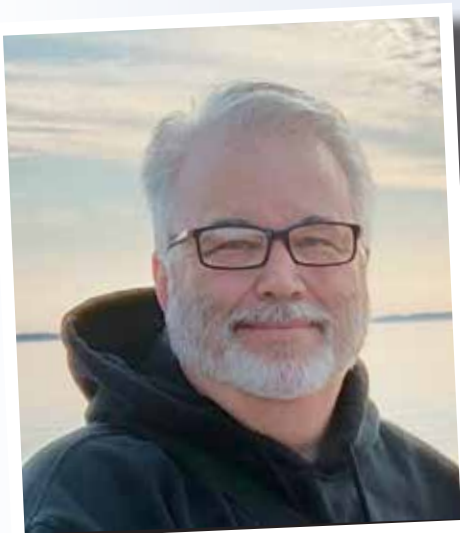
You Made All This Possible!

Your Donation in Action:



A Return on Your Investment:





Brian Talley

A Photographer's Paradise

It's no secret that The Mariners' Museum Park offers a plethora of photography opportunities. Dozens of local photographers, amateur and professional, use this captivating landscape as the backdrop for their imaging endeavors.

Every single day, images taken in the Park are shared on social media, and are wildly popular with local and regional audiences.

Many photographers share their work using two of the Museum and Park's official hashtags: #marinersmuseum and #nolandtrail. Among the area's most devoted (and social media savvy) amateur photographers is Brian Talley, who visits the Park on a weekly basis, capturing stunning images of the Park's living collection.

Talley has a particular fondness for the water birds that live in and around Lake Maury and the James River area of the Park. He enjoys waking up early, before sunrise, to photograph ospreys feeding. "When it's that early, it's just you and the water breaking on the riverbank. That sound is marvelously soothing," said Talley.

Talley says each visit to the Park rewards him with different subjects to capture. While he particularly loves photographing ospreys, herons, and egrets, sometimes he is surprised by the wildlife he sees. Most recently, he came upon a juvenile ibis, a perfect subject for his work.

"The Mariners' Museum Park is my go-to when I need to decompress. Just to get out and walk, whether it's on the Noland Trail or along the James River...it's great," added Talley.

It's no wonder that Talley also enjoys catching the stunning sunsets on the James River. He said these provide his artist's eye "a constantly rotating feast of colors and patterns."

A native of Newport News, Talley feels personally connected to The Mariners' Museum Park. He has been visiting since he was a little boy, and has now passed down his love for this place to his grandson.

When asked what the most unique aspect of the Park is, Talley stated, "While it's a large area and covers a lot of ground, it still feels intimate. It lets me express the creative side of myself through my photography."



#nolandtrail
#marinersmuseum

Images courtesy of Brian Talley.
Follow him on Instagram @b.t.images.



Park volunteer Ioan Yamakov

Park Volunteers Make a Difference

The Mariners' Park now has 18 active weekly volunteers, the highest number in Museum history. The Park's Grounds Department reports more than 2,000 hours were donated by volunteers in 2018. These dedicated volunteers have helped control invasive species, maintain the Noland Trail, and keep the Park looking its best. The longest-serving volunteer, Ioan Yamakov, has worked in the Park for four years. "Ioan is a rock star," exclaimed Park, Trail, and Grounds Senior Technician Josh Bailey.



Park Operations Manager Dave Kennedy

Testing... Testing...

Visitors to The Mariners' Museum and Park admire scenic views of the 167-acre man-made Lake Maury. Many may not be aware that the lake serves as a stormwater catchment for the surrounding area. Over the past year, Park staff have been monitoring seven locations within Lake Maury and Kettle Pond. The goal is to measure water temperature, turbidity, dissolved oxygen, pH, and E. coli levels. Early this year, the Museum's analytical chemist, Dr. Molly McGath, expanded the testing by tracking seven additional chemical levels using an ion chromatography unit that was funded by The Bronze Door Society. Staff will continue to collect and analyze data over the next year to determine the water's health.



Fair Winds and Following Seas

John Cannup, The Mariners' Museum and Park's senior director of capital projects and real estate, has retired. A great friend and mentor to many, Cannup dedicated more than 32 years of his career in service here. This makes him the Museum's longest-running crew member.

Over the years, Cannup played a critical role in numerous important projects. His favorites? Working with Carlton Abbott on the design and construction of the Noland Trail; designing and installing the entrance wall with the propeller from SS *United States*; and establishing the Lake Maury Fund to help with stormwater mitigation efforts.

Cannup's institutional knowledge and skill set are unmatched and he will surely be missed. "The Mariners' Museum and Park is a wonderful place. It has been an honor to get to know and work with so many terrific people," Cannup said.



Congratulations, Margaret Podlich, Museum Trustee

The AYBC Foundation, the philanthropic arm of the American Boat and Yacht Council, has appointed Margaret Podlich as its first executive director. Podlich, a member of The Mariners' Museum's board of trustees since 2016, will develop boating industry partnerships to address workforce development issues for the AYBC Foundation.

Museum Loses Longtime Supporter

Thomas 'Tommy' N. Hunnicutt III, trustee emeritus, passed away on April 3rd. Hunnicutt and his wife, Ann, have helped fund the Evening Lecture Series since 1998. Elected to the Museum's board of trustees in 1975, he served for 30 years, and from 1989 until 1991, was its Chairman. He was instrumental in the creation of the Chesapeake Bay wing of the Museum as well as bringing Lake Maury closer to the Museum's entrance. There are very few places in the Museum that were not improved by his touch.

Hunnicutt received the Museum's most prestigious recognition, the Huntington Medal, in 2006. This award was conceived by Archer M. Huntington in 1954; and in 1959, the board passed a Resolution stating this medal may be awarded "to individuals for exceptionally meritorious services rendered The Mariners' Museum" – services that support the Museum's charter. Since its inception, Hunnicutt is the most recent recipient of the Huntington Medal. Museum President and CEO Howard H. Hoege III said, "Tommy will be sorely missed by the Museum's board, staff, membership, and the entire community."



The Huntington Medal, the Museum's highest form of recognition, is awarded for exceptional service.



To enjoy the benefits of these membership swaps, Mariners' Museum Members will need to provide their membership card and a valid form of ID at each participating location.

Membership Swap with Virginia Zoo May 1-31, 2019

Visit the Virginia Zoo in Norfolk during the month of May and receive FREE admission for up to six guests, discounts in the gift shop, and reduced prices for café purchases.

Membership Swap with American Civil War Museum August 1-31, 2019

Visit the American Civil War Museum (ACWM) during August and receive FREE admission for up to six guests, discounts in the gift shop, and free parking. The ACWM has two locations in Richmond and one in Appomattox.

**NEW
PARTNER!**

Want to see another swap?

Email membership@MarinersMuseum.org to share your thoughts!



Become a Member Sponsor Today!

Thank you for being Members of the Mariners' family! You are the Museum's greatest ambassadors and your generosity supports its mission to connect people to the world's waters and to one another! To show our gratitude, Members receive priority access to the Museum, exclusive Members-only benefits, and discounts on events, programs, and much more.

Please consider becoming a Member Sponsor for a friend or family member, helping them find their own maritime connection. Contact Sara Weatherill, membership manager, at membership@MarinersMuseum.org or call (757) 591-7715.

MUSEUM CALENDAR

MAY

- May 1-31 **Membership Swap: Virginia Zoo**
Free admission, discounts
- May 6 **Maritime Mondays:** Storytime and a Craft
Additional dates: May 13, 20 & 27
- May 9 **Spring Lecture: Andrew Lawler**
The Secret Token: Myth, Obsession, and the Search for the Lost Colony of Roanoke
7 PM
- May 10 **Civil War Round Table**
The Contraband of War Decision
12:30 PM
- May 11 **Civil War Lecture: John Quarstein**
The Last Days of CSS *Virginia*
2:30 PM
- May 12 **Friendly Hours**
For guests with special needs
9 AM
- May 17 **Civil War Round Table**
CSS *Neuse*
12:30 PM

JUNE

- June 1 **Members Make a Difference: Clean the Bay Day**
Community volunteer opportunity
- June 1 **Maritime Connections Lecture**
Capturing the Action in Maritime Photography
10:30 AM
2:30 PM
- June 3 **Maritime Mondays:** Storytime and a Craft
Additional dates: June 10, 17 & 24
10:30 AM
- June 6 & 8 **D-Day 75th Commemoration**
10 AM
- June 9 **Friendly Hours**
For guests with special needs
5 PM
- June 14 **Civil War Round Table**
Battle of New Market
12:30 PM
- June 15 **Civil War Lecture: John Quarstein**
Summer on USS *Monitor*
2:30 PM
- June 15 **The Mariners' International Wine Classic**
6 PM

JULY

- July 1 **Maritime Mondays:** Storytime and a Craft
Additional dates: July 8, 15, 22 & 29
10:30 AM
- July 12 **Civil War Round Table**
Richmond, Capital of the Confederacy
12:30 PM
- July 13 **Civil War Lecture: John Quarstein**
CSS *Hunley*
2:30 PM
- July 14 **Friendly Hours**
For guests with special needs
5 PM
- July 19 **Civil War Round Table**
Battle of First Manassas
12:30 PM
- July 26 **Civil War Round Table**
The Siege of Petersburg Begins
12:30 PM

AUGUST

- August 1-31 **Membership Swap: American Civil War Museum**
Free admission, discounts
- August 2 **Civil War Round Table**
Battle of Kennesaw Mountain
12:30 PM
- August 5 **Maritime Mondays:** Storytime and a Craft
Additional dates: August 12, 19 & 26
10:30 AM
- August 9 **Civil War Round Table**
Battle of Cedar Mountain
12:30 PM
- August 10 **Civil War Lecture: John Quarstein**
The Siege of Port Hudson
2:30 PM
- August 11 **Friendly Hours**
For guests with special needs
5 PM

For additional programs and events visit MarinersMuseum.org.

All programs and events are subject to change.
Visit website for pricing and details.



JUNE 15, 2019 • 6 PM

This premier wine event will offer unlimited tastings of exceptional wines, live music by the Jae Sinnett Trio, and gourmet food pairings.

To become a sponsor or purchase advance tickets, visit MARINERSMUSEUM.ORG/WINECLASSIC

Mariners'
Park Café

OPEN DAILY

Healthy whole foods!

Enjoy handcrafted wraps, burgers, bbq, sandwiches, quesadillas, soups, salads, and desserts.

Stop by the café during your visit to the Museum or Noland Trail!



10% Discount for Museum Members

The
Mariners' Museum and Park

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MarinersMuseum.org

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Visitor Information

Admission

Museum admission is \$1 per person; ages 3 and under free. 3D movies in the Explorers Theater are \$5 for Members, \$6 for guests with admission.

Museum Hours

Monday - Saturday: 9 AM - 5 PM
Sunday: 11 AM - 5 PM
Memorial Day to Labor Day
Daily: 9 AM - 5 PM

Location

100 Museum Drive,
Newport News, VA 23603
Take exit 258A off I-64. Follow J. Clyde Morris Boulevard for 2.5 miles. Cross Warwick Boulevard and take first left onto Museum Drive. Go straight until you reach the Museum.

Park Hours

Daily: 6 AM - sunset. The Mariners' Museum Park and the Noland Trail are free and open to the public.

Mariners' Park Café

Monday - Saturday: 10:30 AM - 3 PM
Sunday: 11 AM - 3 PM
Hours subject to change.

Group Tours: Rates for parties of 5 or more are available. Call (757) 591-7754 or email groups@MarinersMuseum.org.

Membership: Museum Members receive exciting benefits, including unlimited admission, program discounts, and special invitations. Call (757) 591-7715 or email membership@MarinersMuseum.org.

Library: The Library is unable to accommodate in-person research at this time; however, the staff is happy to assist with remote requests. Email library@MarinersMuseum.org or call (757) 591-7782.

Image Collection: Visit images.MarinersMuseum.org to explore the Museum's image collection. To order photo reproductions, email photography@MarinersMuseum.org or call (757) 591-7769.

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

Event Space: Nestled on the banks of Lake Maury, the Museum is home to scenic indoor and outdoor settings for your special occasions. To view our facilities, call (757) 591-7714 or email events@MarinersMuseum.org.

Museum Shop: Go online to shop.MarinersMuseum.org or stop by Unclaimed Cargo to find the perfect nautical gift. Members receive a 10% discount.

For general information, call (757) 596-2222.

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