Don started with the Chicago Maritime Society in 2008 when the facility was located at Racine and Jackson. In exchange for space to run his Captain’s Emporium sailing trophy business, Don managed the museum’s office, back when visitors came by appointment only.

Don was instrumental in the museum’s 2016 move to the Bridgeport Art Center, where he managed the books and eventually became full-time curator.

“I enjoy sharing the history of Chicago’s waterways with our visitors,” says Don. “Protecting our waterways for future generations is a mission of CMM. As such, we’re fortunate to be located on the shores of Bubbly Creek, where we can tell the up-close story of unchecked industry’s adverse effects on our waterways.”

Long before joining the Chicago Maritime Museum, Don was already a fixture in the Chicago sailing community. As an “Island Goat Master Mariner,” he has sailed in 55 Chicago Mackinac races over the years. Don served as chairman of the committee that developed the US Sailing “Join the Race Committee” publication that is still followed today. He also developed a US Sailing junior big boat sailing program. Over the years, Don has served on numerous sailboat racing protest committees and has helped make sailing more accessible to inner-city kids and the disabled as a sailing instructor with the Chicago Yacht Club and the Judd Goldman Adaptive Sailing Foundation. After military service in Korea, Don was a local television producer before heading up the AV department for Montgomery Ward.

“Don and I go back several years in the sailing community,” says CMM President Emeritus and Board Member, Jerry Thomas. “We were lucky to engage his services in 2008 at our facility at Racine and Jackson. Don has always been well-versed in CMM’s collections and has answered numerous inquiries from the public on maritime subjects. As someone who has failed retirement many times, I know that we will continue to see Don and I look forward to working with him on the Operations Committee and engaging his expertise and experience on the CMM collection as we start up our docent program.”

Don will volunteer at the museum on a part-time basis and for CMM events. He will also continue to run his trophy business from the CMM building.
Third Friday September 20 Presents
Great Navy Birds of Lake Michigan

Author, historian and underwater archaeologist, Taras Lyssenko, will discuss his new book *The Great Navy Birds of Lake Michigan: The True Story of the Privateers of Lake Michigan and the Aircraft They Rescued*. Over the past thirty-five years, a small team of explorers have surveyed the southern basin of Lake Michigan in search of World War II US Navy aircraft. The aircraft were lost during mishaps that occurred during an almost forgotten naval project which had trained thousands of aircraft carrier pilots between the years of 1942 through 1945. Because the explorers became so proficient at locating and recovering the aircraft the National Naval Aviation Museum engaged them to rescue dozens of aircraft for presentation to the American public.

Taras Lyssenko is known for the recovery and preservation of history that had been lost underwater. Taras is one of the leaders of the team that has recovered dozens of aircraft on behalf of the National Naval Aviation Museum.

The Open House starts at 7:00 pm. On Friday, Sept. 20. Presentation begins at 7:30. CMM is on the River Level of the Bridgeport Art Center at 1200 W. 35th St.

Museum entrance and free parking available on north side of building.

Museum entrance is free on Third Fridays. The presentation is $5 for members and $10 for non-members at the door. The Operations Board of CMM will continue supporting Third Friday Open House with a light food and beverage table.

For more information contact the museum at 773-376-1982.

Eastland Disaster Historical Society to Donate Artifacts to CMM

Chicago Maritime Museum is grateful to be adding to our Eastland Disaster exhibit with artifacts donated from the Eastland Disaster Historical Society. A list and description of the artifacts will be available in the coming months. Read more here:

2018 was a year of mixed results for charitable giving, influenced by a strong economy, a volatile fourth quarter for the stock market, significant tax law changes, and a complicated policy environment. How did this complex landscape impact organizations in communities across the country? Find out here: https://www.campbellcompany.com/news/giving-usa-nonprofit-fundraising-trends-2019

CMM to Offer Model Shipbuilding and Woodworking Classes

Beginning this month, CMM’s model builder, Glenn Braun, will be teaching classes in ship model building and woodworking. From September 14 to Nov. 14, CMM patrons are invited to learn the skills of basic wood carving, ships-in-a-bottle and ship model building.

Classes, $320 for members, $350 for non-members. All materials included.

For class schedules and more details contact the museum at 773-376-1982 or visit our website at chicagomaritimemuseum.org.
Tapping Lake Michigan for Foxconn is Bad Precedent

For years, people have looked to the Great Lakes, as a source of relief. In the face of looming demands, the compact prioritizes the ecological integrity of the lakes. But the rules are undermined when one of its own members skirts them. Read more here:


Arctic Shipwreck ‘Frozen in Time’ Astounds Archaeologists

Researchers make haunting discoveries while peering deep inside H.M.S. Terror, one of two ships lost during the ill-fated Franklin expedition. Read more here:

https://www.nationalgeographic.com/culture/2019/08/arctic-shipwreck-frozen-astounds-archaeologists/?cmpid=org%3Dngp%3A%3Amc%3Dsocial%3A%3Asrc%3Dfacebook%3A%3Acmp%3Deditorial%3A%3Aadd%3Dfb20190828culture-arcticshipwreckpreserved%3A%3Arid%3D&fbclid=IwAR39pOuWmMWSo1RL_T6Q2gD2Kx-3lTeTRx7lm0yZ3XvPuvCfIIoRVeY4ro

Wooden Boat Builders Enjoy a Resurgence Around the Great Lakes

Great Forbes article on this venerable craft. Click here.

https://www.forbes.com/sites/jimvinoski/2019/08/14/the-wooden-powerboat-building-business-is-alive-and-well/?fbclid=IwAR08SPGv BynNPb3IcuTSNKw6SzdmdFbG5OBsaF- lE1vTwPGAk1D4wGPoIFUs#184239375e04
MARITIME EVENT CALENDAR

Check out local maritime events at the Chicago Maritime Museum website calendar page:

http://www.chicagomaritimemuseum.org/events/month/

Submit maritime events in the Chicagoland area to Mary Ann O’Rourke at maorourke@ameritech.net.

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

If you have a Chicago maritime story idea please forward it to maorourke@ameritech.net.