

Piscataqua Maritime Commission

Newsletter

To enhance the awareness, appreciation, and understanding of the rich cultural maritime heritage and history of the Piscataqua River estuary.

Summer 2014



Lynx

main salon with its teak trim, and its forward navigation house, open to the public.

A unique feature of *Mystic* is her ability to cruise in much shallower waters than just about any other sailing ship her size. In order to sail into the wind, sailboats must have a deep, fixed keel, to keep them from slipping sideways with the wind. But, unusually for a 170-foot vessel, *Mystic* has a retractable centerboard, that gives her a 19-foot depth at sea, but which can be power winched up to only 10 feet, for docking at Peirce Island.

The beautiful 122-foot, two-masted topsail schooner *Lynx* returns to Portsmouth after several years. She is a replica of an early privateer from the War of 1812. At the start of that war, America had only a 17-ship Navy, so private vessels were issued "letters of marque" authorizing them to attack enemy shipping as "privateers". With her sharply raked masts, and a low-slung design, she was built for speed, so as to avoid the British ships blockading our ports, but her 6-pound cannons made her more than a match for the British merchant shipping on which she preyed.

Lynx considers Portsmouth her homeport, and you will see our fair city's name painted on her stern.

Lynx will be arriving in Portsmouth Wednesday afternoon, July 30, prior to the beginning of Sail Portsmouth. She will initially be docked in New Castle, and will be offering two-hour ocean sails to the public Wednesday through Friday (See page 3 article).

To find out more about the *Lynx*, consider purchasing "America's Privateer," *Lynx* and The War of 1812, by J. Dennis Robinson. Quote: "The War of 1812 privateer *Lynx* comes to life brilliantly in "America's Privateer", a book which opens with a colorful and balanced picture of the war for which the original *Lynx* was built two hundred years ago." The book is on sale at the Discover Portsmouth Center.

Public Ocean Day Sails Offered on *Lynx*

The wonderful opportunity to go sailing on the Tall Ship *Lynx* will be available to the public Wednesday, July 29, Thursday, July 30, and Friday, August 1. These regular Day Sails will each be for two hours. A more unique opportunity is to participate on her on Friday afternoon in the Parade of Sail up the Piscataqua to Peirce Island. Seven regular Day Sails, and one special Parade of Sail opportunity are being offered. The Day Sails will be \$55 per person, and the Parade of Sail \$75. Check the PMC website sailportsmouth.org, or your local media, for when the Day Sails will be available for purchase, and other Day Sail details.

It's "Schooner Fest" August 1st - 3rd at Sail Portsmouth 2014[®]

by Larry Job, PMC Vice-Chair

This year, 292 feet of schooner will come to Portsmouth for this year's Sail Portsmouth event! The 170-foot *Mystic* will lead the Parade of Sail up the Piscataqua, and will be joined by "America's Privateer," *Lynx*.

Mystic, a three-masted, gaff-rigged, square-topsail schooner, to fully describe her, takes a crew of 14 to manage her 13 sails, but with her 34-foot beam there's plenty of room aboard. She has 17 cabins and her main salon seats 38 for dining. Her main mast is 110 feet tall.

For the first time, a featured vessel in Sail Portsmouth's public tours will also be the ship used for the Piscataqua Maritime Commission's Sea Challenge! After closing for public tours Sunday, August 3, *Mystic* will board 30 Seacoast youth for a week of sail training on the ocean. (See page 2 article)

This year, we are happy to announce that the venue for Sail Portsmouth 2014 will be the Fish Pier, Peirce Island, Portsmouth, a location in downtown Portsmouth, contiguous to its historic center, and a stone's throw from Strawberry Bank!

Mystic's public tours will also include a special bonus. Typically, ships do not allow tours inside the ship, as that's where the crew lives. But *Mystic* will have two of her deck houses, including the

Chairman's Corner pg. 5



Mystic

Sea Challenge Takes More Trainees to Sea.

by Larry Job, PMC Vice-Chair

For this, our sixth year of organizing the Sea Challenge, the Piscataqua Maritime Commission (PMC) announces that the 2014 Sea Challenge will take 50% more trainees than ever before. Also for the first time, the ship hosting the Sea Challenge will be one of the ships at Sail Portsmouth. The public will get to tour the ship taking those selected Seacoast youth out to sea for a week of sail, navigation training, and marine studies.

The three-masted schooner *Mystic* will be a feature ship of Sail Portsmouth, and Sunday afternoon during tours, she will board 30 local teens. They will begin their orientation, continuing it as *Mystic* heads to sea at 6:15 pm Sunday. This major increase, from 20 to 30 trainees, is feasible as *Mystic* is 40 feet longer than the vessels used previously, and is made possible by generous sponsors and donors.

Seacoast Youth Services (SYS) will again be partnering with the PMC in making the Sea Challenge happen. SYS is a 13-year-old non-profit that works with young people needing guidance and opportunities to better themselves. SYS develops multiple programs for juvenile court diversion, substance abuse, parental support, personal development, and more. SYS will be using their

counseling experience and network to both select 30 trainees from the Seacoast, aged 14 to 17, and guide them further by sending three SYS counselors to sea to work with the youngsters aboard. SYS will also actively participate in fund raising.

According to Stephanie Wright, a counselor who went on last year's sail, "I saw firsthand how the youth were positively impacted by this experience, whether it was not giving up when things got tough, finding a new love for sailing, feeling like they belonged for the first time, or feeling a sense of accomplishment and pride." The trainees will often be sailing 24/7, standing watches through the night, and may not touch the mainland again for the week.

SYS Executive Director Vic Maloney adds, "The week at sea has proven to build resilience. Many of the kids reported that they found out things about themselves they did not know, such as going without technology for a week, physically and mentally pushing themselves with daily structure and routine, and mastering new skills." A special adventure this year will be an extended stay by *Mystic* in the area around Stellwagon Bank and Jeffrey's Ledge - two shallow areas 60 miles off the coast of Cape Ann. Both areas are in only 90 feet of water, so the rising bottom forces marine life up closer to the surface in heavy concentrations. Larger quantities of the small fish that are the favorite food of the humpback whales have been reported off New England, so whale watching should be a prime experience on the sail.

Larry Job, Vice Chairman of the PMC said, "One counselor on two of the cruises said she had young people experience breakthroughs in this environment in only a few days that she was unable to achieve in months of counseling on land." Most trainees have never been on a boat before - and now they'll be out of sight of land for days. For many, this will be the first week in their life totally without electronic interference - no cell phones, texts, iPods, TV, computers, or video games. They study Sail Theory, Navigation, and Marine Biology and from the first day they will take over responsibilities for maintenance and control of the ship 24 hours a day. Every trainee will stand watches, navigate, and take the helm day and night. They raise and trim the ship's 13 sails in all weather. Job finished, "one trainee was awakened by a loud noise on the hull and jumped up in fright ... only to learn he had been sleeping a few inches from where a humpback whale had scratched his back on the hull. Now that's a different environment!"

By the end of the week the professional crew is standing back and the "new crew" will be bringing *Mystic* up the river home.

Your 2014 PMC Board of Directors

As a result of the election at our last Annual Membership Meeting, held at the Rusty Hammer, and augmented by a special election at a Board of Directors Meeting, we proudly present your PMC 2014 Board of Directors: Bruce Addison, Chad Chadwick, Neil Cohn, Donald Coker, George Doran, Lyn Doran, Carl Gurtman, Larry Job, Peri Lagassa, Nita Libby, Eric Taply, and Trudy Sutherland.

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SUMMER 2014

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Mystic

Sail Portsmouth 2014 Schedule

Friday, August 1

5:00 Parade of Sail begins from the ocean, at buoy 2KR
5:30 Ships arrive Fish Pier at Peirce Island
6:30 Welcoming Ceremony (Public Tours begin Saturday)

Saturday, August 2

Public Tours 9:00 - 5:30
Captains' Reception 7:00 - 10:00

Sunday, August 3

Public Tours 9:00 - 5:30
Mystic departs Peirce Island 6:15 pm for Sea Challenge
Volunteer Cookout 6:00 - 8:30

Monday, August 4

Pilot boards and *Lynx* departs 6:45 am

Parade of Sail August 1

The Parade of Sail will start at 5:00 pm, Friday, August 1. It will begin at buoy 2KR, just outside the mouth of the Piscataqua River. The Portsmouth Fireboat *Sagamore* will lead the way, with the Portsmouth Naval Shipyard Fireboat *Keokuk* at the end of the Parade. Both fireboats will have their hoses spraying.

Behind the Portsmouth Fireboat, the lead Tall Ship will be the privateer *Lynx*. As a replica of a War of 1812 raider, she is armed, and will render a cannon salute as she passes by New Castle. Next in line will be the schooner *Mystic*, and as the Parade enters the river, Portsmouth's own Gundalow, the *Piscataqua*, will join in behind *Mystic*.

Private vessels invited: All private boats are encouraged to join the Parade, and especially dress ship for the occasion. They may start from buoy 2KR at 5:00. They should monitor Ch 13; when the pilot aboard *Mystic* announces "*Mystic* Inbound Portsmouth" that is signal to start the Parade. Private vessels should fall in behind the Shipyard Fireboat. Please do not approach the Tall Ships during the Parade, as they can be a challenge to maneuver in the river while maintaining their position. Private vessels can also join the Parade in transit up-river, by falling in behind the Shipyard Fireboat.

As the Tall Ships approach Peirce Island, they will be rendered cannon salutes from Four Tree Island, and *Lynx* will return the salutes. All vessels are required to maintain a 200-yard distance from the Tall Ships while they are maneuvering to dock at Peirce Island.

Good locations to view the Parade are the Great Island Commons on New Castle, and from Four Tree and Peirce Islands in Portsmouth.

At Sail Portsmouth 2013, we were fortunate enough to have an aerial contingent, the Hampton "High-Flyers", a private club that flies vintage aircraft, including biplanes and antique monoplanes. They accompanied the Parade of Sail as it moved up the Piscataqua River, gathering rave reviews from children and adults alike. This year, the "High-Flyers" will be returning, to fly escort over the Parade of Sail coming up the Piscataqua. Several planes are expected to participate, flying at low altitude, and making several passes up the River following the Tall Ships.



Under the Tent at Sail Portsmouth 2014

by George Doran, Board Member and Exhibit Chair

This year's Exhibitor Tent will feature some of the special exhibits of the past, and will include a few new ones as well.

To start your day, Hebert's Seafood Restaurant and Seaport Fish will provide offerings from the sea, including chowders, lobster rolls and other salty delights. For the non-fish-eaters, hamburgers and hot dogs will also be available.

New exhibitors planned include the Coastal Conservation Association of New Hampshire; "A member driven organization for everyone who cares about the health of our marine resources". Another, Friends of the Earth, Sea and Space Center, is in the process of developing a state-of-the-art, large-scale earth, ocean, and space museum.

We will welcome back the Gundalow Company, with their Gundalow *Piscataqua*, as well as the colorful Pease Greeters. Antique Telescopes will also return, offering hands-on instructions on how to properly use these instruments. The always-entertaining Knot Tyers Guild will be present as will the Coast Guard Auxiliary. Star Island and the UNH Marine Docents will participate again this year. And, everyone's favorite pirates, the Northeast Buccaneers, will be on hand to entertain children of all ages.

Strawbery Banke and Moffatt-Ladd House will collaborate with other historic houses in providing information for an outstanding array of tours. Lastly, the Buccaneers and the Sea Shanty Singers will provide their entertaining performances.

Piscataqua Maritime Raffle - 2013 and Beyond!

Sail Portsmouth 2013 saw the first ever Piscataqua Maritime Raffle. "It was a tremendous success." said Board Member Bruce Addison; "Not only did the raffle provide some much needed revenue, but it gave local businesses exposure to the thousands of visitors who attended the event."

Bruce stated that the Raffle will be repeated this year. Any business interested in donating to the 2014 raffle should contact us at sailportsmouth.org or Bruce Addison directly at bruce.addison@ms.com



The New Hampshire Center for Non-Profits (NHCNP)

by George Doran, PMC Board Member, Exhibit Chair, and Grant Writer

In mid-2013, the PMC Board of Directors asked me to join the New Hampshire Center for Non-Profits (NHCNP) on behalf of the PMC. The NHCNP mission is to strengthen and give voice to the state's non-profits through leadership, collaboration, and learning opportunities. The programs the NHCNP offers are extensive, and provide numerous ways to assist non-profits. The NHCNP does not presently have a maritime sector. However, with our efforts, this new category should become a reality.

A specific hope of mine is to learn new methods of soliciting funds from donors, corporations, and foundations. My goal is to open the minds and pocketbooks of grantors to our needs, especially given our positive impact on, and contribution to, the Portsmouth and Seacoast communities. Of course, the Center itself, does not provide any funding; rather, it provides the avenues and expertise to gain greater access to the funders.

This expertise can be very helpful. As a direct result of writing to one of their suggested contacts, I received a check for the PMC, for \$1,000, from a donor who wishes to remain anonymous. I am hopeful of receiving many more!

Website Upgrades to Serve You Better

by Eric Tapley, PMC Board Member & Website Chair

We are pleased to announce that this year we've made, and are still making, significant upgrades to our website, and expanding our presence on social media. Hundreds of members and friends follow us on Facebook, so we're actively using it to promote events, share photos, display videos, and provide educational materials about Tall Ships and Portsmouth's maritime history.

Our website is being overhauled to enable secure e-commerce capabilities. This will allow us to sell tickets for day sails and other events, sell merchandise, accept donations, and make other financial transactions, online, anytime. We're excited about the possibilities as PMC becomes more digitally savvy and modern.

This upgrade to our website will also provide an interface that's more friendly for mobile devices. Any of you using smart phones or tablets, be it iPhone® or Android™ devices, will automatically have a better way to browse our pages and read information.

Finally, we're expanding the historical information on our site for anyone interested in past newsletters, viewing photos of ships from previous Sail Portsmouth events, or just learning more about Portsmouth and our rich cultural maritime heritage.

These upgrades will be complete on or around June 15th. Please check them out and tell us what you think — and do stop by to say hello on Facebook!

Website: <http://sailportsmouth.org>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/SailPortsmouth>

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Join

the Piscataqua Maritime Commission

Name _____

Business _____

Mailing Address _____

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Membership fees help support our mission.

Fill out the coupon, clip, and mail with your check to:

PMC P.O. Box 545
Portsmouth, NH 03802-0545.

Members receive discounts on Event admissions and merchandise

Membership Options: Youth 15 and under ___\$5.00

Individual ___\$15.00 Senior 60 and over ___\$12.00

Family ___\$25.00 Senior Family ___\$20.00

I would like to Volunteer for Tall Ship Events

Other areas of interest _____



Bruce Addison is a new member of the Board of Directors of the Piscataqua Maritime Commission. Bruce grew up in Essex, MA, a town where more two-masted wooden fishing schooners were built than any other place in the world. The sea is in his blood, and Bruce worked as a commercial shell fisherman to pay his way through college.

He currently works in the financial industry, and lives with his wife Wendy in Greenland, NH. They have three children: Kendall, Cole, and Tucker. Two are in college, and one is still in high school.

Bruce enjoys skiing, boating, hiking and kayaking. He is also on the Board of The Great Bay Stewards.

Bruce has taken on the task of working with our Sponsors to help keep the PMC financially sound. He was the guiding force behind our very successful 2013 Raffle.



Lyn Doran, another new member of the Piscataqua Maritime Commission's Board of Directors, first joined the PMC as a Key Volunteer in 2010. Lyn was the Key Volunteer responsible for recruiting and coordinating our all-important Volunteers. In 2012, she became a Board Member and assumed full and complete responsibility for securing

and coordinating the many Volunteers needed to support the Sail Portsmouth event.

After over 35 years in the corporate world, Lyn had retired to the Seacoast with her husband George (also a member of the PMC Board). Her many years of experience in managing people and operations equipped her with the skills necessary to handle the Volunteer assignment.

In addition to her role with the PMC, Lyn is active in the Exeter Presbyterian Church and the Seacoast Newcomers' Club.



Become a PMC Volunteer

Mark your calendars - it's almost time! Sail Portsmouth 2014 is just a few weeks away, and this year we have two ships to proudly display. That means we will need lots of Volunteers.

The *Lynx* and the *Mystic* will sail into Portsmouth on August 1st. Our seasoned Volunteers know what it takes to make the Sail Portsmouth event successful - YOU. If you have not volunteered before, and would like to participate this year, please go to www.sailportsmouth.org for information on how to contact us.

We will need people to help with crowd safety and control, parking, collecting tickets, selling cold drinks, dock security and any number of other things. To thank you for your efforts, we have a colorful official Sail Portsmouth Volunteer "tee"-shirt for you, and an invitation to the post-event Volunteer Cookout - a cookout for all Volunteers, exhibitors, and the captains and crew.

Make being a Sail Portsmouth Volunteer part of your 2014 summer!

IN MEMORIAM



CHAIRMAN'S CORNER

Remembering Penny Walsh

by Donald Coker, Chairman

As PMC Chair, I expend much thought on recruiting new Board Members to take the PMC into the future. I rarely pause to think about how lucky we are to have the people we have now. Sometimes, you get reminded.

As was the rest of the Board, I was terribly saddened when we lost a Board Member in May. Penelope (Penny) Walsh, a Board Member for many years, passed away after a period of declining health. Penny was one that believed in giving back to her community.....and give back she did. Penny was one of those people that you could always depend on to help.....just tell her what you needed, and she ran with it.

Penny contributed to her community in more than just the giving of her time. She brought a sense of joy and fun to our events. Penny was all about food and fun, and directed our Volunteer Cookout, the key way we thank our Volunteers and the Captains and Crews of our Tall Ships. Not only did she direct it, she cheered it on, made sure everything was done to her high standards, and was the mother hen for that aspect of Sail Portsmouth.

She contributed in other ways. When the PMC Board authorized a Raffle, Penny helped put the arm on the businesses in Portsmouth, brought in a whole raft of raffle items, and so helped us raise many thousands of dollars.

I first met Penny many years ago....so long ago that I do not even recall exactly when. It seemed as if Penny were always there..... I think I first met Penny at an early Market Square Day event, the third or fourth one, perhaps. We did a ton of volunteer work together, including the Pro Portsmouth casino nights held at the old Warehouse Restaurant. It was always nice to know that when you were putting together an event, Penny was a person you could count on.

All who served with her will sorely miss Penny's enthusiasm for our mission and for the event itself. Wherever she went off to, I am confident they are now better organized; there will be some kind of party, the food will be great, and Penny will be directing it.

We will miss you, Penny.....we truly will.

Very Sad News

Just as our Newsletter was going to press, we received the very sad news of the passing of one of our long-time Board Members, John R. Wheeler. A retired US Navy Captain, John advised us on nautical & military protocol, was a tireless worker, and will be very sorely missed.



the Fabulous Find Thrift Shop &
the Piscataqua Maritime Commission

ASK **YOU** TO

MAKE A DIFFERENCE in the lives of 30 kids!

The Fabulous Find Thrift Shop in Kittery will help the
PMC fund the 2014 Sea Challenge!

The Sea Challenge is an experience that fosters lasting increased levels of confidence, self-worth, teamwork, leadership, and motivation in young people. From July 1st to July 31st, Fabulous Find will donate half of all their July sales, (in excess of overhead), to the Sea Challenge.

So, please, both donate goods, and then shop for bargains, early & often. Tell them; "The PMC sent me!" Fabulous Find is at 139 State Road, just up the hill from the Kittery Traffic Circle.

Visit PMC Online!

www.pmcportsmouth.org
www.sailportsmouth.org

Please visit us online for information about our events, photos, and more. You can also find us on Facebook by searching for Portsmouth NH Tall Ships, and follow us on Twitter @TallShipsNH.

Sponsors Needed - 2014!

The PMC is actively seeking partners to help sponsor our 2014 event! If interested in helping, please contact Bruce Addison; phone 603-422-8919 or e-mail bruce.addison@ms.com



Pick up a bargain on PMC merchandise to show your support.

by Trudy Sutherland, Merchandise Chair

Things are heating up here in merchandizing! This year the PMC is planning on having all kinds of fun souvenirs and collectibles for all. Some of the great items you will find include (but are not limited to) unique maritime collectibles, insulated tote bags, plush teddy bears, miniature ships, "tee"- shirts, PMC baseball caps and of course, pirate gear and sea-related items for the kids. And remember that your purchase helps support our events and our mission, so thank you in advance for your patronage.

We look forward to seeing the crowds this year and hope that everyone enjoys a great weekend with us!

