

NEWSLETTER

Volume 27, Number 1

May 2012

EXHIBIT OPENING Emerging Artists of South County

June 3rd marks the opening of the Museum's newest exhibition: *Emerging Artists of South County*.

From 2 to 3:30 p.m., enjoy refreshments and listen to music while viewing artwork from South County's emerging visual artists. Artwork from Deale, Traceys, Lothian, and Shady Side Elementary Schools and Southern Middle School, and one piece from Southern High School, will be on display through mid-September.

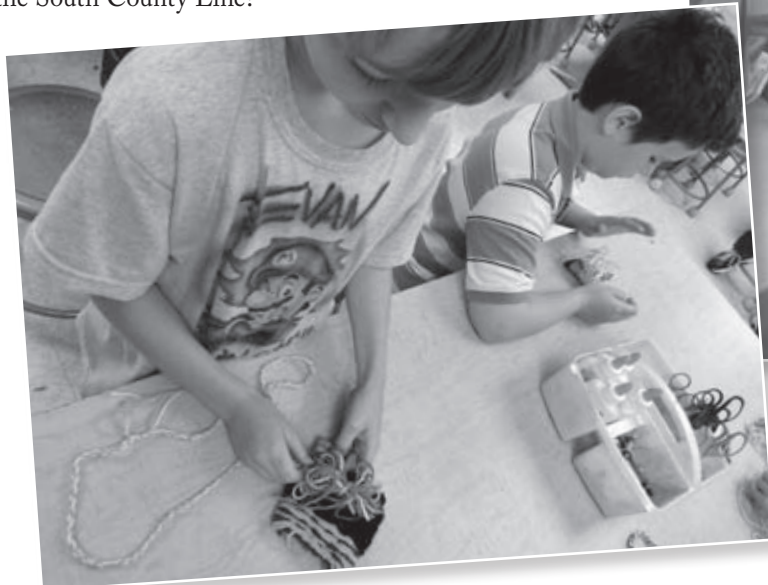
As the art opportunities for children in South County are few, our children are fortunate that local schools provide rich experiences. The Museum is happy to provide a venue for the impressive works of "artists in progress."

One emerging artist, Tyler Mills, graduating from Southern High School this year, won \$300,000 in art scholarships and plans to attend the Rhode Island School of Design in the fall. His art teacher at Cardinal Hickey Academy took note of his emerging talent in fourth grade, and encouraged his family to do the same. They did, and he has just been offered his first commissioned work.

Although he has always liked art class, he says he didn't begin to think of creating art as a career until he began high school. Only now, with graduation pending, is he starting to think of himself as an "Artist."

Currently untitled, Tyler's painting will be part of the exhibit at the museum.

Come to the Museum this summer and see what talent lies below the South County Line!



From Top: A friendly banner welcomes young artists to the classroom; "Untitled" by Tyler Mills; and Shady Side students work on a weaving project for the art exhibit.

UPCOMING EVENTS

DO ART

For the last two years, on the first Sunday in August, professional artists from the Muddy Creek Artists Guild have gathered on the Museum lawn overlooking the West River and taught young and old alike how to DO ART. We will DO ART again on August 5th. And again you can learn and do pottery, photography, water color drawing, jewelry making, pastels, sculpture, silk painting and more. All ages—4 to 104—are welcome from Noon to 4 p.m. for this free event.

Come to learn or come to have fun. Come by yourself or with a group of friends. Bring your children or have your grandchildren bring you. You can do it all; you do not have to choose just one kind of art. And you can plan a picnic on the Museum lawn or buy a hot dog from the Boy Scouts. DO ART is a wonderful day for you to find your inner Picasso, enjoy being at the Museum, and work with professional artists.



Do Art 2011 participants explore clay sculpture and painting on the riverbank with guidance from professional artists with the Muddy Creek Artists Guild.

MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR: Vicki Petersen

I want to express my personal appreciation and say a heartfelt thank you to all of our volunteers. We keep a very full calendar of events—it is truly amazing to see what gets done with a very small staff and an army of volunteers. You play a crucial role in making this Museum a vibrant cultural resource right here in South County.

A very dedicated Board of Directors is first on the gratitude list. They are the heartbeat of this Museum, investing countless hours to bring programs and events to life.

Yet all of our volunteers play important roles. We recognize

that everyone is busy and are thankful that, for the volunteer whose time is limited, they choose to contribute to this friendly and welcoming organization.

Gardeners, envelope stuffers, event coordinators and staff, docents, bakers, writers, photographers, educators, greeters, graphic designers, kitchen assistants, flower arrangers, library assistants, and many other positions are filled with your dedicated time and energy.

It is no exaggeration to say that we could not do all that we do without you. Many thanks!

CAPTAIN AVERY MUSEUM NEWSLETTER IS PUBLISHED PERIODICALLY BY THE MUSEUM

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Contributors: Mavis Daly, Roberta Dorn, Janet George, June Hall, Vicki Petersen, Susy Smith, Peggy Tucker, and Melanie Turner

The Captain Avery Museum, founded by the Shady Side Rural Heritage Society, Inc. operates a museum complex located on the banks of the West River. The Society's mission is to preserve and share local Chesapeake Bay history and engage the community by providing educational and recreational programs and activities.

Memberships are \$25 for individual, \$20 for seniors, \$40 for family, \$125 for donor, \$250 for patron, and \$500 for benefactor. Call or write the Museum today!

Captain Avery Museum • Post Office Box 89, 1418 East West Shady Side Road, Shady Side, Maryland 20764
Telephone: 410 867 4486 • www.captainaverymuseum.org

A copy of our current financial statement is available upon request at the address and phone number above. Documents and information submitted to the State of Maryland under the Maryland Charitable Solicitations Act are available from the Office of the Secretary of State for the cost of copying and postage.

Grantors:



Our 2012 Captain's Circle Sponsors:



UPCOMING EVENTS

HAVE A FUN FILLED DAY AND “LEAVE THE DRIVING TO US”

This year the Captain Avery Museum’s motor coach excursion program includes four day trips to interesting sites in the District of Columbia, Maryland and Pennsylvania.

Our 2012 season began in March with a trip to the beautiful Pennsylvania Flower Show in Philadelphia, see photos on right. What a wonderful way to end the winter doldrums, by viewing the beautiful indoor exhibits showcasing the tropical flowers and vines of the Hawaiian Islands.

Our late Spring adventure will take place as this goes to press, on May 22nd, when we visit the Hillwood Estate Museum and Gardens. Hillwood, the grand estate of Post Cereal heiress Marjorie Merriweather Post sits on 25 beautiful acres in a residential neighborhood of our nation’s capital. The home features the most comprehensive collection of Russian imperial art outside Russia, and has a world renowned collection of 18th century French art and furnishings. The beautiful gardens of this estate will be in their glory in the month of May, and we are looking forward to a wonderful excursion!

Come enjoy the Fall colors with us in beautiful Northwest Washington, D.C. On October 23rd we will travel to the Washington National Cathedral where we will have a guided tour, followed by a festive tea in the Pilgrim Observation Gallery. Our personal guide will introduce us to the history, architecture, and stained glass and other artwork of this beautiful Gothic structure. We will have the opportunity to visit special exhibits, including one which documents the 2011 earthquake and explains the painstaking restoration underway. Reservations for this trip may be made by contacting Roberta Dorn, Trip Leader, 410-798-5618, before September 15, 2012. The fee is \$75 for members, and \$85 for non-members.

To celebrate the Holiday Season we are once again offering a trip to see the beautiful holiday decorations inside the White House. For the past two years, our guests have enjoyed seeing the State Dining Room, East Room, Green Room and other rooms and hallways festooned with magnificent ornaments and greenery. Our 2011 visitors even had an opportunity to glimpse President Obama as his motorcade left the White House to go to Capitol Hill. Later we enjoyed watching White House staff walk “Bo” the first family’s Portuguese Water Dog on the South Lawn. Depending on scheduling, this trip will likely add a second stop such as the Botanic Gardens. Lunch at a popular Washington restaurant will be included in the final cost of the trip. The fee is expected to be in the \$75 to \$85 range. We are in the early stage of planning this trip and final arrangements are solely in the hands of the White House Tour Office. While we must make our reservations in June, we will not be notified of our acceptance and given a date and time certain until early December. Because all visitors must be thoroughly screened by security, we are required to submit names, and other personal identification information at the same time we make application.



MUSIC ON THE LAWN: A Summer Series

A series of Sunday evening outdoor concerts featuring maritime and Chesapeake Bay music is being offered at the Museum, beginning with **Calico Jack on Sunday, June 17**. All concerts will be presented from 6 to 7:30 p.m. They are free and open to the public. Suggested donations of \$5 per person will help offset expenses.

Calico Jack begins the Series with songs and stories of the Chesapeake Bay. **Janie Meneely** and her partner, **Paul DiBlasi** perform together as the duo, **Calico Jack**. About 25 years ago, Janie Meneely began writing songs about the Bay. She describes DiBlasi as her “waterman’s voice.” His mellow baritone adds just the right character to her songs.

Sometimes saucy, sometimes serious, Calico Jack offers audiences a glimpse of a rapidly disappearing way of life and invites them to join in on the chorus.

On **Sunday, July 8**, Virginia Troubadour **Bob Zentz** will take his audience on a rollicking high seas romp when he

appears at the second in the Sunday Series. From schools to concert halls, festivals to fairs, museums to libraries, Bob is dedicated to the life of presenting, performing, and introducing traditional music.

The Series will conclude on **Sunday, August 5**, when the Seattle based duo, **William Pint and Felicia Dale**, bring their songs of the high seas to the Captain Avery Museum.

Food and beverage will be available for sale or guests may bring their own picnic. Attendees are encouraged to bring blankets or chairs to enjoy the magnificent waterfront of the Museum, overlooking the Chesapeake Bay with views of the Chesapeake Bay Bridge. In the event of rain, the concert will move indoors.

It is hoped the audience will enjoy these evening concerts so that they may be continued in future years. For more information, check the Museum’s website, www.captainaverymuseum.org, or call the office at 410-867-4486.

EVENTS REMEMBERED

WINTER LUNCHEON SERIES by Mavis Daly

The highly successful 2012 Winter Luncheon Series began before a sold out audience on January 11 with Mary Ann Jung portraying Rosie the Riveter. The great room was filled with laughter, especially when she brought people from the audience to the stage, added a bit of costume, and had them play the role of people in history at the World War II era. She charmed the audience who asked that she return for a Friday evening coffee, which she did.

Mick Blackistone, award-winning local author, waterman, and editor of the *Waterman's Gazette*, discussed issues facing the Bay and its watermen at our second luncheon. Kathleen Litchfield Petro used a power point program to illustrate landscape renovations. She has over 30 years experience in landscape construction, and holds a BS in Horticulture from the University of Maryland. Genevieve Kaplan, Education and Public Programs Manager of the Banneker-Douglass Museum, discussed *Fighting for an Education: Separate But Equal* in Anne Arundel County, describing the Rosenwald schools in this area.

Because they are so popular in this region, Greg Kearns description of the life of the osprey was especially well received, and again this year, a limited number of people will be permitted to go with him to do some banding of osprey on the Patuxent River. Mr. Kearns is a Maryland National Capital Park and Planning Commission naturalist. He is an accomplished photographer, worldwide traveler, expert birder, and a renowned authority on the osprey.

Dr. Craig Symonds, a very distinguished professor from the Naval Academy, called attention to this, the 150th anniversary of the Civil War. He is the author of 25 books and has received numerous awards. His program concluded the six-week Series on February 15.

Chair Melanie Turner expressed thanks to Greenstreet Gardens for the beautiful white hydrangeas on each table, to Fresh Market for the specialty breads, to Peggy Tucker for arranging for the speakers and handling the reservations, greeting everyone by name as she has for over 20 years since the Series began, and to all the volunteers who baked, cooked, served, and so much more.

From top: Mary Ann Jung recruits an audience member to play Walter Pidgeon as part of her captivating historical presentation of Rosie the Riveter; Board members and kitchen volunteers prepare to serve soup to hungry guests; and Guests enjoy each other's company while awaiting lunch.



ADULT DOCENTS NEEDED

If you enjoy history and meeting new people, this is the volunteer position for you! The Captain Avery Museum is open on Sundays, from 1 to 4 p.m. Our docents work one Sunday a month, April through December. For more information call Vicki Petersen, 410-867-4486, or email captainavery@verizon.net.

THANKS TO OUR GRANTORS

The Captain Avery Museum would like to recognize the Chesapeake Bay Trust, the Arts Council of Anne Arundel County, and Unity Gardens for project and operating grants. We would also like to recognize our corporate sponsors: Greenstreet Gardens and BayVue Consulting. Thank you all—we could not do all of these wonderful things without your valuable and generous support!

APPLAUSE FOR MARY ANN JUNG

For Making History Come Alive

Mary Ann is an award winning actress and Smithsonian Scholar portraying historical figures and telling their story. She invites audience members to help out the adventure by becoming characters in the plot, making it entertaining as well as educational.

After her appearance as Rosie the Riveter this year at our Winter Luncheon Series, Mary Ann was invited back by popular demand for our Friday Night Coffee, March 9th. Playing to a full house, she portrayed Rosalie Calvert of Riversdale Plantation, Bladensburg, Maryland. She told the story of plantation life in early 1800s, the War of 1812, and the *Star Spangled Banner*, selecting persons from the audience to portray President Madison, his wife Dolly, and Francis Scott Key. She divided the room into British versus Americans with shoutings of hurrahs and boos and flag waving! If you were not there...you missed it! Watch for her in the future making history fun at the Captain Avery Museum.

Seasons of a Chesapeake Bay Waterman

A short but exciting "Season" has wrapped up, with our county schools enjoying hands-on activities at the Museum and at Discovery Village, one of four partner organizations in this series. More than two hundred fourth graders visited this year, learning about life as a waterman, past and present.

This program was designed with the help of fourth grade social studies teachers, to enhance the fourth grade curriculum in which the students learn about their home state of Maryland and its many riches, including the Chesapeake Bay.

This year we were joined by a new partner, the Coastal Heritage Alliance, whose goal is to preserve waterman's traditions quickly fading with the decline of the Chesapeake Bay. Thanks to John VanAlstine for bringing this wonderful new group to us. Hollice Lowe and Robert Howes, local watermen from this newly formed group, talked about their experiences on the water in this modern age. They shared with the children what they do, why they do it and what it means to this community.

While at Discovery Village, the students took a cruise out onto the West River on two Chesapeake Bay Foundation's teaching vessels, the *Marguerite*, and the *Snow Goose*, to see

what they could dredge up. Students love this, evidenced by evaluative comments such as "I learned the most when I caught fish and identified what kind they were."

At the Museum students explored primary source documents, such as the census reports and the family Bible, to discover Captain Salem Avery's family and actually "become" an Avery. The Avery family "shops" in the port of Baltimore for goods much needed at home. They tong for, cull and "sell" oysters in our boatshed and get an exciting tour of the Museum itself. Most seem especially intrigued by the chamber pots and the leather teething doll that would have been used by all of the Avery children. "Gross!" being the most agreed upon statement.

The students learn by experience how important it is for each of us to do our part to preserve local heritage.

The most interesting thing I learned on the field trip was "when we went on the boat and saw how much oxygen was in the water."
- Sara L

I had the most fun when we "got to dress up and then be the mom." - Stephanie W

The field trip would be even better if "we could sleep there."
- Maddie

LIBRARY NEWS

ORAL HISTORIES ON THE WEB

If you have not seen our latest news on the Captain Avery Museum web then we would like you to know that 18 of our Oral Histories relating to the Fishing Club era are now on the Maryland Digital Heritage Program web site. You might recall from our last newsletter article that the Museum's Miss Ethel Library entered into a partnership with this state program whose mission is to preserve Maryland history and culture. In this way, we are pleased to share some of our treasured Oral Histories with a broader audience. Take a moment and check out this web site by going to www.captainaverymuseum.org and click on the link from "The Museum Library at Work" on the home page.

The dedicated library volunteers continue to be very busy and every Monday when the library is open from Noon to 3 p.m., more information is added to our library database and files, all in our mission to preserve and share local Chesapeake Bay history. We have happily welcomed a new volunteer, Jetta Engstrom. She has taken over the managing of the current Captain Avery Museum's yearbooks. These yearbooks starting in 1989 have collected all the museum events, news articles and pictures each year and are a valuable tool for recording the Museum's history and organizational memory.



Mayo Elementary School's fourth grade students tour the West River with Captain Bart Jaeger from the Chesapeake Bay Foundation.

A NOTE FROM THE MEMBERSHIP CHAIR

Dear friends,

JULY IS MEMBERSHIP MONTH, and we are looking forward to many new and many familiar programs and events. Keep an eye out for the FY 13 membership mailing coming soon! I hope you will continue to support us by becoming a member of the Society.

WHY JOIN? By becoming a member, you will receive:

- reduced fees at most events and programs sponsored by the Captain Avery Museum
- special discounts from some of our South County merchants, including Skipper's Pier, Deale Hardware, Ledo's Pizza (Deale) and Greenstreet Gardens
- the knowledge that you are partnering with our Museum and center to celebrate the culture of the Bay—past, present and future

Please join. You can complete the form below and mail to our office: Captain Avery Museum, Post Office Box 89, Shady Side, MD 20764. OR, renew online by visiting www.captainaverymuseum.org and click on "Welcome Aboard/Membership."

I look forward to hearing from you!

Warmly, Pat Freiberg

CAPTAIN AVERY MUSEUM

Please complete this form, cut it out and mail to the Museum by July 31st.
You may also join or renew your membership online at www.captainaverymuseum.org.
Then click on "Welcome Aboard/Membership."

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ Email _____

Individual \$25 Family \$40 Senior Citizen (over 65) \$20 Student (full-time) \$20

Donor \$125 Patron \$250 Benefactor \$500

Check Credit Card: Visa MasterCard Discover

Account Number _____ Expiration Date: _____ 3-Digit Security Code _____

MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE AND MAIL TO:
Captain Avery Museum, Post Office Box 89, Shady Side, MD 20764

EVENTS REMEMBERED



Jennifer Sturgell's third grade class explores the differences between Shady Side schools now and in the past.

MEMORIES AND MEMENTOS EXHIBIT TRAVELS TO SHADY SIDE ELEMENTARY

While the museum “slept” for the winter, parts of our *Memories and Mementos: A History of Shady Side Schools* exhibit traveled to Shady Side Elementary, which provided a great opportunity for all of the current students to visit the exhibit and think about the differences and similarities between school then and now.

The condensed exhibit featured quotes culled from questionnaires, class pictures, a timeline of Shady Side schools—black, white and integrated—historic student and teacher desks, an old chalkboard, old texts, *Weekly Readers* past and present, and old report cards.

We wanted current students to feel a deeper connection to their school, and learn about the heritage of their own community. We collected questionnaires from the students to preserve for future reference in the Museum's Flora Ethel Andrews Memorial Library.

Third grade teacher Jennifer Sturgell helped set the tone, bringing her class to the exhibit housed in Quad Six, to share some tidbits from the past, including her own memories. Not only was she once a student at Shady Side Elementary, but her father, Richard Nieman, her grandparents, her siblings and her children were, too. She herself has taught at Shady Side for sixteen years, and says she loves it! On display were some of her father's work samples from the 1950's—a cursive writing sample, and a hand drawn and colored flag of the 48 states of the United States of America.

Fifth grade students became junior curators, helping with the exhibit. Many thanks to Lydia Ryan, Vanessa Petersen, Julianna Scofield, Zoie Balazs and Daisy Youngmann.

MARYLAND DAY

Maryland Day commemorates the formal founding of Maryland when the newly arrived colonists erected a cross at St. Clements Island, taking “possession of the Countrey for our Savior and for our Sovereigne Lord, the King of England.”

Many sites in the Four Rivers Heritage Area of Annapolis, Londontowne and South County celebrated with free, or nearly free, events. For the fifth consecutive year, the Captain Avery Museum opened the season with the event, bringing in well over 100 visitors.

Local water“men” Sue and Bill Cheatham presented “Bringing Our Bay's Past to the Surface,” with pictures and stories of their 47 years combined clamming experience. They talked about changes their industry has seen, and displayed four tables of artifacts dredged from the bottom of the Chesapeake Bay—antique jugs and bottles, whale bones, clay pipes, rubber boots and more. They also displayed tools of the trade. Visitors were invited to touch and explore the exhibited items, and interact with the Cheathams, who answered lots of questions.

The Cheathams came to us through an organization called the Coastal Heritage Alliance, whose primary focus is to assist fishing families in passing on their heritage to new generations within their own communities and to the broader public audience. For more information on the work of the CHA, visit their website at www.coastalheritage.org.

Top: Local clammers Bill and Sue Cheatham, from the Coastal Heritage Alliance, shared their experience on the water with an attentive audience. Bottom: Visitors view the many items the Cheathams have dredged up from the bottom of the Bay.



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

SUNDAY, JUNE 3
EXHIBIT OPENING
Emerging Artists of South County
 Time: 2:00 to 3:30 p.m.
 Admission: Free

SUNDAY, JUNE 17
MUSIC ON THE LAWN
Calico Jack
 Time: 6:00 to 7:30 p.m.
 Suggested Donation: \$5/person

SUNDAY, JULY 8
MUSIC ON THE LAWN
Virginia Troubadour Bob Zentz
 Time: 6:00 to 7:30 p.m.
 Suggested Donation: \$5/person

SUNDAY, AUGUST 5
DO ART!
Workshops in various art media
 Time: Noon to 4:00 p.m.
 Admission: Free
 Reservations: 410-867-4486

SUNDAY, AUGUST 5
MUSIC ON THE LAWN
William Pint and Felicia Dale
 Time: 6:00 to 7:30 p.m.
 Suggested Donation: \$5/person

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 21
WEST RIVER HERITAGE DAY
OYSTER FESTIVAL,
CHOOSE IT AND USE IT,
& RAFFLE DRAWING
 Time: 12:30 to 5:00 p.m.
 Admission: \$6/person,
 free for children under 12

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 23
MOTOR COACH EXCURSION
Washington National Cathedral
 Admission: \$75/Members
 \$85/Non-Members
 Advance Ticket Sales: Call Roberta Dorn
 at 410-798-5618 for tickets.
 Reservations: Must be made before
 September 15th

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 2
CHILDREN'S
TREE-TRIMMING PARTY
 Time: 1:30 to 3:30 p.m.
 Admission: Free, donations
 always welcomed
 Reservations: 410-867-4486
 Suggested Donation: \$5/child

For information on programs, call 410-867-4486 or visit www.captainaverymuseum.org

Museum Hours – April through December 4, Sundays, 1 to 4 p.m. • Museum Grounds and Exhibits – Open Every Day, Dawn to Dusk
Library Hours – Open Mondays, 12 to 3 p.m. (except National Holidays)

JUNE 10
Steve Gauss: Genealogy
 Time: 1:00 to 4:00 p.m.
 Admission: Free

JULY 15
Storytelling with Ann Widdifield
 Time: 1:00 to 4:00 p.m.
 Admission: Free

AUGUST 19
Wind Science
 Time: 1:00 to 4:00 p.m.
 Admission: Free

NEW FOR 2012
Family Sunday Programs

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