



Readin' Both Pages

A membership publication of the Sail, Power & Steam Museum

Summer 2021

A Busy Season Ahead at SPSM & Midcoast Sailing Center



"I'm going to learn to sail before I learn to ride my bike without training wheels!"

"I think learning to sail is harder than learning to drive a car!"

Overheard on the docks during SKIFF (Sail Kids For Free) our FREE Youth Sailing Program



Day sails, private captained charters, and youth and adult sailing lessons are all on the docket at **Midcoast Sailing Center** (a program of the Sail, Power, and Steam Museum). Most of our vessels stayed "on the hard" last year, so we're extra excited to see them in the water, sails up, and being enjoyed. The boats don't put themselves in the water, though. Counting life-jackets, fiberglass repair, painting bottoms, varnishing trim, collecting gear, repairing sails, checking rigs, testing flotation bladders, checking schedules It's all part of getting ready for the new season, and staff and volunteers have been working hard! FMI, check out our websites www.MidcoastSailingCenter.org or www.SailPowerSteamMuseum.org

Pictured above: SKIFF class, Friendship Sloop Persistence, and Opti prams (we have 22 of them for youth sailing)



Your Donations Matter

Pictured above

(left): Repairing the hull of a Blue Jay donated to the museum for our sailing program.

(center): Board member **Bob Williams** putting in some volunteer time to paint the bottom of *Meriwether*, a donated Herreshoff 12-1/2 (*how did he stay so clean????*)

(right): It takes a village—After the generous donation of an Achilles chase boat from member, **Gordon Bok**, for our sailing program, **Jeff's Marine** of Thomaston generously completed the picture with a Yamaha, 4-stroke, 15 hp outboard!

Founded in 2007, the Museum's mission is "to enrich the lives of visitors, volunteers, and the general public through hands-on, interactive, and educational experiences with historically significant sailing, power, and steam driven vessels, ships, and small boats while providing instruction as to their origins, construction, and original commercial and recreational purposes."

Board of Directors: Capt. Jim Sharp (*Chairman/Founder*); Meg Sharp (*Co-Founder*); Capt. Ken Barnes; Gordon Bok; Jim Bowditch; Richard Crossman (*Vice President*); Tom Goettel; Celia Knight; George Orestis; Jesse Rutter (*Secretary*); Mark Siegenthaler; Peter Whitman (*Treasurer*); Bob Williams

The Sail Power and Steam Museum is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization. Your gifts to the museum are fully tax-deductible.



Wowze ... they poured the floor!! Wow...

Our new building is taking shape:

- shingles are 90%
- windows are 90%
- strapping is 90%

Now they can start the sheetrock. It is an awesome project, and when they are done, we will have display space for most of our antique and unusual boats of historic significance and MORE. Now that the floor is completed, you get the feel of the honest enormity of the space. 4,000sf has no impact until you are standing in it and focus your eyes on the far wall..... waaaay down at the other end. It makes me scratch my head and imagine the new exhibits we will create.

WE ANTICIPATE HAVING A SOFT OPENING IN AUGUST!

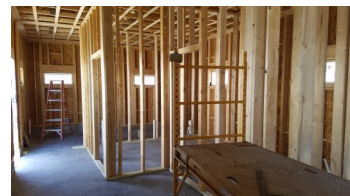
In the meantime, our **SKFF (Sail Kids For Free)** program is taking off like a firecracker. Our Captain and teacher, Diane, is signing up kids from 6 to 14 years old at a phenomenal rate, BUT get this ... we are offering a very popular program of **adult sailing classes** as well. It has been very enthusiastically received and more reservations are coming each day. Well, by gee, the Midcoast Sailing Center is becoming a humming place. IF YOU HAVE DREAMED OF SAILING YOUR BOAT, BLISFULLY ACROSS PENOBSCOT BAY, better call up before we fill up!



Adult sailing lessons and day sails aboard an authentic Friendship Sloop

Captain Jim Sharp

Progress on our new boathouse! Everyday there is something new to see.



New On Staff



Diane Sternberg our new Midcoast Sailing Center Program Director, started full time in June once her teaching duties had wrapped up.

An educator, a Wilderness First Responder, and a sailor, Sternberg has taught diverse age groups in local schools and served as Semester Associate Program Director at Hurricane Island Outward Bound School. She holds a US Coast Guard License: 100 Ton Near Coastal Master/200 Ton Near Coastal Mate with sail endorsement. She attended Cornell University, receiving a BA degree in Anthropology, received a Master of Arts in English at the Bread Loaf School of English in Middlebury, VT, and studied Creative non-fiction at the Salt Institute for Documentary Studies in Portland, ME.

Capt Jim Sharp noted, “Diane helped us out last year as we started SKFF (Sail Kids for Free), our free youth sailing program, and the kids loved her. We started talking between classes, and it became clear that she would be a great fit to join our staff and help us further develop our waterfront programs — definitely the right person at the right time!”

Midcoast Sailing Center, a program of the Sail, Power, and Steam Museum, is home to some unique vessels that range in size from the 40’ Black Jack, the oldest Wilbur Morse built Friendship Sloop still afloat, to the Opti fleet (we have 22 of them!) that is used for the Free Youth Sailing Program. The museum’s Rockland waterfront location on Mechanic Street provides an excellent spot for hosting programs such as SKFF, lighthouse day sails, vessel charters, sailing lessons for youth and adults, and an expanded year-round educational program.

“I look forward to creatively expanding these programs,” added Sternberg. “I’ve always had a love of the sea and of teaching, and I’m excited to pursue this opportunity with the museum. I’m especially looking forward to getting back out on the water with the kids of SKFF again this summer.”

How **you** can Support the Programs of SPSM

Visit our website at

www.SailPowerSteamMuseum.org

to join, donate, or renew your membership for the coming year.

New To Our Collection (*there’s always something new!*)

At first glance, it doesn’t look like much. A cardboard box full of 3-ring binders, but closer examination takes us back a couple of centuries as we flip through the pages of the St. George, Maine, Vessel Tax records from 1849 to 1891. It’s hard not to envision the lives of those vessels. Who sailed them? Where did they travel? What were their cargoes?



Another of the books contains a photographic journal of the life of the yacht *Palestine*. With photos from the first laying out the her ribs in the shipyard to cruises aboard this glorious yacht. But it isn’t just a chronical of idle summer days under sail. *Palestine* was eventually converted to a working vessel, and those decks that had seen only the soft-soled shoes of the well heeled carried hauls from the Grand Banks. It’s a fascinating visual narration.

Photo 1: Loyall Farragut & Robert Hill onboard Palestine on a New York Yacht Club cruise in 1907. Photo 2: Palestine in the 1950s, scalloping on Georges Bank under Captain Robert Sanchez

The Music is Back!

Join us every Sunday for a Sunday Music Jammmm!



We LOVE maritime and folk music and stories of the sea, and we like to provide a venue so YOU can enjoy them as well. So grab an instrument, warm up the vocal chords, and start tapping those feet!

1:30—4pm

Sail Power and Steam Museum
73 Mechanic Street
Rockland, ME

Out of an abundance of caution, we ask that everyone be vaccinated, and that audience members continue to "mask-up"

Instagram: [Sail_Power_Steam_Museum](#)
Facebook: [Rockland-Sail-Power-and-Steam-Museum](#)
www.SailPowerSteamMuseum.org
207-596-0200

Sail, Power & Steam Museum
The Old Snow Shipyard
73 Mechanic Street
Rockland, ME 04841

How Can YOU help the museum?

1. Visit us and enjoy all that we have to offer!

2. Leave a review on:

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Yelp

Trip Advisor

Google

3. Tell your friends

4. Like our Facebook page, comment on and share our posts

5. Become a member!

Help SPSM save printing and mailing costs by signing up for our e-newsletter!

It's easy as 1, 2, **OR** 3 !

1. Just hop on our website to fill out the form
2. Email robin@sailpowersteam@gmail.com
3. Call 207-596-0200

We promise we won't share your contact information without your permission!

To join or renew your membership for 2021, please visit
www.SailPowerSteamMuseum.org