



Autumn 2015
Volume 20, Issue 2

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Conga Line Erupts on Upper Deck of Museum

A bona-fide Conga Line was a marvelous and spontaneous signal of a fantastic time had by all at the Third Annual *Music at the Maritime Gala!*

Cascada de Flores, a quintet from the San Francisco area, enthralled the one hundred-plus Museum supporters gathered on Saturday evening, September 26, 2015. The ensemble has been journeying for fourteen years into the hidden corners of Mexico, seeking the real stories, songs, dance, and traditions of that hugely diverse country. Opening minds and hearts to the real stories of Mexico and Latin America has become *Cascada de Flores'* unofficial mission, and they did their job extremely well at *Music at the Maritime*.

Cascada de Flores played guitar, percussion, flute, and bass for over an hour, singing, dancing, and inspiring people to get up and sway to the sweet sounds as they filled the upper deck of the Museum. The gorgeous moonlit harbor was visible through the windows behind the musicians as they charmed and serenaded everyone in the room.

Selected Museum Volunteers performed an admirable skit entitled "Finding Atlantis and True Love" in an effort to raise funds for CIMM's new Navigation exhibit, Museum operations, and Education Programs. Many thanks

to all of our event sponsors and attendees for helping to make the evening a rousing success, raising over \$45,000 for the Museum.

The prelude to the *Cascada de Flores* concert was a feast of tapas and sangria on the Lower Deck of the Museum, when guests perused the Silent Auction items including original artwork from Sergio Aragones and catered tours on a yacht, electric boat, and tugboat!

The evening was possible because of the polished effort of the Gala Committee: Chairs Brenda and Gary Farr; Hosts Jana and Tom Danza; and committee members Gloria Mason, Pat Hart, Michelle Murphy, Marcia Marcus, Bill Conroy, and Arlene Fraser. A large crew of Museum Volunteers made the evening run smoothly, and to them the Museum owes great gratitude.

A fantastic evening. Please join us in 2016 for another fabulous evening of *Music at the Maritime* — who knows what genre will bring the crowd to their feet next year? Jazz? Blues? Classical? Reggae? Sea Shanties? We do know that anything is possible at the Channel Islands Maritime Museum and we hope you will join us and discover what is happening next! Buenas Noches!

Julia Chambers



Chairs Gary & Brenda Farr and Hosts Jana & Tom Danza



Gloria Mason & Joyce Nelson share a Laugh



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From the Helm

Julia Chambers
Executive Director

Do You Believe In Love?

My son Lucas is reading *Two Years Before the Mast* for his freshman high school language class. As the director of one of the finest Maritime Museums in the United States, this makes me very proud and happy. In my two year tenure as Director, I have watched Lucas and my other two younger sons roam the museum, observing things in their own ways. It has been fascinating to watch my oldest child genuinely begin to absorb the magnitude of the CIMM collection. He now takes the time to walk from model case to case and exquisite painting to painting, observing the incredible beauty and detail. He actually engages in conversation with me about it, while his brothers still ask too often when it will ever be time to go home.

I see in Lucas an evolution of affection for our Museum. It makes me ponder why people love it so; supporting us with their expertise, time, money, and enthusiastic broadcasting of the engaging things happening at the Maritime Museum to prospective visitors. Docents, board members, and staff work very hard to celebrate the art, models and exhibits to educate visitors in the most scintillating way possible. They work to create events with our community that raise money to support these efforts. There is a lot to love, and dear reader, it is my main goal as director to encourage you, everyone you know, and people we will meet to share that affection for this wonderful institution.

What do you love about the museum? What can we do to encourage more affection and donations and visitors? We have just completed a successful season of fantastic fundraisers and community gatherings, including a delectable Chowder competition and a musical evening so fabulous that a Conga line erupted spontaneously on the Upper Deck and the City of Atlantis was re-discov-

ered. We just opened an exhibit celebrating Edward F. Marple, one of the premier model makers in the world. We look forward to our 25th anniversary in February 2016 and the next quarter century celebrating five hundred years of art that sails.

Why do we do it? Each individual has their personal reasons, but I believe it is so that people can see something so fine, so beautiful, so revelatory — in a space unique in all the world. At CIMM people see things to which they can aspire — works of art of a quality that surpass most things that people generally are privileged to see up close. In addition, CIMM shares concepts that are intended to challenge and amaze: the valor of sailors that navigated unknown waters to locate the terrain upon which we live today, and the sheer grandeur of the world delineated by lines of latitude and longitude.

Seeing the museum through the eyes of my fourteen-year-old son heightens my confidence that we have something very important to share. His perceived opportunities in life now include a career in the Coast Guard and a summer on the crew of a tall ship. The Channel Islands Maritime Museum offers this perspective to our grown-up visitors and thousands of young people who come through the Museum on field trips. In a world where most youngsters (and many oldsters!) are distracted by a million different things often pertaining to a small screen, we can capture the attention of all visitors with our ability to show them the maritime world and how navigators travel its oceans. Via five centuries of artists' viewpoints, professional speakers, ocean views, celebratory events, and interpretative exhibits, we inform visitors that they can be the navigators and witness the splendor of the globe firsthand.

Julia Chambers



Collection News

Kate Crouse, Collections Manager

Erica Kern, Projects Manager

The Desk Is Back!

One of Edward F. Marple's favorite childhood pastimes was whittling miniature cars to race with his friends. Nearly forty years would pass before he began crafting ship models as a second recreational career. Although he approached the occupation as a hobbyist, the nine models he created in his leisure time are considered by many to be the most exquisite examples of ship model craftsmanship in existence.

Twenty-eight years as a precision master dental technician allowed him to use small dentistry tools and hone his hand-eye coordination. This would prove instrumental to Marple as he crafted his model ships.

As Marple was forced to reduce his professional workload due to illness, he looked for a hobby to help pass the time. In 1966, he purchased a model kit for the Clipper *Swordfish*, which would become a his first completed model. Attention to detail is part of what makes Marple's body of work so extraordinary.

There are more than 8,000 dowels in the hull, not counting deck planking — I know because I counted them. (Edward Marple referring to the model of the *Royal Katherine*)

Marple's workshop was where the master craftsman spent years fashioning the intricate details that make his models so extraordinary. Displayed at the Museum is his desk, along with dental tools that he used for the intricate detail work that was the hallmark of his ship models. At his desk, Marple often kept five different power tools close by: the miniature table saw, jig saw, two dental drills with a variety of drill bits, and a 'Multi-mat' multiple purpose tool. He always had within reach Exacto knives, dividers, punches, oilers, pliers, compasses, a metrometer, a rip saw, pencils and glue.

Associates and admirers have described Marple as "obsessive with details", and "a perfectionist" — qualities that teach the standards necessary to reach the top of a ship modeler's art. His first-hand descriptions of his technique are modest and factual. He explored the materials to the limits of their expression, and the results are marvelous. Marple writes:

"I make my own dowels by cutting a 0.036 inch square strip of wood on my Unimat and then pull it through a draw plate that is normally used for sizing wire. After drawing it through the largest hole, progress to smaller and smaller holds until I reach the size I need, taking only a small amount of wood off at each

stripping. This gives me a dowel that can be set it and sanded to match the wood of the original planking."

This process was very labor intensive and time consuming, and imagining the repetition of a scale of thousands of dowels per model is staggering.

Marple worked until his death on October 24, 1993 at the age of 74. He crafted nine scale models that are worldclass, museum-worthy examples of ship modeling, all of which are on permanent display at the Channel Islands Maritime Museum. Four of these models plus the unfinished *Prince* are on view in this exhibition, the remaining five can be seen in the Seascape Gallery on the Lower Deck of the Museum.

Deconstructing Marple's technique, materials, and method was like piecing together a splendid puzzle. His actual inspiration for creating a new standard in ship modeling is unclear, but his steadfast pursuit of excellence in every aspect of his models is overtly evident. Whether he intended to create some of the best models in the world or was just passing the time is irrelevant — Marple's legacy of work is a testament to the standards of a master craftsman and artist.

Kate Crouse/Erica Kern



Marple DECONSTRUCTED

The Evolution of a Master

Explore the career of Edward Marple, arguably one of the most talented ship model makers in the world. The Channel Islands Maritime Museum is honored to display his entire collection in an exhibit that opens Oct. 3 and runs through Jan. 3, 2016. Opening reception: **Nov. 7 from 3 to 5 p.m.**

3900 S. Harbor Blvd. at Bluefin Circle
Channel Islands Harbor • 805 984-6260
Open daily 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. • CIMMVC.org



CHANNEL ISLANDS
**MARITIME
MUSEUM**
OXNARD, CALIFORNIA



The **Volunteer Page**

Michelle Murphy
Volunteer Chair

For the first time, the Maritime Museum is launching a volunteer recruitment campaign featuring ads in local newspapers and expanded community outreach to share information about the benefits of volunteering at the museum. The need for additional volunteers is a result of our success! 2015 has seen a record number of visitors to the museum, increased demand for our school education programs, and two hugely successful fundraisers - Chowderfest and Music at the Maritime.

Each quarter, the Call Pipe is received by thousands of people who love the Maritime Museum - the perfect source of new volunteers! Sound interesting? Here's a little more information.

CIMM volunteer activities include welcoming guests to the museum, giving guided tours, conducting the elementary through high school education programs, working behind the scenes to keep the museum running smoothly, and organizing special events.

New volunteers enroll in our training program and attend a

two-hour class each week for eight weeks. The classes orient volunteers with the artwork, ship models, and special exhibits e.g., Port of Hueneme, La Janelle shipwreck. The museum staff, volunteer officers, and key volunteers meet with the group to explain how the museum operates and ensure each new volunteer feels welcome and finds a volunteer position that's right for them.

Our volunteers help out six hours a month and attend a monthly meeting, an opportunity to socialize and learn what's new at the Museum. It's not all work and no play, the volunteers gather for social events throughout the year including the annual picnic, Whale of a Tale cocktail party, Trafalgar Day party, and holiday party.

Surround yourself with world class maritime art in the beautiful Channel Islands harbor, and join the fun by becoming a Maritime Museum volunteer! For more information, please call the museum office at 805-984-6260.

Michelle Murphy



**Volunteering is Good for You.
So is an Ocean View.**

Volunteer training classes are available several times a year. Please call the Museum to inquire.

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CHANNEL ISLANDS
**MARITIME
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OXNARD, CALIFORNIA

Work is play for Maritime Museum docents.



What's In A Name?

The *Channel Islands Maritime Museum* name might make some visitors believe that our facility is actually located on Catalina, Anacapa, or one of the other islands located off the coast of California. However, nothing could be further from the truth. Our official address is Bluefin Circle, in Oxnard.

But names are truly important and in this article I'd like to share some information with you about one of the most famous of the Channel Islands, Santa Catalina.

In doing so it is necessary to investigate its history which takes us back to about 7,000 B.C. according to anthropologists. Native Americans established villages in the present-day city of Avalon, as well as at Shark/Little Harbor and Emerald Bay.

The first European to set foot on the island was Juan Rodriguez Cabrillo, a Spanish adventurer. After he arrived he named the island *San Salvador* (the name of his ship). He also claimed the island for Spain.

By the end of the 19th century the island was virtually uninhabited, except for a few cattle herders. In 1891 Catalina was purchased by the sons of Phineas Banning (the father of Los Angeles Harbor). They were determined to turn the island into a resort community.

William Wrigley (of chewing gum fame) acquired ownership of Catalina in 1919. After constructing a casino in Avalon, Wrigley used the island for his baseball team (The Chicago Cubs) which conducted its spring training exercises on a playing field there.

But Catalina Island eventually became most famous for its tourism and vacation attractions and facilities. About one million people travel each year to Catalina for rest

and relaxation. They arrive by passenger ferries which depart from the port of Los Angeles/Long Beach, and anchor at the port of Avalon on the island. Visitors enjoy the fascinating flora and fauna on the island.

Also, another Catalina specialty is a YMCA camp located a few miles north of Avalon on the west side of the island. Campers would take the S.S. *Catalina* to Avalon. Then transferring to a yacht they would end up at Camp Fox for a wonder week of beach fun and campfire festivities. And after returning home the campers would dream about their next opportunity to revisit this wonderful island.

Between 1924 and 1975 most of the Catalina visitors traveled to the island on the steamship SS *Catalina*. She was built in 1924 and was 301 ft long. The 26 mile voyage between Avalon and the ports of Long Beach/Los Angeles took about 2 1/2 hours. The ship was capable of transporting 2,000 passengers.

On August 25, 1942 SS *Catalina* was designated a military vessel under the operation of the United States War Department. It was used as a troop transport until 1946. As such it was capable of transporting 2,500 troops along with a civilian crew of 39 officers and men.

After her retirement in 1975, the ship was purchased by Hymie Singer, a real estate developer, and sailed to Ensenada Harbor in Mexico. Shortly thereafter the gallant water craft grounded on a sand bar, where the ocean eventually took her. She was cut up for scrap 2010.

So the next chance you have.... get on a ship and have a wonderful cruise to Catalina. You'll never regret it!

Bruce Mitchell





CHANNEL ISLANDS
**MARITIME
MUSEUM**
OXNARD, CALIFORNIA

Silver Anniversary

25 years of celebrating art that sails

Saturday, February 27, 2016

Crowne Plaza Hotel

Ventura Beach

5pm

Sunset Cocktails

Live Music

Gourmet Dinner

Nostalgic

After Dinner Retrospective





The People Page July – September, 2015

New Members

Lieutenant

Richard Francis
Brian Siegel
Joanne Young

Family

Maitland Alexander
Judy Dugan
Greg Henzie
Mark Savalla
Linda Sylvers

Individual

Robert Cole
Chris Collins
Olaf Engvig
Loren Friday
Larry Futrelle
Daniel Geiger
Adolio Gonzales
Cindi Mathieu
Francis O'Connor
Daniel O'Hearn
Jody Price
Anthony Scardino
Cathy Shusta
Madeleine Waddell

Renewed Members

Commodore

Lorry Marquart
Donald Mills
Tom Petersen

Captain

Joanne Berg
Bill Neumann

Commander

Diane & Marti Dibble

Lieutenant

Margaret Cody
Linda Cody
Peter Davies
H & D Thout
Henry Hottendorf
Viette Johnson
Randy Kirshkhe
Don Pinkerton
Leonard Skaist
Charles Volk
David Weiss

Family

Douglas Braun
Richard Ellis

Richard Levine
Michael Loper
Barbara Martin
Kathleen McDougal
Andy Pavley
Chris Sheehan

Individual

Beverly Carson
Joan Egeris
Prudence Faulkner
Stephani Flu-Martin
Amy Geise
Scott Harrison
Shelly Johnson
Jerry Leckie
Robert Little
Leslie Luciani
Paul Martinez
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Maxine Grimm

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Music at the Maritime Sponsors

Solo: \$5000

Anonymous
Bob & Pat Hart
Gloria Mason
The Nelson Family

Duet: \$2500

The Farr Family

Trio: \$1000

Anonymous
Jana & Tom Danza
Jack Harding
Lee & Associates
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Ray & Betty Swift

Quartet: \$500

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CIMM Volunteers; *"After Hours" Party for 20 Guests at CIMM*

Sergio Aragonese; *Two Original Drawings*
Anita & Tom Petersen; *Valkyrie Wine Cruise for 12
Oaks at Ojai; Fitness Spa Day for Two*
Crowne Plaza Hotel; *One Night Stay*
Maritime Museum; *Roy Cross Print "Constitution"*
Union Bank; *Union Bank Wine Basket*

We extend our heartfelt appreciation to the many donors to have contributed to the Channel Islands Maritime Museum with contributions less than \$100, whose names are too numerous to list due to space considerations. Our apologies if your name has been misspelled or omitted from this list in error. Please contact us and we will correct our mistake. Thank you.



On The Horizon

November 7

Marple Reception, 3 pm

November 19

Speaker Series
Kathleen S. Roos
PJH, Environmental
Scientist & Engineer

January 21

Speaker Series
Valerie Vartanian
National Resources Manager

February 18

Speaker Series
The Lusitania Then & Now
Rich Slater

February 27

Silver Anniversary Celebration

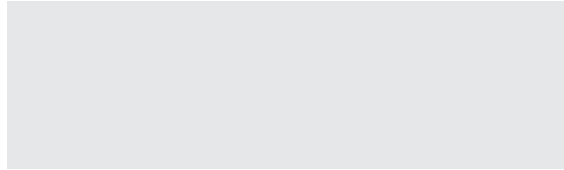
March 17

Speaker Series
History of American Whaling
David Leach

Channel Islands Maritime Museum, 3900 Bluefin Circle, Oxnard CA 93035

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OR CURRENT RESIDENT



Inaugural CHOWDERFEST a fabulous success!



**Please mark your calendars for
Second Annual CHOWDERFEST Summer 2016!**

LEAVE A LEGACY

10 Ways to preserve your favorite Maritime Museum: Prepare a will; leave a gift in your will to the Maritime Museum; leave a specific dollar amount to the Maritime Museum; consider using specific assets for your charitable gift; name the Maritime Museum as the beneficiary of your pension plan or IRA; name the Maritime Museum as the beneficiary of an existing life insurance policy; purchase a new life insurance policy naming the Maritime Museum as the beneficiary; remember loved ones with memorial gifts made to the Maritime Museum; establish a permanent endowment fund with the Maritime Museum; ask your financial advisor for detailed information about the benefits of planned gifts and bequests.

We thank you for your interest in helping the Maritime Museum now and in the future. Please call or write us to discuss your specific interest, needs and situation.