

The Scuttlebutt

A PUBLICATION OF THE MARITIME HERITAGE ALLIANCE
WHERE HISTORY SETS SAIL!

Our mission: To preserve, interpret, and share the maritime heritage of the Great Lakes.

Spring 2011

www.MaritimeHeritageAlliance.org

Volume XIV, Issue I

CALENDAR

April

2 ~ **Strategic Plan Review**, 1 pm,
GTYC, all invited
16 ~ All Crew Meeting, 2 pm

May

7 – **Spring Potluck, GTYC, 6 pm**
11 – MHA Board mtg, 5:15

(All events take place at the boat shop
at 7 pm unless otherwise stated)

MHA Office and Restoration Shop

13268 SW Bay Shore Drive
Traverse City, MI 49684
Ofc: 231-946-2647 cell: 231-645-1625

Board Members

Rod Jones, *President*
Jay Ruzak, *VP*
Zachary Hegg, *5/3 Bank, Treasurer*
Sherri Freels, *Secretary*
Rich Brauer
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Ed Brown, *Director Emeritus*

Staff

Mark Thompson, *Executive Director*

MHA ONLINE

WWW.MARITIMEHERITAGEALLIANCE.ORG

MARK@MARITIMEHERITAGEALLIANCE.ORG

MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS

Please take a quick look at your mailing label. Above your name is the date of your MHA membership renewal. If the date has passed, please renew your membership soon! You can do so by sending a check to the address at the left, or go to our website and renew online via PayPal.

Single membership is just \$35 and a Family membership is only \$50, a deal at twice the price! MHA's 2011 budget is close to ¼ million dollars, and your membership dues are an important part of the equation. Thank you in advance for your support!

STRATEGIC PLAN REVIEW APRIL 2

The MHA Strategic Plan, first developed in 2007-8, is due for an update, and the Board would like your input. On Saturday, April 2, we will gather at the GTYC at 1 pm to discuss the future for MHA.

What do you see as the priorities? What will we need in the way of facilities for future projects? Docks? Additional shop space? Classroom space? Display areas? Tell us what you think! If you cannot attend the meeting in person, please email your input to: mark@maritimeheritagealliance.org.

SPRING POTLUCK SATURDAY, MAY 7

On Saturday, May 7, at 6pm, MHA will hold our Spring Potluck at the Grand Traverse Yacht Club. Bring a dish to pass and place settings and be prepared for a fun evening of camaraderie as we look forward to the sailing season ahead.

FANCY STICKERS!

Enclosed with this issue of *The Scuttlebutt* is a fancy new MHA logo sticker. We hope you will display it proudly and tell the world you are a member of a great organization.



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Where History Sets Sail

RESTORATION SHOP NEWS

If you've been by the MHA in the recent months since December, you may have noticed some more sawdust dusting up the work floor, some additions to the shop's power-tool collection, and a few new installations on the walls of bldg #1.

Compelled with the mission to initiate year round programming in the Restoration Shop focusing on combining youth mentoring and wooden boat building, several MHA members and myself have been working non-stop after receiving the Board's unanimous endorsement of a multi-tiered program concept. Currently, on the youth mentoring tier, a group of students from Suttons Bay Schools ride down twice a week with a certified educator accompanying them for an afternoon in the boat shop lead by Nick Carlson, boat builder/mentor. Thus far, students have accomplished a variety of tasks, including the completion of their second bench project; their own wooden tool tote. From hand-planing the boards with a sharp Stanley smoothing plane, to cutting the half laps with a Lie Nielson rabbet plane and chisel, these tool boxes were crafted completely with hand tools by students who may have never picked up and practically used a traditional wood working tool before now.

The next project is a Lyman 23' named "Break Room". Since starting youth programming in January, students have had hands in the construction of wheel carts for mobilizing large power tools, a bench mounted brush cleaning station, workbench improvements as well as two new wall mounted storage shelves installed to help with the organization of a growing collection of paints, potions and hand tools.

In the bigger picture, the Restoration Shop Committee is collaborating with the MHA Board and a community youth organization, SEEDS, from Traverse City, to launch a pilot project of a new program called *Grand Traverse Longboats*. The program is modeled after both the Atlantic Challenge (worldwide) and Lake Champlain Longboats (Vergennes, VT) combining aspects of boat shop and on-the-water environments through the construction and use of a 23', four-station rowing gig modeled after a traditional Whitehall. Money and shared shop space have proven to be small road bumps in the process implementing the Longboat Program. However, a recent space and money saving alternative in the form of a kit built version of a similar longboat offered through *Wooden Boat* magazine, may be a fruitful compromise for the Restoration Shop Committee, and the other Committees currently utilizing the heated shop space that bldg #1 has to offer. Stop by the MHA to have a look at the Longboat program curriculum. Let us know what you think; your ideas and feedback are important as we craft an effective community youth program.

Also on the Committee's future concept list is the implementation of a Maritime Craftsmanship Short Courses/lecture series, as well as a Membership weekly Open Shop Night. The Short Course/Lecture series is conceptualized to offer day long workshops/lectures on topics ranging from Knot work to successfully sharpening edge tools and every maritime skill in between. Classes would be taught by qualified craftsman and women currently practicing their trade in the community and with a skill level advanced enough to effectively teach to others.

Member Open Shop Night is a concept designed to give the MHA

membership more mileage out of their membership dues. From the shop improvement projects taking place in Bldg #1, the Restoration Shop will soon be a well-oiled and efficient work space. And we would like to share this state of the art wood shop space with all those members and would-be members who contribute yearly to make this space what it is. Open weekly, after normal work hours, the Open Shop would encourage members to bring in projects to a well supplied, well equipped, and safe project space. Users will have an experienced wood worker to refer to for problem solving and other shop users to bounce creative ideas off of.

The Restoration Shop Committee is currently seeking a sub-committee chairman to lead either of these two project initiatives. If that person is you, or you know of someone who would be interested in managing and seeking outside funding for either of these initiatives, please contact Nick Carlson at 231-421-1885.

Restoration Shop Wish List:

Any and all types of hand tool donations (currently utilizing my personal and limited collection for Restoration Shop programming) i.e.: Hand planes, Chisels, Scraper, Sharpening stones, a random orbital sander, extension cords (bring in your shorties, we can put new ends on them) Bit Braces and assorted bits, new and sharp drill bits etc...

Dust Collection duct work to connect our central vacuum unit to individual equipment.

Vertical bench vices with adjustable foot. (with the metal acme screw hardware, students can easily build and install the rest)

Material to build a wooden floor atop the concrete for ¼ or ½ of the shop space

Air dried Cedar or Oak

Carbon filter and particulate respirators (qty 5)

CHAMPION UPDATE

The heavy winter work load on *Champion* continues apace, thanks to our shipwright Geoff Rudolph and the extraordinary efforts of a large crew of volunteers, including Rod Jones, Paul Anderson, Bruce Davis, Mike English, Randy McClure, Marty Klein, Mark Linde, John Kelley, Cliff Wagner, Barb & Bill Horning, Andy Schofield, Butch Moring, Larry Lozen, Garrett Coggon, Webb Buell, Liz & John Radlicki, Vaughn Hinks, and new member John Watt. If I've left anyone out, I apologize, but thank you also.

The centerboard trunk re-building has required considerable and effort through difficult disassembly and fabrication of major timbers to replace damaged and deteriorated original structures. Oak timbers, milled out of a large log on Rod's portable mill one Saturday not long ago have now been shaped, fitted, and installed as the port bed-log and fore & aft posts of the trunk, and work has begun to fit the new trunk sides. The centerboard itself has been repaired and reinforced, and is just about ready to be re-fit into the re-built trunk once *Champion* is in the slings.

The cabin top has been prepped, and is about ready to receive their new canvas coverings. Efforts are underway to re-introduce moisture into the bare planking to swell the wood closer to in-the-water dimension. Re-canvassing the main cabin top and the aft decks around the cockpit has been pushed back a bit due to a fair amount of repair going on at the after end of the main cabin house and around the cockpit.

We have also done some work on the fuel system, re-locating and re-fitting the Racor water-separator filter with a new bowl, gaskets, and proper service shut-off valves, and

tracing and marking fuel delivery and return lines and directional valves in the system. The water system will get some attention also, notably replacing suspect sections of hose and fitting proper new ball-valves in place.

One bad plank below the waterline on the port aft quarter has been fitted, and needs now to be cotton-caulked & seam-compounded. Lots of work remains to be done as the repairs and re-assembly near completion, with replacement moldings & trims needing to milled, removed parts prepped & re-painted prior to re-installation, and much re-painting on the exterior and interior.

The *Champion* Committee learned recently that Ben Doornbos has accepted a full-time, year-round job with benefits, and will no longer be able serve as the SAIL *Champion* Program coordinator and Captain. The SAIL Program has benefited enormously from Ben's efforts over the last two years, and we will rely on the groundwork he helped lay to continue improving our mission of serving local at-risk youth through our sail training program. Jed Mooney, *Champion* Chair



3RD ANNUAL SCHOONER FESTIVAL SET FOR SEPT 9, 10, 11



We are well into the New Year and are counting the days until the MHA boats are sailing again and we hope you will save the date for the 2011 Schooner Festival. This year the Festival will be held September 9-11, at The Open Space in Traverse City. We are currently in the initial planning stages for this year's event so for those of you who would like to join in the fun and volunteer, please visit:

www.michiganschoonerfestival.org
to view the list of venues.

We want MHA members and past volunteers to have initial access to volunteering opportunities before we release it to the general public later this spring.

Thanks to all of you who made the 2010 Festival a huge success. It could not have been accomplished without your exceptional efforts. Thanks again for your support!
Schooner Festival Committee

DRY LAND REGATTA, SEPTEMBER 10

As part of the Schooner Festival this year, we are encouraging members and friends to bring their boats to the Festival for a "Dry Land Regatta" at the Open Space on Saturday morning, September 10. More details will follow as the concept develops further.

WELCOME NEWS



Approximately seven members of the *Welcome* volunteers have been working every Tuesday and Thursday this winter removing all of the lead ballast (20 tons), cleaning the bilge, examining for rot, and replacing the lead. While the survey of the interior is finished, the exterior is next. Much work needs to be done prior to sailing on maintenance of the boat and rigging.

We are anticipating a very busy summer schedule. In addition to the Cherry Festival and Schooner Festival, we are planning on a number of "six-pack" sails and joint activity with our canoe group and re-enactors. Of course, our cannons will get a good workout, which always delights visitors and crew.

You can join in the fun by volunteering to work on *Welcome* on Tuesdays and/or Thursdays from 9:00 A.M. to 12:00 Noon or sail:

July 2, 4, 6 and 8 10am –Noon,
2pm to 4pm, 6pm – 8pm

July 3, 5, 7 & 9 - Walk on Tours

Welcome Training Schedule –
June and July (after Cherry
Festival)

Tuesdays -10am - Noon

Thursdays – 4pm - 6pm

Saturdays – 2 sails – 10am –
Noon, Noon to 4pm

All dates are contingent on having
sufficient crew and captains.

Howard Byrne, WC Chair

MADELINE REPORT

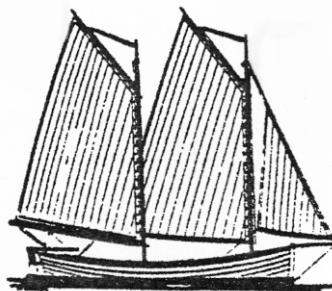
Madeline maintenance work is well under way with her masts and spars in the shop for some repair and refinishing work. Planning for the 2011 sailing season is in the works with tentative engagements around the Lakes. The Madeline Committee will have more updates as summer approaches.



MENTORING BREAKFAST APRIL

13

The Poverty Reduction Initiative, a local non-profit dedicated to helping lift people out of poverty, will host a free mentor networking breakfast on Wednesday, April 13, at 8am, at the Faith Reformed Church (Front Street, across from Arby's). MHA member Jim Rowlett is one of the founders of PRI and a fan of MHA's youth mentoring programs as well.



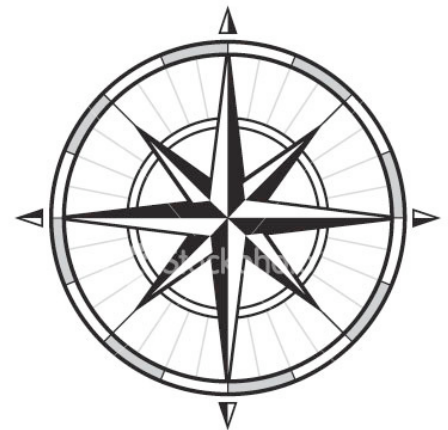
25TH ANNUAL MHA BOAT AUCTION JUNE 11

Planning for our 25th Annual Boat Auction is underway. Auction Chair/Board Member Jim Carruthers is ready to accept your boat or equipment donations. If you have a boat or gear you can donate, please contact the MHA staffer at 231-645-1625. Thanks!

BYLAW COMMITTEE REPORT

The Bylaws of the Maritime Heritage Alliance are being revised by a committee of ten members. We have reworked the bylaws and are currently waiting for them to be reviewed by an attorney. After his input, they will be presented to the Board of Directors and ultimately the changes will go to the membership to be voted on. Our goal is to have the bylaws presented to the membership for a vote at the annual spring potluck.

George Cummings- Bylaw
Committee Chairman



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