

SUMMER 2010



# SHIPWAYS

THE LAKE PONTCHARTRAIN BASIN MARITIME MUSEUM QUARTERLY

## ON THE WEB AT:

[www.lpbmm.org](http://www.lpbmm.org)

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## COMING EVENTS:

**June 9**—Reception for Dr. Martin, Lynhaven, Hammond

**June 7-18**—Short Boatbuilding Class, See article Page 4

**June 21–25, July 12-16**—ROV Summer Camp

**July 17**—Tchefuncte River Lighthouse Fundraiser (postponed)

**August 14**—Wood Carvers Show

**October 4**—Southeastern Louisiana University Fanfare, 7:00pm

**October 22**—Maritime Mania!

**October 23-24**—21<sup>st</sup> Annual Madisonville Wooden Boat Festival

**November 13**—Toy and Model Boat Show

**January 19**—2011 LPBMM Annual Meeting

**FREE ADMISSION**—The Maritime Museum will offer free admission from June 1 through September 30 thanks to generous sponsorship by Chevron and Zen-Noh Grain. Call (985)845-9200 or visit [www.lpbmm.org](http://www.lpbmm.org) for de-

## NEW MUSEUM LEADERSHIP

In mid-June **Dr. Jay Martin** will leave the Lake Pontchartrain Basin Maritime Museum and Southeastern Louisiana University to join the Central Michigan University faculty as Director of both the Museums Studies Program and the Museum of Cultural and Natural History.

An interim management team will lead the Maritime Museum while the search for a qualified Executive Director is conducted. Board member **Don Lynch** will serve as the Transitional Interim Executive Director, while Board members **Lynn Haase** will be in charge of operations and **Ken Milstead** will head facilities.

In 2007 Dr. Martin became Executive Director of the Lake Pontchartrain Basin Maritime Museum and an Instructor at Southeastern Louisiana University where he taught in the Department of History and Political Science. During his three years at the Maritime Museum, Dr. Martin focused on restoring the Tchefuncte River Lighthouse, conserving the Tchefuncte Marsh, and developing new hands-on educational programs. He also worked to build a closer relationship with faculty, staff, and students at Southeastern Lou-



isiana University, helping students develop practical skills in the field of Public History.

"I appreciate the efforts of the Maritime Museum staff and volunteers," said Dr. Martin. "I will miss my friends and colleagues here in Louisiana."

A farewell reception is planned at **Lynhaven** (21669 Old Covington Hwy., Hammond) on the evening of Wednesday, June 9, 6:00pm. **RSVP to (985)845-9200 by June 1 if you plan to attend.**

## 2010 MADISONVILLE WOODEN BOAT FESTIVAL

Planning for the **2010 Madisonville Wooden Boat Festival** is well underway. The new presenting sponsor is long-time Maritime Museum supporter **Capital One Bank**. With past sponsorship of both Maritime Mania and the Tchefuncte River Light Station restoration project, Capital One Bank is a very familiar part of the Maritime Museum family.

**Ms. Carol Bell** has volunteered to be Festival Coordinator for 2010. Carol has long experience with event coordination and with maritime affairs, having owned her own event business in Toronto. She is presently also Commander of the Lake Pontchartrain Sail and Power Squadron.

The redesigned Wooden Boat Festival web site at [www.woodenboatfest.org](http://www.woodenboatfest.org) will go live on June 1. Don't forget to visit the Festival and Maritime Mania Facebook pages where you can post photographs of past events.

The search is on for Wooden Boat Festival volunteers. Prospective volunteers should contact Penny McCrossen at (985)845-9200 or [info@lpbmm.org](mailto:info@lpbmm.org).

presented by

## POKER TOURNAMENT A SUCCESS!



Dr. Jay Martin with the 1st place tournament winner Raymond Crawford.

The April 24 **Texas Hold 'Em Poker Tournament** was a success with over ninety participants. The top prize of \$2047.50 went to Raymond Crawford. The second prize winner was Theron McCarthy. The third prize winner was Corey Driver.

The event to benefit the Maritime Museum included the poker tournament, food and beverages, and a 50/50 raffle.

Thanks to Poker Productions, LLC, for managing the event for the Maritime Museum.

If you missed this event and would like to participate in the future, mark your calendar for **Saturday, July 31, 2010, when Texas Hold 'Em again returns** to the Maritime Museum. The initial buy-ins and re-buys will again be \$50. Seating is limited, so call Sharon Street at (985)845-9200 to reserve your place.

## WORKBOAT MAGAZINE COLLECTION TELLS AMERICA'S MARITIME STORY



Few collections provide a more comprehensive picture of the American maritime industry than does an archival treasure currently being processed as part of a collection reorganization by the Lake Pontchartrain Basin Maritime Museum. The collection comes from **WorkBoat magazine**, a leader in reporting developments in American maritime affairs for decades. The collection consists of thousands of images that document the breadth and depth of maritime endeavor nationwide, with a fair representation of international commerce as well. Most images are from the 1960s and 1970s.

The collection register is currently being compiled by Dr. Jay Martin with assistance from Southeastern Louisiana University students Ashley Hermann and Monique Lafleur. The collection will be opened for researchers when cataloging is complete.



## WOODEN BOAT FESTIVAL COLLECTION

In October 2009 the Madisonville Wooden Boat Festival turned twenty and on October 23, 2010, it will reach legal age. Live music, hot food, cold beer, and the spectacular wooden and classic boats of the Gulf Coast will characterize the celebration.

The Festival is a Louisiana *must see* and the Maritime Museum holds as proof twenty years of programs, letters, posters, and photographs. Have you ever wanted to see a photo of your Great Aunt Mae on her trusty trawler? Well, with a little luck and a lot of hard work, all this will become possible thanks to Southeastern Louisiana University student volunteer Monique Lafleur who is organizing the collection. One day the collection could be used to create a Maritime Museum exhibit dedicated to Madisonville's beloved Wooden Boat Festival.

## STEAMBOAT NEW ORLEANS BICENTENNIAL

The golden age of inland steamboat travel opened in 1811-12 with the transit of the Ohio and Mississippi Rivers by the first fully functional steamboat, aptly named *New Orleans*. In order to complete her passage from Pittsburgh to her namesake port, the steamboat passed through miles of unimproved river. Her crew experienced the famous New Madrid Earthquake (one of the most powerful on record) and attack by the Chickasaw Indians in a nearly two month passage. The *New Orleans* successfully demonstrated the viability of steamboat travel on inland waters.

In cooperation with the **Propeller Club of New Orleans**, the Maritime Museum is planning to celebrate this bicentennial. Even now a model of the steamboat *New Orleans* is being crafted by museum volunteer Lowell Ford. Details of other events will follow.

## EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS FOR 2010

This spring has been exciting for the educational program staff. Another successful year of the **Field Trip Program** gave Maritime Museum volunteers the opportunity to reach school children throughout the region. Thanks to our volunteers—lead by **Ms. Catherine Lynch**—for their dedication.

Upcoming educational programs include the second year of our **Aquatic Robotics Summer Camp** to be held June 21-25 and July 12-16. Participants age 9-17 will build a submersible robot, tour the facilities of robot manufacturers in Louisiana (see **SeaTrepid** below), and test their creations. The cost is \$275 per participant. Contact Stephanie at

[educator@lpbmm.org](mailto:educator@lpbmm.org) or call (985)845-9200 to reserve your place.

Due to the impact of the **Deepwater Horizon** oil spill and recent budget cuts, the Maritime Museum will temporarily suspend its **Ecotours** and **Overnight Programs**.

The Maritime Museum welcomes our new **Educator Stephanie Bernard Imel**. A graduate of Southeastern Louisiana University, Stephanie is familiar to many for her role in our Lighthouse Fundraisers and WBF Children's Village over the last two years. She replaces **Kristen Garcia**, who left the museum in May to pursue other opportunities.



## LOUISIANA INNOVATORS: THE SEATREPID STORY

*From Horace Hunley and his Civil War submarine to Andrew Higgins and his World War II landing craft, Louisiana maritime history is filled with innovators. In this new column, the Maritime Museum will support the marine industries with histories of companies that continue to keep our state on the cutting edge of discovery and achievement in the maritime realm.*

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SeaTrepid began life in the Northeastern USA as a US Governmental contracting organization providing equipment and expertise to the Department of Homeland Security focusing on port and harbor security in the aftermath of 9/11 attacks on our country. With the devastation wrought by the hurricanes of 2005, SeaTrepid morphed aggressively into an oil and gas services company providing engineering, equipment, expertise and services towards restoring our crippled oil infrastructure in the Gulf of Mexico. In May 2006, SeaTrepid relocated its

corporate offices from Southeastern Pennsylvania to the Northshore of Lake Pontchartrain to be closer to our Gulf of Mexico area of operations.

SeaTrepid is the premier provider of tethered, tele-operated free-swimming/crawling Observation Class through full Work Class Remotely Operated Vehicle (ROV) services, Unmanned Ground Vehicle (UGV) services as well as full technological solutions to our customer base Worldwide. With purpose-built robotics training, service and support facility in Robert, Louisiana, SeaTrepid provides training, staging, engineering and technical support to operations throughout the globe.

Robots are persistently being placed where it is too dangerous or too expensive to place humans. SeaTrepid has led the way in the development of these remote robotic techniques into dangerous and/or inaccessible places. SeaTrepid goes inside of drill pipe, into radioactive environments, underneath

oil and gas platforms, inside of sunken wrecks, inside of burning buildings, anywhere-anytime.

Today, SeaTrepid is deep rooted in capability, technical competence, geographical footprint as well as community awareness. The people at SeaTrepid are specialists in terrestrial and underwater robotics solutions to the commercial, governmental and scientific communities. The focus as an organization is in the persistent development of effective equipment and techniques for the lowering of risks to personnel, accomplishing underwater tasks in hazardous environments and bringing results to our customers through "Excellence Underwater."

SeaTrepid sponsors the Maritime Museum's summer ROV camp for children as well as the museum's community programs. The high-tech robotics industry is rapidly growing here on the North Shore, fueled by the oil & gas industry - with SeaTrepid leading the way right in your back yard!



*If you would like us to feature your maritime company as part of the Louisiana Innovators series, please contact Stephanie at [educator@lpbmm.org](mailto:educator@lpbmm.org) for details.*

**FREE MARITIME MUSEUM  
ADMISSION!**


Summer is a great time for family travel. But with so many Gulf Coast families suffering the ill effects of both the economy and the Deepwater Horizon oil spill, the viability of those summer day and weekend trips may be in doubt. However, two Maritime Museum partners have teamed up to make sure our exciting exhibits and activities are available to all by providing **free museum admission during the months of June, July, August, and September.** Museum supporters **Chevron** and **Zen-Noh Grain Corporation** have pre-paid your admission to the Maritime Museum!

To participate, visit the Maritime Museum during the summer and receive *free* admission. The program applies to all but guided group tours and paid programs. For information, call (985)845-9200

**BOATBUILDING SHORT COURSE**

Want to build a boat, but don't have enough evenings available? Try our summer short course starting **June 7.** Call Don at (985) 373-4511 for information.

**LIGHTHOUSE FUNDRAISER  
POSTPONED**

Recent events in the Gulf of Mexico have had many impacts on daily life. One of the consequences of the Deepwater Horizon oil spill is that our friends in the maritime industry are preoccupied with the clean up and keeping the seaways open.

With this in mind, the Maritime Museum Board of Directors has decided to postpone its fundraiser for the Tchefuncte River Lighthouse beyond the scheduled July 17. With the possibility that weathered oil could make its way into Lake Pontchartrain, restoration work at the lighthouse has been postponed and plans to open the lighthouse to visitors in 2010 will also likely be placed on hold.

The Maritime Museum wishes to thank all its sponsors for their support of the lighthouse project, particularly Capital One Bank for their efforts to make this annual fundraiser a success. Special thanks to Amy Edwards, Capital One Bank, for serving as the 2010 event chairperson.


**GIFT SHOP BONANZA!**


The Gift Shop has a variety of new lighthouse-oriented merchandise available for the season with many special summer prices. Products suitable for gifts, decoration, or collecting are available. Stop by and see the treasures we have to offer! Call Sharon at (985)845-9200 for information.

**WOOD CARVERS EVENT**

On **Saturday, August 14,** the Maritime Museum is hosting its first **Wood Carvers Show** with demonstrations of the wood carving art. Vintage and modern duck carvings will be on display, with activities for the entire family. The show will run from 10:00am to 6:00pm with a modest admission charge to benefit the Maritime Museum. Contact Sharon at (985)845-9200 for information.



This beautiful photograph of Mr. & Mrs. Anthony Mascair was taken on the porch of the historic light keepers cottage by Aaron Hogan, Eye Wander Photo, Inc.

Check out our event rental **Sizzling Summer Special** for June, July & August.

**25% OFF!**

Go to our website at [www.lpbmm.org](http://www.lpbmm.org) or call Melanie at (985) 845-9200 for more information or to book your event.

*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	Dr. Jay Martin
Educator	Stephanie Bernard Imel
Administrative Assistant	Melanie Waddell
Bookkeeper	Jill Stoltz
SLU Coordinator	C. Roy Blackwood
Gift Shop Manager	Sharon Street
Field Trip Manager	Catherine Lynch
Boat Builder	Bob Doolittle
Volunteer Curators	Ashley Hermann Monique Lafleur

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