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AND BEST MARKET BUYS**



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Charting Past, Present and Future Course of Adventure



*With George Kirvin Floyd
Chairman, Apalachicola
Maritime Museum*

As the morning sunrise eases
rather northward, each day mak-
ing an increasingly higher and
larger arc across the sky we enjoy
the warming temperatures and
longer days of February. In the cho-
rographed celestial dance of our
planet Earth on its axis. The arc of
Aphelion, the Greek god of sun, amid
his chariot, progress upward each
day until reaching the zenith at the
Summer Solstice. In this rhythm of change
which continues from time imme-
morial we begin to bid farewell to
the extreme cold of January and
prepare to welcome the southern
spring. The emergence of the wild-
flowers such as the Bog white violet,
Scarlet marigold, and St. Andrew's
cross and the presence of migra-
tory bird visitors ranging from
waterfowl species of blue-winged
teal, canvasback and large rafts
of scaup to upland species such as
cardinals. Beach dwellers such as
ducks add color and character to
the great out-of-doors which beckon
the spirit of adventure. The leafless

summer growth and thus a rare
vista for viewing wildflowers and
birds. Eagles, amid their huge
sturdy nests commonly found in
large native pine trees, can be
seen raising their nestlings soon
to fledge.

It is little wonder that Febru-
ary is the busiest month for tours
aboard the Museum's 40 pas-
senger catamaran, M/V Starfish
Enterprise. With educational
program trips running from one
to four hours and destinations
including various estuary tours,
trips to St. Vincent and Little St.
George Island. Waterfront tours
and full moon dinner cruises run-
ning throughout the week each
and every day. This is an excellent
opportunity to experience the wild
and historic natural Florida. The
M/V Starfish Enterprise is the only
vessel in Franklin County oper-
ated under the US Coast Guard
Inspected Vessel program. Where
the Coast Guard performs a vessel
inspection every year, the captains
and licensed Maters as required to
operate a vessel rated for more than
six passengers. The captains and
crew are required to be tested as
drug and alcohol free and certified
in First Aid and CPR. The vessel is
equipped with WiFi, has a marine
toilet with a 100-gallon holding
tank and all seats include tables
and all passengers are encouraged

provided on the trip are binoculars,
blankets as needed and a 182-page
educational program document
documenting species recognition
charts and tour specific narratives
with photos of flora and fauna,
maritime history landmarks, his-
torical time lines, charts for each
trip, safety gear and procedures,
and much much more. Museum
access is free to educational tour
passengers. Participating in an

Continued on page 2



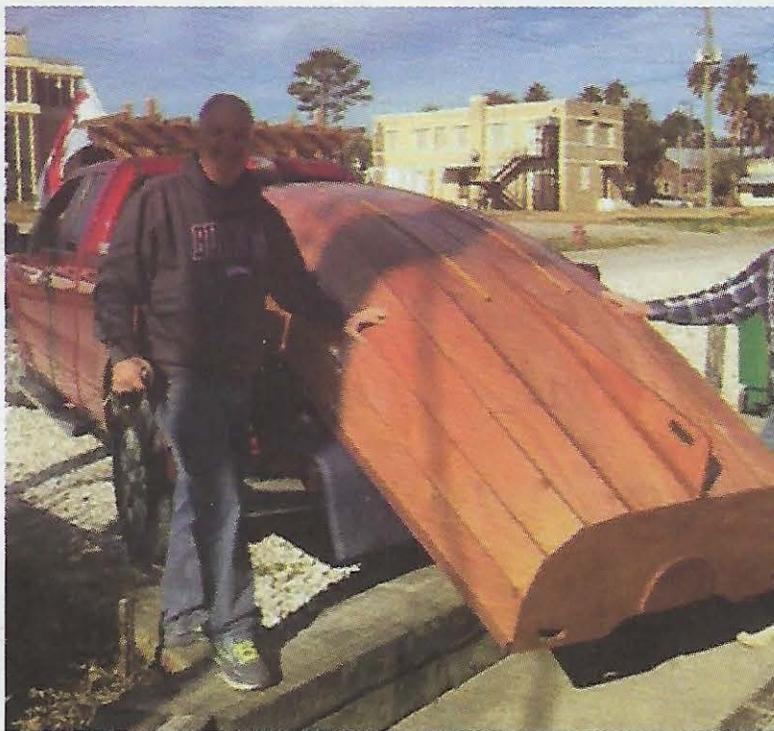
The Apalachicola Maritime Museum, located on Water Street in Apalachicola, not only provides a wide range of boating trips on the Apalachicola River, Bay and in the Gulf of Mexico but also provides an exceptional boat building program (bottom right) that is drawing both male and female enthusiasts. The AMM is also currently conducting sea trials for the Jean Mary paddlewheel boat obtained from screen actress Debi Reynolds. Once

educational tour aboard the M/V Starfish Enterprise is literally an extension of a walk through the Maritime Museum following a course of adventure to the Past, Present and Future!

Paddlewheel boat JEAN MARY trips set to start in February Trips aboard the paddlewheel boat S/S JEAN MARY are expected to begin in February. The initial passenger trips will be on the St. John's River and surrounding coastal communities in February. We will start by running overnight trips to destinations near the base of operations located at Green Cove Springs which is approximately 25 river miles south (down river) of Jacksonville and 107 miles north (up river) from Sanford which is the terminus of the Corps of Engineers maintained navigational channel. In these early charters we seek to be close to the work site where renovation team and gear are located so that in the event of a problem, we should be able to promptly resolve the matter. As we gain confidence in the performance characteristics and reliability, we will expand the trip range to multiple day trips taking in regional ports including upriver to Palatka and Sanford and then along the coast north to Fernandina and south to St. Augustine.

Parties interested in being a passenger on these early trips should send an email to PaddlewheelTrips@AMMFL.org or come by the AMMuseum at 103 Water Street in Apalachicola. Please provide your contact information including phone number(s) and email address so that we can make contact once we start to schedule passenger trips. You will receive an automated confirmation of receipt of your email and we will get in touch with you as the excursion trips are scheduled. The trips will be first class accommodations where meals and beverage are provided in addition to educational presentations regarding the vessel and ports of call. We expect these trips will start in February and run through March with the objective of departing for the 1,000-mile trip to Apalachicola in April.

The JEAN MARY is a 107' paddlewheel boat that has been undergoing renovation for the past five and a half years that are nearly



Completed passagmaker built by Graham Dewsbury and AMM WBS Instructor.

completed. The well know star of screen and stage, Debby Reynolds, donated the JEAN MARY to the AMM. Debbie rose to fame in the 1950s and continued to perform until her death in December 2017. Alongside Gene Kelly and Donald O'Connor, she performed in the musical "Singin' in the Rain." Her son, Todd Fisher, coordinated the donation of the boat to the AMM in May 2012.

Wooden Boat Building Program

The AMM runs a continuing series of wooden boat building classes during which student builders construct a boat that they take home as their own at the conclusion of the class. Over the holiday period we built three wooden sea kayaks under the direction of Chelsey Venrick and one Passagmaker dinghy under the direction of Ted Tripp. The projects on tap for February include construction of a pirogue on the week of February 12th and completion of two wooden kayaks throughout the remainder of the month. Class duration ranges from three days to two weeks, depending on the vessel, and can be paired up to have several boats under construction at the same time and from one to four individuals involved with any particular boat. Boats run from a

simple wooden pirogue up through a sleek ocean kayak, SUP, Wherry rigged with sliding seat and oars or a Passagemaker dinghy with sail and rowing options. There are over 100 designs available and with over 100 light craft constructed by the AMM since the programs began. The AMM Wooden Boat School (WBS) staff are well experienced in helping select the type of boat, time frame required and price range to suit individual desires. Under the guidance of AMM WBS director Chelsey Venrick, and our partnership and experience with Pygmy Boats and Chesapeake Light Craft (CLC) there is a vast array of boats designs available. Please contact the museum at WoodenBoatSchool@AMMFL.org for more information or by visiting the AMM Museum at 103 Water Street. Be sure to check out our boat building videos can be seen on our local TV channel with Forgotten Coast TV at 6:30 AM and 6:30 PM every day. These documentary videos may also be viewed at the AMM YouTube Channel where 16 videos are available documenting many of the pursuits of the AMM in preserving maritime heritage and history along with educational programs about the river and bay ecology.

February 20

2/01/2018	2:29a	H 3.1	9:1
2/02/2018	3:16a	H 3.0	9:5
2/03/2018	4:01a	H 2.8	10:3
2/04/2018	4:47a	H 2.5	10:3
2/05/2018	5:35a	H 2.2	11:1
2/06/2018	12:20a	L 0.2	6:3
2/07/2018	1:28a	L 0.2	7:5
2/08/2018	2:52a	L 0.2	9:5
2/09/2018	4:19a	L 0.1	11:1
2/10/2018	5:26a	L 0.0	12:1
2/11/2018	6:17a	L -0.2	1:0
2/12/2018	12:12a	H 2.3	6:5
2/13/2018	12:54a	H 2.4	7:3
2/14/2018	1:30a	H 2.6	8:0
2/15/2018	2:03a	H 2.7	8:3
2/16/2018	2:35a	H 2.8	8:5
2/17/2018	3:08a	H 2.8	9:2
2/18/2018	3:43a	H 2.8	9:4
2/19/2018	4:23a	H 2.7	10:1
2/20/2018	5:08a	H 2.5	10:3
2/21/2018	6:03a	H 2.3	11:1
2/22/2018	12:31a	L -0.1	7:1
2/23/2018	1:47a	L -0.1	8:5
2/24/2018	3:19a	L -0.1	10:3
2/25/2018	4:44a	L -0.3	11:1
2/26/2018	5:51a	L -0.5	12:1
2/27/2018	6:46a	L -0.7	1:3
2/28/2018	12:49a	H 2.9	7:3

February

2/01/2018	2:06a	H 1.5	9:48
2/02/2018	3:03a	H 1.4	10:2
2/03/2018	3:59a	H 1.3	10:5
2/04/2018	4:56a	H 1.2	11:2
2/05/2018	5:59a	H 1.0	11:5
2/06/2018	1:01a	L 0.2	7:12
2/07/2018	2:15a	L 0.1	8:47
2/08/2018	3:33a	L 0.0	10:5
2/09/2018	4:44a	L -0.1	1:01
2/10/2018	5:45a	L -0.2	1:54
2/11/2018	6:36a	L -0.3	2:28
2/12/2018	7:21a	L -0.4	2:57
2/13/2018	8:00a	L -0.4	3:23
2/14/2018	12:47a	H 1.3	8:33
2/15/2018	1:34a	H 1.3	9:01
2/16/2018	2:19a	H 1.3	9:25
2/17/2018	3:03a	H 1.3	9:47
2/18/2018	3:50a	H 1.3	10:0
2/19/2018	4:40a	H 1.2	10:3
2/20/2018	5:39a	H 1.1	11:0
2/21/2018	6:50a	H 1.0	11:3
2/22/2018	1:05a	L 0.1	8:25
2/23/2018	2:36a	L 0.0	10:3
2/24/2018	4:11a	L -0.2	1:19
2/25/2018	5:28a	L -0.3	2:05
2/26/2018	6:30a	L -0.4	2:33
2/27/2018	7:23a	L -0.4	3:04
2/28/2018	12:17a	H 1.4	8:05

February

2/01/2018	6:48a	L -0.8	9:3
2/02/2018	7:17a	L -0.5	10:3
2/03/2018	7:29a	L -0.3	11:1
2/04/2018	7:09a	L 0.0	3:0
2/05/2018	12:06a	H 0.4	6:0
2/06/2018	2:01p	H 0.7	
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2/08/2018	1:08a	L -0.3	3:0
2/09/2018	1:56a	L -0.4	3:5
2/10/2018	2:43a	L -0.5	4:4
2/11/2018	3:28a	L -0.5	5:4
2/12/2018	4:09a	L -0.6	6:3
2/13/2018	4:45a	L -0.6	7:1
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2/18/2018	6:07a	L -0.1	10:1
2/19/2018	5:53a	L 0.1	11:1