



Ahoy, Friends of the NC Maritime Museum at Southport. Happy Spring! Included in this issue are captivating topics that we think you'll thoroughly enjoy. We have an interview with our Mary Strickland Award recipient -Ms Claire McNaught, coming Members Only events, and news from our Board Chair, Mr. Tom Hale.

Read ON.....

FROM THE CHAIRMAN

A Belated Happy St Patrick's Day. I hope that you celebrated whether you are Irish or not! What a Winter it has been throughout the country and here in Southport! Is Spring finally here? As I noted before, the Mullett Wrapper is undergoing some changes and this is our 2nd edition! Please continue to bear with us as we implement some changes. If you have anything to share, please don't hesitate to let us know!

I hope that you've marked April 11th (6PM-9PM) down on your calendars! Why? For what? Caribbean Night on the Cape Fear! We will enjoy an unforgettable evening on a private Southport estate overlooking the Cape Fear River to benefit our Museum. We'll have dinner, cocktails, live entertainment, an auction, and the infamous bourbon raffle! For more information, please visit www.friendsncmmsouthport.com/benefit. See you there!!

Fellow members, we need your help. Our Volunteers are an integral part of our daily operations. They are our face to the public welcoming new visitors and serving customers in the gift shop (the Ship's Chandlery). Many others help build new exhibits or help in our library. All share a love of our Museum, Southport, and maritime history. Please submit the form at our website (www.friendsncmmsouthport.com) and join the many other volunteers with a love of maritime history. Of course, if you've a friend who loves Southport and maritime history, ask them to consider joining the Friends!

Speaking of the Ship's Chandlery (Museum Gift Shop), remember to visit it as there are some fantastic items available! It is a significant fundraiser for the Friends so you get a twofer – a wonderful item(s) and you support the Friends!

Thank you for your continued interest in preserving and sharing our maritime history, especially at our Museum! If, at any time, you have any questions, issues, or ideas, please do not hesitate to discuss them with me or any of the Directors.
Have a Blessed Easter and, of course, Fair Winds,
Tom

FRIENDS EVENTS



Famous Bourbon Box!

Calling all Bourbon Lovers! Enter for a chance to win 17+ bottles of rare bourbon and spirits in our Bourbon & Breeze Raffle!

Tickets are \$25 each, winner will be drawn at the Caribbean Night on the Cape Fear benefit for the Maritime Museum.

Purchase your tickets now to build the ultimate bourbon bar:

<https://www.friendsncmmsouthport.com/bourbonraffle>

Limited Number of Tickets Still Available for April 11th Benefit

Caribbean Night of the Cape Fear Benefit for the Maritime Museum is Friday, April 11th.

The tickets are going fast!! As of this writing, less than 20 tickets are still available for sale. Don't wait or you'll miss out on the food, fun, and a fabulous evening.

Click [here](#) to purchase tickets.

On March 29, 2025 at historic Brunswick Town/Fort Anderson the Cape Fear Astronomy club hosted Friends of the Museum members for a planned Stargazing event. Due to the weather the event was moved indoors and a informative presentation was provided. Look for more Members only events....coming soon!



Ms Claire McNaught is our 2024 Mary Strickland Award Receptient. As a staunch supporter of the Museum, serving as a weekly docent and a Friends of the Museum Board Member, we caught up with Claire and asked her about her role as a volutneer:

What motivated you to start volunteering at the Maritime museum?

I brought a visitor in to tour the museum and realized how little I knew of the local history. Given I had spent over forty years in NC and thought I knew it well, that was a wake up call. I figured the best way to learn was to join!

How long have you been with us and where did you originate from?

I am an Army brat who lived all over the world, but since 1976 I have been in the Pilot Mountain-Winston-Salem area. In 2015 I moved to Southport. I was a little late getting here, but I love being here!

What is the single greatest contribution this museum brings to the community?

Gives us direct contact with our incredibly rich history.

What does the staff here excel at?

Teaching. They have a gift for sharing knowledge in a fun, stimulating way. I am constantly amazed at their breadth of information, from wartime Southport to native plants to dentistry. They are incredible!

Why do you think learning about Maritime history is important?

Because why Southport is what it is in 2025 is a direct result of the effect of commercial shipping and Blockade running of earlier centuries.

What are your hobbies?

I enjoy volunteering. I volunteer for the Southport historical society and Lower Cape Fear Life Care (hospice services). My dog, Louie, and I regularly partner as a pet therapy team at hospice.

List three adjectives to describe yourself

Engaged, animated, involved

What are you currently reading?

I just finished Atul Gawande's book " Being Mortal". A marvelous book I recommend to everyone.

What is an accomplishment you are really proud of?

I was given the Mary Strickland award. Mary is a valued friend and mentor. To be recognized in her honor was humbling.

What is your dream job?

I had it. I was the attorney for the police officers and firemen who worked for the City of Winston-Salem. Of no job could it have been truer than that one to say....never a dull day!

How did you find out about volunteering at the museum?

By visiting the museum.

What qualities does a good museum volunteer possess?

Be a good listener. Observant, look for signs of how the visitor can use your help. Pay attention to what the staff is prioritizing and what they say. Every shift is a learning opportunity. Be proud of the facility. Show off the museum at its best. It's a jewel and every volunteer has a stake in

The Cape Fear area is loaded with history, if we could add something additional to the Maritime museum to focus on as an exhibit what would you choose?

I look forward to more on WWII in our area.

What museum attraction is most favored by the children? The scavenger hunts

By the adults? The periscope

*By you?*The John D. Gill exhibit

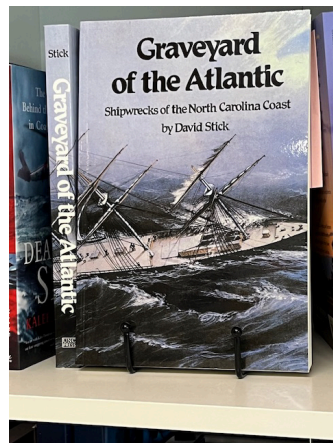


As the public face of the museum, they are responsible for welcoming visitors and ensuring a positive experience - from the little ones to the curious ones.

For More Information visit our [website](#) or call us at 910-477-5154:

GIFT SHOP
Amazing Maritime Inventory!

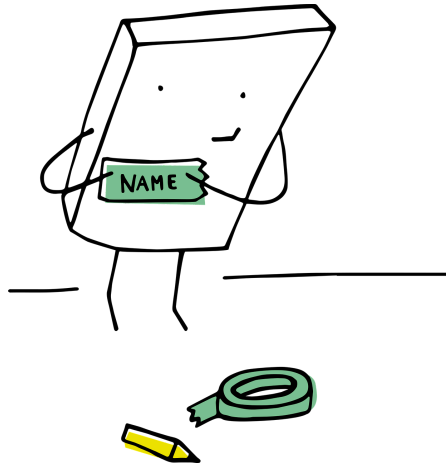
We Are Being Noticed!



The book "Graveyard Of the Atlantic"(currently in the Gift Shop) , includes a chapter on Dunbar Davis and his Longest Day. Mr. Davis was the keeper of the Cape Fear Life Saving Station, then transferred to be the first keeper of Oak Island Life Saving Station. He is best know for "the Longest Day." Mr. Davis served through the merging of the US Revenue Cuter Service and US Life Saving Service and then retired. This is just one of the many treasures included in the Gift Shop.

NC Maritime Museum Southport, fhas been selected for a Maggie Award by Southport Magazine. The Maggie Awards were created to recognize those that are doing an exceptional job within the communities of: Southport, Oak Island, Bald Head Island, Boiling Spring Lakes, St. James, Bolivia and Supply. NCMM-Southport was selected as the FAVORITE FAMILY FUN SPOT. "This free admission museum is chock full of treasures about the colorful and exciting history of the area. Geared to please both adult and young visitors the exhibits feature hands on learning supplemented by excellent text guides." Southport Magazine March 2025.

https://issuu.com/southportmag/docs/march_2025_southport_magazine



Naming Contest for our Newsletter!

Currently named "*Mullet Wrapper*", the Board is interested in hearing from you! Send us your recommendations, suggestions, and ideas for a new name.

If you like the name and want it to stay - let us know. IF you have thoughts on a different name, please let us know. Enter your suggestion on our [website](#), or email us at southportfom@gmail.com



NCMM-Southport Events!

Skipper's Crew: *Hop into Reading*

April 5, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Our craft theme for April is "Hop Into Reading." Decorate your own bookmark or ask us how to make a bunny bookmark to use on your reading adventures!

Deep Dive Into History: *Revolutionary Everyman*

April 19, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Join us as we delve into the life of an 18th century North Carolina militiaman and learn how they played a key role in the events that would occur in July of 1775 here on the Cape Fear.

The program is part of the museum's Deep Dive into History series. The drop-in program is designed to give visitors a deeper understanding of our shared past through costumed interpretation. Programs run from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., and visitors can interact one-on-one with the presenter at any time during the program.

Skipper's Crew: *Remembering Our Heroes*

May 3, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Our theme in honor of Memorial Day is "Remembering Our Heroes." Create your own crafted poppy to take home with you or "plant" in our garden.

Designed for all ages, but specifically geared toward younger patrons, Skipper's Crew features hands-on activities and take-home crafts focusing on combining arts and history. Join us to make poppies, the recognized symbol of remembrance of service members, during the May program. Lights will be dimmed and interactives muted during the first two hours to provide a calmer environment for those with

sensory sensitivities. Programs run from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. The program is free, but donations are accepted and appreciated.

FUN FACT!

MAY 22ND IS NATIONAL MARITIME DAY!

In 1933, by a joint resolution, Congress declares May 22nd to be National Maritime Day. The significance of this date is that in 1819, the steamship Savannah sailed from Savannah, Georgia to Liverpool, England on the first successful transoceanic voyage under steam propulsion, thus making a material contribution to the advancement of ocean transportation. This resolution authorizes the President to annually issue a proclamation calling upon the people of the United States to observe National Maritime Day by displaying the flag at their homes or other suitable places and Government officials to display the flag on all Government buildings on May 22nd each year.

Submitted by Kevin Fitzgerald

[View this email in your browser](#)

You are receiving this email because of your relationship with NC Maritime Museum at Southport. Please [reconfirm](#) your interest in receiving emails from us. If you do not wish to receive any more emails, you can [unsubscribe here](#).

This message was sent to cdswabbie@twc.com by southportfom@gmail.com@email.benchmarkapps.com
204 E Moore St., Southport, North Carolina, 28461

 [Unsubscribe](#) | [Manage Subscription](#)



This is a Test Email only.

This message was sent for the sole purpose of testing a draft message.