Get Ready For Heritage Day 2017
Canoe & Wooden Boat Show May 27

WCHM invites participants for its eighth annual Canoe & Wooden Boat Show, to be held in conjunction with Wisconsin Canoe Heritage Day on May 27, 2017. This one day free event will also include museum tours and open house, the unveiling of new displays, ongoing activities in the canoe workshop, live music, and food and beverage in the beer garden. Now is the time to make plans to be an exhibitor and display your canoe, wooden boat, or other canoe related items of interest.

Wooden boats of all shapes, sizes, and designs are welcome, both classic and modern, as well as all kinds of classic and vintage water and paddling related items. Whether you have items to sell, or you just have something to show off, there will be many interested folks attending this free event. Exhibitors can include individuals, commercial entities, non-profits, authors, government agencies, educators, crafters, and businesses whose products or services are relevant to boaters, wooden boats and canoes. Booth space is free, and reserving a space is easy. You can download a booth reservation form from the WCHM website at www.WisconsinCanoeHeritageMuseum.org, or request one by emailing to info@wisconsincanoeheritagemuseum.org or calling 715-635-2479. Wisconsin Canoe Heritage Day is produced by the WCHM each year on the Saturday of Memorial Day weekend.

Spring Canoe Building Class

Alex Comb of Stewart River Boatworks (stewartriver.com) will be teaching a cedar and canvas canoe building class at the Wisconsin Canoe Heritage Museum (WCHM) in the spring of 2017. The class will begin Thursday May 11 and run through Wednesday May 17.

In this group class, up to eight students will build one or two beautiful cedar and canvas canoes. On the first day cedar ribs will be bent over a solid canoe form. On the following day planking the canoe with thin cedar “planks” will begin. Once planked, canvas will be stretched over the constructed hull. Finally, the canvas is filled with waterproof filler. In this hands-on class everyone will be invited to participate in the construction. By the end of the week the canoes should be ready for paint and varnish with seats, thwarts, yokes and gunwales installed.

The canoe building class will be limited to eight students so that each will have the opportunity for a real hands-on experience. Depending on the number of students there will be one or possibly two canoes built by the group. A lottery will be held at the end of the class to decide who may go home with at least one of the canoes for the cost of materials. The cost of the class is $700 for WCHM shop members and $750 for non-members. Interested students can register by contacting WCHM Executive Director Jed Malischke. Call 715-635-2479 or write info@wisconsincanoeheritagemuseum.org.
2016 “Good Year” For Wisconsin Canoe Heritage Museum, Inc

In a recent report to the WCHM Board of Directors, Executive Director Jed Malischke called 2016 “another good year” for the museum. The final numbers for the year ending December 31, 2016, are now ready for the board’s audit committee to review before finalizing them for government reporting, and for reporting to the WCHM membership.

The accompanying charts show the breakdown for $64,578 in revenues. Topping the list was nearly $30,000 in direct public assistance, almost $18,000 more than the expected budget number and about 46% of the total. The success of the 2016 MacKenzie collection and display construction fundraising campaign, raising over $10,000, accounted for most of this. In addition the WCHM received major contributions totaling about $7,000 for other collections purchases and for building the new storage facility.

The expense chart tells a similar story, with display construction and collections expense eating up an unusually high 13% and 12% respectively of the total $63,585 in expenses, again due to the Mackenzie campaign. Advertising and administration were also high expense categories but within reasonable industry standards. That leaves a net surplus close to $1,000 for the year, just shy of our $1,500 goal. It also puts the total equity of the museum at the end of the year at $23,275 with $36,010 in assets and $12,735 in liabilities. The equity of the museum has been slowly rising for the past half dozen years as the board has been able to execute positive net budgets. “We are steadily progressing along our strategic plan to build this institution,” says Malischke, “and we are pleased to have completed another good year towards that goal.”

Thank You to Our 2016 Business Supporters

Rice Lake Weighing Systems, Rice Lake WI
Dahl’s Home Store, Spooner WI

Red Cross Pharmacy & RC Gifts, Spooner WI
Shell Lake State Bank, Shell Lake WI
Spooner Outlet, Spooner WI
Schmitz’s Economart, Spooner WI
Castle Insurance, Spooner WI
T&T Tool, Spooner, WI
Indianhead Eye Clinic, Spooner WI
Best Western American Heritage Inn, Spooner WI
Little Lakes Canoe Restoration, Boulder Junction WI
Stewart River Boatworks, Knife River MN
Tim Reedy State Farm Insurance, Spooner WI
St Croix River Association, Saint Croix Falls WI
Pair O’Lakes Lodge, Spooner WI
Stouts Island Lodge, St Paul MN
Spinning Wheels Publishing, Trego, WI
**Look For The WCHM Booth At Canoecopia 2017**

The WCHM traveling promotional booth will be attending Canoecopia at the Alliant Energy Center in Madison WI (1919 Alliant Energy Way) on March 10-12, 2017. Canoecopia is the world’s largest canoe, kayak, and standup paddle expo. There is no other venue that has this breadth and depth of outdoor knowledge in one spot for three days. We expect to have our new 2017 raffle canoe on display there, among other items, and it’s a great place to renew your WCHM membership, pick up some souvenir WCHM merchandise, and get that first raffle ticket of the year.

**Canoe Raffle Tickets Are Available**

The 2017 canoe raffle is underway. Tickets are available now for $20 per ticket or six for $100. A limit of only 500 tickets will be sold. The winner will once again have a choice between one of two canoes or $1,000 cash. The first canoe is a solo rigged 14’ cedar canvas canoe built on a form designed by Jerry Karbon. The second canoe is a tandem rigged 15’ cedar canvas canoe built on the MacKenzie Duet form. The drawing will take place on Saturday September 30th, 2017 (the last day of the season for the exhibit hall). Call Jed at 715-635-2479 or info@wisconsincanoeheritagemuseum.org to get tickets.

**Canoe Shop Busy Place This Winter**

The WCHM canoe shop continued to buzz with activity in January. Pictured here (left to right) is Ron Carlson of Spooner working on his restoration of a 1951 Chestnut 18’ Guides Special, Norb Pintens of Rice Lake is working on his restoration of a 1936 Oldtown 18’ Guides Special, and Ken Jones (not pictured) of Webster has started his restoration of a 1962 16’ Old Town. In addition to these three restoration projects Patrick Delaney of Hayward is getting ready to re-cover a 1946 Shell Lake Falcon Rowboat and two others are waiting to start spring building projects. If you are interested in using the WCHM canoe shop for your project, contact shop chair Jamie Dunn at 715-931-0034 to get started.

**Volunteers Needed For Summer Season**

WCHM is looking for new volunteers to join the “Keymasters” and two 2017 event committees. The Keymasters are the folks that dedicate three or four hours every couple of weeks during the summer to open the museum exhibit hall to visitors. Volunteer committees are also being assembled to organize and execute two 2017 events, Wisconsin Canoe Heritage Day, on May 27 and the Upper Great Lakes Regional Canoe Assembly on August 25-27. Call or write if interested to 715-635-2479 or info@wisconsincanoeheritagemuseum.org.

**Paddle Making Class March 3 & 4**

The WCHM Canoe Shop will host a canoe paddle making class on March 3-4, 2017. Eight students are already registered to participate and will actually make a canoe paddle in a design of their own choosing, using traditional and modern tools and techniques. The instructor for the course will be Alex Comb of Stewart River Boatworks from Knife River MN. At press time the class was at capacity, but interested folks can get on a waiting list, and due to the popularity another summer course is being considered. For more information or to express your interest in adding another session call 715-635-2479 or info@WisconsinCanoeHeritageMuseum.org.
Meet Board Member Ed Peters - Election Judge For Member Meeting May 26

My interest in canoes and wooden boats comes from many influences. I grew up paddling the family’s wood and canvas canoe and rowing the “Rhinelander”. Summers during high school were spent at a canoe tripping camp, getting an appreciation for wilderness canoeing and of aluminum canoes. Since 1992, I have helped organize and lead annual trips to the Boundary Waters, Ontario, and northern Wisconsin, getting to know the various designs of fiberglass, wood, Kevlar, and Royalex canoes. In recent years, I have been restoring a canoe and boat from the Rhinelander Boat Company, as well as gathering information about the history of the factory. I enjoy the art of paddling and spending time outdoors with my wife, Mary, our three daughters, and four grandchildren. As a Wisconsin Canoe Heritage Museum board member, I have the opportunity to share my interest in the preservation of the craft and help to pass along the traditions and history of the canoe.

Ed will be serving again this year in the capacity of nomination and election judge for the general membership meeting and election to be held at the museum on Friday May 26. Anyone interested in running for a board position, or nominating someone for a board position, can contact Ed at 715-437-0614 or edw.peters@yahoo.com.

WCHM Will Host Upper Great Lakes Regional Canoe Assembly Aug 25-27

The Wisconsin Canoe Heritage Museum (WCHM) in Spooner (WI) will host the 2017 Upper Great Lakes Regional Canoe Assembly on August 25-27 with activities taking place in a variety of locations during the three day period and during the week preceding. The main activities will take place on Saturday in Memorial Park & Campground on the shores of Shell Lake in Shell Lake (WI), just five miles south of the museum. The attractions there will be the assemblage at the canoe and wooden boat show, with dozens of antique wooden boats on display for the public. There will be building and restoration workshops, paddling demonstrations on the water, exhibitions of freestyle paddling, an evening parade of canoes, and booths of outdoor recreation vendors. The park boasts an amphitheater adjacent to the show area where an afternoon and/or evening of live music may be staged.

WCHM will also be working with other area organizations to create a number of activities in the days leading up to the main event, for example: a tour of the state’s largest fish hatchery, or an open house at a national park visitor center. There will be organized paddling trips to nearby waters such as the Yellow River, along St Croix National Scenic Riverway, or the Sawmill & Loyhead Portage Routes. There will also be some day or week long classes and workshops in the WCHM canoe shop, and presentations and tours in the exhibit hall. Most of the Assembly activities will have free admission and be open to the public. Onsite camping in the park in Shell Lake is available through WCHM, but spaces are limited so early reservations are recommended. Details can be followed at www.WisconsinCanoeHeritageMuseum.org. Write to info@wisconsincanoerheritagemuseum.org or call 715-635-2479 for additional information.

Thank You to These Supporting Members
Jim Hart
Jill Weber Dean & Jeffrey Dean
Kurt & Susan Sroka

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