Campus improvements: native garden installed along waterfront, new look for Navy Point, new Welcome Center on Talbot Street

A special thanks to Museum volunteer Roger Galvin (pictured standing, right), who designed, and guided Museum staff in planting, a native harbor garden along the administration building’s waterfront. The garden was installed to hold back the high tide from the grass area.

Surrounded by a decorative block wall and cap, the garden incorporates a drain from the Museum walkway to the harbor, with an internal check valve to prevent tidal flow. Plans to continue the garden along the parking lot of the Crab Claw to Burn Street are scheduled for June.

The Navy Point bulkhead is completed, with the decking under the lighthouse and the railway finger pier back in place. The grounds on Navy Point also have a new irrigation system and sod.

The new Welcome Center on Talbot Street opened in April. A concierge desk, local brochures, and a video featuring the events and programs at the Museum greet visitors, with Museum-related merchandise for sale.

CORRECTION: In the spring issue of The Chesapeake Log, the caption on page 18 should have read:
CBMM Model Guild Director Bob Mason and Guild member Bill Price inspect the recently moved CNC milling machine.
The beautiful summer season is finally with us, even though this winter seemed almost non-existent. Campus is teeming with visitors, volunteers, interns, apprentices, vibrant festivals, special events; the exhibits are compelling and crisp—no wonder the town is packed!

I am reminded of the opening of the new Tig exhibit in late April. Never have I been as proud of the Chesapeake Bay Maritime Museum as when I stood with 250 fellow enthusiasts on that glorious evening on Navy Point. The entire community showed up—hard-working tug families, local watermen, town visitors, shop owners, politicians, board members, the press corps and most important, lots of interested members. I remember thinking, as I looked around at the large crowd, people show up for the good stuff, and there is a lot of good stuff happening at the Museum.

Next time you are on campus, look at the folks who are rebuilding the Mitchell House or in the new Gunning and Tug exhibits. The whole campus is alive with activity, and the immune system doesn’t stop there. We’ve recently opened a new Welcome Center on Talbot Street to help visitors learn more about the Museum, St. Michaels, and the surrounding area.

Speaking of good stuff, I am also proud of the Museum’s Frederick Douglass Day and look forward to the 25th anniversary of the Antique and Classic Boat Festival, seeing Tall Ships line our docks, watching Independence Day fireworks explode over the lighthouse on Big Band Night, and celebrations of Chesapeake heritage at the Chesapeake Folk Festival and Watermen’s Appreciation Day. This year’s Charity Boat Auction has more boats available for sale than ever before, and I see the family, the dog, sunglasses, and some sunscreen, and come see your Museum—we promise a different and engaging experience every time you come.

As I write this, the Museum is just two weeks into its new fiscal year that promises to be even better than the last. Your participation and support last year gave us much to be proud of and put the wind at our back, heading into the new year—new exhibits, strong communications and increased visibility, successful diverse events and programs, renewed energy and activity in the boating yard, and the completion of the Museum’s biggest capital improvement project in years: a new bulkhead and upgraded landscaping on Navy Point. Membership is up, attendance is up, and particularly gratifying is the Museum’s Annual Fund having just set a new all-time record for the third year in a row. We comfortably passed our goal that was 10% higher than the year before, receiving many more gifts, from many more donors, than any time in the Museum’s 47-year history.

This outpouring of support and generosity from you—donors, members, volunteers, governors, and staff—drives the Museum’s success. Membership dues and admissions receipts combined provide less than one-third of the revenue necessary to support the Museum’s operations. Especially in these times of scant government funding, only with your gifts can the Museum’s important mission be served in the fashion it deserves, to preserve the history and traditions of the Chesapeake region for current and future generations, children and adults alike.

Those of us who are privileged to spend a lot of time at the Museum feel a sense of optimism, energy, and pride in being a part of this extraordinary institution. We barely can wait to continue to build on the positive momentum we’ve all created together. With your unwavering support, we are committed to continuing to improve the Museum’s performance of mission across the board. We have lots in store this summer and we hope you’ll visit often to enjoy what you’ve helped to make possible.

I look forward to seeing you at our Museum this summer. Thank you for your continued support.

Langley R. Shook, President
Opening receptions for new Tug & Gunning exhibits draw large crowds

To unveil the new “Push and Pull: Life on Chesapeake Bay Tugboats” exhibit, the Museum invited donors, staff, and those featured in the exhibit to a Captain’s Reception on Friday, April 20. This new, contemporary exhibit showcases life on Chesapeake tugboats and remains open through 2014.

The opening reception for “Gunning Among Friends: Chesapeake Waterfowl Hunting Clubs” welcomed Museum members and members of the East Coast Decoy Collectors to the Small Boat Shed on Friday, April 13. This exhibit examines hunting clubs by featuring historic photos, documents, decoys, and other gunning accoutrements.

(top) Museum Folklorist Michelle Zacks addresses the crowd and introduces the tugboat captains and crew featured in the Tug exhibit. (second row) Sponsors of the Tug exhibit, Wye Financial & Trust’s Assistant Vice President of Wealth Management Ronald Flohr and Senior Vice President Jim Vermilye pause for a photo on the tug Delowere with Museum President Langley Shook and Chef Curator Pete Lesher.

Captain Dennis Berg stands in front of a painting of his tug Quaker with wife Janet and their daughter Alice Penchenski. (third row) Museum President Langley Shook with Captain Mike Reagoso, vice president of Mid-Atlantic operations for McAllister Towing, and his wife Susan Reagoso. (fourth row) Museum Board Treasurer Tom Seip, Board Chairman CG Appleby, and former Secretary of Defense Donald Rumsfeld.

Cheryl Miller, of Easton, MD has joined the Museum as the new administrative assistant, supporting the President and the Development Department. Originally from Providence, RI, Miller brings many years of experience as an office manager and executive assistant. The Museum also welcomes three new summer interns. Elisabeth Meier is a history major at the University of Chicago and is joining the Museum as a curatorial intern. Meier has significant experience in maritime studies, having participated in the Williams College-Mystic Seaport and Sea Education Association semesters.
On Saturday, May 5, the Museum held Frederick Douglass Day, in conjunction with the Frederick Douglass Honor Society. Attendees enjoyed live music, great food, activities for kids, boat rides for the family, fishing, and more. (top row, from left) Co-Chairs of Frederick Douglass Day Harriette Lowery and Karen Shook congratulate this year’s winner of the Frederick Douglass Essay contest, Easton Middle School eighth grader Cameron McCoy, pictured with family members. African-American Foodways Historian Michael Twitty gave cooking demonstrations at the Mitchell House. Young Frederick Douglass (Arnell Limberry) tries his hand at caulking, a job the real Frederick Douglass did in Baltimore’s Inner Harbor. (bottom row, from left) Two young attendees had their picture taken in traditional 18th century garb and then pasted it into “The North Star,” the newspaper created by Frederick Douglass. Visitors took advantage of the beautiful weather on a scenic cruise aboard Mister Jim. The Union Baptist Mass Choir of Easton performed at the Tolchester Beach Bandstand. One of the many kids activities for the day included building a boat and sailing it around a pond.

The Maritime Model Expo on Saturday, May 19 and Sunday, May 20 featured demonstrations, live music, family activities, model skipjack sailing races, and a variety of food on campus. (from left) Various models were on display throughout the weekend. Attendees were invited to watch as models cruised around the miniature pond. Kids activities included making model sailboats and sailing them around the pond. There was plenty of wind on Sunday for the model skipjack sailing races.

The second annual Elf Classic Yacht Race was held on Saturday, May 19. Departing from the Eastport Yacht Club in Annapolis, the boats sailed across the Chesapeake Bay to the Museum. Bull, a classic sandbagger, once again took first prize. (top) The boats are seen on the Miles River, not far from the Museum. (bottom) Mister Jim takes passengers out for a cruise as the boats come in.

The Talbot County Arts Council awarded a grant to the Museum to fund “Stepping Out of the Boat,” a multi-media sculpture, to be created with community participation at this year’s Chesapeake Folk Festival on Saturday, July 28. See page 23 for more details.

The Talbot County Arts Council awarded a grant to the Museum

Maryland Life Magazine readers recently voted the Museum as the “Free State’s Finest” in four categories: “Finest Museum,” “Finest Family Fun,” “Finest Sunrise/Sunset,” and “Finest Historic Attraction.” Thank you to all who voted for us!
Barnacle-Encrusted Log Books

by Pete Lesher

When you see barnacles on books, you know there must be a story. Tugboat owner Dennis Berg used these daily diaries as log books aboard Blue Star, one of the two tugs he owned at the time. When interviewed for the new Tug exhibit, Berg recalled, “[The mate-in-training] had been steering most of the time. The captain was there, you know, looking after him, made sure he did right. Just as they went by that lighthouse, he decided—he went down below... and then all of a sudden... it sank in just a few minutes...

I think it was just that guy steering. I don’t know what he did wrong. But anyhow, all of a sudden the rudder went hard over and [the tug was] running light [without a barge in tow], so he turns so far, he keeled over and filled up with water through the engine room doors and sunk. They’re lucky nobody got hurt, but they all got off and were floating there. Fortunately, they just passed a boat with some people fishing a few minutes before that happened. They saw the tug with just the pilothouse sticking out of the water and ran over and saw them. Well, they were drifting off down, and picked them up.”

The son of a Georgetown, Maryland, boatyard owner, Dennis Berg started on a tug with his older brother, but in 1974 he acquired his own tug, Quaker, and went into business as Eastern Shore Marine. Although just a small, family-owned company with two tugs and a few barges, Berg’s Eastern Shore Marine employed a number of people as captain, mate, or deckhand, some of whom are still working in the trade. Berg sold the Quaker and retired in 1992, but his name is still widely known among those in the tugging business on the Chesapeake because of the various people who were somehow connected to him.

Blue Star sank on Sunday, June 19, 1983—in broad daylight on a clear day. It was probably a mistake by a new member of her crew who threw the rudder hard over without cutting back on the throttle, and the tug sank quickly. Her 1983 logbook was rescued with the crew, damp but still legible.

The earlier logs remained aboard until the salvage crew brought her back to the surface, which was clearly long enough for the books to accumulate some barnacles and other marine growth. After Blue Star was raised, Berg chose to purchase another tug, Mustang, rather than put the tug back into shape.

Now Blue Star’s barnacle-encrusted log books—as well as the 1983 log opened to the day of her sudden sinking—are part of the museum’s new exhibit, Push and Pull: Life on Chesapeake Bay Tugboats, now showing in the Steamboat Building.

The exhibit is open daily and is free for members or with paid Museum admission. For more information about the exhibit, visit cbmm.org.

Volunteer Profile: Lloyd Devigne

Several years ago as Lloyd Devigne was reading the local paper, he saw that the Chesapeake Bay Maritime Museum was looking for volunteers and jumped at the chance to become involved. Devigne and his wife Jo Ann moved to the Eastern Shore permanently in 2005. Previously, they split their time between the Jersey Shore and Sarasota, FL, where they both volunteered for the Mote Marine Laboratory, known for its shark research. The Devignes moved to the Eastern Shore to be closer to family. Their fondness for boats and the water made the Eastern Shore an added bonus.

After a day trip to the Museum and a French class with the Academy for Lifelong Learning, Devigne volunteered to lead adult tours, and became the Volunteer Association’s vice president from 2008-2010. In 2007, he began crewing the Museum’s buyboat, Mister Jim, and in 2009, Devigne completed the coursework, test, and sea-time to become a USCG certified captain.

In 2011, he upgraded his license to the master level and is now one of seven captains taking passengers out on Mister Jim throughout the summer season. Although Devigne spends most of his time aboard Mister Jim, he still likes to lead tours whenever possible.

“I love interacting with Museum visitors. It’s a blend of my personal and professional life—talking and presenting to people,” he says. “I love telling the story of the Chesapeake to visitors, and presenting the challenges and the changes that its people and the culture have faced throughout history.”

A native of Glen Rock, NJ, Devigne attended Pennsylvania State University and New York University, earning his MBA in marketing and economics. Following his graduation, Devigne joined the Coast Guard Reserve and was stationed for six months on a tug near New York Harbor’s Governors Island during the Vietnam War.

In 1967 Devigne took a job with IBM, which he held for 25 years, as a sales and marketing executive. In 1991, the Devignes married in a ceremony held on the Eastern Shore, and retired to both the Jersey Shore and Florida. When Devigne isn’t at the Museum, he enjoys traveling and taking trips to Florida and France. Devigne’s grandparents were born in France and he and his wife hope one day to take a month-long visit and completely immerse themselves in French culture. Devigne enjoys fishing and boating and has a strong affinity for power boats.

Devigne says, “I’ve been around boats all my life. I tend to gravitate toward maritime things.”
What’s Fresh?
Seasonal Selections from Education
by Kate Livie

It’s the summer of renewal for the Museum—from the new bulkhead to the restored tug Delaware—there’s the piney smell of fresh lumber and wet paint, and in the education programs, the happy sound of excited kids enjoying brand new ways to learn about the Bay and its people.

Beginning in May, the education department welcomed 300 Talbot County 7th grade students to learn all about False Parks by swinging a caulking mallet, counting fingernail-spat in our oyster nurseries, and hunkering into the coffin bunks aboard the E.C. Collier to get a taste of the life and work surrounding the iconic skipjack.

Meanwhile, at the Hooper Strait Lighthouse, several new instructors familiarized themselves with a newly-restructured Lighthouse Overnight Adventures curriculum, which features new hands-on activities focusing on maritime traditions firsthand. The program is made possible through a generous National Endowment for the Arts grant and provides funding for an artist residency, as well as for the restoration of the skipjack Roxy Parks. This summer’s artist-in-residence is Captain John Garlick, of Easton, MD. Captain Garlick is a recognized trailboard carver whose work graces the Pride of Baltimore II, the Lady Maryland, and the Mildred Boll, to name a few.

Trailboards—wood carvings that “trail” along either side of a ship’s bow—are part of the figurehead sculptural tradition which flourished during the 18th and 19th centuries. During select days in June and July (see our calendar of events on page 21), Captain Garlick will be on-site offering daily carving demonstrations as well as teaching a series of classes. He will also be a presenter at the July 28 Chesapeake Folk Festival. Stop by the Museum this summer and visit with our Chesapeake People demonstrators, and hear their stories and experiences about life on the Bay.

One-on-One with Chesapeake People
by Robert Forloney

Not many people know how to make a dip net. You find even fewer who’ve worked in a seafood packing house or still carve decoys. Even so, understanding this traditional work is important to understanding the history of the Chesapeake Bay. The Center for Chesapeake Studies’ Chesapeake People program offers Museum visitors the chance to talk one-on-one with tradition-bearers as they demonstrate their skills, as well as tell their stories about making a living on the Bay. Through these enriching interactions, visitors get a glimpse of a culture very different than their own.

From Memorial Day through Labor Day on Saturdays from 11am-3pm, Museum visitors can meet local wooden boatbuilders, decoy carvers, and crab pickers, observing Chesapeake Bay maritime traditions firsthand. The program is made possible through a generous National Endowment for the Arts grant and provides funding for an artist residency, as well as for the restoration of the skipjack Roxy Parks. This summer’s artist-in-residence is Captain John Garlick, of Easton, MD. Captain Garlick is a recognized trailboard carver whose work graces the Pride of Baltimore II, the Lady Maryland, and the Mildred Boll, to name a few.

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All That Jazz
by Esty Collet

The Academy for Lifelong Learning (ALL) at the Chesapeake Bay Maritime Museum is pleased to offer two programs this summer which will dovetail with Chesapeake Chamber Music’s upcoming Monty Alexander Jazz Festival. On Friday, June 29, ALL is sponsoring a field trip to the famous music venue, The Mainstay, in Rock Hall. Tom McHugh, founder of The Mainstay, will talk about the history of jazz in America and the founding of this popular gathering place of musicians and enthusiasts.

Following dinner in town, the group will enjoy music by some of the best jazz musicians in the area. Outstanding trumpeter Byron Stripling, who has performed with the Woody Herman Orchestra, Lionel Hampton, and the Count Basie Orchestra, will be the featured performer. On Friday, August 31, the weekend of the jazz festival, ALL welcomes Bill Edgar, PhD, scholar, author and esteemed jazz pianist at the Academy Art Museum in Easton. Edgar, who will be introduced by jazz aficionado Al Sikes, will lead a discussion of the African roots of jazz, and its growth and metamorphosis in our country over the past century and a half.

The program, entitled “Jazz and the African-American Experience,” will include various piano selections by Edgar. The third annual Monty Alexander Jazz Festival takes place in Easton on Labor Day weekend, August 31-September 2, 2012. The 2012 Jazz Festival, to be held at Easton’s historic Avalon Theatre, features legendary Grammy-nominated jazz pianist Monty Alexander, the Festival’s artistic director and namesake. For further information on the Monty Alexander Jazz Festival, visit ChesapeakeJazz.org. For information about ALL’s programs and to register, please call 410-745-2916 or download a catalog online at cbmm.org/all. You can also find ALL on Facebook.
It is a crisp, overcast morning when Master Shipwright Marc Barto opens the door of the big, rugged pickup parked in front of the Boat Shop. Rosie, his yellow lab pup, bounds in and takes her rightful place in the middle of the front bench seat, her eyes wide with anticipation of the road trip about to begin. Shipwright apprentices India Gilham-Westerman and Ken Philips climb into the back seat as Barto fires up the throaty engine of the truck and we wind our way out of the Chesapeake Bay Maritime Museum, towing a tandem-axle flatbed trailer that has seen better days. We are heading to the Paul M. Jones Lumber Company, located about 80 miles southeast in Snow Hill, Maryland, to pick up the thick pine planks that will become the new bottom for the historic skipjack Rosie Parks that Barto and his crew are rebuilding.

“You got to see this place,” Barto says of the Jones complex. “It is bigger than the museum’s campus with wood stacked everywhere.” Barto has ordered the planks cut from Eastern Shore pine to make sure the restored Rosie Parks is as historically accurate as possible.

Almost six decades ago, famed Eastern Shore boatbuilder Bronza Parks went looking for wood for his bustling business in the Dorchester hamlet of Wingate, on the banks of the Honga River. He was building three skipjacks, including the Rosie. Wood was the fabric of his business and he knew it intimately. His daughter, Mary Parks Harding, said her father would walk through tall stands of local pine looking for the right trees to make better boats.

“He looked for local wood because the soil and dampness here, it was better quality wood. I used to go into the woods with my father when he would mark the trees he wanted,” she says. “He would look up a tree and see how far up the first branches started. Then he would pace off several steps and he would lie down. He had me hold up a six-foot ruler at his feet, he was six-feet tall you know, and he would sight up it and know exactly how high up it really was. I learned a lot about geometry from my father.”
Although he never went past the eighth grade, 

**BRONZA PARKS WAS CONSTANTLY READING**, studying books on boat design and ways to

**MAKE BOATS BETTER, FASTER, AND LIGHTER.**

Parks’ boats also have a certain flair. Where other builders made their boats strictly functional, **Parks added touches of style and grace.**

Rosie’s transom, as an example, has the hour-glass curves usually reserved for yachts of the day.

The sun cuts through thick, low clouds as we pull into the Jones lumber yard a few blocks north of the historic Snow Hill Courthouse. The colonial village, located at the head of the Pocomoke River, has no snow and there is nary a mound, let alone a hill. It was chartered in 1660 and settled by Londonderry from the English capital’s Snow Hill section. Logging has always been one of its staples. Harding says she remembers her father talking frequently about getting lumber for his boats from the Pocomoke and Snow Hill area.

“He talked about that a lot,” she says. “But that was a long time ago, so I am just not sure where he got the wood.” A Jones spokesman says they were in business back in 1953, but there’s no way to tell if they sold wood to Bronza Parks back then.

Rosie has been sleeping with her head on Barto’s lap for much of the trip, but as we come to a stop behind the Jones office, she is in a hurry to get out of the truck. Barto no sooner opens his door and the yellow lab is out dashing off. Standing inside the shop, inside and out, she recalls. He had the innate and uncanny ability to see a boat in three dimensions. For Bronza in 1955, boatbuilding was second nature. He could see the lines, proportion, and place to make sure the vessel was sound and swift. “He built these racks to store the wood and it was sort of crisscrossed. We used to play inside them. Dad used to pay some local boys to stack the wood. When one of them needed some extra money, he knocked a pile over and paid him to restack it.”

For Barto, getting the lumber from the yard is as important as getting it cut in ways that Bronza Parks put into his boats—clear and abundant. “He always had stacks of wood around ‘em dressed and took ‘em on down to Wingate,” she recalls. "This looks like good, clear wood," he says. "He talked about that a lot," she says. “But that was a long time ago, so I am just not sure where he got the wood.” A Jones spokesman says they were in business back in 1953, but there’s no way to tell if they sold wood to Bronza Parks back then.

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For Barto, getting the lumber from the same place as Bronza Parks is not as important as getting it cut in ways similar to the wood Parks used to build the *Rozic*. The long side and bottom pine planks have a smooth, finished look and feel. The white oak ribs and internal supports, however, are cut by a rougher, circular saw that has left its teeth marks on the original wood. The original saw marks from a Spicer mill are still clearly visible on the exposed keel log that runs the length of the boat.

“Tuckahoe Mill and installed next to the big white vinyl tent where Barto’s crew has just completed planking the sides of the Rozic Park—giving the old skipjack a new, wrinkle-free skin. His dog, Rosie, chases shadows and sniffs her way around the Boatyard, gawning at a favorite stick and then dashing off. Standing inside the bottomless hull, Barto points to the white oak ribs that were cut at the Tuckahoe Mill and installed next to some of the original ribs that have been preserved. Side by side, they are indistinguishable. The original saw marks from a Spicer mill are still clearly visible on the exposed keel log that runs the length of the boat.

“This is one tree that was 56 feet long,” Barto says, rubbing his hand along the grain of the great squared off pine log. “If this log had been compromised, we wouldn’t have been able to do the project, but it is solid as a rock.”

For Barto, the Rozic Parks project has become as much archeology as it is carpentry. Recreating the subtle detail that Bronza Parks put into his boats has been a challenge. “At first it scared the heck out of me,” he confesses. “I was afraid to take anything apart. But now I am not afraid anymore. It is all coming together.”
All these things are embodied in those gorgeously red and viciously callinectes sapidus, hints at some of the other, more subtle characteristics symbolized by our native sideways swimmer—it means “Beautiful Swimmer That Tastes Good.” There, right in the name, is the first, obvious thing we all immediately recognize—that crabs are good, tasty food—the food most commonly asked for by Maryland visitors, summertime or not. But the “beautiful swimmer” can seem like a bit of a misnomer until you poke around under the Old Bay. There’s a lot more to crabs, the process that got them to your picnic table, and the customs surrounding how we enjoy them, than most of us ever consider or imagine. Crabs are a symbol of pleasant living, sure, but they are also a modern-day survivor of much older Chesapeake traditions, history, and the Bay environment of the past. First, take a closer look at a live blue crab if you want to observe an animal whose form directly reflects the Chesapeake’s environment. Sure, the red cooked carapace is pretty (and rings a Pavlovian hunger pang in most of us), but that rich, vibrant blue of the claws, the Bay-toned camouflage of the top shell, and the glistening white of the underbelly are like a tidewater firework. Color-coded to be invisible from the top, and pearly white where they touch the Chesapeake’s sandy bottom, the blue-green kaleidoscope of their tinted shell perfectly lends to the crab’s Bay habitat.

The construction of the blue crab form is another example of its beautifully-evolved functionality. Powerful front claws defend, menace, and form a sort of directional tiller, while strong back fins propel the crabs tirelessly from the mouth of the Chesapeake, where they start their lives as zooplankton, to the shallow grassy river bottoms that serve as their sparking spots and marriage beds. ‘Beautifully evolved’ also describes the centuries-old relationship watermen have developed working with crabs, observing their life cycles, eating and mating habits, watching them scoot off in the water when they see a shadow, or how they’re drawn in by the smell of a mature male or female of their ilk. Watermen have refined their technique by noting even the smallest physical changes that indicate a window for maximum profit.

Looking for “the sign” is a classic technique, wherein a waterman looks for an impossibly thin red line on a crab’s backfin that shows up when a crab is about to near the end of its molting cycle. This sign also indicates that hard crab, worth maybe $1 to $2 retail, is about to transform into a soft crab, doubling its value to $3 to $5. It’s a bright red little hazeline of pure profit to a waterman who knows where to look, and it reflects generations of working summer after summer surrounded by growing bushels of grabbing, waving, scrubbing crabs.

The techniques surrounding the crab harvest can be things of beauty, but so are some of the traditions developed around how we enjoy eating them. In particular, adding flavoring to a pot of crabs while steaming is a long-standing custom, older even than the widespread trend of crabs as the go-to Maryland seafood, which started in the early 20th century as the oyster market declined. Beer and cider, for example, are frequent additions to the water for steaming—a foodways holdover from the 18th and 19th centuries. No batch of Chesapeake blue crabs is complete without the classic Old Bay spice mix generously frosted over the whole lot while in the pot, so that it comes off the red shell in thick sheets as the biggest crabs are unearthed from the table’s mound.

Named after the “Old Bay” steamboat line, Old Bay was trademarked in the 1940’s by Gustav Brunn, a German immigrant from Baltimore. At the time, crabs were so plentiful and ubiquitous that bars frequently offered them to patrons for free, and salty, spicy seasonings like Old Bay were served on crabs to encourage customers to buy more beer. The tradition of using spices to add “heat” to your crabs goes back before the 1940’s. One particular flavoring, fish peppers, can be traced to a specific Bay location and culture.
Fish peppers bear a striped fruit that packs quite a wallop of heat. Developed by 19th-century Chesapeake African Americans in the Washington DC area, fish peppers were used primarily as a spice for seafood, and when crabs went into the cookpot in homes along the Potomac during the 1800s, a fistful of these vengeful little peppers got tossed in as well. Over time, this piquant and delicious custom transcended cultural lines and was adopted throughout the Chesapeake.

Old Bay and other fiery crab seasonings reflect the blistering influence of the fish pepper, and today give reason to why we prefer our crabs not just to be served hot, but to taste hot, as well. Crabs are not just a food in the Chesapeake Bay, but the conveyance of a venerable series of traditions that underscore the fundamental place seafood and the Bay itself have in our identity, our culture, and our stomachs.

So, the next time you turn over your basket of piping hot crabs on a picnic table, dislodge the biggest and fattest, and aim that claw meat dusted with Old Bay towards your eager mouth, think for a moment about the icon that is the Chesapeake Blue crab. Perfectly constructed to swim from the ocean to a river near you, plucked from its eelgrass habitat by a waterman who knows just how it’s done, cooked up in a brine that our colonial predecessors might have enjoyed, and sprinkled with an intense peppery seasoning influenced by the foodways of slaves, the ‘beautiful swimmer’ truly reflects the legacy of the Chesapeake and its people.

Want more? Come to the Museum and see the history of crabbing unfold among many of our exhibits. Better yet, come to Watermen’s Appreciation day on Sunday, August 12 for a crabfeast!

Rosie Parks
Progress continues at a fast pace on the skipjack Rosie Parks. After completing the planking and attaching the rub rails, Rosie’s coverboards were put on. Rosie’s crew has now turned its attention to attaching the deck planks. Follow Rosie’s progress by liking us on Facebook, watching our updates on YouTube, or reading our blog, Chesapeakeboats.blogspot.com.

Delaware
(left) The Tug Delaware, circa 1925 in Laurel, DE. (right) Delaware after restoration in April, 2012, docked along Fogg’s Cove during the opening of the new “Push and Pull: Life on Chesapeake Bay Tugboats” exhibit.

Work on Delaware continued at a fast pace and included new cabin sides, new sole sections down below, refurbished windows, the installation of a porthole to bring Delaware back to her original appearance, and various cosmetic enhancements, including a complete paint job. Delaware was relaunched in April, and is now ready to tour the ports of Maryland in celebration of her 100th birthday.

Around the Boatyard
All the vessels in the Museum’s collection received their annual maintenance including minor repairs and fresh coats of paint. In addition, the pushboat for the Edna E. Lockwood was reattached.

Work continues on the Potomac River Dory Boat—the shaft log has now been fit and the new keelson is being faired to shape. Once done, the crew can move on to framing. In the Apprentice For a Day public boatbuilding program, the North Shore Sailing Dinghy was completed in late May and is scheduled to be launched in mid-June.

The AFAD North Shore Sailing Dinghy is nearly finished and ready to go in the water.
**Calendar**

**Free Daily Events**
Memorial Day through Labor Day
(with paid admission, free for members)

**PUBLIC TOURS**
Fridays & Saturdays, 11am & 2pm
45-minute highlights tour.

**WATERFRAM’S WHARF**
Everyday, 11am-3pm
Docent interpretation.

**CHESAPEAKE PEOPLE**
Saturdays, 11am-3pm
Visit with authentic Chesapeake People who share their stories.

**FAMILY DROP-INS**
Thursdays & Fridays, 2-4pm
Kid themed, hands-on activities (crafts or tours).

**BOATYARD SKILLS DEMONSTRATIONS**
Mondays & Fridays, 1:30pm
Learn a traditional boatyard skill from a trained shipwright.

**COMMUNITY WORK DAYS: BOATYARD SKILLS**
Saturdays, 10am-12noon, and 1-4pm
Work under the guidance of a master shipwright to help rebuild the skijack Rosie Parks.

**SAILING SATURDAYS**
June 9, July 14, August 11, Sept. 15
with two daily sailing sessions from 10am-12noon, and 1-4pm
$10 per session
Try your hand at sailing our Pride of Baltimore II, Mildred Belle, Lady Maryland, and Vikings on the Chesapeake.

**MISTER JIM CRUISES**
Fridays, Saturdays, Sundays, Mondays
12noon, 1pm, 2pm & 3pm
$10 per person
Climb aboard the buyboat Mister Jim for a scenic cruise on the Miles River.

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**june/july/august**

**Summer Sailing Program**
June – August
Explore the Miles River and learn maritime skills in our Summer Sailing Program, where new sailors and old salts gain the confidence to sail a small boat in a fun, safe, and encouraging environment. Pre-registration required, contact Helen Van Fleet at 410-745-4941.

**Junior Sailing, ages 8-16**
Mon.-Fri., 8:30am-noon or 1-4:30pm
$200 members, $225 non-members
Visit the “Learn” section of cbmm.org for a list of dates.

**Adult & Teen Basic Sailing Weekend**
Sat. & Sun., July 14-15 and August 4-5, 1:430pm
$200 members, $225 non-members

**Boater Safety Courses**
June 12 & 13, July 17 & 18, August 14 & 15
6-10pm, $25 per two evening session
Maryland boaters born after July 1, 1972 are required to have a Certificate of Boating Safety Education. The certificate is obtained by passing a Department of Natural Resources-approved course, and is good for life. The course is a great way to become a more confident and competent boater. Pre-registration required, contact Helen Van Fleet at 410-745-4941.

**Trailboarding Carving Workshops**
June 22, 6-9pm, June 23, 9am-5pm, June 24, 9am-3pm, or July 20, 6-9pm, July 21, 9am-5pm, July 22, 9am-3pm
$40 members, $50 non-members for all three sessions.
Children 12 and up welcome to register with adult chaperone.
Contact Helen Van Fleet to register at 410-745-4941.

**Craftsman and Captain John T. Garlick will be leading these three-day workshops teaching participants the techniques and artistry of Chesapeake trailboarding carving. Garlick has carved pieces for Pride of Baltimore II, the Lady Maryland, and the Mildred Belle. Over the course of the program, students develop the concepts and skills needed to make their own号boat models depicting unique, Chesapeake watercraft will also be on display, including Sea Skiffs, Owens cabin cruisers, and Whirlwind sport boats. The competition educates young girls and boys about the award-winning qualities of preserved and restored classic boats. Along the Fogg’s Landing side of CBMM’s campus, the festival’s “Field of Dreams” offers an array of restorable classic boats and motors, along with other items for sale in a nautical flea market.

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**Pride of Baltimore II Visit**
Thursday, June 21 & Friday, June 22
Tours available to Museum visitors
An 1812-era topsail schooner privateer reproduction, Pride of Baltimore II is Maryland’s working symbol of the great natural resources and spectacular beauty of the Chesapeake Bay region.

**Vikings on the Chesapeake**
Friday, June 22-Sunday, June 24
Free for members with paid admission
The Leif Ericson Viking Ship Newman, a half-scale replica of the famous Gokstad ship, offers Museum visitors a real-life look at a Viking ship and the type of people who sailed them.

**Log Canoe Cruise**
Saturday, June 23
1pm, $20 members; $25 non-members. RSVP to Helen Van Fleet at 410-745-4941.
Join Assistant Curator for Watercraft Richard Scofield for an afternoon watching the log canoe races on the Miles River from the Museum’s replica buyboat, Mister Jim. Scofield will share his own experience racing, building, and Growing up with log canoes.

**Big Band Night/Fireworks**
Saturday, June 30 (raindate: July 1)
Fireworks: raindate: July 7
7-10pm, Tolchester Beach Bandstand
$5 members, $10 non-members
Enjoy Jazzy big band sounds at this special Independence Day celebration. Stay into the evening and watch the St. Michael’s fireworks over the Miles River.

Generously sponsored by The Talbot Bank, Wye Financial & Trust, and Avon Dixon Insurance Agency.

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**june**

**229th Maryland Army National Guard Band**
Tuesday, June 12
7pm, Free, bring chairs & blankets
The acclaimed 229th Maryland Army National Guard Band performs patriotic music selections spanning a number of eras and genres. Museum members enjoy refreshments served at a special VIP hospitality area during the concert.
**Chesapeake Folk Festival**

**Saturday, July 28**

10am-5pm, free for members and children under five, $15 adults, $12 seniors, $6 children ages 6-17

This celebration of the Bay’s people, traditions, work, and food offers a unique chance to enjoy a full stage of live music all day long, hands-on demonstrations by regional craftspersons, and interactive activities for festival goers. “Treasures of the Bay...Hidden in Plain Sight” is this year’s theme, highlighting Chesapeake traditions off the beaten path. Attendees will delve into Bay customs, from creating an eel pot, to mending a gill net, to stitching a calico star on a quilt. Visitors of all ages can explore the stories and skills of tug and barge workers, learn about the real-life world of today’s Chesapeake Native Americans, discover the connections between Mexican posole and Patapcino hominy, and learn how to make their own tortillas.

Helping the Girl Scouts celebrate their 100th anniversary, the Festival will feature the summertime games and songs of yesteryear and today. Grandparents and children alike can take part in a hasher tug of war and revive themselves by bobbing for peaches. An artisan’s tent will feature craftwork and fine art from regional artists, which will be on display and available for purchase.

New to the Folk Festival and highlighting this year’s event is a special hands-on, multi-media sculpture project which festival goers will be invited to help create. Made possible by a generous grant from the Talbot County Arts Council, the “Stepping Out of the Boat” project will be led by noted mosaic artists Sue Stockman and Bobby Malzone, paper-mâché folk artist “Mama Girl” Mary Onley, and wood carver Eric Applegarth. People representing the central ethnic groups who have shaped Chesapeake culture will be represented in the artwork, as well as the flora and fauna of the Bay. Slices of juicy watermelon and cantaloupe, fresh local corn, soft crabs, barbeque chicken, ice cream, lemonade, frosty beer, and other food are available.

The historic Tolchester Beach Bandstand will host five bands throughout the day, including the Royal Oak Musicians, the Northern Neck Shanty Singers, and the boogie woogie piano sounds of Daryl Davis, accompanied by the voice of Sonbarkin’s founder, Karen Somerville. The day’s music culminates with a performance by a regional favorite and all-woman group, the Zen Monkeys, who close out the stage with high-energy folk, rock, and funk with guitar, mandolin, and washboard.

Spanning 18-waterfront acres, the festival provides a mix of indoor and outdoor activities, including screenings of Maryland Public Television’s Chesapeake Bay Week programming in the Museum’s Van Lennep Auditorium. Cooling stations will be set up around campus as well. The event is presented in partnership with Maryland Traditions and is generously sponsored by Maryland Public Television, What’s Up! Publishing, and Pepsi Bottling Ventures.

**Watermen’s Appreciation Day & Crab Feast**

**Sunday, August 12**

10am-5pm. General admission $25 for adults, $16 for children ages 6-17. Museum members are $15 for adults, $6 for children ages 6-17. $15 for licensed Watermen. Admission includes crab feast, hot dogs, hamburgers, soda/water.

Kids under six free.

Meet Chesapeake watermen as they celebrate their heritage at the 3rd Annual Watermen’s Appreciation Day & Crab Feast. Enjoy hot crabs, cold beer, a boat docking contest, and live music by Bird Dog and the Road Kings.

Coming back to this year’s event is reality TV star Edgar Hansen, from the Discovery Channel’s “Deadliest Catch.” Hansen, of the fishing vessel Northwestern—will be available for autographs and plans to be a passenger aboard one of the boats in the docking contest. The event is hosted by the Talbot County Watermen’s Association in cooperation with the Chesapeake Bay Maritime Museum. Beginning at 11am, you can watch professionals in a spirited “Watermen’s Rodeo” boat docking contest along Fogg’s Cove. Following the boat docking contest, around 3:30pm, festival attendees can participate in a jigger throwing contest and earn bragging rights for the fairest toss. At noon, the day’s catch of crabs will be steamed and served in a traditional Maryland crab feast, with a live concert featuring the Eastern Shore’s favorite band, Bird Dog and the Road Kings. Hot dogs, hamburgers, ice cream, cake, and snow cones will also be available.

Kids and families will enjoy games and activities throughout the day, including model boat building and more. Free boat rides on the Museum’s replica buyboat, Mister Jim, will be available every half hour from 10:30 to 4:30pm. You can also bid on a number of items in the Watermen’s Association’s silent auction alongside the Museum’s Small Boat Shed, which includes artwork by Marc Castelli. Bids will be taken until 4:30pm, with proceeds supporting oyster restoration projects on the Bay.

**CBMM/Sultana Paddling Programs**

**Thursday, July 12 & Thursday, August 9**

7pm, free for members, $5 non-members. RSVP to Helen Van Fleet, 410-745-4941

Join Director of Education Kate Livie for a closer look at Waterman’s Wharf and the Maryland Crabman Museum exhibits. Discover how a waterman can tell when a crab is a “buster” or a “buckram,” and what it means to their bottom line. Talk to a real crab picker and hear stories about her life and the techniques of the packing house, chat about ghost pots, Jimmies and Baddies, and working on the Bay today.

**CBMM/Sultana Women’s Woodworking Programs**

**Wednesday, August 22**

7pm, free. CBMM/Boatshop

Join shipwright apprentice Jenn Kuhn for an informal review of the Apprentice For a Day boatbuilding program and find out what’s new and what to expect when you sign up.

**Women’s Woodworking**

**July 10, 12, 17, & 19, 6-8pm**

Cost for all four sessions: $60 members, $75 non-members. Must be 18 or older unless accompanied by an adult. RSVP to Helen Van Fleet, 410-745-4941

Join CBMM’s women shipwrights for a ladies only class in the basics of woodworking. No prior experience is necessary. Learn the foundational skills, tools, and techniques of carpentry.

**Learn About AFAD**

**Thursday, August 23**

5pm, free. CBMM/Boatshop

Join musician and photographer John Mock as he performs an evening of original compositions on the guitar, concertina, and tin whistle, all accompanied by a photographic slideshow documenting the maritime vistas that inspire this music.

**St. Michaels Concours d’Elegance**

**Sunday, September 2 • 5:30-11pm**

**Boating Party Gala Fundraiser**

**Saturday, September 1 • 11am-2pm**

**30th Mid-Atlantic Small Craft Festival**

**Saturday & Sunday, October 6 & 7 • 10am-5pm**

**Maritime Monster Mash**

**Saturday, November 3 • 10am-4pm**
BUY A BOAT
and help support the
Chesapeake Bay Maritime Museum’s
BOAT DONATION PROGRAM

Visit cbmm.org for a complete list of boats for sale.

Contact Boat Donations Program Manager
Lad Mills at 410-745-4942 or lmills@cbmm.org

Inventory subject to change
St. Michaels, Maryland • 410-745-2916

MARK YOUR CALENDARS
15th Annual Charity Boat Auction
LABOR DAY WEEKEND • September, 1, 2012
Gates open at 8am; auction begins at 1pm

Boating experts and novices alike have the same opportunity to bid on the boat of their dreams, from wooden rowing skiffs to classic sailboats, modern power cruisers, and more.