



Readin' Both Pages

A membership publication of the Sail, Power & Steam Museum

Spring 2020

A New Year at SPSM



Winter "Vacation": Although the museum was closed for the season, we've been plenty busy, working on our fleet and preparing for a new season. Work continued on our as-yet-to-be-named **Muscongus Bay Sloop**, and we're looking forward to her launch. Restoration has started on our two **Herreshoff 12-1/2's**; and our **beetle cat restoration** is nearly complete (*we have AWESOME volunteers!*)

Websites for the museum and the Midcoast Sailing Center have been rebuilt to serve as community resources, we've increased our social media presence on **Facebook** and **Instagram**, and we've had a great time interacting with our many followers. *And the music!* Our **Year Round Music Jams** continued to provide a forum of enjoyment for performers and audiences all winter long.

We've also been looking to the future: Plans for a new building to expand programming; working with **Sea Scouts** to bring their program to Rockland; building a schedule for the **Midcoast Sailing Center**; and working on fun, unique day sails for tourists, members, and local residents to get them out on

the water historic vessels. So much in the works ... that's just to mention a few.

Spring 2020: In spite of all of our planning and work, we certainly didn't anticipate the COVID-19 pandemic — just as we were about to begin our **2020 Membership Drive**, open for a new season of sailing and museum exhibits, continue Sunday Music Jams, and re-start the **Folk Music** series.

Museums work to preserve our cultural **past**, but we know you are thinking about the **present** and wondering about the **future**. Now is a frightening time for many - especially those on the front lines of the Pandemic.

We hope that you, our members, supporters, visitors, and volunteers, all know that we are thinking of you and wishing you the very best. Please know that while our mission is to conserve the stories and the artifacts of our maritime heritage, we, too, are looking to and planning for the future, to opening the museum and the MidCoast Sailing Center, and to inviting you all to visit us this summer when our world settles back down. In **the meantime, please stay safe and healthy**, and visit us for a virtual tour (complete with plenty of stories from the Captain himself!) at www.SailPowerSteamMuseum.org, or find us on YouTube, Instagram, and Facebook!

Founded in 2007, the Museum's mission is to enrich the lives of visitors, volunteers, and the general public through hands-on, interactive, and educational experiences with historically significant sailing, power, and steam driven vessels, ships, and small boats while providing instruction as to their origins, construction, and original commercial and recreational purposes.

Board of Directors: Capt. Jim Sharp, Chairman & Founder; Meg Sharp, Co-Founder; Tom Marshall, Treasurer; Capt. Ken Barnes; Gordon Bok; Tom Goettel; Ann Morris; George Orestis; Mark Siegenthaler; Peter Whitman

The Sail Power and Steam Museum is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization. Your gifts to the museum are fully tax-deductible.



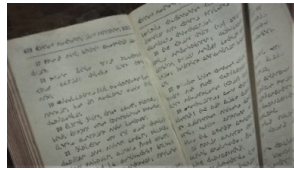
From the Pilothouse

...and this ancient, grizzly, old fisherman came hobbling into the Museum ... “Hey Charlie me b’y,” I blurted, “How are they comin? I’ve never heard an old fisherman admit to anything positive, and he replied, “They ain’t” and that was all there was to that.

Charlie Oaks is a frequent and amazing supporter of the Museum with not only his very original music (he plays a “garbalator,” a 1-string garbage can bass fiddle with no bow), but also with a plethora of contributions of Arctic memorabilia his father, David Oaks, brought back from his trips to the far north in the early 20th century.

David was quite a character. A Bowdoin graduate (where he met Adm. Donald MacMillan), he was attracted to the artifacts from Mac’s voyages on display

at the college. David was from a family of Moravians and was instrumental in bringing the word of God to the Inuit people.



When the Schooner Bowdoin delivered the first school house to the Inuit in Nain, Labrador, the native language was only spoken, not written. An Inuit dictionary was soon created, and the Moravians made the very first printed translation of the Bible for the native people. Charlie donated this copy from his father’s collection to the Museum. *You must come see it....all written in Inuit graphics.*

David at one time worked on the restoration of the *Constellation*, and we have on display an original cannon ball from her guns. Another amazing gift from Charlie’s collection is a small compass that Admiral MacMillan used on his North Pole excursion—small enough so it would pack easily in his duffel.

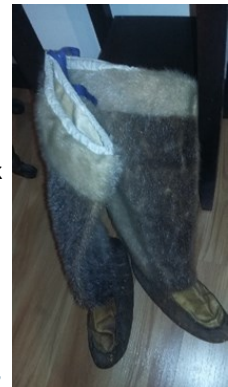


Charlie beats out a medley on his home-made bass fiddle. He rarely knows the key, but of course what does it matter? The thick rug under the garbage can dissipates the thump so it compliments all tunes



Charlie’s collection is so varied and eclectic, we were astounded when he came in with a very antique “trade figurine” of a top-hatted sailor with a sextant, an item reminiscent of the famous cigar store Indian carvings of the late 1800s. It is a wonderful addition to our world class display of over twenty navigational instruments of all vintages and origins, hung on our “wall of quadrants and sextants”.

If you have never worn a pair of real sealskin Mukluks, authentic native boots, you should really try these on. The result—Heavenly feet! Well.....I’m not finished yet but I’m running out of space, so you’ll just have to come into the museum and see the steering wheel from the wreck of the schooner *Rising Sun* and learn her history, the original painting of the prettiest Inuit girl of all the world (see if you agree), oh there is a sail makers palm, very old binoculars, pictures, and even an opium urn and on and on it goes.



It also goes without saying; **WE THANK CHARLIE OAKS PROFUSLY FOR HIS DONATIONS!**

Captain Jim & Meg Sharp

New Faces

This fall saw the addition of new faces to our SPSM family:

Board:

George Orestis of Camden, a board certified and licensed Occupational Therapy Assistant with life-long experiences in boating and waterfront management, including a stint as the Assistant Harbor Master in Camden.

Tom Marshall of Rockland, our new Treasurer, moved to Maine after a career in banking. He is an adjunct Professor in Business at the University of Maine at Augusta. He is also a Trustee of the Rockland Port District.

Peter Whitman of Kittery Point spent much of his career in entrepreneurial management and real estate development. He helped to form the Friends of the Wentworth, working to save the historically significant NH Hotel. He serves on multiple boards, including Kittery Port Authority.

Staff:

Robin McIntosh, Associate Director. A graduate of the University of Maine, her career has focused primarily on marketing and non-profit development. She lives in Camden and sails Penobscot Bay aboard the original Schooner Appledore with her husband and their 2 dogs.



George
Orestis



Tom
Marshall



Peter
Whitman



Robin
McIntosh

How you can help...

We need our members and supporters now more than ever.

We know these are difficult times for many, and we hesitate to even ask ... but we know this is going to be a difficult season, with many vital, small museums closing their doors in the face of stay-at-home-orders and job loss.

Please consider going to our website

www.SailPowerSteamMuseum.org

to join or renew your membership for the coming year.



New Program at Midcoast Sailing Center



Early this spring, we met with Brandon Wilkins of the Sea Scouts to research the possibility of starting a unit (or "Ship") here at the Midcoast Sailing Center. After touring our facilities and talking about our mutual missions, we all agreed that this would be the perfect spot for a Sea Scout "Ship."

What is Sea Scouting? A program of Boy Scouts of America for men and women ages 14 to 20. For over 100 years, Sea Scouting has promoted better citizenship and leadership through instruction and practice in water safety, boating skills, outdoor, social service experiences, and knowledge of our maritime heritage. A youth led, adult mentored program, the four pillars of the program include seamanship, scouting, service, and social.

How is this a good fit? We see this as the perfect 3-legged stool. Utilizing our facilities (docks, classrooms, and boats), adult volunteer mentors from our community, and 100 years of programming experience from the Sea Scouts, we think we'll have the base for an excellent program right here in Rockland to provide limitless opportunities, exciting challenges – a place to grow and learn, find adventure, and build long lasting friendships.

INTERESTED IN VOLUNTEERING? If you'd like to be one of the adult mentors, contact Capt. Sharp here at the Midcoast Sailing Center to see what's involved. You know you're gonna love it!

Email: SailPowerSteamMuseum@gmail.com or phone: 207-596-0200

The Midcoast Sailing Center Needs YOU (and a chase boat)!

- Are you able to volunteer some time to fit out boats in the spring or help teach sailing next summer or help mentor kids in a new, local **SeaScout program** (see above)?
- Do you have a **chase-boat** that you'd like to donate? We're looking for something reliable, large enough to hold 6 people, and (hopefully) low maintenance.



Come Sail With Us!

We're proud to be starting our second season of the **Midcoast Sailing Center** this summer! Not only will we once again have sailing lessons for kids and adults (taught by US Coast Guard licensed captains), but we'll be chartering some of our classic vessels!

Looking for something a little more leisurely? Join us for a 2-hour sail aboard one of our Friendship Sloops! With two cruises to choose from, you can sail to Rockland Harbor lighthouses or help our crew haul lobster traps the old fashioned way—under sail!

Check out our website for schedules and pricing: www.MidcoastSailingCenter.org

Instagram: [Sail_Power_Steam_Museum](#)
Facebook: [Rockland-Sail-Power-and-Steam-Museum](#)
www.SailPowerSteamMuseum.org
207-596-0200

Sail, Power & Steam Museum
The Old Snow Shipyard
73 Mechanic Street
Rockland, ME 04841

New To The Sail Power & Steam Museum Collection



The impressive ship's model of the Schooner Roseway (shown on the left) was donated to the museum by model maker, Duane Muzzy, of St. Augustine, FL. Having built and donated five previous ship models to the museum, this one took countless hours to construct with careful attention to detail.

The model is of Capt. Jim Sharp's former schooner, Roseway, which he owned from 1975 to 1988, operating her as one of Camden's fleet of windjammers. Built in 1925 she spent most of her life as a Boston Pilot boat. She was still fishing when Capt. Sharp purchased her, and he and his crew rebuilt her for passenger travel. She was (and is) a beautiful vessel, and her tanbark sails made her easy to identify out on the bay, even by the untrained eye.

To join or renew your membership for 2020, please visit
www.SailPowerSteamMuseum.org