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Upcoming Events

December 11, 2010
 KMM Board Strategic Planning Session
 8:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.
 KNWR Visitor's Center

January 7, 2011
 KMM Annual Meeting
 6:30 p.m.,
 Board Election
 Bill Torsen Salmon Film

Kodiak National Wildlife Refuge
 Visitor's Center

Thelma C Restoration Project on the Move

Kodiak Maritime Museum is gearing up to begin restoration of the legacy salmon seine vessel *Thelma C*. Donated to the museum in 2007, the vessel will become an interpretive exhibit near Oscar's Dock at the Kodiak Small Boat Harbor.

The boat was built in Seattle by Kenny Christofferson in 1965. . The *Thelma C* is one of the last of the "earthquake boats," built with Federal loans after the 1964 Great Alaskan Earthquake destroyed much of Kodiak's fishing fleet. The boat fished salmon around Kodiak Island and Chignik for many years.

Kodiak Island Borough recently donated \$10,000 to the project, augmenting funding from Alaska Leader Foundation, Ameri-



can Seafoods Co., and Alaska State Museums.

The boat was recently moved to a site on Mission Rd. where it will be weatherproofed for the winter. Restoration work will begin next spring.

Plans call for a viewing deck allowing visitors to see into the

wheelhouse and flying bridge. Interpretive panels will help visitors appreciate life aboard a Kodiak salmon seiner.

The exhibit will also tell the story of the earthquake and seismic waves which devastated Kodiak and other towns along the Gulf of Alaska.

KMM Begins Planning Process for Museum Building

KMM has been recently accepted into the Foraker Foundation's Pre-Development Program, the first step in planning for a museum building. The Foraker Foundation is an Anchorage based non-profit dedicated to assisting other Alaskan non-profits with planning and governance.

Funded by the Rasmuson Foundation, the "Pre-D" program provides professional consultants to help non-profit staff and boards plan and implement a capital project.

The Pre-D process is also intended to provide a critical assessment of an institution's strengths, weaknesses, and capabilities as it tries to construct a financially sustainable operation.

The process, which may take a year or

more, will first help KMM define its strategic and interpretive goals, formulate a building concept to fit those goals, and assist in designing both a realistic capital project budget and a future operations budget.

The first part of the budget design involves finding funding for the construction of a museum building. This would presumably be accomplished with a capital fundraising campaign including donations and grants.

The second, and equally critical budget component will be to identify funding sources for the building's long term maintenance and operation, as well as organizational costs such as staff salaries and programs.

An initial planning session to help

KMM inventory its collections and assess its collections policy was held in September with consultant Mary Pat Wyatt of DRV Architects of Juneau. Following the session, board members inventoried the museum's collections, which are stored in the museum's Dog Bay office and several satellite exhibits around town. Cataloguing and accessioning of some items remains to be accomplished.

On December 11, Foraker Group Vice-President Laurie Wolf will lead a planning session with KMM board and staff. The session will assess the current Strategic Plan and interpretive goals.

More information on the Strategic Plan and plans for a museum building will be available at KMM's annual meeting, January 7.

From the wheelhouse —

As the snow flies, KMM can look back on a successful year.

The refurbishment of the salmon vessel Thelma C into an interpretive exhibit is on track, with a recent funding boost of \$10,000 from the Kodiak Island Borough. We hope to see the boat installed near the small boat harbor sometime in late 2011. (See page one for details)

“When Crab Was King: An Oral History of the Kodiak King Crab Fishery” is well into its third year as Maggie Wall continues to record the voices of people who participated in the fishery from the 1950s to 1982. (See pg. 3 for details) A photographic project featuring many of the oral history subjects is also underway, with local photographer Alf Pryor contracting the work.

The museum also established an endowment fund earlier this year, which will allow patrons to donate to the long-term financial security of the organization (See article on this page)

The museum’s single most challenging goal is the construction of a museum building. To that end, KMM has recently begun participating in the Foraker Group’s Pre-Development Program, (see page one for details). The program will help the museum make informed decisions on what kind of building it needs to house its programs and exhibits, and how to pay for it. Over the next year, these questions will be addressed by KMM Board of Directors and staff, beginning at our next Strategic Planning Session Dec.11.

Want to know more about what we’re up to and pitch in your two cents worth? You can visit us on Facebook, on the web at www.kodiakmaritimemuseum.org, by email at toby@kodiakmaritimemuseum.org, or at 486-0384. As always, we welcome the input from you, our stalwart supporters, as we strive to preserve and present the maritime history of Alaska.

Executive Director, Toby Sullivan

Kodiak Maritime Museum

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It’s Time to Renew Your KMM Membership!

KMM is in the midst of its annual Fall Membership Drive. Memberships are good from January 1 to December 31 and include voting privileges at the annual meeting and subscription to the KMM newsletter.

A strong membership base helps keep KMM connected to the community. Join the crew!

The museum was founded in the mid 1990s by a small group of Kodiak fishing women who saw the immense changes sweeping over Alaska’s commercial fisheries, and realized the story of Kodiak’s bond with the sea was a story worth preserving.

Since then the museum designed and installed the interpre-

tive panels overlooking the boat harbor on Shelikof St, maintains an ongoing oral history program, and is working hard to build a museum building.

Memberships can be renewed by filling in the form on the back of this newsletter and mailing it in with a check or credit card number. Or, you can sign up online at www.kodiakmaritimemuseum.org.

Membership levels are:

Greenhorn- \$25

Deckhand- \$50

Skipper- \$100

Mariner- \$250

Highliner- \$500

Legend- \$1,000

KMM Endowment Fund Takes Off

With initial donations from several KMM Board members, the museum recently established a Kodiak Maritime Museum Endowment Fund. Under the financial umbrella of the Alaska Community Foundation the fund creates a vehicle for long term sustainability of the mu-

seum.

Tax deductible donations to the KMM Endowment Fund can be in the form of cash, checks, stock, real estate, personal property, life insurance, or retirement assets. Credit card donations can be processed online at www.alaskacf.org, by clicking “Donate Online,” and searching For “Kodiak Maritime Museum Endowment Fund,” in the “Search Funds,” box.

KMM hopes the fund will eventually grow to a point where fund earnings can help offset the museum’s operational expenses.

Alaska Community Foundation, provides oversight for more than 60 Alaskan non-profit endowment funds worth \$6 million, including the KMM Endowment Fund. ACF also oversees dozens of donor advised, project and other funds providing funding for scholarships and grants across the state. The total ACF portfolio of \$40 million is managed by Alaska Permanent Capital Management Company and Smith Barney.



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Do you know these King Crab fishermen? The F&G number on the buoys identifies the boat as the Anna D. (Roger Page Photo Collection, 1970s)

Pick, Click, Give Donations to KMM

In October, thirteen Alaskans, donated \$1,250 to Kodiak Maritime Museum through the Permanent Fund Dividend Pick, Click, and Give program. This is a substantial increase over 2009's \$900 PCG donations. One anonymous donor contributed \$250.

The PCG program was instituted in 2009 to help Alaskans donate a portion of their PFD to Alaskan non-profit organizations. More information is available at pickclickgive.org.

Tastes and Tales of the Sea 2010

The museum's annual fundraising dinner and silent auction was held May 10, at the Kodiak Convention Center. The event raised over \$7,000 for the museum.

Former Kodiak resident Tim Smith presented a talk about the F/V Evangel, which operated around Kodiak Island in the 1950s and 60s. Tim's dad, Pastor Norman Smith, skippered the boat with his wife Joyce and their four children each summer in the 1950s and 60s, evangelizing to remote communities. Tim illustrated the talk with dozens of color slides of Kodiak villages and communities as they appeared before the 1964 earthquake.

The menu this year was again prepared by chef Joel Chenet. Guests enjoyed Kodiak Seafood Lasagna, bread ticks with salmon dip, and warm Marsala cake for dessert.



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Kodiak Out Loud 2010

"Kodiak Out Loud: Kodiak, Fishing, and the Sea," went off without a hitch at the Gerald C. Wilson Auditorium Friday evening, April 16, 2010. The event, featuring stories, poems, and songs about fishing and the sea coincided with Comfish 2010.

This year's lineup included Dave Densmore, Pat Dixon, Moe Bowstern, Erin Fristad, Jon Campbell, and Toby Sullivan.

The performance has been praised by reviewers and audience members for its lively musical and moving poetry and prose descriptions of the lives of commercial fishermen.

Funding comes from the Alaska State Council on the Arts, National Endowment for the Arts, United Fishermen of Alaska, Kodiak CHARR and local individuals.

"When Crab Was King," Oral History

KMM's award winning program, "When Crab Was King: An Oral History of the Kodiak King Crab Fishery," began its third season in August, 2010.

In the new season, Wayne Baker, skipper of the F/V Trailblazer, talks about a fellow deckhand swept overboard from the F/V Midnite Sun on Baker's very first crab trip in the early 70s. Quick reactions on the part of Wayne and the other crewmembers helped get the man back aboard before he was swept beneath the hull of the vessel.

Karen Loutensock recalls her days as a bartender in the early 70s in Tony's Bar, a Kodiak fishermen's watering hole. She remembers the many fishermen lost at sea in those years, and the emotional toll that took on the community.

Peggy Smith, a cook and deckhand on the Ocean Harvester in the 1970s talks about the disparity in pay for women.

"Women were paid less in those days on boats. That's just the way it was."

Since 2008, producer Maggie Wall has interviewed nearly 30 fishermen, processors, and others who lived through the Kodiak King Crab fishery, from the 1950s to 1982. The shows are available online at www.kodiakmaritimuseum.org



Trailblazer Skipper Wayne Baker and daughter Lizzie on Pier II



Kodiak Maritime Museum

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Dedicated to the recognition and preservation of Alaska's maritime heritage

KMM annual meeting January 7, 2011

Kodiak Maritime Museum will hold its annual membership meeting Friday, at 6:30 p.m. January 7, 2011 at Kodiak National Wildlife Refuge Visitor's Center.

A long lost color film of salmon fishing and processing at Ouzinkie in the 1950s will be shown, followed by nominations and election of KMM Directors.

A regular KMM board meeting will follow to elect KMM Board Officers.

Dessert and refreshments will be served.

For more information, call KMM at 486-0384 or email toby@kodiakmaritimemuseum.org

Join Our Crew!

Fall 2010 memberships good to January 2012!

Name: _____

Address: _____

City/ State/ Zip: _____

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Give a membership to a friend or family member:

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Join online through our secure transaction portal at :

www.kodiakmaritimemuseum.org

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