

# PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Hello All!

Welcome to 2020! As I write this in the middle of winter, it is 60° outside. I've been wearing my "Let It Snow!" bracelet for weeks, but it doesn't appear to be working . . .

Last year was a great year for the Museum. We were voted #1 Museum/ Historical Site by *Rivah* magazine—hooray for us! We had a full schedule of events that included several successful fundraisers. The Gala Benefit Auction was splendid and the Fund-A-Cause raised enough to pay for badly-needed new floors for the Watermen's Gallery and Gift Shop areas of the Museum. Independence Day was packed with children, runners, and parade-goers, and the fireworks were the best ever! The expanded Classic Boat Show and Ron Moody Concert in September was more popular than expected and planning is already underway for this year's event. We sold more tickets than ever before for the Oyster Roast and for the third year in a row we were voted Best Oyster Roast by *Rivah* magazine. And both Mistletoe & Mimosas and Christmas on Cockrell's Creek were well attended and enjoyed by all who did.



Snow & Ice on  
Rock Hole Creek

All of these events have one thing in common—our intrepid volunteers. Everything that happens at the Museum requires many hands and many skills. Our docents tell the Museum's story; our Boat and Model Shop crews perform many skilled services for the Museum; our Boat Donations & Sales team raises tens of thousands of dollars for the Museum every year; and our event volunteers perform a variety of tasks including setting up tables, registering guests, bartending, post-event clean-up, distributing posters, and dozens of other activities that make these events such a success. Special thanks go to all those who step up to serve as committee chairs—their leadership makes it all possible.

After my husband and I bought our house in mid-2013, one of the first things I did was visit the Museum. As I toured it for the first time I was impressed by the breadth, depth, and high quality of the exhibits. I was deeply enthralled by the way it told the story of Reedville and its fishing heritage. But until I fully retired in late 2016 and became a volunteer, I had no idea how much the Museum contributes to the greater Reedville community and exactly what it takes to make the Museum such a success.

If you do not currently volunteer, I strongly encourage you to do so. The simple truth is that your Museum needs you. Lee, our Director, and Linda, our Office Manager, are busy all day every day managing the business side of the Museum, so it is up to our committees and volunteers to run the many events that raise much-needed funds for Museum programs and upkeep. Opportunities to volunteer are available throughout the year. Call the office today at 804 453 6529 and we will work with you to find one that best fits your availability, interests, and ability.

Cheers!

Linda Nessel, Board President

Attend the Annual Meeting on February 23rd!