

FROM THE PILOT HOUSE

Thar She Blows!

The winter storms are upon us and Reedville is being hit from all sides by winds carrying ice, snow, and a little sleet. Depending on where you live, this combination of wintry weather is either just a nuisance or a huge dilemma as plows reach us at different times (and sometimes different days). Fortunately, the Museum hasn't been TOO adversely affected... yet. I think that is because there is constant activity on site, and between the staff and many dedicated volunteers, problems get tackled as soon as they arise... siding is replaced, fencing is put back up, heat is kicked back on, and a daily walk-about keeps us aware of any issues. This year's goal of strengthening and/or replacing aging infrastructure has already been tested, so grants, sponsorships, Fund-a-Cause, and Go-Fund-Me campaigns are being pursued to keep up with the physical plant issues. Stayed tuned!



Construction Begins on a Handicap Ramp for Butler House

Some of you think this is the quiet time here at the Museum. Ha! The staff (me and our new Office Manager, Linda Jett), are in the office Monday through Friday. The boat and model shop crews are on site several days a week. The curator is here at least two days a week. Board members stop by to assist as needed, and many committees are already working on their specific events. Some of these are:

Winter Lecture Series. Betty Gasper has booked 3 of the 4 speakers – read more about this interesting series further on in this issue.

Annual Membership Meeting is on **Sunday, February 24th at 3pm at Festival Halle.** PLEASE attend or send back your proxy – we need a quorum to elect a new board.

The 2019 Season – the Museum will open to “**Members & Media**” on **Friday, March 29th at 5:30pm** at the Covington Building. The **public opening is March 30th at 10:30am**, and we're open weekends through April (and the week of Spring Break). We are working on a new exhibit on Reedville's founding families and will refresh several smaller displays. Want to help? Call me (453-6529).

New video – a small committee is working with Dennis Dalpino to develop a new video for our guests which will focus on A) Reedville history, B) the fishing industry, and C) the Museum. This video (10 minutes) will replace the one we've shown for years. Parts of that video will be featured in several kiosk-style snippets throughout the galleries.

Volunteer Breakfast – join us on **April 5th in the Watemen's Gallery at 10am** for a light breakfast, the introduction of the new video, and updates on our 2019 season. Docents should plan to stay a while after breakfast for a refresher on how to run the gift shop register.

Cocktails on the Creek – starts up again on **Friday, April 12th at 5:30pm in the Museum.** We need hosts to assist the staff and board in setting up and cleaning up.

Benefit Auction – “**Pearl of the Chesapeake**” is slated for **Saturday, April 27th at Festival Halle.** A grand time will be had, and wonderful items and adventures are available for bid. Read more...

The Big Clean – **May 11th: 9-2.** Gather on site with your tools and scrub brushes and help us spiff up the RFM campus! We'll provide hot dogs if you'll help repair decks, power wash walls and walks, build HVAC covers, paint, and clean up any mold or dirt in the buildings.

And more to come... we never rest on our laurels here... we engage the community and our partners throughout the year! (continued page 3)