

# Aft of the Bowsprit

FALL 2009

THE JAMES B. RICHARDSON FOUNDATION, INC.



More than a dozen schooners and other historic ships will be in Cambridge for the fourth annual Schooner Rendezvous Oct. 23-25. [Photos by A. Harrison]



## Schooner Rendezvous set for Oct. 23-25

The fourth annual Schooner Rendezvous returns to Cambridge October 23-25. The event features participants of the Great Chesapeake Bay Schooner Race, including the tall ships *Pride of Baltimore II*, *Mystic Whaler*, *Lady Maryland*, *Liberty Clipper*, *Martha White*, *Pirates Lady*, and other historic vessels. The skipjack *Nathan of Dorchester* will join the other ships for dockside tours and sails on the waterfront at Long Wharf. This year a Parade of Sail will allow the public to join the captains and crew in opening festivities. Also new this year, a Chesapeake Bay Deadrise workboat, donated by Phillips & Sons, will ply our waters for a Mariners Tour. For the first time, the schooners will be illuminated starting at dusk on Friday and Saturday, thanks to the Choptank Electric Cooperative.

The festival will have expanded historical displays and food vendors, as well as maritime and bluegrass music. An Eastern Shore Dinner will be hosted for the captains and crewmembers; a limited number of tickets will be offered to the general public.

The Schooner Rendezvous honors the past lifestyles and traditions of these vessels that not only worked the Bay and its tributaries, but also engaged in trade as far away as South America and the Caribbean. To get involved as a vendor, sponsor, or volunteer, contact the Richardson Maritime Museum at 410-221-1871. For details about the event, go to [www.cambridgeschoonerrendezvous.com](http://www.cambridgeschoonerrendezvous.com).



### RENDEZVOUS SCHEDULE

#### THURSDAY, OCT. 22

Vessels begin arriving

#### FRIDAY, OCT. 23

6pm: Private reception for captains, crew

8:30pm: Fundraiser at Jimmie & Sook's, 421 Race St. (\$5 cover)

#### SATURDAY, OCT. 24

10am: Opening festivities

11am-1pm: Parade of Sail

Dockside tours

Day sails (buy tickets on boats)

Mariner cruises (tickets required)

6pm: Eastern Shore Dinner (tickets required)

Starting at dusk: Schooner illumination

Movie: *Master and Commander*

#### SUNDAY, OCT. 25

Dockside tours

Day sails (buy tickets on boats)

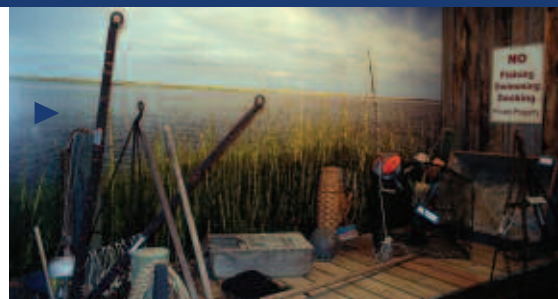
Saturday and Sunday also feature live music and vendor row.

## RICHARDSON MARITIME MUSEUM

401 High Street

## Work continues on Waterman's Room

**Waterman's Room:** The Waterman's Room now features a full wall mural behind the "pier." Our thanks to American Legion Post 91 for the donation, photographer David Harp for the picture, Bayard Taylor for the wall repair, and Crystal Prints for the mural. We plan to continue to rework the room to commemorate the lives and work of watermen, both past and present.



A new mural in the Waterman's Room.



Joan Davis and Dan Wallace and the new exhibit about their father.

◀ **Humes Wallace Display:** A new display documents the wooden boat-building skills of Humes Watkins Wallace (1907-1995), a native of Hoopers Island whose boatbuilding career spanned half a century. Joan Davis and her brother, Dan Wallace, promoted and contributed to this display in honor of their father. More than 50 people stopped by the open house for the display on Sept. 19. Thanks to Linda Starling and Ernie Hanmer, who created the display.

**Future plans:** In addition to work on the Waterman's Room, we hope to continue with the pictorial marine history of Cambridge and Dorchester County. We have a large number of archives that need to be documented, framed, and displayed in the corridor between the main display area and the model room. A longer term project is getting ready for the 100th anniversary of the Power Boat races in July 2010. Our Curator, Melvin Hickman, is already generating ideas and gathering materials for the expanded display honoring this milestone event.

## RUARK BOATWORKS

Maryland Avenue &amp; Hayward Street

## Boatbuilding projects keep moving ahead



Jolly Dolphin

◀ **Jolly Dolphin restoration:** Numerous new ribs and all bottom planking is about completed, staving is 95 percent done over new chine logs, and a 40+ft. long laminated starter plank is in on her port side. The pieces for the transom have been fit together and are waiting for their turn. A new skeg and sternpost are being prepared. Our goal is to turn her "right side up" in October.

**Master-Apprentice boat:** The "Master" (Mac McGlaughlin) and the "Apprentice" (Frank Antes), along with David Bodey and Ed Airey, are working on this 27-foot workboat design. The Master and Apprentice are being funded by a grant from the Maryland State Arts Council. After two months of efforts, the bottom is complete through her starter plank and was being fiber-glassed. The oak, pine, and cedar form a hull shape that draws instant admiration from visitors. Prospective buyers have begun talking to us; more of these should be built, we think.



Master-Apprentice boat

**Sailing skiff project boat:** This boat was started to show to visitors and allow a few folks the opportunity to be involved in building a simple boat. David Bodey and Dan Acker have worked to get it to where some paint might be applied in the near future. They plan to "explore" the creek to show her off.

**Looking ahead:** We've been given a semi-completed hull of a 40-foot skipjack. Originally started by Jack McClain of Hudson Wharf, from a Harold Ruark design, it was donated to the Foundation in June 2009. It's on hold until the *Jolly Dolphin* restoration is finished. We hope to complete this vessel to Coast Guard specifications, which would enable it to be used by an organization in the Bay area as a fund-raising program.

**News bits:** Some of you may have noticed that *Helen Virginia* (Capt. Robert Wilson's boat) has departed our bulkhead. It was nice to have Bob's friendship and occasional help, and *Helen Virginia* surely graced our site. . . . Many other projects wait patiently for our attention. Thanks to our first-class forager (Bo Nelson) we have a float platform (after some repairs) that will enable us to board boats off our bulkhead.

## BRANNOCK EDUCATION &amp; RESEARCH CENTER

Hayward &amp; Byrn Streets

## BERC marks 25 years of local and naval memorabilia

More than 150 people came out to help celebrate the 25th anniversary of the Brannock Education and Research Center (BERC) during a crabfeast Aug. 29 at Governor's Hall at Sailwinds Park in Cambridge. Earl Brannock and his late wife, Shirley, started collecting local and naval memorabilia more than 25 years ago. They amassed a vast amount of local nautical artifacts that pertain to boat building, history and hands-on material plus a large library. Just recently the Center received a donation from the Flowers family of all the original records, tapes, and written material of the late Dr. Thomas Flowers, who wrote extensively about the area, plus his advice on many topics for children and adults. This will soon be available on DVD for purchase.

The guest of honor was a long-time friend of Earl Brannock, Vice Admiral Al Konetzni USN Ret., who flew up from Tennessee to be with Earl for the evening event.

Other dignitaries were Sen. Richard Colburn, who presented Earl with a Senate Resolution and a Governor's Citation from the Citizens of Maryland to honor the 25th anniversary, and Dels. Jeannie Haddaway-Riccio and Addie Eckardt, who presented him with a House Resolution. Another highlight was the presentation of a large engraved pewter tray by Ginger Martus in honor of the 25th celebration. If you would like to know more about the Brannock Education and Research Center, please call 410-221-1871 and ask to speak to Earl Brannock.



Sen. Rich Colburn, Del. Jeannie Haddaway-Riccio, Earl Brannock, Del. Addie Eckardt, and Vice Admiral Al Konetzni USN Ret. at the 25th anniversary celebration.

## RICHARDSON MARITIME HERITAGE CENTER

Maryland Avenue



A rendering by architect Jay Corvan gives a sense of what the new Ruark Boatworks building will look like and how it will connect with the existing Boatworks building (in orange). This is the start of the Richardson Maritime Heritage Center, which will eventually house the Richardson Maritime Museum, the Ruark Boatworks, and the Brannock Education and Research Center.



The foundation of the new Ruark Boatworks building, as of September 2009.



Doors and walls from the old Gannon Farm in Easton will be incorporated into the new building.

## We need volunteers!

To volunteer, call us at 410-221-1871 (Museum) or 410-221-8844 (Boatworks).

With the exception of one part-time paid administrator, Gladys Taylor, the James B. Richardson Foundation, Inc., is a volunteer-run organization that supports the Richardson Maritime Museum, the Ruark Boatworks, and the Brannock Education & Research Center. We need docents, researchers, exhibit designers/builders, and modelers for the Museum and the

Research Center; woodworkers, restorers, and researchers for the Boatworks; and all-around assistance in maintaining the buildings and the properties. Learn for free, meet interesting people, and have fun while helping to preserve the heritage of wooden boat-building and the maritime history of Dorchester County. Come and spend a few hours with us each week!

**James B. Richardson Foundation, Inc.**

**BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

- Victor H. MacSorley, *Chairman*
- Sewell "Toby" Frey
- Rufus M. Todd
- Dan Shoemaker
- Jay Corvan
- Harold Ruark
- Virginia "Ginger" Brannock
- Joe Tydings
- Steve Disharoon
- Tom Gasper
- James W. Meredith
- Teri L Belcher

**EMERITUS BOARD MEMBERS**

- Mike Starling
- Scott Todd

**RMM CURATOR**  
Melvin Hickman

**VOLUNTEERS NEEDED**  
The James B. Richardson Foundation, Inc. needs volunteer help for:

- Docents
- Exhibit Designers/Builders
- Model Makers & Restorers
- Librarian
- General Maintenance

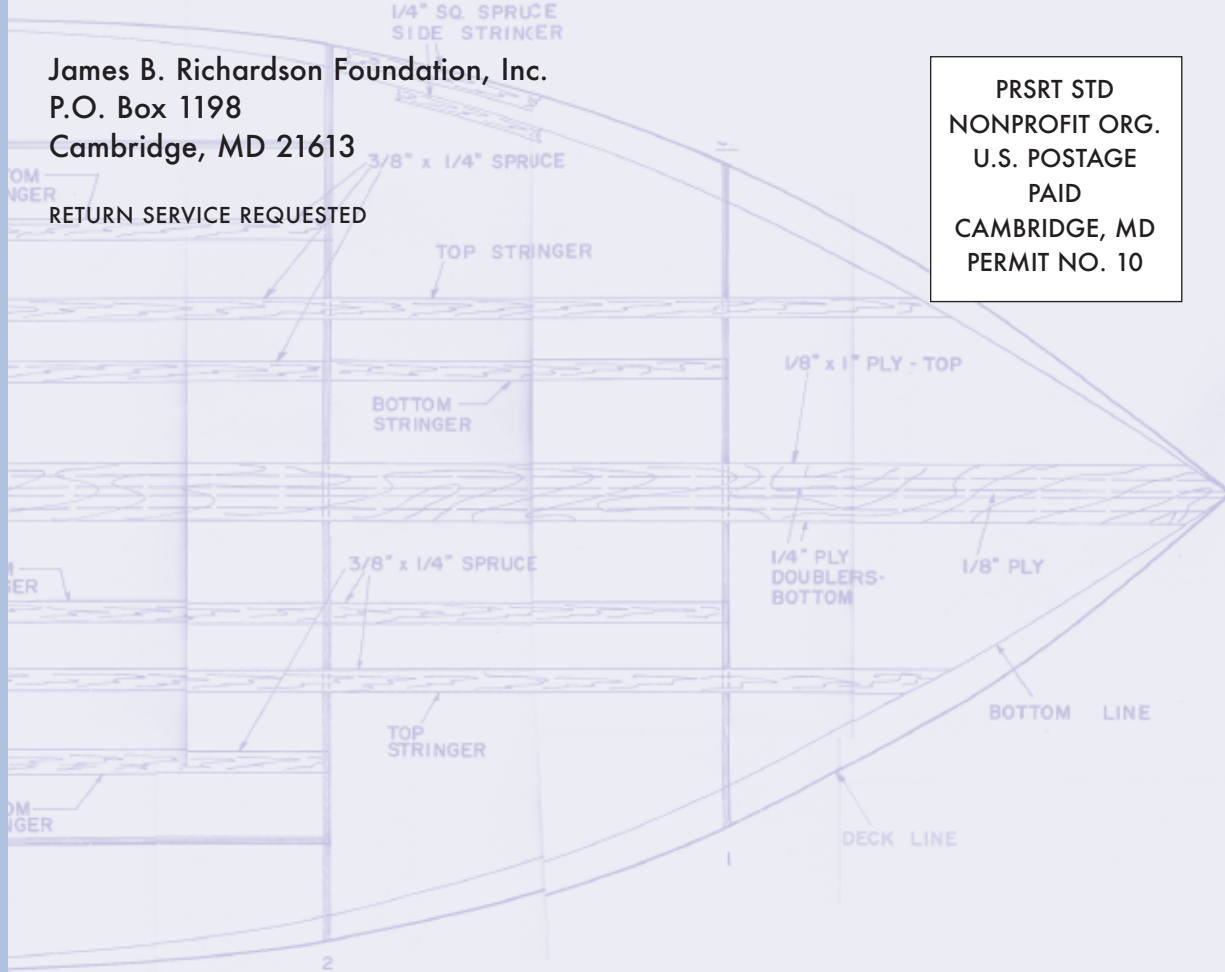
Contact Herm Kramer:  
410-221-6294  
hermkram@verizon.net

**Go digital!**

We have added a sign-up on our website at [www.richardsonmuseum.org](http://www.richardsonmuseum.org). If you'd like to receive future newsletters or news of upcoming events by e-mail, please go to our website to sign up.

James B. Richardson Foundation, Inc.  
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We also accept PayPal. Go to [www.richardsonmuseum.org](http://www.richardsonmuseum.org).

**Mail to:** James B. Richardson Foundation, Inc., P.O. Box 1198, Cambridge, MD 21613

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