

SHIPWAYS



LAKE PONTCHARTRAIN BASIN MARITIME MUSEUM

SPRING 2009

ON THE WEB AT:

www.lpbmaritimemuseum.org

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COMING EVENTS:

Lecture Series

- March**– 12pm Dr. Rob Moreau
- April 30**– 6:30pm Dr. Charles Elliot
- May 28**– 12pm Dr. Roy Blackwood
- June 25**– 6:30pm Dr. Charles A. Dranguet Book Signing
- July 30**– 6:30 Joe Gelp: Oceaneering
- August 27**– 6:30 TBA
- September 24**– 6:30 Dr. John Irion
- October**– participation in Fanfare
- November 19**– 6:30 TBA
- December 17**– 6:30 Nature Conservancy

Call (985)845- 9200 for details on listed events.

FAREWELL

Friends of the Museum:

As I retire as President of the Board of Directors, I am pleased with all of the progress that has been made in our organization. New staff, new programs, and a renewed sense of purpose and proactive activity prevail. I appreciate the support of our sponsors, our members, our volunteers, and our staff in making this possible. I also wish to thank Dr. John Crain, President of Southeastern Louisiana University, for forging an even

stronger bond between the museum and the university.

I congratulate our new officers, lead by President Bill Kingsmill, upon their election and thank them for their willingness to serve. I have had the pleasure of working with Bill for the last year as Vice President, and I appreciate his good humor, his good sense, and his ability to lead. I know he will continue to move the museum forward toward our goal of achieving the highest standards in the museum field.

This will take time, but I know that Bill and his team will do a great job.

I will remain on the Board to support our new officers. I encourage all who are interested in the museum to renew their efforts to support the institution and continue the progress that has been made. Thank you.

Jay Blossman

NEW MUSEUM LEADERSHIP

Friends of the Museum:

Thank you for your support for the Lake Pontchartrain Basin Maritime Museum. As flattered as I am to be elected, I am equally humbled to follow Jay Blossman as President. During his administration, Jay worked tirelessly to improve the institution and strive for professionalism in all things. He led the museum through some very difficult transitions and did an outstanding job despite his many commitments as Chairman of the Public Service Commission. We all owe him our gratitude for

his extraordinary service.

I also want to recognize our new officers--Vice President George Tallant, Treasurer John Ammerman, and Secretary Lynn Haase--and at-large members of the Executive Committee--Doug Gardner, Marty Gould, and Don Lynch. I expect much of them this year, just as I know that they and you expect much of me. Being a member of the Board of Directors, and especially a member of the Executive Committee, requires a commitment that exceeds the capabilities of many. This year that leadership

will be tested by reaching for ambitious goals despite an economic recession and a reduction of our budget. I am pleased to have such a talented team in place to face the many challenges that lay ahead and I ask you for your support to maintain the momentum established during Jay Blossman's terms as President.

I look forward to working with you in the coming year and anticipate that 2009 will see even more milestones for our young organization.

Bill Kingsmill



Join us this year for Madisonville's
20th Wooden Boat Festival!
October 10&11, 2009



2008 ANNUAL REPORT: A YEAR OF PROGRESS

The Lake Pontchartrain Basin Maritime Museum made steady progress during 2008. Here are some highlights:

Goal 1: Develop educational programs for all ages and work with appropriate educational partners to extend institutional outreach.

Partners included:

- Southeastern Louisiana University
- University of New Orleans
- Maritime Industry
- Environmental Protection Agency
- United States Army Corps of Engineers
- United States Materials and Minerals Service
- Louisiana State Historic Preservation Office
- Federal Emergency Management Agency
- United States Coast Guard
- Local and regional schools
- Many others

Build up existing educational programs:

- Boatbuilding
- Field Trips

Establish new educational programs:

- Lightkeepers Overnight Program
- Swashbucklers Birthday Bash
- Ecotours with Southeastern

Results: New education brochure, *Southeastern Magazine* cover story, *Lighthouse Journal* coverage of lighthouse history/restoration, significant media coverage, *Shipways* resumed publication, and exposure in the motion picture "The Curious Case of Benjamin Button."

Goal 2: Fulfill obligations for the lighthouse, facility care, collections, and research.

Lighthouse restoration made significant progress and these efforts were recognized by First Lady Laura Bush.

Collections expanded and reorganized:

- Draft Exhibit Plan
- Grant of collections library from Institute for Museum and Library Services to support collection stewardship

with Southeastern Louisiana University

Research:

- Archaeological

Environmental facilities upgraded:

- Sprinkler System
- Clean and repair building exterior
- Catering kitchen upgraded
- Clean, repair, and landscape cottage
- Educational
- Technological

Goal 3: Make the facility more efficient, productive, and secure to meet its educational mission.

- Clean and maintain museum
- Plantings between neighboring property

Goal 4: Build institutional resources by rewarding economy and thoughtful proactive administration through investment in capital improvements, reserve funds, and endowment.

- Economy in operations led to modest year end surplus

- Enlarged lighthouse reserve fund
- Ongoing law suit eroded ability to create an endowment
- Upgraded and refined policies and procedures

Goal 5: Prepare for eventual institutional expansion.

- Planning for lighthouse access and site development
- 2007 audit complete
- Worked with the St. Tammany Parish Library System on new Madisonville Branch

In addition, in 2008 the museum reached milestones for the number of school field trips, for restoration of the lighthouse tower, and for its level of activity with key educational partner Southeastern Louisiana University.

Thank you to our many sponsors, volunteers, and community members who helped make 2008 a year of progress.

Lake Pontchartrain Basin Maritime Museum Statement of Assets and Liabilities Comparative

	2007 Audited	2008 Un-Audited
ASSETS		
Cash	222,823	196,182
Accounts Receivable	10,155	24,503
Inventory	17,379	27,642
Fixed Assets	2,198,675	2,210,675
Exhibits	471,092	471,092
TOTAL ASSETS	2,920,124	2,930,093
LIABILITIES AND FUND BALANCES		
Accounts Payable	0	5,676
Other Liabilities	6,737	5,946
Accrued Expenses	28,194	1,800
Deferred Grant Revenue	6,194	6,194
Net Assets	2,878,999	2,910,478
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND FUND BALANCES	2,920,124	2,930,093

MEMBERS WANTED!

This issue of *Shipways* highlights many of the exciting accomplishments that the Maritime Museum achieved in 2008. Your support for the organization is what makes this progress possible.

In 2009 please consider upgrading your membership or recruiting other members to support our efforts to collect, preserve, research, and interpret the history, culture, and environment of Lake Pontchartrain, the Lower Mississippi River Basin, and the Gulf

Coast of Louisiana.

In addition to supporting our efforts to restore the Tchefuncte River Lighthouse, provide fantastic educational programs, and conserve the Tchefuncte Marsh, the basic family membership of \$25 per year also brings free admission to the museum, special members-only lectures, tours, and events, and ecotours with Southeastern Louisiana University faculty, all at no charge. In 2008 we extended membership

to include a special ecotour for members only during the Wooden Boat Festival, which we intend to repeat in 2009. When the lighthouse is opened to the public, members can anticipate a special opportunity to see it first. Higher lever memberships have additional benefits.

For information on memberships, please contact Penny or Melanie at (985)845-9200.

DR. CRAIN NAMED SOUTHEASTERN LOUISIANA UNIVERSITY PRESIDENT

On February 17, 2009, Dr. John Crain was named President of Southeastern Louisiana University by unanimous vote of the University of Louisiana System's board of supervisors.

Crain now leads Louisiana's third largest public university with over 15,000 students. Crain, a tenured faculty member, has served as faculty senate president, head of the department of accounting, provost and vice president for academic affairs and interim president.

Crain helped create the Southeast Louisiana Business Center. The center oversees several economic development agencies, including the Southeastern Small Business Development Center (SBDC). Since 2002, SBDC helped start or expand 125 busi-

nesses by providing capital and loans. The center also helped create or retain more 400 jobs and trained more than 2,000 private sector employees.

"I have tremendous respect for Dr. Crain, and I am confident Southeastern will continue to flourish under his leadership," said University of Louisiana System President Randy Moffett. "His innovative ideas, tenacious work ethic, and dedication to the university community are just some of the reasons why he will be successful."

Crain is a native of Washington Parish. He received a bachelor of science in accounting and a master of business administration from Southeastern Louisiana University, before earning a doctoral degree in accountancy from the University of Miss.

Dr. Crain is a long time member of the Lake Pontchartrain Basin Maritime Museum Board of Directors.



2009 WOODEN BOAT FESTIVAL UPDATE

Preparations are well underway for the 20th annual Madisonville Wooden Boat Festival on October 10-11. Staff members Melanie Waddell and Jill Stoltz have already accomplished much in the last month. The Festival web site (www.woodenboatfest.org) has been updated and revised forms for registration will be added shortly. The call for poster artists has gone out. Standby for further updates.



The 20th Madisonville Wooden Boat Festival poster will celebrate the boats built in the Museum Wooden Boat Building Program.

ROLLBACK ON RENTAL RATES!!!

In light of the recession, the Museum has decided to roll back rates on event rentals at the museum and light keepers cottage during 2009. A list of rental rates is available on our web site at www.lpbmaritimemuseum.org.

For information on rental rates, please contact Melanie Waddell at (985)845-9200 or info@lpbmaritimemuseum.org.

GIFT SHOP NEW ARRIVALS

We have some great specials in the Gift Shop and special events during the year. Shirts are marked down 50% and all past year Wooden Boat Festival Posters are reduced to \$15.00 or 2 for \$25.00 (2008 not included). This is a great time to complete your collection, available for a limited time!

Special events in the Gift Shop will include a Book Signing event in May with the author E'Deenna Elmer who wrote the book "Lighthouses of Louisiana".

On July 25, we will have a "CHRISTMAS IN JULY" sale with Santa and his Elves. A call

to Crafters and Artist will go out in March. Activities for children will occur at the Cottage or under the Museum. If you know an Artist, Crafter, Elves to help Santa, or would like to volunteer please call Darnell Couvillion at 985-845-9200 Email: giftshop@lpbmaritimemuseum.org.

EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS

LIGHTKEEPER'S OVERNIGHT PROGRAM



Participants learn various nautical knot-tying techniques from a museum volunteer.

Thanks to the generous support of Capital One, the museum will be offering four free Lightkeepers Overnights for children's groups in 2009. Each overnight for up to twenty children and adult chaperons normally cost \$600.

These educational programs help children ages five to eleven to learn about the lives that light keepers and their families led during the 19th and early 20th centuries.

These free overnights are available on a first come, first served basis and are structured for scout, church, 4-H, school, and other established groups. For information, please contact Kristen at (985)845-2000.

GUEST LECTURES

The museum is now hosting guest speakers each month including organizations such as Southeastern Louisiana University, Turtle Cove, US Army Corps of Engineers, Oceaneering, and Minerals Management Service. **The evening lecture will be for members ONLY and the Lunchtime Lectures will be open to the public.**

On June 25, we will have Dr. Charles A. Dranguet, author of *Backdoor to the Gulf. An American Paradise Lost: The Pass Manchac Region, 1699-20*, to speak about his book, and also a book signing after the lecture. The book is now available in the gift shop for purchase.

LPBMM GOVERNING/FINANCIAL DOCUMENTS AVAILABLE

The Lake Pontchartrain Basin Maritime Museum has the following records available for review by members in good standing by appointment with Board Secretary Lynn Haase or Executive Director Jay Martin:

- Articles of Incorporation
- Bylaws
- Independent Audit, 2007
- IRS 990 Forms, 2006, 2007
- Tax Exempt Determination Letter

The Articles and IRS 990 forms are publicly available at www.guidestar.com. Requests should be addressed to Board Secretary Lynn Haase at the museum at (985)845-9200 or by cell at (985)966-5219. Updated financials will be available annually.



The Lake Pontchartrain Basin Maritime Museum (a 501 (c)(3) non-profit) collects, preserves, and interprets the unique maritime history and culture of Lake Pontchartrain, the lower Mississippi River, and the Louisiana Gulf Coast.

Executive Director
Educator
Administrative Assistant
Bookkeeper
SLU Coordinator
Gift Shop Manager
Field Trip Manager
Boat Builder
Newsletter Layout

Dr. Jay Martin
Kristen Garcia
Melanie Waddell
Jill Stoltz
C. Roy Blackwood
Darnell Couvillion
Catherine Lynch
Bob Doolittle
Stephanie Bernard

Lake Pontchartrain Basin Maritime Museum
133 Mabel Drive
Madisonville, LA 70447
Phone: 985-845-9200
Fax: 985-845-9201
E-mail: info@lpbmaritimemuseum.org
Website: www.lpbmaritimemuseum.org