



Fall 2019

Fo'c'sle News

Newsletter of the Hudson River Maritime Museum
50 Rondout Landing, Kingston, NY 12401 | www.hrmm.org | 845-338-0071



Traveling Smithsonian Exhibit Arrives in January

The Hudson River Maritime Museum was chosen to participate 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. We are one of six New York State museums out of 43 applicants awarded to be a host site. The exhibit stays at each site for six weeks and will arrive in Kingston in January, 2020.

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 as well as our Green Museum Initiative.

Join us for a special Opening Reception on January 11 – invitations to follow shortly – and new winter programming to complement the exhibition. We will be hosting special lectures, concerts, roundtables, and family-friendly programs throughout January and February to explore our unique relationship with water, the Rondout Creek, and the Hudson River. In addition, the museum will be open seven days a week from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. while this special exhibition is open.

Stay tuned for more information as we put the finishing touches on these unique programs. If you have questions, or would like to sponsor one of the events, please contact Sarah Wassberg Johnson at swassberg@hrmm.org.

Museum Summer Hours

Open seven days a week,

11 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Winter Hours Begin November 25

MESSAGE FROM EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

STAFF

Lisa Cline,
Executive Director

Ellie Burhans,
*Development &
Communications Manager*

Meg Clark
Volunteer Coordinator

Paul Daley,
Education Coordinator

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Carla Lesh,
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Sam Merrett
Captain

John Phelan
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Jim Kricker
Restoration Consultant

Wayne Ford,
Youth Instructor

Peter Kricker,
Restoration Crew

Michael Chrobot,
Restoration Crew

Senior Instructors

Michael Puryear,
Bill Sterling
John Van Buren
Andrew Willner,

Friends— It is that time of the year that the staff, board, and volunteers prepare for the winter season at the museum. Our waterfront activity comes to a halt, the fleet is hauled and winterized, the docks towed to safety, and the yard readied for the snow. At this time of year the staff often hears these words from our members and supporters' "Oh, you must be looking forward to slowing down over the winter!" And yes, it is true that our public-facing work may lighten, but the truth is, the winter is when much of our planning takes place. We take this time to review our last season and evaluate our programming; what worked and what didn't? How can we improve? As we evaluate and brainstorm, we lay it all out for the upcoming year; each lecture, each conference, each school program; including boat tours, sailing classes, boat building classes, visiting vessels, and so much more. We've grown to include so many educational opportunities and we are proud of our growth.



Of course we plan our own exhibits much earlier and this year we are presenting a very exciting look at one of our favorite historic vessels "Mary Powell: Queen of the Hudson". This day liner graced the Hudson for over 60 years, and she was known from Albany to NYC, but she was especially beloved here in Kingston which was her home port and her final resting place. Opening in April, this exhibit will tell her remarkable and long story using artifacts from the boat that are not regularly shown. The jewel of this exhibit will be a new painting of the Rondout featuring the Mary Powell painted by renowned artist Len Tantillo.

In 2016, we met our goal of staying open all year, with reduced hours for the deepest winter months December through March. But even that is changing in 2020; we will be open 7 days a week in January and February to present the Smithsonian exhibit entitled Water/Ways, a fascinating exhibit that explores our unique connection to water and the Hudson River.

We are looking forward to 2020 and the exciting educational opportunities we will be offering. If you want to hear more about how this past year went, we encourage you to join us at the annual meeting where we discuss performance, both successes and challenges. We always welcome your participation! **- Lisa Cline**

Join Our Focus Group! HRMM is pleased to invite you to join our new Focus Group! 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.

COMING SOON

Water/Ways Opening Reception



Join the Hudson River Maritime Museum on **Saturday, January 11 from 4 p.m. to 6 p.m.** for a special **Opening Reception** to celebrate the arrival of Water/ Ways. An invitation to all museum members and friends will be arriving in mailboxes in early December. Free for members of the Hudson River Maritime Museum; \$15 general admission. Price of admission includes wine and light refreshments. The museum will not be open

during the day on Saturday, January 11 to allow museum staff to put final touches on the exhibit and prepare for the evening.

Lecture: What Is a Water Way Anyway?



Join us on Saturday, **January 18 at 2 p.m.** for a special Water/ Ways lecture by Daniel Rinn, University of Rochester Ph.D. candidate and Public Humanities Fellow for Humanities, NY. Waterways have played a major role in shaping the history of New York State, but what is a waterway exactly? Daniel Rinn will guide guests through a handful of examples of 'natural' and 'unnatural,' or built, waterways, and invite the audience to consider the myriad ways nature shapes, and is shaped by human culture. Free for museum members; \$5 general admission.

New Fall & Winter Boat School Classes



We have several Adult classes scheduled for the fall and early winter at the Wooden Boat School. Instructor Michael Puryear is holding his popular Foundations of Woodworking. In case you missed it, we will offer again in the spring and fall 2020. John VanBuren will be offering two classes in paddle carving, choose one based on your favorite type of paddling, canoe or kayak. Coming up in November Andy Willner will be holding a class in Marine

Signboard Carving. For more information on these classes, or to sign up please visit hrmm.org/boat-school.html

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GRANTS & AWARDS

Maximize Your IRA Disbursements

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 the Hudson River Maritime Museum 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 the museum 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 an 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.

Museum Honors Riverkeeper's John Lipscomb



The Hudson River Maritime Museum awarded Captain John Lipscomb of Riverkeeper the Roger Mabie award at the annual Pilot Gala on Sunday, September 8. 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 the Green Museum. A special thanks goes to our auctioneers, Stephen Digilio, Robert Burhans, and Lisa Cline!

We could not think of a more deserving individual than John Lipscomb. Guests were surprised with a special presentation of a short film highlighting Lipscomb's work by Jon

Bowermaster. We were all inspired by a passionate call from John Lipscomb to continue to advocate for the living river. Thank you to all who attended, or donated in lieu of attending.

Planned gifts build the Hudson River Maritime Museum's endowment, provide income for immediate use, strengthen our collection, and enhance our education programs. The future of the Hudson River Maritime Museum is only possible because of the loyalty and commitment of donors like you. We recommend that you consult your financial advisor and/or a lawyer to determine which planned giving option works best for you. For more information, please contact Lisa Cline, lcline@hrmm.org or ext. 20.

DONATIONS

Invest in a Sustainable Future



This year we celebrate the 40th anniversary of the museum's founding. As you can see, we've come a long way from that small store front on Broadway. Today we host a wooden boat building school, and sailing and rowing school, and recently purchased the only commercial 100% solar powered tour boat in operation, Solaris.

We have a bold vision for the future - the Green Museum. In the next two years this campus will start to be transformed. We will be installing solar panels on the Wooden Boat School, upgrading our HVAC systems to run more efficiently, investing in programming on Solaris, updating all of our exhibits to include facts about climate

change, integrating climate science education into our educational programming, as well as adding to our extensive collections to include the history of Hudson River commercial fishing.

This vision for our future will help us meet the challenge of climate change, and ensure that the museum thrives for another 40! Your donation will be matched 3 to 1 from a variety of grants that we have already received in support of this initiative. If you would like to contribute to this effort, please contact Lisa Cline at lcline@hrmm.org.

PLEASE SUPPORT THESE BUSINESSES WHO SUPPORT HRMM

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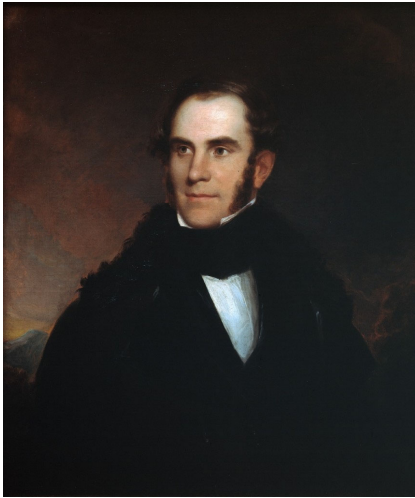
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Williams Lumber & Home Center
Wine Hutch
White's Hudson River Marina
Woodstock Library

EDUCATION UPDATE

Paint Like A Master



Join the Hudson River Maritime Museum for our first family program of 2020 and learn to paint like a master! In the 1800's a man named Thomas Cole immigrated to the United States and began painting the landscapes that surrounded his home and village in the Hudson Valley. Thomas painted the rocky cliffs of the Palisades, the high waterfalls of Kaaterskill, and the seemingly endless wilderness. Thomas Cole led a movement that changed how the public viewed wilderness. His landscape paintings gave Americans a source of pride in their beautiful land. This event will be held as part of our Water/ Ways exhibit on **Sunday, January 26 from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m.**

During this event, children will learn about Thomas Cole's life, view his famous paintings, read a book about the artist, and finally create their own painting. The event is free for museum members household and above; \$5 general admission. A healthy snack is included!

Spring Field Trip Opportunities



The Hudson River Maritime Museum is pleased to offer a variety of tours and rides aboard the brand new, 100% solar-powered tour boat *Solaris*, built here at the museum. Programs and tours specifically designed for schools and students are underway and will return again in the spring of 2020. School programs are available Monday-Friday between 9:00 am – 2:00 pm. All programs include a tour of the museum and an opportunity to select between varying boat trips. There is a 20 student and have a two-hour minimum. Students are \$18 and chaperones are \$20. The maximum capacity of *Solaris* is 24 at a time.

Teachers have the opportunity to choose from a great line up of programs including Rondout Lighthouse tours and Industrial Waterfront Tours. Both programs align with curriculum standards and focus on local history, innovation, and architecture. Students of all ages can learn about notable landmarks, including the Rondout Lighthouse, Island Dock, boat basins, and Lock No. 1, the Fitch Bluestone Company Office, and the D&H Canal. Tours last approximately 1 hour and fifteen minutes and all programs include a museum guide to accompany your group.

If pricing is a concern, there are funding opportunities through the Community Foundations of the Hudson Valley. Our staff can help teachers throughout the grant application process by providing logistical support throughout the process. The application window closes on December 31, 2019 for field trips that occur the spring of 2020. There is up to \$2,000 available to public schools in Dutchess and Ulster Counties in an effort to bolster students' learning opportunities outside the classroom. More information about these grant opportunities can be found by visiting the Community Foundations of Hudson Valley webpage.

Contact the Education Department at 845-338-0071 ext. 11 or education@hrmm.org to inquire or book field trips.

VOLUNTEER CORNER

Volunteer Appreciation Events

The holidays are around the corner and we're cooking up another **Thank You Celebration** for all of our wonderful museum volunteers. This year's event will take place on **Friday, December 13 from 5:00 p.m. to 7 p.m.** in the East Gallery. Our Board Members and staff will be providing appetizing finger foods, wine, beer and soft drinks. It would be great if you could bring a holiday dessert to share. Dress up if you like, or come in jeans, but please come and join the fun!



Meet Sea Scouts Ship 609

Sea Scout Ship 609 continues to be active with youth from the region having fun while learning skills and developing leadership. The original members have all grown up and moved on but new members have supplanted them and we are always open to new recruits. Our active season started with a volunteer Adopt a Highway litter cleanup project paired with a bottom painting of "our" sailboat. Regular sails throughout the season have helped build sailing skills. The big event for the ship was a sail to Norrie Point State Park in Staatsburgh for an overnight campout. Despite the extreme heat during the day and torrential rain overnight, a good time was had by all. The scouts participated in a conservation service project clearing one of the park trails of brush and debris. The sail home to Kingston was again a hot day, but that led to the highlight of the trip, swimming behind the boat from a drag line. Not quite a drogue anchor, but it sure slows the boat down!



Image (Left): Sea Scouts Ship 609 participate in Adopt a Highway litter clean up.

Image (Above) Sea Scouts Ship 609 enjoying a sail on the Hudson River during the 2019 sailing season.

CURATORIAL CORNER

Environmental Sloops Collection Donated



Musicians and activists Maryellen Healy and Vincent Cerniglia, known professionally as Mel and Vinnie, have generously donated their Hudson River Environmental Sloops Collection to the Hudson River Maritime Museum. Maryellen Healy explained their choice of the Hudson River Maritime Museum as a home for their archive: “Mel and Vinnie started working on Hudson River projects with Pete Seeger in the late 1970s. He was drawing attention to the river, its beauty and how badly we've treated it. We joined in many of his projects, spent 40 years around the river and collected an archive. Hudson River Maritime Museum was chosen to be the repository because our collection belongs in the Hudson Valley, with its moral owners, available to the public digitally and by appointment. To us the museum is a good fit.”

As Maryellen Healy describes it, the collection includes the Ferry Sloops project which is the sloops *Woody Guthrie*, *Sojourner Truth* and *Willet* and the organizations Ferry Sloops Inc. and the Beacon Sloop Club. The *Woody* started out as the Seegers boat shared with the Beacon Sloop Club. *Sojourner* and *Willet* were cement hulled along the same design as the *Woody* and built by a separate nonprofit from *Clearwater* called Ferry Sloops Inc. The idea was that every town along the river could have an inexpensive sailing project. Documentation, newsletters and correspondence about River Pool, *Clearwater*, and other environmental work are in the collection.

Contributing Scholars Assist Museum

Hudson River Maritime Museum is fortunate to work with a new category of volunteers. Contributing scholars are historians, authors, research professionals who are invited and volunteer to share knowledge or compile original research in their area of specialty as it pertains to the work of the Hudson River Maritime Museum, including for exhibits, history blog, Pilot Log and publications.

This coalition of contributing scholars assist museum staff with research for our programs and exhibits and contribute articles and essays to our history-focused digital and print publications. As we expand our history interpretation efforts, we rely on the generosity of talented volunteers to help ensure that our interpretation is accurate, innovative, and engaging.



Do you have memories or information about Island Dock? Did members of your family work at Island Dock? Stories, photographs, video, and audio are most welcome! Hudson River Maritime Museum is gathering information for a documentary about the history and many uses of Island Dock. Please contact Carla Lesh, Collections Manager & Digital Archivist, clesh@hrmm.org or 845-338-0071 x21.

LOCAL HISTORY

Climate Change Exhibit Updates



Last year the Hudson River Maritime Museum received a grant from the DEC Hudson River Estuary Program for \$40,000 over two years to integrate climate change into our permanent indoor and outdoor exhibits. If you have visited the museum recently, you have likely seen the work of Ron Searl and Russ Lange to revamp the exhibit space (formerly “The Changing River”), which will include 3-D models of sea level rise in the Hudson Valley, a greenhouse effect experiment, short educational films, hands-on activities, and more.

The museum has been working closely with stakeholder organizations, including most recently the Cornell University Climate Adaptive Design (CAD) Program. The museum has helped the CAD with past graduate student projects as they created landscape designs for Block Park/Island Dock, the Rondout Waterfront, and Kingston Point in recent years. The museum will be collaborating with the CAD program to outline possible adaptations to sea level rise that could be implemented in the Hudson Valley as part of the exhibit.

After these exhibit updates are finalized at the end of the year, the museum will shift focus to integrating climate change information into the remaining exhibits, including information about the new Northwest Passage in the Henry Hudson exhibit, changes to winter in our ice harvesting and ice boating exhibits, and more. In 2020/2021, the museum will also include more interpretation of climate change in the Hudson Valley as part of our outdoor exhibits, including more outdoor interpretive signage and an audio walking tour.

Mary Powell: Queen of the Hudson



In the spring of 2020, the museum will open “Mary Powell: Queen of the Hudson,” a revamped permanent exhibit in the East Gallery. Funded in part by the Hudson River Valley National Heritage Area, this exhibit will feature never-before-seen artifacts and art, as well as a timeline down the hallway leading to the East Gallery. The exhibit will focus on the long-term impact of the *Mary Powell* over her career as well as the enormous changes happening in the United States between the Civil War and World War I. A companion online exhibit will ensure that *Mary Powell* enthusiasts from all over the world will be able to access the information. If you love the *Mary Powell* as

much as we do, please consider making a donation toward the exhibit. To make a donation, contact Ellie Burhans at eburhans@hrmm.org or call 845-338-0071 ext. 14.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Museum Hosts Chamber of Commerce Mixer



On Tuesday, September 24, the Hudson River Maritime Museum hosted the Ulster County Regional Chamber of Commerce for their monthly mixer. Rondout Restaurants Savona's Trattoria, Ole Savannah Southern Table & Bar, and Mariner's Harbor all provided a delicious taste of the Rondout. Local wine stores Kingston Wine Co. and J & K Wine & Liquor provided fantastic wines and Rip Van Winkle Brewing Company provided ice cold beer for all to enjoy. *Solaris*, our 100% solar powered tour boat, was front and center, providing our guests with short excursions out to the Hudson River. Special thanks to Marshall & Sterling Insurance for sponsoring the event! All our guests had a wonderful time and the response to *Solaris* from community leaders has been positive. It was a great event that promoted all the museum has to offer!

Kingston Homeport Popular Venue



Ulster County Executive Pat Ryan delivering 2020 budget address on Thursday, October 4 in the Kingston Homeport

The Kingston Homeport and Education Center, also known as the Barn, has become a popular venue. In addition to museum education events and fundraisers, the Barn has become a popular wedding and private event venue. The Hudson River Maritime Museum has hosted several weddings, bridal showers, wedding anniversaries, and family reunions on our campus this year.

Our spaces have also become a go-to space for business retreats and conferences held by local businesses and partner organizations such as Riverkeeper, Scenic Hudson, and the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation. The Barn or the classroom in the Wooden Boat School allow these groups to unplug and immerse themselves in their training without having to worry about the day-to-day concerns of their business.

This October, the Barn has hosted the City of Kingston and its partners for two waterfront resiliency and climate change mitigation workshops, Riverkeeper's Community Scientists, a Scenic Hudson Town Hall meeting featuring candidates in the Ulster County Executive election with a focus on climate change, and the Ulster County Executive, Pat Ryan, in his announcement of the county's 2020 budget overview. Earlier this season, the Barn hosted Governor Andrew Cuomo and state and local dignitaries to sign the plastic bag ban into law.

If you are interested in renting the Barn or the Wooden Boat School, please contact Lisa Cline at lcline@hrmm.org.

WOODEN BOAT SCHOOL

Sailing School Builds Skills, Confidence, and Joy



The Hudson River Maritime Museum's Sailing School 2019 season was a big success! Seventy-nine adult students and 54 youth students participated in our sailing classes. Many of these sailors also participated in Women on the Water sails and on casual Monday and Friday sails with Kingston Sailing Club skippers. In addition, four teenagers are now racing with the Kingston Sailing Club Sunday races, and five or six of our adult students have also joined the racing ranks.

Numbers only tell part of the story. Many of our accomplishments are intangible. Some of students are inspired by learning to sail on the Hudson, others develop a new-found

independence and self-confidence that they bring into other aspects of their lives, some are challenged to face their fears and overcome them, others are thrilled by the beauty of the river and its wildlife, some students feel the pure joy of skipping over the waves in a sailboat, and others revel in the camaraderie that develops between crew members on board one of our sail boats.

Our Youth Sailing Program made a difference for many of our young sailors. One student is a boy named Max, who was ten years old when he began sailing with us. Max started with a lot of interest in boats and sailing, but admitted he had a hard time reading the Skills Checklist at orientation. School can be very difficult for people with learning differences, but the museum's sailing school offers hands-on learning and explains most sailing skills through two or three different approaches. Max excelled. His quick mind rapidly memorized the parts of a sailboat, the points of sail (drawn with pictures), and mastered the beginner level skills of sailing on board an eight-foot Optimist Pram (sailed solo) in his first week, and the advanced beginner skills in his second week!

Most of our students need three or more weeks to become competent basic sailors, but Max sped right through our teachings. In addition, he was one of only a handful of students from our entire season brave enough to sail aboard and take the helm (steer the boat) of our 420, a very tender and fast racing sailboat. All the other 420 sailors were two or more years older than Max and had practiced sailing for many more weeks than him. Not only did Max excel while sailing in our program, he impressed one of the Kingston Sailing Club skippers with his sailing knowledge, inquisitive mind and dinghy-handling skills, so the KSC skipper recruited Max to participate in weekly Sunday racing, and Max is now on board this keel boat as a valued crew member every week!

Most important, Max has learned how smart he is, how capable he is, and that he can learn when put in the right environment. Max, along with many of our students, will take his new-found self-confidence and do amazing things in the world!



Hudson River Maritime Museum
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Kingston, NY 12401

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Thanks to Ted Foster, for the donation of this Admiralty anchor! Board members Dr. Jack Weeks and Mark Peckham did the heavy lifting and brought the anchor back from Mohegan Lake.

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
- 10'x10' blue pop-up tents
- Life vests
- Life rings
- Bullhorn
- Safety skiff