



NORTH CAROLINA
**MARITIME
MUSEUMS**
SOUTHPORT

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

APRIL

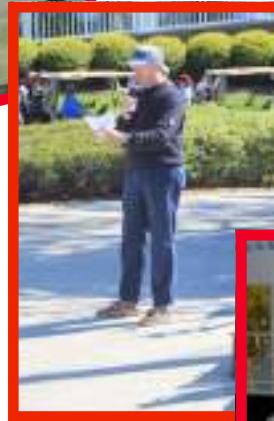
- Tues. 15 :
Third Tues Evening
Adult Program
- Thurs. 14:
Spring into History
Watercolors with
Laura Schulte
- Thurs. 21:
Spring into History
New Hanover
County Arboretum
- Thurs. 28:
Spring into History
UNCW Printmaking
and Gallery Tour
- Wed.- Fri. 27-29:
Spring Vacation
Series



The Mullet Wrapper

April 2011
Volume 8
Issue 4

Golf Classic a Success!



**Friends of the
Museum present
a \$23,000 check
to the Museum
that will help
fund their move
to Historic Fort
Johnston!**

BRUNSWICK COUNTY'S SHIPPING HEYDAY BOBBY WILLIAMSON, APRIL 19TH!

SPEND TUESDAY EVENING, APRIL 19, WITH THE NC MARITIME MUSEUM AND THE CITY OF SOUTHPORT AT THE SOUTHPORT COMMUNITY BUILDING AS WE PRESENT BOBBY WILLIAMSON. AS A SHALLOTTE HISTORIAN AND 8TH GENERATION BRUNSWICK COUNTY NATIVE, WILLIAMSON WILL TAKE YOU BACK TO THE ERA OF SHIPPING PROMINENCE ON THE SHALLOTTE RIVER, DISCUSSING THE EVOLUTION OF WOODEN SHIPPING BOATS AND BRUNSWICK COUNTY'S IMPORTANT ROLE IN THE INDUSTRY.



Fort Johnston Seized 150 Years Ago



Saturday, April 16, 2011, will mark the 150th Anniversary of the seizing of Fort Johnston, by rebel forces under the command of Colonel John L. Cantwell. This was the second time these “Cape Fear Minute Men” had taken command of North Carolina’s oldest fortification. On January 9, rebel forces had seized the fort without Governor John W. Ellis’

authority, who made them return it to the caretaker sergeant.

Sergeant James Reilly surrendered the fort in both instances. Sympathetic to the Secessionist Cause, Reilly promptly resigned from the U.S. Army and joined the Confederate. Eventually, the red haired Irish immigrant and veteran of the Mexican War became one of the most respected officers in the C.S. Army and attained the rank of Major. Ironically at the end of the war “Old Tarantula” surrendered Fort Fisher. Following the war he became a leading citizen in Southport.

Early in the war Fort Johnston was the main line of defense against Union naval incursion and their attempt to stop blockade running. It was also the recruitment and training station for Confederate Army forces in the area. The old fort was redesigned and rebuilt. Renowned combat engineer, General WHC Whiting, CSA, Cape Fear District Commander, visited the fort upon nearing completion by Major John J.

Hedrick and commented, “...*These works appear to be beautifully constructed and powerfully built. In fact we have never seen finer earth-works.*”

In addition to helping guard the mouth of the Cape Fear River, Fort Johnston was a link in a chain of Cape Fear fortifications. It helped to defend the backs of Forts Fisher and Fort Caswell, and protected the river approaches to Fort Anderson and the Port of Wilmington beyond. By the end of the war Fort Johnston was all but abandoned.

Fort Johnston went through several official name changes, called both Fort Pender and Fort Branch. It was named for famous North Carolinian Confederate generals Lawrence O’B. Branch and William Dorsey Pender. After the Fall of Fort Fisher, the daring U.S. Naval Lieutenant William B. Cushing took possession of Fort Johnston on January 18, 1865. Thus ended the role of Fort Johnston in the American Civil War.

Leland Smith

Museum Update

With a touch of sadness and much anticipation, the last load from the N.C. Maritime Museum at Southport’s Howe Street location was transported to the Museum’s new location at Fort Johnston, on the corner of Moore and Davis Streets. At 12:45 p.m. on March 30, 2011, the Museum staff, several members from The Friends of the Museum and many local volunteers accomplished the move... 35 hours and 15 minutes ahead of schedule! It would be impossible to count the number of hours donated by the staff and selfless volunteers who made this timely move possible.

To visit our local staff you will need to climb over hundreds of boxes as exhibits are being built and reconstructed. Thanks to all, especially Wayne Strickland for being the construction manager and Walt Madsen, Chairman of the Friends of the N.C. Maritime Museum at Southport. “We will still be putting out calls for help. Even now that we are in our new home, there is much to be done,” declared Walt.



Pictured are a few of our many volunteers that helped make our move possible.

UPCOMING PROGRAMS

First Friday Fun 3:30-5 p.m. Ages 5-12

May 6 - Seaside Container Gardening - Explore our cultural garden, discover plants uses at sea and on land, then plant some silver bells in your cockle shells, or any other container you like, such as an old shoe, a bucket or a scuba mask.

June 3 - Summer Stars - Learn about celestial navigation and constellations of the summer sky, navigational tools, make your own glowing constellation.

Programs are free and open to the public. Pre-registration is required. Call the Museum at (910)457-0003

Spring into Sea-History 10 a.m.- noon Ages 6-10

April 27 - A Whale of a Tale - Learn about Robert Wyland's Whaling Walls and paint a seascape mural using his large-scale techniques.

April 28 - Mariner's Machines - See equipment used in navigation and measurement. Build your own simple machines based on the mathematic functions used by our early sailors.

April 29 - Danger at Sea! Storms and safety from historic times to today. Learn about shipwrecks and how the shoals of the Cape Fear came to be known as some of the most treacherous waters of the Atlantic.

Programs cost \$3.00 per class and are open to the public. Pre-registration is required. Call the Museum at (910)457-0003

Spring Into History - Cape Fear Art History Adult Program Thursdays:9 a.m.- noon

April 14 - Watercolors with Nancy Schulte - Spend the morning with local artist Nancy Schulte and create your own masterpiece!

April 21- New Hanover County Arboretum - Tour the seven acres of beautiful landscaping, water gardens and sculptures, and discover the art of designing with flora.

April 28 - UNCW Printmaking Department and Art Gallery tour - Watch students using historic and modern techniques for printing and design, and see finished works of art in the 2011 student displays in the Art and Art History Gallery.

May 5 - Copper smith discussion/demo - Join local Coppersmith from Cape Fear Copper for a lecture and demonstration of this time-honored metalworking tradition.

May 12 - Burchetta Hotglass Studio and Gallery tour -See the handcrafted, imaginative designs of John Burchetta and Elizabeth Miele. Tour their studio and see how they craft their museum quality sculptures and other products.

May 19 - Cameron Art Museum Tour and Activity - Take a guided tour of Wilmington's art museum and enhance your experience with a hands-on Maritime themed art project!

\$35 members / \$45 non-members. Fees are for one individual and may not be split among several people or pro-rated for missed sessions. Pre-registration required. Call the Museum at (910)457-0003

News From the Friends of the Museum (FOM)

Program Sponsor: Sponsors are needed for the Third Tuesday Evening Adult Programs. Please call the Museum for details. (910)457-0003 Thank you.

Set-up thank you: Thank you to Woody Wilson for helping with setup for our March 15th program. Your help is so appreciated.

A Volunteer is needed for coordinating Third Tuesday Evening Adult Program set-ups.

Thank you to the Maritime Museum staff for the wonderful food served at our March 15th program. It was delicious!

Membership: Please remember that you can join or renew your membership by mail, the website or at the Museum. Please consider bringing a friend to our next program & encourage them to join. If you have any membership questions, you can email me: Shirley Wilson at wayfarer1@ec.rr.com or call me at 910-454-4327 or call the Museum at 457-0003.

For anyone who would like to renew or become a new member, information is provided below.

_____ new member _____ renewing member

Lifetime - \$2,500 _____ Legacy - \$1,000 _____

Benefactor - \$500 _____ Patron - \$250 _____
Sustaining - \$100 _____ Family - \$50 _____
Individual- \$25 _____ Additional - Building Fund \$ _____

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

E-Mail _____

(Your information will only be used by The Friends of the NC Maritime Museum at Southport)

() Please contact me about volunteer opportunities.

() Please contact me about becoming a program sponsor.

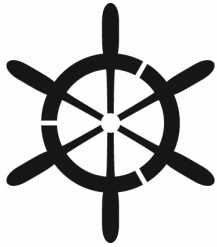
() Matching Gift, Employer Amount _____

(Name/Address) _____

Payment Information: Check payable to: *Friends of the NC Maritime Museum at Southport* enclosed _____. Or join using PayPal on our website: www.ncmaritimemuseums.com

Memberships are valid for one year from the date of issue & are tax-deductible to the extent allowed by Law for a 501©3 organization.

THE MULLET WRAPPER



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NORTH CAROLINA
DEPARTMENT OF
CULTURAL
RESOURCES
WWW.NCCULTURE.COM

Museum Hours

The Museum is temporarily closed for relocation. We will reopen later this spring.



The Museum at Southport is one of three North Carolina Maritime Museums. The other Museums are the Graveyard of the Atlantic Museum in Hatteras and the North Carolina Maritime Museum in Beaufort.

The Mullet Wrapper newsletter is a publication of the NC Maritime Museum at Southport. The publication is fully funded by the Friends of the Museum at Southport whose members receive monthly mailings and discounts on some programs and Museum store purchases.

Museum Book Club

The Book Club will not be meeting until further notice. If you are interested in joining the Book Club, please contact Amie at the Museum, 910-457-0003. Thank you.

3RD TUESDAY EVENING ADULT PROGRAMS

Tuesday, April 19, 2011, 7-9 p.m. - Bobby Williamson, Local Historian

Sponsored by Walt & Joan Madsen

Tuesday, May 17, 2011, 7-9 p.m. - Mary Ellen Rogers, Sea Biscuit Wildlife

Tuesday, June 21, 2011, 7-9 p.m. - Matthew Bookout, Local Snakes and Reptiles of the Lower Cape Fear

Tuesday, July 19, 2011, 7-9 p.m. - Conservation Workshop with the Queen Anne's Revenge Lab Staff

Tuesday, Aug. 16, 2011, 7-9 p.m. - Harry Warren, Director NC Museum of Forestry

Tuesday, Sept. 20, 2011, 7-9 p.m. - Annual Member's Potluck

Tuesday, Oct. 18, 2011, 7-9 p.m. - Brooks Preik, Southport Author

Tuesday, Nov. 15, 2011, 7-9 p.m. - Celia Rivenbark, Southern Humorist



All Tuesday programs are free and held at the Southport Community Building unless otherwise noted. Advanced registration is required

FOM

North Carolina Maritime Museum at Southport

P. O. Box 11101

Southport, NC 28461

Stamp

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