The Hudson River Maritime Museum’s 2019 exhibit, “Rescuing the River: Over 50 Years of Environmental Activism on the Hudson” is well underway. The exhibit will coincide with the 50th anniversary of Clearwater and Pete Seeger’s 100th birthday in 2019. Chronicling the Hudson Valley’s central role in American environmentalism from the early 19th century to the present, “Rescuing the River” seeks to expand our understanding of how people shaped the environment and preserved it for future generations. The exhibit will feature touch screen kiosks and hands-on components as well as feature a companion online exhibit, accessible at the museum or anywhere with an internet connection. It will be designed to travel in 2021 and beyond. To compliment the exhibit, we are partnering with filmmaker Jon Bowermaster to create a series of short documentary film clips to illustrate the different stories.

We have received new additions from Clearwater and the Hudson River Sloop Clubs, and have received on temporary loan many items from Clearwater’s past to illustrate its role in cleaning up the Hudson and celebrate its 50th anniversary. Our staff is coordinating with Riverkeeper and Scenic Hudson as well to bring to life the stories of many Hudson River “rescues,” including the fights to save the Palisades from quarrying, Storm King Mountain from the Consolidated Edison hydroelectric plant, and Hudson River fisheries from pollution and habitat destruction.

“Rescuing the River” opens in April, 2019. In conjunction with the exhibit, Betsy Garthwaite is scheduled to present a lecture on the history of the building of sloop Clearwater on Wednesday, April 24, 2019, 7:00 p.m. at the Riverport Wooden Boat School classroom as part of our Follow the River lecture series.

HRMM is currently seeking supporters for this exhibit. If you would like become a sponsor or donate to the museum to support this exhibit, please contact us at donate@hrmm.org.
Friends—As the end of 2018 comes into our sight, I am delighted to report that we had another ground-breaking season of innovative programming and fascinating educational opportunities for all ages; great exhibits, sailing and rowing clinics, woodworking classes, boat-building challenges, visiting vessels, history lectures, kid’s crafts, walking tours, driving tours, and conferences. And these offerings continue through the fall, winter and spring months with more chances for all of us to learn more about the history of the Hudson River.

As a member of the Museum family, I know that you share our enthusiasm for the telling of the river’s story…..

So what’s the River’s story? Certainly its about boats—steamboats, sloops and barges—and about brickyards, tanneries, paper mills, ice houses and all the people who worked in these industries and lived in this valley.

If we do a good job at telling our story (and I think we do) it can help us understand our part in the story—how we have changed the river and how the river has changed us. Most importantly these stories give us the knowledge, insight, and inspiration to build the best possible future for generations to follow.

I hope that you will continue to support the Hudson River Maritime Museum as we tell the story of the river. —Lisa Cline

Help us tell your Hudson River story! We are all connected to the rich heritage of the Hudson River in different, yet intertwined ways. Please share your special connection to the past by donating an artifact or sharing an oral history. We are looking for stories about how your family was changed, or changed the river and its community. Please email clesh@hrmm.org for more information.

If you would like to contribute to the Winter 2019 newsletter, please contact Ellie Burhans at eburhans@hrmm.org. We are looking for short essays on volunteering, philanthropy and why the Hudson River Maritime Museum is special to you.
COMING SOON

Annual Meeting Scheduled Dec. 14, 2018

Join us on Friday, December 14 at 2 p.m. in the Riverport Wooden Boat School Classroom for our Annual Meeting. Each year we gather to highlight the year’s accomplishments, and announce the next year’s events. The Board of Trustees will announce the next year’s officers and open the floor for feedback.

2019 Lectures

Planning for the 2019 lecture season is well underway with several lectures already confirmed. HRMM will host Saturday afternoon lectures in January, February, and March, and the twice-monthly Wednesday evening lectures in April, May, June, September, October, and November. After the success of our two History Cruises onboard the *Rip Van Winkle*, we will be offering those tours again - one each in July, August, September, and October. These cruises will feature three guest lecturers each evening speaking for 15-20 minutes each on a unified theme. We expect these cruises to sell out, so keep your eyes peeled in 2019 for our event calendar.

Some of our confirmed lecturers for 2019 include Stephen Blauweiss, who will be speaking on Wednesday, April 10, 2019 on his new book *The Life and Death of the Kingston Post Office*, Clearwater board president Betsy Garthwaite who will speak on Wednesday, April 24th on the history of the building of the *Clearwater*, and author Vernon Benjamin, who will be speaking on Wednesday, May 22nd on “Maurice Hinchey and the New Consciousness in Environmental Thinking in New York.” More lecturers are being confirmed weekly, so check www.hrmm.org/lecture-series in the coming weeks for updated listings.

November Museum Mates

Join us on Saturday, November 17 at 1 p.m. in the Riverport Wooden Boat School for Museum Mates. The Hudson Valley was home to millions of Native Peoples prior to European exploration and expansion. Participants in the program will learn about the history of Native Americans in the Hudson Valley, their dwellings, jewelry, and traditions. There will be a hands-on portion during the event where participants will build miniature longhouses and wigwams or try to create wampum beads.

December Museum Mates

Join us on Saturday, December 15 at 1 p.m. in the Riverport Wooden Boat School Classroom for December’s Museum Mates. When the Hudson River froze over, boat traffic and seasonal summer jobs such as brick building would end for the winter. Come learn about the jobs and activities people did during the winter months, including ice harvesting, ice boating, skating, and more! This event is free for all Household-level members and above; $5 per child for non-members. Museum admission is included.
An Easy Way To Give

If you are 70 ½ or older and must take an annual Required Minimum Distribution (RMD) from your IRA account, you can make a direct donation to HRMM and receive a 100% Federal tax benefit for that donation.

The Protecting Americans from Tax Hikes (PATH) Act of 2015 made the Qualified Charitable Distribution (QCD) provision permanent. An individual 70 1/2 years old or older with an IRA account from which he or she is required to make an annual Required Minimum Distribution (RMD) can direct a portion of that RMD to HRMM and have the amount of that donation (up to $100,000, in some cases) excluded from his or her taxable income. This tax benefit is yours regardless as to whether you itemize your deductions, take the standard deduction or even are subject to the Alternative Minimum Tax. Very simply, the amount that you donate directly to HRMM will not be considered part of your income for Federal tax purposes.

There is a very specific, but easy, process that must be followed. We recommend that you consult your tax advisor before making any decision that might affect a tax return, but this can reduce your Federal tax liability while helping the museum at the same time.

If you are interested in finding out more about this possibility, please contact Lisa Cline at lcline@hrmm.org.

Why I Give

I became involved in the museum because I love the Hudson River, boats, and local history. For me, the museum was a way of getting involved locally, getting some time off from a stressful job, and working outdoors with my hands. However, over the years it has come to mean so much more.

The Hudson River Maritime Museum has grown substantially. We have truly become a major community resource and an anchor in the revitalization of Kingston’s waterfront. The museum has evocative exhibits that change yearly. The newly formed boat school has restored three iconic Hudson River vessels as well as built from scratch an innovative 44’ totally solar launch for commercial use. Our adult and youth classes are thriving.

I have certainly enjoyed watching the museum grow, and take some satisfaction in being part (with many others) of it’s over all success. But with that success has come responsibility. So in addition to giving of my time, I realize that it is just as important—or even more so—to give financially.

I prefer to contribute to the museum’s endowment because, first and foremost, I want to see the museum not only survive in the long run, but thrive. It takes an endowment to do this. Secondly, the yearly income from a robust endowment can help sustain the museum through seasonal periods of low cash flow. The income from a well-managed endowment account is a way of investing in the future of the organization. Over the past few years, I have donated stocks with high capital gains to the endowment fund. I receive the appropriate tax breaks, and the museum sees it’s long term investments grow.

I believe in the saying “think globally and act locally”. At this point of my life, I prefer to donate to an institution that has given back so much to me as well as to the community. —Jack Weeks
Thanks to the donation of a pontoon boat from Jeff Farber, the Hudson River Maritime Museum has been able to expand its popular Rondout Lighthouse Tours. Named the Skillypot II, after the Kingston-Rhinecliff ferry, this boat brings visitors to the Rondout Lighthouse throughout the summer and fall. Rondout Lighthouse Tours will return in June of 2019 and run until the middle of October. With the new boat, Museum Crew were able to run the tours Friday, Saturday, and Sunday, as well as on holidays. We look forward to further expanding with advanced registration and additional trips in the coming season. Boat donations not only help fund programming, but also helps us create new ways to explore Hudson River history.
New Hudson River Stewards Curriculum

Hudson River Stewards is entering the fourth year of unique, multimodal, programming for students from all of area to learn about the history, ecology, and culture of the Hudson River. This program encourages critical thinking, teamwork, and problem solving. HRMM hopes to expand this program provided to fourth graders, the goal this year is to serve at least 1,000 students from Ulster County and surrounding school districts.

This program will provide an in-class document analysis beginning in February, led by trained Museum Educators, and then in May students will come to HRMM for a day of activities including live music, environmental science workshops, in addition to museum programs. This program receives support from private donations and local businesses to offset some of the program costs for area schools. If you, your organization, or business want to contribute to a scholarship fund for the Hudson River Stewards program, please contact us at donate@hrmm.org or call 845-338-0071 ext. 14.

For more information about Hudson River Stewards or to register your class or school for the program, please reach out to Paul Daley, Education Coordinator, at pdaley@hrmm.org or call 845-338-0071 ext. 11. Reservations for in-class programs can be made as early as December for the spring semester. Dates and times for the field-trip portion will be in May. HRMM works with school districts to avoid scheduling field-trip on standardized testing days.

Add a Trolley Trip to Your Visit

The Hudson River Maritime Museum is excited to offer a new tour program in conjunction with the Trolley Museum of New York. This program will highlight the different modes of transportation in the Hudson Valley and includes a tour of the Hudson River Maritime Museum as well as a Trolley ride to Kingston Point Beach. This program is available to all ages and costs $15 per student and lasts approximately two hours. Groups must have at least 20 people for this program. There is also a recurring program at HRMM that will start again in the early spring. We are also adding guided tours of both museums for adult groups in the spring.
Volunteer Breakfasts Begin

Friday, October 5, marked the start of our new Volunteer Breakfast Meet-Ups. All museum volunteers will be invited to join us for a few hours to get to know one another, learn about new projects and initiatives, and give feedback to museum staff and trustees. We will hold these meet-ups on a different day and time so that everyone will be able to attend. Our next dates are December 14, February 1, and April 24. It’s the perfect opportunity to learn about upcoming events, make new friends and let your voice be heard. Not a volunteer? Sign up today at www.hrmm.org/volunteer or email volunteer@hrmm.org!

Volunteers Always Needed

Volunteers are the life-blood of the Hudson River Maritime Museum. From staffing the Museum Store, to assisting with acclaimed youth programs, to helping set up events, and restoring boats, volunteers make the museum what it is. In this season of giving, give the gift of time and consider volunteering for 2019 events and programming. Volunteer positions are available in the Museum Store, the Riverport Wooden Boat School, and the museum offices. Volunteer hours are flexible, with the exception of the Museum Store. If you would like to volunteer, please email volunteer@hrmm.org.

Stephanie Moves to Boat School

Stephanie Fischer recently moved to the area from Key West, FL where she worked as a charter boat captain and built her own 28' Shanty powerboat. She started at the museum to assist with our membership database transfer and is now shifting gears to coordinate adult programming for the Riverport Wooden Boat School. Her special interest is in developing a Women's Woodworking programming at the boat school. Now that she has fully transferred our old membership database to a new system, she is planning the 2019 RWBS calendar, so keep your eyes peeled for new classes coming soon!
Two more places to learn about the Hudson River Maritime Museum. The model steamboat *Ida* will be on display at the new I Love New York Hudson Valley/Catskills Welcome Center being built at Woodbury Commons, Central Valley, New York. Look for it later this year.

HRMM has been invited to participate in the Albany International Airport Art & Culture Program’s Exhibit Case Program. In early part of 2019, the HRMM exhibit at Albany Airport will be installed and is anticipated to stay up for two years or more. This is a wonderful opportunity to invite visitors to the Hudson River Maritime Museum.

**Perseverance Bell Acquired by Museum**

The Hudson River Maritime Museum was pleased recently to acquire the bell from the Cornell Steamboat Company tugboat *Perseverance*. The bell features the name of the vessel engraved on it, and the date, 1919, that the tug was built. The *Perseverance* was one of nearly one hundred tugs and towboats that Cornell owned and operated on the Hudson River during the period 1837 to 1964. Cornell’s headquarters were right next to where the Maritime Museum is located on the Rondout Creek in Kingston.

*Perseverance*, known as the “Persy”, was built by the Crowninshield Shipbuilding Co. in Somerset, Ma. in 1919. In 1921 she was bought by the Cornell Steamboat Company. She was 142’ long with a wooden hull and a triple expansion steam engine, and was Cornell’s most powerful tug. Her engine could generate as much as 1000 hp. Soon after going into service, the *Perseverance* towed an amazing 110 loaded grain barges from Albany to New York. Until her retirement in November of 1948, the *Persy* could often be seen on the Hudson towing long strings of barges.

**New Off-Site Exhibits to Open Soon**

Members of the focus group will receive periodic emails with online surveys asking for input on everything from exhibit topics to new items for the museum store. Surveys are anonymous, fewer than 10 questions long, and often take less than 10 minutes to complete.

To sign up, email swassberg@hrmm.org or visit www.hrmm.org, scroll to the bottom of the page, and fill out the “Join Our Focus Group” form. You may unsubscribe from survey emails at any time.
The Hudson River Maritime Museum is participating in the inaugural New York State tour of the Smithsonian’s Museum on Main Street Water/Ways exhibition in partnership with the Museum Association of New York (MANY). HRMM is one of six New York State museums chosen out of 43 applicants to be a host site. The exhibit stays at each site for six weeks. The six museums are: the Erie Canal Museum; the Aurora Masonic Center; the Buffalo Niagara Heritage Village; the Chapman Museum; the Hudson River Maritime Museum; and the East Hampton Historical Society, Inc. The exhibition will tour these six communities in New York from June 2019 through April 2020.

The Water/Ways exhibit will be arriving at the Hudson River Maritime Museum the week of January 11, 2020 and leaving the week of February 23, 2020. It will be displayed in the HRMM East Gallery. Special programs will be presented related to the Water/Ways exhibit.

A traveling exhibition from the Smithsonian’s Museum on Main Street program, Water/Ways explores the endless motion of the water cycle, water’s effect on landscape, settlement and migration, and its impact on culture and spirituality. It looks at how political and economic planning have long been affected by access to water and control of water resources. Human creativity and resourcefulness provide new ways of protecting water resources and renewing respect for the natural environment.

The Water/Ways exhibit is an excellent complement to our 2019 exhibit “Rescuing the River: Over 50 Years of Environmental Activism on the Hudson,” which will be on display until December, 2020.

Museum to Publish Lighthouse Book

In 2017, HRMM was approached by Arcadia Publishing, which produces the popular “Images of America” series, about writing a book on Hudson River Lighthouses. We were delighted to accept their invitation and are now under contract to produce *Hudson River Lighthouses*, due out in June, 2019.

HRMM has been working with members of the Hudson River Lighthouse Coalition and numerous volunteers to track down photos and information on all of the Hudson River lighthouses, including those lost to time.

All proceeds from the sale of these books will go to support the museum. For more information about Hudson River lighthouses, please visit www.hudsonriverlighthouses.org.
COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Climate Resiliency Summit & High Water Festival

On October 19, 2018, HRMM was pleased to support the City of Kingston in its first-ever “Waterfront Resiliency Summit” and “High Water Festival.” The Summit invited municipal and waterfront development leaders to attend a mayor’s forum and listen to speakers from Cornell University’s Climate Adaptive Design Studio, as well as HRMM staff to discuss climate adaptations to the Kingston Waterfront. A public festival followed with live music, food, and children’s activities, culminating in a packed-house performance by Arm of the Sea. Activities took place in the Barn, museum courtyard, RWBS, and the Cornell Building.

Jon Bowermaster Receives Roger Mabie Award

The 2018 Pilot Gala, the museum’s signature Fall fundraising event held on Sunday, September 23, was a great success! Thanks to the generosity of our members and friends, we were able to raise funds to support our YouthBoat after school program, the Riverport Sailing & Rowing School, and Hudson River Stewards. A special thanks goes to our auctioneers, Ray Tucker and Bob Siracusano of Sawyer Motors!

This year Jon Bowermaster, award-winning journalist, film maker and adventurer, was the recipient of the prestigious Roger Mabie Award. Roger W. Mabie, a founding father, and former president of the Hudson River Maritime Museum, exemplified selfless public service to the Hudson River Valley, its people and its history. It is because of his selfless and generous spirit, his commitment to the Hudson Valley and its history, and his ability to touch so many lives in a meaningful way, that the Hudson River Maritime Museum has created a special honor in his name to be awarded annually to individuals who exemplify service to our Hudson Valley and its history. We could not think of a more deserving individual than Jon Bowermaster. Jon shared with us some of his latest projects and films, including a short preview of “From Source to the Sea”. With a surprise visit and presentation from Assemblyman Kevin Cahill, it was a night to remember! Thank you to all who attended, or donated in lieu of attending.
YouthBoat Begins

The annual YouthBoat program began its third season in the beginning of October. YouthBoat is a free program designed to build leadership, teamwork, and communication skills through the traditional craft of wooden boatbuilding and on-the-water activities. Our after school program began in early October. In addition to the afterschool program, eleven students from Ulster BOCES will work on multiple projects; they will begin by constructing oars that will be used for HRMM on-the-water activities in the Rondout Creek. Extra oars will be sold to the public. Each student will have the opportunity to construct a toolbox before the class turns attention to the construction of two boats; a 12 foot Shellback Dingy made from plywood and a 10 foot Flat bottom skiff made from Maine Cedar.

Similar to previous years, students will have an opportunity to row a Whitehall gig on the Rondout Creek as part of the YouthBoat program. This is part of a concerted effort to teach participants valuable skills both on and off the water. Students will learn shop, tool and water safety, proper use of hand and power tools, as well as communication and teamwork building skills.

Again, Shipwright Wayne Ford will act as lead instructor for both programs. Throughout the year, he will receive assistance from a group of dedicated volunteers who work directly with the students and generously donate their time to make YouthBoat a success. The program is free to students and supported by private donations. If you are interested in becoming a sponsor of YouthBoat, please contact donate@hrmm.org

Sailing & Rowing School Expansion a Success

This year was our second successful year for the Riverport Sailing & Rowing School! Programming was expanded to include two weeks of rowing and four weeks of sailing due to popular demand. Our sailing program included approximately 50 students, ages 8 through 17. Thanks to students in our YouthBoat program, our sailing fleet was expanded to include seven Optimist Prams, one Lightning, one Capris, a Merit 25 and the new 20 by 20 foot floating classroom with tent. Students sailed in the Rondout Creek, and also the Hudson River, by Port Ewen, ranging from Hidden Harbor Yacht Club to the Hudson River Maritime Museum.

Our five-day curriculum included chalk talks, drills, games, sailing with instructors, sailing solo, and sailing with other students. In addition to freestyle sailing, students sailed around buoys, did informal races, tacked and jibed in response to whistle signals, and played games like Splash Tag. Students learned a lot, many overcame fears, communities of instructors and students supported each other, and everyone had fun learning.

Our adult sailing programs were incredibly popular and we became a US Sailing Certified Keelboat School. In 2019, we look to expand our youth programming, build our fleet, and explore the possibility of community sailing.
Hudson River Maritime Museum
50 Rondout Landing
Kingston, NY 12401

Hudson River Maritime
Museum Wish List

We are looking for slightly-used or new equipment to help us better serve the Hudson River Community. Please consider donating the following:

- Small truck with tow-hitch
- Vacuum cleaner
- 10’x10’ blue pop-up tents
- Wheelbarrow
- Life vests
- Life rings
- Bullhorn

GIFT CARDS
ON SALE ONLINE

This holiday season give the gift of experience with a gift card to HRMM! Recipients can purchase membership, classes, and more!
www.hrmm.org/store/p247/gift_card.html