



THE KATAHDIN SEXTANT

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April 2017

Kicking off MMM's 40th Season



MMM Executive Director Liz McKeil

In October we button up the Katahdin for winter. The lake freezes and snow collects on the waterfront, giving the site a deceptively quiet appearance. We have had a busy winter working on projects and preparing for MMM's 40th season.

Sadly, we have experienced the loss of a number of valued supporters during the off season. Among those to whom we bade farewell are Charlie Hogan, John Payson, Allan Titcomb, Callie Muzzy and Sue McKeil. Although they will all be missed, we celebrate the positive impact each has had on the community and on the growth of MMM.

On the evening of August 5, the Board of Directors will host "A Night at the Museum"

to celebrate forty years of sharing the Moosehead Region's marine history. Guests will peruse the museum's exhibits, including the Katahdin, while enjoying hors d'oeuvres followed by a dinner and dancing to the music of the Pat Michaud band.

In celebrating MMM's 40th anniversary, we honor not only the vision and perseverance of the original Board of Directors but the tenacity of the citizens of the Moosehead Lake community.

When the Katahdin was gifted to the museum in 1977 she was valued at \$17,000. It was not clear at the time that she would be more than a static exhibit piece—a floating dockside museum. A marine survey in the early 1980's determined that she was seaworthy and the rest, as they say, is history.

Throughout the intervening years the community has helped raise hundreds of thousands of dollars to make possible the numerous repairs and upgrades to keep the Kate afloat and improve

her condition. Over time the museum has benefited from donations of some 1700 artifacts and photos, which are now being cataloged thanks to a grant from the Maine Community Foundation.

Thanks to our loyal supporters, MMM has grown from a grass roots organization to a major economic driver for the region, bringing in roughly \$1.5 million dollars locally per year. Our success is a testament to the resilience and spirit of an entire community.

This year's Donors Cruise will be held on Saturday, June 24. Donors will enjoy the music of Rockin' Ron and the New Society Band. We have added a silent auction and donors will have the opportunity to bid on items ranging from gift certificates for local businesses to a stay at AMC's new Mediwisla Lodge.

We look forward to seeing you there!

Liz McKeil, Executive Director

MMM BOARD OF DIRECTORS—1977

LOU HILTON

FORREST WHITMAN

JOHN RICHARDS

TONY BARTLEY

ARTHUR HATHAWAY

DUANE LANDER

DUKE MCKEIL

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Moosehead Marine Museum



John Morrell ca. 1980

MMM Board Member Profile: John Morrell

Board member John Morrell, a lifelong resident of Greenville, is one of the longest serving and earliest members of the Board of Directors, having served two terms, from 1979 to 1990, and re-joining the board in 2016. The son of Court and Sally Morrell, he took over the family business, Morrell's Lumber Co., in 1981.

He worked aboard the Katahdin during the log

drives, later serving as Captain on occasion. In fact, it was he who drove the boat down the ways when it was moved from Shipyard Point to the Hollingsworth & Whitney wharf (where Kelly's Landing now stands) in 1977. John recalls that the Kate's first official cruise occurred at night, returning to the dock around midnight.

When asked what motivated him to get involved with the

fledgling Moosehead Marine Museum, he answered that when a person has spent three summers working twelve-hour shifts aboard the vessel, he can see its potential as an attraction. Although the museum's first decade was touch-and-go, he felt the time was well spent. "The reward for the effort is seeing the Kate in its current condition and knowing how it contributes to the local economy."

THE AVERAGE SIZE OF A LOG BOOM TOWED BY THE KATAHDIN WAS 4000—4500 CORD. A CORD OF WOOD IS APPROXIMATELY 85 CUBIC FEET AND A LOG BOOM MIGHT COVER 20-30 ACRES.

MMM Receives Grant from Weyerhaeuser

MMM received a grant to fund the first phase of our Sunken Steamboats of Moosehead Lake project. Weyerhaeuser Giving Fund awarded \$5,000 to the project, which is being produced in partnership with Ryan Robbins, founder of Moosehead Lake Divers.

"The grant gets the project off the ground so we can begin capturing the oral history interviews needed for the film. There are a lot of people whose lives were

intertwined with Moosehead steamboats. We want to feature their experiences and let their voices tell the history first-hand," said Ryan Robbins. "The Sunken Steamboats of Moosehead Lake isn't just a film about steamboats. It's an oral history project involving real people sharing their own Maine history."

Parts of the oral history interviews will serve as the film narration. The full interviews will be transcribed, cata-

logued, added to the museum collection, and made available to the public.

MMM is actively pursuing other grant sponsors to keep the project moving forward. The grant enables Robbins to conduct the first oral history interviews this spring and complete an updated trailer featuring the oral history part of the project in time for the 40th anniversary of the Moosehead Marine Museum this summer.



MMM Catalog Project to be Completed in June

Data entry for the MCF funded Catalog Project began in November. Suzanne Auclair and Barbara Crossman developed project guidelines and had just begun work when Suzanne was hired to

take on directorship of our project partner, the Moosehead Historical Society.

Fortunately Whitney Peat agreed to take the position on, allowing us to continue with no delay. To date Whit-

ney has cataloged 1411 of an estimated 1700 items. We expect this first phase of the project to be complete by June when we will use the database to plan an exhibit for the 40th anniversary season.

Business Donor Profile—Northwoods Outfitters

From 1857 Sanders Store was the premier outfitter, supplier, guide service, and information center for adventurers and woodsmen venturing into the North Maine woods.

In 1994 the current owner Mike Boutin started a shop by renting space in the smallest corner of the great landmark store. As word got out and business steadily in-

creased Boutin was finally able to purchase the property and pursue his dream of creating a modern version of an outfitter's store.

In addition to the retail operation, Northwoods Outfitters offers guided adventures (including Moose Safaris), outdoor equipment rentals and the Hard Drive Café, where guests can enjoy a cup of Car-

rabassett coffee and internet access.



One important emphasis for the business is wilderness preservation. According to Boutin, promoting low impact ecotourism in Maine is a key component to Northwoods Outfitters' success.

Steamboat Katahdin Photo Contest

We are always on the lookout for great photos of the Katahdin. To that end, MMM is holding a photo contest.

Photos may be color or black and white. Images must have at least 300 dpi resolution and be in jpg or tif format. Maximum file size is 8 MB.

The subject should be the Steamboat Katahdin.

Photos may be emailed to lmckeil@mmm8.org. There is no limit to the number of entries for an individual. Those who submit photos will be asked to sign a release

allowing MMM to use photos in promotional materials.

One photo will be selected by the Board of Directors at their fall meeting. It will be reproduced and used in our donor recognition program. The winner will be announced in our spring newsletter.

New Events for Summer 2017

We like to keep things fresh at MMM. Here's a sampling of what is new this year:

MMM is partnering with Kelly's Landing to offer brunch cruises every two weeks during July and August. The cruises depart at 10am and return at noon. Buffet items include (but are not limited to) Sausage, Sun-dried Tomato & Kale Frittata, Maine Wild Blueberry French Toast and Maple Glazed Ham. Passengers will be able to purchase Bloody Mary's and Mimosas to accompany their

meals.

We have booked a number of interesting speakers. Sumner McKane will reprise his popular "In the Blood". McKane tells the story of logging camps through film, interweaving photos and oral histories. The film is accompanied by music performed by McKane and Josh Robbins.

We are partnering with the Moosehead Historical Society to bring an encore presentation of "The Last

Log Drive" by our own Rocky Rockwell, who worked aboard the Katahdin and has the stories to prove it.

At the end of August, Bill Cobb of the Forest Fire Lookout Association's Maine Chapter will share a slide show about the Firetowers of the Moosehead Lake Region. The full schedule of events can be found at www.katahdincruises.com.



Logging camp photograph from Sumner McKane's "In the Blood"

MANY THANKS TO
DAVIA
KNOWLTON (IN
MEMORY OF PAUL
KNOWLTON) AND
LOUIS HARDY,
WHOSE
DONATIONS WILL
ENABLE THE
PURCHASE OF A
NEW SOUND
SYSTEM FOR THE
KATAHDIN.

MOOSEHEAD MARINE MUSEUM

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MMM HAS ISSUED A
COMMEMORATIVE
COPY OF THE
ORIGINAL PLANK
MEDALLION FOR THE
40TH CRUISING
SEASON

Our mission: *To preserve and operate the Katahdin as a “living museum” for the benefit of our community, region, and future generations.*

Targeted Giving

Did you know that you can specify how your donation should be used? Donors may choose to designate funds for a purpose such as a capital project or to help purchase a specific item. Below is a suggested “wish list” of items that could be funded through targeted giving:

Project	Total Cost
Steamboat Katahdin Wayfinding Sign	\$2500
Planter for the space by the public restrooms	\$500
Museum display cabinet	\$3500
Tablet kiosk for museum and gift shop	\$500
Photo equipment for Sunken Steamboats	\$2000
Educational programming for area schools	\$2500
First Mate’s Club (see article below)	\$3500
Katahdin Galley refrigeration	\$750
Museum Storm Door	\$300
Student internship	\$2500

For more information please contact Liz McKeil at 207-695-2716 or lmckeil@mmm8.org



First Mates Club Children’s Programming

The 40th anniversary season begins MMM’s efforts to expand educational opportunities for children and youth. We will be offering a new program for youngsters who cruise aboard the Katahdin during July and August.

The “First Mates Club” will be

open to kids ages 2—14.

The program will feature age appropriate educational activities designed to engage younger passengers in our area’s rich marine history while giving their parents an opportunity to enjoy the scenery and cruise narration.

MMM hopes to staff the program with a college student who is majoring in education or child development. The staff member will work with the crew and museum staff to design activities targeted at various age groups.