

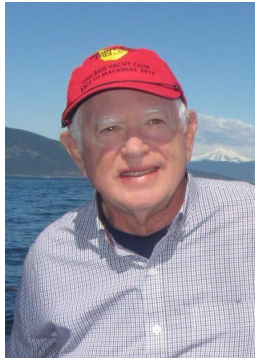


May 2023

on the Move

Local maritime news, events and history from the Chicago Maritime Museum

Eight Bells: Stan Mehaffey CMM Archivist, Sailor



With great sadness, we share that long-time CMM volunteer and Chicago sailor, Stan Mehaffey, passed away on Friday, April 21.

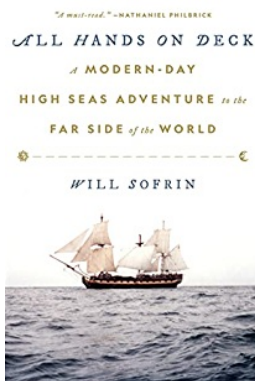
"Stan was dedicated to our mission to preserve and celebrate Chicago's maritime history," says close friend and CMM Vice Chair Jerry Thomas. "An active member of the Operations Board, early on Stan began cataloging and photographing the museum's artifacts. We will greatly miss his creative input and cheerful disposition."

Stan was a long time T-10 sailor and Chicago Yacht Club race committee volunteer for many years. A keen-eyed photographer, Stan specialized in Chicago lakefront sailing images. Having sailed more than 25 Mac Races, Stan was a member of the Island Goat Society.

A celebration of life will take place on Sunday, May 7th from 3-5 at Belmont Station. Please keep the Mehaffey family in your thoughts.



Fact and Fiction: Author Events, Book Signings Expand Museum's Store Book Offerings



The Chicago Maritime Museum has lots in store, including two new books, one fact and the other award-winning historical fiction.

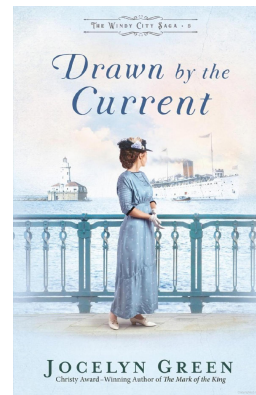
FACT: On April 22 Will Sofrin gave the story behind his memoir ***All Hands on Deck*** with facts from his multiple viewpoints of the voyage of the **HMS Rose** from the east coast to the west for the production of the film, *Master and Commander*. As a seasoned sailor, boat builder and craftsman, he narrated video from the voyage, well-illustrated with the construction, repairs and renovations that the tall ship **HMS Rose** required, before, during and after the delivery voyage.

Looking back in time, he reexamined his choices leaving high school and then again as 21 year old who steps aboard the tall ship **HMS Rose**. Sofrin details wooden ship construction and the pursuit of a career in sailing as he advocates for following non-traditional choices. Sixty members were able to take advantage of this free program.

Copies of his book are at the museum store; reserve your copy, 773-376-1982, member discount applies. [Click here to learn more](#), including video clips of the voyage, hurricane and dis-masting included.

FICTION: Jocelyn Green inspires faith and courage as the award-winning and bestselling author of 20 works of fiction and nonfiction, including her historical fiction trilogy, The *Windy City Saga*, a series set in Chicago during three of the city's most seminal events. The final book in this trilogy, *Drawn by the Current*, focuses on the Eastland Disaster.

This book will be the center of a program on Friday, September 1 at the Chicago Maritime Museum. Copies of *Drawn by the Current* are now available at the Museum store. Reserve your copy today, and, as a CMM member, enjoy Ms. Green's invitation to reserve your seat (limited seating) at this program with her tour group.



The program, featuring the Eastland Disaster Historical Society presentation, also includes:

- The three recently discovered motion picture videos taken in 1915;
- Dozens of photographs;
- Compelling firsthand narrative delivered by descendants of a survivor;
- A brief video with ABC's Ron Mager interviewing several survivors;
- Animation depicting the listing of the Eastland while passengers were boarding, and the moment the ship capsized;
- A brief video revealing how George "Papa Bear" Halas arrived too late to board the Eastland (a fortunate bit of fate that guaranteed the future of the Chicago Bears and the National Football League).



The EDHS adult-oriented program will answer the following questions: Why was the picnic so highly anticipated? What happened? How did it happen? What was the impact? What was the response? Was it avoidable? Who was held accountable? What damages were awarded? What amount of relief funds were raised? And what does an author do with that history in the making of a novel?

The program will include time for Q&A as well as the opportunity to have your copy of *Drawn by the Current* signed by the author.

After the program, members may stay after hours to review The Eastland Disaster Exhibit which honors those who perished in the catastrophe with a photo montage memorial wall. The exhibit also features a dive suit used as part of the recovery effort. In addition, on loan from the EDHS, are personal belongings of passengers including a wallet, a pocket watch, and a dollar bill.

For more information, visit us at chicagomaritimemuseum.org.



Save the Date: CMM Festival Fundraiser "All Hands on Deck" Scheduled for Thursday, October 26



The CMM fundraiser planning committee is busy planning for the annual museum fundraiser. Themed “**All Hands on Deck**” the fundraiser date has been set for Thursday, October 26.

Last year, nearly 100 patrons, both on-line and in-person, which raised \$100,000 for the museum.

“This year, we are truly hoping for all hands on deck to support and grow our museum,” says Vice Chair Jerry Thomas. “CMM wishes to thank all who participated and donated last year. We hope to carry your momentum into this year as you continue to support exciting new plans for the museum.”

It is never too late or early to support CMM’s future.

[DONATE
HERE](#)

Help Clean up the Shores of Bubbly Creek Chicago River Day is May 13th and We Need Your Help



For the third year in a row, on May 13th, the CMM will partner with Friends of the Chicago River to clean up the shores of Bubbly Creek.

The river system provides critical habitats for all sorts of animals from migratory birds to beavers, mink, turtles and over 75 species of fish. Its health is rebounding after years of abuse, but litter remains a stubborn problem.

Every year since 1992, Friends of the Chicago River and amazing volunteers give the Chicago and Calumet Rivers a good spring cleaning on Chicago River Day, part of their effort to create a Litter Free Chicago River.

Demonstrate your desire for a litter-free Chicago-Calumet river system as a volunteer at the Bubbly Creek location for Chicago River Day, May 13, 2023 from 9am – 12pm.

[To Volunteer Register
Here](#)

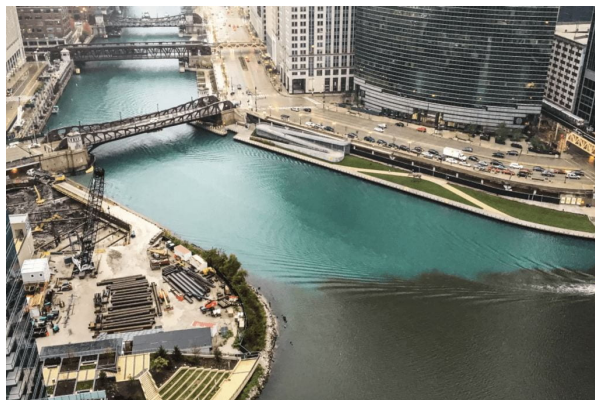
Fox River Makes Amazing Turnaround Thanks to 'Watershed Warriors'



A 12-minute aims to raise awareness of the Fox River as a vital ecosystem. In “Watershed Warriors,” the focus is on the work of Friends of the Fox River — where Kempf Schiavone is director of education programs — and the progress the organization has made in the last 50 years to reclaim the Fox as a natural resource for the people, wildlife and plants that live within its 2,500-square-mile footprint.

See More Here on
WTTW

How Deep Is the Chicago River?



The Chicago River is a shallow waterway with deep importance. Twenty-one feet at its deepest point, the river averages only one to two feet deep overall. So why is the Chicago River so important? Learn how it fueled Chicago's explosive growth into the third-largest city in the United States.

Maritime Event Calendar

Check out local maritime events at the Chicago Maritime Museum [website calendar page](#).

Submit maritime events in the Chicagoland area or story ideas to Mary Ann O'Rourke at maorourke58@gmail.com.

Ready to join or renew your membership?

Information about our membership offers can be found [here](#).
If you need further membership support please email us at cm@chicagomaritimemuseum.org

We hope you've enjoyed our monthly e-newsletter, On the Move.

