



The Scuttlebutt

Our mission: To preserve, interpret, and share the maritime heritage of the Great Lakes.

September 2008

www.MaritimeHeritageAlliance.org

Volume XI, Issue IX

Calendar

September

- 02 ~ MHA Board Mtg. 5 pm
- 05 ~ Champion Committee 6 pm
- 18 ~ Welcome Committee 1 pm
- 20 ~ **Scrap Metal Drive 9 am ~
Peter J. Henry Boat Shop**
- 21 ~ **1st Annual Classic Yacht
Regatta, noon, Clinch
Park Marina, TC**
- 24 ~ Director's Roundtable 9 am

October

- 02 ~ Madeline Committee 7 pm
- 03 ~ Champion Committee 6 pm
- 04 ~ De-rig Madeline 9 am
- 07 ~ MHA Board Meeting, 5 pm
- 16 ~ Welcome Committee 1 pm
- 29 ~ Director's Roundtable 9 am
- 30 ~ Madeline Committee 7 pm

November

- 07 ~ Champion Committee 6 pm
- 11 ~ MHA Board Meeting 5 pm
- 13 ~ **Annual Meeting and Fall
Potluck, 6 pm**
- 20 ~ Welcome Committee 1 pm
- 26 ~ Director's Roundtable 9 am

*(All meetings are held at the Heritage
Center unless otherwise noted)*



MADELINE'S TRAVELS

What a summer! Throughout her travels, more than 80 MHA volunteers helped to sail Madeline, visiting ports on Lake Huron, Lake Michigan, and Lake Superior this year. Thank you to everyone!

and 18th and Thursdays, October 2nd, 9th and 16th will also be winterizing days, so come down, lend a hand, and learn some traditional maritime skills.

ANNUAL MEETING

The Annual Meeting/Fall Potluck has been moved to Nov. 13th. Mark your calendar and come join the fun!!

She has a busy September planned, sailing every Tuesday and Thursday at 6 pm, and Saturdays and Sundays at 1 pm. If you would like to join us for a sail, call the office to sign up soon, as the dates are filling up quickly.

MHA ONLINE

www.MaritimeHeritageAlliance.org

E-MAIL us at:

Kelly@MaritimeHeritageAlliance.org
Mark@MaritimeHeritageAlliance.org

Plans for de-rigging and putting Madeline to bed for the winter have begun, with October 4th being the day for taking down the topmasts and beginning the process. Saturdays, October 11th



CLASSIC YACHT REGATTA

Classic wooden sailboats will once again be sailing together on West Grand Traverse Bay! On Sunday, September 21, MHA will host our 1st Annual Classic Yacht Regatta. All the boats will be docked at Clinch Park Marina with a Skipper's Meeting at noon.

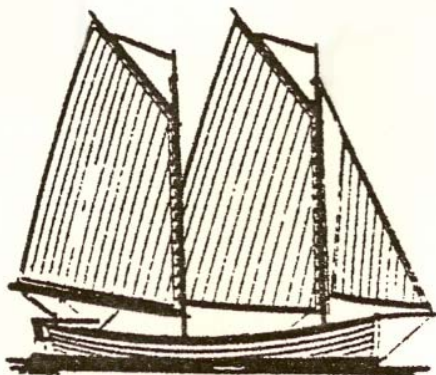
Madeline, Welcome, Champion, Arcturos, and Gracie L will be present, and we have invited all the other wooden boats in the area to join us for a beautiful day on the water.

This will be a great opportunity for MHA to share our fleet of historic wooden boats with the community, so bring your friends and family, and plan to attend.

SCRAP METAL DRIVE

At 9 am on Saturday, September 20, we will hold a scrap metal drive to raise funds for a new propeller for Welcome.

Bring any metal junk you might have laying around to the boat shops and we will load it up and haul it to the recycler.



The original logo for MHA from 1982.



“Champion” on the hook.

A “CHAMPION” FOR KIDS

With the arrival of Champion next week, MHA will begin a new chapter in our history.

Our by-laws state that one of the purposes of the MHA is to “conduct educational activities to instill appreciation of maritime heritage” and, for the purpose of education, to “create opportunities to perpetuate” maritime skills.

Champion is a boat that will allow us to share the maritime heritage of the Great Lakes in a very direct, hands-on way with young people in our community, through a new sailing program for at-risk youth.

Before we begin this new program next year though, we will be sailing her hard through the fall, so if you would like to experience an evening on the Bay aboard Champion, call the office to sign up.

The new Champion Committee is chaired by Captain Bryan Smith and includes: Steve Wycoff, Jed Mooney, Neil Smith, Ken Stepnitz, Larry Good, Lori Leiser, John Petit, Judy King, and Marco Dedenbach. If you would like to help with this boat and the new sailing program for at-risk youth, contact Captain Bryan at 231-642-7656.

WELCOME UPDATE

The Welcome crew has been hard at work and enjoying getting the boat out on the water. In August, Captain Ken Stepnitz and crew took Welcome up the Bay, around Power Island, and back again, the longest trip she has made on water in more than 25 years!

They are working on the rigging, painting, and getting her ready for an outing on September 13th, when Fred Ford, the designer of Welcome, will join the MHA Board of Directors for an afternoon of sailing and cannon fire.

The Welcome Committee is preparing a budget and a strategic plan for the boat, and we look forward to many more days under sail on this historic vessel.

Volunteers are needed to help with ship carpentry, rigging, marlinspike work, as well as general boat maintenance. No experience is necessary, so if you have a few hours to offer, contact Jim Gracyk, Welcome Committee chair, at bahdler@charter.net.

Thank you to Jim, Bob, Scott, Randy, Tom, Dan, and the rest of the crew that have invested so many countless hours in Welcome. It is this spirit of volunteerism that makes MHA such an amazing organization.



RESTORATION SHOP

The work continues in building #1, home of our new MHA Restoration Shop Youth Mentoring Program. Rod Jones and crew have been getting the walls up and preparing the building for electrical and plumbing work to follow.

Members of Sea Scouts Ship 100 have begun working on the restoration of our Marshall Sandpiper catboat. Hardware has been removed, tagged, and bagged, and all the rotten and broken woodwork has been removed. Fairing the hull and prepping it for a fresh paint job is next on their list.

ARCTUROS WINS!

On a beautiful Wednesday night in August, our 1947 Herreshoff 28 won the race, and looked very stylish doing it. As she glided past her competitors toward the finish line, someone asked, "how in the heck are you doing that?!", to which the Arcturos skipper replied, "Just a little ol' lady trying to get across the street."



FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Dear members,

It usually begins something like this- "you know, I've always thought MHA should...(fill in the blank)". The Restoration Shop youth mentoring program, the acquisition of Champion, a scrap metal drive, a Classic Yacht Regatta, a blog of Madeline's travels, it all starts with an idea.

Because of the dedication and energy of our members, MHA is a vibrant and growing organization, which is both exciting and challenging at the same time.

In the past 6 months, we have revived some committees (Small Boats and Harbor) and created several more (Education, Finance, Fundraising, Champion, Regatta, etc.). There is a lot going on at the Maritime Heritage Alliance these days!

Through the fall, we will be sailing our fleet of historic boats, continuing to develop a new sailing program for at-risk youth in our community, launching a fundraising campaign, designing a dock arrangement for the harbor to have places for our small boats, holding a scrap metal drive and a Classic Yacht Regatta, and drafting several changes to our by-laws. All of these activities require the input and wise guidance of our membership.

Among the things that make MHA unique compared to other non-profits, the one that rises to the top in my mind is the many ways that members can *engage* with our mission.

From learning boat building and restoration skills to sailing around the Great Lakes on a beautiful wooden schooner, from getting out

on the water on one of our small boats to helping in the administration of MHA, there are many things for members to *do*, to *contribute*, to be involved in ways that simply are not available in other organizations.

I am asking each of you to consider volunteering to help steer our organization through this time of growth. Join a committee, lay a coat of varnish, build a database, or build a paddle. Whatever your interest, MHA has a place and a need for your investment.

While I am available by phone or email, I plan to hold a "Director's Roundtable" on the last Wednesday of each month (see the calendar on the cover). Ideas, suggestions, concerns, and even complaints are welcome, and I encourage you to take this opportunity to become more involved with your organization.

Fall sailing is some of the best we get in Northern Michigan, so I hope you will take the opportunity to join your fellow members, get out on the water, and have some fun.

As always, please feel free to contact me via email at Mark@MaritimeHeritageAlliance.org or you can call my cell phone at 231-645-1625. I look forward to hearing from you.

Fair winds and following seas,

Mark Thompson
Executive Director