

# Ahoy!

FALL/WINTER 2019

**A New Exhibition for All Mariners,  
Young and Young at Heart**



## TOYS AHOY

**A Maritime Childhood**

Pages 7-8

## Greetings!

We continue to ride a powerful wave of momentum, and I hope that everything you read in this edition of *Ahoy!* reinforces a sense of that for you. We have received an increasing level of third party validation of that momentum, as well. Here are just a few examples...



**Conservation:** Recently (wait for it - this is a mouthful), the International Council of Museums - Committee for Conservation, Metals Working Group invited members of our conservation staff to its "Metals 2019" conference in Switzerland. Our team presented our continued development of dry ice blasting as a safe and effective technique to remove trace concretion from archaeological metals.

**\$1 Admission:** Lyles Forbes, our VP for Collections and Chief Curator, Conway Sheild, the Chair of our board's Collections, Library, and Programs Committee, and I flew to Stockholm at the invitation of the International Congress of Maritime Museums. We presented a plenary session on the Museum's turnaround, focusing on operational and financial sustainability resulting from our new community engagement model.

**Educational Enrichment Programs:** Old Dominion University, Newport News Shipbuilding, Newport News Public Schools, and others now regularly approach the Museum to partner on educational enrichment programs designed to not only reach, but positively impact youth in our community.

Within the last two months, three individual donors made gifts and commitments totalling \$650K of new endowment funding to provide strategic, recurring support for our Library and educational enrichment programs. And we just enjoyed our annual Bronze Door Society dinner, where the Society funded \$91K in conservation projects. A few individual Society members offered to fund additional projects that very night, bringing the Society's commitment to more than \$100K - the largest single annual dinner commitment in the Society's 22-year history.

To me, the third party validation of our service approach and results to date mean this: the Museum is solidifying itself as a servant leader in the community and in the maritime museum field. I am particularly proud of this in light of the charge that Archer Huntington gave to Museum staff in a 1935 letter our team recently rediscovered:

*On the whole, I think it is bad for the spirit to bother about what other museums have done, in view of the fact that we do not ever wish to do the same. If The Mariners' Museum has no new line of work and no new Museum principles to prove, it is a waste of time and energy.*

Enjoy this edition of *Ahoy!* and thank you for all that you do to make our beloved Museum the special place that it is!

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

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On the cover:  
From The Mariners' Museum Collection  
*Showboat*, tin, battery operated  
*Providence*, sidewheel steamboat, circa 1887  
Nesting Sailor Dolls, wood





## Meet a Mariner

### Dr. Daina Paupe Henry

Educator, nature lover, volunteer, camper, gardener, water enthusiast, wife, mother. These are just a few words that describe Dr. Daina Paupe Henry. As an avid champion for The Mariners' Museum and Park, Henry embodies every ounce of what it means to be a mariner, to be personally connected to the world's waters, and the desire to connect others to their shared maritime heritage.

Henry has lived in Newport News for more than 30 years, with the Museum and Park being a part of her life the entire time. Cherished memories include walking on the Noland Trail, attending special events in the Park, and browsing the Museum's exhibits. She has truly enjoyed watching the Museum grow, change, and in her words, "only get better."

But, her real favorite? The 550-acre Park, and all the living things in it. She believes the Park and Noland Trail are true community gems.

"The Museum and Park are a vital part of our community to remind us of our past, our present, and our future," said Henry. "The Museum is a reminder of the importance of maritime history to our area – in terms of shipbuilding and its place in the building of America."

Henry provided guided trail walks this past summer, which were an incredible hit with visitors and Members alike. This brought her joy, knowing that she was able to connect the trees in the Park to maritime history.

Henry has been assisting the Museum with its water quality testing of Lake Maury. She is a volunteer water quality tester with many organizations, including the Department of Environmental Quality, Alliance for the Chesapeake Bay, and James River Association. Her work on Lake Maury is helping the Museum and Park better understand the health and sustainability of the Lake, and the wildlife living in and around it.

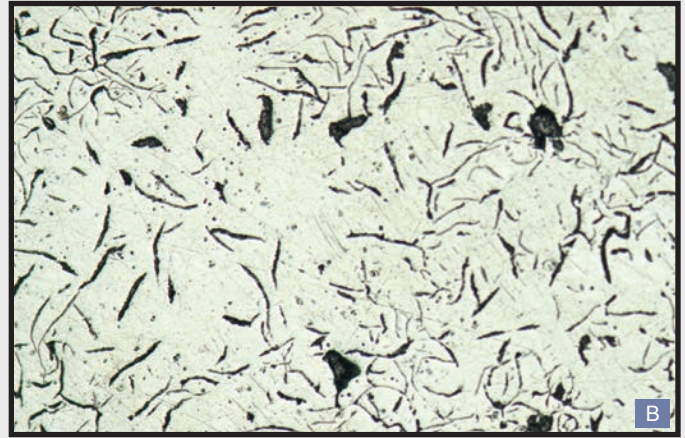
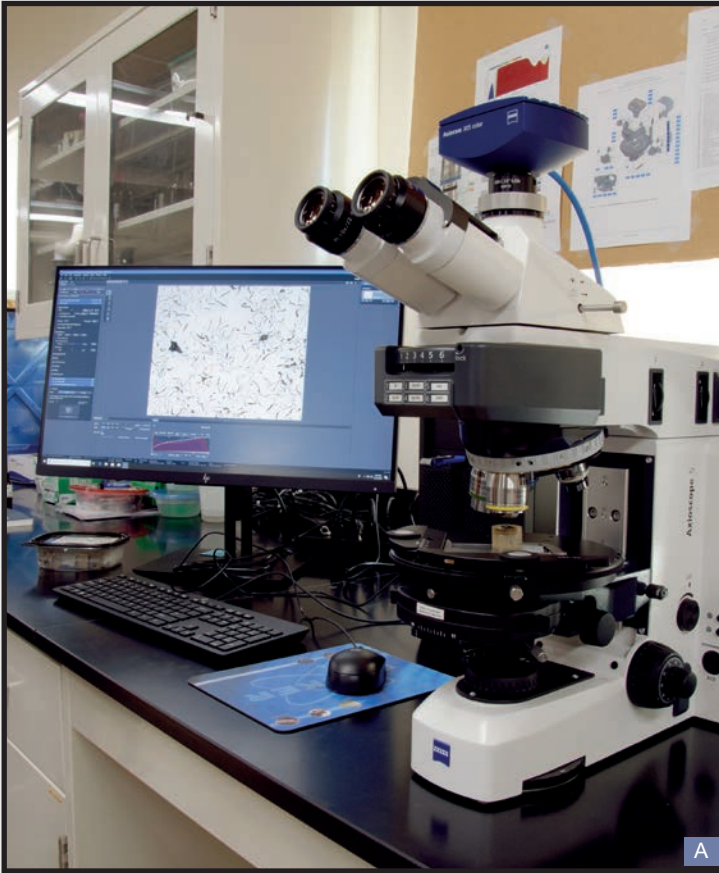
When asked about what she loves most about the Park, Henry said, "The ability to find peace and quiet in the midst of the noise and kerfuffle of everyday life. To experience solitude and listen to the sound that leaves make when they fall, to hear not the clamor, but the cricket."

Henry holds multiple educational degrees, including a PhD from William & Mary, where she worked for many years as director of special projects, and adjunct faculty for the School of Education. She is the president of the Peninsula Master Naturalists, a former Master Gardener and Tree Steward, and served as a Boy Scout leader for almost 20 years. Her passion for the world's waters extends to her entire family as her husband works for Newport News Shipbuilding, and her two sons are avid sailors. "My family is a water family – we sail, kayak, canoe, and care about the water," said Henry.

Henry's parting words about the Park: "From sunrise to sunset, the trail is full of walkers, runners, bird watchers, and parents showing children the outdoors. The Museum and Park remind us that we must protect our waters and nature."

Volunteer Dr. Daina Paupe Henry enjoying the beauty of fall at Lake Maury.





## New Microscope Makes for Some Serious Metallography

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### Metallography (noun)

met·al·log·ra·phy | me-tə-'lā-grə-fē

Definition: a study of the structure of metals, especially with a microscope

.....

Often the objects conservators work on are made of materials which are no longer available, have decayed, or have been altered in strange ways. With marine archaeological collections like USS *Monitor*, this is especially true. Everything has decayed after 140 years in the ocean, and the materials are absolutely unique – there is only one *Monitor*.

When the Museum's Conservation Department is conserving objects such as those from *Monitor*, how do they know they are doing the right thing? And how do they test a treatment for an object that is one of its kind?

Fortunately, The Mariners' Museum and Park has The Bronze Door Society to support finding solutions. In March of this year, the Society funded the purchase of a microscope that will further conservators' analysis of wood, metals, textiles, paint samples, paper, and more.

Conserving *Monitor's* cast iron, Dahlgren shell guns is one of the department's many ongoing projects benefiting from this new microscope. Initially, it seems strange that a microscope is necessary to conserve guns over 13 feet long, but there is only one chance at it. Knowing whether a conservation process will work before it is applied to the real thing is needed, and in order to test potential treatments, a test material in the same condition as the artifacts has to be created. To create that material, it is necessary to have a thorough understanding of how the guns' cast iron has deteriorated at a microscopic level.

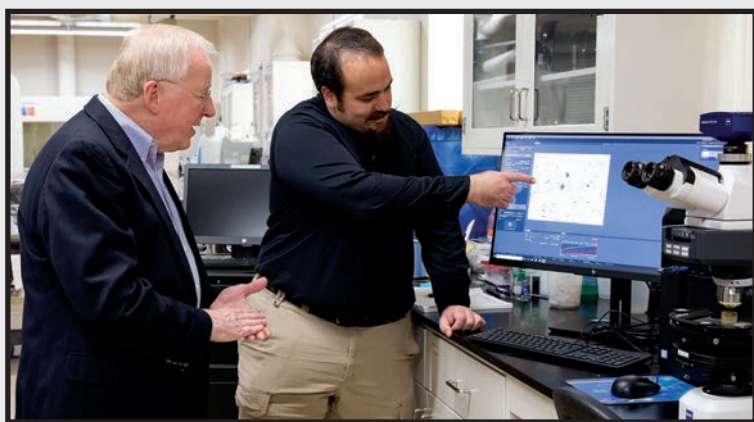
This is where metallography comes in. Metal samples are mounted in an epoxy plastic resin and polished to a mirror finish, then viewed under the microscope. Conservators are then able to see the crystalline structure of metals, as well as any inclusions in the material.

Thanks to The Bronze Door Society, the Museum's conservators are able to do this in-depth analysis and create test samples, not only for cast iron from USS *Monitor*, but for other objects in the Collection. This will surely mean discovering new ways to progress treatments, continuing the objects' journey towards display.

Back in April the conservation team posted a blog about their new microscope. Ron Lewis, member of The Bronze Door Society and Museum volunteer, commented on the blog...

*“So much of our Museum’s critical work goes on daily behind its walls and our visitors aren’t usually aware of the depth, breadth, and hours of dedication that go into that work until an artifact is brought out amid a collective chorus of “Oooohs” and “Ahhhs.” We’re very proud to have played a part in this acquisition and pleased that it brings the work of the Conservation Department to a new level. We are, after all, America’s National Maritime Museum. We deserve first-class equipment and definitely first-class professionals at the controls.”*

To view this blog, and other fascinating stories, visit [MarinersMuseum.org/blog](http://MarinersMuseum.org/blog).



Archaeological Conservator Erik Farrell gives Ron Lewis (left) a demonstration of the Zeiss Axio 5 polarized light microscope, acquired through funding by The Bronze Door Society.

#### Images on page 3:

- A** Zeiss Axioscope 5 Microscope, equipped with transmitted and reflected bright field, dark field, polarization, and UV fluorescence.
- B** Metallographic image showing the microstructure of a US Civil War era grey cast iron Hotchkiss bolt. The dark squiggly areas are graphite. A material with similar microstructure will be required for treatment testing.
- C** Test sample, created from modern cast iron, analyzed with the new microscope. Similar in structure to cast iron objects from *Monitor*, such test pieces allow experimenting with new treatments without risk to the objects.



Egyptian boatman, model, 6 5/8" high x 2 5/8" wide x 2 7/8" deep, circa 2040 to 1802 BCE.

## Collection's Oldest Artifact

In 2016, The Mariners' Museum acquired its first ancient Egyptian object - a small, hand-carved wooden boatman. Boats played an important role in Egypt, one of the world's oldest maritime cultures. This figure, part of a tomb model, served the tomb's occupant in the afterlife by rowing the deceased's spirit upon the eternal Nile.

The figure is currently in the conservation lab for stabilization of the fragile painted surface and minor structural repairs. The paint is currently powdery and matte. It will be treated with a conservation adhesive, applied with an ultrasonic mister. This technical and controlled treatment will stabilize the figure with minimal intervention. Ultimately, this prized artifact will be displayed in the Museum's Exploration Gallery.



Resting in a custom-made box, the boatman is in safe storage, awaiting treatment. His arms are detached and stored separately from the body to avoid abrasion of the paint.





## The Changing Tide of Museum Education

Do you remember the feeling you had when it was field trip day at school? You and your closest friends would pile onto a waiting bus with excitement—it was rarely about the destination, it was a day out of school. Some may have gone to a zoo, a science museum, or a history museum. It was a place that was a part of your community. Those were the days!

The 1990s and 2000s brought new challenges and opportunities for students—an expanding workforce, a more technologically advanced society, and the changing landscape of families and communities. Enter the No Child Left Behind initiative (NCLB). The signing of this law meant the dawn of massive education reform, that eventually led to standardized tests to qualify for graduation. The premise of NCLB was based on setting high standards for students and measuring success, with the hopes of improving outcomes. This meant more funding for educational achievement, but less for arts and cultural organizations.

Administrators quickly went to work planning how best to meet the new benchmarks. Meanwhile, school districts juggled the competing issues of decreasing resources, shrinking pay for teachers, and the mounting task of ensuring every child had the same opportunity to excel. As if that was not enough, the national landscape was changing for young people with the introduction of social media, rising mental health concerns, and families falling into poverty following the recession, all while learning disabilities were becoming more common.

Re-enter museums. Actually, they never left.

Today, a field trip isn't just a day away; it's an extension of classroom learning. Museum enrichment programs are now carefully designed to align with statewide core competencies and standards, while providing resources that are not readily

available in a single classroom. Museums are uniquely informal centers of learning, so they stand ready and willing to provide critical support to teachers and students.

In recent years, there have been conversations nationally about the relevance of museums. Do they have a place in our transforming society? Can they be useful in education? The answer is a resounding, yes! In rural areas, museums may be used more as a community center. In more urban areas, museums may be a place where workforce development takes center stage. There are numerous examples of museums serving the needs of the public—or what the Institute of Museum and Library Services calls a community catalyst.

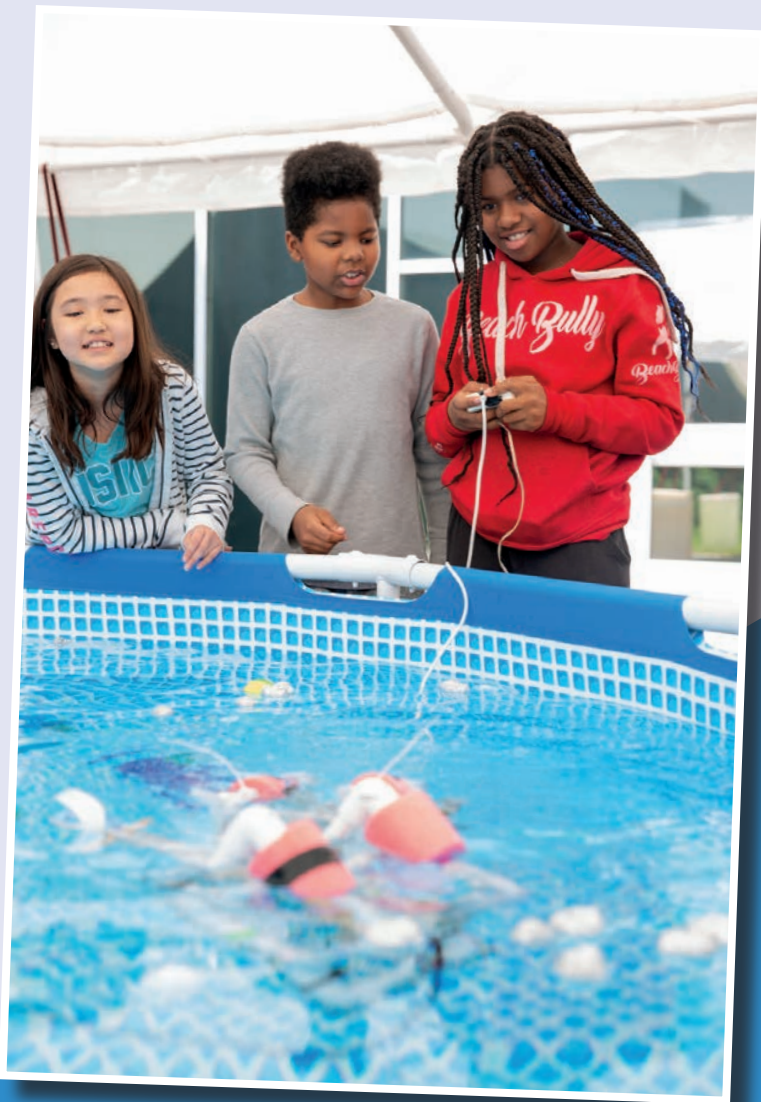
The Mariners' Museum and Park is no different. With a mission to connect people, and servant-leadership as its guiding force, the Museum is uniquely positioned to make a significant impact on K-12 education and to contribute to the vitality of the community. Its resources are vast: a 550-acre Park, the world's largest archaeological marine metals conservation laboratory, 90,000 square feet of exhibition space, the largest maritime library in the Western Hemisphere, worldwide digital platforms, educational enrichment programs, and an expert staff.

Left:  
Maritime Mondays nurtures creative expression in young mariners every Monday morning.

Right:  
Science Educator Andrea Rocchio and a future microbiologist (who knows!) collect macroinvertebrates from Lake Maury for study.

So whether it's inspiring a love of world cultures and early literacy through the Maritime Mondays program, environmental education in the Park, STEM partnerships with Old Dominion University, or K-12 enrichment programs—the Museum's youngest mariners will always be an important part of the Mariners' mission.

As the Museum moves into the next phase of its long range plan, the success of the students it serves will be measured. The strategy is new and there is much work to be done, but as Sabrina Jones, director of strategic partnerships, says, "We are excited to be an example of how museums transform their communities in small ways each day. We are grateful to our partners—members, individual donors, foundations, and corporations—who support our important work and advance the mission."



Students from Sanford Elementary drive ROVs in the pool at the Museum. The program, An Introduction to Underwater Robotics, will be experienced by all Newport News fifth-grade Talented and Gifted (TAG) students this year.



Commemorating D-Day's 75th: Operations at Normandy shown on an oversized map.

## Pop-up Programs Prove to be Popular

The Museum's mission of connecting people to the world's waters is rooted in presenting programs and exhibits that are audience-focused and collections-based. Over the course of this year, the Museum has experimented with a number of ways to actively engage with its visitors, presenting objects from the Collection that are not currently on display.

Offering 1-Day Only exhibits has proven to be a winner. The success of \$1 Admission, along with the appeal of the topics the staff presented, brought in diverse audiences of all ages to learn, as well as share their own stories. The "75th Anniversary of D-Day" in June and "Apollo 11 at 50" in July were so successful that this type of event is now an integral part of the Museum's plans.

## Mark your calendars!

### Upcoming 1-Day Only Exhibits:

March 7  
**Battle of Hampton Roads**

April 4  
**75th Anniversaries of the Battles of Iwo Jima and Okinawa**

June 27  
**A Look at Recreational Boating**



President Abraham Lincoln, a fan favorite at the Battle of Hampton Roads.



# Toys Ahoy

## A Maritime Childhood

### NEW EXHIBITION

### A Holiday Treat for All Ages!

A bubble-blowing fish. A battleship that fires marbles. Rare editions of nautical classics like *Treasure Island*. Maritime hats you can try on. A rowboat to climb into. A large-scale, interactive Battle of the Ironclads game. Puzzles, board games, and models to assemble. Sailing yachts, speedboats, cargo ships, and warships. Action figures and collectibles.

These are just a handful of the exciting sights and activities found in *Toys Ahoy!* This new exhibition features more than 80 nautical toys as well as other maritime-themed objects from the Museum's Collection, spanning from the late nineteenth to the late twentieth centuries. This experience is sure to bring back nostalgic childhood moments for some, and create new memories for others. Through displays, interpretive panels, and special programming, multi-generations of visitors will learn about the history and cultural influences of maritime toys, and hopefully, share their personal stories with one another and the Museum.

The earliest toys were primitive, made at home of wood or other natural materials. Handcrafted toys were later made for sale and were very expensive due to the workmanship and time required to produce them. Such toys were mostly limited to the wealthy. Changes came with the Industrial Revolution of the nineteenth century. Mass production and the use of tin and steel made toys more affordable and available to more buyers. Before World War I, the United States imported many toys from Europe (Germany was an important source), but the outbreak of war forced an embargo on toy imports. This led to the growth of American-made toys. In 1942, war affected toy production yet again, limiting the use of metal and other materials that were needed to support the war effort, not for making playthings. In the late 1940s, the use of plastic increased, making toys faster to produce, less expensive to manufacture, and lighter to ship. Today's toys are mostly imported from Japan and China.

Ralph Waldo Emerson said, "It is a happy talent to know how to play." *Toys Ahoy!* celebrates that talent, connecting everyone to our maritime heritage from years past to years beyond.



### Donate a toy this holiday season!

Now through December 16, 2019

When you donate to Toys for Tots you are helping to bring the joy of the holidays and send a message of hope to America's less fortunate children. Please bring a new unwrapped toy (ages newborn - 11) on your next visit to the Museum. Donation box located in the Main Lobby.

Visit [MarinersMuseum.org/ToysAhoy](http://MarinersMuseum.org/ToysAhoy) for details.



Double-turreted *Monitor*,  
circa 1885-1900.





**'The Animals Went  
in Two by Two'**  
Noah's Ark and  
animals, wooden toy.



Start of Yacht Race, Conservatory Lake, Central Park, New York City.  
Courtesy of Library of Congress, Prints and Photographs Division, LC-B2-3456-3

## Pond Boat Racing

Racing model wooden sailboats, called pond yachts, gained popularity in the US during the 1920s. While the boats were typically handmade, they could also be purchased. Pond yachts were a common sight in public parks among the young and old alike. Pond racing can be competitive or simply for one's own amusement. The models were once pushed by sticks or propelled by sails attached to rudders. Today's models are mostly radio controlled.

Racing pond boats remains a celebrated pastime in cities across the country. The American Model Yachting Association is dedicated to the tradition of designing, building, and racing model yachts. Chapters include the Charleston Model Yacht Club in Charleston, South Carolina, the Kingsmill Model Yachting Association in Williamsburg, Virginia, and the Pacific Northwest Model Yacht Club in Kirkland, Washington.



Lights, camera, action! Assistant Paper Conservator Emilie Duncan braves the floodlights to operate the Myriopticon during filming.

## Toy Theater: The Myriopticon

**Almost a movie in 1866, it's now a video.**

When the *Toys Ahoy!* team began planning what would be included in the exhibition, there was unanimous approval for one historic, post-Civil War era toy, the Myriopticon. This parlor game was created by Massachusetts lithographer, Milton Bradley. Already known for his 1860 invention, The Checkered Game of Life, Bradley released his newest venture, just in time for the holidays in 1866. This mini-panorama with its 22 illustrated scenes of 'the Rebellion,' told of historic moments from Fort Sumter to the Battle of Hampton Roads to the burning of Richmond.

It was the closest thing to a war movie of its time. And since movement is key to the interpretation and understanding of this fascinating object, a team of talented, creative people from across several Museum departments produced a video for the exhibition.

Learn more at [MarinersMuseum.org/blog](http://MarinersMuseum.org/blog).



March 9, 1862: the clash between USS *Monitor* and CSS *Virginia* – from *The Myriopticon*, a Historical Panorama of the Rebellion, Parlor Game, circa 1866-1890.



## Cruising Vicariously with the Beazley Collection

Thanks to tremendous support from Norma Beazley of Houston and two anonymous donors, the Library is happy to report that the collection of ocean liner memorabilia compiled by Norma's husband, Herbert Beazley, is nearly ready for cataloging. That's big news, given the Texas-sized gift of brochures, menus, plans of accommodation, booklets, photographs, and postcards that was received from the Beazleys in 2011! Work on the collection came to a halt during the Library's two-year closure, and became a top priority when collections were available again in July 2018.

The initial support from Mrs. Beazley, and the continuing gifts that others provided, was put to good use this past summer to pay a stipend to select college students to help complete the arrangement and description of everything in the collection. Those 'Beazley Fellows,' as they were called, not only did the hard intellectual work involved in sorting, identifying, and properly housing the collection, but they trained volunteers how to do it, too. The Library staff could not be happier with fellows Brian Teller and Josh Buckingham, two serious, thoughtful, and thoroughly impressive young people.

The Beazley Collection, now organized in such a way that its real importance can be appreciated, contains breathtaking examples of the kinds of graphic artwork used in menu covers, elegant booklets, travel literature, and brochures often seen in travel agencies and on ocean liners during the Golden Age of transatlantic steamers. Every significant passenger ship of the period is documented. Perhaps just as importantly, the collection captures the transition of the nature of ocean travel, from transoceanic crossing as a means of getting to exotic destinations, to one where cruising is an end in itself. Along with the great liners of yesterday are the new floating palaces of Holland-America, Carnival, Royal Caribbean, and other popular cruise lines. The Beazley Collection is a perfect complement to the Library's existing steamship memorabilia collections, bringing them up to date and rounding them out.

Cunard-White Star Line Cocktail Menu from *Queen Mary*, circa 1936. Alistair K. MacDonald, illustrator, and designer of menus for Cunard and other shipping lines.

### RESEARCH

FALL/WINTER 2019





Top: Wine List from the Norddeutscher Lloyd Line's SS *Bremen*, circa 1935.

Right: Cunard-White Star Line's Menu for a New Year's Eve Celebration, circa 1936. Alistair K. MacDonald, illustrator.



The next step for the Library is to make this astounding collection accessible to the public through its online catalog. Planning for that step is well underway, and will begin this fall. Though Mrs. Beazley and others have really helped move this project forward, there is still work to do. If you enjoy seeing and cataloging this sort of great steamship ephemera, perhaps you'd like to volunteer? Contact [library@MarinersMuseum.org](mailto:library@MarinersMuseum.org) or call (757) 591-7782.



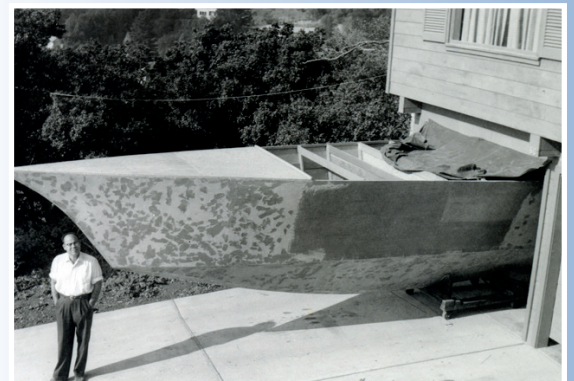
Sarah Puckitt and intern Chantelle Rhoden examine a collection of USS *Constellation* photographs. Rhoden is a studio arts major with a minor in museum studies at CNU.

## 'Survey Says' ...

This past summer, Curator of Photography/Photo Archivist Sarah Puckitt began a survey of the mixed archival collections in the Museum's Library and Archives. Among the hundreds of boxes now being housed in a temporary storage area, live myriad collections of correspondence, research materials, scrap books, and pamphlets along with photographic prints, slides, negatives, transparencies, and films.

Part of caring for the Museum's photographic collection, said to number well over a million items, is determining the proper low temperature, low humidity storage environment for these items being surveyed. The process involves identifying and recording the quantity, type, and size of the photographs, and is an effort to extend the life of these materials. Eventually, Museum conservators will assist with assigning materials to the appropriate climate to provide optimum, multi-temperature zone areas ranging from cool (54 degrees) to cold (40 degrees) to frozen (32 degrees) to sub-zero (0 degrees).

Surveying these photographic collections is a bit like a treasure hunt. "We came upon some really unusual things, like the photo below of Arthur Piver, the father of the modern multihull," Puckitt said.



November 1960: Arthur Piver started building his 35' trimaran *Lodestar* in his garage at home in Mill Valley, California. Seems he ran out of room!





Octant, circa 1792. Gift of Susan Kierr and Ellen Kierr Stein and their families in memory of J. N. and Raymond Kierr.

## NEWLY ACQUIRED OCTANT *Tells a New Tale*

Earlier this year, an octant was added to the Collection that expands the Museum's holdings of objects related to the War of 1812. When first offered, the octant's origin was unclear, making the Collections Committee (the group of curators, archivists, librarians, and a board trustee responsible for the management of the Museum's varied collections) hesitant to add it to the Museum's large collection of 58 octants.

The fact that the octant is stamped with the date '1792' and the faint outline of the owner's name, rather than the more commonly used maker's name, convinced the Museum's Director of

Collections Management and Curator of Scientific Instruments Jeanne Willoz-Egnor that it might hold an interesting secret or two. The committee agreed to acquire the octant for the Museum's hands-on teaching collection. The thought was that if research managed to uncover its history, it could be moved to the main object collection. And, that is exactly what happened.

After the octant's arrival, a little highlighting with dark wax revealed the owner's name, 'Pearl Durkee.' Genealogical research revealed a number of men with that name, but the early date of the octant quickly narrowed down the field of candidates to one man in particular: a ship captain living in Baltimore at the turn of the nineteenth century.

Captain Durkee served as the master, captain, or owner of a number of schooners trading between Baltimore, Europe, and the West Indies from 1792 to 1824. During this time, tensions





between the United States and Great Britain over trade with France, along with the impressment of seamen from American vessels, were escalating. Despite the strained political climate, Durkee's sailing career seems to have been fairly ordinary save for a couple of interesting exceptions, one of which is shared here.

In early 1812, Durkee was master and commander of the 4-gun schooner *Arrow* when British restrictions on trade with France proved disastrous for him and his crew. On May 8, while returning from Bordeaux with a cargo of brandy, champagne, silk, nuts, and toys, *Arrow* was seized by the 38-gun frigate HMS *Andromache*. HMS *Armide* then escorted *Arrow* to Plymouth Dockyard. Luckily, because *Arrow's* crew had arrived in England prior to the United States' declaration of war on June 18, the men were released and returned to Baltimore. *Arrow* was refitted and taken into the Royal Navy, and her cargo was sold.

*View of Corunna Lighthouse and Town in 1805*, watercolor. Captain George Tobin, artist.

The vessel depicted, HMS *Princess Charlotte*, was still under Tobin's command when it was renamed HMS *Andromache* in 1812, and later captured the schooner *Arrow*.



*Star Boats on the East River, 2007*, watercolor.  
Horace Havemeyer III, artist.

## The Healing Power of Art – Paintings from the Horace Havemeyer III Collection

The stunning marine photographs in the current exhibition, *Seizing the Moment: The Evolution of Action Photography*, included works from the Horace Havemeyer III Collection, donated to the Museum by Eugenie C. Havemeyer.

Mr. Havemeyer (1941-2014) was a native of New York, a lifelong sailor, and the founder and president of *Metropolis* magazine. He discovered yet another creative outlet later in life – painting.


As part of his therapy for CIDP, a chronic neurological disorder that affects the nervous system, Havemeyer began painting watercolors of maritime scenes in New York and New England. As his disease advanced and his mobility became limited, many of his paintings appear to be of the same subjects at various times of the year, viewed from his windows at home.

Mrs. Havemeyer graciously donated her husband's maritime watercolors to the Museum, a collection of 13 notebooks filled with Havemeyer's work as well as 263 individual paintings. The opportunity to express oneself through art was obviously of great value to Mr. Havemeyer, and much appreciated by his family for the pleasure it brought to their lives.

As novelist Leo Tolstoy once said, "Art is not a handicraft, it is the transmission of feeling the artist has experienced."



# Conservation in Progress: *The Lions are Looking Fine*



Over the course of a sunny week this past June, Paige Schmidt, assistant objects conservator, led a team effort to clean four of the Museum's most instantly recognizable and prized possessions, the Lions Bridge Lions. Situated at the south end of Lake Maury and overlooking the James River, the four Indiana limestone statues accumulate debris and biological growth over time. Left unattended, these organisms and chemical deposits degrade the surface of the stone. Without regular maintenance, details in the carvings can be lost. Based on original designs by the renowned sculptor and Museum co-founder, Anna Hyatt Huntington, these treasures are an integral part of the Museum's legacy, and as the conservators found out first hand, a keystone in the heart of the community.

Schmidt, who holds a master's degree in conservation, carefully tested the cleaning process before implementing the procedure to the Lions overall. Years of accumulated visible and invisible biological growth needed to be removed from the microscopic interstices of the surfaces of the Lions.

This gentle but effective cleaning procedure involves a period of 'die-off' in which all of these particular growths turn brilliant hues of orange and red. Initially thinking about this cleaning as a standard step in the physical maintenance of these statues, the priceless value of the Lions, far beyond the worth of the stone itself, was immediately made evident to the cleaning team.

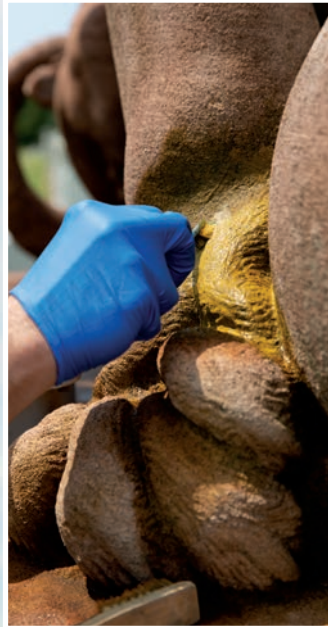
As Schmidt and the team of museum professionals - conservators and collections management staff - worked to clean the Lions, concerned and inquiring community members regularly stopped to ask questions about what was happening. More than one wary passerby expressed alarm about the vibrant colors, and thought the Lions had been the target of vandalism. There was an overwhelming sentiment of appreciation for the diligent care for what many community members term "our Lions."



Laurie King, an archaeological conservator for the USS *Monitor* project who assisted with the cleaning, noted, “Everyone who came by was so pleased to see the Lions being cleaned and cared for; it was wonderful to see the community taking such an interest in conservation.”

By the end of the week, Schmidt’s understanding of the work she and her colleagues were doing to preserve the Lions Bridge Lions had expanded immensely. With so many stories that recounted the childhood memories of locals who have lived nearby for decades, and more recently established members of the community who consider the Lions a signpost for the place they now embrace as home, these statues are valuable beyond the artistry of their design or the illustrious name of their creator. Their true value encompasses the sense of ownership many share in their history, and the community they represent.

Schmidt said this project is part of the ongoing, active effort to maintain the Museum’s outdoor collection and says she looks forward to when she and others will tackle cleaning another iconic Huntington sculpture, *Conquering the Wild*.



The Lions will be “groomed” every year to maintain their beauty and to preserve these community treasures.



Members of the conservation team in front of the Southwest Lion during cleaning.



## Park Partners Creating Buzz

If you visited the Museum recently and entered through the Business Entrance, you may have wondered why Park staff and volunteers were digging, framing, and landscaping an area near the *Monitor* play ship. Well, they were creating the Park’s new pollinator garden. In partnership with The Nature Conservancy, the Museum has created an environmental education program entitled “Nature Explorers.” As part of this enrichment opportunity, third-grade students at Palmer Elementary planted pollinator attractants in this raised garden and learned about their impact on the ecosystem.

The beds and walkways were created through an Eagle Scout Project by Logan Jackson of Yorktown Troop 200, a service project that benefits his community as well as demonstrates leadership skills. The Peninsula Master Naturalists provided native plants that create nectar or pollen vital to a variety of pollinating insects. And, the Newport News Recovery Operations Center has donated compost to enrich the soil. Everyone involved agrees: this is an exciting way to support bees, butterflies, and lots more; all vital parts of our environment.



What teamwork! Palmer Elementary students had lots of help planting the pollinator garden with native plants. We can’t wait to see what springtime brings.





## THE BRONZE DOOR SOCIETY GUIDING CONSERVATION INVESTMENT

Since its inception 22 years ago, The Bronze Door Society has served as a leading group of individuals who have a deep commitment to The Mariners' Museum and Park's mission, funding more than \$940,000 to support its programs and world-class Collection. The role the Society plays in the Museum has evolved and strengthened throughout the years. In 2017, the Society decided to focus its support on the Museum's initiative to establish its first in-house, comprehensive conservation program. Since then, the Society has invested \$234,000 in state-of-the-art technologies, processes, and equipment that help advance the Museum's conservation efforts.

Conservation projects funded by the Society support the direct treatment of artifacts, the acquisition of tools used to conduct artifact treatment, and the funding of personnel time to facilitate the preservation of materials in the Museum's Collection. These projects have an impact on the USS *Monitor* collection, Library and Archives, and the Museum's general Collection.

This year alone, the Society awarded \$91,000 to fund three important projects: first, the rehousing and assessment of the collection of artworks on paper that currently holds 2,950 images and sketchbooks; second, a new support structure for the world's earliest surviving 36 foot long, 22 ton, Japanese midget submarine recovered in Kure, Japan; and lastly, the purchase of an ultrasonic welder to enable the creation of

custom polyester enclosures to protect flat paper objects from physical and environmental damage.

These important investments exemplify the Society's strong commitment to the stewardship of the Collection; and its members' understanding that investing in the conservation of the Collection not only ensures its wellbeing, but strengthens the Museum's ability to serve the public today, and for many generations to come.

If you are interested in joining this remarkable group in its effort to support the conservation of the world's rich maritime heritage, please contact Luisa A. Vázquez-López, director of individual philanthropy, at (757) 591-7705.

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*"The Society's total commitment to conservation has driven the greatest expansion in the Museum's conservation program since the Batten Conservation Complex opened more than a decade ago. I could not be prouder of the way the Society and our team are working together to set the standard for maritime museums around the world."*

– Howard H. Hoege III, President & CEO

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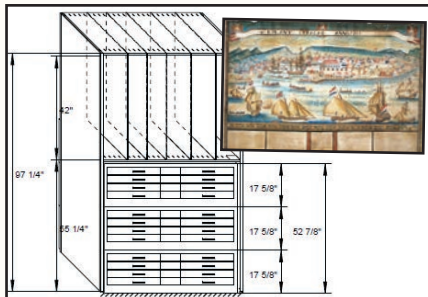




This past March, 43 of The Bronze Door Society's 130 members learned about the Museum's maritime-themed bronze doors at a behind-the-scenes talk.

Commissioned by Archer M. Huntington, Museum co-founder, the bronze doors were created in the early 1930s by renowned American sculptor, Herbert Adams, for the Mariners' original entrance.

## 2019 FUNDED PROJECTS



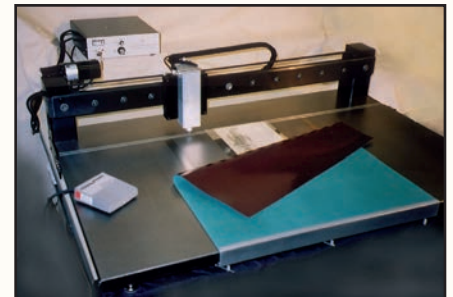
### Rehousing and assessment of paper-based artworks

The Museum's collection of paper-based artworks (excluding printed works) is comprised of nearly 3,000 images and sketchbooks dating from the 17th to 21st centuries. This project will be the first phase of a multi-part initiative aimed at examining, cataloging, and rehousing artifacts based on their media type, and upgrading collection storage to a flat-file and framed works system.



### Japanese submarine support cradle

The Museum is home to the world's earliest surviving midget submarine, a Japanese World War II naval vessel, *Nishimura No. 3746*. Since its arrival at the Museum in 1946, the submarine has been housed outside in exterior storage, resulting in corrosion forming on the vessel. A new support structure will be built that will be used for transport, storage, conservation treatment, and ultimately, display.



### Ultrasonic welder for making polyester film enclosures

The Museum's Archives has more than two million paper-based objects. Such collections are inherently fragile and can be challenging to handle and store safely. Polyester film enclosures are the accepted industry standard, providing protection and support to documents, artworks, and photographs, while still allowing full visibility. This machine will enable Museum staff to make large, custom enclosures, allowing oversized materials to be protected.



— Captain Henry Marx Memorial —

# SAFETY AT SEA

*This could be the most important day of your boating life!*

**Saturday, February 29, 2020**  
**8 AM – 4 PM**

Designed and conducted by sailors and experts in their fields, this course provides both novice and experienced mariners alike with the information and skills required to sail the Chesapeake Bay or offshore, handle heavy weather, conduct rescue procedures, and more. The most comprehensive safety at sea program offered in Hampton Roads, the course is open to all cruising and racing skippers, crews and their families, recreational boaters, and commercial mariners.



**NEW IN 2020!**  
**Offshore Course**

The registration fee is \$140 now through January 31. Starting February 1, the fee is \$160. Museum Members receive \$15 off their fee.



Registrants will earn an official Offshore Safety at Sea Certification from U.S. Sailing!

Register online at [MarinersMuseum.org/safety-at-sea](http://MarinersMuseum.org/safety-at-sea) or call (757) 952-0466.



**1619–2019**  
**COMMEMORATION**  
**FIRST AFRICAN LANDING**  
AT FORT MONROE AUGUST 23-25 HAMPTON, VA

The Mariners' Museum was well represented at the 400th Commemoration of the First African Landing at Fort Monroe on August 24. Pictured (l-r): Alrethia Elazier, Wisteria Perry, Robin Sumpter, and Lauren Furey manned a display with artifacts and props that shared stories of the Middle Passage, African culture, and the role African American watermen have played here in Hampton Roads. All told, 1,206 visitors stopped by (yes, they were counted!) to experience the Mariners' special way of engaging with audiences and connecting people to the world's waters. Everyone who participated reports this was an amazing, powerful day that will long be remembered.



## Questions about Chris-Craft?

### 'Who you gonna call?'

Many of you know Rachel Conley, a 10-year Museum employee in Collections Management. Conley is often seen out in the galleries sharing her knowledge about seldom seen artifacts. In September, she assumed her new role as Information Specialist for the Library. Now, she is responsible for managing the archives of Chris-Craft Industries and performing reference services and research in the Chris-Craft collection. She looks forward to providing reference and research services to Museum staff and the public. Call (757) 591-7765 or email [rconley@MarinersMuseum.org](mailto:rconley@MarinersMuseum.org).

## Museum Loses Good Friend

### Alan A. Diamonstein



In October, the Museum lost a longtime friend when Alan A. Diamonstein, former Chairman of the Board of Trustees, passed away. Alan and his wife Beverly were supporters of The Mariners' Museum and Park for well over 30 years. Diamonstein led several board committees and ultimately served as Chairman of the Board from 2006 to 2008. The Museum is grateful for his service and for his contributions to so many organizations in this community.

He will be missed.





## Start a Holiday Tradition

### Give the Gift of Membership!

Looking for a meaningful (and fun!) holiday gift idea? A gift membership to the Museum means you can provide an entire year of opportunities for your friends and family to connect to the world's waters and to one another. Your gift membership allows your loved ones to experience programs for all ages and interests, create lasting memories with friends and family, and discover something new during every visit to The Mariners' Museum and Park – America's National Maritime Museum.

Your Membership support, and your gift of Membership provide the financial foundation for the Museum to accomplish its mission by enabling the staff to create dynamic *exhibitions*, continue groundbreaking *conservation* efforts, develop engaging and unique *programs*, and provide *research* opportunities for all audiences. Thank you for your generosity!

### Give the gift of Membership today!

Purchase your gift online at [MarinersMuseum.org/Membership](http://MarinersMuseum.org/Membership) or call Sara Weatherill, membership manager, at (757) 591-7715.



## Members' Holiday Shopping & Social Museum Gift Shop

Thursday, December 5 • 6 PM - 8 PM

Get a first look at new merchandise, receive additional shopping discounts, indulge in delicious treats, and much more!

RSVP online: [MarinersMuseum.org/RSVP](http://MarinersMuseum.org/RSVP)

# MUSEUM CALENDAR

## DECEMBER

- December 2 **Maritime Mondays** Storytime and a craft  
10:30 AM Additional dates: December 9, 16, 23 & 30
- December 5 **Members' Holiday Shopping & Social**  
6 PM
- December 6 **Civil War Discussion**  
12:30 PM The Nashville Campaign
- December 7 **Nature Workshop Series**  
10 AM Unbe-wreath-able Creations
- December 7 **Maritime Connections Lecture**  
10:30 AM/2:30 PM An Inside Look at *Toys Ahoy!*
- December 7 **Wrreathing of the Lions**  
1:30 PM Presented by The Bronze Door Society
- December 8 **Friendly Hours**  
9 AM For guests with special needs
- December 13 **Civil War Discussion**  
12:30 PM Major General John Logan, USA
- December 14 **Breakfast with Santa**  
10 AM Additional date: December 21
- December 14 **Civil War Lecture: John Quarstein**  
2:30 PM Major General John Bankhead Magruder, CSA
- December 20 **Civil War Discussion**  
12:30 PM Last Days of USS *Monitor*

## JANUARY

- January 3 **Civil War Discussion**  
12:30 PM CSS *Shenandoah*
- January 4 **Nature Workshop Series**  
10:00 AM Giving Flight to Feathered Friends
- January 4 **Civil War Lecture: John Quarstein**  
2:30 PM CSS *Manassas*
- January 6-10 **Museum Closed**
- January 11 **Civil War Lecture: John Quarstein**  
2:30 PM Contraband of War Decision
- January 12 **Friendly Hours**  
9 AM For guests with special needs
- January 13 **Maritime Mondays** Storytime and a craft  
10:30 AM Additional dates: January 20 & 27

## FEBRUARY

- February 1 **Nature Workshop Series**  
10 AM Preserving Spring Blooms
- February 1 **Black History Program**  
TBA Additional dates: February 8, 15, 22 & 29
- February 3 **Maritime Mondays:** Storytime and a craft  
10:30 AM Additional dates: February 10, 17 & 24
- February 7 **Civil War Discussion**  
12:30 PM Defense of Wilmington, NC
- February 9 **Friendly Hours**  
9 AM For guests with special needs
- February 14 **Civil War Discussion**  
12:30 PM Confederate POW Camps
- February 15 **Civil War Lecture: John Quarstein**  
2:30 PM Gustavus Vasa Fox, USN
- February 29 **Capt. Henry Marx Memorial**  
8 AM **Safety at Sea Course**
- February 29 **Hampton Roads History Lecture**  
2:30 PM Henry E. 'Eddie' Huntington

For additional programs and events, visit [MarinersMuseum.org](http://MarinersMuseum.org).

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



### UNIQUE GIFTS IN THE MUSEUM SHOP

Discover children's books and toys, stylish home decor and kitchen items, comfy apparel, jewelry, nautical books, outdoor items, and more.

Shop online today, or come in for a visit!  
[shop.MarinersMuseum.org](http://shop.MarinersMuseum.org)



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## Wreathing of the Lions

**SATURDAY, DECEMBER 7**

1:30 PM • LIONS BRIDGE  
THE MARINERS' MUSEUM AND PARK

**FREE & Open to the Public**

Enjoy cookies,  
hot chocolate, and crafts!

Hosted by:  
The Bronze Door Society,  
the oldest, member-managed  
affinity group of The Mariners'  
Museum and Park.



## 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.

### Location

100 Museum Drive,  
Newport News, VA 23606  
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.

### Museum Hours

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

### 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) 591-7731 or email [groups@MarinersMuseum.org](mailto:groups@MarinersMuseum.org).

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

**Library:** The Library staff is happy to assist with your research requests. You may make an appointment at [library@MarinersMuseum.org](mailto:library@MarinersMuseum.org) or call (757) 591-7782.

**Image Requests:** To order images from our Collection, email [digitalservices@MarinersMuseum.org](mailto:digitalservices@MarinersMuseum.org) or call (757) 591-7703.

**Education Programming:** For information on student groups, call (757) 591-7745 or email [schoolprograms@MarinersMuseum.org](mailto: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) 591-5124 or email [events@MarinersMuseum.org](mailto:events@MarinersMuseum.org).

**Museum Shop:** Go online to [shop.MarinersMuseum.org](http://shop.MarinersMuseum.org) or stop by the Shop to find the perfect nautical gift. Members receive a 10% discount.

**SAVE THE DATE**

A food-tasting  
event of  
**HISTORIC**  
proportions!

**HISTORY  
BITES**

**Saturday, March 7**

Stay  
connected...



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