

The Broadside



The voice of The Mathews Maritime Foundation

*Museum Located at 482 Main Street, Mathews, VA Mail to PO Box 1201, Mathews, VA 23109 804-725-4444
on the web at www.mathewsmaritime.com*

The Year in Review...

Throughout 2014 the Foundation continued on its mission to preserve and protect Mathews County's rich maritime and cultural heritage. This we accomplish through Foundation sponsored programs like the Kids Kayak Camp, Chesapeake Bay Days, the Urbanna Oyster Festival's Marine Education Day, and our monthly speaker meetings.

Peggy Endowment Donation...

Local artist Jane Partin created an original painting of the Deckboat "Peggy," the flagship of Mathews County. She plans to sell prints of the painting, as well as the painting itself, with a portion of the proceeds going to the Peggy Endowment Fund. We thank Jane with gratitude for her generous contribution to the Foundation.



Jane Partin with Peggy painting

Museum Still Growing...

The Mathews Maritime Museum continues to grow with generous donations from the people of Mathews. We now have acquired over 2,000 artifacts. Mathews men have served in a wide range of maritime activities from our local waters to around the world. The museum's goal is to preserve these histories and traditions and pass them on to future generations.

One of the more unique items received in 2014 was a W II bracelet (pictured below) that belonged to Capt. Cambell made from the propeller of a downed Jet-Powered German Messerschmitt fighter plane. The bracelet was given to the Museum by Ann Miles.



Captain Campbell and bracelet

The museum also sells quality books by local authors. We have three books from Jim Brown, whose designs have helped to shape the history of today's multihulls, and who is in the cruising hall of fame. We also have two books

Keeping the Past in the Present Preserving it for the Future

written by Gilbert Klingel, who was a naturalist, explorer, inventor, sailor, and boatbuilder. He was a pioneer in underwater research and built his own diving equipment including a submersible for the National Geographic Society. And we also have an historical perspective of the bay from 1925 to 1975 titled "Chesapeake Sailing Craft" by Robert Burgess. Mr. Burgess was curator of exhibits at the Mariner's Museum in Newport News.

The Museum is located at 482 Main St., Mathews Court House, VA., and open from May through November, Fridays and Saturdays, 10 AM to 2 PM, if volunteers are available. The Museum can be opened for a tour or special event if arranged in advance. Call the Museum at 804-725-4444 or Dennis Crawford at 804-725-9088 or Marcy Benouameur at 804-725-5668.

Article by Dennis Crawford, Curator

Donor Boat Program...

2014 was a good year for this program. Twenty five boats were sold bringing in \$41,725. Boats sold ranged in size from a 14' wooden skiff to a 42' Chesapeake deadrise. The oldest boat sold was a circa 1960 Alcott Sailfish.

Dave Machen is to be thanked for his efforts above and beyond in preparing many of these boats for presentation to prospective buyers. Dave's expertise with engines and their workings has been a major factor in the sale of these boats.

All donor boats for sale are listed on our web site <www.mathewsmaritime.com> for anyone looking to buy a boat. Contact Pete Hall at 804-693-9335 or Dave Machen at 804-815-4367 for additional information or to see the boats close up. All are located at our Gwynn's Island Boat Shop.

Speaker Meetings...

The 2014 MMF Lecture Series provided a wide range of topics by professionals in their field. Open to the public, these are presented in the winter months, usually on the third Thursday of the month, at 7 PM, in the MMF Museum. Topics are announced in the Gloucester-Mathews Gazette Journal and emailed to mem-

bers prior to each event. Thoroughly enjoyed this year were the following topics:

On Jan. 16th ~ David Krop, Director of the U.S.S. Monitor Center at the Mariner's Museum in Newport News, presented the history and current status of this iconic warship.

On Feb. 20th ~ George Harrison presented a program on the use of Computer Aided Ship Building and Design in the construction of an aircraft carrier.

On Oct. 17th ~ Wes Jones presented a slide show of his East and West transatlantic crossings including a dismasting off the coast of Spain.

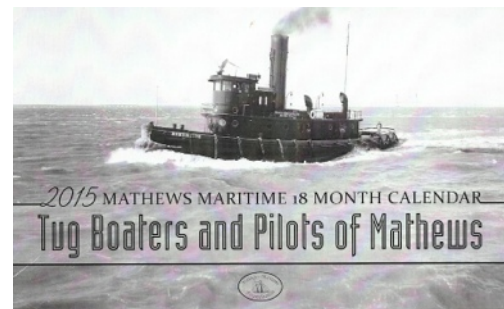
On Nov. 20th ~ Dr. Carl Hobbs described the many factors that can influence Sea Level Rise.

On Dec. 11th ~ Mr. Charlie Finley's slide show of his raft trip on the Colorado River through the Grand Canyon.

2015 Maritime Calendar...

The publication of the 2015 calendar marks the 10th year the Mathews Maritime Foundation and Museum has produced a calendar about the maritime history and people of Mathews as they relate to the water.

This year's theme is Tug Boaters and Pilots of Mathews. There were so many men we went to an 18 month calendar format and still could not include them all. So, we plan to include the rest in Volume II next year.



Once again Nancy Lindgren, Editor and Grace Metzger Forrest, graphic design artist have produced a calendar, of which to be very proud. To publicize the calendar an exhibit of the many photos of the tuggers and pilots was erected at the museum. In November a reception was held at the Museum to thank all who

shared their photos and the stories they represent.

Reception for tuggers and pilots at MMF Museum



Calendars are on sale at the Mathews Visitors Center and from the Mathews Maritime Museum's online gift shop at <mathewsmaritime.com>.

Eighth Annual Chesapeake Bay Day...

Crabs, oysters, caulking mallets, swords and steamboats. What do they all have in common? Chesapeake Bay Day!

Sponsored by the Mathews Maritime Foundation, Chesapeake Bay Day is a day when sixth grade students at Thomas Hunter Middle School learn about the Bay and maritime activities from the past to the present. Visiting different stations, the young people were taught how to tie knots and identify crabs. Tidewater Soil and Water Conservation District representatives demonstrated how yard runoff pollutes the water and the Tidewater Oyster Gardeners Association explained how oysters clean the water.

The Coast Guard Auxiliary Flotilla 66 informed the kids on boating safety and in the proper way to don a PFD, personal flotation device. "Shipbuilding Tools and Traditions" allowed students to caulk a seam using a caulking mallet and iron, cut lumber with a 2 person cross cut saw, and plane a board. County planners stressed the need to protect the Bay; and the Archaeological Society of VA, Middle Peninsula Chapter exhibited artifacts discovered on Mathews' shores.

Janet Burgess and Jim Warren portray passenger and Steamboat Captain



Costumed interpreters presented a vignette of "Steamboat Days". Weaving a story of travel by steamboat from Norfolk and Baltimore to Mathews in the early 20th century, the students learned about the cargo transported between the wharves and the hazards of such travel.

Students at the Oyster Tonging station got to experience what it is like to tong for oysters. Climbing to the top of a platform, the students tried to catch oyster shells using long handled tongs and then transfer them to a basket.

Local Waterman Kevin Godsey with oyster tonging kids



"The Chesapeake Bay Day is an opportunity for young people to experience the past and develop an appreciation of the maritime heritage of Mathews County", said Janet Burgess, coordinator of this annual event. "The preservation of the Chesapeake Bay is also paramount in the instruction, as the students will inherit the next generation of the Bay's environment. We are appreciative to all the organizations which participated and have a similar interest in preserving the maritime history of this area."

Peggy at Ninety...

Do you know anyone who is ninety years old? Have they begun to slow down yet? Imagine the shape they'd be in if they had lived their entire life out-of-doors. We have a local example of a life so lived; one launched here ninety years ago. She has been known as *PEGGY of New Point, VA* throughout all of her years. Now she is ready to embark upon a new phase of her career, one that shall see her well beyond her 100th birthday.

During this past year, final touches have been completed to the various structural renovations aboard *PEGGY*. She was hauled at

Deltaville Boatyard for hull painting, some caulking and planking repairs. Then she received a donation of an authentic working boom or gaff, from the Eastern Shore Waterman's Museum. Next, *PEGGY* went to Poquoson for some work by the master shipwright Captain David Rollins and his superbly talented son, Dan. They completed her waist and installed four chain plates and a stem cap to support her mast. Finally, in October, her original mast was re-stepped at Morningstar Marina on Milford Haven.

Once again, *PEGGY* was invited to participate in both the Urbanna Oyster Festival and Marine Education Day for Middlesex County schools. This year, it was with special pride that *PEGGY* made this voyage up the Rappahannock River to the historic town of Urbanna, for the opportunity to showcase a glimpse of the maritime heritage of Mathews County.

As the New Year was rung in, Mathews Maritime Foundation's volunteers voiced enthusiasm for the role that *PEGGY* of New Point, VA shall play from now on. Her needs for routine maintenance will be ongoing, but now she will travel to harbors throughout the tidewater to share the maritime history of Mathews County and to introduce people of today's generation to the lives and values of their predecessors. This "mission-work" will find the *PEGGY* on display in harbors up and down the Bay, at waterfront festivals and events where crowds gather to celebrate the "salt-life".

How about you? Can you see yourself joining us in such a gratifying effort? We need people to help this effort along. Mathews has much to take pride in when the story of our boat builders, merchant seamen and seafood harvesters is told. There are signs and story boards to be made, decorating work to be performed, vessel crews to be taxied to and fro by automobile, memorabilia tables to be staffed, as well as, words to be spoken to students of all ages about the ways of days gone by.

You can Help! Please respond to George Pongonis <sealordsupreme@mac.com> with questions regarding *PEGGY* or with your desire

to become part of the "Peggy" Crew."

Kids Kayak Camp

The 2014 Kids Kayak & Conservation Camp took place the first week of August from 8:30 to 4:30 each day. The camp was located on the East River in Bohannon and was based at the West Mathews Civic League building. It was open to all middle school students in grades 5-8. The minimum age limit was 10 as of April 1, 2014. One of the requirements was to be able to swim.

Last summer we had one of the most successful kayak camps ever. Everything went very smoothly and some of the children were fortunate enough to have the unexpected opportunity to kayak with the dolphins that just happened to be on the East River at the time.

Most of the kids who came to kayak camp this year had already done a bit of paddling prior to the camp and even those who had never been in a kayak before were very quick to learn. We were amazed at how soon they were able to move on to advanced safety skills such as water rescues.



Kayakers practicing rescue techniques

This kayak camp offered much more than learning kayaking skills. Though half of the time during the day was given to kayaking, the other half was the conservation side of it. The water activities included paddling, safety instruction, and some maritime history while out on the water. The land activities included environmental studies, marine science, and conservation.

The kids learned about recycling, safety at sea, and first aid. They also learned about ar-

chaeology by doing a dig around the grounds of the old Civic League building. Surprisingly enough, they actually found some artifacts. For crafts the kids made water scopes and minnow nets.

This year there was a special treat. Trey Sowers took the kids out on his deadrise boat for a trip on the East River. While there, they were told about aquaculture. By displaying an old boat no longer on the water, MMF members Dave Machen and Dave Montgomery could show the kids how a deadrise boat is constructed. There was all this and much more.

The camp was sponsored by the Mathews Maritime Foundation and Mobjack Kayaking with Dianne Campbell as the well-qualified kayaking instructor. She was assisted by volunteers who were experienced kayakers from Mathews and around the Middle Peninsula. Water safety was never an issue since there were always two or three adults out on the water with the children.



Kayakers rafting up

This was a very well-organized camp and thanks to Janet Burgess and the many volunteers and instructors, much fun was had by all.

At the end of the week the parents came to see the progress their children had made and they were quite impressed. Some were so impressed that there were three letters to the editor in the Gazette-Journal the week following the camp. They expressed their gratitude about how the camp had helped their children or grandchildren gain confidence and skills on the water and knowledge of many different subjects about the environment and conservation while on land.

Article by Marcy Benouameur

Keeping the Past in the Present Preserving it for the Future

Peggy at Urbanna Festival...

Peggy participated in the Urbanna Oyster Festival and the Festival's Marine Education Day for Middlesex County schools that was given on Nov.6th, the day before the Festival.

Inclement weather at the Urbanna waterfront forced the education events to be moved to the Christ Church's Field House. We were one of several "stations" that highlighted the maritime heritage of this area.

At our station, coordinated by George Pongonis, using the specialized materials built by Dave Machen, and assisted by Dennis Crawford, students were introduced to the art of pound net fishing through the use of photo displays and first hand experience by the presenter.

This talk was followed by a hands-on experience as the students cut logs using a two-man saw. Approximately 240 students participated before the day was done.



Middlesex Students using the two man saw

Peggy Poker Run...

The Foundation held a poker run on Saturday, May 3rd the proceeds from which to be put toward *Peggy's* restoration. Bikers from Mathews, Gloucester, Hampton, Newport News and Richmond participated in this day long event that culminated with a crab picking buffet at our Boat Shop on Gwynn's Island.

The weather was great for a bike ride, the crabs were robust and plentiful for good eating, and a good time was had by all. See the picture of the crab pickers on the mast head of this issue of *The Broadside*.

Foundation Financial Position...

Here is a summarized statement of the Foundations Activities for the year 2014. It is presented here to give you a picture of our financial position and well being.

The Foundation continues to support its mission to preserve and protect Mathews County's rich maritime and cultural heritage through research, conservation, documentation and education 2014.

Statement of Activities

Revenue

Contributions	\$16,930.
Grants	754.
Boat Donor Program	41,725.
Gwynn's Island Boat Shop	3,520.
Gift Shop	5,479.
Membership Dues	2,435.
Special Events	<u>1,638.</u>
Total	\$72,481.

Expenses

Educational Programs	\$ 3,673.
Boat Donor Program	4,641.
Insurance	6,474.
Building Rental	10,800.
Building -Equip. & Repairs	156.
Utilities	2,636.
Peggy Restoration	10,230.
Museum Operations	3,493.
Membership Development	562.
COGS	<u>1,053.</u>
Total	\$43,718.

Change in Net Assets \$28,763.

Summarized Statement of Financial Position

As of December 31, 2012

Assets:

Cash & Equivalents	\$ 31,224.
Peggy Endowment Fund	31,056.
MV Peggy	85,000.
Other Assets	<u>6,604.</u>
Total	\$154,884.

Liability & Equity

Accounts Payable	\$ 288.
Equity	<u>154,596.</u>
Total	\$154,884.

The Foundation now has a profile on The Community Foundation Serving Richmond and Central Virginia web site. To view profile go to...

<http://giverichmond.guidestar.org/NonprofitProfile.aspx?OrgId=1047401>

If you wish to make a donation to the Foundation you may do so when viewing our profile.

Contributors to MMF in 2014...

Our sincere thanks to the following for their continued support of the Foundation and Museum.

Foundation/Corporation Donations & Matching Gifts . . .

Exxon/Mobile Foundation
Community Foundation

Donations/Contributions of \$5,000 or more

Janet J. Abbott
T. Parker Host, Jr. Estate

Donations/Contributions of \$ 1,000 - \$ 4,999

Robert Bosley
Brooks M. Casey
Henry D. Furniss
Allan Harris
Richard Hollerith, Jr.
Carolyn B. Hudgins
Thomas W. McGraw
Michael B. Murphy
Nancy Greer Pledger
Wayne Pulley
Rodney J. Schulz
Karen B. Williams

Donations/Contributions of \$500 - \$ 999

Janine Burns
Susan Carlile
James R.V. Daniel
Ray Fleischer
Nathan Houser
Rodney Parsons
David Roberts
LTC Francis A. Roy USAF RET
Wallace Twigg

Donations/Contributions
of \$100 - \$ 499

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Mr.&Mrs. Paul Blanock
Ann Clark
Bruce Carghill
Boyd & Sandra Collier
Dennis Crawford
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Elsa C. Verbyla
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Donations/Contributions
of Under \$ 100

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Mr.&Mrs. Earl Thumma, Jr.
Wallace B. Twigg, Jr.
Erma H. Webb
Steve Whiteway
Mr.&Mrs. Doug Wilton
Paul Zahn

Donations/Contributions
in Memory of . . .

Captain Jack Stillman
Nancy Lindgren
Sylvia Cannon
Warren & June Shipley
Mathews Post No.83
Kathy Freeman
Richard Hollerith
Mr.&Mrs. John B. Moughon
Mr.&Mrs. Donald E. Koonce

Leslie Edward Croxton, Jr.
Bethel United Methodist Church
Erma H. Webb
Dinah Ashberry
Burley Ball, Jr.
Paul & Jane Blanock

Robert "Willie" Callis
Kent & Kathy Hardee
Robert & Carol Nelms
Otto & Laura Shreaves, Jr.
Nancy Lindgren
Peggy S. Reynolds

Tom Colvin
Nancy Lindgren
Elsa Verbyla
William K. Wills

More Exposure for MMF...

We have added two new features to our MMF online presence this year, a Facebook page and a blog for the Peggy, both which are helping to boost our group's exposure to the local community and beyond.

You can follow both of these, receiving posts to your email or phone if you like, and get the latest info as soon as it is posted. Check out these features through the links on our home page, www.mathewsmaritime.com, or directly at <https://www.facebook.com/mathewsmaritime> for Facebook, and for Peggy's blog go to <http://peggyofnewpoint.blogspot.com/>. Like our page, sign up to receive posts, share with your friends, and get social with us!

And don't forget, you can always order t-shirts, books, calendars, Peggy prints, DVDs, and other items found in our Museum Gift Shop using our online store. We use a secure PayPal connection for checkout.



Peggy at Urbanna Oyster Festival

MMF Wish List...

We have several items on our wish list for 2015 and beyond.

1. The donation of acreage, preferably waterfront, on which to build a museum facility to house our ever growing collection of artifacts.
2. Dehumidifiers for the Museum
3. Old retail store glass display cases for some of the items in our collection.
4. Volunteers to become docents at the Museum.
5. Volunteers to join the Peggy crew to help maintain her and to accompany her on good will trips to other ports on the Bay.

If you can help us out with any of these wishes please contact Dennis Crawford at 804-366-5337 or Pete Hall at 804-693-9335.

Importance of Renewing Your Membership...

I wanted to write a quick note about the importance of your continued membership in the Mathews Maritime Foundation. We exist for one distinct purpose – bettering the Mathews community.

Membership dues make up less than six percent of our annual operating budget. In fact, most of our expenses are covered by individual gifts we receive throughout the year from generous donors and active fundraising events organized by our volunteers.

Despite this fact, I cannot stress enough the importance of your membership and continued support. By renewing, you do more than help underwrite the operating costs of the Foundation. Your annual dues demonstrate your commitment to preserving and passing on the legacy of Mathews' maritime culture to a younger generation.

For those of you who have renewed, we would like to continue to express our gratitude in helping us with our work. For those of you who haven't sent in your dues, we would love to welcome you back. If you know someone who is not a member, please tell them how important this work is. Your ongoing commitment allows all of us to inspire and share Mathews County's past with future generations.

From Board Chairman George Harrison



Future members of MMF learning about the maritime history of Mathews County