



NORTH CAROLINA
MARITIME
MUSEUMS
SOUTHPORT

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- Dec. 24 - 27:
Closed
- Dec. 31 - Jan. 2:
Closed
- Jan. 17:
Third Tuesday
Evening Adult
Program
- Feb. 21:
Third Tuesday
Evening Adult
Program
- March 19:
Bus trip to NC
History Museum



Season's Greetings

May we extend to
you and your family
best wishes for a very
happy, healthy and
prosperous New Year.

Mary, Sharon and
Leland.

The Mullet Wrapper

December 2011

Volume 8
Issue 12



Bonnet & class on Garrison Bluff



Randy giving up town

Much Tide Has Passed Museum Memories

The year was 2007. The NC Maritime Museum at Southport was deep into its 15th year of daily operation, visitation, programs and classes. The staff of three, always alert to new and interesting means of sharing the rich history of the Lower Cape Fear, was again putting together instruction, fun and games for its week-long Pirate Boot Camp, a favorite of children, parents and grandparents.

History Interpreter Jim McKee and his merry volunteers, including Processing Assistant Punk Spencer, led the troops through their daily classes, readying them for a really Big surprise. Graduation Day was set for June 23, 2007, when the students would demonstrate their new knowledge of the history of privateering, clothing, personal flags, armaments, ships of the period, rigging, sea chanties, ships' food, and battle charges, before walking the plank to receive the all important Certificate of Competency.

The museum's own Stede Bonnet, aka Clark Hunter, safely marched the parade of flag-waving grads along the center line of Howe Street (closed for a short time by the City of Southport Police Dept) to the river, took a left, and marched up the Garrison Bluff. Low and Behold! They were met by costumed Pyrates and Militia, their tented encampment, and their cannon. The event had been quietly arranged by Jim and re-enactor Jeff Bockert of NC Dept of Cultural Resources, Raleigh. Bloody Battle ensued. City Department of Tourism Randy Jones dressed as City Mayor, turned the city over to the winners, and Stede Bonnet stood trial by the Governor on the Garrison Lawn. Punk, husband Don, and Museum Manager Mary Strickland cooked and served all re-enactor's food Friday through Sunday, with the Moore Street Classroom used for pyrate showers and eating. Mary's husband Wayne, State Port Pilot's Jim Harper, and PD Midgett recorded the event for posterity.

The twinkling lights in the Davis Street oak trees shielding the encampment lent a magical atmosphere of quiet evening conversation and visitation of local families on evening walks along the waterfront. The Maritime Museum's surprise adventure was the beginning of the "Pirate Invasion" you know today. *(Mary Strickland)*



Trial of Bonnet



Jeff Bockert (Militia) instructing class

Museum Offers Tours



Investigating the megalodon shark tooth on display, a fourth grade student from the Gillespie Park Elementary School in Greensborough asked, “How big is the shark that tooth came from”? Another student shouted out, “Bigger than this building”!



Children may be back at school, but visitation at the NC Maritime Museum at Southport is still brisk, with over 400 students and special groups touring the Museum during the month of November. Since opening in July, the Museum has had regularly scheduled tours, often given in costume, either Colonial era civilian, Civil War Confederate or Federal.



Visitors interested in learning about the maritime and military history of the Lower Cape Fear Region, Southport and Fort Johnston, should take advantage of the free tours given on a daily basis at 11:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m. If you would like to bring a group, call the museum to schedule a guided tour at your convenience. All tours result in visitors leaving with not only an increased knowledge of the history of the area, but also a very positive impression of the museum. The donation box has reflected visitor's appreciation. A few tours have even garnered volunteers to the Museum's very loyal docent corps.

Individuals interested in volunteering at the museum, either as a tour guide or general volunteer, please give the Museum a call. You need not be an expert historian. Orientations will begin in January and the staff will teach you everything you need to know. It is pretty easy and very interesting. Giving tours is about meeting people, sharing information and having fun! For more information, call the NC Maritime Museum at Southport at (910) 457-0003.



20% DISCOUNT
AT THE MUSEUM STORE
FOR ALL FRIENDS OF THE MUSEUM
During the month of December

Books **Art Glass** **Model Ships**
Prints
And **Pirate**
Posters **Novelties** **Flags**
Jewelry **T-Shirts** *and more...*

News From The Friends of the Museum (FOM)

The Friend's Board would like to welcome Jim Trent as a new board member & Corresponding Secretary.

We would like to thank all the new members who have joined our Friends group within the last six months. If we have missed any, we apologize. They are: Beverly Anderson, Sheila Boyd, Sylvia Butterworth, Jack & Julie Canny, Mack Dias, Mable Danford, David Forsyth, Thomas Greenwood, Garland Lowe, Natalie Maxwell, Rich & Helen Palazzi, Don & Debbie Parker, Allen Phillips, Darlene Portaluppi, Brenda Rewalt and Michele Windham. We welcome and appreciate your membership so much.

We also appreciate all of our members who continue to renew their memberships. The Museum counts on our loyal supporters to continue offering the wonderful programs and services that you have come to count on.

If your membership has lapsed or if you know of someone who might be interested in becoming a member, there is a membership application available in this newsletter.

If you have any membership questions, please email me (Shirley Wilson) at wayfarer1@ec.rr.com or call the Museum at 457-0003.

Thank you Celia Rivenbark for a humorous, entertaining and thoroughly enjoyable evening, November 15th at our Third Tuesday Evening program. We look forward to seeing you again!

Program Sponsor: Thank you Shirley and Woody for sponsoring our November 15th Third Tuesday Evening Adult Program.

Sponsors are needed for the Third Tuesday Evening Adult Programs. Please call the Museum for details. (910)457-0003

Third Tuesday thank you: Our thanks for the food, setup/cleanup &

check-in are: Mary, Al & Ginny Biasotti, Woody, Jim Trent, Mike Teeters & Sharon. Your help is so appreciated.

A Volunteer is needed for coordinating Third Tuesday Evening Adult Program set-ups.

For anyone who would like to renew or become a new member, information is provided.

_____ new member _____ renewing member
 Lifetime - \$2,500 _____ Legacy - \$1,000 _____
 Benefactor - \$500 _____ Patron - \$250 _____
 Sustaining - \$100 _____ Family - \$50 _____
 Individual- \$25 _____ Additional - Building Fund \$ _____

Name _____
 Address _____
 City _____ State _____ Zip _____
 E-Mail _____

(Your information will only be used by The Friends of the NC Maritime Museum at Southport)

- Please contact me about volunteer opportunities.
- Please contact me about becoming a program sponsor.
- Matching Gift, Employer Amount _____

(Name/Address) _____

Payment Information: Check payable to: *Friends of the NC Maritime Museum at Southport* enclosed _____. Or join using PayPal on our website: www.ncmaritimemuseums.com

Memberships are valid for one year from the date of issue & are tax-deductible to the extent allowed by Law for a 501©3 organization.

THE MULLET WRAPPER



NORTH CAROLINA
**MARITIME
MUSEUMS**
SOUTHPORT

NC Maritime Museum at Southport

P.O. Box 11101 204 E. Moore St.
Southport, NC 28461
Phone/Fax: (910)457-0003
www.ncmaritimemuseums.com

Mary Strickland - *Curator/ Manager*

Email: mary.strickland@ncdcr.gov

Leland Smith - *Historic Interpreter*

Email: leland.smith@ncdcr.gov

Sharon Venis - *Administrative Assistant*

Email: sharon.venis@ncdcr.gov



NORTH CAROLINA
DEPARTMENT OF
**CULTURAL
RESOURCES**
WWW.NCCULTURE.COM

The Friends of the NC Maritime Museum at Southport

P. O. Box 10412

Southport, NC 28461

Website: www.friendsncmmsouthport.org

Museum Hours

Tuesday - Saturday

9 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Free Admission

Daily Tours at 11 a.m. & 2 p.m.

HISTORY MATTERS

The Museum at Southport is one of three North Carolina Maritime Museums. The other Museums are the Graveyard of the Atlantic Museum in Hatteras and the North Carolina Maritime Museum in Beaufort.

The Mullet Wrapper newsletter is a publication of the NC Maritime Museum at Southport. The publication is fully funded by the Friends of the Museum at Southport whose members receive monthly mailings and discounts on some programs and Museum store purchases.

3RD TUESDAY EVENING ADULT PROGRAMS

January 17, 7:00-9:00 p.m. - *Diving the Megalodon Ledge, Dangers & Rewards.* Learn about the dangers and rewards of diving North Carolina's Fossil Ledge located off the coast of Wilmington.

February 21, 7:00-9:00 p.m. - *Black History Month, African-American Soldiers of the Lower Cape Fear.* Mr. Clyde Wilson, Civil War Re-enactor and researcher, will speak on the role of African-American soldiers in campaigns of the Lower Cape Fear.

SAVE THE DATE

March 19, Monday, 9:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m. - *Coach bus trip to and from The NC History Museum, Raleigh.* Price is expected to be \$35 members/ \$45 non-members. Trip includes bus fare, tour of museum and a boxed lunch. More details to be announced.

All Tuesday programs are free and held at the Southport Community Building unless otherwise noted. Advanced registration is requested

FOM

North Carolina Maritime Museum at Southport

P. O. Box 11101

Southport, NC 28461

Stamp

Place Mailing Label Here

