



MISSISSIPPI MARITIME MUSEUM NEWS

WINTER 2019

Preserving and promoting the maritime heritage of Mississippi
msmaritimemuseum.org | msmmuseum@gmail.com



MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT:

Perry Thompson

On behalf of the Mississippi Maritime Museum (MMM) Board of Directors, I hope every one of our MMM Members had very Merry and Happy Holidays! 2018 brought on a number of activities and accomplishments for the museum, including history lectures and presentations, which carried us through the spring and summer. MMM obtained a DMR Tidelands grant to develop an eighteen minute video on Mississippi Maritime history. Our first annual Student Art Contest, participation in the Zonta Festival, and our Fall Social/Art Awards Ceremony made for a very busy 3rd quarter.

Plans for 2019 start off with preparations for our annual General Membership Meeting. Look for an announcement and invitation in your mailbox soon. Additionally, more plans are underway to make the museum a reality. A contract was recently let to Allred Stolarski Architects to review the Math & Science Building roof structure and make recommendations for its replacement, within MS Dept. of Archives & History guidelines. Once funds become available, the Board will authorize the request for bids from contractors to perform the work.

The MMM Board of Directors and Committees will be working hard on a number of activities and events for 2019, and we need "all hands on deck"... please consider joining one of the many committees covering all aspects of our museum's development. Contact us through our Facebook page, or the website, and help bring the dream of our local museum to life.

Thanks, Perry

2019 GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

February 28, 2019

Maritime Activities Center

609 Dupont Avenue
Pascagoula, MS 39567

SECRETARY'S CORNER:*Rene' Shaw*

2018 has drawn to a close – and what a flurry of activity! Now the Holidays are over, and preparations have begun for the 2019 General Membership Meeting. Time certainly does fly!! Many plans for 2019 are underway, so be sure to renew your dues, and volunteer for a committee to get in on the action of creating our very own local history museum. The activities needed to bring about the dream of this museum are many, and every member should feel as though they have a stake in the success of these endeavors. Your participation on the committees bringing this effort to fruition is essential to ensuring that success. Our area's local history is unique and specific, yet the people and the lifestyle that have grown from this area have experienced a tremendous global outreach. Join us and share your family's story, one that weaves into the so many others creating our local maritime history.

WHY JOIN THE MISSISSIPPI MARITIME MUSEUM:

1. You believe in the importance of lifelong learning.
2. You appreciate the legacy of the maritime industry as the foundation of commerce along the MS Gulf Coast.
3. You support innovative community maritime programming for children and adults of all ages.
4. You want to promote the maritime industry's impact on our local area and country.
5. History helps us understand the world at large.
6. Museums serve as community centers allowing stakeholders to meet, discuss thoughts and opinions, and become an active part of the community.
7. The MS Maritime Museum needs support to continue its mission of education and work force development.
8. Museums enhance a community's economy by bringing in tourist dollars.
9. Membership start at only \$25.
10. All donations to the MS Maritime Museum are tax deductible!

MEMBERSHIP NEWS:*Rene' Shaw*

Membership renewal for 2019 is underway! Several folks have mailed their dues in, and a few paid dues at the Fall Social. Membership for 2018 topped out at 107, with 43 renewed for 2019, as of Jan. 7th. The General Membership meeting is coming up, with 2 Board Director seats to be voted upon. All members intending to take part in voting for new Board Directors will need to ensure their dues are current prior to the start of the meeting. Doors will open an hour prior, dues can be paid online through PayPal at any time, or mail a check to MMM, P.O. Box 243, Pascagoula, MS 39568-0243. Dues are \$25 per year, or \$350 for a Lifetime Membership.

Plank Ownership is still building. A Plank Owner is defined as one who has been a continuous member of the museum organization for at least 4 years prior to the Grand Opening of the museum. Lifetime Members who came on board 4 years prior to the Grand Opening will also be recognized as Plank Owners. As plans being made draw the date nearer, opportunities to achieve this distinction are drawing to a close. 45 museum memberships are currently qualified as Plank Owners - be sure to maintain your yearly dues until Grand Opening.

THE GOVERNOR STONE:

George Sholl

Most MMM members know the origin of the two-masted schooner under sail on the museum's logo. The *Governor Stone* was built in Pascagoula in 1877 and is the oldest Mississippi-built sailing ship known to exist. Before the age of today's road networks and even modern railroads, commerce along the coast was carried out by gulf schooners such as the *Governor Stone*. With a wide beam and shallow hull, these vessels were built to carry freight from point to point along the shore or transport lumber to ships off-shore. As land-based transportation improved, the *Governor Stone* transitioned through several new careers. At various times, she was an oyster boat and even a Prohibition rum runner.



When WWII began, the *Governor Stone* had been renamed *Queen of the Fleet* and was used as a fishing and day-trip boat for guests at Inn-by-the-Sea in Pass Christian, Mississippi. When the Inn-by-the-Sea was purchased by the US government for use as a Merchant Marine training academy, it included several sailing ships including the *Queen of the Sea*. Completely overhauled by the school's cadet-midshipmen, she was used exclusively for sail training as the *Samuel Samuels* until late in the war, when she was given new auxiliary gasoline power and a deckhouse, and renamed *Joshua Humphreys* to honor the designer of *Old Ironsides*.

After the war, *Joshua Humphreys* was returned to her former owner and resumed her former name – *Queen of the Fleet*. Several owners, and name changes that included *Pirate Queen*, *Sea Bob*, *C'est La Vie* and *Sovereign* occurred through the years until she was purchased in 1965 and returned to her original configuration and name. The *Governor Stone* was given to the Apalachicola Maritime Institute in 1991, where she served as a sail trainer for at-risk youth and a charter vessel in conjunction with the museum for 11 years. It was also 1991 when the *Governor Stone* was designated a National Historic Landmark.

Now owned and maintained by the all-volunteer 501(c)(3) non-profit group - Friends of the Governor Stone, Inc. – the historic schooner was completely restored in 2013-4 by Master Boat Builder Bill Holland in d'Iberville, Mississippi. After the renovation's completion and on her way to homeport in Panama City, Florida, the *Governor Stone* visited Pascagoula for a 3-day stay, offering visitors an on-board tour.

The *Governor Stone* was often seen on day-sailings from Panama City and the city had recently completed a new dock area that highlighted her history. But on 7 October 2018, Hurricane Michael slammed ashore and the *Governor Stone* capsized and sank. This wasn't the first time. Two previous hurricanes in 1906 and in 1939 also sank her, but each time

she was raised and restored. The Friends of the Governor Stone are making it a third time. She has been raised and is sitting on shore with severe damage, but still intact. The organization is currently analyzing and planning a program to re-float and restore the *Governor Stone* and will be conducting fund raisers to help pay for the restoration.

There are two excellent ways to keep informed of the *Governor Stone's* progress. One is to join the Friends of the Governor Stone at their website: <http://governorstone.org> and you can also follow on facebook at Governor Stone.



A HISTORY LESSON: CLOVED ORANGE POMANDER

The MMM and Jerry Lee's Grocery sponsored a history lesson and craft project at Trent Lott Middle School with IDEAS students. The MMM Secretary, Rene Shaw, gladly initiated this group activity over three days in mid-December.

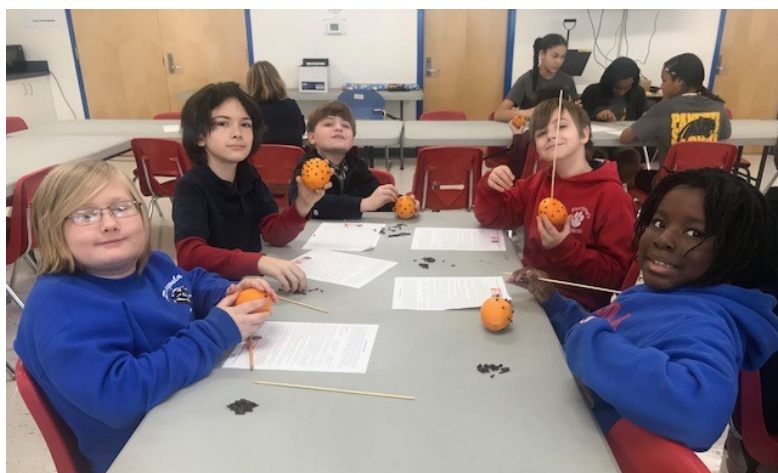
Before air-conditioning, folks would leave windows open, for ventilation in the summer. Once fall came, homes would be "closed-up" for winter. By the time Thanksgiving came along, homes could be musty-smelling. For the holidays, aromatic evergreen branches would be brought in to decorate, and harvested fruits would be added to the garland. In addition to apples and cranberries, oranges would be spiked with whole cloves, and tied up with colorful yarn for a mix of fresh citrus and a spicy aroma.



If made around Thanksgiving, the oranges will have been hanging for a month as Christmas and New Year's Eve approaches. At this point, take the oranges down, rinse, and place into a pot; add Apple cider and water; and stew for a while to make cider for the New Year's celebrations!

A second option: after the orange dries out, put your orange in a pot of water, yarn and all, on the stove over low heat. Soon the kitchen and home will start to smell lovely. As the water evaporates, more water can be added to keep the effect going. To save for the next day, place a lid on the pot overnight. This can be repeated as long as desired.

Full instructions on following page



CLOVED ORANGE POMANDER INSTRUCTIONS:

What you'll need:

- 1 medium sized orange
- 2-3 tablespoons of whole cloves
- 24" piece of yarn
- A bamboo skewer or toothpick
- Optional: cinnamon stick and star anise

Step 1:

With skewer, poke a hole in your orange, and immediately put a whole clove in the hole. Cover orange.

- Poke one hole at a time to prevent a sticky mess
- Leave top and bottom clear of cloves, so that the yarn can be twisted
- Be sure to place cloves evenly about the widest part, so the yarn doesn't roll off



Step 2:

When cloves are on the orange, find the center of yarn and lay it on top of orange, then extend the rest down the sides to the bottom. Turn the orange over, cross the yarn at a 90-degree angle bringing it back up towards the top of the orange. When back at the top, tie a square knot securely so that your orange is well-captured.

Step 3: (optional)

Lay cinnamon stick on top of the 1st square knot and tie a 2nd square knot to hold it on top.

Step 4: (optional)

Lay a piece of star anise on top of the 2nd square knot and bring the yarn up between two of the 'petals'. Tie a 3rd square knot to secure it all together.

Step 5:

Tie a slip-knot in the remaining yarn by twisting the yarn, folding it down, drawing the length up through the loop and tightening the knot. Use this loop to hang the Cloved Orange Pomander.

- Hang your orange over a number of weeks to dry
- Some last over a year; if they become mushy or develop dark spots, dispose of it.

