



2016 Annual Report

EXTRA! EXTRA! STEAMBOAT ERA MUSEUM MAKES HEADLINES

nter Julia helps a child make a steamboat during
children's activity program.

oat Era Museum

s summer programs

RAPPAHAN

Tickets on sale for the Irvington Crab Festival

Tickets are on sale for the
fifth Irvington Crab Festival
sponsored by the Steamboat
Era Museum on August 13.

Doors will open at 4 p.m.
and crabs will be served at
5 p.m. The festival will take
place under a big tent in front
of the museum, 156 King
Carter Drive, Irvington.

More than 750 people
are expected pick their way
through bushels of crabs,
said executive director Bar-
bara Brecher. Jumbo Lump
Daddy and the Backfin Boys
will rock the crowd with
their genre-crossing music.
Beer and wine will be avail-
able and a silent



Crowds enjoy crabs under the big top at the
Crab Festival. Photo by Michael A. Geissinger

Tickets Now
FIFTH ANNUAL
IRVINGTON
CRAB FEST
August 13

Irvington Town Commons • Gates Open 4pm •
\$45 • Kids 12 and under
(Price subject to increase as of July 1, based on crab availability • Tick

Steamed Crabs, BBQ and More • **Jumbo Lump Daddy**

For more information or to purchase tickets online visit: steamboat
Tickets may be purchased at the Museum Friday and Saturday

No tickets will be sold at the door • Proceeds support the Steamboat Era Mus

STEAMBOAT ERA FASHION SHOW A
FOR CHILDREN AND ADULTS
Sunday, June 26 at 3:00pm

Tea and sandwiches will be served while volun-
teers of the late 1800's

Steamboat Era Museum elects new board members and officers

May 19, 2016

IRVINGTON—The 2016 annual meeting of the Steamboat Era Museum was held May 14.

The agenda included the election of board members, the election of officers, a progress report on the Potomac pilotage and the unveiling of new exhibits, reported executive director Barbara Brecher.

Four new board members were elected, including Randal J. Kipp of Randal J. Kipp Architecture; Victoria Oliver of Wake Bank; Fred Pevan, a museum volunteer; Donna Tibbs of Northern Insurance Company.

Officers include:



The Steamboat Era Museum board of directors recently adopted a proclamation to honor volunteer and former board member with the first "Museum Leadership Award" for her tireless work to make the museum a reality and help it grow, said Brecher. Because of her support, as

dent Helen Slatford, secretary Fran Kelly and treasurer Randolph Graham.

Eric Nost will continue his term on the board as past president. Other board members are Barbara Baxter, Kylie Bransford, Beverly L. Randolph, Lee Stephens Jr., Frank L. Tetrick, Timothy Ward and Phillip Williams.

Two board members retired, said Brecher. Jackie Burell, a longtime member and secretary of the board for many years, and Anne McClintock.

McClintock received the first "Museum Leadership Award" for her tireless work to make the museum a reality and help it grow, said Brecher. Because of her support, as

well as many others in the community, the museum was selected as the 2016 Living "Best Museum in Virginia."

Kelly and Baxter recognized for their volunteer recruiting and coordinating museum volunteers, she said. Patty Richards was recognized for her donation of an oil painting for a new 2016 exhibit.

Nost, chairman of the Potomac Home Camp, explained the importance of preserving the only existing Chesapeake Bay pilotage and how it will fit into the museum. The members were pleased this project is becoming a reality, said Brecher.

Museum membership offers reciprocal benefit

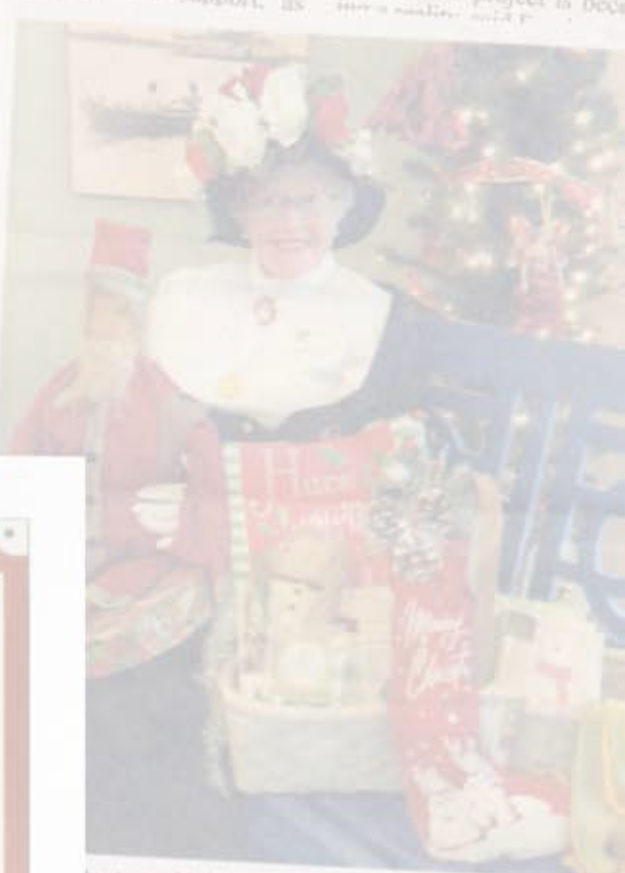
IRVINGTON—The Steamboat Era Museum, 156 King Carter Drive, Irvington, now offers a new benefit to its members. Membership at the \$125 level or above will automatically enroll members in the Reciprocal Organization of Associated Museums (ROAM), a network that connects world-class museums. The benefit of museum membership is...



Arundel at St. Mary's, Md., wharf. The ship was built in 1844 and made her last run up the river to Baltimore in September 1964.

to host ice cream Social at Steamboat Era Museum

The Steamboat Era Museum, 156 King Carter Drive, Irvington, will host an ice cream social on Friday, September 9, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. The event is part of the museum's annual assembly designated Steamboat Era Day. The social will celebrate the occasion with an ice cream social on the museum's deck, said Brecher. Children must be accompanied by an adult. Through November 19, the museum is open on Fridays and Saturdays. Costumed docents will be on duty from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.



Smither, as Mollie Mae Smither, displays a selection of items she took a steamboat to Baltimore to purchase for the Holiday Marketplace.

Steamboat Era Museum to host Holiday Marketplace

The Steamboat Era Museum, 156 King Carter Drive, Irvington, will host its third annual Holiday Marketplace November 25 and 26, as well as December 3, 10 and 17. Hours are 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

The marketplace will feature more than 20 artisans with work in pottery, metal, fiber, stained glass and more, reported executive director Barbara Brecher.

Author and illustrator Mary Jo Beswick will sign copies of her winning children's picture book, *Lone Lolo*.

• THIRD ANNUAL •

STEAMBOAT ERA MUSEUM

▲▲▲▲▲

HOLIDAY MARKETPLACE

NOVEMBER 25 & 26

2 TEN AM - FOUR PM

ALSO HOSTED ON DECEMBER 3, 10 & 17 FROM 10 AM - 4 PM

CRAFTS, GIFTS & MORE!

Museum Fall Hours

Sept. 9 - Nov. 18, 2016

Friday & Saturday • 10am - 4pm

156 KING CARTER DRIVE • IRVINGTON, VA
438-6888 • STEAMBOATERAMUSEUM.ORG

From the President

OFFICERS

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Nancy Travers

Vice-President

Helen Slatford

Secretary

Fran Kelly

Treasurer

D. Randolph Graham

Past President

Eric F. Nost

President Emeritus

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Vicky Oliver

Fred Pevahouse

Beverly L. Randolph

R. Lee Stephens Jr.

Frank L. Tetrick III

Donna Tibbs

Phillip Williams

Barbara D. Brecher

Executive Director

2016 was a year of significant growth for the museum thanks to a combination of ambitious new exhibits and exciting new partnerships. The number of visitors increased by more than 500 over last year and the museum secured two substantial grants to underwrite new projects.

Winning these grants represents more than funding. It signifies a milestone in the museum's growth and maturity as cultural institution. It's a nod to the importance of our mission to preserve the history of the Northern Neck and to our success-to-date in doing so.

Our 2016 season featured four new exhibits and this additional funding will enable us to expand our story. A \$100,000 grant from The Nettie Lokey Wiley and Charles L. Wiley Foundation will support the restoration and installation of the Potomac Pilothouse. A \$5000 grant from The Gladys Krieble Demas Foundation will fund development of a new exhibition called "Hansford Bayton: The Courage and Determination of a Black Steamboat Captain."

So this annual report not only recounts the highlights of the past year but gives you a peek at what lies ahead. The museum's future remains bright with the continued support of our members, donors and dedicated volunteers. Thank you for joining us as trustees in the great legacy of the Steamboat Era.

We also thank our Board of Directors for their financial stewardship. Equally important is the Board's staunch support for our strong role in the greater community. And speaking of community, our hometown of Irvington continues to be one of our most valued partners.

Read on to learn about how all these pieces come together to spell success for our museum.

Best,



President
Steamboat Era Museum



Nancy Travers

Plenty of Publicity Puts Museum in the Spotlight

IRVINGTON—During 2016, the museum received generous coverage in our local newspapers. We scored nearly weekly coverage for events and other news in the *Rappahannock Record* and *Southside Sentinel*. But the museum has continued to broaden its audience through many channels and has met with success in the following areas:

Advertising

The museum's ad was seen around the Northern Neck area, including placement in the *Local Scoop*, *House and Home Magazine* and *The Chamber Magazine*. Museum events were covered in the monthly tabloid *The Rivah*, a publication of the *Rappahannock Record*. *The Rivah* is published 6 times a year during the season.

Media Coverage

An article about the museum appeared in the *Chesapeake Bay Magazine*. An in-depth piece appeared in The Fall issue of *House and Home* magazine, which is distributed in the Northern Neck and Williamsburg.

Public service announcements, as well as paid radio spots, were heard on 101.7 Bay FM and 104.9 WIGO Country throughout the season.

What do a **CHICKEN**
and a **STEAMBOAT**
have in common?

Find out at the
Steamboat Era Museum

For more information visit
SteamboatEraMuseum.org

Fleet, as Mollie Mae Smither, displays a selection of merchandise for the Holiday Marketplace.

Steamboat Era Museum Holiday Marketplace

Steamboat Era Museum, 156 King Carter Drive, Irvington, will hold its third annual Holiday Marketplace November 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, and December 3, 10 and 17. Hours are 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

The marketplace will feature more than 20 artisans with food, jewelry, metal, fiber, stained glass and more, represented by executive director Barbara Brecher.

Artist, author and illustrator Mary Jo Beswick will sign her award winning children's picture book, *Lonely Lola*, on Friday and Saturday. This r



The Steamboat Era Museum, 154 King Carter Drive, Irvington, opened for the season. The museum will feature four new exhibits including Miss Nevil Ethyl Dungan and her steamer trunk (a). Hours are 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Fridays and Saturdays, and beginning 21, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Tuesdays through Saturdays.



What do a CHICKEN and a STEAMBOAT have in common?

Find out at the
Steamboat Era Museum

Spring Hours
April 22-June 18
Friday and Saturday 10am-4pm

For more information visit
SteamboatEraMuseum.org

156 King Carter Drive Irvington, Virginia 804.438.6888



What do a CHICKEN and a STEAMBOAT have in common?

Find out at the
Steamboat Era Museum

Spring Hours
April 22-June 18 • Friday and Saturday
10am-4pm

Summer Hours
June 21-September 2 • Tuesday - Saturday
10am-4pm

Check out our June special events at:
SteamboatEraMuseum.org



FIFTH ANNUAL IRVINGTON CRAB FESTIVAL
August 13, 2016

For more information and to buy tickets visit:
SteamboatEraMuseum.org

156 King Carter Drive Irvington, Virginia 804.438.6888



FIFTH ANNUAL IRVINGTON CRAB FESTIVAL
August 13, 2016

Irvington Town Commons
Gates Open 4pm - Crabs Served 5pm

\$45.
Kids 12 and under \$10

(Ticket price will increase to \$50 on July 15.
Tickets are non-refundable • Tickets will NOT be sold at the door)

For more information or to purchase tickets online visit:
steamboatmuseum.org

Tickets may be purchased at the Museum
Tuesday-Saturday 10am-4pm

What do a CHICKEN and a STEAMBOAT have in common?

Find out at the
Steamboat Era Museum

Summer Hours: Tuesday-Saturday 10am-4pm

156 King Carter Drive Irvington, Virginia
804.438.6888 steamboatmuseum.org



Only a Few Tickets Left. Don't Miss Out!

FIFTH ANNUAL IRVINGTON CRAB FESTIVAL
August 13, 2016

Irvington Town Commons
Gates Open 4pm - Crabs Served 5pm

\$50
Kids 12 and under \$10

(Tickets are non-refundable • Tickets will NOT be sold at the door)
For more information or to purchase tickets online visit:
steamboatmuseum.org

Tickets may be purchased at the Museum
Tuesday-Saturday 10am-4pm

What do a CHICKEN and a STEAMBOAT have in common?

Find out at the
Steamboat Era Museum

Tuesday-Saturday 10am-4pm

156 King Carter Drive Irvington, Virginia
804.438.6888 steamboatmuseum.org

Thank you to everyone who helped make the
FIFTH ANNUAL IRVINGTON CRAB FESTIVAL
a **VERY BIG Success!**

Mark Your Calendar!

• THIRD ANNUAL •
STEAMBOAT ERA MUSEUM
HOLIDAY MARKETPLACE
NOVEMBER 25 & 26
TEN AM - FOUR PM

STEAMBOAT ERA MUSEUM Fall Hours
September 9 - November 18 • Friday & Saturday • 10am-4pm
(November Hours: Tuesday-Saturday 10am-4pm and September 11)
156 King Carter Drive Irvington, Virginia
804.438.6888 steamboatmuseum.org

• THIRD ANNUAL •
STEAMBOAT ERA MUSEUM
HOLIDAY MARKETPLACE
NOVEMBER 25 & 26
TEN AM - FOUR PM

ALSO SHOP ON DECEMBER 3, 10 & 17 10AM-4PM

CRAFTS, GIFTS & MORE!
ALL PROCEEDS SUPPORT THE STEAMBOAT ERA MUSEUM

Museum Fall Hours
Friday & Saturday • 10am-4pm

156 King Carter Drive Irvington, Virginia
804.438.6888 steamboatmuseum.org

Museum events were covered in the monthly tabloid *The Rivah*, a publication of the *Rappahannock Record*. *The Rivah* is published 6 times a year during the season.

Trip Advisor

Comments and ratings on Trip Advisor are invaluable endorsements.

What a wonderful small museum full of so much history of the surrounding area. Nicely done with wonderful displays that explain and show so much about the area. Good for any age group

December 2016

Nice museum covering the steamboat era on the northern neck region. Very friendly, informative volunteers run the museum. Definitely plan to go back with my grandson.

Nov 26, 2016

Visiting the Steamboat Era Museum August 27, 2016 during my stay in VA was paramount to my research project. I am writing a novel

based in the Lancaster County area in the early 20th century, and the amount of information I was able to gather from my tour was invaluable to my writing project. If you visit the Lancaster County/Northern Neck area, you must make the Steamboat Era Museum one of your stops during your stay!

August 27, 2016

Museum Offers New Stories and Some Old Favorites for 2016 Season

IRVINGTON—The Steamboat Era Museum is opening its doors for the 2016 season with a splash: Four new exhibits in the Irvington museum will help visitors understand the importance of steamboats to the history and development of the Northern Neck.

"We're always looking for new and better ways to tell our story," says Executive Director Barbara D. Brecher. "Thanks to increased attendance and growing support from our members and the community, we're able to do just that."

The museum makes use of film footage to enhance its new Oyster Cannery exhibit. A film clip from the James Wharton Northern Neck Film Collection shows men tonging

oysters in the 1930s and preparing them for transport via steamboat.

A second exhibit is built around the trunk of a teacher who, for years, took a steamboat from the Northern Neck to Baltimore where she taught for seven months before returning home to Warsaw, VA. This exhibit on Miss Nevis Ethyl Dungan features a mural painted by local artist Patty Richards.

Two additional exhibits showcase an ambitious new project, the Potomac Pilothouse – the only surviving intact pilothouse from a Chesapeake Bay steamboat. The museum's 2015 acquisition of this unique artifact represented a real coup for the collection. Visitors can now walk an outline of the floor space that the pilothouse

will occupy in the main exhibition hall.

Another exhibit in the lobby, shows a portion of the pilothouse at actual size and recounts the passion behind the museum's restoration project.

The Steamboat Era Museum will open on Friday, April 22. Spring hours are Friday and Saturday 10:00 AM until 4:00 PM. Summer hours, which begin on June 21, will be Tuesday-Saturday 10:00 AM until 4:00 PM. Returning programs include oral histories and the children's scavenger hunt. The fifth Annual Irvington Crab Festival will take place on August 13.



Anne McClintock receives a proclamation from Eric Nost, past president of the Board of Directors

NEW BOARD MEMBERS EMBARK AT STEAMBOAT ERA MUSEUM

IRVINGTON—The members of the Steamboat Era Museum came together on May 14 to elect four new candidates to their board. Voted to the board were Randall Kipp of Randal J. Kipp Architecture, Victoria Oliver of Chesapeake Bank, Fred Pevahouse, a museum volunteer, and Donna Tibbs of Northern Neck Insurance Company.

The four join current board members Barbara Baxter, Kylie Bransford, Beverly L. Randolph, Lee Stephens Jr., Frank L. Tetrick, Timothy Ward and Phillip Williams. In turn, the assembled board elected new officers. Nancy Travers will serve as President, Helen Slatford as Vice President, Fran Kelly as Secretary, and Randolph Graham as Treasurer. Eric Nost will continue his term on the Board as Past President. The board members are Barbara Baxter, Kylie Bransford, Beverly L. Randolph, Lee Stephens Jr., Frank L. Tetrick, Timothy Ward and Phillip Williams.

Two long-time board members retired. Jackie Burell served as secretary of the board for many years and Anne McClintock worked tirelessly to make the museum a reality and help it grow. McClintock received the first Museum Leadership Award for her role in helping the museum be named the 2016 "Best Museum in Eastern Virginia" by Virginia Living magazine.

Others honored at the meeting included Fran Kelly and Barbara Baxter for their work in recruiting and coordinating the museum volunteers as well as Patty Richards for her donation of an original mural for a new 2016 exhibit.

Summer Fun for KIDS at the Steamboat Era

Friday Morning Children's Activities

Fridays at 10:30 am-noon through August

Make a Steamboat.

Join Billy Goat and Gilda Chicken

Children ages 6-12, accompanied by an adult, will participate in tours, stories, games and crafts which focus on steamboats and life during the Steamboat Era.

Due to limited space, please contact the museum at 804.438.6888 of each week to be on the list for Friday. Fee is \$5 per person.



Tuesday Tuesdays

Every Tuesday
will be a special
She will be the Steamer

Scavenger Hunt Tuesdays

All children
Hunts.

artifacts and learn about the Steamboat Era.

Museum Adds Hours and Activities for Summer Visitors

IRVINGTON—Summer means an extended schedule at the Steamboat Era Museum and a calendar of activities with something for everyone. Starting June 21, the museum will be open Tuesday – Saturday from 10:00 AM until 4:00 PM. Irvington residents can look forward to the return of some popular events and tourists will have ample reasons to stop by.

The museum offers many kid-focused activities. Last year's children's scavenger hunt was so popular that a brand new hunt will be designed for 2017. Kids who find all the answers win a prize. There's also a special "kids' tour" every Friday morning, running June 24 through August 12. Reservations are advised for this program featuring stories, games and other activities about the Steamboat Era. The fee is \$5 per person.

Children and adults are invited to attend a Steamboat Era Fashion Show on Sunday, June 26 at 3:00 PM. Tea and sandwiches will be served while museum volunteers model fashions from the late 1800's and early 1900's. Each model will tell a story about life in the Northern Neck when steamboats plied the rivers of the Bay. Tickets are \$15 per person.

And what would summer be without the Annual Irvington Crab Festival? This museum fundraiser returns for its fifth year on Sunday, August 13, under a big top on Irvington Commons. The festival features steamed crabs, barbecue, and hotdogs along with the music of Jumbo Lump Daddy & the Backfin Boys. This event always sells out so crab lovers are urged to buy their tickets early. Tickets must be purchased in advance.

For complete information on museum activities or to purchase tickets, call (804) 438-6888, or visit www.steamboatermuseum.org.

MUSEUM SEES

Oyster Cannery Opens

In 1607, oysters were so plentiful, they could filter all the water in the Chesapeake Bay in three to five days. Today, it would take over a year to complete that task


Until the 19th century, most Chesapeake Bay oysters were harvested for local consumption. But by the mid-1800's, steamboats enabled canneries to ship oysters to distant markets or railroad junctions. The Oyster Cannery exhibit examines the rise and fall of the Northern Neck canneries as well as the local community of watermen and shuckers. This exhibit is the first to make use of film shot by native son James Wharton, including footage of a waterman from the 1930's tonging and processing oysters.



Dungan Returns to Teaching Assignment

Miss Nevis Ethyl Dungan is waiting for the steamboat at Bundick Wharf to take her to her teaching assignment in Baltimore. The year is 1918 ...

Miss Dungan is the poster girl for travelling light. This exhibit features the single trunk in which she packed everything she would need for her seven-month assignment. Steamboats enabled Miss Dungan's livelihood as a teacher in Baltimore and allowed her to return to Richmond County each summer. Her trunk is an

vocative artifact – one that tells a highly personal story while placing the teacher squarely in the Steamboat Era.



GROWTH SPURT

Potomac Pilothouse Closer to Reality

Potomac Pilothouse is one of Virginia's Top Ten Most Endangered Artifacts.

The Steamboat Era Museum is restoring the Potomac's pilothouse. The museum's commitment to and passion for this ambitious project is detailed in the Pilothouse Exhibit that greets visitors in the lobby. The museum leadership makes its case for the importance of this artifact to the history and heritage of life on the Bay and asks for financial support in seeing the project to completion.

Step aboard the Potomac Pilothouse: the largest remaining intact section of a Chesapeake Bay steamboat.

Okay, it's just an outline. But this is the floor space that the Pilothouse will occupy in the museum's main exhibit hall. Visitors can walk its length – 27 feet – and turn to cross its width – 13 feet. The restored Pilothouse will measure eight feet tall – and be a hands-on opportunity to experience what it took to navigate a steamboat on the Bay and its tributaries.

Volunteer Research Fuels Exhibits – and More

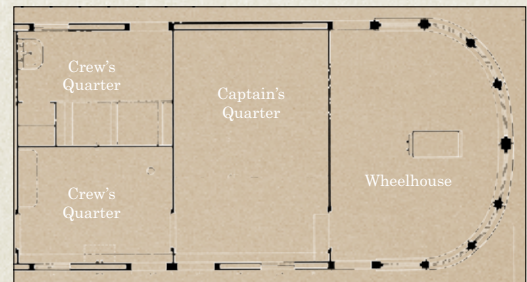
Behind each of our exhibits is solid research – often conducted by museum volunteers. Fred Pevahouse served that role for the new Oyster Cannery Display. His new project is the Potomac Pilothouse – gathering information which will be used to produce a coffee table book. The book will be sold in the gift shop to support fundraising efforts to restore this artifact. Fred has already put his research to work by penning an article for the Northern Neck of Virginia Historical Magazine.

Research is also underway for an exhibit on the life of Hansford C. Bayton, an African-American steamboat

captain. Volunteers Candee and Fred Pevahouse, Clare Adams, Margaret Hrabec, Michael Geissinger, and our intern from St. Margaret's School, MacKenzie Burckbuchler are leading this effort – to tell the story of a Northern Neck resident who owned and operated steamboats in the local area in the late 19th and early 20th century. Bayton provided mail service to the area and also offered excursions to Fredericksburg and other points on the Rappahannock. Thanks to a grant from The Gladys Krieble Demas Foundation, the new exhibit will be installed in the Lancaster Room.

Q. What does the outline on the floor indicate?

A. The space the Potomac Pilothouse will occupy in the museum.



The pilothouse exhibit in the museum.

Drawing by Randall J. Kipp Architecture

The pilothouse will measure approximately 13 feet wide, 27 feet long, and 8 feet tall. Visitors will experience living and working in this very important section of the steamboat.

For more information about how you can help make this a reality, please visit the *Pilot the Potomac Home* exhibit in the lobby.

SPECIAL

FUNDRAISING FOR PILOTHOUSE

IRVINGTON—The Steamboat Era Museum is making major strides in fundraising for the restoration and installation of the Potomac Pilothouse. The museum received a \$100,000 grant from The Nettie Lokey Wiley and Charles L. Wiley Foundation. According to Eric Nost, chairman of the fundraising committee, "Our goal is to have the Pilothouse exhibit up and running for the 2018 season. To achieve this, we must raise an additional \$250,000."

Fundraising efforts continue on other fronts. Buoyed by the foundation grant, Marshall Orr, a longtime supporter of the museum, has donated \$15,000. And the museum has launched a capital campaign called "Pilot the Potomac Home." A brochure was developed to show donors how the Pilothouse will enhance the collection and build a national reputation for the museum.

Work on the Pilothouse has already begun. John Morgenthaler, local shipwright, is leading the restoration project. He has removed the shrink-wrap which has covered the Pilothouse since 2010. Morgenthaler will make some modifications to the artifact before moving the structure into his barn, where the work will take place. He plans to shorten the structure by approximately 16 feet by removing two aft cabins. The material from the aft section will be reused in construction.

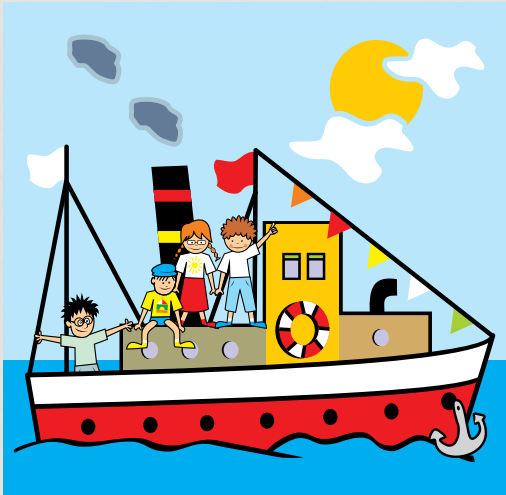
"We acquired the Pilothouse in 2001," notes Mr. Nost, "so this has been a long process. I think the foundation grant is the catalyst we need to move this project forward – and fulfill a goal of our museum's founders."

(R) John Morgenthaler unwraps the pilothouse.

FEATURE

RESTORATION GAINS TRACTION





K · i · D · S

Fridays are for Kids at the Steamboat Era Museum

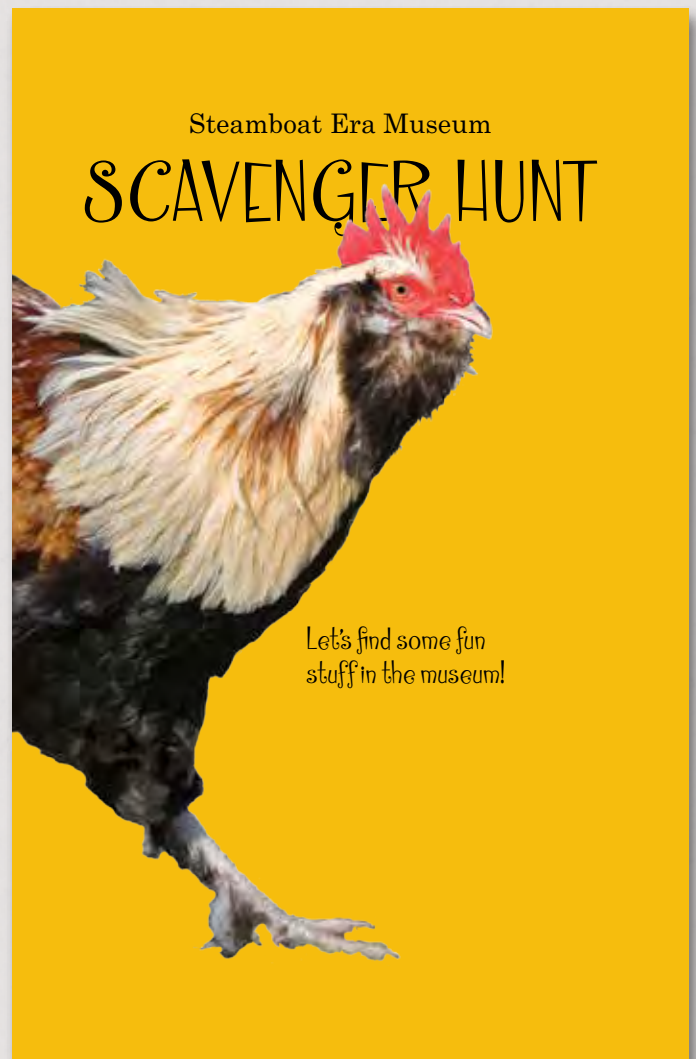
MIDDLE PENINSULA/NORTHERN NECK COMMUNITY SERVICES BOARD

Linda Kelly brought 10 children with special needs for a hour and a half tour on Thursday, July 14. They made a steamboat to take home.



Museum volunteer, Julia Tilley helps during Friday morning activities

Summer means special tours for kids ages 6 – 12 at the Steamboat Era Museum – and fun for the whole family. Every Friday morning through August 19, a dedicated guide provides a kid-friendly tour with stories, games and other activities. Learn about the life of a steamboat captain and the tools he used. Imagine you are the captain and try to turn a ship's wheel. Join a guessing game at the General Store display. Build a cardboard steamboat with a wheel, anchors and lifesavers – and give it a name. You'll have fun learning how a steamboat works and why they were important to the history of our community.



More than 500 kids explored the museum through the scavenger hunt.

P • A • G • E

KID MUSEUM VISITS BY THE NUMBERS

500+ Kids toured the museum
and took part in scavenger hunts

SPECIAL KIDS' ACTIVITIES BY THE NUMBERS

586 Kids reached on special & school
tours or summer activities

14 Kids' Activities Volunteers

109.5 Volunteer Hours

History on the Go Reaches Students

Museum volunteers hit the road to bring the Steamboat Era alive for local students. For example, in January, they visited Lancaster Elementary School and taught kids about three steamboats and their differences and similarities. Over 200 students participated. An October event on Belle Isle featured ladies in period costumes that drew 108 fourth and fifth grade children. These were students from four private schools; Chesapeake Academy, Ware Academy, Tappahannock Junior Academy, Aylett Country Day School.

Music Students Want to Learn More

Learning a song about steamboats inspired music students from Chesapeake Academy to visit the museum to learn more about the Steamboat Era. Over two days in March, 46 kids from the first through fourth grades took a special tour. At the end, everyone joined in a craft session where they built their own steamboats.

LANCASTER ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

First grade students visited the museum on June 10th. We had 70 students which were split, half in the morning and half in the afternoon. Costumed docents gave an hour and a half tour to each group which was tied into their SOL's, "Past and Present".

Dear Steamboat Era Museum Volunteers,

Our first grade class recently visited your museum (June 10th) and I wanted to thank you all for your time and effort in making our trip a very special experience.

Our children have limited experiences outside of school so it was very meaningful to them and I believe they came away with a better understanding of their community.

Thank you for setting up the craft as well - what a terrific idea! 😊

We will definitely be back next year! Thanks again - you all were very patient! 😊 Jennifer Bershan

MUSEUM EVENTS SPARK

Ice Cream Social Marks Steamboat Era Day

IRVINGTON – The Commonwealth of Virginia declared September 14 Steamboat Era Day to commemorate the last voyage of the Anne Arundel in September 1937. What better place to mark the occasion than the Steamboat Era Museum? The day was celebrated on the museum's deck with an ice cream social. The free event attracted families with children eager to sample the frozen treats while listening for the museum's steamboat whistle.



Museum Partners with Rappahannock Art League to Raise Funds

IRVINGTON—On April 3, the museum collaborated with the Rappahannock Art League to host The Fine Art of Steamboat Era Dining. The seated dinner was held at the Hills Quarter Community Center and featured an oyster bar and wine. The evening's events included live and silent auctions. Proceeds were split between the two organizations.



SEM/RAL dinner at Hills Quarter.

FREE!

SEPTEMBER 14, 2016 4:30-6:00PM

INTEREST AND FUNDING

Steamboat Era Holiday FASHION SHOW

Travel back in time and enjoy a special event.

Museum Tea and Fashion Shows are a Hit!

Summer Tea and Fashion Show Captures Steamboat Era

IRVINGTON—The tea was English and the models wore period clothing but the Steamboat Era stories were the stars of this fashion show. More than 50 guests attended the museum's first tea and fashion event on Sunday, June 26. Volunteers modeled late 19th century outfits and regaled the audience with stories about their families, their lives and steamboat travel. The attendees got a close-up view of the petticoats, laces, and trims that defined a fashionable woman in the Victorian Era. Period costumes ranged from a wedding dress to travel attire to the latest in beachwear.

Victorian to Flapper: A Holiday Fashion Show

IRVINGTON—Meet Joan Mary Clarke, an Irvington social butterfly. She'll tell you about the trials of being a "flapper" during the 20's. Mrs. Mollie Mae Smithers and Captain William Messick can tell you about Christmas in Irvington and the importance of steamboats during the holidays. These stories were part of a Holiday Fashion Show held at the Steamboat Era Museum on Sunday, November 6. Volunteers modeled festive holiday clothing of the era for men, women and children.

The museum was decorated in Victorian style and Father Christmas made a special early appearance. Santa joined the attendees in some rousing caroling. Wassail and other holiday treats were served.



Jim Ward portrayed Potomac Steamboat Captain Archibald Long, Lily Hughes (left) as Eliza Berkey, and Ainsley Mumford as Julia Rowe joined guests and volunteers singing Christmas Carols at the end of the Fashion Show.

IRVINGTON CRAB FESTIVAL ATTRACTS OVER 700

On August 13, more than 700 people came out in the heat to eat steamed crabs and rock to Jumbo Lump Daddy & The Backfin Boys. The festival is the Steamboat Era Museum's largest fundraiser.

Taking place under the big top on the Irvington Commons, the Crab Festival is a true community event – where individuals and businesses come together to support the museum's

mission. Attendees ate hot dogs grilled by volunteers from the Bank of Lancaster and barbecue donated by the Tides Inn. Members of the Boys and Girls Club and of Lively's Boy Scout Troop #222 helped the volunteers serving crabs. Festival beer cups were provided by Chesapeake Bank and crab mallets by the Bank of Lancaster.

A silent auction was an added attraction with donations from around the Northern Neck area.



Shyniece Sutton from the Boys and Girls Club helped serve crabs at the Irvington Crab Festival Photo



Fifth Annual

IRVINGTON CRAB FESTIVAL

THANK YOU TO OUR
2016 SPONSORS

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And a

**BIG THANK YOU
TO OUR
AMAZING
VOLUNTEERS
and to CRAB EXPRESS**

All Proceeds Support the Steamboat Era Museum.



**Thank You Frank Tetrick
for Chairing FOUR Amazing Crab Festivals!**

Captain's Table Dinner Returns for a Second Successful Year

On August 12, more than 60 people attended the Captain's Table Dinner, sponsored by the Steamboat Era Museum. Members of the Indian Creek Yacht Club dined under the big top on the Irvington Commons. Costumed interpreters led small groups on tours of the museum and reviewed plans for the restoration of the Pilohouse from the Steamship Potomac. A three-course dinner was catered by Jill and Larry Worth and served by volunteers. Following dinner, noted singer, composer, and keyboardist Ken Sparks concluded the evening with a special concert highlighting many of his original compositions celebrating the Northern Neck and the Chesapeake Bay.



Carolyn Graham, hostess of the Captain's Dinner and David Graham, pianist for the evening.

Third Annual Holiday Marketplace Supports Artisans and Museum

Hundreds of shoppers attended the Holiday Marketplace at the Steamboat Era Museum. The museum gift shop featured handmade jewelry, baskets, bird carvings, soaps, birdhouses, garden art, and other gift items from more than 20 artisans. The Marketplace was held on November 25 and 26 as well as December 3, 10, and 17.

Crowds have grown at the annual event which has garnered a reputation for distinctive – and often one-of-a-kind – holiday gifts. A hot item this year was a new hard-bound diary/journal which was produced by the museum.

A book-signing contributed to the excitement. November shoppers met local artist, author, and illustrator Mary Jo Beswick, who was signing copies of her award winning children's picture book, *Lonely Lola Ladybug*. A silent auction was also held showcasing artisans' work, posters, and a four-foot Santa.



Thank You to Our Vendors

David Aiken	Larry Jones
Robin Barrack	Richard Kantor
Mary Jo Beswick	John Latell
Will Bonner	Kathleen Lowe
Barbara Brecher	Marion Tuckwiller
Kimberly Charles	Suzette Negaard
Paul Cyre	Rick Nesossis
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THIRD ANNUAL
HOLIDAY
MARKETPLACE

STEAMBOAT ERA
MUSEUM
NOVEMBER 25 & 26
 **TEN AM – FOUR PM** 
ALSO SHOP ON DECEMBER 3, 10 & 17 10AM-4PM

COMMITMENT TO COMMUNITY IS STRONGER THAN EVER

Museum finds synergy with Lead Northern Neck initiative

Lead Northern Neck is a local initiative which is focused on resolving barriers to community and business growth. Modeled on the successful Lead Virginia program, it brings together a cross-section of community leaders for a nine-month workshop that fosters dialogue as a catalyst for regional solutions. Participants visited the Steamboat Era Museum to hear Executive Director Barbara Brecher talk about the museum's commitment to economic growth in the Northern Neck.

"Tourism is such an important part of our economic base," Ms. Brecher noted, "We work on many fronts to attract new and returning visitors to our museum." She pointed to partnerships with organizations like Virginia's River Realm as well as new and updated exhibits for the 2016 season. Education is also a large part of the museum's mission and many programs now target children and the local schools. And fundraising events like the Irvington Crab Festival strengthen the museum's ties to the community.

Ms. Brecher found common ground with Lead Northern Neck's mission to support VISIONS – a program dedicated to reducing poverty and improving lives in the region. She highlighted the museum's support of other non-profit organizations. "Whenever possible, we donate to silent auctions or buy ads in programs for groups like the Northumberland YMCA, Westmoreland Players or Rappahannock Concert Association."

The message from the museum leadership was clear: Lead Northern Neck has a community partner in the Steamboat Era Museum.

Art project honors watermen and raises funds

In Spring 2017, local communities can be on the look-out for a new public art project. Waterman's Way will celebrate the men and women who have shaped our region's history with larger-than-life fiberglass sculptures of a waterman's white boots. Each pair will measure 40 inches high, weigh about 80 pounds and be decorated by a local artisan.

Businesses and organizations can show community pride by purchasing or renting a sculpture for display in a storefront or at an event. Visitors can step into the boots to take pictures they hopefully will share through social media.

Chesapeake Bank has already signed up as well as Burke's Fine Jewelers, Tides Inn, and the towns of Kilmarnock and Urbanna. Stingray Point Marina is donating a pair of boots to the Deltaville Maritime Museum and Lancaster by the Bay Chamber of Commerce and the Lancaster Community Library are sharing one pair of boots, since the Chamber office is located inside the Library.

Funds raised from this public art project will be donated to the Steamboat Era Museum, Virginia Watermen's Association, and the Rappahannock Art League.



Virginia's First Lady, Dorothy McAuliffe, models the Watermen's Boots

After Hours Event

On July 14, the museum hosted more than 65 members of the Lancaster by the Bay Chamber of Commerce for a private evening event. Attendees toured the exhibits at a leisurely pace. For some, it was their first visit to the Steamboat Era Museum.

Tablescapes Redux

For the second year, the museum took part in the

Tablescapes Holiday Event at the Reedville Fishermen's Museum. The concept behind the event is to design a holiday table setting which reflects your organization's interests. This year, the museum tablescape featured a Victorian-era child's tea, complete with a puppy and bear as guests.



Community Presentations

The museum often receives

requests for staff or board members to make community presentations. During the past year, we have provided speakers to the Dahlgren Yacht Club, the Retired Military Association, and the Northern Neck Historical Association. Following the NNHA presentation, we were approached to write an article about the Pilothouse for their yearly publication. Publication is expected in Spring 2017.

Museum Honors Volunteers

They serve as docents, desk attendants, costumed docents, special project volunteers, and Friday morning children's activities leaders. They are the backbone of museum operations and integral to its success. Where would the Steamboat Era Museum be without its volunteers?

The museum hosted a thank-you coffee in December to express appreciation for their volunteers' contribution to a very successful season. During 2016, the number of visitors increased by more than 500 over the previous year. Many comments in the guest book complimented the museum's knowledgeable and friendly volunteers.

Volunteer coordinator Candee Pevahouse used the occasion to acknowledge Helen Slattford for preparing 40 trifles for the spring tea.

She also thanked Laura Hall for keeping track of the shop's inventory and Frank Tetrick for his leadership on the Irvington Crab Festival. She gave a shout-out to Randy and Carolyn Graham for hosting the Captain's Dinner, Eric Nost for his many contributions to the museum, and Jill and Larry Worth for their continuing support and delicious food.

Special thanks went to Mary Ann McKay for her leadership of the Museum's educational programs and to Fran Kelly and Barbara Baxter for their untiring leadership in recruiting volunteers.

Museum Executive Director Barbara Brecher thanked Linn Ross for her work on membership and Candee and Fred Pevahouse for their tireless volunteer hours (see sidebar on the new museum's library).

Thank You to Our Extraordinary Volunteers

Barbara Baxter
Loretta Borostovik
Virginia Lee Brown
Bonita Bruce
Virginia Craig
Edwinna Crockett
Jimmy Crockett
Lynne Engstrom
Virginia Fleet
Carolyn Graham
David Graham
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Tarah Tisdale
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Dick Wilson
Larry Worth
Allan Young
Carolyn Young

Spotlight on Volunteers

Turning a scattered collection into

library

Thanks to the ingenuity of volunteer Fred Pevahouse, the museum now has a functional library. Books have always been part of the collection but they were tucked away in various locations around the building. As the museum's historian, Fred took an interest in these scattered volumes. He found each stash and organized the books with a database using the Dewey Decimal classification. To house the books, we converted an unused water closet into our mini-library. Fred created a simple log for loaning books to those interested in learning more about the Steamboat Era.

Our intrepid historian also undertook organizing the museum's photographs, creating a database and storing them by categories. Now it's easy to locate images of a specific wharf area or steamboat and share them with museum visitors.

OUR LIBRARY BY THE NUMBERS

197 Books
156 Titles

PHOTOGRAPHS BY THE NUMBERS

803 Steamboat photos
27 Steam ferry photos
148 Wharf photos

Museum membership Increases with Added benefit

Membership at the museum increased by 10% in 2016. In addition, the level of giving increased.

Membership has its benefits – including free admission to the museum and discounts on museum merchandise. In December, the museum hosted a members and friends Holiday Party.

New in 2016, the Museum initiated the ROAM program which gives members at the \$125 level and above free entrance to museums around the country.

Museum membership offers reciprocal benefit

IRVINGTON—The Steamboat Era Museum, 156 King Carter Drive, Irvington, now offers a new benefit to its members. A membership at the \$125 level or above will automatically enroll members in the Reciprocal Organization of Associated Museums (ROAM), a network that connects world-class museums for the benefit of museum members, said executive director Barbara Brecher. New museums are added monthly. ROAM membership entitles members to free admission for two, as well as member discounts in stores and restaurants to a large and growing group of museums across the country, said Brecher. The Chrysler Museum of Art in Norfolk and the Virginia Museum of Fine Arts in Richmond are two of the many participants in this program. A complete list of participating museums is available at steamboatmuseum.org/membership.

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 they show the museum.
Thank You!

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Let's Eat Dessert First!



STEAMBOAT ERA
 MUSEUM
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This report includes donations and memberships from 1/1/16- 12/31/16 While every effort has been made to include all donors and members some errors may have occurred. Please contact us with any concerns. We apologize for any omissions.



The Board of Directors
 Dedicate this Annual Report
 in Memory of

Jackie Burrell
 A dedicated Board Member

June Higgins
 A museum supporter

Jayne Jackson
 A long-time volunteer

2016 Finances

Income

Special Events 38%

Grants 29%

Membership 6%

Donations 14%

Pilothouse Donations 5%

Admission Fees 4%

Gift Shop 4%

Expenses

Pilothouse 4%

Building R&M 6%

Exhibits 3%

Special Events 22%

Gift Shop 10%

General and Administrative 51%

Advertising 4%

LocalLife

ent • People • Calendars



Farmer, John Farmer, and Julia Tilley show off their outfits after the show. Right: Lily Hughes gets into the show.

Steamboat era history comes to life

museum revives history
holiday fashion show

By Rebecca Riddell
The holiday season brings in a beautiful

Models were adorned in elaborate period costumes, some purchased, some donated, and some even hand-made. The museum was decorated from top to bottom with holiday décor, which set the scene perfectly for the historical journey on which audience members were taken.



Julia Tilley helps a child make a steamboat during the children's activity program.

Steamboat Era Museum summer programs

Tickets on sale for the Irvington Crab Festival

Tickets are on sale for the Irvington Crab Festival, sponsored by the Steamboat Era Museum on August 13. Doors will open at 4 p.m. and crabs will be served at 5 p.m. The festival will take place under a big tent in front of the museum, 156 King Street Drive, Irvington. More than 750 people are expected to pick their way through bushels of crabs. Executive director Barbara Breecher, Jumbo Lump Lobster and the Backfin Boys will rock the crowd with their genre-crossing music. Beer and wine will be available for purchase and a silent auction will add to the excitement.



Crowds enjoy crabs under the big top at the Crab Festival. Photo by Michael A. Geisinger

committed to sponsor the museum.org, museum from 11 a.m. on Friday

Tickets Now On Sale
FIFTH ANNUAL IRVINGTON CRAB FESTIVAL
August 13, 2016

Irvington Town Commons • Gates Open 4pm • Crabs Served 5pm
\$45 • Kids 12 and under \$10
(Please consider the environment, please do not litter.)

Steamed Crabs, BBQ and More • Live Music • Large Trucks at the Back

For more information or to purchase tickets online visit: steamboatmuseum.org
Tickets may be purchased at the Museum Friday and Saturday 10am-4pm
No tickets will be sold at the door • Proceeds support the Steamboat Era Museum • #LAL

STEAMBOAT ERA FASHION SHOW AND TEA
FOR CHILDREN AND ADULTS
Sunday June 26 at 3pm

Tea and sandwiches will be served while volunteers model fashion of the late 1800's and early 1900's. The tea will be a fun opportunity for children and adults to learn about life when the steamboats plied the coast of Maine.

Children must be accompanied by an adult.

Steamboat Era Museum elects new board members and officers

IRVINGTON—The 2016 annual meeting of the Steamboat Era Museum was held May 14.

The agenda included the election of board members, the report on the Potomac pilot-house and the unveiling of new exhibits, reported executive director Barbara Brecher.

Four new board members were elected, including Randall Kipp of Randal J. Kipp Architecture; Victoria Oliver of Chesapeake Bank; Fred Pevanouse, a museum volunteer; and Donna Tibbs of Northern Neck Insurance Company. New officers include



The Steamboat Era Museum board of directors recently adopted a proclamation to honor volunteer and former board member Anne McClintock.

dent Helen Slatford, secretary Fran Kelly and treasurer Randolph Graham.

Eric Nost will continue his term on the board as past president. Other board members are Barbara Baxter, Kylie Bransford, Beverly L. Randolph, Lee Stephens Jr., Frank L. Tetrick, Timothy Ward and Phillip Williams.

Two board members retired, said Brecher. Jackie Burell, a longtime member and secretary of the board for many years, and Anne McClintock.

McClintock received the first "Museum Leadership Award" for her tireless work to make the museum a reality and help it grow, said Brecher. Because of her support, as

well as many of the community, she was selected as the 2016 Living "Best Museum" in Northern Virginia.

Kelly and Baxter recognized for their recruiting and coordinating museum volunteers. Patty Richards was recognized for her donation of a mural for a new 2016

Nost, chairman of the Potomac Home explained the importance of preserving the only Chesapeake Bay pilot-house and how it will fit into the museum. The members of the museum are pleased this project is now reality, said Brecher.

Museum membership offers reciprocal benefit

IRVINGTON—The Steamboat Era Museum, 156 King Carter Drive, Irvington, now offers a new benefit to its members. Membership at the \$125 level or above will automatically include all members in the Reciprocal Organization of Associated Museums (ROAM), a network that connects world-class museums for the benefit of museum members.

2016 Annual Report

EXTRA! EXTRA!

STEAMBOAT ERA MUSEUM

156 King Carter Drive
Irvington, Virginia 22480
804.438.6888 steamboateramuseum.org

n Sale!
ANNUAL
FESTIVAL
2016

Served 5pm

Backfin Boys

TEA

Arundel at St. Mary's, Md., wharf, 1904, and made her last run up the river to Baltimore in September 1904.

to host ice cream Social at Steamboat Era Museum

Museum, 156 King Carter Drive, Irvington, will host an ice cream Social at Steamboat Era Museum.

General Assembly designated Steamboat Era Museum as the last voyage of the Anne Arundel in September 1904.

All celebrate the occasion with an ice cream Social on the museum's deck, said Brecher.

Children must be accompanied by an adult. Day and through November 19, the museum will be open on Fridays and Saturdays. Costumed docents will be on duty from 1 a.m. to 3 p.m.

ERA MUSEUM
HOLIDAY
MARKETPLACE

NOVEMBER 25 & 26

TEN AM - FOUR PM

ALSO SHOP ON DECEMBER 3, 10 & 17 10AM-4PM

CRAFTS, GIFTS & MORE!

Museum Fall Hours

Sept. 9 - Nov. 18, 2016

Friday & Saturday • 10am - 4pm

156 KING CARTER DRIVE • IRVINGTON, VA
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feet, as Mollie Mae Smither, displays a selection of holiday-themed items. Mae took a steamboat to Baltimore to purchase merchandise for the Holiday Marketplace.

Steamboat Era Museum Holiday Marketplace

Steamboat Era Museum, 156 King Carter Drive, Irvington, will host its third annual Holiday Marketplace November 25 and 26, as well as December 3, 10 and 17. Hours are 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

The marketplace will feature more than 20 artisans with various items including jewelry, metal, fiber, stained glass and more, reported executive director Barbara Brecher.