



NORTH CAROLINA  
**MARITIME  
MUSEUMS**  
SOUTHPORT

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

### APRIL

- April 6 :  
Museum Closed
- April 8:  
Happy Easter
- April 13:  
"Up Periscope"  
Science Festival  
Begins
- April 17:  
Third Tuesday Evening Adult Program
- April 21:  
Build a Periscope
- April 23:  
Spring Into History  
at the Museum of  
History in Raleigh.



# The Mullet Wrapper

April 2012  
Volume 9  
Issue 4

## UP PERISCOPE!

A Science Festival Event



A momentous event has happened at the North Carolina Maritime Museum at Southport! For the first time in our state's history, a cultural institution has a working periscope. Through the kindness, hard work and dedication of volunteers and the Friends of the Museum, patrons may now view the waters of the Lower Cape Fear and discover her history and geography. Please join the museum in celebrating this significant occasion with programming for all ages.

April 13 - 29

The U.S. Navy's Naval Sea Systems Command has donated and delivered a Type 14 periscope to the museum. It is the only periscope available for public viewing in North Carolina. The 33' periscope is from the USS Dolphin, a nuclear research vessel used for very deep

water tasks, and is a hands-on operational experience for visitors. Housed inside the exhibit hall, and facing the windows overlooking the Cape Fear River Inlet/Atlantic Ocean, it will offer views of the reverse vista seen through the periscopes of German U-boats brutally operating offshore this region during World War II.

April 21, 10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

Kids of all ages will be able to build their own periscope.

A periscope is an instrument for observation from a concealed position. In its simplest form it consists of an outer case with mirrors at each end set parallel to each other at a 45-degree angle. Periscopes allow a submarine, when submerged at a shallow depth, to search visually for nearby targets and threats on the surface of the water and in the air. When not in use, a submarine's periscope retracts into the hull. A submarine commander in tactical conditions must exercise discretion when using his periscope, since it creates a visible wake and may also become detectable by radar, giving away the sub's position.

Event is free. Please call the Museum at (910)457-0003 to register.



**SIGN UP NOW!!!**  
**Don't miss the April 7th Deadline**  
**for our Spring into History trip to the**  
**Museum of History in Raleigh.**

This will be a trip not to be missed! Join the NC Maritime at Southport on a journey through history at the NC Museum of History in Raleigh on Monday, April 23<sup>rd</sup>. A coach bus, with bathroom facilities, will pick us up at the Museum, 204 E. Moore St., Southport, at 9:00 a.m. Enjoy a behind the scene tour before we begin our exploration of the 20,000 sq. ft. exhibit, *The Story of North Carolina*. This permanent exhibit uses artifacts, multimedia presentations, dioramas, interactives,



and other components to chronicle life in North Carolina from the earliest inhabitants through the 20th century. A potluck salad luncheon will be provided by the NC Museum of History volunteers. Trip includes bus fare, behind the scene and museum tour, potluck luncheon, bottled water and snacks for the trip home. Bus is scheduled to return to the NC Maritime Museum at Southport at 6:00 p.m. Cost is \$35 members / \$40 non-members. Must register no later than April 7. For further details call the Museum (910)457-0003 or [www.ncmaritimemuseums.com](http://www.ncmaritimemuseums.com)

**Third Tuesday Evening**  
**Adult Program**  
**April 17th 7:00-9:00 p.m.**

Join the NC Maritime Museum at Southport and The Friends of the Museum as we present a lecture where history and science meet. Jim, Program Coordinator and Site Interpreter for Brunswick Town / Fort Anderson Historic Site will discuss



*Painting by Martin Peebles of the CSS Raleigh during her foray out of New Inlet May 6, 1864.*

three ironclads of the Lower Cape Fear, their construction, changes in shipbuilding technology and how the environment, not weaponry brought about their demise.

The program will be held at the Southport Community Building, 223 East Bay St., Southport. Light refreshments will be served. Program is free, call the Museum at (910)457-0003 to register.



A special thank you to Steve Cherry, Tom Rochford, Bill Robinson and Harry Brown from *St. James Pride* for building the planters for the Museum's new History Garden.

*Thank you all so much for your kind words, your generous gifts, and most of all for your friendship.*

*Mary and Wayne Strickland*



**\$25,500.00 Raised!!!**

The 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Golf Tournament to support the North Carolina Maritime Museum at Southport was a rousing success. The golf carts blazed off to compete on the greens of St. James to raise money for operational funds, programs, exhibits, and the new periscope. The event was well attended and warm weather held for the day. Participants bid in the silent auction and during dinner, engaged in an exciting auction battling out who would go home with vacation packages and dinners graciously donated for the cause. A special thanks to the Friends of the Museum, area businesses, St. James and other sponsors who made this event so successful. Community support is key to the museum's continued accomplishments.

**The night of March 12, 1942** found the large tanker *John D. Gill* on her way south from Philadelphia. A torpedo from German *U-Boat 158* struck the ship below the waterline, and oil gushed from the ruptured tank, spreading across the ocean and ignited by a carbide lamp on a life ring. Men were thrown into the burning slick, coated with thick black oil, faces blistered from fire. Rescue craft soon arrived. Eleven men from a life raft were taken on board Oak Island's *Motor Lifeboat 4405*; fifteen bodies were also recovered. Another fifteen survivors were later found, all taken to Southport's Doshier hospital, where nurses and hurriedly trained Red Cross Volunteer Southport women treated burns and internal injuries. Merchant Seaman Catalino Tingzon lost his life, and as no family member could be found, was given burial in a Southport Cemetery. A memorial to him and the *John D. Gill* was erected on the waterfront March 12, 1994. The *U-158* was hunted, and less than four months later on June 30, 1942, sank with all hands.



Years later, the family of the youngest *John D. Gill* gun crew member, survivor Garfield Potts of East Moline, IL, brought to the NC Maritime Museum at Southport the bible and watch he carried that day, along with his uniform and his detachment papers, as tribute to his memory. The Museum's 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday Adult Program on March 20, 2012 was planned and presented by Jim McKee and Bert Felton. Jim offered a 70<sup>th</sup> Anniversary powerpoint view of the historic sinking of the *John D. Gill*, and Bert introduced local citizens Bobby Jones, Hoyle Doshier, William Parker and Afton Smith, all present in Southport on that fateful day, and sharing their remarkable memories. Michelle Pascual of Southport reported on her research in the Philippines to find the lost family of Catalino Tingzon.

Years later, the family of the youngest *John D. Gill* gun crew member, survi-

**News From the Friends of the Museum (FOM)**

Thank you Bert Felton and Jim McKee for a fascinating and thoroughly enjoyable evening March 20th at our 3rd Tues. Evening program.

**Program Sponsor:** Sponsors are needed for the 3rd Tuesday Evening Adult Programs. Please call the Museum for details. (910)457-0003

**Set-up thank you:** Thank you to Al Biasotti, Woody Wilson and Jim Trent for helping with setup for our March program. Your help is so appreciated.

**A Volunteer is needed for coordinating 3rd Tuesday Evening Adult Program set-ups.**

**Membership:** Thank you to the new members who have recently joined our Friends group. We welcome and appreciate your 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 contact: Shirley Wilson at [wayfarer1@ec.rr.com](mailto:wayfarer1@ec.rr.com), call her at 910-454-4327 or call the Museum at (910)457-0003 for more information.

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

\_\_\_\_\_ new member      \_\_\_\_\_ renewing member

Lifetime - \$2,500 \_\_\_\_\_      Legacy - \$1,000 \_\_\_\_\_  
 Benefactor - \$500 \_\_\_\_\_      Patron - \$250 \_\_\_\_\_  
 Sustaining - \$100 \_\_\_\_\_      Family - \$50 \_\_\_\_\_  
 Individual- \$25 \_\_\_\_\_      Additional - Building Fund \$ \_\_\_\_\_

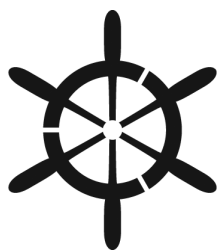
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 City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
 E-Mail \_\_\_\_\_

(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](http://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



NORTH CAROLINA  
**MARITIME  
MUSEUMS**  
SOUTHPORT

The Friends of the NC Maritime  
Museum at Southport

P. O. Box 10412  
Southport, NC 28461

Website: [www.friendsncmmsouthport.org](http://www.friendsncmmsouthport.org)

## NC Maritime Museum at Southport

P.O. Box 11101 204 E. Moore St.

Southport, NC 28461

Phone: (910)457-0003

Fax: (910)457-0086

[www.ncmaritimemuseums.com](http://www.ncmaritimemuseums.com)

Mary Strickland - *Curator/ Manager*

Email: [mary.strickland@ncdcr.gov](mailto:mary.strickland@ncdcr.gov)

Leland Smith - *Historic Interpreter III*

Email: [leland.smith@ncdcr.gov](mailto:leland.smith@ncdcr.gov)

Lori Sanderlin Duppstadt - *Curator of Education*

Email: [lori.duppstadt@ncdcr.gov](mailto:lori.duppstadt@ncdcr.gov)

Sharon Venis - *Administrative Assistant*

Email: [sharon.venis@ncdcr.gov](mailto:sharon.venis@ncdcr.gov)



NORTH CAROLINA  
DEPARTMENT OF  
**CULTURAL  
RESOURCES**  
[WWW.NCCULTURE.COM](http://WWW.NCCULTURE.COM)

## Museum Hours

Tuesday - Saturday

9 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Free Admission

Daily Tours at 11 a.m. & 2 p.m.

## HISTORY MATTERS

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.

## 3RD TUESDAY EVENING ADULT PROGRAMS

**April 17, 7:00 - 9:00 p.m.** - *Civil War Ironclads*: a Science Festival Event - Jim McKee, Program Coordinator and Site Interpreter for Brunswick Town / Fort Anderson Historic Site will discuss three ironclads of the Lower Cape Fear, their construction, changes in shipbuilding technology and how the environment, not weaponry, brought about their demise.

**May 15, 7:00 - 9:00 p.m.** - *Death and Dying: Customs and Culture During the Civil War* Lori Duppstadt will entertain a "lively" discussion of mourning practices during the Civil War. Discover how these customs shaped a culture, both north and south, suffering from war and disease.

## 2ND SATURDAY'S

Families are always on the lookout for things to do that don't break their budget. **2nd Saturdays 2012** combine arts and heritage with food and fun on the 2nd Saturday of June, July and August at all 37 museums and Historic Sites.

The NC Maritime Museum at Southport's events will be:

**June 9, 10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.** - *Juneteenth: Celebrating Freedom*

**July 14, 10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.** - *Fort Johnston: A Civil War Story*

**August 11, 10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.** - *Original Inhabitants: Cape of Feare*

Please contact the Museum if you are interested in volunteering at an event or hosting a vendor booth. There are no fees to participate. Space availability is limited.

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

FOM

North Carolina Maritime Museum at Southport

P. O. Box 11101

Southport, NC 28461

Stamp

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